

HAPPY EASTER



CANTON OBSERVER

SUNDAY 03.27.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Shamrockin' Deals All Month!

Waive up to \$1,800 or 3 payments!

Blackwell Ford

*Qualified customers may be eligible to waive up to three (3) payments or \$1,800 when they lease a select new 2015-2016 Ford vehicle. Offer ends 4/4/16. See Blackwell Ford for details.

41001 Plymouth Road • Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-1100 • BlackwellFord.com

Board OKs \$10.2M water storage plan

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

In a landmark vote, Canton's elected leaders Tuesday approved plans to build a \$10.2 million water storage facility amid hopes of easing water rate hikes going forward. Construction crews could begin work as early as April on

the site of a 2.5 million-gallon, ground-level water storage facility that is expected to become operational in May 2017. "This is the largest capital investment Canton has made in its water system in its history," Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said. The Canton Township Board of Trustees approved a series

of measures that culminated nearly a decade of talks focused on ways to ease water rate hikes. "We've been talking about this since 2007," Public Works Manager Bob Belair said. The storage facility and a new pump station will allow Canton to draw water overnight from the Great Lakes

Water Authority system, store it and release it to local consumers when demand spikes during morning and evening hours. That places less strain on GLWA's system and is expected to slash as much as \$3.5 million off the \$12 million that Canton pays every year to GLWA for water, Finance and

Budget Director Wendy Trumbull said. Officials say that could ease rate hikes for residential customers who — if the latest proposed 7-percent increase is approved by the township board — will pay \$416 on average every quarterly billing

See WATER, Page A2

TOUGH WORDS



Champions The Erudite Spellers and runners-up Spellbinders congratulate each other.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CANTON COUPLE SPELLS THEIR WAY TO TOP IN ADULT SPELLING BEE

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

"Meridic" and "kanji" were the winning words in the 25th annual Adult Spelling Bee organized and hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council. More importantly, a Canton couple who took their first stab at a spelling bee walked away the winners this week. "I based it on the sounds (of the word) a little bit," said Nehal Sanghvi, who with her husband Sumanth Makunur captured first place out of 10 participating teams. The couple had to spell two words consecutively to take first place. Sanghvi convinced her husband to join her for the event March 23 at Liberty

Middle School. "He was happy to go, but he's not that much into languages," she said. But Sanghvi is. In fact, she speaks five languages, including English, three Hindi dialects and German. Sanghvi and her husband's team were the Erudite Spellers of the Michigan Educational Credit Union. When the second-to-last team misspelled "meridic," Sanghvi deduced how they misspelled it and got it right. She was aware of the last word, "kanji," and spelled it easily. "I was nervous. I have never been on stage before," she said. But she will likely

See BEE, Page A10



Jason Houston, cheering for second-place finishers Spellbinders, reacts to a misspelled word.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LaJoy earns top award for regional work

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

In another crowning achievement to his 27-year political career, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy has received the top award given by a regional organization that

works to improve and maintain southeast Michigan's transportation systems, environmental quality, economic interests and infrastructure. LaJoy accepted the Southeast Michigan Council of Government's Regional Ambassador Award during a ceremony

Thursday at Macomb Community College. "It's SEMCOG's highest honor," said Kathleen Lomako, SEMCOG executive director. LaJoy and U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Michigan, received this year's ambassador awards. LaJoy was honored in his

eighth and final year as Canton Township supervisor, the community's top elected position. LaJoy, who has decided not to seek re-election, also served 13 years as a township board

See LAJOY, Page A2

P-CCS extends School of Choice boundaries

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Students outside Wayne County now have the opportunity to attend Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The school board on March 23 voted 6-1 to extend its School of Choice to other counties, as allowed under School of Choice, Section 105C. Trustee Michael Maloney opposed extending the program beyond Wayne County boundaries. He also opposed the board's February decision to move forward again this year with the program.

Enrollment for School of Choice seats in Plymouth-Canton schools is open April 9 to May 8. The SOC program has the potential of generating some \$1.8 million with the opening of a maximum 250 seats in the district. Bringing in the additional students has been accomplished without the need of hiring additional staff, which is the plan for the 2016-17 school year, Interim Superintendent Monica Merritt said.



Merritt

In March, Trustee Patrick Kehoe questioned whether nearby Washtenaw County might be included in the Plymouth-Canton program. Some students on the east side of Washtenaw are actually closer in distance to Plymouth-Canton schools than to schools in that county. The inclusion of students outside Wayne County would be included in the already determined maximum 250 open seats under the School of Choice program, Merritt said. "It think it makes great sense, actually," Trustee John Barrett said.

Merritt told the board that any costs with a particular student who requires additional services will be paid for by the county in which the students resides. With the final vote that con-

See CHOICE, Page A2



6 53174 90007 4

PRICE: \$1.50

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 41 • Number 81

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

INDEX

Community Life.....	B4	Homes.....	C4	Services.....	C3
Crossword Puzzle.....	C2	Jobs.....	C1	Sports.....	B1
Education.....	A4	Obituaries.....	B6	Wheels.....	C3

Like picnic baskets love Lee's Chicken.

We love to help.

How can we help you? boaa.com 734.455.1511



WATER

Continued from Page A1

cycle, starting May 1. Canton plans to pay for the bulk of the water storage facility by tapping into \$8.5 million in low-interest bond money that was unspent from earlier water-sewer projects. The rest will come from the township's water-sewer fund.

The best part: Canton is expected to recoup the money in less than four years through its savings with GLWA.

"It will pay for itself in 3½ years," Trumbull said. In a series of votes

Tuesday night, the township board: » Approved special land use and site plan proposals for the water storage site and agreed to build an access road to

the facility from the adjacent Plymouth Christian Fellowship Church site. In return, Canton will make minor improvements to the church property, such as paving

a parking lot and building a garbage enclosure. » Awarded a \$9.1 million contract to the low bidder, RCL Construction Co. of Sanford to build the 96,297-square-foot

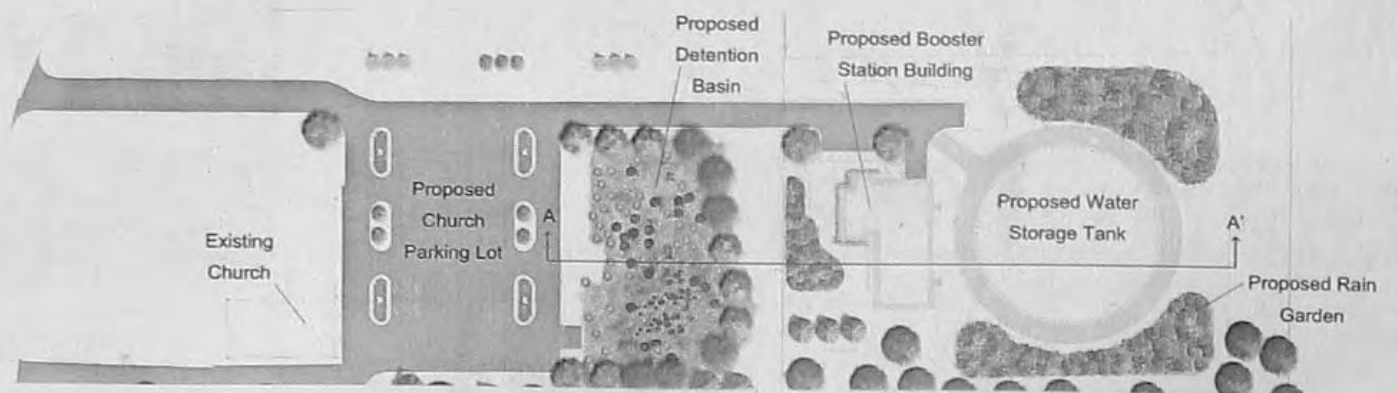
water storage facility and 23,953-square-foot pump station. » Approved \$940,000 for OHM Advisors to oversee the project including engineering ser-

vices, inspections and the facility's testing and start-up.

Officials caution that the water storage project doesn't necessarily mean that Canton will be able to reduce water rates. However, they say the plan should at least ease future increases.

Tuesday's decisions came after officials chose the ground-level storage facility as the best option following a study by OHM Advisors that also examined the feasibility of a water tower.

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



This is a drawing of the water storage site that is coming to Canton, southeast of Joy and Morton Taylor roads.

CANTON OBSERVER

Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Community Office:

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

Editor: Joanne Maliszewski
248-396-6620
Email: jmaliszews@hometownlife.com

Sports: Tim Smith
734-469-4128
Email: tsmith@hometownlife.com

Subscription Rates:

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

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
After hours, leave voicemail
Email: custserv@hometownlife.com

To Advertise:

Classified Advertising & Obituaries: 800-579-7355
Legal Notice Advertising: 586-826-7082
Fax: 313-496-4968 Email: oeads@hometownlife.com

Print and Digital Advertising:
Ron Katz, 517-375-1372
Email: rkatz@hometownlife.com

Advertising Policy:

All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

LAJOY

Continued from Page A1

trustee and six years as a state representative.

"He's a good leader," Lomako said.

LaJoy has long been involved in SEMCOG. He serves as one of its vice chairs and previously chaired SEMCOG's transportation committee and legislative policy task force.

LaJoy received his award during a SEMCOG general assembly gathering.



SEMCOG Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and U.S. Rep. Candice Miller received the Regional Ambassador Awards from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

"It's really a great honor," he said. "I feel good that I had an opportunity to serve."

SEMCOG supports coordinated, local planning with technical, data and intergovernmental

resources. Its aim is to improve the quality of the region's environmental resources, make the transportation system safer and more efficient, revitalize communities and encourage economic development, among other goals.

SEMCOG and its members work to ensure that resources are used efficiently and that policies and procedures are optimized using the best and most complete data available.

dclm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver

CHOICE

Continued from Page A1

tinues the program and the extension beyond Wayne County, Merritt added, "This is music to our marketing department's ears."

The move also comes as the school board begins its budgeting process - with an expected \$3.6 million deficit - for the new academic year. According to Nick Brandon, district communications director, the SOC program has provided an additional estimated revenue of \$2.2 million in its four years. But Maloney, who has

consistently opposed School of Choice, had previously said the program is not the way to balance the school district budget.

According to the proposed plan, the SOC program will remain limited, with 250 seats. Not all available SOC have been filled during the four years of the program.

In the current school year, the district has brought in an estimated \$1.4 million in revenue. Per-pupil funding follows the student, which is how P-CCS can increase revenue with additional students. According to state rules, the district will receive the per-pupil foundation allowance of

either the district the student comes from or Plymouth-Canton, whichever is lowest. Plymouth-Canton has been the lowest because a majority of SOC students come from the Wayne-Westland and Van Buren school districts.

The plan for the 2016-17 school year includes continuing the intra-district transfer program, with consideration given to current students before SOC placements. It will also continue with the P-CCS non-resident employee program. That includes placements for kindergarten through eighth grade, with staff choosing the elementary or middle school building

if space is available. High school placements will be allowed, with assignment at specific schools determined at random.

The P-CCS SOC program has increased its enrollment each year over its four-year history. In 2012-13, eight students enrolled. In 2013-14, 14 students enrolled. In 2014-15, 73 students were enrolled and, this year, 102 students are enrolled in the program. Over the four years, the configuration has changed for grades in which SOC are enrolled.

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com
248-396-6620
Twitter: @jmaliszews

Every Little Girl Deserves A Special Doll

from The Doll Hospital



The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop

DollHospital.com 3947 W. 12 Mile, Berley 248-543-3115 Mon-Sat 10-5:30, Thur 10-8:30, Closed Sun

SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

NEWyou BariatricSolution™

Kelly lost 120 lbs.

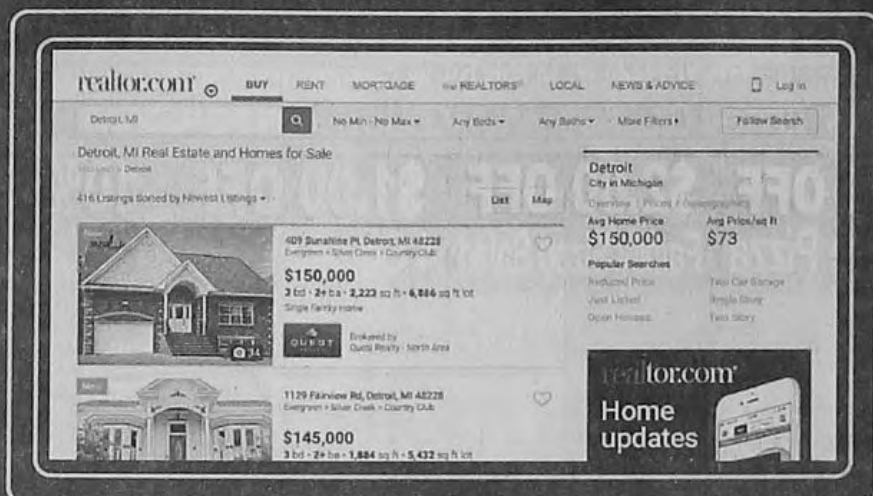
Lose up to 70 percent of your excess body weight in the first year. Learn more at a free educational seminar.

February 4 • March 3 • April 7
6 to 7:30 p.m.
St. Mary Mercy Livonia
North Auditorium

36475 Five Mile • Livonia, 48154
Registration is recommended.

MICHIGAN BARIATRIC INSTITUTE
A Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence
stjoeshealth.org/mbi 877-Why-Weight

GET THE LATEST LISTINGS!



LISTINGS UPDATED EVERY 15 MINUTES

visit realtor.com/morehomes

realtor.com

"Every 15 minutes" claims are based on the frequency of listings updating on realtor.com. For-sale listings are updated on realtor.com at least every 15 minutes on average in most areas.

© 2016 Move Sales, Inc. All rights reserved. 12482CA

Children's library tour reveals major makeover

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A private tour of the Canton Children's Library reveals a sweeping makeover that has ushered in bright colors, a more spacious look and new amenities making it far more user-friendly.

Early literacy computer stations await young patrons. A study area has high-backed booths and two group tables that beckon students. A reading cubbyhole offers a cozy spot where a child can curl up and read a favorite book.

A play nook has puppets and new early childhood games. The Friends of the Canton Public Library room now has audio-visual tools for meetings. Restrooms are more accessible to patrons with disabilities and have new baby-changing stations. A new water fountain means patrons no longer have to leave the Children's Library to get a drink.

Those are just a few of the far-reaching changes that await patrons when the 10,569-square-foot Children's Library opens to the public in April, though a specific date hasn't been announced. A reopening party, however, is set for 12:30 p.m. Sunday, April 24.

"It's incredibly exciting," said Rebecca Havenstein-Coughlin, information services department head, whose duties include overseeing the Children's Library.

The \$848,300 makeover began in early January and marks the third phase of Canton Public Library renovations that have come to Michigan's busiest library among communities that have just one library branch.

Library Director Eva Davis appeared pleased by the Children's Library renovations, but said the real test will come when children and their parents return. The area has been closed off since early January.

"The proof for me will be to see the families in here and to see if we met the mark," she said.

Havenstein-Coughlin paused during the tour to sit on a half-circle sofa that has a big round table that also serves as a footrest. There — and elsewhere — patrons will find numerous electrical outlets where they can plug in their digital devices.

Across the room, Davis pointed to an early childhood area where tables will be stocked with computers and iPads. A wall once stood nearby that separated the early childhood area from the rest of the Children's Library.

"It no longer looks like it was an after-thought," Davis said.

Patrons will see some familiar amenities when they return. A fish tank and an artificial tree, perched under a skylight, remain. Most everything else has changed, giving the Children's Library the appearance of being bigger than it was.

This section has long been the most popular area of the Canton Public Library, last year alone circulating 663,863 materials such as books, games, audio-visual materials and puppets.

That's 43 percent of the library's total circulation.

Laurie Golden, the library's community relations department head, has said the library — while the children's area was closed — catered as much as possible to patrons by temporarily moving materials to another area of the library.

