



'SPYDENTITY' AUTHOR DEDICATES BOOK TO FATHER AND STEPFATHER -PAGE A9



YOUR GUIDE TO THE LIVONIA SPREE
SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

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IN BRIEF

Outdoor movies

Wayne County Parks is kicking off another summer of free family Movies in the Park, starting in Westland. Bring your blankets and chairs and head to the Nankin Mills area at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive to see "Monsters vs. Aliens" on Friday, June 25, on a giant video projection system in full color with concert stereo sound.

Pack your picnic baskets or purchase your dinner from the concession stand and enjoy a free family movie in the park. All movies begin at dusk.

The schedule includes "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs" on July 23 at Bell Creek Park in Redford, "UPI" Aug. 20 in Elizabeth Park in Trenton and "Race to Witch Mountain" Aug. 27 at Waterford Bend Park in Northville.

The "Movies in the Park" series is sponsored in cooperation with Westland, Redford, Livonia, Trenton and Northville Parks and Recreation Departments. For more information, call the Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990.

Celebrations

Fourth of July is just a few weeks away, and with it will come parades, fireworks and family traditions.

We'd like to know how you celebrate our nation's birthday. Maybe your neighborhood runs an annual decorated bike parade. Or you go whole hog

to deck the house and garden in red, white and blue. Do you continue a family or personal tradition that day?

Tell us about it. Write to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com or 615 W. Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Include a photo if you like. Make sure it's in jpg format, if e-mailing.

We'll share your story with other readers on July 4.

Vendors wanted

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army is looking for sales consultants from direct selling companies to display and sell their products at a vendors show planned for Oct. 16.

The fund-raiser is for two of the Salvation Army's youth groups which are working toward a weeklong trip to Northwoods Camp in Finlayson, Minn. Rental space costs \$20-\$30.

For more information about the vendor show, contact Sandy Kollinger at sandy.kollinger@usc.salvationarmy.org or Josh Hubbard at joshua_hubbard@usc.salvationarmy.org.

The Salvation Army is at 2300 S. Venoy, south of Palmer. Its phone number is (734) 722-3660.

W-W board tells Lansing 'hands off' school money

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials want to send a clear message to Lansing: hands off the \$400 million surplus in the School Aid Fund.

The board, at the urging of Superintendent Greg Baracy, has approved a resolution calling on residents of the

district to contact lawmakers and let them know that the money should be spent on the K-12 program not to offset the state's general fund deficit.

"For at least the last five years, Wayne-Westland has lost millions of dollars, this money is needed to go into the classroom," said Baracy. "This is a critical issue. We need every staff member and every parent

to protest. Don't raid the fund and take that money out."

At the heart of the battle cry is a proposal to shift money from the School Aid Fund to the general fund to bolster community colleges and university and other educational programs. It appears that Gov. Jennifer Granholm, House Speaker Andy Dillon and Senate Majority Leader

Michael Bishop are on board with the idea which one superintendent described as "stealing from our children."

The resolution recognizes that bills before the House and Senate don't divert any school aid funds to other areas and requests that the legislature not be used for general fund expenditures. However, it "recognizes that any resources

available in the current economy that have been set aside for public education need to be maintained in order to eliminate additional funding cuts and possibly restore some of the recent cuts."

"There is a structural problem at the state level that we have to react to year after

Please see **MONEY, A2**.

Vendors do well at market's opening day



Karen Chichester bought some strawberries from a vendor at the Westland Farmers Market, which opened Tuesday and will operate weekly through October.

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fresh strawberries, tomatoes, sugar snap peas, herbs and flowers were among the offerings as the Westland Farmers Market kicked off Tuesday.

"For the first day, it wasn't too bad," said Roman Lopez, who was selling produce grown on a farm at 29 Mile and Van Dyke in Romeo. "We'll be here the whole season. What we sell will change as the season goes on. We'll have cherries in the next couple of weeks, raspberries,



Vendor Lauri Marks was ready for business as the Westland Farmers Market got underway Tuesday on the east side of Westland Shopping Center just south of Ashley's.

blueberries and blackberries." Melissa Stump from Fuseliers Farm in Manchester was selling strawberries, broccoli, peas and lots of flowers.

"We did so well with the flowers, I'm so glad. People often have their flowers by now,"

Stump said. "There was not a lot of traffic, but we did great for a first day. I think it takes time to build up a market. We'll have more vendors and that will bring in more people. They won't stop for four or five vendors."

As the summer season progresses, additional vendors will be joining the market as their crops are harvested.

"The produce is the main thing. We'll have a ton of produce. People know there is only so much produce ready in early

June," Stump said. "It will get better."

Open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Oct. 26, the farmers market is located on the east side of Westland

Please see **MARKET, A2**

Social service agency moves in to Dorsey Center

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland residents needing a variety of social services soon won't have to travel very far.

The city council recently approved an agreement with the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency to rent office space at the Dorsey

Center. Rent for the currently unused office in the southeast corner of the center would be \$400, money that would be income for the Community Development Block Grant program, which funds the operation of the Dorsey Center.

"They run a family self-sufficiency program that about 40 people on our housing

voucher program participate in," Westland Community Development Director Joanne Inglis said. "They are a community action agency and manage a huge number of programs."

Based in Wyandotte, Wayne Metro has 17 locations and 265 employees working on programs for low- to moderate-

income out-county residents.

"We're very excited about coming to the Dorsey Center. We have been pretty much concentrated Downriver and in the northern suburbs in Highland Park and Hamtramck," Wayne Metro CEO Louis Piszker said. "We're really excited about the opportunity to expand in western

Wayne County and looking forward to future expansion."

Wayne Metro is a nonprofit agency with 501(c)(3) status. As the Community Action Agency for the 42 communities in out-Wayne County, Wayne Metro offers an extensive series of support programs and

Please see **AGENCY, A2**

The last bell
Students, staff leave Patchin with heavy hearts

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The importance of the last day of school wasn't lost on Brady Wades.

"Only three more hours and you'll be a first-grader," Patchin Elementary School Principal Molly Funk told the youngster.

"I'm going to be cooler, I'm excited about that," he replied.

But for Brady and the almost 400 students at the school, changing grades in the fall will mean changing schools. Patchin closed for good when the bell sounded for dismissal Thursday morning. It's one of six Wayne-Westland schools that are being shuttered as the district downsizes to cut costs in the face of declining enrollment and revenue.

The day was a sad one for students and staff and marked the end of a school that has been the fabric of the community since the first one was built in 1834. It's named for one of the city's earliest pioneers, Abel Patchin, who donated a piece of his property so the first school could be built.

Please see **PATCHIN, A5**



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These were the vendors at the Westland Farmers Market which opened Tuesday. The number of vendors is expected to grow over the coming months.

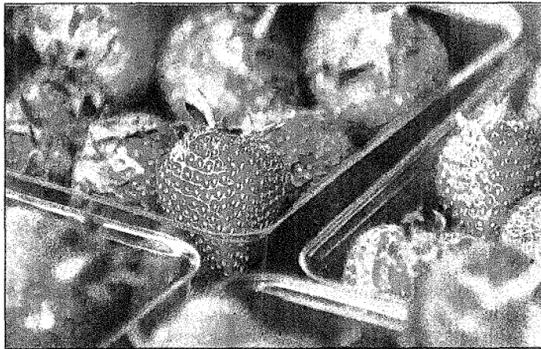
MARKET
FROM PAGE A1

Shopping Center along Wayne Road. Vendors register with the city for space to sell fresh fruit, vegetables, herbs, plants and fresh grown items, but also farm products such as cheese, meat, eggs, baked good, honey and preserves.

Westland resident Becky Plowman was selling sausages, fresh and smoked, and jerky that she and her husband Scott produce for their business, Hog Wild.

"We make it all ourselves. We rent a restaurant kitchen in Redford to make it, but our office is in Westland," said Plowman, who had done well at the market selling out her fresh and smoked kielbasa and Italian sausages.

The couple started Hog Wild after Scott Plowman had been laid off for a couple of years. He had made the sausages and



Strawberries are prime early crop offered at the opening of the Westland Farmers Market.

jerky for family and friends. "We started out at the bus stop and soccer games. Then we started at the Garden City Farmers Market last year," Becky Plowman said. "We made money, then we branched out to other markets. We did fairly well today. I can't complain." The vendors work multiple

markets which to some extent dictates which days they're available to communities starting farmers markets. In Westland, the market location is aimed at taking advantage of traffic headed to the mall and also seen as an attraction that will help draw people to the city's shopping and dining district.

11 women compete for festival crown

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Eleven young Westland women will be competing for scholarship money and the title of Miss Westland Summer Festival 2010.

The contest, which will be held 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at the Friendship Center, is open to female Westland residents ages 18-22 who have never been married.

"We don't limit the number of entries. We definitely have more entries this year from Wayne Memorial (High School), one from (Livonia) Churchill and one who was home schooled," said Shannon Wetzel, in her second year chairing the contest. "It's nice to see them participate." Along with a title and

crown, the winner of the Miss Westland Festival Pageant receives a \$1,200 scholarship. The first runner-up and second runner-up receive \$800 and \$500 in scholarship money, respectively.

Although it's called a pageant, Wetzel emphasized there is no talent or swimsuit competition, although contestants do need to appear in formal wear.

"They are judged on two essays — one is 100 words, the other is 200 words," said Wetzel. "Then there is an interview at the pageant."

The pageant judges include Sharon and Ted Scott, who chaired the Bicentennial year festival, Jo Johnson of the Westland Historical Commission, Westland Clerk Eileen DeHart and her daughter, Theresa DeHart Schulz, a

past pageant participant. The contestants will each be asked a question that they haven't seen in advance.

"This isn't a beauty pageant. It's about their extracurricular activities, their work, volunteer activities in the city and what they want to do in the future," said Wetzel.

About 100 people attended the pageant last year — a number that Wetzel said may increase with a slightly higher number of participants.

There is no parade with the festival this year but Miss Westland Festival will still have ceremonial duties during the event which kicks off on Wednesday, June 30, and runs through Sunday, July 4, closing with a fireworks display.

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MONEY
FROM PAGE A1

year," Baracy said. "If we work together, talk to legislators who don't understand, we could be successful. Local legislators understand, but there are those who don't understand it's not easy for us, it's not for school districts across the state."

William H. Mayes, executive director of the Michigan Association of School Administrators, sent out a letter urging school officials to launch the letter writing campaign after news reports surfaced about the possible money shift.

"Despite the rhetoric com-

ing out of Lansing, Michigan's schools do not have any surplus revenue, and that the past few years have been devastating for schools — massive cuts, record layoffs and school closures have been commonplace.

"As parents, grandparents and public servants, we need to ensure that every child has access to the same quality education that our parents afforded us," he said. "The threat of the legislature raiding School Aid dollars is very real. Tell Lansing to keep their hands off of our children's future."

School funding was slashed \$165 per student last year and that the "extra revenue" projected in the most recent fiscal estimate is not even enough to restore that cut, let alone cover the \$150 per pupil cost of the

retirement rate increase or the over 20 percent health care cost increase coming next year, Mayes said.

And even with an improved economic forecast, schools will still be forced to layoff staff and cut programs, he said.

Wayne-Westland just closed six elementary schools and reconfigured its elementary program in an effort to cut expenses by \$5 million. It also is seeking concessions from all of its employee groups, laid off employees and cut spending in hopes of making it through the next two years without ending up in deficit.

"If enough people do this, we may have a sliver of hope to accomplish this," said Baracy.

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AGENCY
FROM PAGE A1

services to income-eligible community residents. The programs and services

encompass four focus areas: Community Support Services, Homeless Programs, Youth and Family Services and Community Development. Community Action Agencies are nonprofit, private and public organiza-

tions established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's War on Poverty. CAAs help people to help themselves in achieving self-sufficiency. Today there are approximately 1,000 CAAs in the United

States. Wayne Metro was recently awarded the out-county weatherization program contract.

"We're expanding our program base. We'll have a nutrition site and an intake worker

at the center," Piszker said. "We're really looking forward to it."

Having Wayne Metro at the Dorsey Center also will benefit Westland residents who can take advantage of the social service programs it handles, Inglis said. Wayne Metro staff and

clients will use the east entrance to the building and not have access to other parts of the Dorsey Center unless approved for special meetings. Wayne Metro will install its own security, telephone and Internet systems.

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Ham radio operators answer call for Field Day

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The grounds of the Maplewood Community Center will look different next weekend, when amateur radio operators set up their portable shelters and erect radio towers and antennas during Field Day.

"When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works," is a common refrain among the "hams" as they call themselves.

The amateur radio operators provide emergency communication. Hams can send messages in many forms around the country and around the world without the use of phone systems, Internet or other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis.

Field Day is sponsored by the American Relay Radio League. The public is welcome to observe the activities at the annual Field Day, hosted by the Garden City Amateur Radio Club. Hours are 8 a.m. Saturday, June 26, to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 27.

It is a part of a national contest between amateur radio operators.

Some might find the combination of letters spoken by the "hams" confusing because they don't spell anything.

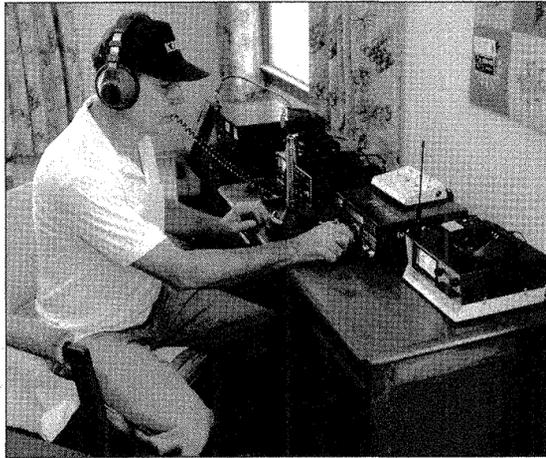
The call signs are a way for amateur radio operators to identify themselves during transmissions.

Garden City resident Andy Mallams is this year's coordinator for the Field Day, which will be held at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood, west of Merriman, in Garden City.

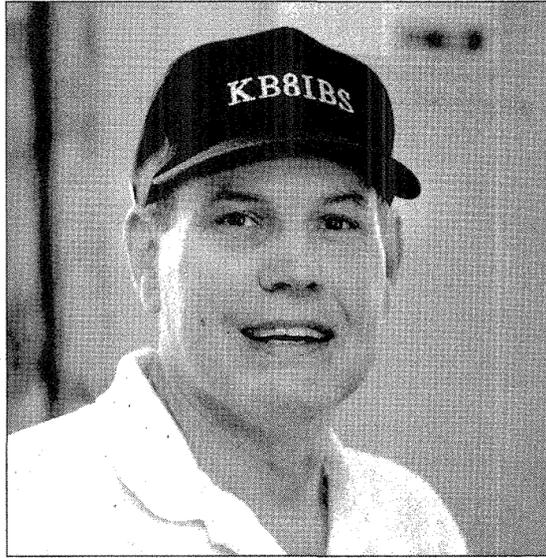
Mallams has organized the event in the past, but then took a job which required travel and time. He was a project manager and fell out of the radio activity, but has now returned to coordinate again.

The club has members from Garden City, Inkster, Wayne, Redford and Livonia.

"We have 35-40 participants this year," Mallams said.



Ham operator Andy Mallams is coordinating the annual amateur radio Field Day that will be held at the Maplewood Center in Garden City next weekend.



Amateur radio operators like Andy Mallams can provide emergency communication around the country and around the world without the use of phone systems, Internet or other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis.

gas. When the infrastructure collapses, you don't have any power."

The Garden City Amateur Radio Club also has its own repeater, which provides greater coverage in southeast Michigan. A radio repeater is a combination of a radio receiver and a radio transmitter that receives a weak or low-level signal and retransmits it at a higher level or higher power so that the signal can cover longer distances without degradation. Mallams is the founder of the association which oversees the use of the repeater.

Amateur radio is considered both a hobby and a service. An estimated 2 million people throughout the world are regularly involved with amateur radio.

The club doesn't meet during the summer, but will resume meetings in September at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the Maplewood Community Center.

There are also invited guests, including local and state officials, like the Michigan Volunteer Defense Force, which provides reliable personnel support to local and state agencies during declared emergencies.

"You've heard of the National Guard," Mallams said. "They are more like the state guard."

Members of Theta Tau, a professional engineering fraternity at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, will also attend.

At 11 a.m. Saturday, there is an opening ceremony on the west side of the building.

"This year, we are dedicating Field Day 2010 to those members of GCARC who have fallen silent since the inception of the club in 1979," Mallams said.

Radio operation begins at 2 p.m.

"It is a 24-hour event," Mallams said. "We stay the night and we take turns operating. We never abandon a station."

More than 35,000 operators participated in last year's event nationally.

The value of radio knowledge proved invaluable during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, when it was often the only way

to communicate. Locally, amateur radio operators played a part in July 2003, when the entire eastern seaboard and Canada lost power.

"There were no more cell phones, e-mails or comput-

ers, it was all gone," he said. "Two or three days into it, the portable generators ran out of fuel and nobody was pumping

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Entries sought for baby contest

Applications are being accepted for the Westland Festival 2010 Baby Contest for 2010. Contestants must be between the ages of 6 months and two years of age.

There are four categories: boys from 6 months to 1 year old on June 30, 2010, Girls from 6 months to 1 year old on June 30, 2010, Boys 1-2 years old on June 30, 2010 and Girls 1-2 years old on June 30, 2010. The top six vote getters, based on votes collected, in each category will appear on stage July 4 and one final winner will be selected from each category by a panel of judges.

The initial votes for each contestant will be determined by the amount of money deposited at the Baby Contest Booth for each contestant (one penny is one vote) and

the top six contestants in each category will be on stage for the final judging which will be based on the judge's opinion of the contestant's appearance, expression and parent's comments.

The final winner in each category will receive a \$50 savings bond. The remainder of the money collected will be used for local handicapped projects and the Civitan International Research Center which is involved in research to prevent and cure mental and physical defects in those less fortunate.

Applications will be available at the Bailey Recreation Center and the Westland Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact Pat Quinn at (734) 729-1993 or by e-mail at patquinn52@wow-way.com.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Skills Camp

The Basketball Academy is holding its Summer Skill Development camps at St. Damian School on Joy Road in Westland. Coach Paul Tripp is conducting a boys camp June 21-24. The Girls' camp will be held June 28-July 1. Grades 3-5 will meet 8-11:30 a.m., while those in grades 6-9 from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information and a brochure, send an e-mail to BasketballAcademy@hotmail.com or call (248) 563-0858.

Craft show sign-ups

St. Theodore's Confraternity of Christian Women is accept-

ing signups for its fall craft show planned for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Table rental is \$25. Contact Mary at (734) 425-4421, voicemail 10.

Drama camps

Introduce your kids to the theater through drama camps being offered this summer for preschoolers and youth by the Westland Parks and Recreation Department.

Preschool Theatres for ages 3-5 is designed to inspire the budding talent in the young child. They will explore the world of theatre through music, movement, story, pan-

tomime and puppetry. Tuition is \$25 per week and includes \$5 craft fee. Sessions are 9:30-10 a.m. Monday-Friday, June 21-25, July 12-16, July 19-23 and Aug. 16-20.

