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75 CENTS

Varsity football players score big with youngsters - A4

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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AROUND TOWN

Appraisal clinic

Start checking the attic for those items whose value you've always wondered about. The Westland Historic Village Park and DuMouchelle Galleries are hosting an appraisal clinic beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford. The cost is \$10 per item for a verbal appraisal.

Appointments will be taken with an estimated appraisal time slot. Items to be appraised must be able to be brought inside the recreation center. Walk-ins will be accepted at the end of the scheduled appraisals.

Call (734) 522-3918 for an appointment and the number of items to be appraised; the limit is three.

Band fest

The John Glenn Instrumental Music Program is hosting its annual MSBOA Marching Band Festival Monday, Oct. 12. The sounds of 12 marching bands will fill the air as they perform on the high school's football field beginning at 6 p.m. For more information, call Darlene Robinson at (734) 595-1283.

Pink Week

Several events are taking place now through Sunday as part of the month-long Westland's Painting the Town Pink fund-raiser for the Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure.

• Today (Oct. 11): Encore Dance Academy will be picking up cans and bottles in neighborhoods around Westland. If they don't make it to your neighborhood, you can bring your cans and bottles to Alleycat Designs, 6647 Wayne Road, behind Buffalo Wild Wings.

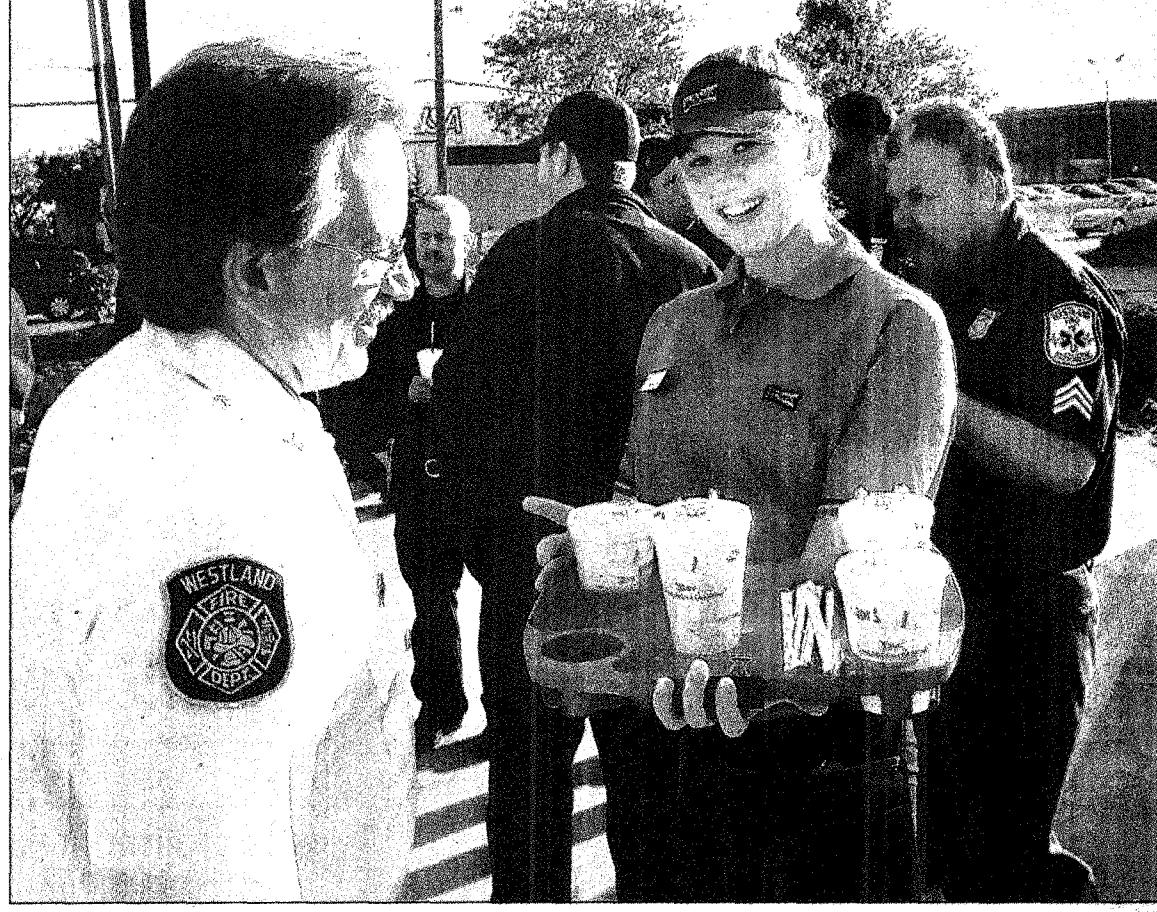
• Tuesday, Oct. 13: Eat at Applebee's and 15 percent will be donated. Get your pink pass online at www.paintingthetownpink.org.

• Friday, Oct. 16: Stop by Biggy Coffee between 6 a.m. and noon, tell them you're there for Painting the Town Pink and 10 percent will be donated.

• Throughout the month: Open a primary checking account at Flagstar Bank and it will deposit \$100 in your account and donate \$25 to Painting the Town Pink. Purchase Reista Soft Style Carpeting at Independent Carpet One and 1 percent will be donated.

For a complete calendar of events or for more information, visit the Web site at www.paintingthetownpink.org.

Super Sonic



Sonic carhop Megan McMann offers a beverage to Westland Fire Department Battalion Chief Ron Francis during the official grand opening of the restaurant on Wayne Road and Cowan.

City's newest restaurant revitalizes 'blighted corner'

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The new Westland Sonic didn't officially open to the public until Thursday morning, but several would-be customers wandered in during a pre-opening event with city officials and other guests.

Mayor William Wild and other officials joined owner John Matar for a ribbon-cutting at the new restaurant, which replaced a long-vacant former Denny's restaurant at Wayne Road and Central City Parkway.

"This is the second Sonic in Wayne County. It's incredible. It took over one of the most blighted corners in Westland and turned it into this," Wild said. "They've hired over 100 employees."

In charge of directing traffic at Sonic during the initial opening weeks, Canton resident Marc Miller is among the new employees.

"I'm training as a manager. I've been a meat cutter and I worked at Ford for 20 years. I was doing maintenance at a hotel when I got laid off," Miller said. "I came to the bank and saw the help wanted sign. The owner really liked me in the interview. I said I wanted a place where I could start at the bottom and work up to being manager."

Sonic, which has no indoor seating, offers drive-through service or old-style drive-in service complete



Carhops provide service to Sonic customers who prefer to eat in their vehicles. There is also a drive-through and a walk method for ordering. The restaurant has no indoor seating but does have some tables outside.

with roller skating car hops. The menu includes burgers, hot dogs, fries, onion rings, tater tots, slushies, ice cream and shakes, along with a breakfast menu.

"It's different — you're a waitress on wheels pretty much. There aren't many Sonics around, so it's different when you say you work at Sonic," said car hop Chelsi Paradowski, a Westland John Glenn High School senior. "I went to a Sonic once when we were coming back from Kentucky."

Paradowski didn't wait for a help wanted to sign to appear on

the Sonic site. She said she learned about the job on the municipal cable channel WLND.

"It's been going pretty good. I started training yesterday," said Paradowski, who joined co-workers in serving food samples to guests at the private ribbon-cutting festivities. "I plan to be a dental assistant. I'll stay here as long as I can just so I can hold a good job."

Along with cleaning up an eyesore on a business intersection,

Please see SONIC, A3

Lawmakers' hard work pays off for W-W

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The passage of a State School Aid Act is a bittersweet on for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The district had faced a potential loss of \$10 million, but that amount is now closer to \$2.2 million.

"It's not as bad as it could have been," Supt. Greg Baracy said. "The \$165 is still a cut and no school district in Michigan can afford that."

State lawmakers Friday sent a school aid budget to Gov. Jennifer Granholm for her approval that will cut per-pupil funding by \$165, which is less than the \$218 that had been discussed, plus some \$65,000 in cuts for career technical and adult education. However, it includes \$6.3 million in foundation allowance enhancement to the school district. Granholm had inked out the language in her budget proposal earlier this year.

"The language was preserved in large part because of the hard work of state Sen. (Glenn) Anderson and state Rep. (Richard) LeBlanc," Baracy said. "They fought very hard to preserve the foundation adjustment and for that we are very

Please see SCHOOLS, A3

Judge delays Chatters Bar murder hearing

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for a Livonia man charged with murdering his wife outside a Westland bar has been delayed until Oct. 22.

George Williams, 33, waived his right to a hearing within 14 days and it was rescheduled by Westland 18th District Court Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli.

Williams is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Sarah Williams, 28, a barmaid at Chatters Bar and Grill, 7640 N. Wayne Road. Shortly after finishing her shift in the early hours of Sept. 27, Sarah Williams was found in the bar parking lot suffering severe head, facial and internal injuries. She was unconscious and died later at an area hospital.

Autopsy results showed Sarah Williams had been strangled and suffered multiple blunt trauma, the latter after being struck by a vehicle.

George Williams had come to Chatters during his wife's shift, police said, and left with his wife as her shift ended. Police said the couple had been arguing reportedly about ending their marriage.

Please see HEARING, A3

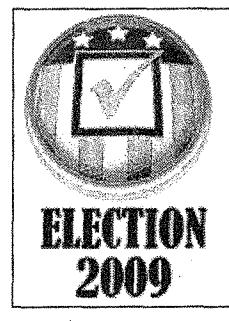
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Frederick-Wilson stresses her skills

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Deciding to run for a seat on the Westland council wasn't a snap decision for first-time candidate Janet Frederick-Wilson.

"I know the city has had a lot of public controversy and legal issues. I gave it serious thought before I filed," she said. "I've been part of the community for 16 years — I raised my kids here, I love my neighbors. My neighbors gave me a lot of encouragement. I felt I was best suited for the job."

An attorney in private practice, Frederick-Wilson cited her experience successfully running her law practice for 16 years, even when times are hard.

"I have a lot of management and budgeting skills. I'm staunch when it



Wilson

comes to the budget. I run my home and my business like tight ship," she said. "I believe in living within your means. That's the kind of budget I'd put Westland on."

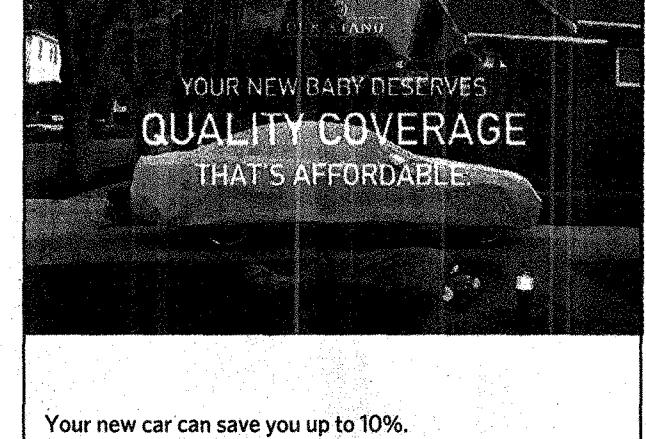
The city needs to be realistic about spending and that means looking for inefficiencies and areas that can be consolidated, Frederick-Wilson said.

"I don't want to lay off police officers — once you have less police presence, crime goes up. What is outdated or outmoded, we need to cut it out," she said. "We should put in policies for not wasting energy."

Among other goals, if elected, Frederick-Wilson said she would like to improve the community, noting the high number of closed businesses along Wayne and Ford roads.

"With all the empty houses, you feel like it is becoming a ghost town. Something needs to be done. I didn't know about the Turbo (tax incentive)

Please see WILSON, A3



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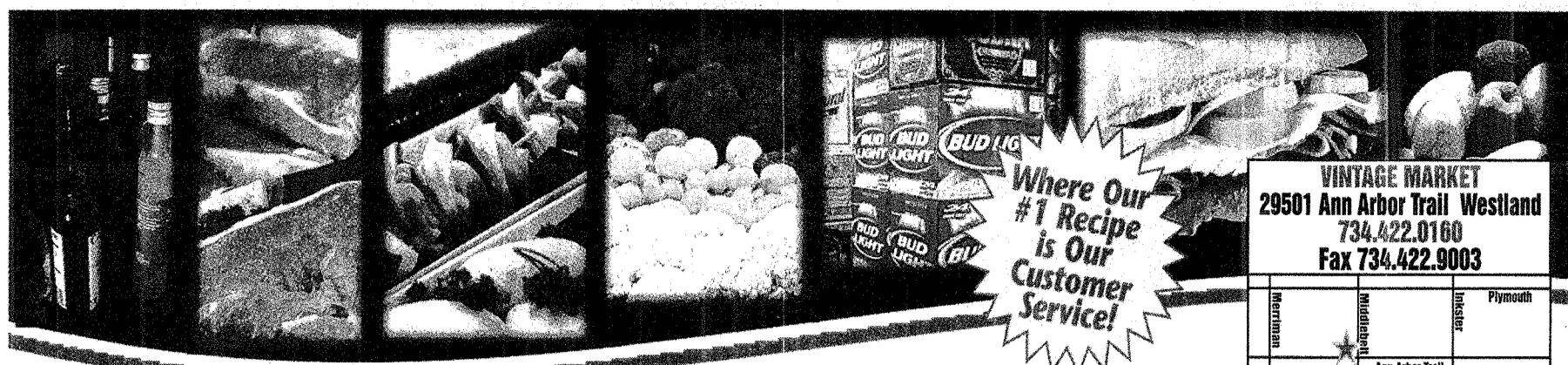
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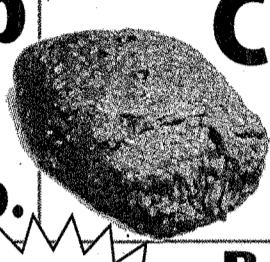
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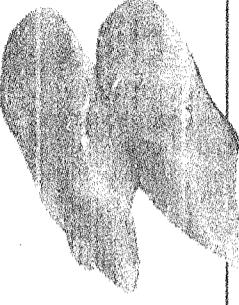
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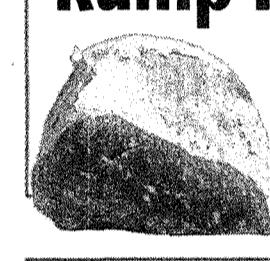


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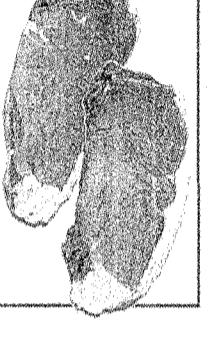
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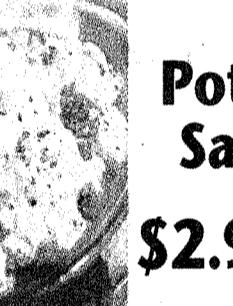
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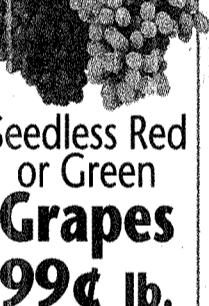
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Foundation goes German with Oktoberfest

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Instead of celebrating Christmas in July or hosting a golf outing, fund-raising for the Westland Community Foundation is going German this year.