The inconvenience is almost over. Davis said the makeover should position the Children's Library for years to come.

"We went with a classic and timeless design that will serve the community for decades to come," she said.

With that, the library has closed its latest chapter.



The librarian desk backs up to the courtyard.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



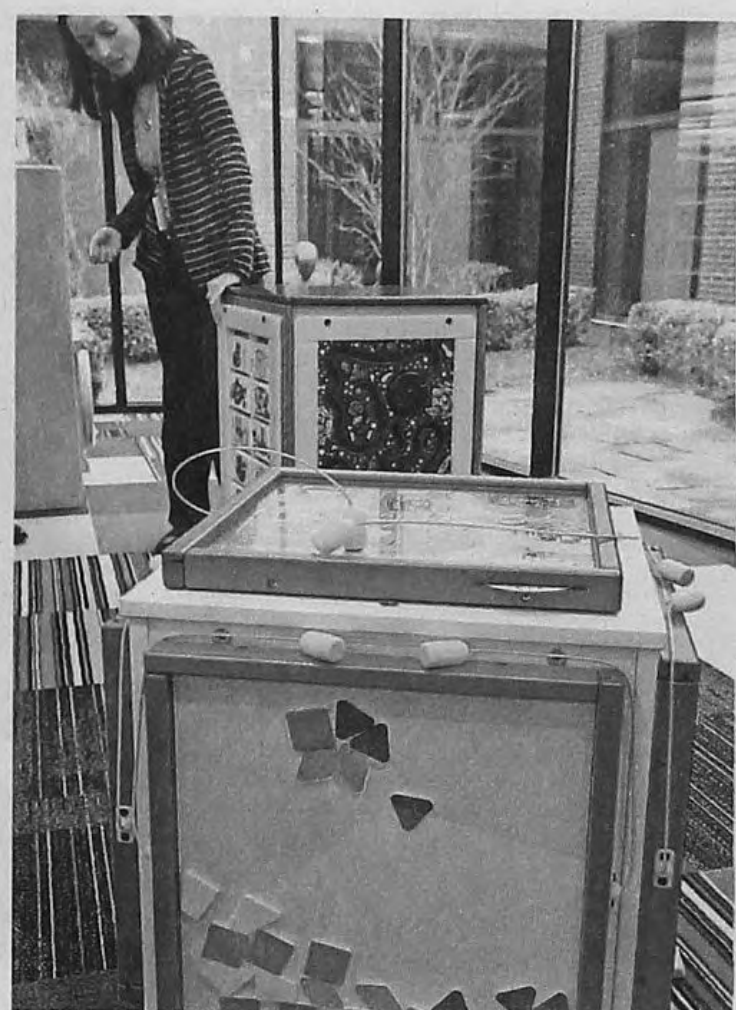
One of two sailboat-themed desks is another place for children. Power outlets are plentiful for laptops and tablets.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



High-backed booths are handy for study groups.

BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The early learning nook has manipulative cubes for little library patrons, Library Director Eva Davis explained.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Buddy's
RESTAURANT
PIZZERIA
70th Anniversary

Fit to be **SQUARE**

DETROIT'S ORIGINAL
GLUTEN-FREE
SQUARE PIZZA

Buddy's Pizza and The Capuchin Soup Kitchen host our
40th Annual
"SLICE FOR LIFE"
Monday, April 4, 2016

For more information & to purchase tickets call
313-579-2100 x.170 or visit cskdetroit.org

♦ Detroit 313-892-9001

♦ Farmington Hills 248-855-4600

♦ Pointe Plaza 313-884-7400

♦ Warren 586-574-9200

♦ Auburn Hills 248-276-9040

♦ Bloomfield 248-645-0300

♦ Livonia 734-261-3550

♦ Dearborn 313-562-5900

♦ Royal Oak 248-549-8000

♦ Shelby Township 45841 Hayes Rd. (corner of Lakeside Blvd.) 586-566-1233

♦ NOVI 44225 W. 12 Mile Rd. @ Fountain Walk 248-675-0881

Join our Email Club at www.buddyspizza.com | [f](#) [t](#) [u](#)

\$3.00 OFF
8 Square Pizza

\$2.00 OFF
Family Sized Salad

\$1.00 OFF
4 Square Pizza

10% OFF
Pasta, Salad or Veggie Tray

One coupon per person, per visit, per table. Not valid with any other discount or coupon. Exp. 4/30/16 O&E

Providing
Responsible and
Caring Service



**Wayne
Mercy
Animal
Hospital**

Full Service Veterinary Hospital

OPEN 7 DAYS • 734.728.6000

Dr. Avtar Madahar D.V.M.
35345 Cherry Hill Road
(Just E. of Wayne Road)
Westland, MI 48186

Treating All Exotic and Pocket Animals
"Quality Service at an Affordable Price"
M-F 8-9 & SAT-SUN 9-5

FREE!

OFFICE VISIT/COMPLETE
PHYSICAL EXAM

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon.

FREE!

HEARTWORM TEST
with purchase of 12 Month
Heartworm Preventative

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon.

\$77

VACCINE PACKAGE-Dogs

Wellness Exam • Distemper/Parvo Combo
Lepto • Bordetella • Fecal Test
Heartworm Test • Rabies (1 Year)

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon.

\$40

VACCINE PACKAGE
Dogs & Cats

Wellness Exam • Fecal Test
Distemper Combo • Deworming

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon.

SPAY • NEUTER • DENTAL • SPECIAL OFFERS
BOARDING & GROOMING • REASONABLE RATES

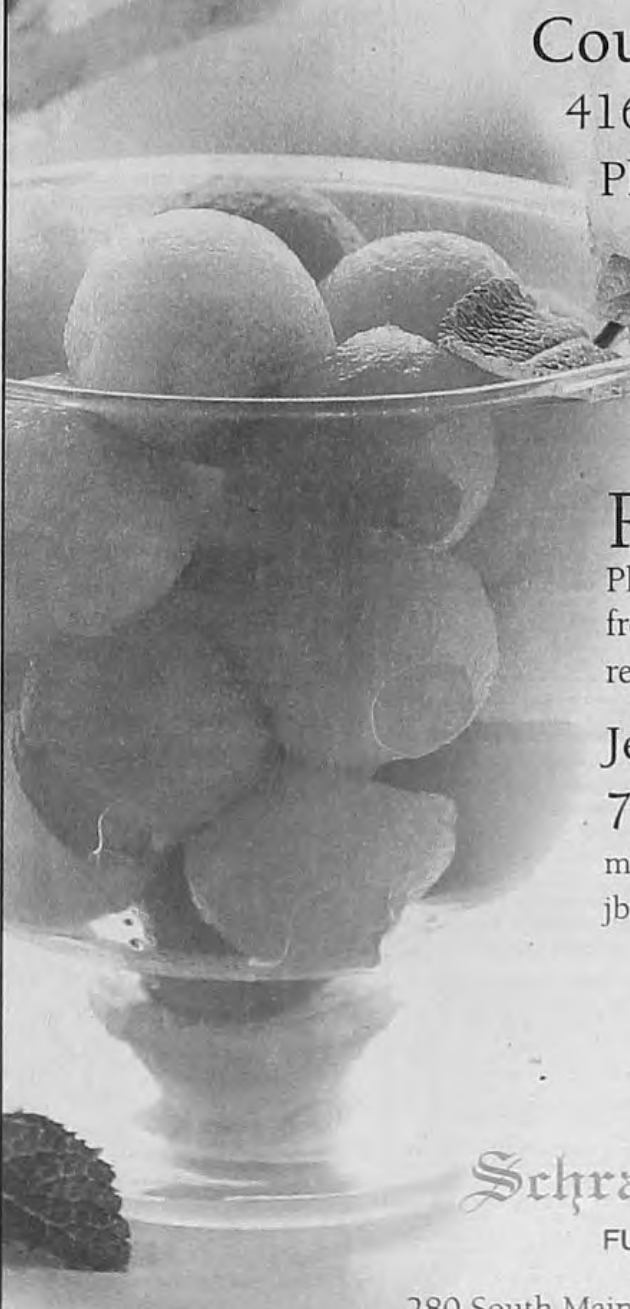
YOU'RE INVITED

LUNCH & LEARN

Join us to learn about the options and benefits of Advance Funeral Planning, followed by informal questions and answers.

Thursday, April 7, 2016
11:30 am


Courthouse Grille
41661 Plymouth Road
Plymouth, MI 48170



RSVP

Please call to reserve your free lunch and a seat, as reservations are limited.

Jessica Bell
734-453-3333
mhowell@schradler-howell.com
jbelle@schradler-howell.com



Schradler-Howell

FUNERAL HOME

280 South Main Street | Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-3333 | www.schradler-howell.com

Funding underwritten by Physicians Life Insurance Company

School district holds art event for charity

Danielle Alexander
Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' student leadership council partnered with Abakadoodle of Wayne County to prepare artwork with the intention of raising money for local homeless families.

When the student leadership council learned of the homelessness issue affecting students and families in their community, it chose to partner with Abakadoodle, an education company whose programs inspire children's imaginations by immersing them in art to setup a creative service project for the school year to help bring attention and hope to these families.

Together, they planned a creative art experience that



Representatives from the P-CCS student leadership council share their finished canvases, which will be auctioned for charity in May.

yielded finished canvases, which will be auctioned in May and donated to benefit St. Vincent de Paul's Journey to Housing program.

From 9 a.m. to noon March 18, more than 100 students from all schools and grades in P-CCS gathered at the Allen Early Learning Academy to

learn from seven Abakadoodle teachers and create one of three special works of art: "Jeweled Tree," inspired by Michigan artist Natasha Westcoat, "City Scape," inspired by Van Gogh's "Starry Night"; or "Blue Dog," inspired by Louisiana artist George Rodrigue.

"I was amazed and blown away by the excitement and joy on these kids' faces knowing that they could help this cause by creating support," Canton 12th-grader and student leadership council representative Samantha McGrath said. "It was really cool how the student leadership council can really make a huge impact on the community. I believe the showcase is going to go really well."

Abakadoodle provided the instructors, lessons and ma-

terials for the event. Giving Hope (Women's Giving Circle fund of the Canton Community Foundation) and the Community Foundation of Plymouth also provided support.

"We offered projects that would be appropriate for the specific age groups that were there," Abakadoodle co-owner of nine years Dawna Kelly said. "Our teachers could make each of the three projects more advanced or basic if they needed to."

The art showcase is planned for May 12 at Liberty Middle School. In addition to families and friends, the community will be welcome to view student work, which will be available for purchase.

dnalexander@hometownlife.com
248-860-4183

P-CEP senior introduces engineering to kids

Engineering has long been a male-dominated field and, for this reason, many young girls do not consider it as a career path. But Emily Johnson, a P-CEP senior and honor society student, has been interested in technology and engineering for years. Her experiences participating in robotics competitions and college engineering programs illustrated a dramatic lack of female representation. These experiences strengthened her resolve to succeed in a traditionally male field and to inspire other girls and women to do the same.

Johnson designed an engineering club called Girls ENgineering Imaginative Inventions for fourth- and fifth-grade girls at Hulsing Elementary School.

In order to provide a greater deal of support for participants, Johnson recruited fellow P-CEP senior and future engineer Aleigh Gorham to help. The club's goal was to

show young girls that engineering and other male-dominated fields are a viable and possible career choice for them.

Once a week, 14 girls stayed after school until 5:45 p.m. and explored engineering concepts and careers together. They were challenged to think creatively with projects, such as balloon-powered cars, robotic arms and Bristlebots.

During the meeting in which chemical engineering was featured, the girls made a plastic-like substance using only milk and vinegar. The age-appropriate, hands-on activities were focused on sparking their interest and introducing the engineering mindset. The girls learned about various engineering disciplines and women engineers were highlighted as role models.

"I liked that I could be apart of a cool program and I liked the creations we made because

I would have never thought about coming up with any of the cool things we did," one participant said. "When I first signed up, I thought it would be like any old program, but it's not. It's inspiring, fun and amazing, all at the same time. I know one time I almost couldn't make it, I totally freaked out! I was glad at the last minute I found out I could go."

After the program, most of the girls expressed an interest in pursuing engineering as a career and in attending similar programs in the future. Johnson thanked Tri-Dim Engineering for generously sponsoring the GENII program.

"I liked that we got to make awesome projects and some we got to design our self," another participant said. "It was pretty cool and even though I'm not going to be here next year, I hope they do it again so other girls can get inspired like I did."



Little by little, engineering as a career grows on youngsters.

Guide to Employment

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

Careers

Jobs

new beginnings...

General

ART OF BREAD SUPERVISOR

Must have experience in pastry production and customer service, responsible for: working counter, baking, closing the store
Please apply in person at:
33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia
Or online at: loesproduce.com

Asphalt Maintenance Co. hiring:
Laborers/Foreman, Sealcoat
Labors/Foreman, CDL Truck Driver,
Sales Person. 248-685-7355
johnsurfacecealinga@comcast.net

AUTO PARTS SORTING & INSPECTING
Established Co. in Brighton is seeking quick learners. \$10/hr. No exp. needed. Must have own vehicle.
Apply online at: maixjobs.net
Or call Mon-Fri. 9-3pm. 810-229-6053

COOK & WAITSTAFF, EXP'D.
Needed for busy restaurant.
Apply in person: Platons Coney Island,
30090 Ford Road, Garden City.

DRIVER - CDL Class B with air.
Ability to lift heavy objects.
Also hiring: Roof Loaders
Apply in person at:

BENSON'S BUILDING SUPPLY
25018 Plymouth Rd, Redford.
(313) 538-9300

DRIVERS

Scrap Hauling/Waste Removal firm
Firm looking for CDL A Drivers.
Full Benefits.
Accepting Applications Mon-Fri. 8-5
TLC Waste
28035 Beverly Rd.
Romulus, MI 48174

GREENSIDE TAVERN HIRING:

• EXPERIENCED COOK
• FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER
with at least 1 yr exp.
Call or apply in person.
In Hickory Creek Golf Course
3625 Noyes Rd., Eastland MI
(734) 454-1850

JANITORIAL

Howell, Brighton, Wixom, Novi,
Farmington. Mon-Fri. & wkend avail.
20-25 hrs/wk. \$8.50/hr. EOE
www.usservice.com
or fax resume to: 248-926-9595

Manufacturing Quality Inspector
Competitive Salary & Benefits
Resume to:
PICLLC1994@gmail.com

Mechanic's Assistant / General Labor

Includes doing odd jobs for asphalt co.
Top pay & benefits.
Accepting applications/resumes:
39571 Michigan Ave, Canton 48188
sales@toshall.com

NEW OWNERS/NEW NAME

Looking to hire energetic pizza makers, cook, counter and delivery people. Apply in person b/w 12-5pm.
27609 Plymouth Rd. Livonia 48150

OPERATORS / LABORERS

CDL A preferred
Asphalt paving, gradings, & concrete experience needed.
Must pass a physical & drug test.
Union Wages. Apply in person at:
4755 Old Plank Rd., Milford 48361

General

QUALITY AUDITOR

A Tier 1 Automotive precision machining supplier has an immediate opening for Quality Auditor. The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication skills, experience qualifying dimensional inspection of precision machined parts and must be able to read blueprints and use basic gaging. Resume to:

Master Automatic
40485 Schoolcraft Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170. Fax: 734-459-4598
Email: hr@masterautomatic.com

REAL ESTATE SALES OPPORTUNITY

Real Estate One

Michigan's #1 REALTOR.
Earn High Commission Income
Rapidly Expanding Real Estate
Market Start Earning Commissions
Right Away

•Own Your Own Practice
•Be Your Own Boss
•Work Your Schedule
•You Determine Your Income
•Bonus Programs
•Healthy/Life/Disability/ Retirement
•Full Time Support Staff
PAT RYAN, REALTOR
(734) 591-9200
PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

Scrap & Salvage, Torch Operators,
Mechanics & Foreman Wanted!
50 year established business offering long term positions w/health benefits.
Hiring Today! Sp. Habla Espanol!
(734) 722-3800

SUPERINTENDENT

requires experience in sealcoating, cracksealing & asphalt patching.
DRIVERS/LABORERS
CDL A or B (w/tank endorsement)
Must pass a physical & drug test.
Apply at:
T&M Asphalt Sealcoating, Inc.
4755 Old Plank Rd, Milford, MI 48381 or call Don at 248-529-2462

Healthcare-Dental

Michigan Orthopaedic Institute
A fast paced growing orthopaedic practice is looking to hire individuals with exceptional customer service skills to fill several positions:

•Certified Medical Assistant
•Front Desk

Required Qualifications Include:
excellent verbal and written communication skills & the ability to communicate effectively with others within and outside of the organization, able to prioritize, be well organized and multi-task.
We offer a competitive salary & benefits package including 401K w/company match, paid holidays and vacation
Resume: employment@moimd.com

MEDICAL AESTHETICIAN
Dermatology practice seeking Full/Part time licensed aesthetician w/loser hair removal & cosmetic exp. No weekends/Exc pay & benefits. ozderm@aol.com or FAX 734-996-8767

Medical Assistant (CMA or RMA)
Schedule and verify appointments, get patient history, assist doctor in patient rooms. Medical office exp required. Full time, benefits avail.
Mon & Thurs 8:15am-6:30pm, Weds 7:45am-6pm, Tues & Fri 7:45-1pm
Email: aldnovi@yahoo.com

Healthcare-Dental

MEDICAL BILLER
with interest in medical office management. Prov. 5+ yrs. billing exp required with ICD-9/ICD-10 and CPT exp. Knowledge of PQRS, MU, PCMH preferred. Email resume to: devansknshmed@gmail.com

NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER, Find Your Next Job Here!