The Summer Drama Workshop is for ages 6 and up and is designed to give the student an opportunity to experience many forms of theatre, including pantomime, musical theatre and a short play based on a familiar story. Each workshop will offer a different play, musical and pantomime. There will be a performance on the last day during class time.

Tuition is \$145 per weekly session which will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 21-25, July 12-16, July 19-23 and Aug. 16-20.

For more information, call the parks and recreation department at 73 722-7620.

Summer Concert Series

Westland's 2010 Summer Concert Series is underway. All of the concerts begin at 7 p.m. on Thursdays at the pavilion behind the William P. Faust Library on Central City Parkway north of Ford.

Upcoming concerts include Jake Reichbart solo jazz guitar music on June 24, folk music with Mustard's Retreat on July 8, gospel music with Mary Wynn on July 15, folk/blues music by Peter Madcat Ruth on July 22, Latin jazz music by the Lynn LaPlante 7, July 29, country music by the Waco Band on Aug. 5 and R&B by the Tyrone Hamilton All-Stars on Aug. 12.

The free concert series is funded in part by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council.

Open Houses

McKinley Co-Op Preschool will hold an open house 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 28, at 6500 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The preschool offers programs for toddlers ages 2-5 years. For more information, call (734) 729-7222.

Summer camps

Whether your child is an aspiring athlete, actor or just a great kid who wants to have lots of fun this summer, Westland Parks and Recreation has the day camp for you. Four different summer camps will be offered this summer:

- Camp Bailey Session 1: Mondays through Fridays, July 5-9 or Session 2: Monday-Friday, July 12-16.
- Hoops Basketball Camp Monday through Friday, July 12-16.
- Rockers Soccer Camp Monday through Friday, July 26-July 30.

For exact times, ages, and course descriptions, visit the city's website at www.cityof-westland.com.

Movie night

The William P. Faust Public Library is continuing its Friday Night After-Hours Movies through the summer, but with a twist.

Running through Friday, Aug. 20, the library will be showing Cult Classics — you know, the movies you just can't see enough. Stop by the library on any Friday and treat yourself an evening of fun and you might just meet someone who has seen *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* just as many times as you have.

Pick up a complete list of the movies to be shown at the library, located on Central City Parkway, north of Ford, or visit the library's website at westlandlibrary.org.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and the movies start at 7 p.m. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Wrestling camp

The Glenn Wrestling Program will hold its annual "Rocket Camp" 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 19-23 in Gym 4 of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette Westland.

The camp is open to high school students. It costs \$100 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is 9:30 a.m. Monday, July 19.

There will also be a Youth Camp 1:30-3:30 p.m. July 19-23 for kindergarten through eighth-grade, also in Gym 4 of high school. The cost is \$50 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is 1 p.m. Monday, July 19.

Registration forms are available online at www.glenwrestling.com. For more information, contact Coach Bill Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734)

634-4595.

Golf Outing

John Glenn High School Wrestling Program will hold its 13th Annual Golf Outing Fund-raiser on Saturday, Aug. 28, at the Warren Valley Golf Course. The cost is \$75 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn and light meal after golf. Guests are welcome for the light lunch, which costs \$15.

Contact Coach Bill Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734) 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. Information also is available at www.glenwrestling.com. Hole sponsorship and raffle donations also are being accepted.

CFL bulb recycling

Westland residents can recycle CFLs (Compact Fluorescent Bulbs) or other fluorescent bulbs for free at Home Depot at 39875 Ford, east of I-275, and IKEA at 41640 Ford, west of I-275. For more information, call Home Depot at (734) 844-7300 and IKEA at (734) 981-6300.

American Legion

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

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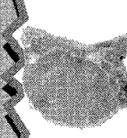
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College fund better investment for baby than life insurance

Q: Dear Rick: I read your column a few weeks ago on long-term care and I think it was right on. I'm in my early 40s and I don't see any need long-term care at this point in time. However, I keep getting approached by salespeople. I am married and my wife and I recently had our first child. My question deals with life insurance. I have what I consider sufficient amounts of life insurance through work and some separate term policies. Do I need life insurance on my spouse? She's a stay-at-home mom. In addition, does it make sense to buy life insurance on my new son?

A: Congratulations to you and your wife on the birth of

your child. In regards to life insurance, my view has always been that insurance is a matter of risk management. Ask yourself if the underlying loss occurs, will there be a financial loss? If there is none, insurance is not necessary.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

I always use golf balls as an example. I play golf. I get more strokes per dollar than most. When I play golf I lose golf balls. However, I do not have golf ball insurance. I assume whenever I play golf I'm going to lose a golf ball or two, however, that is not the issue. The issue is whether there will be a financial loss if I lose a golf ball. Since I can afford the cost of lost golf balls without any difficulty, there's no reason to have golf ball insurance. The same logic can apply to any type of insurance. The issue is not whether death will occur but rather is there a financial loss to the family.

In reviewing your situation the first issue is the death of

your spouse. No amount of money can replace love and affection. If your spouse did pass away, you would need to weigh the cost of hiring someone to do the things that she was doing to support the family vs. the cost of maintaining her (car, clothes, food, etc.).

If you find from a purely financial standpoint the extra cost is offset by the savings, there is no need for insurance. On the other hand, if there was a loss then, you probably want to get a term policy to cover the shortfall. I recommend term because it is the most affordable and for most people it's the best policy to fit their needs.

As to your child, a lot of insurance people tell you that it's best to buy insurance when they are young in order to guarantee insurability in the future. Although this sounds logical, it makes no sense to me. It's sort of like saying you know your child will need a car in 18 years so you might as well buy one now.

In the majority of cases I do not recommend life insurance for a newborn. Instead of life insurance, set up a college fund through the Michigan Education Savings Plan.

Life insurance on children is very inexpensive. That's because insurance companies know that the likelihood of paying out on a policy for a child are slim. Don't fall for marketing ploys, do what makes the best economic sense for you and your family.

One last recommendation to all parents of newborns — make sure that your estate plan is up to date. There is a free fill-in-the-blank Will on my website that will fit the needs of many parents of newborns. (www.bloomassetmanagement.com) Good luck!

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

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CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **June 24, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Animal Control Services

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained at <http://www.cityofwestland.com> or from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
Controller

Publish: June 20, 2010 OE08704235 2x3

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PATCHIN

FROM PAGE A1

"I have a great family here," said Funk, who teared up as she did the last morning announcements at the school. Funk will become principal of Hamilton Elementary and many of her teachers are following her there.

"I don't know how to put it into words," Funk said. "I have a great family here and it's going to be hard not to see the people in your family every day."

Paraprofessional Barb Wakeford called the ending "very sad."

"All three of my kids went here. I volunteered here," she said. "This is very sad. This is my family, the kids are my family, the teachers are my family. I still hope they'll bring us back."

"We think very highly of Patchin. It's like saying good-bye to a child," fellow paraprofessional Cheryl Line added. "My thought was they wouldn't close Patchin because of the new library."

In fifth-grade teacher Mary Jo Cobello-Schubert's classroom, students were putting on white and blue Patchin T-shirts — meant to be autographed by their friends — with the year 2017, the year they'll graduate. The students will head to Marshall, which is becoming a 5-6 upper elementary school, while the remaining students will be divided up between Edison, P.D. Graham and Wildwood elementaries.

James Lee Weber wanted his best friend Brendan Graich to be the first to sign his shirt, while Cassel Koliser just wanted the shirt covered with signatures.

"It's going to feel very sad



Patchin Elementary Principal Molly Funk and students Kourtney Harris and Zanaisha White share a hug and a tear after doing the final school announcements on the P.A. Thursday morning.

leaving today," Cobello-Schubert said. "Patchin was home, Patchin was a part of this community in every way. The students would walk to Meijer for Halloween, they'd go to Randazzo's and over to Lowe's. It's sad Patchin is going to be gone."

Packing boxes stood in the hallways and classrooms, a sign that moving day had

arrived. For Starr Lang, her retirement is tinged with sadness.

"I've already gone through a half of box of tissues," said Lang, who has taught at Patchin for six years. "It's going to be sad all the way around."

Lang already has a game plan for next fall. That's just about the time their first

grandchild will be born — "It's due in September" — and she and her husband will be moving to Pinckney.

There wasn't much left in her classroom. Gone is her classroom library — the recipients of the books were her students.

"They have a lot of good books to read this summer," she said.

STUDENTS SAY GOODBYE

The students took time to express their feelings, filling four pieces of papers with their thoughts about their school closing and saying good-bye to those who mattered to them.

Justin Bihun wrote his note to third-grade teacher Starr Lang: "Farewell to you. I heard you're retiring from teaching. I hope you do well."

Others notes were:

"To Brady Wades, Jaylen Lynch and Mrs. Noel, I will miss you guys and have a great summer and have a great first day at your new school." — Ahmad Saleh.

"I want to say a special goodbye to all of my classmates and all my teachers. I will miss you all so much. I would also like to thank all of the teachers and the principal for encouraging me and helping me in tough times. I love you all!" — Ashlyn Strain.

"I say goodbye to Patchin Elementary. I have been at Patchin since kindergarten. It's hard to say good-bye, but it has to be done. I don't know why it's being closed. I'm the fifth Hewitt at Patchin. I heard Mrs. Conello's first year at Patchin started off with a Hewitt in her class and she's ending with a Hewitt in her class. Very cool." — Aarom Hewitt.

"Bye, Layla! I will miss you so much in the summer! If you don't come to Marshall, it will never be the same. See you later!" — Taya Stewart



Student Eric Juarez gets a hug from Principal Molly Funk after he presents her with a farewell gift on the last day of school at Patchin Elementary.

Out front of the school, Funk received a gift from student Eric Juarez — a beautiful necklace.

"I'm going to miss you,"

Funk told the youngster before giving him a hug. "Come and visit me at Hamilton."

Healthy Kids

Making a Difference One Step at a Time

Garden City Hospital and the Garden City School System teamed up to instill the values of a healthy lifestyle in the elementary students of our district. The program promoted good eating habits, exercise and good citizenship through a fundraiser designed to benefit our entire community. We would like to thank them and all our proud sponsors! With their support, the Healthy Kids Program raised more than \$20,000 for new play equipment at Garden City Park.

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Three school-based clinics offer H1N1 shots

The winter influenza season is over so thoughts of catching the flu are probably the furthest thing from everyone's minds — but, in fact, it was one year ago now that the H1N1 Swine Flu Pandemic broke out and captured the world's attention long into the summer and fall months.

The massive H1N1 awareness from last year has slipped into the background today, but at one point the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reported higher-than-normal levels of H1N1 this spring, and it had been on the rise in recent months in southeastern states. The H1N1 Flu is not seasonal and in our very transient society, can hit the Michigan population again at any time.

"Vaccination is one part of a good two-fold plan — it's the best way to help keep a major outbreak from resurfacing in our communities, and to protect individuals of all ages," said nurse Deborah Riddick. "While everyone in the health community is grateful the most recent strain wasn't as critical as first predicted last year, H1N1 still causes very serious illness and that's not good for anyone."

"We also want to do whatever we can to keep the virus at-bay as much as possible. A free H1N1 flu shot is one part of that plan. Washing your hands, covering coughs and sneezes are the other part of flu prevention."

Unlike most flu's that effect older generations the most, the H1N1 Flu has proven to be most dangerous to healthy young people. It hit particularly hard the first time around on 10-19-year-olds, and the CDC recommends it most strongly for those 6 months to 24-years-old. Students with asthma, diabetes and autoimmune conditions are even more vulnerable, if they

contract the H1N1 flu virus. "Oakwood Healthcare is honored to have been chosen by the School Community Health Alliance to further protect our patients and residents of the communities we serve to reduce the spread of flu," said Lisa Rutledge, corporate director of community outreach, Oakwood Healthcare Inc. "Though H1N1 is very similar to seasonal flu, what makes it different is that it affects young people more easily and severely. Getting a vaccination and practicing everyday hand hygiene through hand washing and alcohol-based sanitizers is key in flu prevention."

Due to the fact the most vulnerable are school age children, vaccine is available at school-based clinics like the Oakwood Healthcare Centers in Westland, Inkster and Romulus, where it's free for the school children and their families.

Three key flu prevention reminders for everyone is to wash your hands regularly, cover your coughs and sneezes and get an H1N1 flu vaccination at your local school-based health center. The shots will be available 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, June 24, at Lincoln Elementary School, 33800 Grand Traverse, Westland, call (734) 728-2423; Inkster High School, 3250 Middlebelt, Inkster, call (734) 729-3650, and Romulus High School, 9650 S. Wayne Road, Romulus, call (734) 941-1400.

More information about the H1N1 flu is available on the MDCH H1N1 Flu Web site page at www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940_2955_22779_40563-213600--,00.html or the CDC H1N1 Flu Web site page at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/, the www.flu.gov website or Facebook's Fight the H1N1 Flu at www.facebook.com/H1N1flu.

She gives hope: Area woman finalist for governor's award

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton resident Greta Buck stands near a window where a ray of sunlight shines into a vast, dark, empty room.

She smiles — for good reason.

The sun sheds light, hope, on a place called Hope. It shines into a large yet unused expansion of an Ypsilanti nonprofit agency where impoverished people last year came for 14,079 bags of groceries.

By year's end, this new room is expected to house free medical and dental clinics, providing one-stop help for people who now have to visit two other Hope facilities, elsewhere in Ypsilanti, to receive free health care and prescription medications.

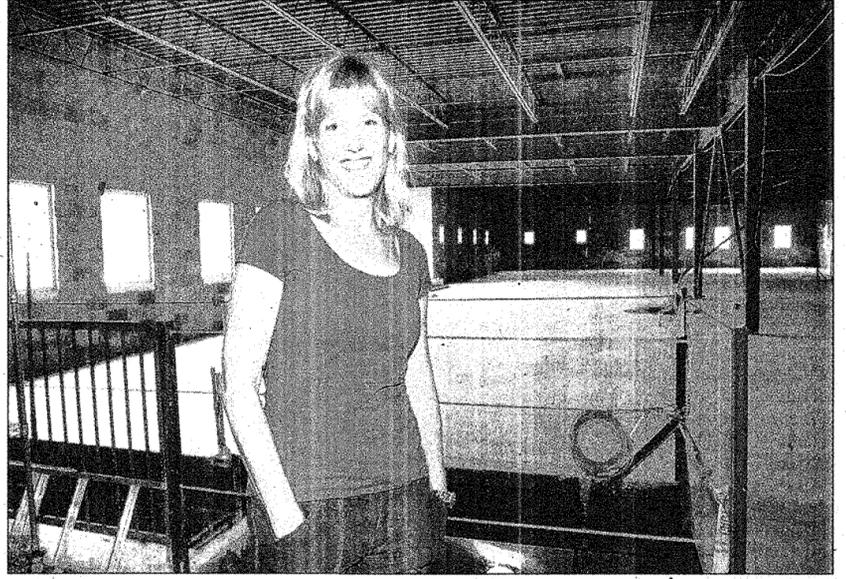
It's a longtime dream for Hope volunteers, such as Buck, and a skeleton crew of employees who have raised \$3 million — within \$650,000 of their goal — through fund-raisers and charitable partnerships with philanthropic foundations, churches, health-care organizations and corporations.

Buck's efforts, whether bagging food, chairing Hope's operations committee or serving as the board of directors' vice president, have made her one of five finalists for Gov. Jennifer Granholm's Volunteer of the Year award — one of several honors Granholm plans to announce during a ceremony set for Thursday, June 24, at the Gem Theatre in Detroit.

"It's flattering," said Buck, 44. "I just hope it brings attention to Hope."

Buck became a Hope volunteer seven years ago through Westminster Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor. A 14-year resident of Canton, she gave up a corporate career in marketing and business, saying her husband, Jeff, graciously provides for the family, including daughters Audrey, 12, and Margaret, 9.

Melissa Burkhardt, Hope's



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Greta Buck of Canton is one of five finalists for Gov. Jennifer Granholm's Volunteer of the Year award, to be announced June 24 at the Gem Theatre in Detroit.

food program coordinator, nominated Buck for one of Granholm's volunteer service awards.

"Greta does whatever we need her to do," Burkhardt said, standing in a small Hope office. "When Greta sees there is no food here, she goes out and gets food."

Then she packs it and hands it out, and she often prays with Hope clients that their lives will improve.

Last year, Buck and her husband orchestrated Hope's involvement in the University of Michigan's Big House Big Heart charitable run and raised \$25,000 — tenfold the previous year's \$2,500.

"Whatever Greta touches is a success," Burkhardt said. "It's because her heart is in the right place."

Every dollar counts as Hope strives to serve people in Washtenaw and Wayne counties, partly from a satellite clinic in the city of Wayne. Last year alone, Hope worked with

volunteer health-care professionals and agencies to accommodate more than 12,000 patient visits for free medical and dental care, and to provide \$2.3 million in prescription medications. It also gave out 14,079 bags of groceries, served 10,713 hot meals at the nearby Salvation Army and provided \$9,875 in direct support for families in emergency situations.

A small army of volunteers puts in thousands upon thousands of hours, but Buck shrugged when asked if she has any idea how much of her time she gives.

"I can't say enough about Greta and all she does for Hope," Cathy Robinson, the agency's executive director, said.

Buck began volunteering early in life. A native of Minnesota, she recalls helping her mother bake cookies for a mission and licking stamps for YMCA fund-raisers. She has been known to bake cookies on holidays for Hope clients — that is, when she's not busy working on the agency's yearly strategic plan or helping plan

the annual Evening of Hope fund-raiser, which last year brought in \$100,000.

Hope has faced even more challenges as an economic downturn has forced more people to seek help. Due to its supporters, the organization manages to provide \$4.46 in services for every \$1 it brings in.

Buck, also a church and school volunteer, realizes she has been blessed in life. So, she reaches out to the less fortunate who, in dire situations, have been known to ride a bicycle 40 miles for help.

And while Buck's supporters praise her efforts, she humbly deflects her attention to Hope, its volunteers, its employees and, most important, its clients.

Still, she admits a certain satisfaction from her volunteer work.

"I think it grounds me," she said. For more information about Hope or to donate, log on to www.thehopeclinic.org or call Robinson, the executive director, at (734) 484-2989.