The community foundation is hosting an Oktoberfest, along with a Tour of Westland's History, 5-8 p.m. Thursday at the Westland Historical Village Park.

"This is the first time we've done an Oktoberfest - it is taking the place of Christmas in July. We decided to try for something a little different," said Sharon Scott, a foundation

board member. "There is a bigger need but it has been harder to do our fund-raising."

Tickets are \$50 per person for the Oktoberfest which includes a dinner with German-style food such as bratwurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad, hamburgers, beer and wine. There will be music by a German band, The Rhinelanders, and tours will be offered by members of the Westland Historical Commission.

"We will have tents but hopefully the weather will cooperate," said Scott.

Since its inception about 15 years ago, Scott said the Westland Community Foundation has raised more

than \$500,000 that has been used for scholarships, donations to the Salvation Army and other charitable causes.

Like other area charities, Scott said the foundation has had an increasingly difficult time fund-raising due to the poor economy.

"We've been around a long time. Usually we have been very successful in fund-raising. The scholarships take a lot of our money," said Scott, a board member since the foundation was organized.

"This year, all our money went to scholarships. Usually, we give \$15,000 to the Salvation Army but not this year."

Additionally, the foundation

held a Christmas party at John Glenn High School catered by the culinary arts program to which the admission price was a new toy to be donated to the Salvation Army.

"We got thousands of toys. We did a remarkable job for the Salvation Army with funds and toys," said Scott, who is hoping at least 100 people turn out for the Oktoberfest.

Tickets will be available at the door but advance tickets are requested. Call Scott for more information at (734) 722-4651. The Westland Historical Village Park is located at 857 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

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SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE A1

grateful."

The district has worked hard to preserve the educational program, using its fund equity to offset declining revenue from the state. However, faced with declining revenue and enrollment, it now has a \$6 million line of credit to draw as needed. It also has organized a 21st Century Committee to look at all aspects of the district, from the number of buildings to enrollment and finances, to trim the budget by

some \$10 million by the next budget year.

Baracy, in a speech before the Westland Rotary this summer, indicated that several school buildings will have to be closed as part of the plan.

The budget deal came within a day of deadline for releasing federal fund to the school districts and 10 days in advance of when districts are scheduled to receive their October school aid payment.

"We're keeping our fingers crossed, but we anticipate the governor will sign the bill," Baracy said.

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HEARING

FROM PAGE A1

arrested in Toledo, police said. George Williams waived his extradition from Ohio and has been held without bond since his arraignment.

The couple had been married for one year and had no children. Sarah Williams had a daughter from a previous relationship and also had raised her younger sister after their mother died five years ago.

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WILSON

FROM PAGE A1

program. Westland is not doing a good job promoting it," she said. "I keep my office in Dearborn. Council members actually show up to talk to business owners."

Another goal would be getting families into vacant foreclosed homes.

"I've looked into it — you need a huge down payment and money for repairs and things," Frederick-Wilson said. "We're not doing anything to help with that. We need more people to occupy the homes — not absentee landlords, but families to stay long term."

Free speech is also an issue, Frederick-Wilson said, adding she was told people weren't being allowed to speak at coun-

JANET FREDERICK-WILSON

Age: 49

Family: Married with seven children and six grandchildren.

Education: Belleville High School and Big Bend Community College; Eastern Michigan University, bachelor of science degree in public law and government; Wayne State University Law School, juris doctorate, graduated 1994.

Employment: Self-employed attorney in trial and family law.

Community involvement: Former

council meetings.

"It was two people who were part of the recall. It really bothers me to chill a person's right to speak," she said. "Being an attorney, I have to put up with people talking a lot of nonsense, it's part of the job. It's not for me to be rude. It's

volunteer at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School and Wayne Memorial High School; volunteer helping citizens with landlord-tenant issues; Parents for Children, clothing and household goods bank and free legal services to parents facing child protective services issues; worked for reform of the Indian Child Welfare Act and for strict adherence to ICWA in the courts and the Department of Human Services.

the same with the council. Let the people have their say and go on their way. You can't limit a public forum."

Westland needs to bring in more businesses, Frederick-Wilson said, adding that not doing so results in the loss of a lot of revenue.

"We need to do more. I see a lot of small spaces empty, too, not just the boxes," she said.

"We need an incentive program and tax abatements to entice people here. We have a beautiful city."

In addition to her knowledge of the law, Frederick-Wilson said she has a lot of experience working with nonprofit group headed by her husband and advocating for changes in legislation.

"I really look forward to running. I feel I can add a lot to the council and community," she said. "I'm a pretty smart cookie. I know we have a lot of problems — I'm not oblivious. I've got the tenacity to get the job done. I'm not a go-along person. I'll say something, if I see something missing."

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SONIC

FROM PAGE A1

Wild noted that the Sonic was also Westland's first completed project through the Wayne County Land Bank TURBO program — the acronym stands for Transforming Underdeveloped Residential and Business Opportunities.

TURBO provides incentives, including one-year tax exemp-

tion during the year of construction and 50-percent reimbursement of an amount equal to the real property taxes for five years, for example, partial reimbursement for improvements made to the property.

"We tried to do a couple of other TURBO projects, but the economy killed them," said Wild, who credited Economic Development Director Lori Fodale's efforts for the Sonic project reaching fruition.

"Sonic will like the action at

this corner — the owner called it one of the hottest corners in Wayne County. We were under some serious heat from another community to the west (Canton) to get this development. I give all the credit to Lori."

Sonic is open from 6 a.m. until midnight daily except Friday and Saturday, when the drive-through window is open 24 hours.

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CITIZENS BANK

Varsity football players score big with youngsters

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For fifth-grade teacher Amanda Duvall, having two Wayne Memorial High School varsity football players read Dr. Suess books to students at Lincoln Elementary School was akin to the MasterCard commercial — priceless.

"They do get a lot out of seeing kids who do well at Wayne Memorial, they get excited about going there," Duvall said. "There's not always that positive connection, but with this, there is."

Nine players, all seniors at Wayne Memorial, and their coach, Kevin Weber, visited the school Thursday afternoon, visiting upper elementary classrooms to read Dr. Suess stories and talk about academics and football.

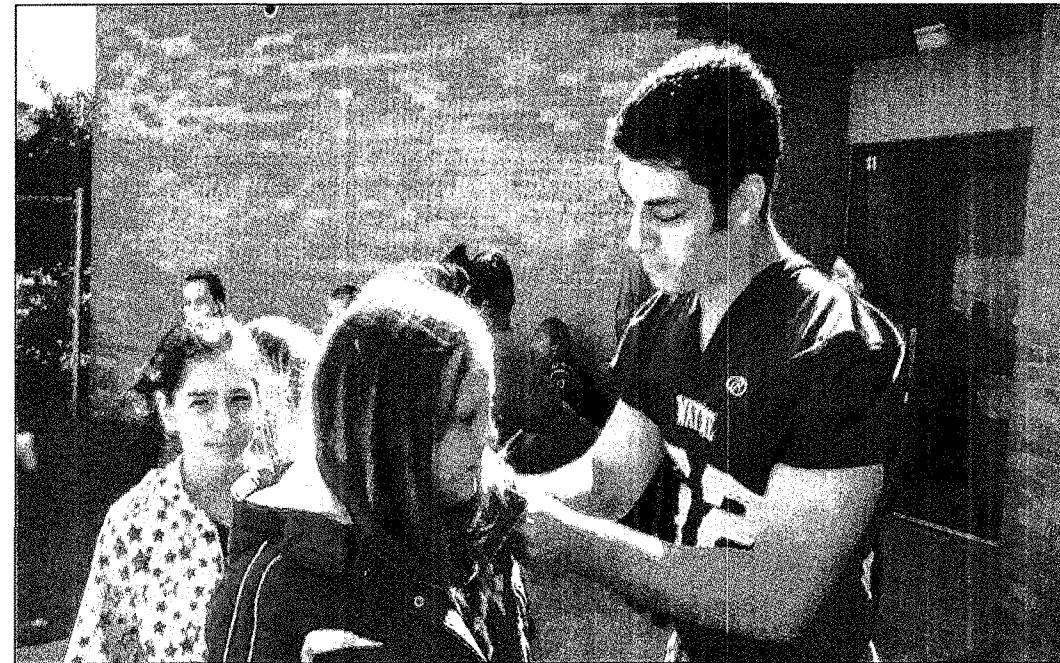
They also joined the youngsters on the playground, where they played and obliged requests for autographs.

"This was just awesome. They make me feel like a superstar," said Jimmy Kassis, lineman and defensive linebacker.

This is the second year Weber has brought his seniors to the school. Last year, he selected the books they read; this year, they made their own selections.

Chris Bowie, an offensive and defensive lineman, and Brandon Whittenberg, a running back, were in Duvall's class where they read David A. Carter's *Bugs in Space* and Dr. Suess's *I Think I Saw It on Mulberry Street*. Bowie easily fielded questions from the youngsters that covered everything from football to academics and the players' favorite subject in school.

"You have to go to school and



Jimmy Kassis said students who requested his autographs made him feel like a "superstar."



Wayne Memorial football players Dylan Korzetki (left) and Chris Bowie head out to the playground for recess after reading to students at Lincoln Elementary School.



Wayne Memorial football players Hayden Derr (from left), Dylan Korzetki and Doug Ross read "Ten Little Dinosaurs" to students.

do your work," he told the students. "High school is fun, but the first year is tough. You're scared and nervous. You have to take the time to get used to a lot more people."

When the reading was done, they selected Samantha Tillman as the student who "paid the most attention" to them, and Whittenberg presented her with a Wayne Memorial football T-shirt.

"Now you're an unofficial Wayne Memorial football member," he told her.

Weber decided to make the visit to Lincoln Elementary an annual event. As a new head coach, he wanted his players to do something that would connect the high school with the elementary and have a "positive impact on the city."

"It's something I wanted to do," Weber said. "In high school, the expectation is that they should be good people. In

Nick Mills gets ready to throw the football to students during recess.

addition to being good football players, they have to be good in the classroom and the community."

Third/fourth-grade teacher Alison Remer was the point person for the visit. Approached by Weber about doing the visit, Remer was more than willing to have them

come to Lincoln.

"I told Kevin it would be good to have them come in, read a book and talk to them about what it takes to be on the football team and the academics," she said. "These kids need role models, especially male role models."

Remer is pleased with how

the hour-long visit went. Like Kassis, she uses the word awesome to talk about the effect it has had on her students.

"My kids have been so looking forward to this. This is all I've heard them talking about since yesterday, when I told them they were coming," she said.

"My goal is one day to have one of my students to be one of the football players who reads a story."

Kassis, who plans to study

law enforcement at Ferris State University "and coach on the side," gladly signed autographs for the students. He and his fellow athletes broke into wide grins when Remer's students thanked them for coming and offered a "We love you."

"I had one little girl ask how many autographs I sign in a day. I said 100," he said. "They treat me like I'm in the NFL."

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"My life ended at my front door, but this gave my life back," said Roberts. "You saved my life."

David Welch sought to read without hand magnifiers and drive with confidence. The doctor prescribed one pair for driving and another for reading. "No other specialists helped me like Dr. Smith," said Welch, moved to tears by seeing better.

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When reading resumes, visual and language skills stop regressing and start improving. When starting early, milder devices are usually effective. If necessary, evolving to stronger devices is easier after mastering mild ones.

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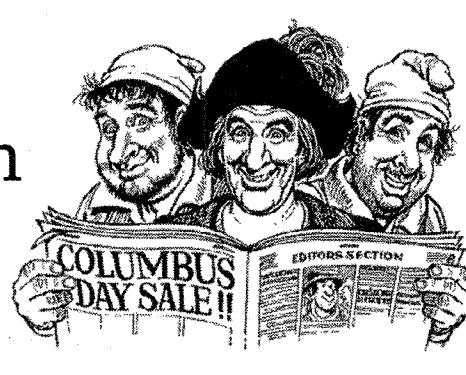
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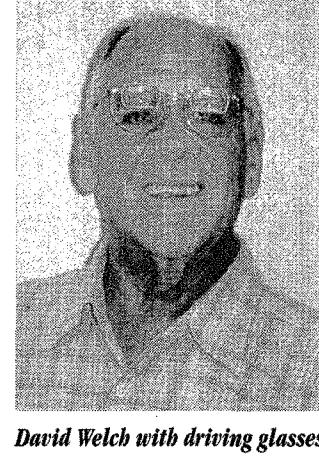
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David Welch with driving glasses

Whether helping some one see faces and television, read, drive, work a computer, knit, play cards or sight see, one thing remains constant. Urgency is critical to success.

Treating vision loss promptly always gives better outcomes. There is no advantage in doing nothing, living with flawed vision, waiting to get worse. Sight may change slowly or not at all. Waiting just puts off seeing better and frustrates people.

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Disinheriting children can be a touchy affair

Q: Dear Rick: After nearly 30 years of marriage, my wife and I divorced. It was a very messy divorce and, to my disappointment, my two adult children took the side of my ex-wife. After much deliberation, I've decided to disinhere them from my will.

How do I go about doing it? I have an existing will and at the same time I have a software program that does wills that I would like to use. Can you help?

A: I'm sorry to hear about your divorce and even sadder to hear that it was messy. Unfortunately, even with good people, things happen in the judicial system.

In regards to your question: Yes, you can disinhere a child. The key to doing so is not to leave them out of the will, but rather, clearly state that you are disinheriting your child and you wish them to receive nothing from your estate.

You do not have to explain why you're disinheriting them, but you must clearly state their name and that you are disinheriting them. There is no legal requirement that you leave money to a child, however, there is a presumption that if you did not name a child, you forgot that child and, thus, he/she would have rights in your estate.

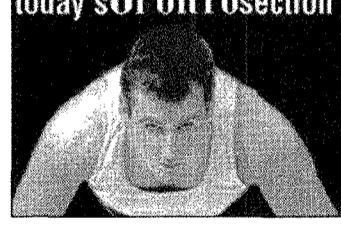
On the question of using a software package to draft your will: Many legal software programs are acceptable and there are no problems. However, when it comes to disinheriting a child, you want to make sure that you dot your I's and cross your T's.