Find your next job opportunity here, in the Observer & Eccentric Media Employment section. We have listings every week in the following communities:

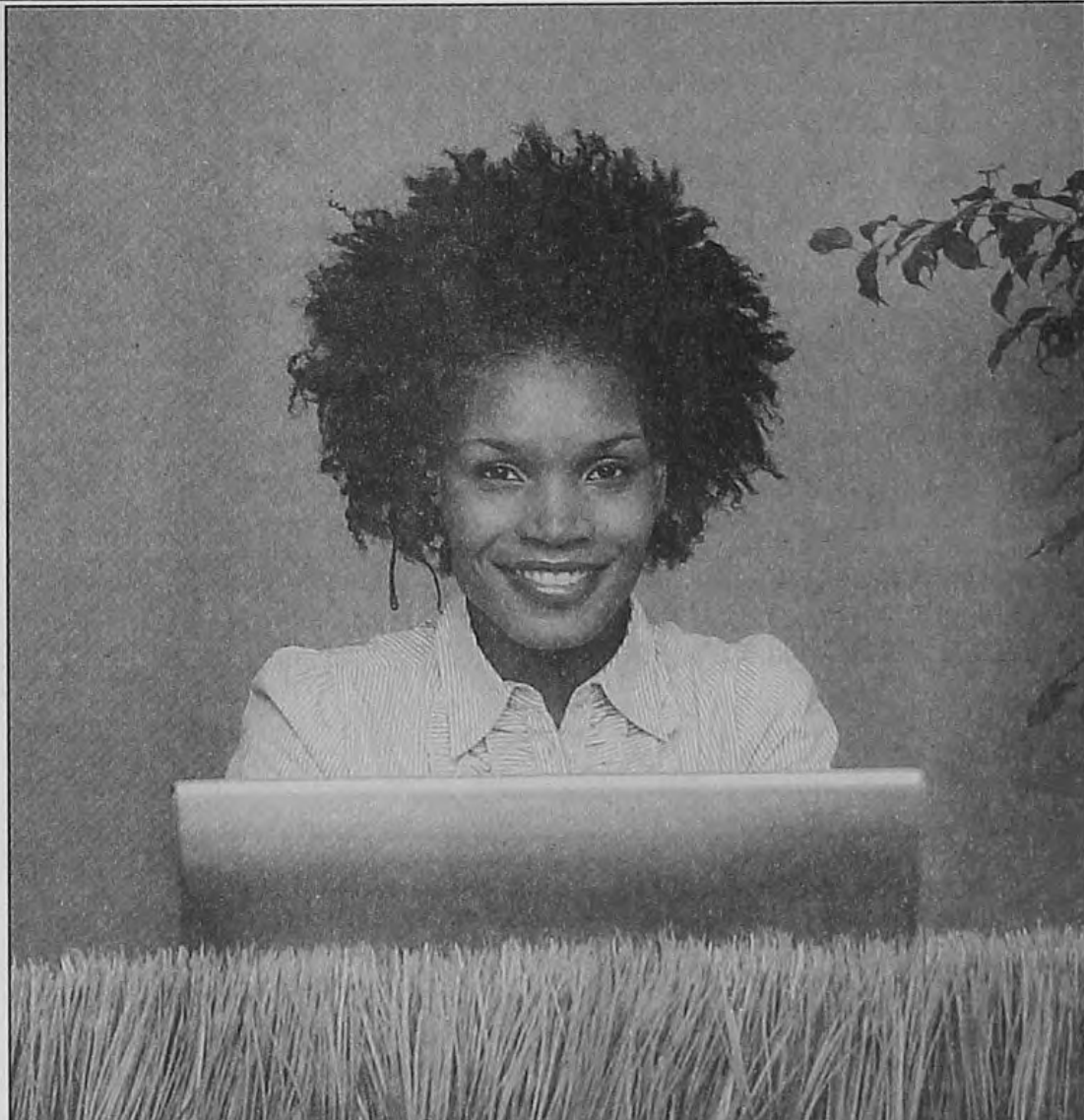
**Berkley • Birmingham
Canton • Clawson
Farmington
Garden City
Huntington Woods
Livonia • Milford
Northville • Novi
Pleasant Ridge
Plymouth • Redford
Royal Oak • Southfield
South Lyon • Westland**



To place a listing in the Observer & Eccentric Media Employment Guide call:

1-800-579-SELL

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY



Maybe the Grass IS Greener...

You'll never know if you don't look. Take a peek today, and browse hundreds of local job opportunities from a variety of exciting employers.

O&E Media's Jobs Section
In Print & Online

Search hometownlife.com
To advertise, call: 800-579-7355

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

Canton woman celebrates five generations of family

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

The joy in Margaret Swanson's voice is proof of the happiness she feels as her great-grandchildren start their own families.

Gabriel, now almost 2 months old, arrived with his mom, great-granddaughter Elizabeth, at Swanson's Canton home recently to meet his great-great-grandmother.

"They all came in with the baby. It's wonderful! To tell the truth, I didn't think I'd live that long,"

the 85-year-old Swanson said of meeting her first great-great-grandson.

But there's more on the way. She just received news that another "great" in Florida is on his or her way.

And who can't get enough of a newborn baby? Swanson is making the trip to North Carolina soon to see Gabriel again. "I want to see that baby," she said.

Swanson intends to stay around to see her family grow. "I've got my own teeth," she said. "I go to Curves four days a

week. If I could stay out of the fridge, I'd be much better."

But Swanson, a widow - her husband was Donald - also bowls, golfs and plays cards.

With the arrival of the fifth generation, Swanson doesn't have any real plans to leave a diary of sorts for the newcomers. "Well, we talk a lot," she said. "I hope they remember what I tell them."

Swanson is mother to sons Craig (daughter-in-law Vicky) - the great-grandfather of Gabriel -

and John and daughter Carol. Gabriel's grandfather is Craig Jr. (with wife Carrie).

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com
248-396-6620
Twitter: @jmaliszews

BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Margaret Swanson holds her great-great grandson, 2-month-old Gabriel Greene. Clockwise from lower left, great-granddaughter Elizabeth Greene, Gabriel's mom; grandson Craig Swanson Jr.; and son Craig Swanson.



Canton's Lyons recognized in paramedic program

Delreesa Lyons of Canton is a single mother of five and a grandmother of two. Her story is the story of thousands of single parents nationwide who are finding out that parenting, working full time and going to school at the same time is not an easy thing to do. It is a full-time job, but Lyons, in her second semester in the Wayne County Community College District's Paramedic Program, said she is up for the challenge.

Recently, Lyons was recognized for her contribution to patient care and well being by the Henry Ford Health System in Wyandotte. While this recognition is typically reserved for employees who demonstrate excellence in service to patients, visitors and fellow co-workers, Lyons earned this recognition as a student.

Brandon Young, safety officer, EMS and Emergency Preparedness program coordinator at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital and Lyons' supervisor, said he could not be more proud.



Delreesa Lyons of Canton with her award and Brandon Young, safety officer, EMS and Emergency Preparedness Program coordinator at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital.

"The other week, I received an A.W.E. card written to 'Dell' (Delreesa Lyons) and the patient had nothing but incredible praise for the young lady. She made a tremendous impact on that patient and their

family," Young said. "This is the first time ever that a student has received an A.W.E. card. Her action reflects HFWH and we want to recognize that."

Lyons said she was shocked to hear that she

had been recognized, but her pride and dedication are evident in the glowing smile she wears every day. "When I talked with my children about receiving the Henry

Ford Wyandotte Hospital award, they were just as surprised as I was and they continued to encourage me to pursue my goals and trust in my abilities," she said.

These abilities are far-reaching, as Lyons works full time as a patient care technician at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in the Surgery Preparation Center and attends school full time at WCCCD as a paramedic student. She said, "Balancing work life, school life and parenting is extremely challenging." She had worked locally in the health care field for 12 years before going back to school in 2015. The change has not been without its sacrifices for both Lyons and her children.

Besides work and keeping her grades at school, Lyons makes sure that she devotes time to her family. She has mastered the art of multi-tasking and remains committed to her children's personal well-being and academic

success while setting a great example for them.

Anthony Arminiak, president of the Downriver Campus where the program is housed, said the Paramedic Program has consistently produced graduates who are knowledgeable about the policies, procedures and algorithms necessary to treat a wide variety of acute and life-threatening events.

"We all do our school assignment or study as a family and run errands together in order to get family time," Lyons said. "There is also time for fun, though. I carve out a block of time during the weekend and do something my children want because they also have made a sacrifice so that I may attend school."

"I explained to my children over a year ago that I was returning to school and that we all would have to sacrifice what we want in exchange for what we need and my children were very receptive," she added.

REDFORD THEATRE

Enjoy our 1928 Barton Theatre Organ played 30 min. before each show

SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS



Fri. April 1 • 8pm
Sat. April 2 • 2pm & 8pm
Tickets - \$5.00

THE THREE STOOGES FILM FESTIVAL



6 STOOGES CLASSICS
Matri-Phony (1942)
Three Smart Saps (1942)
Even As I.O.U. (1942)
Three Little Twirps (1943)
Higher Than A Kite (1943)
I Can Hardly Wait (1943)

Fri. April 15 • 8pm
Sat. April 16 • 2pm & 8pm
Tickets - \$5.00

THE GENERAL



THIS SILENT CLASSIC WILL HAVE LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT BY AWARD-WINNING AND LEADING ORGANIST, LANCE LUCE ON THE BARTON THEATRE ORGAN!

Sat. April 23 • 8pm
Tickets - \$10/Adult
\$5/Children 12 & Under

FREE SMALL POP
No Copies • Exp. 04/30/16

Park in one of our FREE supervised parking lots
17360 Lahser Road • Detroit (313) 537-2560
Buy tickets online at redfordtheatre.com

Henry Ford Medical Center - Plymouth IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS.

WE MAKE CARE CONVENIENT.

Need a primary care physician? The Henry Ford Medical Group is committed to improving your family's health. That means we're always working to get you easy access to the best doctors.

We've got you covered with:

- A single phone number (1-800-HENRYFORD)
- Convenient same-day appointments
- Nurse On-Call medical phone advice
- Henry Ford MyChart that offers:
 - Easy online appointment scheduling
 - Lab and test results for review
 - The ability to message your doctor online
 - Online prescription renewal

NEED A PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR?
Choose the best. Choose a Henry Ford doctor.



SANA ZUBERI, M.D.
Family Medicine
14300 Beck Road
Plymouth, MI 48170



To learn more or to make an appointment, visit henryford.com/sameday or call 1-800-HENRYFORD.

Frank Sinatra & Dean Martin

...Dinner Show From Las Vegas



"With Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin... chemistry is the key work to the success of this clever and talented duo"

"...Sacco, Morello will keep you laughing all night long!"

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
19801 FARMINGTON RD., LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
(BETWEEN 7 & 8 MILES)

BOX OFFICE: (248) 473-7777

Tickets: \$35 (tickets include dinner & Show)

Dinner at 5pm, Show will Follow

THE BILLY JOEL & ELTON DINNER-DANCE SHOW SUNDAY MAY 22, AT 5 PM
[HTTP://WWW.ROSECATERING.COM](http://www.rosecatering.com)

Sky fall! Kids flock to marshmallow drop

Like swallows to Capistrano, thousands of kids converged Friday on Nankin Mills in Westland, hoping to grab a piece of Easter heaven.

They were there for the 32nd annual Marshmallow Drop, during which more than 20,000 marshmallows were dropped from the sky. The children raced around gathering the marshmallows, which

were redeemable for prizes.

"Wayne County's Marshmallow Drop has been a cherished family tradition for 32 years," Wayne County Executive Warren Evans said. "The Marshmallow Drop kicks off a highly anticipated season of fun activities for our Parks Division ... it really is an exciting time for the entire family to enjoy."



Shaun Williams and daughter Brenna Williams, 2, greet the Easter Bunny.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A couple of bunnies from Canton, Justin Colbeck and 18-month-old daughter Brinley, wait in line to pick up a prize for their efforts.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

he helicopter drops the marshmallows and the race is on.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two-year-old Naveen Sangha and his dad Mandeep Sangha spot the Easter Bunny hopping down the muddy trail. They are from Westland.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two-year-old Andrew Sladewski shows off the spoils of the hunt. Andrew came to the marshmallow drop with mom and dad, Krysten and Brian Sladewski. They are from Northville.

NEED MORE CUSTOMERS?

EDUCATION

Canton foundation continues scholarship tradition

By Brad Korbach

The Canton Community Foundation announced Friday that it has awarded 28 scholarships to local students for the 2015-2016 school year.

The foundation, which was established in 1984, has a long history of providing financial support to local students. This year, the foundation awarded 28 scholarships, totaling \$100,000.

The recipients of the scholarships include students from Canton, Farmington Hills, and Westland. The foundation's goal is to help students pursue higher education and reach their dreams.

The foundation's board of directors, led by President John J. Gorman, announced the recipients at a ceremony held at the foundation's headquarters.

The foundation's annual scholarship program is one of its most popular initiatives. It provides financial support to students who are academically and financially in need. The foundation's goal is to help students pursue higher education and reach their dreams.

The foundation's board of directors, led by President John J. Gorman, announced the recipients at a ceremony held at the foundation's headquarters.

The foundation's annual scholarship program is one of its most popular initiatives. It provides financial support to students who are academically and financially in need. The foundation's goal is to help students pursue higher education and reach their dreams.

Get YOUR business in front of them today!

2/3 OF RESIDENTS IN SMALL COMMUNITIES READ LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

Locals are reading the Observer & Eccentric

Source: Readership Study by The Reynolds Journalism Institute (RJI) for National Newspaper Association (NNA) 2013.

90% of Individuals with Hypertension Will Fail to Take Their Medication

FREE DINNER

Immediately following the presentation of the solutions to Unresolved Thyroid Symptoms.