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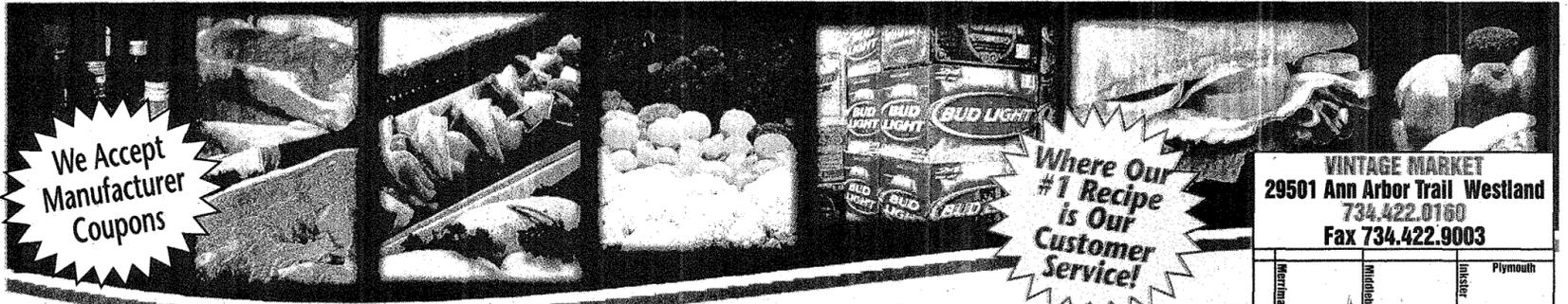
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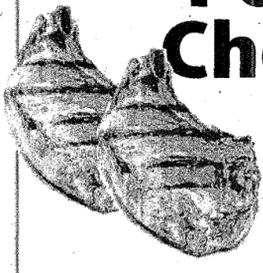
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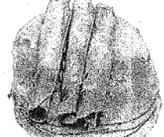
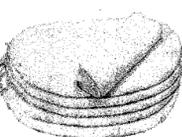
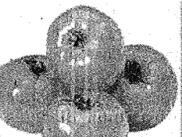
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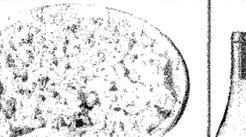
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Daylong party celebrates Jefferson-Barns

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was the last full day of school for youngsters at Jefferson-Barns Elementary School and instead of thumbing through textbooks, they were playing games and jumping around in inflatables.

It was a year-end party meant to celebrate all things Jefferson-Barns as the students, staff and parents prepared for the school's final day.

"We decided to celebrate Jefferson-Barns the last full day," Principal Laura Beckman said. "We wanted to do something special, something fun for the community and the kids. We wanted to send the students off in a positive way and encourage them to do their best at their new school."

Jefferson-Barns was one of six Wayne-Westland elementary schools that closed their doors at the end of school Thursday.

Youngsters ate a picnic lunch of Domino's pizza and McDonald's hamburgers, chicken nuggets and french fries not too far from a red maple that parent Kristi Hicks had helped plant as a fourth-grader in honor of teacher Virginia Brickman, who was retiring.

"To us, she seemed ancient. She was the strictest teacher in the school," Hicks said. "She gave me a D in handwriting and an A-plus in science. She loved science."

Watching the children enjoy the picnic brought back memories of her days at Jefferson-Barns.

"We had bike day with



Marshal Smith tries to lift the bottle with the help of volunteer Eunique Goss.

Pizzutti's pizza and a teachers vs. the fifth- and sixth-graders baseball game," she said. "We couldn't wait until we were fifth-sixth-grade, it was our year to beat the teachers."

Hicks served on the district's 21st Century Schools

Committee, which ultimately recommended the closing of Jefferson-Barns. She wasn't happy with the final decision, but was there Thursday to help.

"Yeah, it's going to be sad," she said.

There was some learn-

ing mixed in with the party, however. Students had an assembly in the morning and heard about the summer reading program at the William P. Faust Public Library and the Red Wagon Literacy Program.

The Wayne-Westland Federal



Alexis Crawley enjoys a Sno-cone, one of the many treats Jefferson-Barns enjoyed at the celebration.

Credit Union, which has provided a Christmas celebration for the students for more than a decade, also gave out books.

"We want the students to be lifelong learners," Beckman said.

The event was a group effort, she added.

"It was planned by the parents and teachers, and every student got a T-shirt. They were in different colors and in remembrance of Jefferson-Barns," she said. "Jefferson-Barns students were a rainbow of color for the assembly."

Waiting for their turn to get pizza, brother and sister Katie and Jerry Steele knew what they liked best.

"The fun," Katie said. "This is like something they'd let us do at our old school. It's kind of fun."

"My favorite was probably

the shock wave," Jerry added. "It's a metal bar that you touch and it makes sparks. It zaps you, but it doesn't hurt."

Inside the school, brown paper posters lined the walls, announcing students' memories of Jefferson-Barns.

On the wall outside Stacy Rennie's classroom, the memories included Anna Lynn Morsey's "I like spending time with my teacher. She's so much fun to talk to, she is so nice."

"My favorite part of the year was meeting everyone on the first day," Cole Congden wrote.

"I know everyone in school, I've been here for three years," he said while doing a "science" experiment with his milk on the asphalt outside. "I love school. I'm going to miss my friends."

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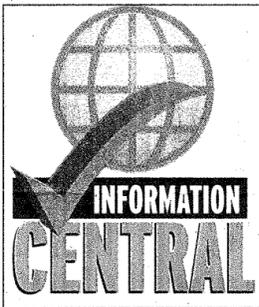
Motorcycles remain a popular mode of transportation

It's just about summer, and the motorcycling season is well under way. Around the world, motorcycles remain one of the most popular forms of transportation due to reasons such as the increasing cost of fuel, urban congestion, lack of public transportation, and they're just plain fun. In America, more people are becoming interested in motorcycle culture on account of TV shows such as "American Chopper" and "Sons of Anarchy."

The first ever "motorcycle" came about in 1869 when French cycle maker Michaux-Perreaux attached a steam engine to a bicycle. It wasn't until 1885 that a gasoline powered engine motorcycle was built by the German inventor Gottlieb Daimler. Then in 1894, Hildebrand & Wolfmüller was the first production motorcycle for sale to the general public.

English company Triumph, which is still one of the most well-known manufacturers of motorcycles, extended itself beyond bicycles to start making motorcycles in 1902. Soon after, the American company Harley Davidson followed and began production in 1903.

Production demands swiftly grew



leading up to World War II because of military usage. After the war ended, America veterans returned home and found adventure and camaraderie by forming biker clubs. In the 1960s, motorcycles became more a symbol of a lifestyle or a recreational toy than a primary form of transportation in the United States, which continues to this day. Currently, the largest demand for motorcycles is in the developing world where they are still the cheapest and most efficient way of getting around.

To learn more about the history of motorcycles, check out "100 Motorcycles, 100 Years: The First Century of the Motorcycle" by Fred

Winkowski or "The Encyclopedia of Motorcycles: The Complete Book of Motorcycles and Their Riders" by Roland Brown.

The Westland Public Library also has numerous other titles about motorcycles ranging from motorcycle repair to riding. Stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities
Fight Foreclosure One-on-One Counseling Session: 5-8 p.m. June 21

Homeowners can schedule a private, 30-minute, one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor, from the Wayne County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program. The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive network of certified counselors who will help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure. Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the Reference Desk to schedule a session. Space is limited.

Help for People with Low Vision: 1:30-3:30 p.m. June 22

If disease or injury has robbed you or a loved one of some or all of

your vision, stop by the library for an afternoon of information sharing. Join Mary Ellen Daniels, Henry Ford Health Care, Occupational Therapist; Nancy Simmons, owner, Low Vision Solutions (Retail Vision Aids); and Ellen Stross, librarian and coordinator of the Plymouth Public Library Low Vision Support Group as they discuss how to live your life to the fullest, connecting to a support group and locating equipment that best meets your vision needs. No registration necessary. For more information call the Library at (734) 326-6123.

Super Smash Bros. Brawl Tournament: 5-8:30 p.m. June 22, ages 15-29

Play Super Smash Bros. Brawl and compete in our first ever Wii video game tournament. Warm up with open play until 6 p.m. when the tournament begins. Bring your own remote, if you can't win without it! The tournament will continue throughout the summer. Sign up by calling the library or stop by the Reference Desk. Call (734) 326-6123

Raw Foods: 7 p.m. June 24
Find out what you can do with raw food in a demonstration and talk by Carolyn Simon, owner of the

Red Pepper Deli in Northville. Sign up at the Reference Desk to reserve your seat! This is a Summer Reading Program.

Summer Concert Series: Jake Reichbart, 7 p.m. June 24, Library Pavilion

Join us for an evening of jazz guitar with local virtuoso, Jake Reichbart. "While a respected band leader, Reichbart's forte lies in his instrumental solo work, tastefully interpreting classic jazz and pop standards in unique style." All ages welcome. Limited seating, so bring a chair if you're late. For a complete list of Summer Concert performers, stop by the library or check out www.westlandlibrary.org

Friday Night Movie Cult Classics: "Polyester," 7 p.m. June 25

Stop by the library every Friday evening during the summer and enjoy a Cult Classic. This week's selection is John Water's "Polyester" (Rated R). Francine Fishpaw is an upper-middle class suburban housewife in Baltimore. Unfortunately for this "good Christian woman," the money to support her lifestyle comes from her husband's adult theater. All movies start at 7 p.m. and doors open at 6:30 p.m. This is an after-hours program.

Job Seekers Lab: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and

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Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library: 7 p.m. every Wednesday
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Chess Group: 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays.

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess Masters are all welcome. No signup required.

Children, Teens Adults: Programs, Prizes, Reading, Fun - Join the Summer Reading Program today!

Information Central was compiled by Andrea Perez, reference librarian and homebound coordinator. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

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Author dedicates his book to his father, stepfather

BY ANNETTE ROGERS-SCHWARTZ
CORRESPONDENT

There are many things a son might do while he is growing up that could send a father into shock, but local author Kevin Downs, waited until adulthood before he gave his father, a highly ranked former U.S. Army Air Cavalry helicopter pilot, one of the biggest surprises of his life.

Downs, who grew up in Westland, wrote *Spydentity*, a bio-industrial espionage cloning thriller that is receiving five-star reviews, but rather than simply sharing the good news with his father that the book was being published, the author decided to show William Downs the good news instead.

"He intentionally kept the news that *Spydentity* had been published from me until he was able to send me a copy of the actual book," said William Downs, also a former Westland resident. When he saw the book for the first time, he had to call his son right away to congratulate him on his achievement, he said.

Downs' father and stepfather have each served the United States in their own way, and watching the lists of their individual accomplishments grow longer while he was growing up is what inspired him to write this novel, said Kevin Downs.

William Downs was a highly decorated officer in U.S. Army Air Cavalry, where he was a helicopter pilot, receiving the coveted Bronze Star for bravery after providing air transport in the face of danger, and 18 Air Medals for Valor, with each representing 25 flights completed.

Daniel Kozlowski, Down's stepfather, spent 34 years with the U.S. Treasury Department, where on short term assignments for the U.S. Secret Service Special Protection Unit, he guarded President Richard Nixon, Vice-President Spiro Agnew and also presidential candidate Hubert Humphrey.

Downs said both his father and stepfather were models for Nathan Bishop, the lead char-



Author Kevin Downs

acter in *Spydentity*. He knew he wanted the protagonist to be an incredibly smart military figure, and ended up making Bishop a Navy SEAL, because in listening to the SEALs during interviews he did for the book. They seemed practically superhuman.

As the plot of the book unfolds, in response to the disappearance of U.S. agents and scientists in Sofia, Bulgaria, the Department of Defense and CIA launch a counter-operation, which is code-named SHADOWS—Special Hit and Assault Drive Operation for the pursuit of World Security. Nathan Bishop then ends a military leave to be appointed head of the SHADOWS Operation.

Nigil Bloom, author and book critic, writes in his review of *Spydentity*, "The dangerous fusion of information and life sciences in a new millennium sets the stage for greed, betrayal, revenge, conspiracy, murder, and the first nail-biting 'bio-industrial espionage cloning thriller to date.'"

Spydentity continues to receive rave reviews for its writing even though Downs, 43, has never had any formal education or instruction in the art of being a writer. After studying computers at Central Michigan University, he transferred to the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where he received his degree in biotechnology and genetics.

While Downs bartended to pay for UNLV, he worked



William Tiffin Downs



Daniel Kozlowski

with a former Navy SEAL, who led him to being able to research and interview many more SEALs. That, combined with Downs' military upbringing, further fueled the plot that would eventually become *Spydentity*.

"Since I lived near Nellis Air Force Base, my friend was my ticket to not only meeting other military figures in the Air Force, but also to conducting more interviews," said Downs.

"During the '90s, back in Las Vegas, I came up with the basis for the plot in a dream that I remembered the next day. I wrote for six months straight immediately after that

dream, in my spare time after I got home from my bartending shifts," he said.

He was constantly turning the light on and off, he said, getting up to write then going back to sleep. Finally, he had to purchase a handheld tape recorder that he would use during the night, and then check the next day, which allowed him to get enough rest so he could continue writing.

"I knew I needed to get the basics down for the story line and that I could tweak it and tighten it later," said Downs.

It was during this same time that his 1967 Ford Mustang started acting as a gas chamber, because it had a slow carbon monoxide leak, but Downs didn't realize it.

"I didn't even know what hit me. I was driving the car to and from work, to and from school, and to and from doctors. Every time I went the doctor, the wait was long enough where I would have enough oxygen back in my system,

after being away from the car, that I would start feeling a little better," he said.

The vehicle had just had its engine rebuilt, and the mechanic left a large space between the manifold and the exhaust, which resulted in the life-threatening leak, according to Downs.

"It was a race against time to get this novel done because I was becoming so ill I honestly wondered if I was going to make it," he said. "I finished the first draft of *Spydentity* after six months of pain and suffering."

He finally went to a neurologist who recommended the Mayo Clinic, and they were able to get him back in good health so he could return to Las Vegas.

"I tweaked the story here and there over the years, and finally decided on Jan. 1, 2009, I would isolate myself, become a hermit and really dial this book in," he said. "I had to work really hard, because the research

was ridiculous as technology had advanced since my first draft was completed."

Five and a half months later, after many rewrites and polishes, the book was published. By June 2009, it was in print.

Downs said he wanted to show his fathers appreciation not only because they have been such incredible role models for him throughout his life, but because they were there for him while he was growing up. As a way to commemorate this Father's Day, the author is releasing *Spydentity* in paperback starting today (June 20). It's already available at the author's website, www.kevindowns.com, and at BarnesandNoble.com and Amazon.com in hardcover. He is hard at work on his second novel which he hopes to release late this year.

For more information about *Spydentity*, contact Kevin Downs by e-mail at kevin@kevindowns.com.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Amateur Radio Field Day

Interested in Ham Radio? The Garden City Amateur Radio Club will be operating several Amateur Radio stations at the Maplewood Community Center 8 a.m. Saturday, June 26, to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 27, as part of a national contest called Field Day.

Stop by and learn about amateur radio. Meet local club members and learn about Emergency Communications, license requirements and local classes. You don't have to be an electronics whiz to be a ham, and Morse code is no longer required.

Skills Camp

The Basketball Academy is holding its Summer Skill Development camps at St. Damian School on Joy Road in Westland. Coach Paul Tripp is conducting a boys camp June 21-24. The Girls' camp will be held June 28-July 1. Grades 3-5 will meet 8-11:30 a.m., while those in grades 6-9 from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information and a brochure, send an e-mail to BasketballAcademy@hotmail.com or call (248) 563-0858.

Summer hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane L. Webb, D-Garden City, whose district includes Garden City, Dearborn Heights, and Redford, is changing her office hours for the summer. Now through August, Commissioner Webb will be available on Mondays by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call her office at (313) 224-0930.

Regular office hours will resume in September.

Office hours

Need to talk with Garden City Mayor Randy Walker? You'll find him Tuesdays at Garden City Hall. Walker will hold office hours 4:30-6 p.m. Residents can schedule an appointment by calling Administrative Assistant Margo Ciecierski at (734) 793-1660.

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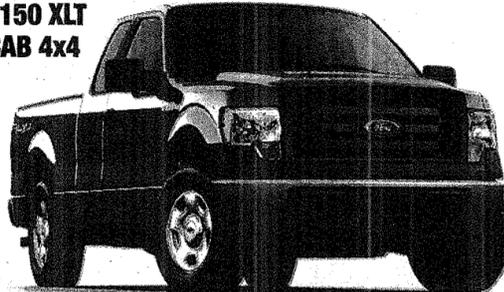
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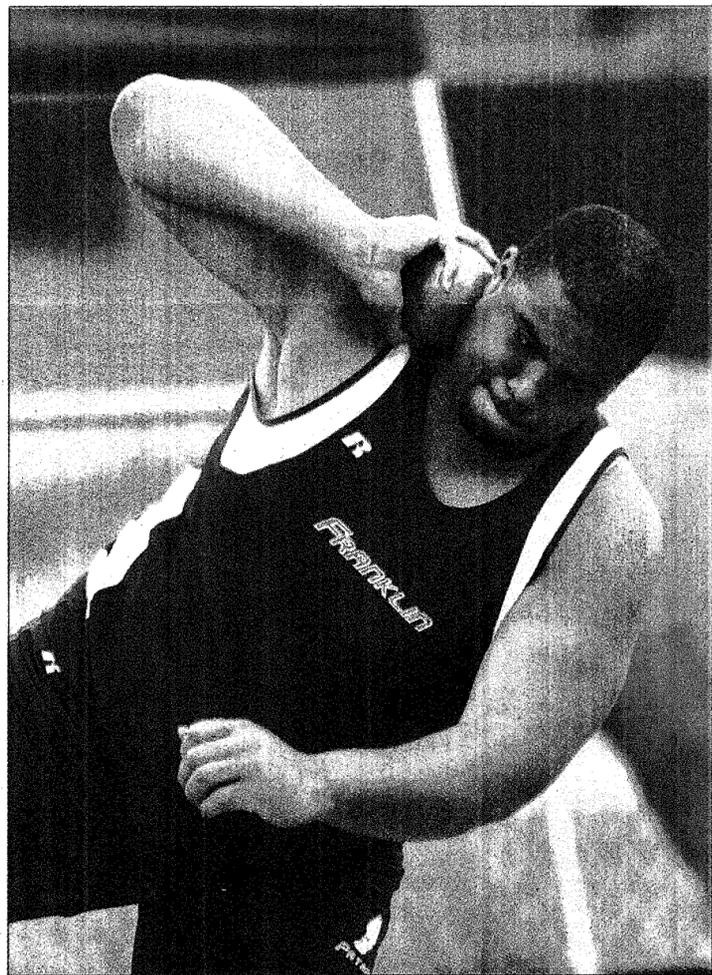
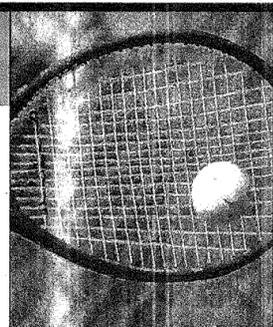


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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

All-Area Boys Track

Livonia Franklin senior Nate Coleman was one of the top throwers in the area. He earned first-team honors in the discus. For a closer look at the top area boys track and field athletes, see page B2.

End of the road

Nemesis Marian ends Ladywood's season

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Ladywood hit a ton of road-construction on Telegraph Road during its trek north to the Division 2 girls soccer state semifinal Wednesday at Bloomfield Hills Andover.

The Blazers then found an all too familiar roadblock when they arrived — defending state champion Bloomfield Hills Marian, which scored early and late to earn a 2-0 victory.

The victory put Marian, 21-1-2 overall, on the verge of its fourth state title in school history Saturday against Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern at Williamston High School.

Ladywood, meanwhile, finishes its season at 14-5-4 overall.

Erin Ring's rebound goal off a deflection following a shot from teammate Stephanie Pilarski proved to be the game-winning goal just 2:11 into the match.