After you draft the will using your software program, have an estate planning attorney review it. The review of the will should only cost you a nominal amount of money.

I recommend that anyone who goes through a divorce draft a new will or trust. If you have an addition or a subtraction to your family, that may also be a sign that, at a minimum, you should have your estate planning documents reviewed.

One problem many people run into is they diligently complete an estate plan and then fail to update it when personal changes occur. Not only can family situations change, which would necessitate a change in your documents, but laws change.

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I recommend an estate plan review every two to three years — at a minimum. There may be no changes needed, but it's still a good idea to have the documents reviewed.

One area of the law that has changed significantly over the last decade deals with rules regarding medical durable powers of attorney. It is important that those documents are always kept up to date. I have made available a

free medical durable power of attorney at www.bloomassetmanagement.com (click on Legal Forms under the Bloom University tab).

Also available on the Web site is a free Michigan Statutory Will — a fill-in-the-blank will that has been authorized by the state of Michigan. I recommend this will for relatively straightforward estate planning needs such as leaving everything to a

spouse or children.

This is also a great will for young couples with limited means who need to name guardians for their children.

I always tell people there is only one reason to execute an estate plan. It's not to avoid taxes or probate (although those are very good goals and something that we should all strive for), it is because you love your family.

By the time your estate plan

is read, you're six feet under.

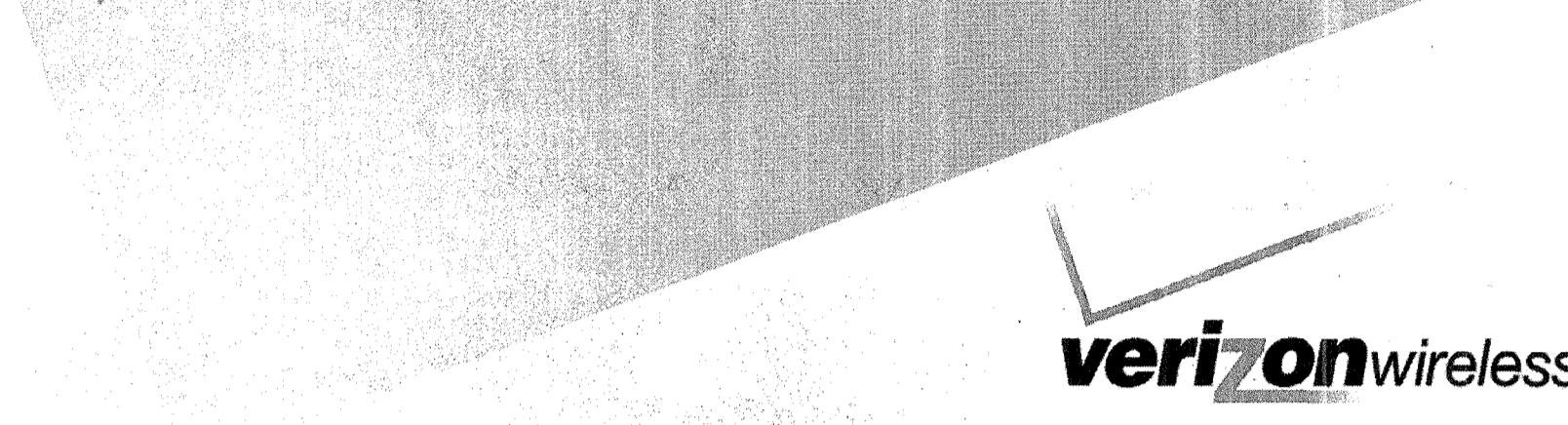
However, your love for your family is eternal. Therefore, it is important for every adult to execute some sort of estate plan. Not everyone needs a living trust. Although living trusts are great estate planning vehicles in order to avoid probate, save on taxes and keep your family affairs private, they are not for everyone.

If you have an estate plan and you have not reviewed it

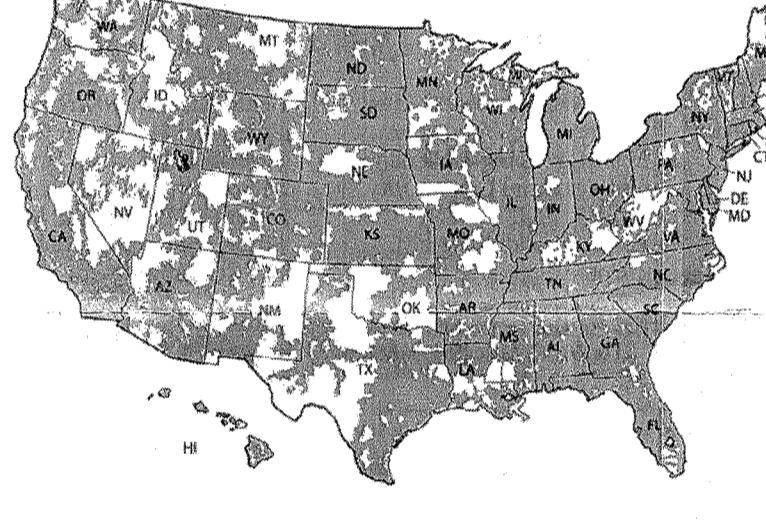
over the last few years, now is a great time to pull it out. If you've never executed an estate plan, now is the time to get it done.

Good luck!

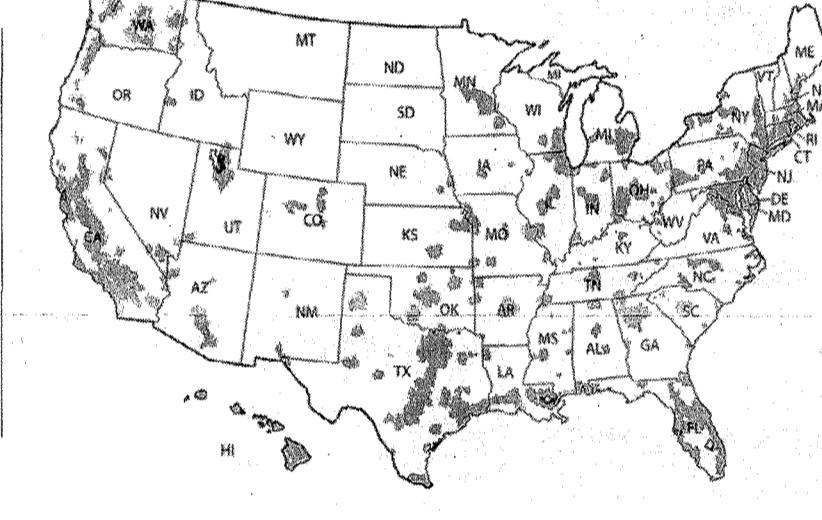
Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at monymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.



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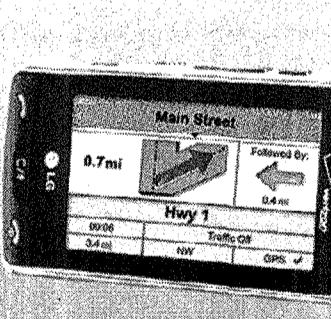


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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at sman@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Walk for Melanoma

The fourth annual KDB Melanoma 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 11, at Kensington Metropark. Registration is at 9 a.m. and the walk/run will begin at 11 a.m. Register online at www.melanomawalk.org. Click on First Giving. All proceeds go to the Melanoma Research Foundation.

Harvest dinner

The annual Harvest Dinner at the First United Methodist Church of Wayne will be 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at the church, 3 Town Square across from the Wayne Post Office,

Wayne. A complete turkey dinner, including beverage and dessert costs \$9 for adults and \$5 for children ages 4-12. Carry-outs will be available. There also will be a bake sale, crafts, silent auction for a quilt, Rada Cutlery and "That's My Pan" fund-raiser. For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

Earth Angels

Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9-16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9-11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9-12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare. For more information, go online to www.earthangelsontour.org or send an e-mail to eangel1986@comcast.net.

Scrapbooking

A scrapbooking workshop will be held 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at Ss. Simon and Jude Parish Hall, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, in Westland. The cost is \$35 per person for a full day and \$20 per person for a half day. For more information, call Karen Kopack at (734) 634-3934 or Sandy Kopack at (734) 721-4867.

Mom-2-Mom

The Livonia Family YMCA will host a Mom-to-Mom Sale on Sunday, Oct. 11; early bird sale is at 1 p.m. with a \$2 admission; general sale is from 2-5 p.m., with a \$1 admission. Large item room available. Strollers welcome after 3:30 p.m. Bake sale, hot dogs, refreshments. All proceeds to benefit the YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign. The Livonia YMCA is located at 14255 Stark Rd., just north of Schoolcraft, in Livonia.

- St. Damian School will have a Mom 2 Mom Sale 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at the school, 30055 Joy Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman. Contact Bev Zwicker (313) 937-9566 for more information.
- Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is hosting a Mom 2 Mom sale 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman in Garden City. Tables are \$15 for a 6-footer, \$20 for an 8-footer and \$5 for rack space (must provide your own). There will also be a large item area with 10 percent of the profits going to Willow Creek. Call Rhonda at 73 576-3578 to rent a table.

Sweetest Day dance
PLAY Post 166 and VFW Post 6695 will co-host a Sweetest Day Dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 17, at the VFW Post located at 1436 Mill St., Plymouth. Tickets, which are tax deductible, are \$10 each and are available at the VFW lounge/club room. Entertainment will be provided by Benny Spear of Benny and the Jets (specializing in '50s and '60s music) along with Greg Jaqua (an Elvis impersonator). There will be door prizes offered throughout the evening along with a cash bar. For more information, call (734) 459-6700.

Spaghetti Dinner

The W2 Chapter of Wayne is holding a spaghetti dinner benefit for the Penickton Center for Blind Children 3-7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road, Westland. The cost is \$7 per person and \$3 for children age 10 and under. Those under age 3 are free. There also will be hourly 50/50 drawings and a bake sale. For tickets call Bob and Nancy Natter at (734) 421-8520 or by e-mail at Rnatter@comcast.net and Claire Belkowski at (734) 522-9581 or by e-mail at cruiseahoy@yahoo.com.

TOPS meetings

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 869 Westland is looking to meet new members at Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland. The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older. Weigh-ins are at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Come see what TOPS can do for you. Call Brenda at (734) 729-3833.

American Legion

The American Legion, Westland Post 251 meets at 7 p.m. first Tuesday of each month at the AMVETS Post 171 on Merriman Road between Avondale and Palmer. All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

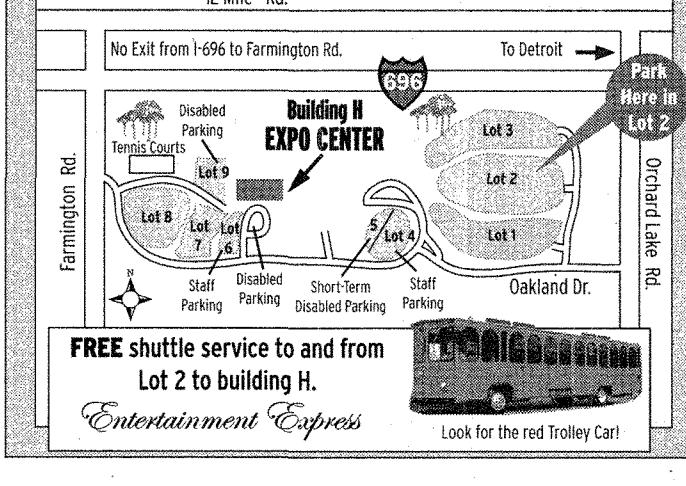
Fish Dial-A-Ride

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Celebrate senior life, health at Friday Expo

Meet, greet star of Gem Theater's 'Ethel Merman's Broadway'

SENIOR HEALTH & LIVING EXPO OCC - Orchard Ridge Campus



will discuss legacy and estate planning 10-11 a.m. and Richard Paul, certified financial planner and owner/president of Midwest Financial Consultants, will discuss tax strategies for 2009 and beyond from 11 a.m. to noon. Steve Falcone, executive vice president of Senior Village Management/Unified Management Services, will provide free health screenings.

Experts will provide presentations and/or demonstrations on topics such as income and tax strategies, when is the right time to make a move, stress management, massage therapy, yoga, dental care and nutrition.

The OCC Nursing School will provide free health screenings.

Expo patrons are invited to meet and greet Rita McKenzie, star of *Ethel Merman's Broadway*, at the Gem Theater beginning at noon. Stop at the Gem Theatre booth for a chance to win free tickets to the show, playing through Nov. 22.