Presented by leading wellness expert Dr. Lisa Sullivan, ND

Wednesday, January 28th or February 11th at 6:00 pm

Ross & Lounge

201 N. Canton St. | 48187

Learn what causes 90% of Hypertension

- What identifying lab tests are necessary to identify your problem
- Why simply taking thyroid medications may impact your condition
- What Really Works to improve your condition. Safely, Healthfully!

Please RSVP to (734) 716-5588

Limited Seating Available. Free Free to bring a guest

YOUR AD HERE

Call: 866.887.2737 and get started!

michigan.com

A GANNETT COMPANY

P-CEP student journalist testifies in Senate

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, welcomed testimony Tuesday from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park student Chris Robbins in a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

Robbins spoke on Senate Bill 848, which addresses press freedom for student journalists.

SB 848, known as the Student Free Press and

Civics Readiness Act, is co-sponsored by Colbeck and would allow students greater decision-making power in determining which articles are published and disseminated, pro-



Robbins

vided the articles don't violate federal or state laws, are libelous or slanderous, or incite danger.

"I would like to thank Chris Robbins and other student journalists, who are exercising their freedoms of speech and of the press while honing their journalism skills on behalf of our communities," Colbeck said. "Stu-

dent journalists across the state face barriers in their ability to exercise responsibility for determining the news, opinion, feature and advertising content of school-sponsored media and this bill would give them more freedom to make these decisions."

Robbins, who works on the Plymouth-Canton student newspaper The

Perspective, said he has learned a lot about his community by serving as a student journalist under the exceptional tutelage of his journalism teacher, Leola Gee, and that freedom of expression is essential for allowing a student to best engage in the journalism process.

"Making coverage decisions, being a part of

a team that works together and learning how to be an effective writer are crucial experiences that are best learned in a newspaper setting where students control the content," Robbins said.

SB 848 was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee and has been referred to the full Senate, where it awaits further consideration.

St. Joe earns Make-a-Wish award

St. Joseph Mercy Health System, headquartered in Canton, is among those organizations that have been honored by Make-A-Wish Michigan.

Make-a-Wish recently honored individuals, corporate partners, organizations and groups at the Southeast Michigan Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event in Novi.

St. Joseph was recog-

nized for its generosity and dedication to the Make-A-Wish mission of granting wishes to Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions. The health system received the Outstanding Corporate Partner Award for supporting Make-A-Wish Michigan since 2012.

St. Joseph's sponsorship of the organization's largest fundraiser - the Wish-A-Mile Bicycle

Tour - has totaled \$110,000 during that time. Not only does the organization sponsor WAM, but it also has a team consisting of employees, family members and friends who ride in the event.

Through team fundraising, Team Joe's has raised nearly a \$250,000 to help grant wishes for Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions.

Other award recipients included Steven Cook of Milford; Youth-Quest of Flint; Lauren Singer of Bloomfield Hills; Gordon Chevrolet of Garden City; American Red Cross of Washtenaw County; The Cystic Fibrosis Center at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital; and Ken Kavanaugh of West Bloomfield.



WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

This man is wanted for shoplifting and assault in at incident at the Macy's at Westland Shopping Center.

Archdiocese scraps plan for regional school

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The Archdiocese of Detroit has scrapped plans to create a regional Catholic school in western Wayne County.

Plans to open Divine Mercy Regional School were dismissed earlier this month because enrollment numbers didn't reach targeted numbers, according to a letter to parents posted on the school's Facebook site March 16.

The archdiocese was planning to close three schools in the area - St. Genevieve in Livonia, St. Raphael in Garden City and St. Damian in Westland - and combine them into one regional K-8 school for the 2016-

17 school year. A fourth school, at St. Robert Bellarmine in Redford, was closed last year.

Opening the new regional school was dependent on getting some 250 students to enroll. Enrollment fell far short of that when only about 75 students registered.

"We needed to get to (250) ... we didn't make that," said the Rev. Richard Alieart, pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine. "It's not so much that it was a hard decision ... we had to be realistic. We hoped we could get (to 250) with a late surge, but we didn't make it."

Alieart was one of four priests - including the Most Rev. Francis Reiss of St. Theodore of

Canterbury, the Rev. Simeon Iber of St. Thomas the Apostle and the Rev. Howard Vogan of St. Genevieve - to sign the letter posted to Facebook.

"While tremendous efforts to establish the regional school were made by many and significant resources were put forth by all our parishes, Divine Mercy Regional School fell short of an enrollment commitment that would have made the school financially possible," the letter read, in part.

Some parents in the neighborhoods served by the four schools believe the archdiocese should have known they weren't going to get to 250 students because

parents were voicing concerns about the location - Divine Mercy was going to be housed at St. Raphael, near Meriman and Ford - and leadership.

Parents said archdiocese officials told them they had "full confidence" the school would open.

"They should have known this wasn't going to happen when people voiced their concerns from the beginning," said Tabitha Kelly, whose kids attend St. Damian. "They (said) they expected 250 kids and we had no idea where they were getting their numbers."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Man sought for Macy's shoplifting, assault

Westland Police have released photos of a man wanted for shoplifting and assaulting a loss prevention officer at the Westland Macy's store.

On March 11, police said the man shown in photographs was inside the Macy's store, 35000 Warren Road, at the Westland Shopping Center. The suspect walked out of the store with a large amount of clothing, according to police.

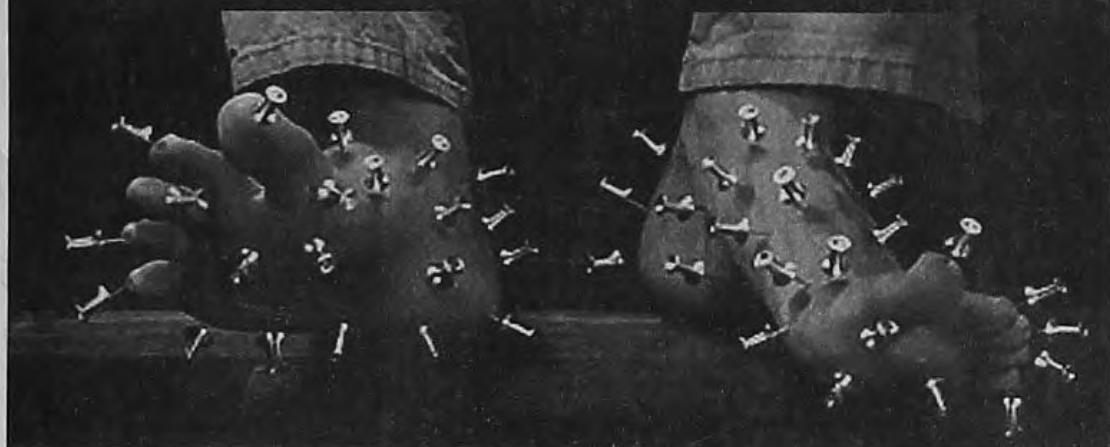
When confronted in the parking lot by a loss prevention officer, the suspect struck her and dropped the clothing, fleeing to a black newer

model Jeep. The loss prevention officer was not seriously injured.

The suspect was accompanied by a white female, a child and an infant. He is described as a white male, approximately 40 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches and estimated to weigh 300 pounds. He was believed to be bald, but the witness was unsure as he was wearing a hat.

Anyone who can assist police in identifying the suspect is asked to contact the Westland Police Department at 734-722-9600 or Sgt. Chris Gazdecki at 734-467-3250.

Been Told You Have To "Live With The Pain?"



Neuropathy Breakthrough!

If You're Experiencing Pain, Burning, Numbness, Tingling or Pins & Needles In Your Hands Or Feet -> Don't Miss This FREE Seminar On Peripheral Neuropathy!

> Canton, MI

BREAKTHROUGH FOR PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY SUFFERERS!

Clinical Studies Reveal: The Debilitating Pain, Numbness & Tingling Experienced By Patients Suffering From Peripheral Neuropathy Can Be Successfully Treated - Without The Use Of Drugs And Surgery.

Presented By:

Dr. Michael Brackney D.C.

The Canton Peripheral Neuropathy Center at Brackney Chiropractic.

In this cutting-edge FREE seminar you'll learn:

- The underlying causes of peripheral neuropathy, and the key to prevention
- The Nobel prize winning discovery that every neuropathy patient MUST know
- How peripheral neuropathy is diagnosed, and when it can be successfully treated
- A technology originally developed by NASA that helps decrease painful neuropathy symptoms
- 3 simple changes to your diet that can help prevent peripheral neuropathy from developing
- Advanced diagnostic testing to help determine if your condition can be treated
- A simple home therapy approved by Medicare that is used by some of the largest specialty hospitals in the country to treat certain types of neuropathy

WHEN: Sat April 2nd & Sat. April 16th, 11AM-12PM

WHERE: Scrambler Marie's, 43225 Ford Rd Canton, MI

COST: FREE!! Lunch will be served.

RSVP: Please RSVP or ask about other dates.

CALL: (734) 757-6818

Registration is FREE, but seating is limited.

ST. MARY MERCY MEDICAL GROUP
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

Westside

Obstetrics • Gynecology & Urogynecology

Women's Health Presentation

Dr. Paul Makela, urogynecologist, provides insight and education about a variety of female conditions including bladder dysfunction, overactive bladder and pelvic prolapse. Grab a friend, your sister or mom and learn about the latest therapies and procedures available that may help eliminate or reduce your symptoms or pain, and improve your quality of life.

April 20

St. Mary Mercy Livonia

Classrooms 1 & 2

36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia

5:45 p.m. - Check-in
6 p.m. - Presentation

REGISTER NOW!

Free of charge but registration is required. Please call 734-655-1980. Light refreshments will be served.

Dr. Makela is a member of St. Mary Mercy Medical Group, a network of primary care and specialty physicians who provide comprehensive medical care, health maintenance and preventative services to help you and your family stay healthy.



Isn't it time you Discover Remarkable?
smarymercy.org/westside

BEE

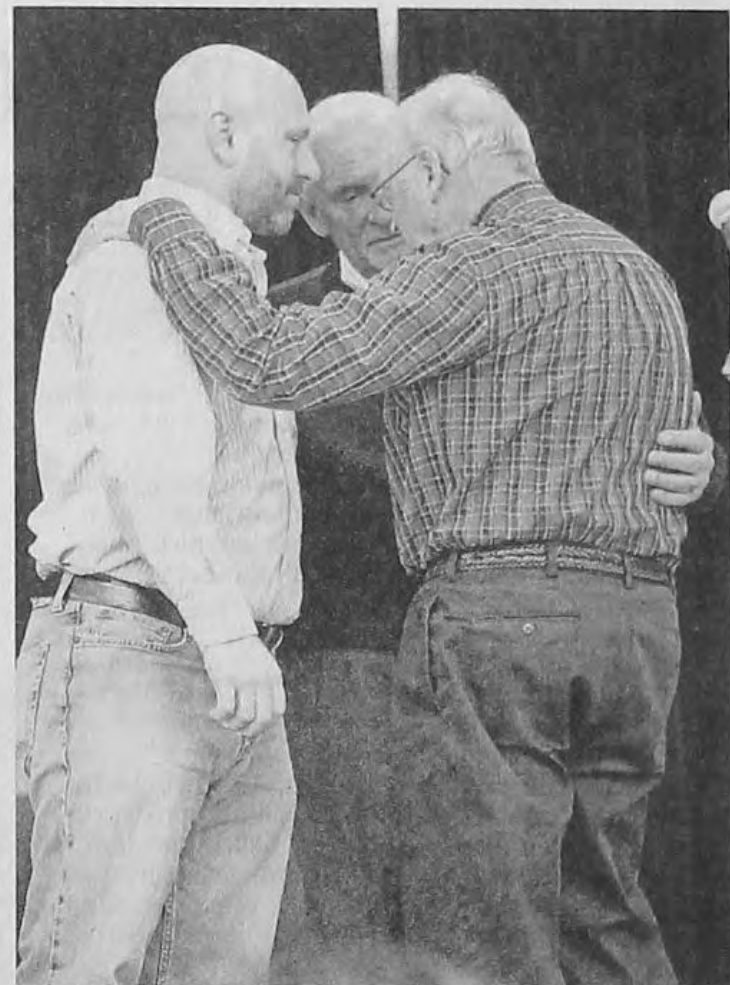
Continued from Page A1

give the spelling bee a try again next year. "I have been encouraged." Sanghvi had heard about the Youth Spelling Bee when a student at her son's school, Gallimore Elementary, won. She then discovered that the adult bee was fast approaching. Sanghvi expects her oldest son, now in third grade, will be ready to join the youth bee next year. The couple's two sons were in the audience last week and saw their parents win.

The Spellbinders from Community Financial Credit Union, with Sue Bellaire and Ami Solanacea, took second place. Their supporters, an excited cheering section, took the traditional "Spirit Basket" prize for their enthusiasm. The group cheering the Plymouth Rotary team won a second-place spirit prize.



Ami Solanacea and Sue Bellaire react as the judges declare a win, but their joy was short-lived. There was a judges' error.



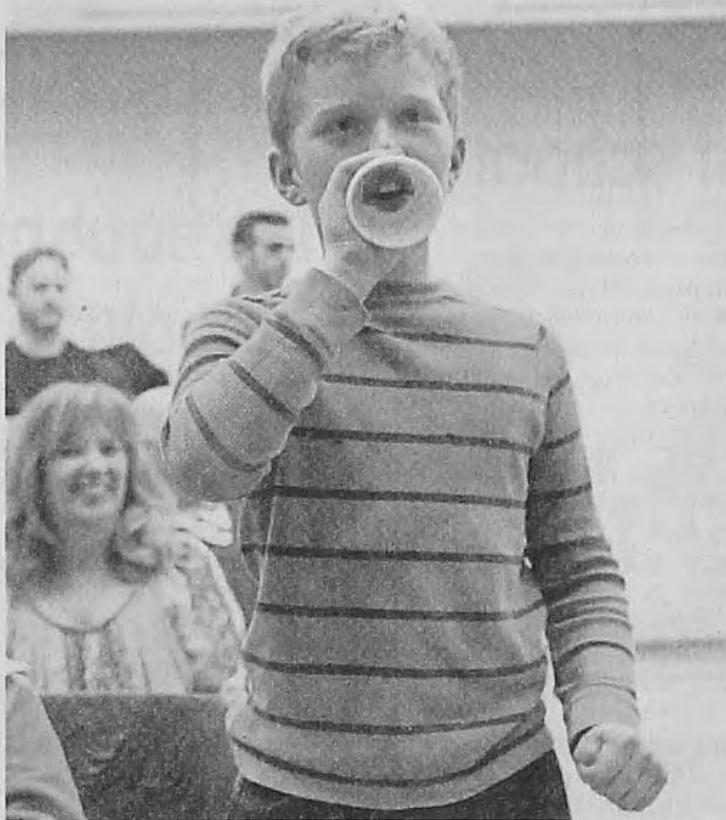
Ken Jenkins, Don Massini and Bruce Baxter are the Sedulous Spellers.

While the youth spelling bee Feb. 23 took several hours to work through, the adult bee was short and sweet. "They started going down like flies," said Carol Saunders, a long-time literacy council member who organized the adult event.

True, the words were tough. At one point, Saunders asked judges if she should flip to the end of her word list. "They said, 'We think these words are hard enough,'" she said.

What really excites Saunders is that the adult bee is drawing more diverse teams. "I am so proud of these teams," she said.

Last year, the Witty Websters team, sponsored by Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, was the champion. This year, the Witty Websters were represented by a new team of high school students from P-CEP.



Ten-year-old Garrett Jenkins cheers for the spelling teams.



Judge Carol Souchock, director of the Plymouth District Library, says the answer is good.

The adult bee is designed as a fundraiser and to increase awareness for the literacy council, which provides free tutors to help adults improve their English skills.

The 10 teams were sponsored by local businesses. Some of the sponsors have participated with their own teams for several years, while other sponsors allowed other adults to sign up to represent their team. The emcee was Tony Bruscato, director of Plymouth Downtown Development Authority. Judges were Eva Davis, director of Canton Public Library, and Carol Souchock, director of Ply-



Erudite Spellers Nehal Sanghvi and Sumanth Makunur are the spelling champions.