The Mustangs, who out-shot Ladywood 13-4 for the game, finally put it away when Danielle Mazur scored on a give-and-go play with Alexa Finger with only 6:49 remaining.

Marian won all four meetings this season against its Catholic League Central Division rival by scores of 2-0, 6-2, 4-0 and 2-0.

During the last meeting between the two teams in the A-B Division championship, Marian put a goal on the board during the opening minute of play.

"The last time we played them in the Catholic League finals, the same thing happened again — that one early goal — then it was very tight again," Marian coach Barry Brodsky said. "I know Ken (Shingledecker) and Phil (Kozlowski) — they're very good coaches — and I kind of expected them to play like that because that's the way I would have played if they were playing us."

Brodsky said there were no major adjustments or secrets between the two teams.

"I don't think there was anything that we didn't show them that they hadn't seen before," he said. "We played four times, so I think they knew everything we were going to try to do, and we knew everything they were going to try to do. Whoever did it better was going to win."

"I think they (Ladywood) are really good. They've got dangerous players. They're solid and they're well-coached. We feel very fortunate to beat them today."

Ladywood junior goalkeeper Maddie Reed repelled several serious Marian scoring threats

Please see **MARIAN, B3**

SIDELINES

CHSL salutes MU

In another history-making year for Madonna University athletics, an event took place Monday night as the Catholic High School League named Madonna University as the 2010 James Leary School of the Year.

MU becomes the first university to receive the award that was created in 1980 in honor of the late coach and athletic director at the University of Detroit High School.

Leary also served several terms on the Catholic League's Executive Athletic Board. This award is presented annually to the school that best exemplifies spirit, sportsmanship and cooperation.

"We are humbled and honored to be receiving such an important award from our friends in the Catholic League," MU athletic director Bryan Rizzo said. "We truly appreciate the relationship we have with the Catholic League and are glad to be of service to them and to the many fine student-athletes it represents."

During the last 12 months, MU and its athletic facilities have hosted a multitude of league events including the annual volleyball and baseball championships.

"The accomplishments on the field are not the reason they have become the first University to receive this award," Catholic League Director Vic Michaels said.

"They are always one of the most cooperative and helpful schools to the Catholic League office and its members. Athletic director Bryan Rizzo does a great job to help to set the school apart from others."

During the 2009-10 school year the MU's baseball, men's golf, women's golf and softball teams captured their respective Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Championships and advance to the NAIA National Championship.

Livonia Spree Run

The Spree Fun Run, presented by State Farm Insurance Ken Wagner Agency, will be Sunday, June 27, at the Livonia YMCA, 14225 Stark.

The event will benefit the Livonia Jaycees Michigan Junior Chamber.

If registered by June 24, the cost for the 1-mile, 5K and 10K runs is \$20 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors. Onsite registration is \$25 for adults and \$20 for students and seniors.

Registration and package pickup begins at 7 a.m. The 5K and 10K runs start at 8:15 a.m. followed by the 1-mile walk at 8:30 a.m. (Formal timing will not be offered.)

A race entry also guarantees an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 9-11 a.m. at nearby Edgar Arena. (T-shirt is guaranteed if registered by June 20.)

For more information, call Chris Ogden at (734) 891-1639 or visit SpreeRun@justsayrun.com.

Glenn A.D. headed for Walled Lake

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn High athletic administrator Brian Swinehart confirmed last week that he has accepted a similar position with the Walled Lake Consolidated School District.

Pending approval by the Walled Lake Board of Education, Swinehart is expected to begin his new duties next month, when he'll replace Stephen Emert, who is retiring as director of athletics and physical education.

Swinehart's new responsibilities include oversight of both athletics and P.E. at all three high schools, including Central, Western and Northern, along with district's four middle schools.

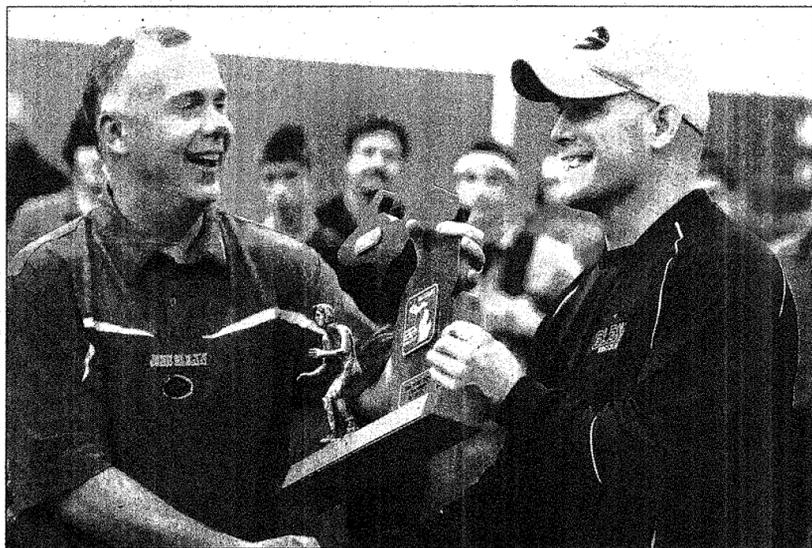
"It will be a challenging job," Swinehart said.

Swinehart spent the past seven years at Glenn after a stint as athletic administrator with the Farmington Public Schools.

"I'll miss the people and the kids. There are great people in this area and that's the hardest thing," Swinehart said. "Also I'll miss the relationships I had with the coaches and kids like Keshawn (Martin) and Jeremy (Langford) going to Michigan State."

Swinehart and his wife Jennifer, an athletic trainer in Farmington, along with three of his five children, live in Walled Lake.

"A majority of it was family-



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

Westland John Glenn athletic administrator Brian Swinehart (left), shown with wrestling coach Bill Polk, is leaving the district to take a similar position with the Walled Lake Schools.

driven," Swinehart said. "My kids go to school there. I'm also vice president of Lakes (Athletic Association) Baseball and I'm involved with the youth football program there, the Multi-Lakes Gators (as an athletic director)."

Glenn second-year Principal Dave Ingham said Swinehart will be missed.

"He's a great A.D., the best I've ever seen, and I support him in his decision," Ingham said. "Brian is a great guy and it's his dream job because that's where

he lives."

Because of budget cuts by the Wayne-Westland Community School District, Swinehart was scheduled to oversee athletics for both John Glenn and Wayne Memorial highs for the 2010-11 school calendar year.

"The new (district-wide) A.D. will be splitting time between the two high schools," Ingham said. "It would be nice to get somebody during the transition with his replacement. I'm hoping (it comes) soon."

Greg Ambrose, Wayne's current athletic administrator, was reassigned to an assistant principal position at the same school, but now could return to his athletic director duties.

Wayne-Westland Senior Executive Director of Human Resources Marty LaPorte said he has not received a formal letter of resignation from Swinehart, but said, "I heard the same thing," that Swinehart will be leaving.

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Hudsonville eliminates Garden City

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They may not have claimed the ultimate prize, but the Garden City Cougars proved Friday they belong right up there among the elite teams in girls softball.

Squaring off against No. 1-ranked Hudsonville in Division 1 semifinal play in Battle Creek, the Cougars put a healthy scare into the

GIRLS SOFTBALL Eagles in their second

trip to the western part of the state in the last three years. And if not for a questionable umpire's decision in the fifth inning, the Cougars could very likely have been the ones facing White Lake Lakeland Saturday for the coveted Division 1 state championship instead of following their heart-breaking 1-0 defeat.

After yielding a run to the Eagles in the bottom of the fourth inning on two singles and a double, the Cougars compiled their second seri-

Please see **SOFTBALL, B4**

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Boys track & field athletes raise the bar

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Kyle Brindza, Jr., Plymouth (shot put): Brindza - an outstanding football punter-kicker and soccer goalie - is just as excellent in track & field.

The junior set a new Plymouth school record in the shot put with a personal best and first place throw of 52 feet, 3 inches at the KLAAs conference meet.

Other highlights this spring included placing second at the association and regional meets with respective tosses of 50-11 and 51-3.5. At the Division 1 state meet at Rockford, Brindza's 45-11 throw earned him 25th place.

"Kyle, as a junior, is an amazing all around athlete," said Wildcats coach Jon Mikosz about Notre Dame-bound punter-kicker. "On top of being one of the top throwers in the state he also scored points for us in the high jump and in relays."

"Kyle is determined to make sure he is one of the top throwers in the state for his senior year."

Nate Coleman, Sr., Liv. Franklin (discus): The senior was the team's anchor in a deep group of throwers.

Coleman, bound for Howard University on a football scholarship, was undefeated in dual meets and was Livonia City and Kensington Conference champion this season.

He threw a personal best 156-1 and he broke the 150 mark three teams while finishing runner-up in the regional to qualify for the Division 1 state meet.

"Nate was reliable and consistent," Franklin coach Pat Koelzer said. "He led our team with 99 points this season, and also scored consistently in the shot put (with a season best 50-6)."

Jordan Allen, Sr., Ply. Christian (high jump): Eagles coach Jennifer Lemieux said Allen was born to be a high jumper and he backed that up in 2010.

Allen jumped 6 feet, 6 inches at the Division 4 regionals, breaking the PCA record he set in 2009.

He was the model of consistency, placing first in every meet except the season opener and won at the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference, regionals and Larry Steeb Championship meets. Allen then took seventh at the state finals.

The honors student will study psychology and criminal justice at Michigan State University and return next spring to help Lemieux coach PCA high jumpers.

"He is a wonderful young man with a strong faith in God," Lemieux said. "He will do well."

Scott Coppola, Sr., Liv. Churchill (long jump): The senior co-captain and team MVP was a Division 1 state qualifier for the third year in a row after winning the regional at Canton.

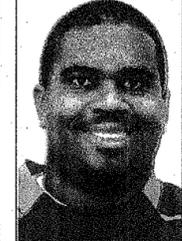
Coppola, a two-time All-Observer selection, is the school's record holder in the long jump (21-9.75).

He also took runner-up honors in the 100-meter dash at the Kensington Conference meet.

As a junior, he was a member of Churchill's All-State 4 x 400 relay team which placed fifth. His season best in the 100 was 11.0 and he



Kyle Brindza
Plymouth



Nate Coleman
Franklin



Jordan Allen
Ply. Christian



Scott Coppola
Churchill



Joe Marlow
Churchill



Shammah Carter
N. Farmington



Scott O'Connor
Salem



Charles Anthony
Farmington



Jaifus Ingram
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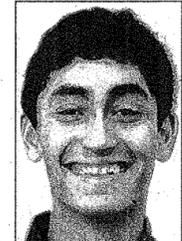
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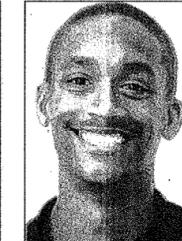
Matt Neumann
Plymouth



Joe Porcari
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Davud Kucukarslan
Farmington



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Zack Gaskell
Salem



Justin Heck
Plymouth



Warren Buzzard
Plymouth



Jon Mikosz
Plymouth coach



Charles Bridges
Farmington co-coach



Kim Sturm
Farmington co-coach

placed sixth in the 200 at the conference meet.

"Scott has been a steady varsity performer since his freshman year," Churchill coach Rick Austin said. "Each year he became stronger and faster."

"Scott has always been a guy we could count on for points. I'm going to miss Scott's positive attitude around the track. He's one of those kids who will be a winner in whatever he does in life."

Joe Marlow, Sr., Liv. Churchill (pole vault): The senior co-captain, who posted a personal best of 14-2, repeated as Kensington Conference champion and captured the Division 1 regional.

Marlow also competed in the long jump where he recorded a season best of 20-4.5.

"Joe has been a steady performer for us in the pole vault - 14 feet all season long," Austin said. "He's a naturally gifted athlete combining speed and strength on the runway."

"Joe worked hard to train year round and that hard work paid off this season. He's a very free spirited competitor and was one of our top scorers on our team. Joe's a very likable kid and I will miss him very much."

Shammah Carter, Jr., N. Farmington (110 hurdles): Carter has been North Farmington's leading scorer the last two years. He's a two-time OAA Blue Division champion,

and he set the school record of 14.5 seconds at the division meet this year. Carter was undefeated in duals for two years in the 110 hurdles. He was second at the regional and a state semifinalist. Carter also led North to victories in the shuttle hurdles relay at the Huron and Raider relays.

"Shammah has been an invaluable asset to the track and field program," coach Jeff Simpson said. "He's a solid contributor in all phases of our team. Shammah leads by example and his dedication to the sport is unquestioned. He does anything to help the team. Shammah has informed the coaches he wants to contribute in any event through the 400 next year."

Scott O'Connor, Sr., Salem (300

hurdles): The versatile O'Connor capped off an excellent high school career, breaking Salem's school record in the 300 hurdles at the association meet with a runner-up time of 39.4 (FAT).

Meteyer said O'Connor had been "chipping away" at the record since his sophomore season. Over the past three years, he kept his event time under 41 seconds and finally finished his quest.

"He peaked at the right time his senior year, breaking the school record in the next to last meet," Meteyer added.

O'Connor also was part of the 1,600 relay team that broke another school record in 2010.

Charles Anthony, Sr., Farmington (100): Anthony had the best finish among area runners at the state meets, taking fifth in Division 1 with an 11.18 time. He is a regional champion and the city champ in the 100 and long jump. He was second at the Observerland and Oakland County meets in the 100.

Anthony went to state four straight years - in the 400 relay as a freshman, in the open 100 as a sophomore and the last two years in the sprint relays and the 100. He will run for U-of-D Mercy next year.

"Charles took more of a leadership role this year, and he tried to help the younger guys," coach Charles Bridges said. "He was more confident in himself starting the year. He trained a little harder, pushed himself a little more in practice. All those things helped him to be more consistent in the bigger races. He responded well and the work he put in more than paid off."

Jaifus Ingram, Sr., Farmington (200): Entering the season, coach Bridges and Ingram thought the 400 would be his best event, but it ended up being the 200. He was third in the regional and an additional state qualifier with a 22.4 time, and he was sixth in Oakland County. Ingram ran his best time of 22.1, from a FAT time of 22.37, in the county prelims. He ran a sub-50 quarter in the 1,600 relay at the city meet, an he was outstanding in the sprint relays.

"This was probably the best season finishing for Jaifus," Bridges said. "He finally started to put everything together. He could run anything from the 100 to 400 and compete with anybody. It all seemed to come together for him this year. The potential is there for him to improve quite a bit in college."

Kevin Buford, Sr., Canton (400): The explosive sophomore dazzled as a football player last fall and he followed that up with a record-breaking track season for the Chiefs.

Buford finished 48.6 at the Division 1 state meet, earning him sixth place and breaking the 2000 school record of 49.3 set by Jerry Gaines.

"So he didn't really just beat it, he kind of crushed that school record," said Canton head coach Bob Richardson.

The All-Stater brings solid leadership and a strong work ethic to the team, qualities Richardson said augment his amazing running ability.

"Obviously he's very talented, he sees the big picture that the more success you get the harder you have to work," Richardson said. "Otherwise, stuff falls apart. We're looking forward to two more great seasons out of him."

Dan Martin, Jr., Salem (800): Martin eyed Salem's school record in the 800 run as something he could finally reach as a senior, but his red-hot finish to 2010 helped him get it a year early.

His strong, first-place time of 1:56 at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park-hosted D1 regionals made the pursuit more immediately realistic, Meteyer said.

Martin's FAT of 1:53.4 at the Rockford-hosted state meet gave him his record along with an All-State status for finishing in fifth.

"Dan (then) ran great at the state meet, earning a fifth place finish," the coach continued. "He'll set his sights even higher next year in that event, as well as the 400 and 200."

Matt Neumann, Sr., Plymouth (1,600): The senior proved that working hard and being at the front of the pack during practice can pay

2010 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS TRACK TEAMS

Shot put: 1. Kyle Brindza, Jr., Plymouth; 2. Ed Merli, Sr., Salem; 3. Dana Baltazar, Sr., Salem.

Discus: 1. Nate Coleman, Sr., Livonia Franklin; 2. Sean McAuliffe, Sr., Franklin; 3. Tom Norris, Jr., Farmington.

High jump: 1. Jordan Allen, Sr., Plymouth Christian; 2. Anthony Blair, Sr., Westland John Glenn; 3. Pawan Dahliwal, Sr., Plymouth.

Long jump: 1. Scott Coppola, Sr., Livonia Churchill; 2. James Vincent-Taylor, Jr., Farmington; 3. Will Burek, Sr., Livonia Stevenson.

Pole vault: 1. Joe Marlow, Sr., Churchill; 2. Nick Alaniva, Jr., Canton; 2. Mike Kaplan, Sr., Franklin.

110-meter hurdles: 1. Shammah Carter, Jr., North Farmington; 2. Kenton Janzen, Sr., Farmington Harrison; 3. (tie) Antonio Hawk, Sr., Livonia Clarenceville; Chris Ryba, Sr., Farmington.

300 hurdles: 1. Scott O'Connor, Sr., Salem; 2. Ben Watts, Sr., Clarenceville; 3. Dennis Hardaway, Sr., N. Farmington.

100 dash: 1. Charles Anthony, Sr., Farmington; 2. Jeremy Langford, Sr., John Glenn; 3. Stefan Anthony, Jr., John Glenn.

200: 1. Jaifus Ingram, Sr., Farmington; 2. Zack Gaskell, Sr., Salem; 3. Kassius Kelly, Soph., Clarenceville.

400: 1. Kevin Buford, Soph., Canton; 2. Keith Marshall, Sr., Redford Union; 3. Anthony LeMerise, Jr., Plymouth.

800: 1. Dan Martin, Jr., Salem; 2. Warren Buzzard, Sr., Plymouth; 3. Matt Williams, Jr., Stevenson.

1,600: 1. Matt Neumann, Sr., Plymouth; 2. Zack Spreitzer, Sr., Canton; 3. Adam Chludzinski, Jr., Stevenson.

3,200: 1. Joe Porcari, Jr., Plymouth; 2. Thomas Winkle, Jr., Churchill; 3. Derek Gielarowski, Soph., Plymouth.

400 relay: 1. Farmington (Davud Kucukarslan, Sr.; James Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.; Charles Anthony, Sr.); 2. John Glenn (Rico Cole, Jr.; Luciano Kenie, Sr.; Stefan Anthony, Jr.; Jeremy Langford, Sr.); 3. North Farmington (Daniel Davis, Sr.; Chad Bridges, Jr.; Josh Smith, Sr.; Jason Ervin, Soph.).

800 relay: 1. Farmington (Anthony Ward, Jr.; Charles Anthony, Sr.; James Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.); 2. Clarenceville (Levonta Brooks, Sr.; Moses Hobson, Jr.; Leonard Hogan, Sr.; Kassius Kelly, Soph.); 3. John Glenn (Rico Cole, Jr.; Luciano Kenie, Sr.; Stefan Anthony, Jr.; Jeremy Langford, Sr.).

1,600 relay: 1. Salem (Scott O'Connor, Sr.; Ken Middlebrooks, Jr.; Zack Gaskell, Sr.; Dan Martin, Jr.); 2. Canton (Ben Spreitzer, Jr.; Jordan Wisniewski, Sr.; Keith Zech, Sr.; Kevin Buford, Soph.); 3. Stevenson (Pat Smith, Jr.; Travis Gosselin, Sr.; Adam Chludzinski, Jr.; Matt Williams, Jr.).