Ethel Merman's Broadway

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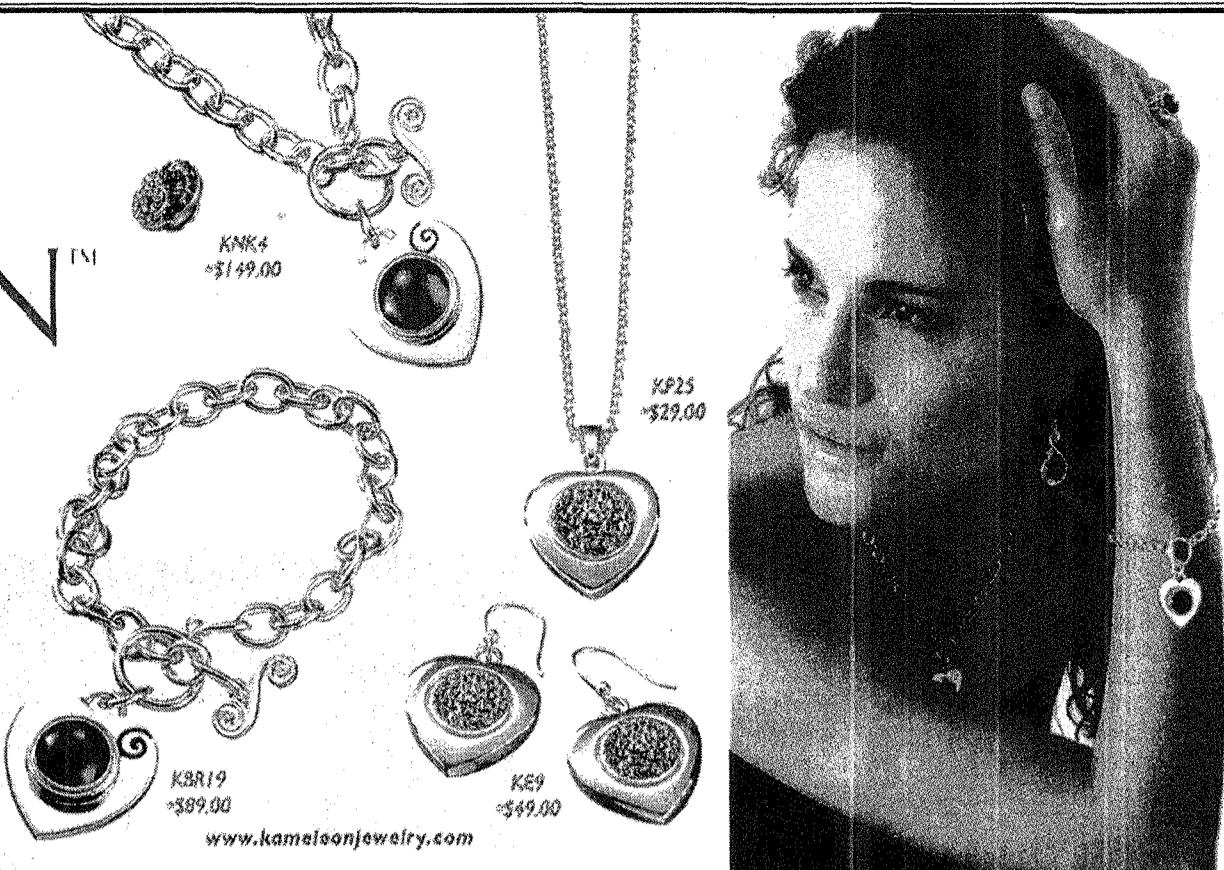
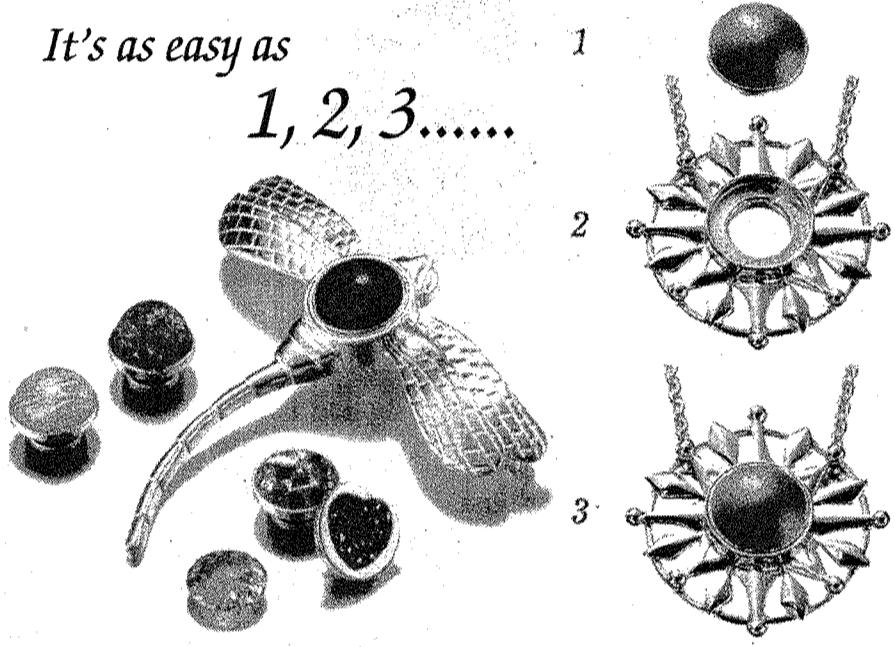
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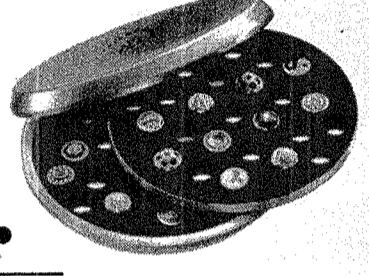
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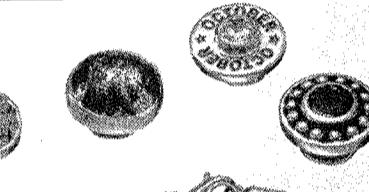


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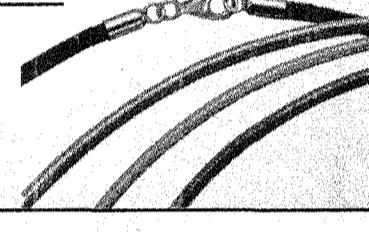
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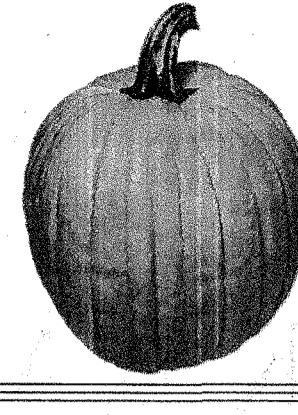
SECTION B
(WL)

Brad Emons, editor (313) 222-6851
bemons@hometownlife.com

Family fun guide: Find pumpkin patches and more ... C2

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

HOMETOWN LIFE



Playoff-bound Rockets orbit past Wayne, 42-6

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With its sixth win, Westland John Glenn punched its post-season playoff ticket for the first time since 2004 with a resounding 42-6 victory Friday night over rival Wayne Memorial.

The Rockets, now 6-1 overall, led 40-6 at intermission en route to the mercy rule victory. Glenn outgained the host Zebras, 331-131, in total offense.

Running primarily out of the "Wildcat" formation, Glenn tailback Jeremy Langford continued his assault of opposing defenses rushing for 236 yards on only 16 carries.

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound senior had touchdown runs of 56, 10, 29 and 67 yards to run his season total to 1,683.

Senior quarterback Steve Kulikowski also threw a 9-yard scoring pass to Jamar Rogers, while senior Kamal Ayler, who added 64 yards on 13 carries, contributed a 7-yard TD run in the second quarter.

"At the beginning of the game they (Wayne) threw a vanilla defense at us, a base 4-2-5 front," Glenn coach Tim Hardin said. "Then after we scored the first two touchdowns they were dedicated

to stunting like crazy. They brought the kitchen sink at us."

Glenn has now won three straight in the series after losing the previous three.

"It means everything, I've beaten them four years in a row," said Glenn's 5-8, 182-pound senior lineman Vince Davidson. "It was a great win, a playoff win so tonight was a double bonus,

"What makes this team unique is the chemistry. Everybody pulls for each other all the way down to the scout team. It's not necessarily the size you have, but it's all the heart in the world that you put into it."

Glenn's massive 6-5, 280-pound offensive tackle Dustin Gajowiak also echoed his fellow senior's sentiments.

"Their (line) backers came hard, they wanted it," Gajowiak said of Wayne. "But in the end, we still prevailed. We've come together as a team. Football is life. We're a big family and we have a big responsibility to build on that tradition."

Wayne (3-4, 1-4), playing without senior quarterback Nick Mills (sprained MCL), committed seven turnovers including four fumbles lost to go along with an interception,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn senior tailback Jeremy Langford tries to shake off Wayne tackler Anwar Oliver during Friday night's city tussle.

Please see ROCKETS, B2

Russia-bound

Livonia tumbler makes World Age-Group event

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Cassandra Skinner knew exactly what was at stake last month when she competed in the USA Gymnastics Trampoline and Tumbling Final Selection Event in Las Vegas.

The freshman from Livonia Stevenson High needed to finish at least fourth in the Female 13-14 Level 10 power tumbling event to represent the U.S. in the World Age-Group Championships, Nov. 14-22 in St. Petersburg, Russia.

But after developing plantar fascitis — an irritation and swelling of the thick tissue on the bottom of the foot — Skinner felt like she was in Vegas and rolling the dice.

"I always feel pressure and get nervous," Skinner said. "I not only felt the pressure to compete, but I also had the pain in my heel working against me. I had to wear heel protectors and take Ibuprofen. I had to bear with it."

"I've also gained 20 pounds and grown six inches (to 5 feet, 4 inches) — all within the last year."

With a total of 87.10 points, Skinner accomplished her goal by taking fourth in power tumbling and will be joined on the U.S. Junior team with first-place

finisher Kiara Nowlin (Oxnard, Calif.), runner-up Shaylee Dunavin (Amarillo, Tex.) and Tristan Van Natta (McCordsville, Ind.), an all-large selection.

Skinner will also receive a \$1,500 grant toward her trip to St. Petersburg.

"I'm going to have to miss school for a week to go to Russia, but all the teachers know and they're all behind me," said Skinner, whose favorite subject is English and enjoys writing.

Skinner earned a spot to the Final Selection Event by finishing runner-up at the Junior Olympic Nationals, June 24 in San Jose, Calif.

Skinner, who added a sixth-place finish in double-mini trampoline, but did not qualify, trains four hours per day, six days per week under coach Peter Roberts, owner of AGT Flip City in Warren.

"My coach said after that he was proud of the way I performed — and that I went out and did what I was supposed to do," Skinner said. "It was a tossup on how I would perform. I just wanted to make sure I was going to Worlds. I was more confident on how I would perform on (power) tumbling than double-mini."

Skinner credits her improved long iron game to earning a spot at the state finals.

Yet, she had to pinch herself after learning she had qualified.

"I did not believe it until they gave me the paperwork," Irvine said. "I called my dad (Gerald) and he thought I was lying. He said, 'Now what was your real score?'"

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ROCKETS

FROM PAGE B1

and two bad snaps on punts (one leading to a two-point safety).

Sophomore quarterback Dean Caldwell, off the JV squad, was pressed into duty for the Zebras, who had only 131 yards in total offense. Caldwell was 8-of-22 for 93 yards in his first start.

"Not having Nick was not the problem tonight," Wayne coach Kevin Weber said. "Langford is the best varsity high school player I've coached against at the skill position. And he's more physical than I thought. We tried a whole bunch of stuff and we were confident about the 'Wildcat' situations. But he's a heck of a player."

Wayne tallied its lone TD with 6:38 left in the first half when senior linebacker Sean

Ogle pilfered a handoff in the Glenn backfield and raced 75 yards the other way for a score.

"It's disappointing for the seniors who have stayed here and worked hard," Weber said. "We've had a lot of kids come and go, but this core group has battled and has looked to change the culture around here. And I'm proud of that."

Glenn finishes second in the KLAAs South Division with a 4-1 record and will host Northville next Friday in a Kensington Conference crossover. The Rockets will be playing for home field advantage now in their final two games.

"It's a huge game," Hardin said. "After we lost the Canton game it got down to what can we do? We'd try and win out the rest of our games and finish second in our division and our league."

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

tone in the first quarter with a 60-yard punt return touchdown.

The Patriots got on the scoreboard in the second stanza on a safety when a snap to Brindza sailed over his head and through the end zone.

But the Wildcats bounced back with rushing touchdowns of 5 and 23 yards, respectively, from junior quarterback Victor Hicks and sophomore tailback Donte Fox.

Franklin sliced the lead to 21-8 just before the intermission on a 2-yard TD plunge from senior running back Mike Baumgardner.

Plymouth tacked on some insurance points in the second half. Brindza connected on a 34-yard field goal in the third.

Meanwhile, Fox, who garnered 121 yards in just nine carries, scored on an 80-yard TD run where he broke up the middle and outraced the coverage down the right sideline.

Leading the Patriots with over 100 yards rushing was senior tailback Chris VanTuyl.

It's been quite a turnaround on the part of Lutheran High Westland's football team this season.

The Warriors, who opened the year with four consecutive losses, earned their third straight win Friday by traveling to Grosse Pointe Woods and handling host University-Liggett by a 34-6 count.

Junior Derrick Mozham carried the ball 20 times for 226 yards and scored three touchdowns, while senior Ethan Haller hauled the pigskin 28 times for 159 yards and three scores as the Warriors tallied the final 28 points of the game.

The victory moved the Warriors above .500 in Michigan Independent Athletic Conference play at 3-2.

"We're playing pretty good football right now," Warriors head coach Paul Guse said. "It was as bad as it gets losing those first four games, but

winning solves a multitude of ills."

Haller got the Warriors on the board in the first quarter when he rambled 50 yards for a touchdown on the opening drive of the game. The lead was short-lived, however, as Liggett (1-6, 1-4) came right back to tie the game on a 59-yard scoring pass.

Haller moved the Warriors back in front by the end of the first period with a five-yard jaunt and increased the margin to 18-6 at halftime with a 25-yard scamper in the second quarter.

Mozham put the game on ice with two long TD runs in the second half. His first came in the third period and covered 81 yards and his second occurred in the final frame from 56 yards out.

As dominant as the Warriors were offensively, they were every bit in control as well defensively as they held the Knights to a negative six yards

rushing and only 108 through the air.

"Defensively, we played pretty well," Guse said. "Liggett is just getting their program back on track and they have a young team. But it's nice to see our kids playing so well."

BIRCH RUN 28, CLARENCEVILLE 21: This one might haunt the Trojans for the rest of the season.

Primed to leap over the .500 mark for the first time this season, coach Ryan Irish's club let a fourth-quarter lead slip away Friday night in suffering a non-conference setback to visiting Birch Run.

Both teams are 3-4 on the season.

Leading 21-14 heading into the final period of play, the Trojans watched the Panthers rally for a pair of scores to turn that seven-point deficit into a seven-point margin of victory.

"It's disappointing," Irish said. "They are a good football team, but I thought we had a

very good chance of winning this one. We'll see how tough our kids are and if they bounce back from this. We still have two games to go and finishing 5-4 would be nice."

Senior Levonte Brooks

opened the scoring for the Trojans with a 43-yard touchdown run in the first quarter. Birch Run tied the game up before the end of the period, but Clarenceville responded with a Lenny Smith 15-yard scoring jaunt before halftime.

Clarenceville's lead increased to 21-7 when Brooks raced in from 50 yards out in the third quarter, but the Panthers got one back before the end of the period and recorded two more in the decisive final period.

Brooks amassed 203 yards on the ground on 24 carries, while teammate Henry Seruga collected 50 yards on six attempts. Smith finished with 40 yards on seven tries.

FRANKLIN

FROM PAGE B1

Franklin coach Chris Kelbert said the way his team (3-4, 2-3) played early on in a key conference matchup was inexplicable.

It was 21-2 at one point during the second quarter.

"It was the most miserable day of my life," The Franklin coach said. "For an important game we did not come out of the chute the way we should have. I wish I knew (why)."

Kelbert said the rain didn't impact the Patriots, who actually outgained the Wildcats 260-204.

"They played on it and they were just fine," he said.

But the kicking of Plymouth junior Kyle Brindza didn't help. According to Kelbert, his offense had to start a number of drives inside their own 20-yard line.