The ever-erudite Tony Bruscato emcees the event.



Christine Danaubauer and Jason Houston of Community Financial Credit Union get rowdy for their team, the Spellbinders.

mouth District Library. The bee also had folks who helped with the pronunciation of the words. They were Dana Jones,

principal of Smith Elementary, and Amy D'Urso of Nielson Co. Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy

Council needs tutors to help meet the demand for literacy education. Tutors volunteer two hours per week in one-on-one meetings or ESL conversation groups to work with adults below ninth-grade English level. The next 12-hour comprehensive training will be May 19 and 21. For information, go to www.plymouthcantonliteracy.org or call 734-589-0011.



Ed Schulz is timekeeper, Carol Souchock and Eva Davis are judges and Amy D'Urso and Dana Jones are pronouncers at the spelling bee.

COMPLETE FUNERAL
\$3,695⁰⁰
 We do what most others do for about half the price.
Husband Family Funeral Home
 Ask for Kim 734-331-3349
 Call for details
www.rhusband.com

REACH THE STATE with this ad!
 No other media offers the audience of loyal, local, repeat readers you'll reach through community newspapers!
 71% Of adults read newspapers in print or digitally!
CALL TODAY! 800-227-7636 www.CNAads.com
*Source-2013 Scarborough Research- CNA Consumer Media Usage Study

Ask Dr. Stewart
 Dr. James Stewart offers treatment for sleep apnea and chronic snoring from his practice in Livonia, MI. Today he discusses three reasons to contact a doctor.
DIFFICULTY SLEEPING
Dear Dr. Stewart: If I'm having trouble sleeping do I really need to see a doctor?
Dr. Stewart: Yes, because the cause of your sleep problems may be related to a serious health issue, such as sleep apnea. There are three reasons to talk to the doctor about sleep problems:
 1. Self-diagnosing and self-treating a sleep problem can be frustrating and could potentially mask a more serious problem.
 2. Quality of life. Lack of sleep can lead to exhaustion, headaches, difficulty focusing, and moodiness not only for you but possibly for your bed partner as well.
 3. Ignoring a sleep disorder is dangerous. For example, without treatment sleep apnea can actually increase the risk of high blood pressure, stroke, and heart attack.
 If you have questions about your sleep difficulties then contact Dr. Stewart's Sleep Better Michigan practice.
Call 734.425.4400 or Visit www.sleepbettermichigan.com
Dental SLEEP MEDICINE of Michigan P.C.
JAMES R. STEWART, JR. D.D.S., P.C.
 15873 Middlebelt, Suite 100 Livonia, MI 48154

REGISTER SOON TO SECURE YOUR SPOT! BE PREPARED. SAVE A LIFE!

Mental Health First Aid (CES 4362)
 Taught by a certified instructor, you will learn to:
 • Successfully interact with someone in crisis
 • Provide professional, peer, social and self-help resources
 • Earn your Mental Health First Aid Certificate

Youth Athletic Coach & Safety Training (CES 4363)
 • Earn your American Red Cross Certification
 • Review:
 • Field & outdoor safety
 • Signs of concussion
 • Heat, hydration & nutrition information
 • Training essentials and more.

Continuing Education and Professional Development
 Schoolcraft College
 Continuing Education and Professional Development | www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd | 734.462.4448
JOIN US ON FACEBOOK @ www.facebook.com/schoolcraftcepd

Metro Detroit woman donates adapted bicycle to Livonia boy

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Sometimes help comes from the most unexpected places.

That's a lesson Alison McRae of Livonia learned this week, when a woman she'd never heard of called with an offer to help McRae's special-needs son with a dream.

McRae opened up about her 6-year-old son William, who is entered in a contest to win an adapted bicycle in the 2016 Friendship Circle Great Bike Giveaway.

William, who has been diagnosed with cerebral palsy and epilepsy, among other ailments, is

hoping to become the recipient of up to 600 bicycles Friendship Circle hopes to give away at the end of the month.

Or rather, William was among those eligible. He's not anymore.

He no longer needs the raffle to get the bicycle. A friend of Alison's shared a link telling William's story and a group of female mountain bikers saw it and immediately stepped up.

"I can't even believe it," McRae said. "We're beyond happy."

The woman, whose name isn't being used because she couldn't be reached, called Riftin, the bike manufacturer, before calling McRae.

Turns out the woman, who has a special-needs child of her own, belongs to the female mountain biking Facebook group and "wanted to help."

"A complete stranger saw it and said, 'We spend so much on our mountain bikes, I want to do this,' McRae said, reduced to tears just telling the story. "She has a special-needs son and she just wanted to pay it forward."

While William is no longer in the giveaway, those who've already donated to support his cause haven't done so in vain. The more money Friendship Circle collects, the more bikes it can give away. It's shoot-

ing for 600. Bassie Shemtov, Friendship Circle's director, said the group will give away however many it's able to get. To do it, Shemtov knows Friendship Circle will need generous support.

"Our children are our greatest and most precious and valuable commodity," Shemtov said. "We are kindly asking you to show your generosity by supporting the children and putting smiles on the faces of boys and girls throughout the United States."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A donor has come forward to purchase an adaptive bike for William McRae of Livonia, here with mom Alison.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

'GUACAMOLE'

Time/Date: Showtimes are 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 31 and April 1-2, and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 3
Location: PARC, 650 Church, in downtown Plymouth. Park in the back and enter through door No. 24

Details: Better Than Ever Productions will perform the hilarious Texas comedy "Last Roundup of the Guacamole Queens" by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten
Cost: Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$17 at the door. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.betterthaneverprod.wix.com/btep> or call 734-306-7883. For groups of 10 or more, the ticket price is \$13; call for a reservation

FLINT WATER DOCTOR

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 5

Location: PARC, 650 Church Street, Plymouth

Details: Dr. Hanna-Attisha, The pediatrician will talk about the Flint water crisis and her efforts to draw attention to the problems.

Cost: Tickets may be obtained at <http://rotaryclubofplymoutham.eventsbot.com>

Contact: 248-650-5717

The pediatrician will talk about the Flint water crisis and her efforts to draw attention to the problems. The cost is free, but Rotary members ask attendees to make donations to the Flint Child Health & Development Fund. Donations will be accepted at the door.

KARATE TOURNAMENT

Time/Date: Registration by Sunday, March 27; tournament Sunday, April 10

Location: Garden City Middle School, 1851 Radcliff in Garden City

Details: Shotokan Karate Federation of Michigan hosts a Michigan Karate Tournament. Age groups include 5-11, 12-17, 18-34 and 35-older.

Cost: \$40 for one event, \$50 for two events, \$60 for three events, and \$70 for four events. Registration deadline is Sunday, March 27.

Contact: Sensei Tony Valvona, 734-658-5683, or email Tony@karatemi.com

RECOGNIZING AND MANAGING HEART FAILURE

Time/Date: 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5

Details: Free presentation at

Providence-Providence Park Hospital, Novi Campus, Outpatient Building, Conference Room A.. Learn about congestive heart failure and current treatment options. For more information, call St. John Providence CareLink at 888-751-5465 to register.

K-9 VETERANS DAY EVENT

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Saturday, April 16

Details: The Michigan War Dog Memorial will host a K-9 Veterans Day event. Invited speakers to discuss the value of working with a K-9, OCSO K-9 unit, National Association of Professional Canine Handlers, WCC K-9s and K-9 Pipper from Traverse City Airport. Immediately following the event, the unveiling of a war dog plaque in the memory of Rob Wurtz.

The program will take place at the memorial, 25805 Milford Road, Lyon Township. For more information, contact Phil Weitlauf at pweitlauf@gmx.com or 248-685-8307.

DEMENTIA WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, April 20 through May 25

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W 10 Mile Road, Novi

Details: The Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the Alzheimer's Association-Greater Michigan Chapter host free educational workshops for families caring for someone with a dementia-related illness, such as Alzheimer's disease. The Creating Confident Caregivers program is a six-week workshop series.

Caregivers will learn how to: reduce caregiver related stress; improve caregiver confidence; create a positive care-giving environment; plan daily activities for your loved one based on their strengths; and deal with behaviors caused by dementia and its effects on the brain.

Contact: Advance registration is required. To register, call the AAA 1-B at 800-852-7795. For more details or additional information, go to www.aaa1b.com.

COMEDY FOR A CAUSE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 29

Location: Big Tommy's, 40380 Grand River Ave. in Novi

Details: Come show your support for deployed military troops. Big Tommy's will host a fundraiser for Troops Need Love Too, a Michigan nonprofit supporting deployed military. The evening features 10 comedians performing; two are veterans. 50/50 and silent auction planned, as well.

Cost: Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Contact: Call 248-762-1151 for tickets

ESSAY CONTEST

Time/Date: Applications due April 1

Details: The Beloved Community, partnering with the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, has announced the second annual Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest. The contest is open to all sixth-through 12th-grade students in Plymouth and Canton, including those children who attend traditional public, charter and private schools or who are home-schooled. Participation in the essay contest is intended to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of diversity and inclusion and further the goals of education, deep reflection and reconciliation on topics critical to racial justice in the Plymouth-Canton community.

Contact: Inquiries about the application process may be directed to Loren Khogali at lorenkhogali@gmail.com or Sommer Foster at sommer.foster@gmail.com.

LIP SYNC

Time/Date: Deadline by 5 p.m. April 1

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill

Details: Interested performers of all ages are encouraged to compete in the Canton Youth Advisory Council's Lip Sync Battle, "So You Think You Can Sync?" Contestants can register individually for \$10 or as a group for \$15, which is payable with exact change at the Summit Front Desk. At least one person in your group must live within Canton, MI, in order to enter the contest. This competition is for amateur performers only. No professional groups are allowed to perform. Only the first 30 acts to sign up will perform. Registration forms and music CD's must be turned in to the Summit on the Park. Attention: Laura Mortier. Groups and individuals must supply their own CD in good condition for their performance, which will be returned. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners: \$200 for the best group and \$100 for the top solo act.

Contact: Event information and registration applications can be found at www.cantonfun.org.



USED CAR SPECIAL: 2012 FORD MUSTANG



BOSS 302 - ONLY 29,000 MILES
ONLY \$30,488

2016 FUSION SE



24 month lease for \$131 per month*

Rebates up to \$3,250

BUY AS LOW AS \$19,715

2016 ESCAPE SE



24 month lease for \$142 per month*

Rebates up to \$3,500

BUY AS LOW AS \$21,258

2015 EDGE SEL AWD WITH LEATHER



24 month lease for \$276 per month*

Rebates up to \$3,250

BUY AS LOW AS \$31,918

2016 F-150 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4



24 month lease for \$267 per month*

Rebates up to \$5,800

BUY AS LOW AS \$33,277



9800 Belleville Rd. • Belleville, MI 48111

734.697.9161 | www.atchinson.net

*Requires Ford Credit financing, see salesperson for details. Offer expires 3-31-16

OPEN MONDAY & THURSDAY 9AM - 9PM TUES, WED & FRI 9AM - 6PM SATURDAY: 10AM - 3PM



Get the Varsity Advantage!

VARSLTY LINCOLN

#1 Globally
18 Years in a Row!**
Find out why.

49251 Grand River at Wixom Rd. • Novi, MI 48374
(800) 240-8730 | VarsityLincoln.com
Over 800 Vehicles Ready To Go!

Complimentary 6-Year/100,000-Mile Comprehensive Warranty on Every Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln!



STK #: 41909

Certified!

Manager's Special!

2013 Lincoln MKX Ultimate FWD

- Multi-Zone A/C
- Remote Engine Start
- Only 38,055 miles

NOW ONLY \$22,995+

Financing as low as 0.9% APR!*

2013 Lincoln Navigator Ultimate 4WD

Certified!



- Satellite Radio
- Rear Parking Aid
- Only 51,950 miles

NOW ONLY \$37,995+

STK #: 41678

2014 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD

Certified!



- WiFi Hotspot
- Multi-Zone AC
- Only 30,123 miles

NOW ONLY \$26,995+

STK #: 41753

2014 Lincoln MKS EcoBoost AWD

Certified!



- All Wheel Drive
- Multi-Zone A/C
- Only 29,652 miles

NOW ONLY \$27,995+

STK #: 41907

2013 Lincoln MKT Fleet AWD

Certified!



- Leather Seats
- Keyless Start
- Only 57,745 miles

NOW ONLY \$26,995+

STK #: 41981

2014 Lincoln MKX Ultimate AWD

Certified!



- Climate Control
- All Wheel Drive
- Only 18,213 miles

NOW ONLY \$33,995+

STK #: 41783

2014 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

Certified!



- WiFi Hotspot
- Climate Control
- Only 7,677 miles

NOW ONLY \$26,995+

STK #: 41768

2014 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

Certified!



- Heated Mirrors
- Leather Seats
- Only 7,077 miles

NOW ONLY \$23,995+

STK #: 41499

2014 Lincoln MKS Ultimate FWD

Certified!



- Trip Computer
- Multi-Zone A/C
- Only 30,351 miles

NOW ONLY \$23,995+

STK #: 41648

2014 Lincoln MKS AWD

Certified!



- Bucket Seats
- Multi-Zone A/C
- Only 8,962 miles

NOW ONLY \$28,995+

STK #: 41902

2014 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD

Certified!



- Climate Control
- Turbocharged
- Only 23,373 miles

NOW ONLY \$22,995+

STK #: 41498

2012 Lincoln Navigator Ultimate 4WD

Certified!



- Satellite Radio
- Keyless Entry
- Only 50,090 miles

NOW ONLY \$36,995+

STK #: 41881

2014 Lincoln MKX Ultimate AWD

Certified!



- Multi-Zone A/C
- Security System
- Only 6,549 miles

NOW ONLY \$34,995+

STK #: 41723

2014 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD

Certified!



- Rear Bench Seats
- Aluminum Wheels
- Only 12,297 miles

NOW ONLY \$26,995+

STK #: 41938



STK #: 40520

Certified!

Check It Out! 2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

- Multi-Zone A/C
- Power Steering
- Only 56,613 miles

NOW ONLY \$14,995+

2013 Lincoln MKT EcoBoost AWD

Certified!



- WiFi Hotspot
- Climate Control
- Only 39,580 miles

NOW ONLY \$26,995+

STK #: 41530

VARSLTY LINCOLN

Save Thousands on a Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln.



LINCOLN CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

49251 Grand River at Wixom Rd. • Novi, MI 48374
(800) 240-8730 | VarsityLincoln.com

- Meticulous 200-point inspection by factory trained technicians
- 6-year / 100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage
- Complimentary 24/7 roadside assistance

THE SALE IS ON...

*Based on 1/2016 Total New Vehicle & Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. **As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details. †Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 3/31/16.



Need help with E-mail marketing?

Michigan.com has the solution:

- Dedicated team of email specialists.
- Highest quality email databases.
- Responsive e-mail design for optimal viewing on all devices.
- Detailed reporting including conversion tracking.

Get your FREE Digital Business Analysis today! Email jhayden@michigan.com.

michigan.com

BOYS GOLF PREVIEW

Rocks are getting back in the swing

Salem looks to move up in division, conference

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Bolstered by experience and promising newcomers, Salem's varsity boys golf team is poised to move up the KLAA Central Division ranks this spring.

Sixth-year head coach Ryan Nimmerguth, whose team finished sixth in the division in 2015, points to his team trending upward this time around.

"We lacked experience last year and it showed in our results," Nimmerguth said. "We return 11 players from last year and, with the few practices we have had this season, I can see the returners are much more comfortable and consistent."

"Our ability to handle the stress and mental focus that the game of golf demands will be important. If we can stay within ourselves and stay focused on our goals, this team has the potential to be successful in the KLAA."