3,200 relay: 1. Plymouth (Matt Neumann, Sr.; Justin Heck, Jr.; Joe Porcari, Jr.; Warren Buzzard, Sr.); 2. Canton (Keith Zech, Sr.; Max Schmiel, Sr.; Paul Rakovitis, Sr.; Zack Spreitzer, Sr.); 3. Stevenson (Adam Chludzinski, Jr.; Travis Gosselin, Sr.; Matt Williams, Jr.; Joe Urso, Jr.).

CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR

Jon Mikosz, Plymouth
Charles Bridges, Kim Sturm, Farmington

off during meets.

Neumann finished third at the D1 regional with a time of 4:33 and also had solid performances in the conference (2nd, 4:35.93) and association (5th, 4:29.02) meets.

"Matt was my go-to-guy that I could rely on in any situation," Mikosz said. "He can run anything from the 400 to the 3200 and would never question or complain."

"He would just go out and give it his all. It is the main reason he holds two Plymouth school records."

Joe Porcari, Jr., Plymouth (3,200): Porcari enjoyed an outstanding season in 2010 and he'll have one more year with the Wildcats, to the chagrin of Plymouth's KLAAs opponents.

He was first at the D1 regional with a personal best and school record time of 9:42.60. At the subsequent state meet, Porcari's 9:57.97 earned him 32nd place. He finished seventh at the association meet (9:58.4).

Next year could bring more of the same and then some, perhaps enabling him to add to his growing list of accomplishments. Besides the 3200 run, he also is part of Plymouth's record-holding 3,200-meter relay team.

"Joe, as a junior, is a talented runner who has yet to reach his full potential," Mikosz said. "Once he realizes what he is capable of he could end up being one of the best runners in school history."

FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

Farmington, 400 (David Kucukarslan, Sr.; James Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.; Charles Anthony, Sr.): The Falcons placed third in the D-1 state meet, setting a school record with a time of 42.27 seconds. They also set an Oakland County record with a winning time of 42.48.

"That was a great accomplishment, and the time was a phenomenal time," coach Bridges said of the state result. "Going back 25 years, that's going to win the state meet half those years or more. Watching how they came together this season,

Please see ALL-AREA, B3

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FINAL BOYS TRACK & FIELD LISTINGS

SHOT PUT
 Kyle Brindza (Plymouth) 52.3
 Ed Merli (Salem) 52.2
 Dana Baltazar (Salem) 50.10
 Nate Coleman (Franklin) 50.6
 Jon Aneed (Stevenson) 50.2
 Sean McAuliffe (Franklin) 50.15
 Jay Woolfork (Franklin) 49.0
 Bryan Bartig (Churchill) 48.10
 Deondre Hogan (C'ville) 47.6
 Ethan Walsh (Salem) 47.3

DISCUS
 Nate Coleman (Franklin) 156.1
 Sean McAuliffe (Franklin) 148.8
 Tom Norris (Farmington) 145.2
 Keith Choma (Plymouth) 145.1
 Ethan Walsh (Salem) 144.7
 Kyle Brindza (Plymouth) 141.6
 Jon Aneed (Stevenson) 141.1
 Bryan Bartig (Churchill) 136.10
 Keenan Erickson (Farmington) 134.0
 Max Madigan (Harrison) 130.3

HIGH JUMP
 Jordan Allen (Ply. Christian) 6-6
 Anthony Blair (John Glenn) 6-5
 Zack Gaskell (Salem) 6-3
 Ben Spreitzer (Canton) 6-2
 Anthony Ward (Farmington) 6-2
 Pawan Dahiwal (Plymouth) 6-2
 Matt Schacht (Canton) 6-1
 Stephen Pollard (Stevenson) 6-0
 Quinn Culbertson (Harrison) 6-0
 Scott Brewer (Stevenson) 5-11
 Antoine Banks (Franklin) 5-11

LONG JUMP
 Tendo Lukwago (Harrison) 22.4
 Scott Coppola (Churchill) 21-9.75
 James Vincent-Taylor (Farm.) 21-2
 Will Burek (Stevenson) 20.11.5
 Nick Alaniva (Canton) 20-10
 Charles Anthony (Farm.) 20-10
 Eric Wilson (Thurston) 20-5
 Alex Ruffin (Plymouth) 20-4
 Joe Marlow (Churchill) 20-3
 Tom Crawford (Salem) 20-2.75

POLE VAULT
 Joe Marlow (Churchill) 14-2
 Nick Alaniva (Canton) 13-10
 Mike Kaplan (Franklin) 13-0
 Derek Draplin (Salem) 12-11
 Grant Senkbeil (Plymouth) 12-11
 Carl Rayford (Churchill) 12-7
 Joe Bockstanz (Plymouth) 12-6
 John Krutty (Salem) 12-6
 Michael Greer (Churchill) 12-3
 Anthony Delpiero (Harrison) 12-3

110-METER HURDLES
 Shammah Carter (N. Farmington) 14.5

Kenton Janzen (Harrison) 14.9
 Beneth Akalefu (Harrison) 15.0
 Chris Ryba (Farmington) 15.1
 Will Burek (Stevenson) 15.1
 Antonio Hawk (Clarenceville) 15.1
 Zach Musial (Luth. Westland) 15.3
 Denzel Owens (Harrison) 15.3
 Watts (Clarenceville) 15.4
 Brandon Piliagian (Plymouth) 15.4
 Darius Davis (Farmington) 15.4

300 HURDLES
 Scott O'Connor (Salem) 39.4
 Ben Watts (C'ville) 40.6
 Kenton Janzen (Harrison) 40.9
 Dennis Hardaway (N. Farmington) 40.9
 Brian Miller (N. Farmington) 41.0
 Will Burek (Stevenson) 41.1
 Ben Spreitzer (Canton) 41.2
 Brandon Piliagian (Plymouth) 41.3
 Rico Cole (John Glenn) 41.5
 Shammah Carter (N. Farmington) 41.5

100 DASH
 Charles Anthony (Farmington) 10.7
 Jeremy Langford (John Glenn) 10.8
 Keith Marshall (RU) 10.9
 Scott Coppola (Churchill) 11.0
 Kassius Kelly (Clarenceville) 11.0
 Stefan Anthony (John Glenn) 11.0
 Jason Ervin (N. Farmington) 11.0
 Will Ferguson (Harrison) 11.0
 Chris Pride (Harrison) 11.0
 Richard Duncan (Franklin) 11.1
 Vaughn Frederick (Garden City) 11.1
 Levonte Brooks (C'ville) 11.1
 Davud Kucukarslan (Farm.) 11.1
 Jaifus Ingram (Farm.) 11.1

200
 Jaifus Ingram (Farmington) 22.1
 Zack Gaskell (Salem) 22.2
 Aaron Burbridge (Harrison) 22.2
 Kassius Kelly (Clarenceville) 22.4
 Chris Pride (Harrison) 22.5
 Jeremy Langford (John Glenn) 22.6
 Kevin Buford (Canton) 22.6
 Stefan Anthony (John Glenn) 22.6
 Charles Anthony (Farm.) 22.7
 Jason Ervin (N. Farmington) 22.7

400
 Kevin Buford (Canton) 48.6
 Zack Gaskell (Salem) 49.6
 Dan Martin (Salem) 49.6
 Keith Marshall (RU) 49.7
 Chris Massey (Harrison) 50.6
 Anthony LeMerise (Plymouth) 50.9
 Jaifus Ingram (Farm.) 51.1
 Leonard Hogan (C'ville) 51.2
 Matt Williams (Stevenson) 51.27
 Daniel Davis (N. Farmington) 51.6

800
 Dan Martin (Salem) 1:53.3
 Warren Buzzard (Plymouth) 1:54.6
 Matt Williams (Stevenson) 1:59.4
 Derek Head (Harrison) 2:01.1
 Ben Anens (N. Farmington) 2:01.5
 Francis Mensah (RU) 2:02.3
 Ryan Dukes (Harrison) 2:02.4
 Justin Heck (Plymouth) 2:02.6
 Ken Russ (Harrison) 2:03.0
 Adam Chludzinski (Stevenson) 2:03.35

1,600
 Matt Neumann (Plymouth) 4:27.8
 Warren Buzzard (Plymouth) 4:32.6
 Dan Martin (Salem) 4:33.55
 Joe Porcari (Plymouth) 4:34.2
 Zach Spreitzer (Canton) 4:36.5
 Adam Chludzinski (Stevenson) 4:37.54
 Thomas Windle (Churchill) 4:39.1
 Austin Jones (Franklin) 4:40.42
 David Hong (Farmington) 4:41.2
 Nimantha Herath (Farmington) 4:41.4

3,200
 Joe Porcari (Plymouth) 9:42.3
 Thomas Windle (Churchill) 9:45.8
 Derek Gielarowski (Plymouth) 9:52.2
 Austin Jones (Franklin) 10:01.4
 Matt Neumann (Plymouth) 10:02.6
 Nimantha Herath (Farm.) 10:06.0
 Quinn Osgood (Churchill) 10:18.8
 Steve McEvilly (Salem) 10:19.4
 David Hong (Farm.) 10:22.4
 Anthony Williams (N. Farm.) 10:26.8

400 RELAY
 Farmington 41.8
 Westland John Glenn 42.9
 North Farmington 42.9
 Farmington Harrison 43.2
 Livonia Stevenson 43.96

800 RELAY
 Farmington 1:28.9
 Farmington Harrison 1:29.8
 Clarenceville 1:30.2
 Westland John Glenn 1:30.2
 North Farmington 1:30.6

1,600 RELAY
 Salem 3:21.1
 Canton 3:21.7
 Livonia Stevenson 3:24.4
 North Farmington 3:25.5
 Plymouth 3:27.1

3,200 RELAY
 Plymouth 7:54.6
 Canton 8:00.26
 Livonia Stevenson 8:03.4
 Farmington Harrison 8:18.0
 Farmington 8:18.8



Canton Cup champs
 The under-14 Dearborn Heights Soccer Club Strikers, formerly the Livonia Fire, captured four straight games Memorial Day weekend to win its division in the Canton Cup held at Independence Park. In the championship final, the Strikers defeated the Royal Oak Renegades, 4-3, in a shootout that went two scoreless overtime periods and 26 penalty kicks. Team members include: Taylor McLeod, Katie Tomasic, Tori Irwin, Rachel Hahn, Maddy Caves, Bri Turri-Cesarz, Lauren Wandzel, Emily Mulcahy, Sarah Mulcahy, Kaylyne Perian, Kellianne Meakin, Stephanie Norwood, McKenzie Cronin, Nicole Collins, Amanda Hawkins, Mariah Brooks, Haley Beaudoin and Mykela Hawkins. The Strikers are coached by Marty Caves and Mike Mulcahy.

Medal contenders
 Hockey takes center stage in 2010 Meijer Games

BY TIM SMITH
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

February's electrifying Winter Olympics hockey showdown between Canada and the United States is still a hot topic for anybody involved with the sport.

And for Michigan high school hockey players they'll have a unique chance to compete in what's being touted as "an Olympic-style sports festival" later this week.

The 2010 Meijer State Games of Michigan will give hockey teams from the state's eight regions the opportunity to go after each other for medals and bragging rights. Competition takes place Thursday through Sunday, June 27 in Grand Rapids.

Hockey is just one of 15 sports on the State Games menus. Others include rowing, boxing, swimming, basketball, figure skating, rugby and track & field. About 3,500 athletes of all ages from across the state will compete.

The hockey games will be slated for Walker Ice & Fitness, Kentwood Ice Arena and Belknap Park Arena (Griffs Icehouse) with each team guaranteed a four-game

slate. Semifinal crossovers are Saturday with the medal round games June 27 at Griffs, with gold, silver and bronze medals on the line.

"I think it's really interesting," said Plymouth varsity boys hockey coach Paul Fassbender. "It should be a lot of fun for players to play in a mini-Olympics. It's a very unique opportunity."

Two of Fassbender's 2009-10 players, defenseman Justin Bauer and forward Ryan Brown, are two of six PCEP players to suit up for the Metro West squad.

Canton forward AJ Rosales and defenseman James Lafontaine will compete on the team as will Salem forward Mark McGee and blueliner Ryan Quigley. The Metro West general manager is Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher, who could not be reached for comment.

Livonia Churchill's Pete Mazzoni will be the head coach with other assistants including Farmington's Mark Vellucci and Novi's Todd Krygier.

Those team officials had the tough task of putting together a 20-man roster from a deep and very talented pool of players.

"They were looking for (play-

ers to fill) roles," Fassbender noted. "Such as having two top lines, good skaters, a lot of skill. There are a lot of good kids who tried out."

That selection process wasn't so cut-and-dried, either.

"It was a big learning experience," Fassbender said. "Some players got cut who thought they were really elite players, and others made the team who were thinking they weren't in the elite field."

Still, he added that the 2010 Meijer State Games should be a lot of fun for players and families alike, as well as a once-in-a-lifetime chance.

Other players from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association on the Metro West include: Churchill forward Steven Klisz; Livonia Stevenson forwards Timothy Pruchnik, Justin Shureb and defenseman Christian Wood; Novi forward Joey Ferriss, defenseman Brock Krygier and goaltender Michael Pesendorfer.

North Farmington defenseman Andrew Debrincat also is on the squad, as is Orchard Lake St Mary's goalie Joe Janiga.

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ALL-AREA
 FROM PAGE B2

if those guys had another year, we could go even faster. We're going to run at the New Balance Meet national meet, and I think we can run faster. We'd love to break 42 seconds."

Farmington, 800 (Anthony Ward, Jr.; Charles Anthony, Sr.; James Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.): The Falcons set a school record when they ran 1:29.35 and finished sixth at the D-1 state meet. They were unbeaten in dual meets and placed second at Observerland. Bridges expected them to break 1:29 at the New Balance Meet last week.

"Those guys were very solid all year," he said. "As the season went on, they took ownership of those relays and getting the handoffs right. The kids take a lot of pride in getting the handoff through the zone faster than anybody else. It's nice to see kids with that kind of pride and confidence."

Salem, 1,600 (Scott O'Connor, Sr.; Ken Middlebrooks, Jr.; Zack Gaskell, Sr.; Dan Martin, Jr.): One of the year's top stories for Salem's track & field team was the way this quartet kept outdoing itself while repeatedly shattering the school record in the event.

At the D1 regional, O'Connor, Gaskell, Martin and Middlebrooks finished in first place with a time of 3:22.5 - breaking the school's 35-year-old record of 3:23.4 seconds.

"Breaking records that are four decades old is quite an accomplishment," said Meteyer about the Rocks' hard-working, determined relay team.

But the runners weren't done yet. At the state meet in Rockford, they repeated the feat with a FAT of 3:21.1, good for a seventh place finish.

Plymouth, 3,200 (Matt Neumann, Sr.; Justin Heck, Jr.; Joe Porcari, Jr.; Warren Buzzard, Sr.): Plymouth's impressive quartet included four academic all-staters (all with GPAs at or near 4.0) who simply refused to settle for anything but being the best.

Mikosz said they reached all the goals they set for themselves including finishing first at the D1 regional (8:01.90), KLAAs conference (8:05.73) and association meets (8:08.30).

Most importantly, they qualified for the D1 state meet and earned All-State status with an eighth-place showing of 7:54.49 - their personal best and a new Plymouth school record.

"This group of guys is probably the hardest working and most determined group of guys I have ever coached," Mikosz said.

The coach added that having senior Buzzard as the anchor seemed to take the pressure off the other three.

"You just knew, if the rest of the guys ran their race and kept us in the pack, that when Warren got the baton the race was over," Mikosz said. "Warren will be hard to replace."

CO-COACHES OF YEAR
Jon Mikosz, Plymouth: Mikosz had success as a cross country and track runner at the high school level as well as Eastern Michigan University.

Now, Mikosz is transferring his running expertise and knowledge to youngsters as a high school coach in both sports. Good things keep following him.

First, he received back-to-back honors as Observer Coach of the Year in cross country. This spring, his Plymouth boys track & field team kept his coaching mojo working - and the result was a 5-0

record in dual meets and KLAAs South Division championship as well as coach of the year kudos once again.

Plymouth also finished second at the KLAAs conference meet and won the D1 regional at PCEP despite thunderstorms and a thundering challenge from neighbors Salem and Canton (2nd and 3rd, respectively).

"This team was fun to coach because everyone knew their role and knew what was expected of them," Mikosz noted. "They lived up to the expectations that I had as a coach and ended up being the most successful team in school history."

Mikosz also acknowledged the key contributions of assistant coaches Kevin Palmer, Brad Fairchild, Will Hundley, Jeff Reynolds, Gary Stanford and Ricky Styes in helping the Wildcats reach that level of achievement.

But Mikosz said the work doesn't stop because of accolades. "Now that the team knows what we expect, we hope to keep the winning tradition going."

Charles Bridges and Kim Sturm, Farmington: As co-coaches of the boys and girls teams, they guided the boys to a third consecutive OAA White Division championship, an unprecedented seventh straight city crown, a regional runner-up finish and 14th place at the Division 1 state meet with two all-state relays and two all-state individuals.

"The award means we had the team of the year (as opposed to coaches)," Bridges said. "Without these kids, we're not coaches of the year. Kim and I think we have the best coaching staff in the area with Mike Harfoot, Jeremy Auer, Kirsten Alan and Greg Smith. You take one of us out of the mix, and we're not nearly as strong. We just have a great, great staff. It's a credit to the whole group."

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

Wayne Memorial (1-7-2): Megan Maynor, Sr. F; Erica Dye, Soph. Def.
Livonia Franklin (0-8-2): Alexis Smith, Soph. GK.

CENTRAL DIVISION
Northville (8-1-1): Shelby Foerg, Sr. GK; Stacy Clough, Sr. MF; Heidi Haller, Sr. Def.; Kelsey Ficus, Sr. Def.; Caroline Castell, Sr. MF; Mallory Weber, Soph. F.
Novi (8-1-1): Morgan Haffey, Sr. Def.; Taylor Hoover, Sr. Def.; Taylor Pyden, Sr. Def.; Nicki Carusa, Jr. F; Mollie Krick, Jr. MF.
Livonia Stevenson (5-4-1): Renee Boudreau, Sr. F; Kayla Kimble, Sr. Def.-MF; Ashley Welch, Sr. Def.; Krista Kane, Jr. Def.
Salem (4-4-2): Kristina Klusek, Jr. Def.

Madeleine Vaia, Jr. MF; Emily Lundh, Soph. F. South Lyon (1-7-2): Courtney Harrison, Jr. Def.; Andrea Pesch, Fr. F.
South Lyon East (0-9-1): Paige Colosimo, Fr. MF.

ASSOCIATION CHAMPION
 Canton
CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS
 Canton (Kensington)
 Grand Blanc (Lakes)
DIVISION CHAMPIONS
 Canton (South)
 Northville, Novi (Central)
 Walled Lake Northern (North)
 Grand Blanc (West)

MARIAN
 FROM PAGE B1

to keep it a one-goal game until the final seven minutes after the Blazers had to push more players up top.