"We didn't have very good field position," Kelbert added. Senior Tyler Grosh set the

lead to 21-8 just before the intermission on a 2-yard TD plunge from senior running back Mike Baumgardner.

Plymouth tacked on some insurance points in the second half. Brindza connected on a 34-yard field goal in the third.

Meanwhile, Fox, who garnered 121 yards in just nine carries, scored on an 80-yard TD run where he broke up the middle and outraced the coverage down the right sideline.

Leading the Patriots with over 100 yards rushing was senior tailback Chris VanTuyl.

Senior Austin White rushed for 234 yards and five touchdowns Friday as Livonia Stevenson tuned up for its Kensington Conference football showdown next week with Canton by defeating host South Lyon East, 47-20.

The KLAAs Central Division champion Spartans, who have won five straight after losing their first two games of the year, led 19-0 after one quarter as the 6-foot-1, 180-pound White scored on runs of 15, 11 and 71 yards.

Stevenson went ahead 33-0 with two early second-quarter scores - a 1-yard run by Mike Beyer and White's fourth TD of the night, a 31-yard run. South Lyon quarterback Patrick Powers got the Cougars (0-7, 0-5) on the board with a 1-yard run with 8:32 left in the first half.

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Stevenson had 437 total yards, all on the ground. The Spartans only attempted three passes.

East was limited to 159 total yards, including 101

yards rushing.

Stevenson safety Bryan Koessler had an interception.

Canton unplugs Chargers

The rushing stats told the whole story Friday night as unbeaten Canton rolled to a 42-7 KLAAs South Division triumph at Livonia Churchill.

The state-ranked Chiefs racked up 440 yards on the ground on 47 attempts to improve to 7-0 overall and 5-0 in the KLAAs South.

Canton will face KLAAs Central Division champion Livonia Stevenson (5-2, 0-0) for the Kensington Conference crown 7 p.m. Friday at home.

Adam Paytele led the way with a game-high 258 yards and three touchdowns on only nine carries. He scored on runs of 53, 56 and 57 yards as

the Chiefs raced out to a 27-0 first-quarter advantage.

Davion Stackhouse added two TDs on runs of 1 and 16 yards. He finished with 98 yards rushing on 17 attempts.

Meanwhile, Canton quarterback Kevin Delapaz, who was 2-of-4 passing, added a 20-yard TD toss to Arron Boudreaux in the final period.

Churchill (1-6, 0-5) tallied its lone touchdown in the second quarter when Steven Klisz hit Dean Bokuniewicz on a 16-yard pass.

Klisz was 11-of-17 passing for 145 yard. Devonte Woods had five receptions for 53 yards, while Bokuniewicz added four catches for 44 yards.

Tony Frezzell was Churchill's top rusher with 44 yards on 10 carries.

White's five TDs spurs Spartans to 47-20 triumph

KLAAs FOOTBALL

Junior Leroy Glover, who added 161 yards on 18 carries for the Spartans, then answered with a 1-yard plunge with 5:22 remaining in the same period to make it 40-7.

Matt Lindman's 65-yard scamper for East with 4:16 to go in the half put the count at 40-13.

White, committed to Michigan, added a 3-yard scoring run in the third period and Powers completed the scoring for East with a 2-yard run.

Stevenson had 437 total yards, all on the ground. The Spartans only attempted three passes.

East was limited to 159 total yards, including 101

Top of the ladder

Lutheran Westland spikers rule MIAC Blue Division

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Wilson and Allison Guse chipped in with strong performances as well.

"Coming into this season we knew it would be tough day in and day out and our goal was to go 1-0 seven times and we were able to do that," said Wade, whose team stands 18-6-1 overall.

"We are excited to be division champions and we hope that we can continue to get better as we get closer to November."

COUNTRY DAY 3, CLARENCEVILLE 1: In a non-conference match Thursday, visiting Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day earned a 23-25, 25-12, 25-22, 26-24 victory over host Livonia Clarenceville.

Kat Hall and Ashley Devon each had seven kills for the Trojans.

Hall also contributed seven digs and two blocks.

Other standouts for Clarenceville included Brittany Tallman (five kills, three aces); Paige Davis (five kills, four blocks) and Ashley Welch (25 assists).

"We played really well, but then lost it in the second game," Clarenceville coach Wendy Mershman said. "We came back

to make it a battle in the next two games and never gave up. Still, we were missing some good defense and just making minor consistency errors."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 3, GREENHILLS 0: On Tuesday, Lutheran High Westland (17-6-1, 6-0) maintained perfection in MIAC Blue Division action with a 25-11, 25-18, 25-11 win over host Ann Arbor Greenhills.

Emilie Freeman contributed 12 kills, three solo blocks and one ace to the winning effort, while Rachel Stork chipped in seven kills, seven digs and two solo blocks.

Nicole Zehel (14 points), Taylor Wiemer (12) and Lauren Switzer (9) proved to be the offensive catalysts as they combined for 35 serving points.

Zehel connected on 17-of-18, including four aces, while Wiemer went a perfect 15-of-15 with three aces. Switzer was 12-of-13 serving with one ace.

Zehel also collected eight digs and Switzer handed out 21 assists.

"I was pleased with our performance after a very lackluster day last Saturday," Warriors head coach Kevin Wade said. "We were able to go on the road and play well. We committed very few errors which was our biggest problem Saturday."

Chargers go to 6-0 in KLAAs South Division

KLAAs VOLLEYBALL

digs); Emily Norscia (four blocks, two kills); and Kaylie Secord (two kills, three blocks).

Franklin, meanwhile, had a season-high eight blocks, but slipped to 4-12-2 overall and 1-5 in the KLAAs South.

Amanda Borio and Chelsea Williams each finished with five kills, while Nicole Williamson paced the Patriots' defense with 12 digs.

Setter Cory Urbats added 25 assist-to-kills and seven digs.

Other contributions came from Nicole Kempinski (11

team that is as solid and as physical as Canton is," said Glenn coach Julian Wargo, whose team 12-10-1 overall and 2-4 in the division. "We were able to shake off the first set and really played strong in the second set."

Canton is 14-4 overall and 5-1 in the KLAAs South.

"I am proud of the way that my girls battled in the third set," Wargo said. "We played aggressively, but couldn't shut down the Chiefs' attack-ers."

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**Area harriers shine**

Grand Valley State University's Megan Maceratini (205) helped the Lakers capture Notre Dame Invitational women's cross country team title, Oct. 2, at Burke Golf Course in South Bend, Ind. The Livonia Churchill grad was runner-up individually with a time of 17 minutes, 50 seconds in the 5,000-meter race, which featured 21 other teams from NCAA Division I, II and III, along with NAIA schools. Eastern Michigan University's Courtney Calka of Livonia Stevenson (140) continued her strong freshman campaign with a sixth-place finish as the Eagles' top runner in 17:56.

GIRLS SWIM RESULTS**GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS**

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 110

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 76

Oct. 8 at John Glenn

200-yard medley relay: 1. John Glenn (Rachael Alholina, Khry Sparks, Lindsey Bessinger, Katlyn Smith), 2:11.3; 2. Churchill (Marisa Battista, Megan Lancaster, Tamara Marek, Alex Herten), 2:19.84; 3. John Glenn, 2:24.75.

200 freestyle: 1. Casey Peterson (WJG), 2:08.56; 2. Kali Aloisi (WJG), 2:12.41; 3. Stephanie D'Annunzio (LC), 2:12.67.

200 individual medley: 1. Alholina (WJG), 2:32.99; 2. Bessinger (WJG), 2:42.3; 3. Marek (LC), 2:44.82.

50 freestyle: 1. Sparks (WJG), 28.90; 2. Smith (WJG), 28.85; 3. Katrina Nelson (LC), 29.35.

1-meter diving: 1. Katrina St. Pierre (LC), 198.65 points; 2. Desirée Cleeney (WJG), 197.50; 3. Kaitela Stancer (LC), 176.80.

100 butterfly: 1. Peterson (WJG), 1:07.45; 2. Allison Mayer (LC), 1:09.88; 3. Bessinger (WJG), 1:13.35.

100 freestyle: 1. D'Annunzio (LC), 1:00.68; 2. Alholina (WJG), 1:02.26; 3. Smith (WJG), 1:03.19.

500 freestyle: 1. Jennie Humbach (WJG), 6:12.39; 2. Lancaster (LC), 6:16.86; 3. Kate Moran (WJG), 6:38.58.

200 freestyle relay: 1. John Glenn (Bessinger, Peterson, Smith, Sparks), 1:51.76; 2. Churchill (Mayer, Nelson, D'Annunzio, Christina Fox), 1:52.68; 3. John Glenn, 2:06.64.

100 backstroke: 1. Aloisi (WJG), 1:13.77; 2. Battista (LC), 1:16.69; 3. Lancaster (LC), 1:16.84.

100 breaststroke: 1. Sparks (WJG), 1:17.63; 2. Rebecca Van Gorp (LC), 1:27.08; 3. Brooke Graham (WJG), 1:31.82.

400 freestyle relay: 1. John Glenn (Alholina, Humbach, Aloisi, Peterson), 4:08.35; 2. Churchill (D'Annunzio, Mayer, Nelson, Fox), 4:12.05; 3. Churchill, 4:20.94.

Dual meet records: John Glenn, 2-2 overall, 2-2 KLA South Division; Churchill, 1-3 KLA South.

LIVONIA LADYWOOD 100

WARREN REGINA 75

Oct. 8 at Livonia Comm. Rec. Center

(Brianna Wilson, Caleigh Griffin, Maddy Pelon, Christina Riga), 2:05.74; 3. Ladywood, 2:19.26.

200 freestyle: 1. Heather Pijor (LL), 2:14.26;

3. Alaina Stevenson (LL), 2:24.72.

200 individual medley: 1. Griffin (LL),

2:35.94; 2. Wilson, 2:36.21.

50 freestyle: 1. Pelon (LL), 27.37; 3. Hannah Weaver (LL), 28.01.

1-meter diving: 1. Catherine Dudun (WR),

133.0 points.

100 butterfly: 1. Erin Holtz (WR), 1:09.64; 2. Pelon (LL), 1:10.15.

100 freestyle: 1. Weaver (LL), 1:02.76.

500 freestyle: 1. Pijor (LL), 5:54.95.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Ladywood (Weaver,

Stevenson, Pijor, Wilson), 4:14.77; 3. Ladywood,

2:03.38.

100 backstroke: 1. Wilson (LL), 1:10.32; 2. Jessica Arabi (LL), 1:14.11.

100 breaststroke: 1. Griffin (LL), 1:18.54; 3. Kimberly Solak (LL), 1:23.25.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Ladywood (Weaver,

Stevenson, Pijor, Wilson), 4:14.77; 3. Ladywood,

4:32.12.

Ladywood's dual meet record: 3-0 overall,

2-1 Catholic League.

WAYNE MEMORIAL INVITATIONAL

GIRLS SWIM MEET

Oct. 2-3 at Wayne Memorial

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Ladywood, 381

points; 2. Westland John Glenn, 345; 3. Wayne

Memorial, 190; 4. Garden City, 122; 5. Dearborn

Heights Annapolis, 10; 6. Dearborn Heights

Crestwood, 52.

FINAL RESULTS

200-yard medley relay: 1. John Glenn

(Casey Peterson, Khry Sparks, Lindsey

Bessinger, Jennie Humbach), 2:03.75; 2.

Ladywood (Brianna Wilson, Caleigh Griffin,

Maddy Pelon, Christina Riga), 2:03.83; 3. Wayne

2:18.97; 4. Garden City, 2:25.82; 5. Annapolis

2:38.58; 6. Crestwood, 2:47.96.

200 freestyle: 1. Heather Pijor (LL), 2:12.36;

200 individual medley: 1. Heather Pijor (LL),

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points; 2. Westland John Glenn, 345; 3. Wayne

Memorial, 190; 4. Garden City, 122; 5. Dearborn

Heights Annapolis, 10; 6. Dearborn Heights

Crestwood, 52.

FINAL RESULTS

200-yard medley relay: 1. John Glenn

(Casey Peterson, Khry Sparks, Lindsey

Bessinger, Jennie Humbach), 2:03.75; 2.

Ladywood (Brianna Wilson, Caleigh Griffin,

Maddy Pelon, Christina Riga), 2:03.83; 3. Wayne

2:18.97; 4. Garden City, 2:25.82; 5. Annapolis

2:38.58; 6. Crestwood, 2:47.96.

200 freestyle: 1. Heather Pijor (LL), 2:12.36;

200 individual medley: 1. Heather Pijor (LL),

2:12.36; 3. Ladywood (Weaver,

Stevenson, Pijor, Wilson), 4:14.77; 3. Ladywood,

4:32.12.

Ladywood's dual meet record: 3-0 overall,

2-1 Catholic League.