Nimmerguth, looking to make up for the graduation of Jakob Lenders and Jake Stropes, can plug in newcomers such as junior Joey Dris-

See ROCKS, Page B2



FILE PHOTO

Salem's Adam Marcero watches the flight of a shot during a 2015 match.

PREP SOFTBALL PREVIEW — PART 1



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Sophomore Whitney Holden, shown during a 2015 contest, is one of several outstanding holdovers for the Plymouth Wildcats.

'CATS SET TO POUNCE

Last year's amazing season has Plymouth wanting more success

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Coach Lauren Delapaz got married in January and now is Lauren Evans.

But not much else has changed with the Plymouth varsity softball team, as many of the key components from the 2015 Division 1 regional champion (30-5 overall, 16-0 in the KLAA South Division) return.

"As a program, we have stressed that it is not going to be easy and have all agreed to put in the hard work needed to be successful," said Evans, starting her second season at the helm. "So far this season we have worked hard to improve daily."

"We have a great foundation in our returning players and look forward to seeing how things come into place and what new players step up



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Racing toward home plate to score during a 2015 game is Mikayla Rose, starting her junior season with Plymouth.

to complete the starting lineup and compete for their team."

The Wildcats were bril-

liant in 2015, with the program's most-successful season — featuring division, Kensington Conference,

district and regional championships (the latter for the first time in school history).

To be clear, Evans *did* lose standout seniors from last season, including versatile Alex Rakovitis and Caylin Waters (who both played infield and outfield), not to mention starters and team leaders Brittney Miller, Mikayla Marciniak and Rachael Ring.

But the 2015 team had so much standout depth, augmented by a cluster of promising players who were on the junior varsity in 2015, to ensure another standout squad.

Leading the way this season, which begins April 4 at Howell, will be senior co-captains Rachel Zerona and Cali Jones.

"They will both play a

See WILDCATS, Page B2

PLAYOFF CHAMPIONSHIP

Plymouth Sharks take bite out of their rivals

Squirt 'B' House 10U squad nips Canton Coyotes to win LCAHL Patrick Division playoff title

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Never giving up was the mantra for the Plymouth Sharks during the 2015-16 Squirt 'B' House 10U season and the team overcame bumps in the road early on to eventually win the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League Patrick Division playoff championship.

The Sharks, coached by veteran Michael Curran and assisted by Jeff Miller and Joe Teed, wound up defeating the rival Canton Coyotes, 3-2, on March 20 at Trenton Kennedy

Ice Arena in the division playoff final.

Fittingly, the winning goalie was Riley Demeester — who along with several Sharks teammates never played organized hockey before this season. Demeester backstopped the victory with a number of stellar saves.


Still Canton got out to a 1-0 lead, but the Sharks hung in there and tied the game on a goal by Ethan James. Putting Plymouth up 2-1 was Charlie Teed and Joshua Granowicz then scored the game-winner

See SHARKS, Page B3




PAUL GRANOWICZ

The Plymouth Sharks Squirt 'B' House 10U team celebrates winning the LCAHL Patrick Division title March 20 in Trenton. Team members include (in front) Thomas Redmond; (second row, from left) Liam Goff, Grant Miller, Ethan James, Brady Peregord, Owen Curran, Lucas Fournier and Charlie Teed; (third row, from left) Brendan Abbruzzese and Riley Demeester; (fourth row, from left) head coach Michael Curran, Addison Hoover, Ben Minehart, Alex Gotsis, Sam Walsh and Joshua Granowicz; and (back row, from left) assistant coach Joe Teed, student coach Vinnie Marroni, assistant coach Jeff Miller.



Home Equity Loans

rates as low as **3.25%** APR*



*Home Equity Line of Credit Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 3.25% is based on credit worthiness, loan amount and Loan to Value (LTV), and assumes auto pay discounts. Variable rates are based on the published Wall Street Journal Prime Rate. Subject to change without notice. Maximum rate 18.00% APR. An early termination fee of \$300 applies on lines closed within 24 months. Equal opportunity lender. NMLS #440274 Federally insured by NCUA. ©2016 Community Financial.

CFCU.ORG/HOME | 877.937.2328

BOYS GOLF PREVIEW — PART 1

Wildcats boast talent, team approach



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Kyle Kozler blasts the golf ball out of a sand trap during a 2015 practice.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Following through after another good-looking swing is Plymouth's Jack Boczar. The junior is one of several elite returnees for the Wildcats.

Plymouth on quest to finish at the top this season

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Last year's 11th-place finish at the MHSAA Division 1 boys golf state finals "still burns at us," Plymouth coach Dan Young said.

If so, opponents in the KLAA and beyond should batten down the hatches, because the Wildcats promise to come

back even stronger for the 2016 season.

"We will learn from that experience and we will play to our potential this time around," said Young, whose 2015 squad captured the division, conference, district and regional championships.

Plymouth's continuing culture of success focuses on the "team first" attitude, Young

noted. But it doesn't hurt to have three golfers who are uber-talented in senior Kyle Kozler, junior Justin Kapke and junior Jack Boczar.

"They were the lowest scoring golfers a year ago," Young said. "I consider all three to be number one golfers for our team, which is a huge plus for us."

"They have a lot of tournament experience and can beat anyone on any given day."

The trio isn't alone as far as Plymouth's high-end talent is concerned.

Senior James Baldwin, junior Joe Fontana, junior Matt Decker, senior Vaishak Mendon, senior Jacob Sylvester and senior Reilly Sullivan are the next best returnees.

Joining the lineup will be senior Logan Stefanko, a transfer from North Carolina.

"You need four low scores to win as a team," Young said. "So we will have good competition daily for the top spots."

For as talented as the group is, the coach marvels at the work ethic continuously on display.

"We stress a 'team first' attitude and I believe this has been a staple of our program," Young said. "I feel we have great guys who are outstanding golfers. We will continue to work on our short game and our mental approach to playing great golf."

"We will improve as the season progresses and we will be at our best come playoff time."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

BOYS BASKETBALL STATE SEMIFINALS

North Farmington earns shot at Class A crown

Raiders defeat Lansing Everett in basketball state semifinal game, 60-48

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Good Friday was exactly that for the North Farmington boys basketball team.

It was without a doubt the finest day in the history of the program, as the Raiders advanced to their first Class A state championship game in East Lansing.

Led by the hot shooting of senior guard Billy Thomas, North put away Lansing Everett in the second half for a 60-48 victory in a semifinal game at the Breslin Center.

"I think it's a great win for our school and our program," Raiders coach Todd Negoshian said. "To have the seniors we do, who put in the time and the effort to be where we're at, it speaks volumes about them."

"I don't think we had an easy road to get here. We're just privileged to be here and happy to live to see the final day of the season."

North (24-2) faced top-ranked and undefeated University of Detroit Jesuit for the state title Saturday.

The Cubs (27-0) defeated the Raiders in a regional final last year on their way to being state semifinalists.

"Being our first trip to the regional final, I thought we folded a little bit last year," senior Alex Darden said. "We weren't used to the atmosphere. We learned from that."

"Having 11 seniors has helped us. We've played in a great atmosphere in a lot of games recently and we know what to expect this time."

Thomas began his high school career at Jesuit. He was on the U-D team that played at the Breslin two years ago and lost to Bloomfield Hills in the semifinals.

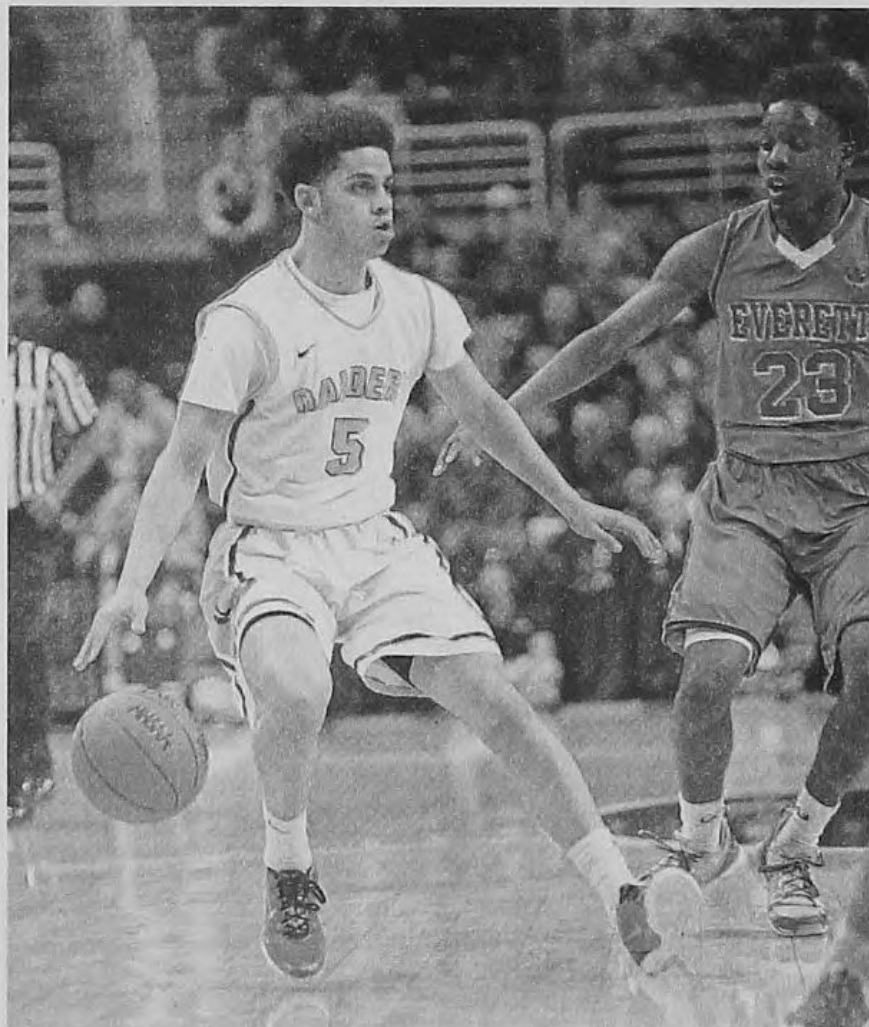
"My experience wasn't real pleasant," Thomas said. "But we're here for the last day and I'm feeling really blessed."

"I've been expecting this (game against his former school). It's going to be an intense match-up."

Leading scorer

Thomas made four 3-pointers Friday, shot 50 percent behind the arc and led the Raiders with 26 points.

He scored the first six points of the game with a pair



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Jacob Joubert looks for an opening in Everett's half-court defense.

of threes to get the Raiders ahead early. He began the second half with two more treys to give North a 26-15 lead.

"Being here two years ago, it gave me some experience," Thomas said. "It really calmed me down. It wasn't my first time being in the gym, so I didn't have too many butterflies."

Junior Amauri Hardy was 5-of-7 from the floor and scored mostly on strong drives to the basket again, finishing with 15 points.

Defense is key

Seniors Jacob Joubert and De'on Jenkins contributed seven apiece. Darden, who added five points, had 13 of his game-high 14 rebounds on the defensive glass.

"It was huge," Darden said of the overall defensive effort. "For us to hold them to 17 points at the half was huge, especially when the offense wasn't doing so well."

"We knew they had a couple kids who really tagged it up, so we had to box them out and hold them to one and done."

Shooting woes

Once again, North asserted itself early and led by seven, but Everett closed the gap to

two after one quarter and was within three at halftime, 20-17.

The Raiders didn't shoot well in the first half (5-of-18), but neither did the Vikings (6-of-21) as the North defense kept the Everett shooters in check, too.

"We were just out of sync," Negoshian said. "I'm not sure if it was being in the Breslin or just a different routine and everything — not being in school, having a shootaround and getting on the bus to come here."

"Like I said at the quarterfinal, it helps playing the second game. It allows you to sit for a while, to let your nerves get through you, to see the environment."

Big third quarter

Led by Thomas and Hardy, the Raiders found their shooting touch in the third quarter, making five of their first six shots and going 7-of-11 from the floor.

North began the second half with a 14-0 run and boosted its lead to 34-15. That proved essential to the Raiders being able to hold the lead and close out the win.

domeara@hometownlife.com

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

huge role in the success of the team on and off the field with their presence and ability," Evans said.

Juniors Mikayla Rose and Gina Barber "return with high expectations" after closing out last year on a high note.

Don't forget about sophomores Jenny Bressler, Whitney Holden and Jessica Tucci.

"(The sophomores) return with a year of varsity under their belts ready to go," Evans said. "Expectations are high for all the returners. They know what it took to

get us to a high level last year and it is on them to guide, lead and help new players to the team to jump on board."

Although it is a tough pill to swallow, losing five players to graduation, Plymouth will look to reinforcements from JV.

Juniors Maddie Rutkowski, Jocie Rutkowski and Kelly Gryniecicz, sophomore Madison Dunning and freshmen Haley Gagnon and Kiersten Metz are ready to jump into the mix and infuse the squad with "great positive energy and the desire to work hard" for the Wildcats in 2016.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Tagging a base-runner during a game last season is Plymouth's Jenny Bressler, now a sophomore.

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

coll and freshmen Cooper Rossio, Karan Singh and Cal Smiley.

Of course, the Rocks will be spearheaded by top returnees, including seniors Hayden Winch (39 average in 2015), Adam Marcerro (42), Travis Stott (43), Woodie Mashni (40) and juniors Matt Schaumburger (42) and Shawn Weldon (41).

Adding depth to the lineup will be junior Luke Trulock and sophomores Justin Polce and Lorenzo Bucciarelli, while sophomore Bryce Henderson and junior Matt Denis are "showing great improvement," hitting in the low 40s

during practices.

Nimmerguth emphasized that, although he is optimistic about the upcoming season, the Rocks will face formidable challenges in the Kensington Conference against some of the state's top teams (Plymouth, Northville and Novi).

"It will be important for this team to get off to a successful start and develop some confidence," Nimmerguth said. "If that happens, we could be very competitive in the KLAA."

"A confident golfer is usually a successful one and we need our players to be more confident and believe in their abilities because they are very capable."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

BOYS LACROSSE PREVIEW — PART 1

Plymouth returnees key to season

Wildcats ready to take step toward conference crown

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A tough opening night loss notwithstanding, Plymouth varsity boys lacrosse coach Brian Walsh sees plenty to like about his 2016 squad.

The Wildcats, who finished 9-8 last season in the Kensington Conference, were downed, 19-5, Thursday by No. 2-ranked Forest Hills Central.

But the latter part of that contest is what has Walsh feeling a bit better about the Wildcats.

"We were blitzed by their powerful offense initially," Walsh said. "But then we settled down and played well."

"Nolan Ouellette had three goals and Zach Gallaher had two. (Goalie) Trevor McManus was shelled continuously all night, but played very well with 17 saves."

McManus is entering his senior season and will look to spark Plymouth to a successful season before moving on to

college lacrosse next year.

"Having Trevor anchor our defense will give us confidence to face any team," said Walsh, entering his seventh season with the Wildcats.

Although it obviously is painful to lose U.S. Lacrosse All-American Ben Stover and all-state honorable mention player Kyle Robertson to graduation, as well as Justin Brodzik, Andrew Withers and Ben Riley, Walsh points to a strong nucleus of returnees.

In addition to McManus in goal, Plymouth's lineup will feature junior midfielder Ouellette, junior attackman Gallaher, junior defenseman Tyler Ramer, senior defenseman Mitch Gonzales, sophomore defender Charlie Shaver, junior attackman Jack Balch, senior attackman Derek Szczepanik, junior midfielder Nate Messer and junior midfielder Jacob Miller.

New to the fold are sophomore midfielders Jake Roach and Bradley Twiskiewicz, freshman midfielders Carson Miller and Ian Gozdzor and freshman defender James Hansen.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports



Senior goalie Trevor McManus (middle) is the backbone of Plymouth's defense.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

GIRLS TENNIS PREVIEW — PART 1

New-look Wildcats already show promise

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Despite turnover from the team that won the 2015 KLAA South Division championship, it could be another strong season for Plymouth's varsity girls tennis team.