"In the 2-0 loss the first time, (Reed) was great in that game, too," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "Today she showed what kind of goalkeeper she can be going forward. She was incredible."

The first goal bugaboo, however, came back to haunt the Blazers once again.

"We lasted two minutes and 30 seconds longer this time we did the last time," Shingledecker said. "It is what

it is. (Marian) is a great team. We just settled in after that, but you've got to score goals on them. Until you can do that, they're going to always win when they score."

Marian's backline also kept the Blazers from penetrating most of the 80 minutes of action.

"I think our defenders as a group - Liz Doman, Hanna Pateryn and Victoria Sollestre in the back - are just rock solid game after game," Brodsky said. "They may not get their names in the paper, but maybe now they will. As three defenders in the back, they are unbelievably solid."

The future looks promising as 15 of Ladywood's 20 play-

ers return for next season, but Shingledecker won't forget the efforts of his 2010 squad.

"We left it on the field," he said. "This is the best group of kids I've ever coached. Great experience from day one. I just couldn't be any prouder of the way my team played from the opening whistle to the end of the game."

"Just super proud. From the minute 'go,' they did everything we asked them to do. If you're going to lose to the best team in the state, in the tournament, and at this point, you can't be nothing but proud of what you accomplished."

"They're excited. They played well. They know what they did this year."

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Wolves win Cup

The under-17 Michigan Wolves defeated Michigan Rush, 2-1, to capture the Michigan Youth Soccer Association State Cup, June 13, at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac. Craig Neal (Auburn Hills) and Dan Jasewicz (Canton) scored goals in the championship final, while Nick Schroeder (Brighton) and goalie Blake Hunter (Novi) earned MVP honors. Other team members include: Patrick Duggan and Camden Iwasko, Livonia; Brandon Barfuss, Cody Hazen and Daniel Martin, Plymouth; Thomas Halewicz, Canton; Thomas Pickern, Northville; Joey Zywiol, Novi; Liam Marley McGehee and Gino Pulice, Ann Arbor; Adam Schiller, Milford; Zach Vasold, Freeland; Kyle Karagitz, Whitmore Lake; and Justin Ritchey, Willis. Adil Salmoni is the head coach, assisted by Gene Pulice. Cindy Hazen is the team manager. The Wolves advance to the US Youth Soccer Region II tournament, June 26-30, in Dayton, Ohio.



Meteors champs

The under-16 Livonia Soccer Club Meteors recently captured the first-place trophy at the Pacesetter Memorial Soccer Tournament in Sylvania, Ohio. Members of the Meteors include (front row, from left): Seth Whitehouse, Derek Puishes, Cameron Friesen, Bryon Bartig, Karl Tiama, Andrew Mira, Vincent Allen; (back row, from left) coach Craig Hearn, Sam Tracy, Nick Atwood, Spencer Knickerbocker, Andy Smith, Connor Ehr, Joe Hage, Tyler Reetz, Chad Evans, Austin Henson and Allen Woodruff.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

ous rally of the game in the top of the fifth frame. Following a bounce out by sophomore Cassie Ford, some good fortunes turned the Cougars' way when sophomore Tiffany Browne reached first base safely after striking out and seeing the ball get past the catcher. Moments later she beat the throw to second on a ground ball off the bat of teammates Kelsey Susalla to give the Cougars a pair of baserunners.

Sophomore Ashley Lynn followed with her own infield single to load the bases for the Cougars with only one out. That set the stage for the pivotal play of the game as sophomore Hillarie Werda chopped the ball back to Hudsonville hurler Sara Driesenga, who promptly fired home to catcher MacKenzie Ritsema for a force out on Browne. After stepping on home, Ritsema fired to first base in an attempt to complete the double play and end the inning. Her throw, however, clipped Werda in the back as she was striding for the bag and bounced into right field allowing Susalla to apparently score the tying run.

The run, however, was quickly nullified when the home plate umpire ruled decisively that Werda interfered with the throw to the base and was called out. The double play ended the inning and ultimately the hopes for the Cougars to advance onto the title game.

"I didn't have the best angle, but I thought her foot was probably on the line which is probably a good call, but I'm always skeptical of that because when you get within a step of first base, first base is in fair territory so you have to step on the line," answered Garden City coach Barry Patterson when questioned about the play. "But I'm never going to blame an umpire because I just refuse to do that. He was decisive. He made the call right away and what he saw is what he saw. I respect that."

"I just know we had another opportunity with runners on second and third but the one big swing. When you see a pitcher like (Driesenga) you know you're not going to score a lot, so when

you get an opportunity, you need the timely hit. Today we didn't get the timely hit."

All the Cougars could muster were four singles off the hard-throwing Driesenga who led her Eagle teammates into the contest sporting a lofty 41-1 ledger overall. Lynn stroked two of those base hits and Susalla and junior Deanna Hudson chipped in one apiece.

On the other end Susalla pitched exceptionally well, yielding nine hits to the heavy-hitting Eagles and allowing just the fourth-inning score that came after the first two batters had been retired. Singles off the bats of Brooke Agers and Bethany Murphy were promptly followed by a double ripped to right-center by sophomore Brianna Elliott.

"She (Susalla) poured her heart and soul into this entire season as did every girl," said Patterson, who saw his club conclude with a 28-6 record overall. "It was a well-played game by both sides. Both coaches and teams, parents, everybody, should be proud of the way the girls came out and played today. There were very few mistakes made. Both teams were forced to earn things and everybody had chances."

"We had our chance and they had their's," Patterson went on. "They cashed in on one and we didn't cash in. We had a couple of tight calls that were probably good calls, but it's the way the ball bounces sometimes."

The Cougars, who won the Division 1 crown in 2008, were so dominant throughout the post-season that, before yielding that run in the fourth inning, they had not played from behind since late in regular-season play.

"These girls have really matured since districts — even today we matured another level — so it's really, really great to see," Patterson said. "We have a big upside still, but one of the things you have to caution against is feeling too good."

"Next year we have to start at ground zero and try and really build ourselves back up. That will be my biggest challenge is to make sure they are working just as hard, so one day they can have this feeling again. It's such a great feeling to come here. This is what you're working for all year. It was a fantastic run and I'm very, very proud of them."

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Role model, mentor

Dad plays a crucial role in raising kids

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
 CORRESPONDENT

As dad encourages his child to explore and climb up to a newly built tree house, odds are that mom stands nearby armed with apprehension and a first aid kit.

The inherent characteristics that differentiate the sexes find themselves neatly packaged in the dynamics of average families. It's not a secret that women tend to be more verbal and emotional. On the other hand, men tend to talk less and take more risks.

"You have this beautiful balance in a healthy family," said the Rev. William Moore of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Canton Township. "I'm generalizing, but moms tend to be the relationship makers and dads are goal oriented. God knew what he was doing when he created men and women."

When fathers and fatherhood are celebrated today, June 20, children — young and old — will reflect on the men in their lives who guided them into the tough world of reality, who helped them establish personal and professional goals, and who taught them the consequences for bad choices and misbehavior.

DIFFERENCES

"Men nurture in a very different way," said Mike Kildee of the Michigan Fatherhood Coalition, which includes members in Wayne and Oakland counties. "Mothers are more about holding their children close. Men nurture by

Typically, it is dad who will enforce rules, or when their children want the benefits of maturity, but not its consequences and responsibilities. If a teenager begs for a car of his or her own, it is dad who tells them to get a job to pay for it. Mom, meanwhile, is likely pondering how she can afford a car for their child, Moore said.

encouraging them to try and take risks."

The coalition is a network of some 250 professionals — psychologists, judges, service agencies, and social workers — who work directly with families to raise awareness of the need for responsible fatherhood.

Like Kildee, area clergy and psychologists believe the roles men and women play in their families are equally difficult and equally important. Yet dads play a distinctly different role than mom in raising children. Some behaviors are based on how parents themselves were parented, while others are due simply to how men and women differ, he added.

"Fathers bring to the family relationship a certain course of boundaries and the fostering of self control over immediate gratification," Moore said.

Typically, it is dad who will enforce rules, or when their children want the benefits of maturity, but not its consequences and responsibilities. But as a teenager begs for a car of his or her own, it is dad who tells them to get a job to pay for it. Mom, meanwhile, is likely pondering how she can afford a car for their child, Moore said.

In his role as father, a man provides an additional layer of support for his children. But as the children mature, dads tend to defer more responsibility to them individually. "He lets life become the corrector of consequences. Dads are more realistic about life," Moore added.

DAD'S ROLE CRUCIAL

Psychologist Jim Dignan of Abundant Life Christian Counseling in Livonia believes fathers play a crucial role in providing children with support and a sense of security and self value.

While mom nurtures with hugs and kisses, dad — through example or discussion — nurtures by preparing his children for a competitive, and often, cruel world. "Typically, fathers will bond through an activity, whether it's sports, jokes, or stories," Dignan said.

Sports are often a dad's way of connecting with his son, while with his daughter he may seek another type of common interest that will encourage time spent together. "A father doesn't change his mode of operation between the kids,"

Please see **MENTOR, B7**

Juggling roles: He's dad and mom and loves it

Greg Hinkle, 41, of Garden City is dad and mom to his five children ages 15, 14, 11, 12 and 9. He is very busy and he *loves* every minute of it.

As you read this on Sunday morning — Father's Day — Hinkle and daughter, Elizabeth, 12, are participating in the Plymouth YMCA Father's Day Fun Run. He's running because he knows the exercise is good for him and because he is Elizabeth's dad and "she wanted to do this."

Hinkle's wife, Cynthia, died of complications from pneumonia in June 2009. She wasn't sick for long — about a week — but when she eventually ended up in the hospital it was too late. Her condition deteriorated and even modern medicine couldn't save the wife and mother of five.

The family was devastated but pulled together and life went on — forever changed — with help (from family), lots of love and patience.

Hinkle works tirelessly to give his kids the best dad possible. To that end, he underwent gastric bypass surgery in October 2009 "because I wanted to as healthy as I can for the kids."

He weighed 322 pounds at surgery (he lost weight before the surgery). He is now down to 218 pounds and wants to lose another 48-50 pounds in the next year.

Hinkle knows that



Greg Hinkle (back middle) is dad and mom to his children (from left back) Erich, 15; Christopher, 14; (front row left) Matthew, 11; Jason, 9, and Elizabeth, 12.

Erich, 15; Christopher, 14; Matthew, 11; Elizabeth, 12; and Jason, 9 are counting on him being around for a long time.

Hinkle, a 1987 graduate of Garden City High School, works full time as a quality leader at the Ford Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne.

He says his biggest challenge is trying to be both mom and dad to his young, energetic family. He gets help from Sherri Frost, his late wife's sister, and his dad, John Hinkle for which he is grateful.

Please see **JUGGLING, B7**

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McCann: Dad set the bar high

My father is very special because of his dedication to family and community.

Throughout his lifetime he has made a special effort to remain close, not only to my family, but to his brothers and their children as well.

His dedication to the community was not just being a Judge. It was being involved in the Michigan District Judges Association, the Tenure Commission, creating the Probation Department, and drug abuse counseling. He always remained involved in every aspect of his work. To this day, he still represents the Michigan District Judges Educational Association.

My father pushed all of his children to get a strong education. My brother Wade, my sister Kathleen and I received our jurist doctorate degrees from Detroit College of Law (now Michigan State College of Law). My sister Maureen received a master's degree in education from Michigan State University. My father urged his children to excel in our

jobs and be involved professionally within our field. I am on the Board of Directors of the Wayne County Probate Bar Association and serve as president of the Livonia City Council.

When I walk into the James R. McCann Hall of Justice I feel a real sense of pride of my father's accomplishments and his teachings. It brings out the emotional attachment I have to a community where I was born, raised, and have raised my family.

Although it is hard to express in words how important a person is to you in your life, my parents created a culture and gave us the tools we needed to succeed. We have been fortunate to raise our children in such a wonderful city and have our family so involved in the success of our community.

James McCann is president of the Livonia City Council. He and wife, Linda, have four children and one grandson.



Retired 16th District Judge James R. McCann (left) is pictured with his daughter, 16th District Judge Kathleen McCann, and son, City Council President James C. McCann, earlier this year at Livonia 175th anniversary celebration.

Following in dad's footsteps: Judge pays tribute to her dad

My dad is an Irishman through and through. Every cliché and stereotype fits him like a fisherman's sweater from the old sod.

He was gifted with wavy dark hair — which has changed several colors to find a respectable gray — and piercing blue eyes that either made his kids laugh hysterically or hide in fear. While he came from a very poor background, he did not lack in self esteem. Dad's father died when he was eight, leaving a widow and four boys during the height of the Great Depression.

He was called upon to contribute to the family as there were no employment opportunities for my grandmother. He worked paper routes, grocery deliveries and planted trees in northern Michigan as part of the CCC until the start of World War II.

Dad attended Cass Tech and was told that although perhaps not a scholar he was a very talented student. He didn't buy into that though and decided he was worthy of great

studies.

College would not have been likely without the GI Bill so Dad enlisted with the Army Air Corps right out of high school. He served in France, England and Germany before returning to college at Hillsdale.

Dad met and married my beautiful mother, Lillian, while they were still in college, and I was born less than a year later. Dad got a job teaching school in Ferndale and then along came my sister, Maureen.

He transferred to Dearborn where the pay was a little better and registered for law school at Wayne State University at night. He was a busy guy but he would give my mom a break and take my sister and I out on weekends to the drug store for a fountain Coke or to visit our grandmother.

A few years later Jim was born, Dad had a law degree and we needed more space. They opted for that western frontier Livonia, and bought a small but comfortable home on Westfield.

Dad needed his benefits, so he taught days and practiced law evenings and weekends. Within a year, in 1956, he decided this new place needed leadership and he was just the guy to lend a hand.

Dad filed for Livonia City Council, gathered his troops and all the neighborhood kids and won his first election.

Politics became a way of life in the McCann household. If Dad wasn't running for office he was running someone else's campaign. Once he was on the Livonia City Council he worked with others to bring order to the burgeoning growth of the city.

By 1960, Mom was pregnant again, this time with my brother, Wade. That meant another move, this time to the new area by Idle Wyld Golf Course. We were thrilled and thought that meant we would all take up golfing. Actually, it meant that we were the gofers for Dad's friends who needed a beer off the first tee.

Although Dad was busy during these times, we were very fortunate

children. Every summer, my parents would pack up a pop-up trailer and we would take off for a few weeks.

In 1966, Dad decided to run for the Municipal Judge position in Livonia. It was hotly contested and we all joined in again for door-to-door campaigning. Dad won that election and became the first District Judge in Livonia, the longest serving Judge from the District Bench on the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission and President of the Michigan District Judges Association and the Wayne County District Judges Association.

My dad had many other professional accomplishments, however, the best thing about him is that he always made us feel loved and protected. When we rebelled (and being Irish we each did to some degree) he took it somewhat in stride.

He was a strict disciplinarian. My mom figured that he always said "no" so we would learn how to argue.

He told me when I was very young that I should go to law school, and

after watching him for so many years, it seemed like a natural goal.

Dad has always been ambitious for each of us, however, his ultimate goal is only that we are happy and healthy. No one has loved life more than my dad. He enjoys every occasion, every job, and almost every person he meets.

I had the great pleasure of taking over as judge when he retired in 1994. I have always been proud of the attorneys who come in and wish him the best and I am grateful every day that the Court I now work in bears his name.

When I see his face on the plaque I always remember those blue eyes, his indomitable energy, and his laugh... he could always make us laugh.

Kathleen McCann is chief judge of 16th District Court in Livonia and the eldest child of James and Lillian McCann. She is president of the Michigan District Judges Association and chair of the Judicial Tenure Commission.

Dad, children create harmonious relationship through music

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
CORRESPONDENT

Music — the love of it and the performance of it — is a common bond in the relationship Larry Hutchinson has with his children. But he's the first to admit that it's his mom who knows the details of his children's lives.

"I think at least in our family, Carol (Hutchinson) is so much more involved in the details. I tend to be the one on a need-to-know basis. I often learn of things after the fact," said the Farmington resident.

A professional bassist and full-time member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Hutchinson is the father of Brian, 38, Chris, 22, and Ashley, 19. He is also a grandfather to Brian's two children.

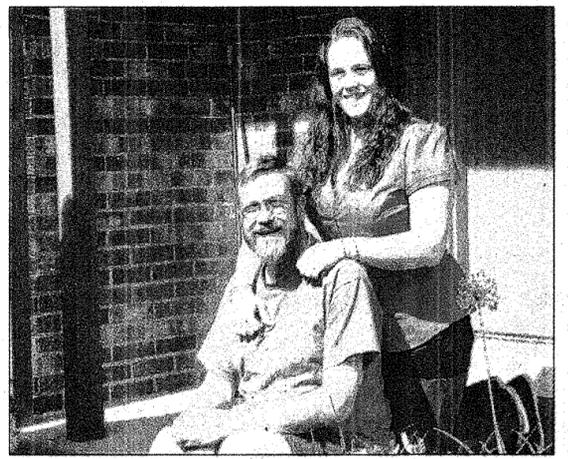
Although he doesn't know all the details of his children's daily lives, Hutchinson said he is much more involved than his own father was. "I always felt much closer to my mom. I had intimate conversations with my mom. But my relationship with my dad changed when my mother passed away."

Hutchinson has watched the relationship with his children change as they have matured. Brian, his son from a previous marriage, lives in Arizona. Chris just graduated from Kalamazoo College and Ashley attends Michigan State University, where she studies music education.

"Now that I am in music, it's given us more to talk about," said Ashley, who just finished her first year at MSU. "I'm going through what he has gone through."

CLOSE TIES

With Chris, a guitarist, Hutchinson found an instant connection with their shared love of jazz music. He also saw their relationship take on a new life when he invited his



Larry Hutchinson of Farmington and his daughter, Ashley, 19, share a love of music.

younger son to a jazz convention in Pennsylvania. The two are developing a stronger and deeper relationship that has included a "guy movie week," an event that does not include "mommy movies," Hutchinson said.

But he does believe being the father of a daughter is quite different than parenting his sons. "Teenage girls have more things to go through," he said.

More than that, Hutchinson said he has a special bond with Ashley because he was the one who delivered her — right on the staircase in their home. "It took one hour and 10 minutes."

Even though he realizes he is the parent who learns of things long after they have happened, Hutchinson spent time with Ashley in a different way than he did with his boys.

"I used to carry her in a backpack. I would take her to the mall and the zoo. I even had a rearview mirror on me so I could see her."

DIFFERENT CONVERSATIONS

As the youngest child and the only girl, Ashley chalks

up her love of sports to hanging out with her brothers and their friends. Dad just isn't into sports. And, sure, her conversations with her dad are different than the ones she has with her mom.

"I really don't talk about personal relationships with Ashley. It is more about social things with friends, and politics," Hutchinson said.

Though Ashley and her dad are close, Hutchinson still defers a lot to his wife. "When I ask him things, he'll say, 'I don't know. Go ask your mom,'" Ashley said.

"But mom knows the plans," Hutchinson defended, adding that he believes he is able to have simple fun with his kids "because I am not the sergeant at arms."