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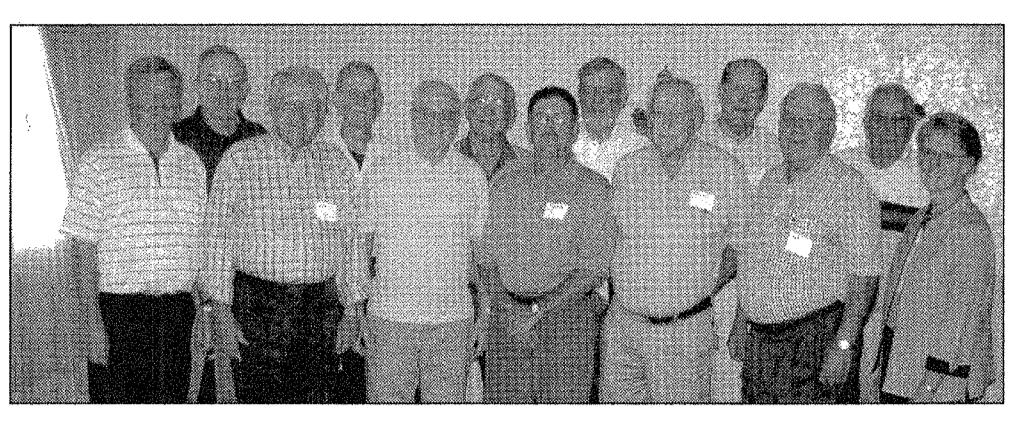
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Senior golf honorees

The Livonia Senior Men's Golf League, with 148 members ages 62-and-up at Livonia's three city courses, held its awards banquet last month. Eighty members qualified for match play during the month of August at Whispering Willows. Paul Worley (front row, far left), head pro at Whispering Willows, and Karen Kachonick (front row, far right), Superintendent of Livonia Parks and Recreation, awarded the trophies on Sept. 11 to: (front row, second from left) Jack Robertson (first flight champ); Bob Sills (closest-to-pin champ); Tim Carlington (second flight runner-up); Charles Boldea (third flight champ); Ben Mazur (second-flight champ); (back row, second from left) Bob Wheeler (championship flight runner-up); Ed Foley (first flight champ); John Gernes (fourth flight runner-up); Tom Allan (third flight runner-up); Ron McCaffery (first flight runner-up); and Don Frandsen (fourth flight champ). For more information about the 2010 season, call league president Tony Amadori at (734) 261-4718; or Bill Floyd at (734) 591-0866.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL
Friday, Oct. 16
Clarenceville at Hamtramck, 7 p.m.
S.L. East at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Northville at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Salem at Franklin, 7 p.m.
South Lyon at Wayne, 7 p.m.
(Kensington Conference Championship)
Stevenson at Canton, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 17
Luth. Westland at Univ. Prep, 1 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Tuesday, Oct. 13
Churchill at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
Canton at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
Stevenson at South Lyon, 6:30 p.m.
Plymouth at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Harper Woods, 6:30 p.m.
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 14
Harper Woods at Luth. Westland, 6 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 15
Churchill at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
Franklin at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Wayne at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Hamtramck, 6:30 p.m.
Birn. Marian at Ladywood, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 17
Elite Sports Center Tourney, 8:30 a.m.
Madonna Inv. at Plymouth, 8:30 a.m.
MIAC Tourney at Luth. Westland, TBA.
BOYS SOCCER
Monday, Oct. 12
S.L. East at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
South Lyon at Franklin, 7 p.m.
(Kensington Conference Championship)

Northville at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 13
Inter-City at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 4:30 p.m.
(Metro Conference Playoffs)
Luth. North at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 16
Garden City at Wayne, 4 p.m.
A.A. Greenhills at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Luth. South at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Farmington, 7 p.m.
BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Monday, Oct. 12
Clarenceville at Berkley, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 13
Canton at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Divine Child at Nankin Mills, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville at Cass Benton Park, 4 p.m.
Churchill vs. Franklin at Nankin Mills, 4:30 p.m.
Plymouth at Wayne (Flats), 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 17
Gabriel Richard Invitational at Hudson Mills Metropark, 8 a.m.
GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING
Monday, Oct. 12
Northville at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 15
Plymouth at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
Novi at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Birn. Marian at Livonia Comm. Rec. Ctr., 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 17
Mercy Invitational, noon.

Max Washko became Livonia Churchill's all-time leading goal scorer as the Chargers captured the KLAA South Division crown outright with a 4-0 triumph Thursday over host Westland John Glenn, 4-0.

The senior forward finished with two goals and one assist as the Chargers, ranked No. 2 in Division 1, improved to 15-0-1 overall and 9-0-1 in the division.

Churchill will be gunning for the Kensington Conference title beginning at 7 p.m. Monday at home against KLAA Central Division champion Northville (10-4-4, 7-1-2).

Adam Bedell also scored for the Chargers off an Erik Bird corner kick and Tyler Varney completed the scoring with a goal from Washko.

Goalkeepers Christian Adams and Bryan Bartig com-

KLAAS SOCCER

bined on the shutout.

Glenn, which trailed 1-0 at intermission, falls to 5-9 and 4-6.

NOVI CC 8, FRANKLIN 0: Mike Tolarkcz notched a hat trick and Dylan Hagan added two goals Friday as Novi Detroit Catholic Central (11-1-3) invoked the eight-goal mercy rule to beat host Livonia Franklin (3-13).

STEVENS 5, S.L. EAST 0: On Thursday, Livonia Stevenson (6-6-4, 4-4-2) climbed back to the .500 mark with a KLAA Central Division shutout over South Lyon East (1-9-3, 0-9-1).

Goalkeeper Conner Burton, who played the first 50 minutes in goal for the Spartans, combined with Donald Grandahl on the shutout.

Stevenson led 1-0 at the half on Brendan Mulcahy's goal from Chris Sergison.

The Spartans tacked on four more in the second half - Sergison (from Marco Bernardini); Zach Cooney

(unassisted free kick); Charlie Kokenakes (from Alex Vrzovski); and Scott Brewer (from Nick Degilio).

"Our effort tonight wasn't as solid as Tuesday's effort (1-0 win) against Salem, but it was much improved over our last performance against South Lyon East (2-2 draw)," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said. "So all-in-all it was a good week for Stevenson."

FRANKLIN 3, WAYNE 0: Jordan McGuire's two goals carried Livonia Franklin (3-12, 2-8) to a KLAA South Division victory Thursday at Wayne Memorial (1-14, 0-10).

Franklin led 1-0 at halftime on Gabe Edwards' goal from Fred Shatara, who then assisted on McGuire's first goal.

McGuire's final goal came on a penalty kick.

Every Baerlin, who started and played the first half, made six saves in goal before relinquishing his duties to Ryan Tikey, who also stopped six shots in the second half to preserve the shutout.

Krzyske's hat trick lifts Warriors

Junior Kent Krzyske scored three goals and senior Austin Baglow netted one Friday evening as Lutheran High Westland doubled up host Birmingham Roeper, 4-2, in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division boys soccer match-up.

Baglow staked his team-

mates to a 1-0 lead at half-

time and Krzyske put it away with three second-half tal-

lies.

Freshman Nick

Andrzejewski made the lead

stand up with stellar play between the pipes.

The victory improved the Warriors' overall record to 8-5-3 overall and 5-5-2 in the MIAC Blue.

Roeper falls to 7-8 overall and 6-6 in the division.

CLARENCEVILLE 7, HURON VALLEY 1:

Ardit Dushkaj notched his fifth hat trick of the season Thursday as Livonia Clarenceville (11-3-2) downed visiting Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (7-8) in a non-conference match.

John James added two goals, while Jimmy Moody and Garet Hintzman had one each for the vic-

torious Trojans.

Mark St. John scored for the Hawks.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 6, SHRINE 2: A four-goal outburst during a 12-minute span of the second half propelled Lutheran High Westland (7-5-3) to a non-conference victory Thursday over host Royal Oak Shrine (6-4-3).

Gage Flanery and Laith Francis each scored two goals for the victorious Warriors, who were tied at intermission, 2-2.

Teammates Kent Krzyske and Nick Natsik chipped in one goal apiece.

Krzyske also picked up three assists, while Flanery added one.

Curtis Mann netted both goals for the Knights.

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NEIGHBORS

Foundation chair values community service, family

BY SHARON DARGAY
OKE STAFF WRITER

Joyce Pappas knows a gem when she sees one.

"I get to look at diamonds all the time," said Pappas, sales manager of Orin Jewelers in Garden City, a family business founded by her father.

"This diamond I'm wearing was my mother's," she added, fingering the sparkling stone on her necklace. "They were raising four children and didn't have a lot of money, but I can remember her paying a little bit whenever she had the money."

Her eye for detecting rare finds goes beyond the gemologist loop. She also discovers gems in the people she meets and the institutions she supports. Garden City Hospital is among her favorites.

"I've been at the hospital as a volunteer 16 years," said Pappas, who has chaired its foundation for the past six years. "I've been on the hospital board nine years. I'm involved in the hospital because I just really believe in it."

"I think it provides a great service to the community. We've had family members that used the hospital and they always got excellent service. The people who work there are very caring and they do an excellent job."

She'll be on hand at the foundation's 18th annual fall fund-raiser, "Out of this World," an intergalactic theme gala, 6:30-11 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Money raised from the \$75 per ticket event, which includes music, silent auction and a strolling buffet, will refurbish the hospital's old surgery center into endoscopy



Joyce Pappas chairs the Garden City Hospital Foundation.

suites.

In addition to the annual fall gala, the foundation sponsors a spring fund-raising campaign called "Partners in Health," a golf outing in June and handles major gifts and annual giving.

RELYING ON DONORS

"With health care today, with so many people not having health care, every hospital — and Garden City is no exception — renders services that aren't paid. It's costly. Every hospital is facing challenging times, but a fund-raising arm, a foundation, can help to do so many things to support the hospital. Philanthropy today is where it's at as far as survival for so many institutions."

Pappas, who grew up in Garden City and still lives in her hometown with her husband, Perry, learned about philanthropy while

still a teen-ager. She, her three siblings and their parents lived above the family jewelry store on Ford Road and Middlebelt. The family worked the store together, and Orin Sr. taught his children important lessons about giving back to community.

"Much was expected of us," Pappas recalled. "We were always involved in something, whether it was a function of the Chamber of Commerce...or we always had floats in the parade. It was a great town to grow up in. Everybody knew each other and there was a lot of community activity here."

She was secretary of her senior class at Garden City High, involved in plays and active at the store.

LEARNING FROM FAMILY

Pappas said family life was important and that she feels privileged to have grown up in a household with "great parents and great role models."

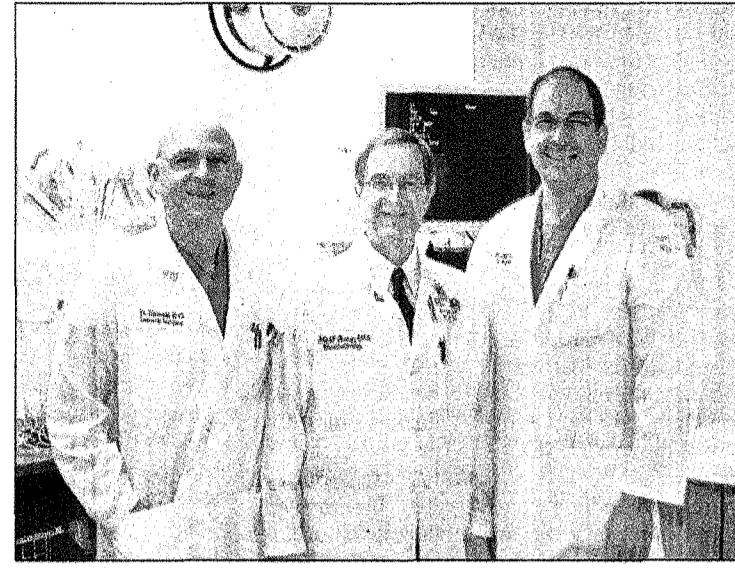
After high school graduation she worked for the city and then took classes to become a bridal consultant, followed by a course through the Gemological Institute of America, where she earned certification as a registered jeweler.

Now she balances both her foundation work and family business.

"I enjoy what I do. I enjoy being productive and being with people."

She hopes the upcoming fund-raiser will draw people from Garden City and surrounding communities to support the hospital while having "a marvelous time."

"We want to make it affordable for everyone. It's an enjoyable evening. The decorations are phenomenal. When you walk in there, it's pretty amazing."



Richard C. Spinale, (left) D.O., surgery; Joseph G. D'Avanzo, D.O., gastroenterology; Louis C. Tegtmeyer, D.O., surgery, are looking forward to new endoscopy suites at Garden City Hospital.

Aliens, astronauts will send gala 'Out of this World'

With \$65,000 in sponsorships for its upcoming fall fund-raiser, Garden City Hospital Foundation is well on its way to generating the money needed for new endoscopy suites.

"We've been doing very well. I've been very happy with it," said Judy Wernette, Resource Development Associate, Garden City Hospital Foundation.

Last year's fall fund-raiser took in \$139,000 before expenses. Organizers of this year's gala, called "Out of this World," because of its intergalactic theme, hope to make a big dent in the \$130,366 the hospital needs to pay for new endoscopy suites.

"The third floor was where surgery was, so what we're doing is moving endoscopy suites into some of the old surgery rooms," Wernette said.

"There will be six of them. Part of it is installing a new patient restroom. They'll install new scope washing equipment inside the rooms."

The suites will gain more room and more privacy in their new location. Outpatient infusion services will move to the former endoscopy department after the new suites are built.

The fund-raiser for the endoscopy suites will run 6:30-11 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

"It's a spectacular event," Wernette said. "We have a great band, fabulous decorations, a silent auction."

Guests will be able to bid on 75 items and buy raffle tickets for extensive gift baskets. Costumes in keeping with the theme are encouraged, but not required. T-shirts with the Out of this World theme also will be available.

Wernette said the gala is known for its decorations.

"One year they did 'Under the Sea,' so you walked in and were on land, and it progressed to the beach and then the main room was like walking under water. Last year we had a M.A.S.H. theme," she said. "I'm looking forward to seeing it this year."

Tickets are \$75 per person. Reserve by Friday, Oct. 16, by sending payment — payable to Garden City Hospital Foundation — name, address, and phone number to Garden City Hospital Foundation, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City, MI 48135

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Italian flag flies at Livonia City Hall

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Mary Galasso's not Italian, but she stood under the flagpole at Livonia City Hall last week and proudly sang out *Inno di Mameli*, also known as *Fratelli d'Italia* — the Italian National Anthem — while the red, green and white was hoisted overhead.

"We're very proud to have that fly," said Galasso, the first woman and non-Italian to head the Italian American Club of Livonia.

The flag raising is an annual event for the club, which also celebrates its 32nd birthday today, Sunday, Oct. 11 with dinner at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Although Columbus Day is Monday, the club held the flag ceremony on Oct. 5, giving it a full week to fly. It will come down after the holiday.

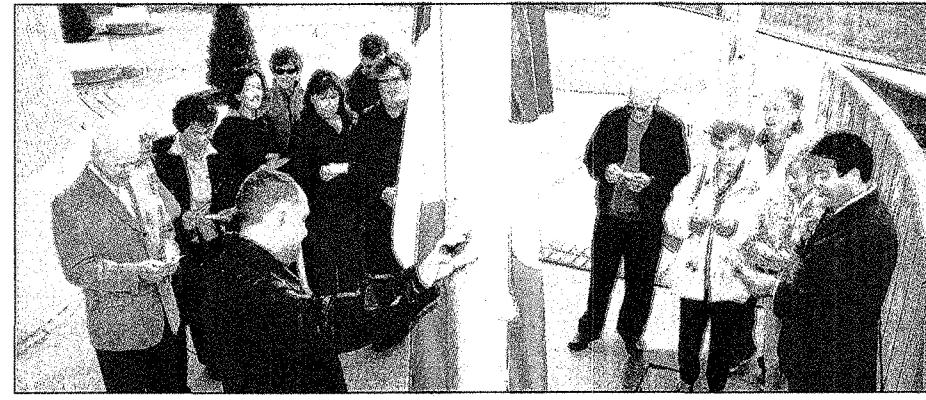
The group also gives scholarships to college-bound students on Columbus Day and will honor its outstanding man of the year, Joseph Bernardini of Livonia Travel.