The Wildcats showed they again will be competitive, winning the ninth annual Midnight Madness event March 18 at Huron Valley Tennis Center. Plymouth topped Salem, Canton and Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard in a hard-fought four-team scrimmage.

As with every team in every sport in every season, players are lost to graduation — such is the norm with high school athletics. It's no different with Plymouth, which lost Sarah Gamble, Tiahn Horton, Alexa Earls, Lauren Conley and Emma Mullenax from the team that went 7-4 to win the division.

Yet that only provides opportunities for new players and those who will have a bigger role this season, seventh-year head coach Rob McLaren said.



Plymouth's varsity girls tennis team won the Midnight Madness scrimmage March 18.

PLYMOUTH GIRLS TENNIS

"While we've lost some talented players to graduation, including our number one singles player and our number one doubles team," McLaren said, "we have some very talented freshmen who look ready to contribute right away."

"Jessica Braun will be taking over at one singles this year and I expect her to have a great season. Seniors Alyssa Lopez and Bei Li Martin will lead the doubles lineup."

Other leading returnees for the Wildcats include Amber Tseng, Swetha Duraiswamy, Kara Hug, Justine Ko and Amy Luo.

Braun will have the most responsibility among four freshmen, but the Wildcats also are optimistic that ninth-graders Allie Baker, Alayna Stults and Olivia Schafer will contribute as needed.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

Boxing day



MIKE GEROU

Mike Gerou, 35th District Court judge in Plymouth, invited court employees, family and friends to work out with him last Sunday at the new Canton business, TITLE Boxing Club. More than 20 joined Gerou for the workout. He was challenged by his daughter Elaine (a Schoolcraft College student who last semester wrote a story about the business for the Schoolcraft Connection newspaper), who gave him a 90-day membership for Christmas. His goal was to do 90 gym visits in 90 days, which he achieved. "In the process, I lost 14 pounds, rehabbed some nagging injuries and got into much better shape. I love the workouts and how much you can get done in an hour." Elaine Gerou also is on Schoolcraft's new softball team and she and teammates were part of the March 20 workout at TITLE Boxing, located on Sheldon near Ford Road.

SHARKS

Continued from Page B1

following an excellent play by Brendan Abbruzzese.

On the Sharks' third goal, which proved to be the game-winner because the Coyotes scored again, Abbruzzese hustled onto the ice during a line change and made sure the puck stayed inside the Canton zone.

The victory avenged a 4-2 loss to Canton in the opening round of the LCAHL playoffs.

But Plymouth roared back to win all its remaining playoff games to finish 20-12-6 overall.

In Round 1, the Sharks won 5-3 over Trenton, 8-3 over the Novi Sabrecats and 10-2 over the Suburban Warriors.

In the win-or-go-home Round 2, Plymouth rolled to a 6-0 victory over Lakeland and a 6-3 triumph over the Novi

Panthers.

That set up the ultimate match-up against the Cougars that ended with smiles and a trophy.

Members of the Sharks, based out of Plymouth Cultural Center and part of the Plymouth Canton Hockey Association, include Owen Curran, Lucas Fournier, Brendan Abbruzzese, Charlie Teed, Ethan James, Addison Hoover, Joshua Granowicz, Brady Peregord, Thomas Redmond,

Ben Minehart, Riley Demeester, Alex Gotsis, Sam Walsh, Liam Goff and Grant Miller. All are ages 9-10.

Success in the LCAHL playoffs followed a Chevel-dae Division regular season championship.

The squad got off to a slow start, however, going 1-9-2 to open the season. The team turned things around thanks to hard work and a spirit to never give up and clinched the division crown.

Then came the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association playoffs in late January at PCC, with the team going 1-2 and being knocked out in the first round.

That setback did not linger, as demonstrated by the team's subsequent championship in the LCAHL playoffs.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

BOYS LACROSSE PREVIEW — PART 1

Pakula's four goals power Chiefs to good start for 2016

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Memories of a successful stretch drive and tourney victory hopefully will carry over for Canton's varsity boys lacrosse team in the 2016 season.

And the Chiefs — who in 2015 went 10-7 and defeated Plymouth in a first-round tourney game before losing in the second round to Troy — opened with a 7-4 victory Wednesday against Farmington.

Spearheading the win for head coach Fred Karam's squad was senior attackman Carson Pakula, one of a quartet of co-captains (the others are senior midfielders Micah Rinke and Ben Phillips and junior defender Steven Szymusiak).

Pakula scored four goals against the Falcons, including the first two of the season.

Setting up Pakula's second goal in the first half was Rinke.

Sophomore midfielder Chase Meredith then took a feed from sophomore midfielder Nick Polydoros and scored to make it 3-0. Before the end of the half, Pakula danced around two Falcons defenders to pad the lead to four goals.

Farmington did slice the Canton edge to 4-2 in the second half before Pakula scored his fourth of the contest.

Closing out the scoring with two goals for the Chiefs was Polydoros, with Phillips setting up the final goal.

Also key to the win was outstanding work in face-offs by sophomore midfielder Connor Flanigan and strong goal-keeping by senior Trevor Stahl (11 saves).

Stahl was supported by senior defensemen Kumar Johnson and Jacob Wickens and junior defensemen Steven Szymusiak and Reed McDonnell.

The four defenders combined for six of eight takeaways for Canton.



Carrying the ball during a game from last season is Canton's Carson Pakula (left).

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Roster breakdown

Attack: In addition to high-scoring Pakula, the Chiefs feature juniors Drew Montgomery and Justin Renzi and senior Brett Moore. Polydoros and senior Lukas Pashigian also split time between attack and midfield.

Midfield: Polydoros and Pashigian are joined by Rinke, Phillips, Meredith, Flanigan, junior Andrew Goulet, senior Aditya Joshi and senior Jake Stephan.

Defense/LSM: The Chiefs feature McDonnell, Szymusiak, Wickens (all three available as defenders and long stick middies) along with Johnson, senior Connor Wingate, senior Clay Walker, senior Jimmy Weeda, junior Michael Maes and senior Austin Carr in the back.

Goal: Stahl will be the main man between the pipes, but he will be spelled by junior Nathan Janice, who also plays defense.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

Birchler Brothers fight famine with annual event

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The Birchlers — five brothers and graduates of Brother Rice High School — will bring a new twist to their annual concert for hunger relief next month in Plymouth.

For the first time in nine years, Jammin' to End Famine will include a new band with no Birchler family ties. The Highbros and TJ will feature James Higdon, an engineering teacher at Brother Rice, on bass, his brother and professional guitarist, Paco Higdon, and drummer TJ Hyland.

"Although not a Birchler in name, we do consider him a 'brother' as he teaches at our alma mater," said Tom Birchler of Livonia, who performs in the band The Paisley Fogg with his brothers Keith and Dave.

Birchler hopes the new band will expand Jammin's audience, drawing students, their families and friends from Brother Rice in Bloomfield Hills. For the past three years, the school has partnered with the Birchlers on a portion of the annual event. The concert raises funds to buy the components of nutritious rice-soy casseroles that are distributed to hungry families locally and overseas by Oak Park-based Kids Against Hunger Coalition. Brother Rice students parcel the ingredients into individual packages during a community service day in the fall.

"It's a good service project to do. They love us coming in," Birchler said. "But I've never been able to get the Brother Rice community to come to the (concert) fundraiser."

He hopes Higdon's band will make a difference.

Higdon, who worked alongside his students at the packaging event last year, said Highbros and TJ will perform a mix of original tunes and cover songs at the concert.

"We're all over the place, from The Killers to Motorhead to Red Hot Chili Peppers," he said.

Pizza and music

Jammin' to End Famine 2016 starts at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 9, at the Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students, available at the door or by contacting Tom Birchler at tombirchler1@gmail.com or by calling 248-722-1820.

Free pizza, salad and a cash bar will fuel visitors as they dance the night away. Jim Birchler of Ann Arbor will emcee. The Grunyons, an a cappella vocal jazz group that includes John Birchler of Plymouth, will open the show.

"We do a lot of different things, from standards from the jazz age to more current music. We'll have a few new things ready for Jammin'," John Birchler said.

The Paisley Fogg, a rock band that focuses on tunes from the 1960s, may surprise



The Paisley Fogg performs at Jammin' to End Famine 2015. The band will be back for this year's event on April 9, in Plymouth.



Boxes of food are loaded into the Kids Against Hunger Coalition trailer at Brother Rice High School.



An assembly line of students measures and packages meal components.



John Birchler (left) of Plymouth and Michael Burwell of Milford, the executive director of Kids Against Hunger Coalition, pitch in at the Brother Rice packaging event.

concert-going fans of National Public Radio.

"We may pull out an original my brother Keith wrote. He's a big fan of NPR reporter Joanna Kakissis. He wrote a love song to her," Tom Birchler noted. "Kiss Kisses Joanna."

Birchler's sons, Mark Warren and Mike Birchler, both of Livonia, will combine their efforts into a single band this year called Close Enough, playing classic 1980s-90s rock and funk.

Jammin' to End Famine has raised approximately \$39,000 over eight years and packaged thousands of meals for Kids Against Hunger Coalition.

"We're really hoping to take it to the next level. It is unlimited what we can do. We have an unlimited workforce," Birchler said.

Leaving a legacy

The brothers plan to dedicate the show to Kids Against Hunger Coalition founder and CEO Donald Burwell, a Southfield resident who died this week.

Mike Burwell of Milford, who has been executive director of the organization since 2008, said his father had Ph.D. degrees in education and theology, and a passion for helping others use their talents and improve their lives.

"My dad was a true servant. He was a good communicator and manager of people. And I think he prayed and believed in what God was telling him to the point that it was the law," Burwell said. "One of the reasons my dad started doing Kids Against Hunger Coalition was a passage in Matthew 25."

A portion of the Bible pas-

sage reads: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me ... whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters, you did for me."

"The is what he based his whole Kids Against Hunger Coalition ministry on," Burwell said, adding that his father often read the Scripture at the start of packaging events in churches.

Burwell said his father's vision was to extend packaging events to all school districts in Michigan. The Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth nudged him toward his goal when it donated a truck and trailer in 2005, allowing the organization to go

mobile.

"Instead of people having to pack up and bring a bus load of kids to a warehouse, we're able to go into the community where people live. Most schools and churches have a room to accommodate our equipment," he said, adding "it's easy for people to go somewhere they know and package meals and feel good about themselves."

Since the Kiwanis Club's initial donation, the organization has added eight trailers and five trucks, enabling it to package at several venues in one day.

"From 1998 to 2004 my dad packaged 150,000 meals. From 2004 to the present, 18 million."

For more about Burwell's organization, visit kidsagainsthungercoalition.com.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Girls' night out funds ShapeDown scholarships in Canton

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle will make it easier for local families to afford weight management classes offered by St. Joseph Mercy Health System this summer.

"Our mission at Giving Hope is to support women and children of our community. Through Giving Hope we can affect change in our community," said Nancy Eggenberger, a member of the planning committee for the fund's upcoming annual signature event. "We've given out all kinds of grants."

Money raised at "Giving Our All for Family, Fun and Fitness" on Wednesday, April 13, will fund scholarships for St. Joseph Mercy Health System's ShapeDown classes in Canton.

The "girls' night out" event runs from 6:30-9 p.m. at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. It will include food, a cash bar, shopping, fashions and a raffle of items such as spa certificates, a 24-inch flat-screen television, wine parties and more. Cost is \$35. Pre-registration is required. Visit cantonfoundation.org.

Free orientation sessions for ShapeDown are set for

6:30 p.m. May 5, June 2 and June 21, at St. Joe's Canton Health Building, 1600 S. Canton Center Road. Classes will run from 6:15-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 12-Aug. 30. Cost is \$400 for the eight-week series.

"We bill insurance and we always have scholarships," said Beth Darnell, ShapeDown coordinator. The Giving Hope contribution will put the program within reach of more local families.

Food, exercise, behavior

Darnell said St. Joseph Mercy Health System has offered the course for 23 years, mostly in Ann Arbor. It expanded the program to Livingston County two years ago and wrapped up a pilot program in Canton last week.

"It's a three-prong program ... nutrition, exercise and behavioral change," she said. "We do hands-on cooking with the children and the kids love that. We find that so many more kids taste what they make themselves. A hallmark of the program is active participation."

"The same is true of exercise. We don't have the kids do anything we wouldn't ask the parents to do. We do a lot of fun, family activities. It's great to see parents doing the hula hoop or running down the



Sabrina and Laurie Lanker took the ShapeDown weight management course. Sabrina, 16, now volunteers for the classes and Laurie says she and her daughter are closer than ever.

hallway."

The classes take a family approach to lifestyle changes and weight management. Parents attend sessions with their children, ages 6-18 and learn to switch from a "food police" role to a coaching role, allowing their children to take more responsibility for making good health decisions. While youngsters build their self-esteem, parents learn positive role modeling techniques.

"We're working with kids to improve habits and it's lifestyle change, not putting a child on a diet."

child and parents decide to do this together as a family," Darnell said. "They are pulling together and that means the family's whole culture can change at home."

Laurie Lanker of Pinckney said she and her daughter, Sabrina, 16, are "closer than ever" after taking the course.

"We ran a 5K together. We went for a hike on Mother's Day instead of going out to eat. We learned how to celebrate without food, and get away from food being a reward," Lanker said.

Sabrina enjoyed the program so much, she returned to volunteer as a teen mentor.

"I like working with the program teachers. They're fun," Sabrina said. "I help with the physical activity, cooking lessons and talk to the kids about my experience. I like working with kids because my dream is to be a special education teacher. I wanted to be here for the kids because I struggled with being healthy growing up and I want them to be as healthy as they can be."

For more about the ShapeDown program, visit stjoesannarbor.org/shapedown.

sdargay@hometownlife.com
Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

Family bond

"I think part of the success of the program is that the

Birmingham resident builds screech owl nesting boxes

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

The Eastern Screech Owls of Southeast Michigan have Oz Forrester to thank for their new homes along the Rouge River.

The Birmingham resident built some owl nesting boxes and located them along a chip trail that runs next to the river. He also refurbished some of the older nesting boxes along the trail that were starting to look a bit worn down.

"I've volunteered with Friends of the Rouge for a long time and I love to hike these trails," Forrester said. "This is just my way of helping out. I think we now have seven boxes along the trail."

The owls only weigh a few ounces and will normally seek an old dead tree to turn into a habitat. They'll find a suitable hole in the tree and make a home.

"But we're so tidy today that nobody leaves dead trees around," Forrester said.

A pair of DPS workers from the city of Birmingham helped install the nesting boxes. They're about 12-15 feet off the ground.

Forrester said he knows the boxes work because he installed one in his backyard, only to discover five little screech owls right as they were about to leave the nest.

"I had an extra one and I put it in a tree in our backyard and saw five owls as they fledged one night," he said. "So we know they're around."

jgrossman@hometownlife.com
586-826-7030
Twitter: @BhmEccentric
Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Oz Forrester, left, built new homes along the Rouge River for the Eastern Screech Owl.

Women to Work offers job searching assistance

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The Women to Work program of Southfield-based JVS helps women re-enter or enter the workforce.

"This is a program that's intended for women who have not worked substantially recently," said Judy Richmond, JVS Women to Work coordinator. The program, also open to men, is offered free of charge.

An informational meeting will be held 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, April 26, at the JVS offices, 29699 Southfield Road in Southfield. Those who plan to attend should call Richmond at 248-233-4232 to register in advance.

Women to Work offers help with resumes, job interviewing, networking, stress management, social media and job search strategies.

"The program is popular because people find success as a result of attending," said Richmond, noting they also keep their employment.

The program's current session is set to begin Tuesday, May 3, at the JVS Southfield office. It will continue to meet two mornings a week 9 a.m. to noon through Wednesday, June 1.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @248Julie
Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

Visit us online
at hometown
life.com.