Reflecting on the years he and his wife raised their children, Hutchinson believes dads should just enjoy their kids because they grow up so fast.

Ashley has a different take on fatherhood: "Be firm. But at the same time, let your kids make their own mistakes. Just be there when they screw up."

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Breakfast with dad is always special

I've never been one who relishes belonging to an elite group. But in one respect I do belong to a specially blessed group that gives me a feeling of daily gratitude.

I'm a son who gets to eat breakfast each week with my dad. For the younger among us, it may seem a mundane occasion. But for me it's a grand event. Every week, when I'm not on the road working, Vic Barnaby, my dad, and I gather at Bode's restaurant in Plymouth to order our precisely cooked eggs (Dad's, over easy, mine, over hard), corn beef hash, bacon and wheat toast.

Each week is a unique experience, the conversation ranging from the mundane to the magnificent. Politics, movies, new books, computer challenges and, of course stories from "the good old days." Dad and I are both expert at the later.

We laugh a lot, vent our frustrations over the political issues of the day, celebrate our differences and listen to each other's everyday concerns. Every once in a while a tear or two is shed.

This breakfast tradition began a decade or so ago. I was eating lunch with a business colleague. In the course of our conversation, I made reference to my dad. The reply from my client was life-changing.

"Steve, I would do anything to have 15 minutes to talk with my dad just one more time in my life," he said, noting that his father had died several years previously.

On the way to my next appointment I was on my cell phone to my dad.

"Pa, I've got an idea. I think we should meet for breakfast once a week." Of course, being the great dad that he is, he readily agreed, despite the



Steve Barnaby of Plymouth Township and his dad, Vic, enjoy breakfast at Bode's on North Main Street in Plymouth.

Each week is a unique experience, the conversation ranging from the mundane to the magnificent. Politics, movies, new books, computer challenges and, of course stories from "the good old days." Dad and I are both expert at the later.

fact that I had pretty much neglected our relationship, choosing rather to spend more than enough time on my career.

"And Pa, I love you." I concluded our conversation.

My dad was in his 70s at the time. Now he is in his middle 80s.

Our weekly breakfast meets have renewed our relationship. Not everyone gets another chance, but I did.

Recently, I was reminded of how fortunate I am. Coming

out of another restaurant where we occasionally meet, my dad tripped and took a hard fall. It was one of those slow motion incidents. Watching him fall, I thought I was losing my dad right before my eyes. I pictured a broken hip, an internal head injury or something even worse that would lead to his death.

He did fall hard, but quickly bounced to his feet. A large egg was rapidly growing on the side of his head. But a visit to the doctor determined that

all was fine.

The next week we had a good laugh as my dad sat at breakfast with sunglasses on to mask the two black eyes, the result of the fall.

"Well, Dad, we certainly dodged a bullet," I said as we left Bode's.

I grabbed his arm as we walked back to the car. "You are going to have to get used to me holding on to your arm, Pa. I'm not ready to lose you yet."

Indeed, I'm a lucky guy. I've gotten to spend a lot of additional 15 minutes with my dad.

Steve Barnaby lives in Plymouth Township. His dad, Vic Barnaby, a retired Detroit police officer, lives in Saline with his wife of more than 60 years, Beverly, and their cat, Max.

MENTOR

FROM PAGE B5

he added.

Even when teaching his son how to be a responsible male, a dad simultaneously shows his daughter how she should expect men to treat her. "He teaches her that respect from any man is part of the package," Dignan said.

Kildee agreed. "Of course, it depends on the relationship you had with your father. But fathers do model to their sons what it is to be a man and they model to their daughters what to expect from a man."

Raising a daughter can put a father on edge at times, simply because dad knows more about men than his little girl.

"We know what we were like at that age. But you have to establish a trusting relationship and explain to her what she should expect," Kildee continued.

TODAY'S DAD

The Rev. Debbie Schueneman, interim pastor for the Salem United Church of Christ in Farmington, believes fathers can handle girls as aptly as they do boys.

"I am married to a man with daughters," Schueneman said. "I don't see the difference. He is extremely involved with our daughters."

Schueneman's husband just might be part of a growing trend. Gone are the traditional

fathers of the Baby Boomer generation. Fathers of adults, who are now in their 50s and 60s, may have been portrayed as somewhat emotionally distant, tough and demanding, but always as the consummate bread-winner and stoic protector.

"I think there is a generation difference. A great deal has changed. I see fathers who are involved in the (church) mission trips and other activities," Schueneman said.

For Dignan the key is to establish a trusting relationship that allows both the parent and the child — regardless of gender — to communicate freely.

"I think the role of a father changes as children grow. During the first portion of life — like one to 12 years — a dad is trying to exercise love and responsibility for creating a model for responsible living," Moore said. "When they become teenagers, dad acts as a mentor. He is never quite a peer. Sometimes, parents rob their child when they try to be a pal."

Children want and need authority and limits in their lives. That's why psychologically and spiritually, Moore said, the father is an important figure in the family. The greatest gifts he can give to his children are acceptance, support, love, and sense that they are valued for who they are.

JUGGLING

FROM PAGE B7

ingly well," said Frost.

A native of Garden City, Hinkle moved away for a short time but moved back in 2000. He says he found comfort in his familiar community.

What does the future hold for Hinkle and his family?

"Endless possibilities," he said with a laugh. "They are running my life and it's great."

His mom died Feb. 6 this year so the family has suffered lots of hurt over the last couple years.

"Cindy's passing was tragic and devastating for our family but by the grace of God, Greg and the kids are doing amaz-



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REUNION CALENDAR

Belleville High School Class of 1971

Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail BHS.1971@yahoo.com. If on Facebook join the group by searching BHS reunion 1971 40th sign up site; also on CLASSMATES/REUNIONS.

Birmingham Groves High School Class of 1975

35th class reunion, Oct. 22-23, will include homecoming game, Friday night, and party, Saturday night, at The Birmingham Community House. Contact groves1975@gmail.com or Groves Class of 1975 - 35th Class Reunion, on Facebook.

Birmingham Seaholm Class of 1970

40-year reunion, 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18 at The Community House, in Birmingham. Visit www.seaholm-classof70reunion.com for information and to register contact information.

Bloomfield Hills Andover Class of 1970

Reunion planned 7 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Heathers; contact Cis Sloan Stokas at Quintop@aol.com.

Bloomfield Hills Lahser Class of 1990

20-Year Class Reunion Weekend is Aug. 6-7, with a meet & greet, family picnic and reunion party. For tickets and additional information, contact Matt Fox at subblime71@yahoo.com.

Dearborn Lowrey High School Classes of 1949-51

A joint reunion of all three classes will be held Sept. 26 at the Warren Valley Golf Club in Dearborn Heights. Call Peggy Webster at (313) 383-4699, Bob Rock at (313) 274-8370 or Shirley Vonn at (313) 291-6069. Or e-mail to yankeesouthern@hotmail.com.

Dearborn Heights Haston High Class of 1965

45-year reunion, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. July 24; Contact Pat Beadle-Kopczyk, 3334 Kneeland Circle, Howell, MI 48843, at (517) 552-1182 or e-mail to her at patkopczyk@aol.com.

Detroit Cody Classes from 1950-1969

Annual picnic for all '50s-'60s Cody Comets and friends, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 22, Nankin Mills Pavilion, at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. BYOB and bring a chair; organizing committee will supply music and memorabilia. The Optomystics will perform. Door

prizes, hot dogs, bottled water, T-shirts and sweatshirts, tassels and music CDs will be available. Free parking for classic cars. No need to register - just show up. Classmates.com will have information and photos from past picnics. Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134.

Class of 1965

Looking for graduates from the January and June classes for a September reunion. For more information call Tim Dunning at (248) 879-2148 or e-mail to timdunning@wowway.com or call Chris Snopkoski Nashlen at (734) 261-3116.

Detroit Mackenzie Class of 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

Class of 1960

50th reunion will be held Oct. 16 at The Marriott in Livonia. For more information contact: Tim Yarde at (248) 573-7147 or Russ and Judy (Mackinder) Sarns at (734) 464-7166.

Detroit Pershing Class of 1960

50th reunion festivities in September will be held at the Doubletree Guest Suites Fort Shelby in downtown Detroit. For more information call Sherry Forbush (Sharon Bailey) at (248) 994-0664 or Joan Harrington (Mazey) at (734) 595-7508.

Farmington High School Class of 1970

Planning reunion in 2010. Seeking classmates. Join the group on Facebook by searching Farmington High School Class of 1970 Reunion. Or e-mail Carla Campbell Lehn at dbiehn@aol.com.

Class of 1980

30-year reunion, 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 17, Dunleavy's Pub & Grub, 34505 Grand River, Farmington. Contact Kelly McDonald at kelly_fhs1980@yahoo.com and Farmington High School Michigan Class of 1980 on Facebook

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCLXL@yahoo.com.

Garden City East Class of 1964

Picnic, Aug. 21, in Garden City Park. For more information e-mail Karen Medwid Berry at karber@comcast.net or Teri Friedman at terifriedman@gmail.com

Garden City West Class of 1970

40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland. Dinner and DJ included for \$50 per person. Classmates from the classes of 1968-1972 also invited to attend. For more information, call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254.

Livonia Franklin Class of 1980

Reunion Friday July 30. Call Ron at (734) 834-2566 or send an e-mail to info@livoniafranklin1980.com

Livonia Stevenson Class of 1971

Reunion Potluck Planing Picnic, from 3-6 p.m., July 10 at the Clements Circle Park, located at W. Chicago and Harrison Roads, in Livonia. The 40th class reunion will take place July 9, 2011 at The Historic Wilson Barn, in Livonia. Contact Kay Zimmerman Thomas at (734) 855-4094.

Class of 1975

35th reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz, Canton, includes buffet, cash bar and DJ. Attire is dressy/casual. Cost is \$30 per person through PayPal or by check in advance or \$40 at the door. Send checks to Stevenson Class Reunion, 115 Continental Road, Cornwall, N.Y. 12518. Send PayPal payments to payments@institutionalmarkets.com Send e-mail correspondence to stevensonclassof75@yahoo.com. (845) 534-2228

Class of 1990

20-year reunion, Saturday, July 24. RSVP by July 1st for discounted tickets. Visit www.LivoniaStevenson1990.classquest.com for more details.

Oak Park High School Class of 1980

30th reunion, July 2-4; for information e-mail to ophighschool1980@yahoo.com

Plymouth-Canton, Plymouth-Salem Class of 1980

Joint 30th reunion with golf outing Sept. 3 and evening gathering, Sept. 4. For more information and to register on its Web

site visit <http://home.comcast.net/~1980cantonsalem/site/>. Contact the reunion committee at 1980cantonsalem@comcast.net.

Class of 1990

Joint 20-year reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, July 17 at The Woodlands Golf Course, 39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne, Cost is \$54 per person and \$108 per couple. Open bar, full buffet and music. Payment deadline is June 30 through PayPal or by mailing a check to Natasha Gulkewicz, Bank of America, 825 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. The check should be made payable to Gulkewicz. Questions? E-mail to pcpclassoft1990reunion@gmail.com

Plymouth High School Class of 1950

60th reunion, Saturday, July 10-11; contact Russ Maxwell at corumax@hotmail.com for details.

Redford Union Class of 1960

50-year reunion will be held 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14. For more information on the Redford Union reunion, contact Mike and Carol (Gerogeff) Pontius (248) 446-9948 or e-mail to mike-carol191500@att.net. Or call Tena (Fear) Keith at (248) 437-6827.

Class of 1970

Picnic, Saturday, July 10 at Lola Valley Park. Call Cindy at (586) 563-0566 or e-mail to REUNION1970RU@YMAIL.COM

River Rouge High School Classes of 1960-66

Reunion starts at 6:30 p.m., Aug. 21, at Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 N. Merriman, Westland. Cost is \$40 and includes buffet, cash bar, DJ. Mail check to Helen Mihas (Tassi) at Hawthorne Valley. Contact Trisha (Pat) Mihau, at (313) 843-2415 or e-mail to tmehi@yahoo.com.

Roseville High School Class of 1985

Seeking classmates for a 25-year reunion, Saturday, July 17 at American Polish Century Club. Tickets are \$40 per person. Deadline is June 22. For more information contact Gail Palmer at (248) 969-4272 or e-mail to rrs85reunion@earthlink.net

Royal Oak Dondero All Classes

Family picnic, 1-6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14, VFW Park, at Lincoln and Campbell in Royal Oak. Bring your own lawn chairs, food and non-alcoholic beverages. Admission

free; music provided. Presented by the Royal Oak Dondero Alumni Club. For more information call Jack Aardal at (248) 547-5389 or go to rodonderoalumni.org.

Royal Oak Kimball Class of 1960

50-year class reunion for January and June classes, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 14, at Red Run Country Club, located on Rochester Road, just north of 12 Mile. \$50 per person includes dinner and valet parking. Make checks out to "ROKHS Class of '60" and mail to Doug Forier, 4089 Giencastle, Troy, MI 48098. Include your full name (and maiden), spouse's name, current mailing address and e-mail to share with your classmates. Mail-in dead line is Aug. 1. For reservations after Aug. 1 or for questions, e-mail to usales@aol.com. The Drury Inn at Big Beaver and I-75 and Hampton Inn, at Stephenson Highway and 14 Mile, in Madison Heights are offering discounts for reunion participants: E-mail to usales@aol.com to obtain a list of attendees and lost classmates and help the organizing committee locate alumni.

St. Agatha All school

For all graduates, students, teachers, and friends of St. Agatha Grade School and High Schools, members of St. Agatha Parish and St. Katharine Drexel VHS, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Aug. 21 at Capitol Park, 26590 Capitol, Redford. Pack your lunch or bring your grill and baseball/softball gear. There is an area for soccer/football and a skatepark. For more information, or to donate your time/services in getting the word out or by providing something you think may be a welcome addition to this event, contact Jan at aggiesreunion@yahoo.com. Visit the reunion Web site at www.redfordaggies.com.

St. Hyacinth All school

Saint Hyacinth Grade School and Commercial High School plan a reunion, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the school's closing, at 11 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 19 at St Hyacinth Church, 3151 Farnsworth, Detroit. Mass at 11 a.m., school open house, snacks and refreshment. For more information, call the rectory at (313) 922-1507.

St. Suzanne

The West Grands Catholic Youth Organization at the Detroit

parish school plans a July 10 reunion. Call Rose at (248) 437-6621 or Sharon at (734) 522-7924

Utica Henry Ford II Class of 1982

Looking for classmates for a picnic planned on July 24 at Stony Creek MetroPark. Contact Gwynne (Doemer) Bambach at (248) 740-9759, ford21982@aol.com or visit www.classreport.org.

Warren Fitzgerald Class of 1968

6 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 9, at DeCarlo's Banquet Center, 10 Mile and Mound, Warren. Buffet dinner, cash bar. Tickets are \$35. Contact Ken Rix at (586) 781-4552, kenrix@ameritech.net, or Bill Ziemia at (248) 689-6216, billziemia1968@aol.com.

Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1985

25-year class reunion, Saturday Oct. 9, at the Livonia Marriott; contact Steve Johnson at (734) 635-0369 or Tanya (Ibrahim) Williams at (734) 223-5558.

West Bloomfield High School Class of 1980

Planning for a 30th reunion. The main event will be held July 17 at Hotel Baronette in Novi. More events the same weekend. E-mail the reunion co-chairs, Lori (Hess) Conklin at iconklin@conklinsystems.com or Jill (Butts) Beaulac at jibeau@cox.net.

Westland John Glenn Class of 1985

25-Year Reunion, 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., Sept. 25 at Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia. Tickets are \$25 per person before Aug 1. Includes appetizers and entertainment. Mail payment to JGHS Class of 1985, P.O. Box 871023, Canton, MI 48187 or contact Tracy Dunsmore at tracy1420@wideopenwest.com or (734)748-8904 for more information.

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25-Year Reunion, 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., Sept. 25 at Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia. Tickets are \$25 per person before Aug 1. Includes appetizers and entertainment. Mail payment to JGHS Class of 1985, P.O. Box 871023, Canton, MI 48187 or contact Tracy Dunsmore at tracy1420@wideopenwest.com or (734)748-8904 for more information.

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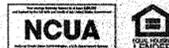
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MILESTONES

WATKINS-BEJGER

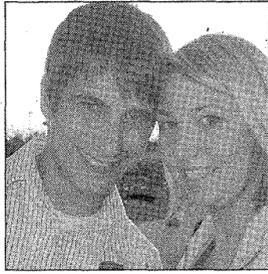
Amber T. Watkins and Spc. Jason Bejger announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Thomas and Debbie Watkins of Garden City, is employed as a receptionist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. Her fiancé, son of Brenda and Bill McCune, of Garden City, is serving in the Army National Guard. A June 2010 wedding is planned at McClumpha Park



Watkins-Bejger

DECEMBER WEDDING PLANNED

Claire Petersen and Brandon Ferraro announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of John and Colleen Petersen of Livonia, graduated in 2003 from Stevenson High School, Livonia. She earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 2007 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and is employed as a mechanical engineer at Medtronic, in Minneapolis, Minn. Her fiancé, son of Bob and Janice Ferraro, also graduated from Stevenson High School in 2003. He earned a bachelor of science degree in packaging engineering in 2007 from Michigan State University. He

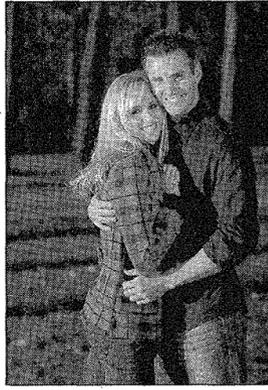


Petersen-Ferraro

is employed by General Mills, Minneapolis, Minn. A December 2010 wedding is planned at St. Aidan, in Livonia, with a reception to follow at Western Golf and Country Club, in Redford.

JULY WEDDING PLANNED

Stephanie Rothenberg and Matthew Carroll announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Kathie and Sol Rothenberg of Livonia, holds bachelor of arts degrees in Spanish and English and a master of arts degree in education, all from Michigan State University. She is a tenured Spanish and English teacher at Brighton High School. Her fiancé, son of Jeannine Tissington of Park City, Utah and Richard Carroll of Saginaw, holds bachelor of science degrees in psychology and biology. He works as a regional sales manager at Brinkmann Pumps Engineering, in Wixom.



Rothenberg-Carroll

A July 2010 wedding is planned at Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills.

CHANCE DAVID CURRIER

Chance David Currier was born April 14, 2010 at Providence Park Hospital, Novi. He weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 22 inches. Proud parents are Dave and Tracey Currier of Livonia. Grandparents are



Chance David Currier

Terry and Linda Crawford and George and Kathy Currier, all of Northville. Great-grandparents are Sue Murphy of Novi, Kathy Crawford of Farmington

Hills, George and Dorothy Currier of Novi and Norman and Phyllis Vecore of South Lyon.



Five generations

In this composite photo, Shalonda Hubbard of Detroit, (left) stands next to her mother, Margueta Hubbard of Detroit, who is next to Shalonda's great-grandmother, Barbara Finney of Livonia and grandmother, Rhonda Sylvester of Detroit, (right). Seated in the center is Willie Mae Clark, the family's great-great-grandmother from Ravenna, Ohio.