"I love the Italian culture. They are so family-oriented," Galasso said, explaining that her husband is from Italy. "My heart is Italian."

Prospective new club members must have "Italian blood" or a spouse with Italian heritage, according to Galasso. Members may socialize in the clubhouse, play cards, bocce, attend Thursday night pasta dinners, and more. The banquet hall at the facility, the Italian language classes and other events, such as the birthday celebration are open to the public.

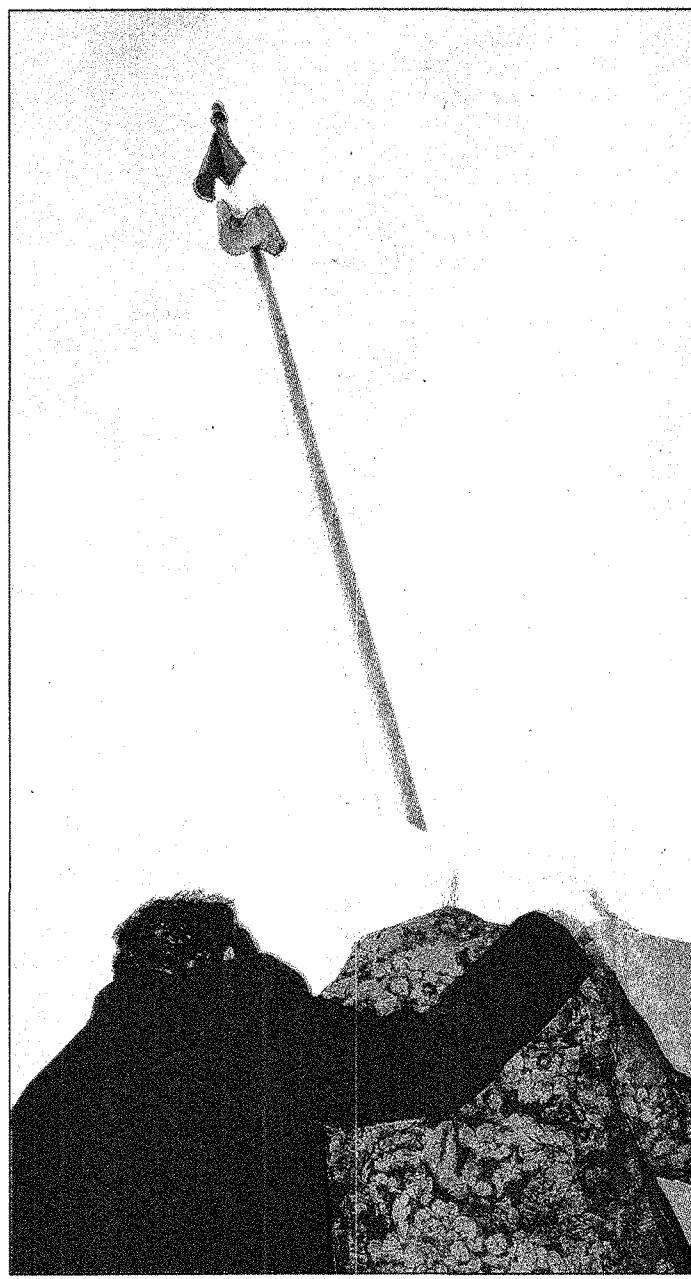
"We're up to 889 families," Galasso said.

For more information about the club call (734) 953-1137.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of the Livonia Italian-American Club gather at Livonia City Hall to raise the flag of Italy. The flag is flying through Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 12. Club members present for the flag raising and singing of the national anthem of Italy are: club President Mary Galasso, Maria Galasso, Vito Guarano, Diane and Carl Catallo, Carmela Sgroi, Tony Stanta, Fran and Hurley Fields, Bea King, Angela Centi, Mary Panackia, and Joseph Bernardini. They are joined by Livonia City Council President Laura Toy and Mayor Jack Kirksey.



The flag is raised early Monday morning.

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PATIENCE AND TIME IN THE TREATMENT OF ARTHRITIS

It may seem ironic, but in the treatment of arthritis the older a person is, the more important time and patience becomes. The problem for the elderly individual is that many of the medicines used in treating arthritis create risks that a younger patient does not face.

The liver and kidneys normally lose a portion of their reserve as we grow older. Individuals born before 1950 had a greater exposure to lung conditions such as tuberculosis or histoplasmosis. Arthritic drugs such as Enbrel, Humera, or Remicade carry a risk of activating past tuberculosis that may be residing in the lungs for years in a latent manner. Physicians have insufficient experience with new arthritic drugs such as Orencia or Rituxan to use these medication with confidence in patients older than age 65.

Also, a number of muscle and bone pains in the elderly are difficult for physicians to explain. The doctor needs time to observe how the pain evolves and from the pattern of pain eventually make a diagnosis that permits reasonable treatment.

In many cases what the physician does is to provide the patient with pain relief. These decisions can be difficult, as too little relief continues the patient's distress and too much pain medication leads to the danger of falls, urinary retention or loss of appetite.

Often the best medical advice is to direct the patient to exercise patience, continue activity as much as possible, use analgesia sparingly, and let time and nature heal the hurt or bring out the cause.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com

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Is your dryer vent line clean?

I recently met with a father and two sons who started a new business and demonstrated a lot of courage in doing so. Ron Reiher with sons Tim and Jonathan are going to clean the vent lines on clothes dryers in American homes.

I spent an hour in conversation with these three guys and I could feel the compassion they have for homeowners who don't seem

to know any better. They told me stories and showed me pictures of plugged up vent lines they have already cleaned and it is absolutely amazing how these homes didn't burst into flames. They not only clean the vent lines but will straighten out improper hook-ups to make living in the home safe again. The story and picture that really caught my attention was the closet in a little girl's bedroom that contained the washer, dryer and the gas hot water heater. Not only was there gas lines all over the place, the dryer vent line was installed into the vent line for the hot water heater. This scenario could easily have introduced carbon monoxide into that kid's room and taken her life. There is no doubt in my mind that these three entrepreneurs will do more than just clean dryer vent lines. They will save several lives in the months ahead.

Any service technician in this country who repairs clothes dryers can tell you hundreds of stories about dryer vent lines being plugged up and the consequences. My wife's friend Patti recently had my son Mark over to fix her dryer which was taking too long to dry the clothes. He removed the lint that filled the vent line and then showed her the pile of lint inside the dryer which was all charred because it had caught fire in recent days. Patti was very fortunate

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

At English Gardens

■ Attract birds to the garden. The store will provide tips and a list of plants at 7 p.m., Oct. 14.

■ Decorate your porch or patio with a container of seasonal, cold-tolerant flowers. The store will provide materials

that the fire went out by itself or today she might have been a memory to our family.

PREVENTABLE TRAGEDIES

I have spent the past 30 years writing, talking, and preaching about the importance of keeping the dryer vent line clean and yet the service industry reports that over 85 percent of service calls are caused by plugged vent lines. It's important to me that you don't have to spend money for a service call but much more important that you don't burn the house down and have someone perish in a house fire that was so preventable. October is fire prevention month in this country and fire departments will do their share of educating. They are the front line heroes who can really tell you the tragedy of what happens when a dryer vent line is plugged up.

The recent house explosion in St. Clair Shores is still being investigated for cause. The senior citizen who lived there has passed away and the statement she made before she died from the burns suffered has a profound message. "The last thing I remember is turning the dryer on."

DANGEROUS FUMES

Ron Reiher was telling me of the lady whose vent line came apart and kept blowing back into the house the carbon monoxide that's supposed to go outside. She couldn't understand why she was always suffering headaches and nausea until the problem was fixed.

Cleaning the vent line is critical not only to your health but also to the proper operation of your clothes dryer. It's not hard to do.

Look at it and common sense will take over but if it's something you don't want to tackle, you know that there is someone out there who will do it for you. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAMM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com

"A JOYOUS MUSICAL!"

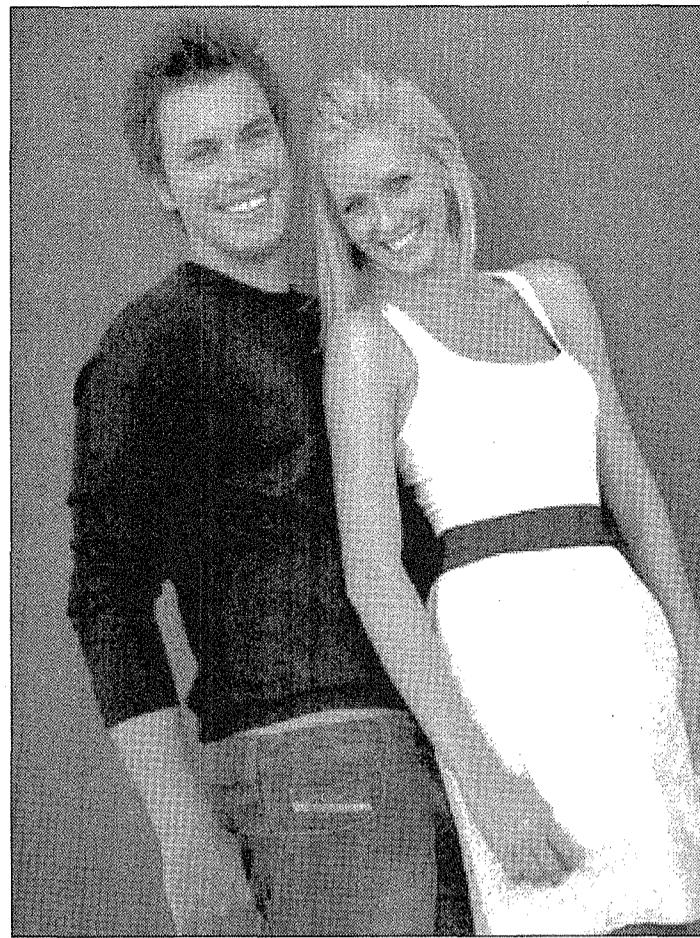
—Cleveland Plain Dealer

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MILESTONES**Caleca-Schroeter**

Cheryl and Joe Caleca of Fenton and Pete and Kathy Schroeter of Plymouth are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Liana Caleca and Joe Schroeter.

The bride-to-be graduated from Powers Catholic High School and the groom from University of Detroit Jesuit High School. They are both graduates of Michigan State University and now make their home in San Diego, Calif., where Liana is a pharmaceutical sales representative and Joe is in sales in the biotechnology industry.

A July 2010 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

Gregory-Koch

Amanda Koch and Jason Gregory were married June 26, 2009 at Waldenwoods Resort in Hartland. Rocco and Nina Messana officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Gary and Susan Koch of Plymouth. The groom is the son of Ralph Gregory of Westland and Josephine Kujawa of Gaylor.

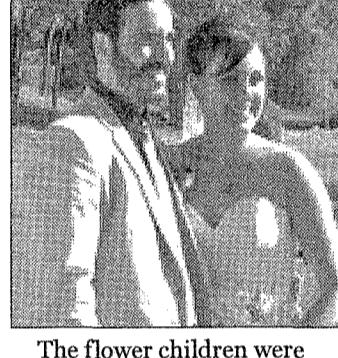
Amanda is a 2001 Plymouth Salem High School graduate and a 2006 Eastern Michigan University graduate. She is a language arts teacher at Crescent Academy.

Jason graduated from Plymouth Canton High School in 1991 and from Appalachian State in 2009. He is a music therapist for Variety Far Conservatory.

Lisa Drumm, sister of the bride, served as Matron of Honor and Ryan Koch, brother of the bride, was Man of Honor.

Best Man was Mike Stankiewicz, brother-in-law of the groom.

Bridesmaids were Cara Ciaglo, Michelle St. John, Kate Maples and Karen Holmes, all friends of the bride.



The flower children were Anna Drumm, niece of the bride, and Rowan Drumm and Lucas Drumm, nephews of the bride.

Groomswoman was Carole Dean, friend of the groom.

Groomsmen were friends of the groom Glen Wiseman, David Fedorko and Jeffree St. John, and brother-in-law of the groom, Kevin Graham.

Ring bearers were Adam Stankiewicz, nephew of the groom and Kara Stankiewicz, niece of the groom.

Nephews of the groom, Owen Graham and Logan Graham, served as bell ringers.

After a reception at Waldenwoods Resort, the couple took a honeymoon trip to Cape Cod, Mass.

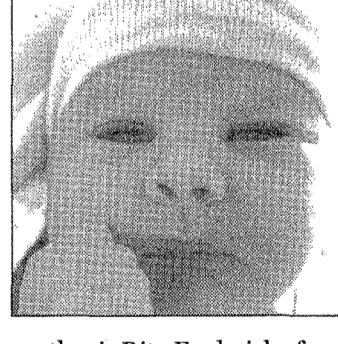
They reside in Dearborn Heights.

Brooke Rylee Frederick

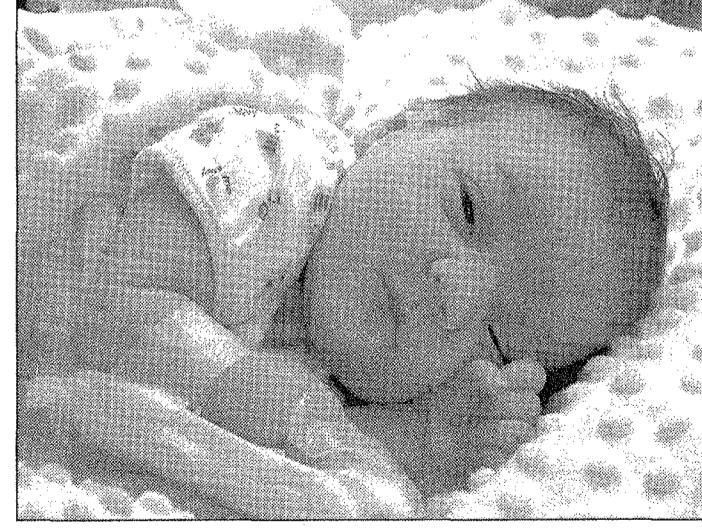
Brooke Rylee Frederick was born June 26, 2009 in Providence Park Hospital, Novi.

She joins proud parents, Amy and Anthony Frederick and siblings, Hunter, 4, and Gavin, 3, at home in Livonia.

Grandparents are Edmund and Lynda Mohacsi of Livonia, Ronald Frederick of Harrison, and Sandra Malone of Bonita Springs, Fla. Great-grand-



mother is Rita Frederick of Harrison.

**Ryleigh Mae Dunn**

Ryleigh Mae Dunn was born Sept. 29, 2009 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Proud parents are Brandi Pietruszka and Chad Dunn of Westland.