Get it!
Got it!

GO!

The fastest most convenient way to get **LOCAL NEWS!**

Download the hometownlife.com APP to stay connected on the Go!



OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
A GANNETT COMPANY
hometownlife.com

Make-A-Wish Michigan honors top volunteers, supporters

Make-A-Wish Michigan recently honored individuals, corporate partners, organizations and groups at the organization's Southeast Michigan Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event held in Novi on March. The following local supporters were recognized for their generosity and dedication to the Make-A-Wish mission of granting wishes to Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions:

Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, Canton: St. Joseph Mercy received the Outstanding Corporate Partner Award for supporting Make-A-Wish Michigan since 2012. Saint Joseph

Mercy Health System's sponsorship of the organization's largest fundraiser – the Wish-A-Mile Bicycle Tour – has totaled \$110,000 during that time. Not only does the organization sponsor WAM, but they also have a team consisting of employees, family members and friends who ride in the event. Through team fundraising, Team Joe's has raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars to help grant wishes for Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions.

Steven Cook, Milford: Cook received the Strength Award, which recognizes a top group or external fundraising

initiative each year for Make-A-Wish Michigan. He was honored for an inspiring fundraising effort he completed this past fall. Steve set out to raise funds for Make-A-Wish Michigan by pursuing a month-long summit of Ama Dablam in Nepal that stands at 22,349 feet. Ultimately, he raised more than \$37,000 to help make wishes come true for Michigan kids.

Lauren Singer, Bloomfield Hills: Singer was honored as the Volunteer of the Year, which recognizes an individual who, through involvement in many facets of the organization, provides exemplary volunteer leadership and ser-

vice to our mission. Singer has been a Make-A-Wish Michigan volunteer since 2014, serving as a wish-granting volunteer for seven children in two years. As a third-year medical student at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine, she has introduced her school community to Make-A-Wish Michigan by organizing a volunteer training with fellow students.

Gordon Chevrolet, Garden City: The dealership received a Shining Star Award for being a generous supporter since 2003. Last year alone, Gordon Chevrolet provided \$24,000 in support to help bring hope,

strength and joy to Michigan wish kids. They have sponsored the organization's Walk For Wishes® - Southeast Michigan and Wish Ball - Southeast Michigan as well as radiothons to help raise critical funds. In total, they have provided more than \$100,000 in support over the years.

Youth Quest, Flint: received the Joy Award, which recognizes a student, school or youth group for their outstanding efforts to support wish children. This after-school program first started participating in the Macy's Believe Campaign four years ago when they wrote 7,500 letters. For every letter

to Santa dropped off at a Macy's store during the holiday season, Macy's donates \$1 to Make-A-Wish nationwide. By engaging their community – schools, community groups, local businesses and religious groups – in their letter-writing campaign, they nearly doubled that goal and dropped off 41,000 letters to help grant wishes in 2015.

ThreeShing Star Awards went to: American Red Cross of Washtenaw County in Ann Arbor; Cystic Fibrosis Center at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor; and Ken Kavanaugh, of West Bloomfield.

Peace group to discuss military-industrial complex

Citizens for Peace will discuss the history of the military-industrial complex at its next meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia.

Guest speaker Francis Shor, history professor emeritus at Wayne State University, will examine the origins and development of the military-industrial complex from World War II until today.

Shor is the author of three books. The latest is "Dying Empire: U. S. Imperialism and Global Resistance." His other publications, covering a broad range of topics in 20th-century U. S. and global history, have appeared in scholarly jour-



SUBMITTED
Francis Shor will speak about the military-industrial complex at the next meeting of Citizens for Peace, in Livonia.

nals and popular online journals. In addition to his academic work, he has been a long-time peace and justice activist, serving on the boards of Peace Action and Michigan Coalition for

Human Rights. The meeting is free. For more information call 734-425-0079, or go to www.citizens4peace.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

MARCH BIBLE PROPHECY SERIES

Time/Date: 7:15 p.m., beginning March 28
Location: Metropolitan School Gymnasium, 15585 N. Haggerty, Plymouth
Details: An in-depth Bible prophecy series called Unlocking Revelation will examine prophecies of Scripture. Go to www.UnlockRevelation.com to see all locations and pre-register and receive a free Bible Prophecy DVD on the first night. Snacks will be served
Contact: www.UnlockRevelation.com

EASTER SERVICE
Time/Date: Easter services 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday, March 27
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills
Contact: 248-553-3380

EASTER SERVICE
Time/Date: Easter service, 10 a.m., March 27
Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: A continental breakfast follows the Easter service
Contact: 734-421-1760; office@unityoflivonia.org

EASTER SERVICE
Time/Date: Easter worship, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and egg hunt at 9:15 a.m., Sunday, March 27
Location: First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills
Details: Brunch will be served between the two services on Easter
Contact: 248-474-6170; farmington-pres.org

EASTER SERVICE
Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. March 27
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: An Easter breakfast also will be held at 9 a.m., followed by an egg hunt at 9:30 a.m.
Contact: 734-427-3660

EASTER WEEK
Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. worship, Sunday, March 27
Location: Warren Road Church, 33445 Warren Road, Westland
Details: Breakfast kicks off Easter morning at 9 a.m., followed by the worship service
Contact: 734-458-7301

EASTER SERVICE
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. service on March 27
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: Free Easter breakfast from 8-9:15 a.m.. All visitors will receive a free DVD, "My Son, My Savior."
Contact: 313-532-8655; 734-968-3523

PILGRIMAGE
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, March 30
Location: Carpool to the Divine Mercy Center in Clinton Township from St. John Neumann parish office, 44800 Warren Road, Canton.
Details: Cost is \$10 and includes tour and lunch. Deadline to register is March 23.
Contact: Janet Gilbo at jgilbo@wowway.com or Sharlene Borke at sharborke@gmail.com

SUNRISE 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

VESPERS
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, through April 17
Location: 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 Liskivsky at 248-252-8184; Olga-liss0910@gmail.com

APRIL CONCERT
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, April 3
Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 28660 LaMuera, Farmington Hills
Details: Benefit concert for Farmington Neighborhood House features Wayne State University's Motor City Cabaret. A free will offering and canned goods will be collected
Contact: 248-474-2860; trinityfarmingtonhills.org

CONCERT
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 16
Location: St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, Bloomfield Hills, 2215 Opdyke, Bloomfield Hills
Details: Features Aeolian Choral, Carlos Seise, tenor, Quinto Milito, baritone, Timothy L. Huth, ars musica doctoris organ, John Sittard, conductor. Presented by the church and Friends of the Opera of Michigan. Free will offering will be accepted
Contact: 248-644-5460

DEVOTIONS, SWIECONKA
Time/Date: Starting at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, April 3
Location: St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh, just north of Six Mile, Livonia
Details: 12:30 p.m. Mass, 1:20 p.m. exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 1:45-3 p.m. silent adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation, 3 p.m. praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a spiritual talk, 3:30 p.m. benediction; followed by Swieconka Polish Easter meal at 4 p.m. Menu includes ham, kielbasa, potato salad, blessed hard-boiled eggs, beet horseradish, rye bread, butter lambs, salad, babka, lazy perogi, beets, cheesecake and beverages. Cost is \$15 per person. Meals must be paid in advance. Send a check or money order payable to WSDPAHS, to Laurie A. Gomulka, 32040 Grand River Ave., Unit #47, Farmington, MI 48336. Include number of attendees. Must be received by March 26.
Contact: 855-POLONIA; detroit-polonia.org

MOM-TO-MOM SALE
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 23
Location: Connection Church, 3855 S. Sheldon, Canton
Details: Shop 100 tables of mom- and child-related items. Strollers welcome after 10:30 a.m. Admission \$2
Contact: 734-397-1777

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@tbsom.com

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

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

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

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

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

RECYCLING RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month
Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth
Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, 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

WEDDING

SONNANSTINE-KANGWANKIJ

Adam Sonnanstine and Amy Kangwankij were married Aug. 29, 2015 at Fort Mason in San Francisco, Calif.

The groom is the son of Alan and Kathy Sonnanstine of Canton. The bride is the daughter of Laddawan and Wasit Kangwankij of Los Angeles, Calif.

Adam is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and both are graduates of the University of Michigan.

They will make their home in San Francisco, Calif.



JASMINE LEE PHOTOGRAPHY
Amy Kangwankij and Adam Sonnanstine on their wedding day

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

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

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

BEAUDOIN



BETTY M. age 76, passed away peacefully March 19, 2016 at Angela Hospice in Livonia with her daughter Beverly and son-in-law Robert Yurk at her side. She was born January 17, 1940 in Little Rock, Arkansas to Jesse and May (Williams) Couch. After moving to Michigan she attended high school in Detroit. Betty didn't accumulate accolades and wealth in the traditional sense, but she led a rich life in other ways. She lived her life for others always putting family and friends ahead of herself concerned about others and their wellbeing. She was an avid bingo player and in addition to playing multiple cards of her own she could point out to others numbers they had missed. She enjoyed cooking and gardening. Betty was also not afraid to speak her mind and tell you exactly what she thought, and to make her point often she would punctuate her ideas with a well-placed expletive now and then. She is survived by her daughter Beverly Yurk and sons Joe, Thomas and Jeffrey; 10 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; and her brother Daniel. Betty was preceded in death by her son Leo; parents; sisters Louise and Marilyn; and brother Shelby. Cremation has taken place and a private memorial service is planned for a later date. In lieu of flowers memorials can be made in Betty's name to Angela Hospice.

OTTO



ROSE MARIE of Plymouth, age 78, passed away March 20, 2016. Born to Walter and Hildegard on November 12, 1937. Survived by her husband Charles Otto, their three loving children: Edward Otto, Matthew (Colleen) Otto, and Jennifer (Glenn) Nuss, her four grandchildren: Truth, Freedom, Noah, and Tessa and her two sisters Elenore (Dr. Thomas) Moore, and Gertrude Kiewewetter. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to Great Lakes Hospice and Alzheimer's Association. To share a memory and view full obituary please visit
schrader-howell.com

SMITH

LINDA Of Northville, MI, died March 13, 2016. She was born March 10, 1939, in Ironton, Ohio. She is survived by her loving husband of 60 years, Robert H. Smith Sr.; seven children; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Linda was preceded in death by her daughter, Lisa Ann Smith, in 2006. Services were held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. She is buried at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The family requests donations to be made to the Transverse Myelitis Association and Praise Baptist Church.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF NORM ZAWISLAK

July 14, 1946 - March 28, 2006
It has been 10 years since you left us. We miss you and think about you everyday. Love, your family, Joanie, Jeff, Andrea (Matt), Michelle (Biff), Brian (JoAnne); grandchildren, Miranda, Emily, Colton, Rooney, Julia, Anna, Jocelyn, Brynn, Mia, and Lev.



OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

hometownlife.com

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



First 100 attendees receive a coupon for a **FREE Buddy's Pizza!**

MARK THE DATE

SPRING SENIOR EXPO

**TUESDAY,
April 5, 2016
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Schoolcraft College
Livonia Campus
VisTaTech Center**

- **FREE Demonstrations and Workshops**
- **Local Exhibitors**
- **FREE Prizes**
- **FREE Refreshments**
- **FREE Admissions**
- **FREE Parking**
- **FREE Blood Pressure, Pulse, Height, and Weight Screening by Schoolcraft Nursing Department**

FOOD SPONSOR

- Twisted Rooster
- SMART
- Leo's Coney Island of Livonia

BRONZE SPONSORS

- St. Mary Mercy Livonia
- The Elder Care Firm

Featured Guest Speakers



9:20 - 10:15
Maurice Cox, RN, CCE-MT-P/IC and Michelle Moccia DNP, ANP-BC, CCRN
St. Mary Mercy Livonia
Healthcare Decisions



10:30 - 11:25
Rick Bloom, J.D., CPA
Bloom Asset Management
Everything you Need to Know about Estate Planning



11:40 - 12:35
Dr. Sol Cogan, D.C.
President and CEO
HealthQuest Management, Inc.
New Technology in Pain Relief

Demonstrations and Workshops

9:00 – 9:30
Schoolcraft College
Facts, Figures and Warning signs of Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementias

The Elder Care Firm
How to protect yourself and loved ones from long-term care costs

Botsford Commons
Why men don't listen and women can't read maps

12:30 - 1:00 p.m.
Schoolcraft College
Exercise for Easing Arthritic Pain

Senior Helpers
Age in Place

Michigan Department of State
Safe Drivers Smart Options: Keys to Lifelong Mobility



Schoolcraft College



Questions?

CALL 248.926.2203

OPEN SATURDAY 10AM-3PM

AVIS FORD
Home of the Sweetheart Deal

SHOP WWW.AVISFORD.COM 24 HOURS

NEW 2016 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW XLT 4WD

Ecoboost, Moonroof & More!

24 MONTH LEASE

\$199*

\$289*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

0%
for 60 mos
AVAILABLE



NEW 2016 FORD FUSION SE
4Cyl. Auto, All Power Equipment



24 MONTH LEASE

\$87*

\$175*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2016 FORD FUSION SE
4Cyl. Auto, All Power Equipment



UP TO **34 MPG**

24 MONTH LEASE

\$93*

\$179*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2016 FORD ESCAPE SE
Ecoboost, Voice Activated Sync & More!



UP TO **32 MPG**

24 MONTH LEASE

\$121*

\$209*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2015 FORD C-MAX Energi
Leather, Navigation, Sync & More



UP TO **88 MPG**

24 MONTH LEASE

\$169*

\$256*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2015 FORD FLEX SE
V6, Limo-Like Seating



24 MONTH LEASE

\$194*

\$282*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2015 FORD TAURUS SHO
High Performance, Ecoboost, Leather, & More



24 MONTH LEASE

\$250*

\$338*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2016 FORD MUSTANG COUPE
EcoBoost, Manual



24 MONTH LEASE

\$205*

\$294*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2016 FORD EDGE SE
AWD EcoBoost, All Power Equip. & More



24 MONTH LEASE

\$219*

\$309*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

NEW 2016 FORD EXPLORER
V-6, Auto, All Power Equip.



UP TO **28 MPG**

24 MONTH LEASE

\$229*

\$317*

*\$1999 total due at signing, plus tax, title & plates, includes \$645 acq. fee, Security deposit waived.

SIGN & DRIVE

*\$0 Total due at signing. Security Deposit Waived.

Look at these GREAT buy specials!

2016 FORD FIESTA S
4Cyl, Auto, & More!

NEW

WAS \$16,550
NOW **\$11,195[†]**

2015 TRANSIT CONNECT CARGO VAN
4Cyl, Auto, & More! Great Work Van!

NEW

WAS \$25,015
NOW **\$18,236[†]**

2015 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB XLT 4X4
V-6, Auto, Chrome Pkg, Trailer Tow

NEW

WAS \$43,170
NOW **\$29,253[†]**

2016 FORD F-250 WORK TRUCK
V-6, 4x4, 8 Ft., Western Plow Included

NEW

WAS \$45,120
NOW **\$34,691[†]**

OPEN MON. & THURS. 9AM-9PM; TUES., WED. & FRI. 9AM-6PM; SAT. 10AM-3PM

*\$1999 total due at signing plus tax, title and plates includes \$645 acq. fee security deposit waived. Sign & Drive is \$0 Total due at signing & security deposit waived. All factory rebates to dealer. 10,500 miles per year. †Buy prices are A/Z Plan pricing plus tax, title, plates & destination. All factory rebates to dealer. Pictures do not represent exact vehicles. Financing 0% for 60 mos. With approved credit. \$16.67/mo per \$1,000 financed through Ford Motor Credit. All payments require A Plan. See dealer for details. Expires 4/4/16. Pricing subject to change.

248-355-7500



TELEGRAPH RD. • SOUTHFIELD (just north of 12 Mile Rd.)

Go Further