6/20/10
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JOHN F. VOS III

John passed away Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at the age of 70. He is survived and greatly loved by his wife Carol, sons J. Jeffrey (Jamie) Vos and Christopher Randall (Jennifer) Vos Sr. Grandchildren Tyler, Morgan, Emily, Christopher Jr., Calvin, Spencer, Cameron, Elizabeth and Genevieve. John spent his life as a practicing attorney. He made Plymouth his home since 1950 having graduated from Plymouth High School in 1957. He was the Past President of the Plymouth Rotary, an organization which he loved and was very dedicated to. Funeral Services will take place Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 11am at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Westland Stake, 7575 N. Hix Rd., Westland, Michigan. Friends may visit Wednesday at church beginning at 10am and at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Monday 4-8pm and Tuesday 2-8pm. Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Rotary Foundation. To share a special thought or memory: www.schrader-howell.com

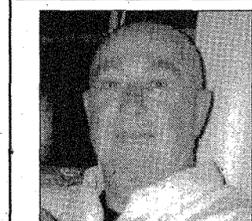
LAWRENCE CARDINAL

Memorial for Lawrence Cardinal. Location: St. Priscilla's Catholic Church, Livonia, MI, Time: 10:00am Monday, June 21st. Larry passed away May 8, 2010.



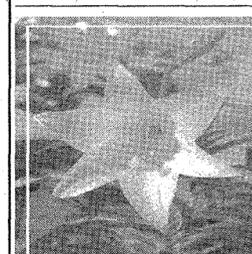
MARJORIE A. CLARK

84, died peacefully June 11 at her home in Sun 'n Lakes, Sebring, FL, after a long illness. Born & educated in Columbus, Ohio, & formerly of Birmingham & Troy Michigan, many will remember her indefatigably positive attitude & dedication to community service. Always willing to lend a hand, impeccably dressed & invariably coifed, Marge organized anything & everything to perfection, with a sense of humor & a ready & recognizable laugh. She enjoyed many activities, including golf, bridge, bowling, traveling, arts & crafts, decorating, & cooking. As our own Queen Mother, we will all affectionately remember her presiding over the deck of the cabin on our spectacular island hideaway, near Desbarats, Ont., Canada. She was beloved by all & will be dearly missed - John, Deborah, Rebecca, Jennifer, Sophia, Wes & Jeremy. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of America, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601-7633 or online at: alz.org/join_the_cause_donate.asp.



GEORGE M. CLELAND

Passed away on June 13, 2010 at the age of 85. Born in Detroit, MI on June 24, 1924. Mr. Cleland graduated from the Detroit Institute of Technology with a degree in Business Administration. While an undergraduate, Mr. Cleland served as the Treasurer of Chi Phi fraternity. A veteran of World War II, he served with valor in the Pacific Theater in the U.S. Army's Quartermaster Corps. During his professional career in the aerospace industry, Mr. Cleland supplied materials and product to the airline and air cargo industries. He was renowned and respected for his finely-tuned negotiation skills, and was twice called out of retirement to provide his expertise in negotiating with national and international clients. Mr. Cleland was an active member of various men's groups including the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. A dedicated family man, Mr. Cleland was noted for his devotion to church and love of his country. Mr. Cleland was the beloved husband of Geraldine; father of Lynda (Michael) and Kim (Michael); grandfather of Colby, Kendall, Jordan and Chelsea; and great grandfather of Campbell. Memorial contributions may be made to The Salvation Army or First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. A memorial service will be held in July, 2010. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500 view obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



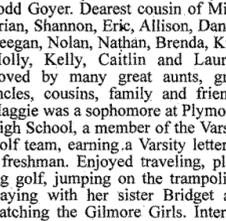
ERNESTINE W. (NEE DRAKE) DURHAM

Age 91. June 12, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Walter, Jr. Loving mother of Cheryl (Phillip) Beuckelaere. Cherished grandmother of Amanda and Matthew. Funeral services were held Wednesday at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. www.thayer-rock.com



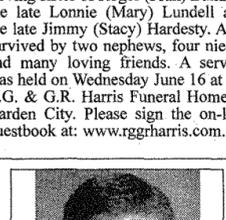
MAGGIE KATHLEEN FURLONG

Age 15, of Plymouth, suddenly June 16, 2010. Loved daughter of Cheryl and Dennis. Best sister ever of Bridget. Dearest granddaughter of Robert and Ellene Moeller, Beverly Moeller, Maggie and Jim Fieler, and the late Daniel and Kathleen Furlong. Cherished niece of Maureen and Gary King, Kevin and Cindy Furlong, Anne and John Hill, Sean and Dianna Furlong, Gary and Sherrie Moeller, Lori and Gerry Mullen and Sandy and Todd Goyer. Dearest cousin of Mike, Brian, Shannon, Eric, Allison, Daniel, Keegan, Nolan, Nathan, Brenda, Kim, Molly, Kelly, Caitlin and Lauren. Loved by many great aunts, great uncles, cousins, family and friends. Maggie was a sophomore at Plymouth High School, a member of the Varsity Golf team, earning a Varsity letter as a freshman. Enjoyed traveling, playing golf, jumping on the trampoline, playing with her sister Bridget and watching the Gilmore Girls. Interred at Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia, Michigan. Donations in memory of Maggie can be made to the Plymouth-Canton Education Excellence Foundation Maggie Kathleen Furlong Memorial Scholarship Fund.



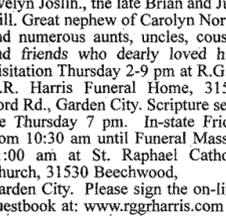
FREDRICK CLARK PYLE

Age 60, of Pahrump, Nevada, formerly of Livonia MI, passed away May 17, 2010. Beloved husband to Melodie, Dear father of Matthew (Theresa) and Scott (Renee). Grandfather to Jacob, Lauren, Payton and Cooper. A small memorial will be held in Michigan this July.



WILMA LEE (HARDESTY) GELINAS

June 13, 2010, Age 49, of Garden City. Beloved daughter of the late Claude (Cotton) and Deloris (Dee) Hardesty. Loving sister of Roger (Fran) Lundell, the late Lonnie (Mary) Lundell and the late Jimmy (Stacy) Hardesty. Also survived by two nephews, four nieces and many loving friends. A service was held on Wednesday June 16 at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Garden City. Please sign the on-line guestbook at: www.rggharris.com.



JORDAN ROBERT HILL

Age 20, June 14, 2010 of Westland. Beloved son of Shawn and Kimberly. Loving brother of Sarah. Grandson of James and Helen Joslin, and the late Evelyn Joslin., the late Brian and June Hill. Great nephew of Carolyn Norton and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends who dearly loved him. Visitation Thursday 2-9 pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Scripture service Thursday 7 pm. In-state Friday from 10:30 am until Funeral Mass at 11:00 am at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City. Please sign the on-line guestbook at: www.rggharris.com

EDGAR JANES

June 14, 2010. Loving husband of the late Marion. Dear father of Diane (Bob) Hobbs, Bill (Kathy) Janes, Linda (Larry) Behringer, Susan (Gary) Dunning and Colleen (Gordie) Rowe. Grandfather of 13 and great-grandfather of 25. Brother of Harry and Bert and brother-in-law of Gracie. Edgar was a long time resident of Livonia, served in the Army in WWII from 1941-1945. His legacy is preserved in the many buildings that display his masonry skills. Later in life, he fulfilled his lifelong passions of golfing and ballroom dancing. Visitation Thursday 4-8 pm and funeral service 10 am Friday at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile, Livonia. Burial at Holy Sepulchre.

HENRY PAUL KRUSIK

June 14, 2010, age 93. Beloved husband of the late Katharine for 68 years who passed away June 16, 2009. Loving father of Kim Rae (William) Mikkelsen, Mark (Lori) and Brent. Dear grandfather of Ian Isaac Mikkelsen. A Funeral Service was held on Sat, June 19, 2010 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Henry was laid to rest next to his wife at Parkview Cemetery, Livonia, MI. Messages of condolence may be submitted in the online guestbook at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

MAUREEN L. MADISH

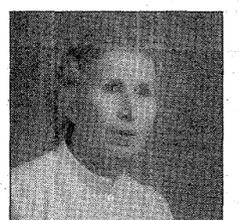
Age 67, June 14, 2010 of Westland. Loving mother of Jon (Autumn) Madish, Melissa Blanchard and Christopher (Tiffany) Madish. Proud grandmother of 8 grandchildren. Dear sister of William Cronin. Visitation Thurs 5-9PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Rd. (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill) Westland. Funeral Service Friday 12 Noon at the Funeral Home. Memorial contributions to the Michigan Humane Society would be appreciated. To share a memory please visit www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

MARSHA RAMBIE

Formerly of Birmingham and Rochester, MI, passed away June 15, 2010 at the age of 91 in Naples, Florida. Martha was very active at First Presbyterian Church Birmingham and remained very active in church work after moving to Naples, Florida. Her vibrant love of life, and her compassion for others has affected hundreds of lives, and her strong influence lives on as her legacy. She is survived by her three children, Gail Grenillo, Tim Rambie, and Deb Haines, as well as seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Memorial service will be at First Presbyterian Church in Naples, Florida on June 19, 2010. In lieu of flowers, should anyone desire to make a donation, the family asks that donations be made in Martha's name to Avow Hospice; 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105.

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.)
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In Memory Of



MARY ELIZABETH BRIGHT

March 4, 1917 ~ June 21, 2009

One year ago, the Lord called you home. You will never be forgotten. For though we are apart you are always and forever alive and within our hearts. We miss you!
 ~ Gene ~ Mikki ~ Misty
 ~ Ernie ~ Dutch



My Beloved, JOHN HENSLEY

It's been a year, I've shed many tears. To know that you are free from pain is comforting. Please know that all the family will always love you!
 ~Joan Hensley & Family



KRISTINE HUSSEIN (GRESKO)

June 22, 1979 ~ June 20, 2009

We cannot believe it has been a year since we lost you. The emptiness that we feel in our hearts without you is immeasurable. May you continue to watch over your little boys. We Love & Miss you Every day, Your Family



Pets star in calendar

The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) has extended its deadline for 2011 calendar photo submissions. Entries must be received by June 30. A \$20 tax-deductible entry fee guarantees your pet's photo will appear in MHS' 13th annual wall calendar, and 12 top photos will be selected for special "Pet of the Month" placement. For dog and cat photo entries, those wearing collars and ID tags, and cats photographed indoors, will receive the best consideration. Birds, rabbits and other companion animal photos are welcome as well. Download an entry form and complete photo guidelines at www.michiganhumane.org. Proceeds will help the Michigan Humane Society rescue and care for animals in need. Maddie, Bella and Oscar of Livonia earned a spot as the December Pets of the Month in this year's Michigan Humane Society calendar.

Local Zonta Club seeks scholarship applicants

The Northwest Wayne County Zonta club is offering a \$500 scholarship to assist women with their academic goals. Zonta International is a nonprofit women's organization that works to improve the status of women locally and globally. Women who live in Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Wayne, Garden City, Westland, Northville Township and the Wayne County portion of Northville are eligible to apply for the scholarship. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, attending a Michigan college or university, have a concentration in math or science and have successfully completed one year of undergraduate studies with at least a 3.0 GPA. The scholarship is renewable for a second semester with successful completion of course work. It is open to all women without regard to race, ethnic origin, disability or age. Request an application form by e-mailing to rsrand521@sbc-global.net. Applications must be returned by mail and postmarked by July 30. Scholarship money will be awarded in August for the fall 2010 semester. To learn more about Zonta International, visit www.zonta.org.

HEALTH

Sunday, June 20, 2010

hometownlife.com

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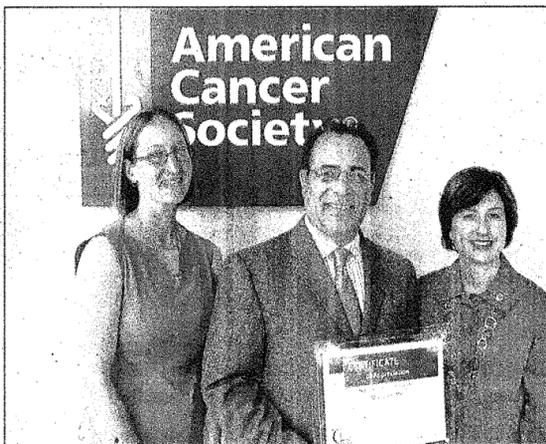
County in top 10 for cancer fund raising

Wayne County raised more than \$1.7 million for the American Cancer Society through its annual Relay for Life last year.

It ranked ninth nationally among other counties with 1 million or more residents for per capita Relay for Life fund-raising in 2009. This is the first time Wayne County has ranked in the top 10.

As the largest non-governmental organization committed to eliminating cancer, the American Cancer Society relies on an army of passionate, local volunteers to increase awareness and raise funds in support of its mission to eliminate cancer.

"We congratulate Wayne County for being a community dedicated to giving back and fighting cancer, not to mention meeting this hallmark during one of the toughest economic times in our region's history," stated Jill Elder, senior executive director, American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division. "We are inspired by our volunteers, whose hard work and dedication are the driving force behind the American Cancer Society's efforts to create a world with less cancer and more birth-



Jill Elder, senior executive director for the American Cancer Society (right), presents Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano with an award that recognizes county residents for their fund-raising efforts for the American Cancer Society. Theresa Burgess, a volunteer with Relay For Life of Redford, also was on hand at ACS's Southfield office for the award presentation.

days."

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano accepted an award of recognition on behalf of Wayne County on June 11. Ficano joined Theresa Burgess, a volunteer with the Relay For Life of Redford, at American Cancer Society's Southfield office for the award presentation.

Relay For Life takes place in more than 5,000 communities across the country, allowing community members an opportunity to celebrate those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost and participate in fighting back against the disease.

With an estimated 58 people diagnosed with cancer every day in Metro Detroit, the American Cancer Society relies on local

volunteers through events such as Relay For Life to help support its mission. Funds raised from Relay For Life events help the American Cancer Society save lives locally and across the country by investing in cancer research and providing critical support to patients throughout their cancer journey, including 24/7 access to information through cancer.org and a toll-free National Cancer Information Center at (800) 277-2345. The Society has approximately \$15 million currently invested in cancer research at Michigan hospitals and universities, providing promising cancer researchers the opportunity to make the latest advances in research.

Parents not prepared to reduce concussion risk among youth

With growing media attention to concussions among athletes young and old, and recent actions of the National Football League to reduce dangers from multiple concussions among its players, the spotlight is now on what schools are doing to protect their student-athletes.

Do parents feel that their kids are safe, and do parents agree with school policies?

The latest C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health finds that nearly two-thirds of parents of young athletes, ages 12-17, worry that their children will get a concussion while playing school sports — yet half don't know if their children's school has a concussion policy.

Over the past few years, researchers have found that youth athletes are more likely to sustain concussions, and to take longer to recover from concussions, than adults. If a second concussion occurs before a child's brain recovers from the first, there is a greater chance of long-term neurologic affects.

The poll, conducted last month, also finds that more than one-third of parents of young athletes are unaware of the dangers of repeat concussions.

"Even though parents of youth athletes lack awareness about effects of repeat concussions, they demonstrate strong support for strategies to minimize the risk of concussion," stated Sarah J. Clark, research assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Michigan, and associate director of the poll.

A majority of parents would support these school requirements:

- After a concussion, athletes would be evaluated and cleared by a doctor before returning to sports
- For coaches to receive education about the risks of concussions
- After a concussion, for athletes to have a mandatory period of nonparticipation in sports
- Having a certified trainer on hand for practices and games

Parents are aware of the pressure to allow young athletes to continue playing, despite injury. In fact, 62 percent of respondents know of a parent who would have a young athlete return to school sports too soon after a concussion, and 50 percent know of a coach who would have a player return too soon.

"These figures are not surprising to those who work in youth sports," Clark stated. "However, the latest research makes it clear that early return to play after a concussion is very risky."

High school athletic organizations, injury prevention groups and professional sports leagues have become increasingly active in promoting policies to minimize the risks of repeat concussions among young athletes. However, not all policies include educating parents, which Clark views as a missed opportunity.

"Parent involvement in guarding against repeat concussions is critical. Most concussions do not result in loss of consciousness, and symptoms may not occur until several hours after the injury. If young athletes are afraid of losing playing time, they may not be honest with the coach or trainer about their symptoms," Clark stated.

Parents are in a unique position to recognize concussion signs and symptoms that occur outside of school, and to work with coaches, trainers, and other health care personnel to ensure that their child is appropriately monitored throughout his or her recovery and return to play.

Some common signs and symptoms of a concussion include confusion, loss of memory, headache, dizziness, a sensation of the world spinning (vertigo), imbalance, lack of awareness of surroundings, nausea and vomiting.

If these symptoms appear after a head injury, Clark says to consult a medical professional promptly for a full evaluation.

Arthritis Today

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DELAY OR DECISION

The decision to undergo knee replacement surgery is a serious matter; taking time before agreeing to an operation is both common sense and a necessary caution against hasty action.

However, there are circumstances when delay in making a decision is not reasonable and only adds risk to personal health.

One instance where delay is damaging is when weight bearing x-rays of the involved knee reveal "bone on bone." What that phrase means is that knee cartilage is completely gone and that the 2 bones that form the joint are rubbing against each other.

Another instance where delay in knee replacement is dangerous is when x-rays indicated both knees are severely involved, not yet being "bone on bone," but nearing that point.

The reason that timely knee replacement is necessary is that in both instances the knee joint is unstable. That instability can lead to an unexpected fall, which in turn can result in a serious fracture of the head, hip, knee or ankle. Furthermore, if a fall and fracture occur, the usual sequence of events is that EMS takes the patient to the nearest hospital, and the orthopedist on call, not the patient, makes the decision of what operation is in order.

When a physician tells a patient that the only treatment for a painful knee is an operation, the patient can certainly obtain a second or even third opinion. But the patient must act in a timely manner. If the other doctors reach the same conclusion, the patient should decide promptly on the orthopedist to perform the replacement, and go forward immediately with scheduling and undertaking the preoperative clearance the surgeon required.

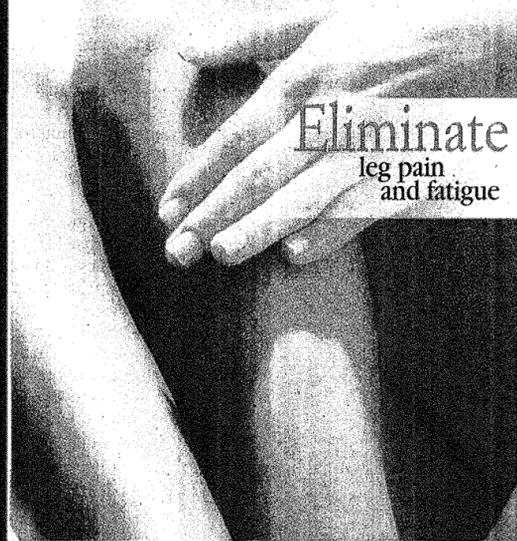
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