Grandparents are Ross and Tonya Pietruszka and Keith and Lisa Dunn, all of Westland. Great-grandparents are Carol Hall of Louisville, Ky., Dale and Jean Hall of Bridgewater and Esther and Bob Hanadel of Wayne.

10/11/09

Passages

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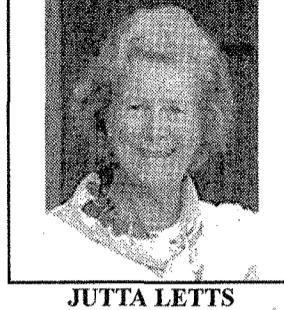
PEGGY E. CLOUGH

Passed away on October 6, 2009 at the age of 84. She was born in Southampton, England and was a career accountant. Peggy was an avid football fan and remembers the Lions last championship season. She also enjoyed growing orchids. She is survived by her husband Richard and children Robert Clough and Joanne (Nathan) Atkinson. Grandmother of Nicole Marble and Felicia Atkinson and one great-grandson Austin. Visitation and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth on Saturday. Share your special thoughts and memories at: www.schrader-howell.com



MARY KOLODY

Age 94, of Farmington Hills, MI. October 2, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington.



JUTTA LETTS

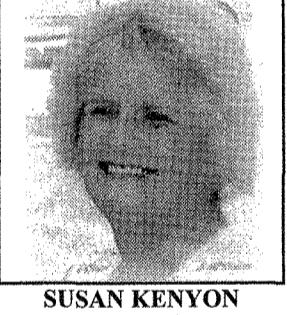
October 6, 2009. Age 80. Long-time resident of Birmingham and Les Cheneaux Islands of northern Michigan. An advocate for conservation and environmental concerns, Jutta served on many boards and supported the arts and education. Beloved wife of Charles "Chuck" for 60 years. Loving mother of Chip (Kathleen), David (Genevieve) and Martin (Susan). Grandmother of Zita, Erika, Elizabeth, John, Sarah, William and Joshua. Great-grandmother of Max, Molly and Phillip Homer. Sister of Karin Aichorn. Funeral service Saturday 11am at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile). Family will receive friends Friday 2-8pm. Memorials to Little Traverse Conservancy, 3264 Powell Rd., Harbor Springs, MI 49740 or online at www.landtrust.org. View obituary and share memories at: www.desmondfuneralhome.com



MARILYN J. KANAKIS (KNACK)

May 23, 1929 - September 13, 2009

of emphysema (COPD). Loving mother of Sandi, Jody (Rick), Ted, Steve (Julie), and Jay. Also survived by her brother Jim (Jane), sister Barb (Luke), and many nieces and nephews. Marilyn was born to Herbert & Ethel Knack. A bright child, she learned to read on her own prior to attending school. She had a good memory for words and won many spelling bees including the Detroit Public School District for grades 6 & 8. She loved music and learned to play piano, attending the Redford Conservatory of Music. She specialized in classical music. At age 12 she was featured at the Olympia in Grinnell's Piano Festival. She also loved family summers at Barlow Lake, and attended Redford High School. Just after, while working at S.S. Kresge's downtown, she met her husband John, to whom she was married 23 years. Marilyn was meticulous in her appearance and is remembered for her good looks, reminding people of Marilyn Monroe. After her divorce and with no marketable skills, she entered the workforce and retired with 22 years from the Observer-Eccentric. She also held a special place in her heart for 'Jaws', a Rottweiler she shared with her son Steve for eleven years. After Jaws passed, she missed him dearly and spoke of him often. With the help of her children, she was able to live independently until the end. She passed peacefully at Botsford Hospital in the company of her loving family. A memorial will be held October 18. Inquiries call: 313-531-2878



JAMES BENJAMIN MCATEER

On October 11, 1929, the good Lord gave the earth a son, James "Benny" Benjamin McAtee Jr. Ben would grow, learn, marry, have children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He then became their mentor, teaching all he knew, preparing them for their journey, and then becoming their hero. God left him here on loan to fill many people's lives with many memories. On October 3, 2009, the Lord brought him home, ending his journey here on earth. He is survived by his wife: Pat McAtee of Beaverton; son Jim B. McAtee III; daughter: Trish (Duke) McAtee Wilson; son: Tim (Melissa) McAtee; daughter: Darlene McAtee Villaire; daughter: Kathy (Scott) McAtee Taft; 21 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; brother: Thomas McAtee; many nieces & nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents; daughter: Jean; brother: John P. "Jack" McAtee; sister-in-law: Eileen McAtee. Funeral Services were held at St. Anne Catholic Church, Edenville, Michigan. Visitation was at Hall-Kokotovich Funeral Home, Beaverton, Michigan. He will be laid to rest at Billings Twp. Cemetery, Beaverton, Michigan. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Toy's for Tots or to be used according to the wishes of the family. hall-kokotovichfuneralhome.com

FRED OBLINGER

82, Cheboygan, Michigan was called home by his heavenly Father on October 06, 2009 while surrounded by his family. Fred was born in Doylestown, Pennsylvania on October 25, 1926 to the late Fred and Josephine (Clark) Oblinger. Fred loved his country and enlisted on May 25, 1944 days after graduating from Solebury School in New Hope, Pennsylvania. Fred proudly served in the 82nd Airborne Division (80th AB Anti AC Bn.) from 1944-1946 and Fred earned expert infantry and parachutist badges. Fred earned a mechanical engineering degree from Yale University in 1950. He began his career with Pratt & Whitney and joined Ford Motor Company in 1954 where he retired after 42 years of dedicated service. Fred had a very productive career at Ford where he coauthored several patents. He designed many gadgets for his colleagues that were referred to as "Fred things". Fred never boasted of his accomplishments, but consistently praised the contributions of his colleagues. Fred married Jeanne T. Gurney in 1947 and was blessed with six children during their 48 years of marriage. Jeanne entered her heavenly home in 1990 after a difficult battle with cancer. Happiness was restored to Fred's life when he married Joyce Trapp in 2000. They were blessed with nearly ten years together. Fred dearly loved his family and was a devoted husband. He would sacrifice or do anything for the benefit of his family. Fred is survived by his beloved wife, Joyce Oblinger; his sister, Dee; his children James, Deborah, Nikki, Jill, Daniel, and Eric; stepchildren Renae, Chris, and Beth; 18 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Jeanne and his sister Marion. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, 8757 N. Straits Hwy., Cheboygan, MI 49721 or Hospice of Little Traverse Bay, One Hiland Drive, Petoskey, MI 49770

SARAH MARIE THURMOND

October 8, 2009, age 20, of Westland. Beloved daughter of David Paul & Carol Lynn. Dear sister of Joshua David. Granddaughter of Dean & Judy Thurmond, Grace (Lowell) Morgan, the late Melvin Peter. Great-granddaughter of Evelyn Williams. Niece of Mark Thurmond, Ella Weltin, Janet Soper & Dan Peter. Also survived by nine cousins. Funeral 11 AM at Westland Free Methodist Church, 1421 Venoy Rd., Westland, MI 48186. Friends may visit Sunday 2-9 PM at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland, MI. Family requests memorials to Wayne Westland Friends of EB, Make A Wish Foundation or Regents of the University of Michigan. Please visit and sign a tribute at: www.uhtfh.com

OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.).

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday

Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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586-826-7082

or Liz Keiser

586-977-7538

or toll free

800-579-7355

ask for Char or Liz

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Hospitals rely on loyal donors in tough economy

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fund-raisers for health care organizations feel the pinch in these bad economic times, but creativity and perseverance helps maintain their vital signs.

Loyal donors are key.

"There are core people who can't donate as much as they used to, but they still haven't dropped us off and we are grateful for that," explains Angela Hospice Business Development Manager Bob Alexander.

In the past year there has been a 30 percent decline in fund-raising for the Livonia facility. He points to many reasons for the drop.

"We're seeing smaller donations from the same people and in some cases, and we're seeing folks who just aren't donating," he says.

The weak economy couldn't have come at a worse time, because a capital campaign is underway to pay for an addition at Angela Hospice, which has a waiting list of more than double the capacity.

"We had to wait nine years for permission, which came all the way from Rome," Alexander says. "We are doing whatever we can and we're confident the support will come. It may delay the process somewhat, but everything will go forward."

Hospice managers are trying to react to lower donations in smart ways, like using volunteers as much as they can.

"We are doing what we can not to have services affected, because we still provide robust services to patients and their families," Alexander says adding that the facility is operated by the Felician Sisters and there is an element that "somehow or another we will get donations. It's as God desires. I feel like there is a very faithful forward motion regardless of the economy."

LOYAL DONORS

Sara Stauffer, director of major gifts and special events at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia says corporate gifts are down, but the news isn't all bad.

"St. Mary Mercy is very fortunate to have donors who are committed and are loyal to our programs," Stauffer says. "They are the reason that we have continued to be successful here at St. Mary Mercy."

The hospital recently finished its first capital campaign, Caring for the Future, to advance cancer care and cardiac services. And a 50th anniversary fund-raiser held Friday, Oct. 9, was on track to exceed a \$150,000 fund-raising goal.

"I think it's important to communicate well with your donors and to help them understand the impact of their philanthropy," Stauffer says. "They have so many choices of where they can give."

Joyce Pappas, Chairperson of Garden City Hospital Foundation, the fund-raiser arm of the hospital, says the facility has also been "very



fortunate."

The hospital's three annual major fund-raising events have met or exceeded goals. This month's event is drawing a lot of attention with an intergalactic theme that asks guests to dress the part.

"There are some very dedicated people to the hospital," Pappas says pointing to employees, patients and the community. "Everybody is realizing that health care today is hit hard. Garden City Hospital doesn't turn anyone away and I think that's realized in the community. There are caring doctors and we're all appreciative if we have a good physician. We like to support things that they support."

MORE DONATIONS

The economy presents challenges for fund-raising at Botsford Healthcare, but they aren't insurmountable, explains Margo Gorchow, Botsford Foundation executive director. The foundation is the fund-raising arm for the hospital.

"Interestingly enough we have received a greater number of donations this year than we have in past years, but they've been smaller amounts," she says.

Botsford Foundation, at eight years old, is relatively new in the fund-raising arena and

employees are working to build a donor base, staff, software to manage the data base, research capabilities and other infrastructure, she says.

"An advantage, I think to this time, is that it allows us as fund-raisers, whose real work is to build relationships, to continue to evolve and develop those relationships," Gorchow says. "It's really about friend raising, not just about funds."

Wealthy donors continue to pledge, she says, however, their donations are often extended over a longer period of time than in the past.

"People who want to support an organization continue to want to support it and it's our job to figure out the best way for them to do that," Gorchow says.

Christina Johnson, manager of special events for the American Diabetes Association in southeast Michigan says the economic slump makes some people afraid to ask for support.

Johnson, who is walking in a diabetes fund-raiser, says even she is sometimes reluctant to ask people to make a pledge.

"Once you do make the ask, people are so willing to donate," she says. "Their donations might not be as much as in the past, but people are still more than willing to donate to a great cause. They know that these causes don't decline and they don't stop affecting people's lives, because the economy is declining."

Benefits support healthcare

ANGELA HOSPICE

Light Up a Life: Harvest Happenings for Angela Hospice in Livonia, Saturday, Oct. 17 in the Novi Sheraton. Tickets for the 22nd annual event are \$100 and include dinner, dancing, a silent auction and raffles. Call (866) 464-7810 for more information.

Donations accepted at the "Tree of Life" Christmas trees, on display starting next month at Laurel Park, also benefit Angela Hospice. The trees will be decorated with angels that have the names of loved ones.

JINGLE BELL RUN/WALK FOR ARTHRITIS

Start a team and organize your very own holiday-themed costumes. Then tie jingle bells to your shoelaces, and complete a 5 kilometer route. Go to www.arthritis.org/jinglebell-run.php.

Saturday, Dec. 5 at Northville Downs Race Track, 301 S. Center Street. Race begins at 9 a.m. or Saturday, Dec. 12 at Covington School, 1525 Covington, Bloomfield.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Saturday, Oct. 17 at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor. For more information go www.cancer.org/stridesonline or call (248) 663-3400 or (734) 971-4300.

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

"Out of This World: An Intergalactic Gala" Friday, Oct. 23 in Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. The proceeds from this year's event will go towards renovating the endoscopy suites at the hospital.

Tickets are \$75 per person (open seating). Call the foundation the Garden City Hospital Foundation at (734) 458-4331 or visit gchosp.org. The 18th annual event will feature food, entertainment, raffles and a silent auction.

ST. JOHN PEDIATRIC HOSPICE

The seventh annual Oktoberfest Friday, Oct. 23, at Franklin Hills Country Club, Franklin, will raise funds for pediatric and palliative care. The programs provide comfort care to children of all ages, including the unborn and young adults. The St. John Hospice Walk With Me program serves families in five counties in the Detroit metropolitan area. Tickets are \$100 per person. Event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception, followed by a strolling buffet, a 50/50 raffle and the highlight of the evening, a silent auction. Contact Lorraine Owczarek at (586) 582-7509.

ARTHROSIS FOUNDATION

Bone Bash benefit for Arthritis Foundation with That 80's Band and DJ Julio, 9 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre on Fourth between Lafayette and Washington in downtown Royal Oak; 21+, only, tickets \$25, \$30 and \$100; (800) 919-6272; www.royaloakmusictheatre.com

BOTSFORD AUTUMN GALA

The Botsford Autumn Gala, Saturday, Nov. 14. This year's event raises money for breast cancer care at Botsford's Breast Center, the second phase of the Botsford Cancer Center. For more information call The Botsford Foundation at (248) 442-5065.

CS. MOTT CHILDREN'S AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

University of Michigan Football program is selling all spirit towels that say, "All In for Michigan" with money going to C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospital. They are available at the MDen and M Go Blue Shops, Dunham's Sports, Dick's Sporting Goods and select metro Detroit Meijer stores.

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October 19, 20*, 21* & 22*, 2009
International Center Building
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**BIDDER REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.
AUCTION BEGINS AT 9:30 A.M. ON OCTOBER 19
EACH DAY THEREAFTER THE AUCTION IS
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A \$500 cashier's check (U.S. funds) payable to the Wayne County Treasurer must be shown at registration and is required as a deposit for each parcel successfully bid.

Public Notice



www.treasurer.waynecounty.com

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PARENT, RELATIVE, NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND?

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Solutions for Family Caregivers Expo

Saturday, October 24, 2009
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FREE Parking! FREE Admission!

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- Cash and carry afternoon snacks available
- Door prizes and giveaways!

OEB672075

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