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SPORTS, B2

Holiday closings

Due to the Independence Day holiday, Westland city offices, including the Recycling Center, the William P. Faust Public Library and the 18th District Court, will be closed on Wednesday, July 4. There will be no recycling or garbage pickup on July 4 and collections will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. Police and fire services will not be affected.

The library also has new hours beginning today (Sunday, July 1). It will be closed Sunday and Monday. The new hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, noon to 9 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

The Westland Farmers Market also will not be open Tuesday due to the Westland Summer Festival which is set up in the City Hall parking lot. Look for the market to return 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 10.

Skate park

Beginning today (Sunday) the skating is free at the Westland Skate Park.

"People had been waiting for it to go free," said Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski. "But we won't have open skating during the (Westland Summer) festival."

That effectively means the free skating will begin Thursday, July 5. Previously, the cost was \$4 for residents and \$6 non-residents. "That's a pretty good savings," said Kosowski.

Annual sale

The Salvation Army's annual Fourth of July Sale is set for Wednesday, July 4, at its 33 metro Detroit thrift store locations.

Along with 50 percent off on clothing, bonus sales and savings will be announced throughout the day.

Proceeds benefit The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center, an independently funded, 180-day residential rehabilitation program for adults.

The Thrift Store is at 28982 Ford Road, east of Middlebelt. For more information, call (734) 261-7175.

INDEX

- Community Life..... B5
- Crossword Puzzle..... C3
- Education..... A4
- Health..... B9
- Homes..... C3
- Jobs..... C1
- Obituaries..... B8
- Services..... C3
- Sports..... B1
- Wheels..... C4

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Bailey Center closes

Services move to Wayne Rec

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

After a gradual winding down, Westland's Bailey Recreation Center officially closed Saturday afternoon.

"We had pretty much shut down, no one is using it," said Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski.

Classes that had been held at the Bailey Center have largely been relocated to the Wayne Community Center.

"The instructors have been very happy. They took most of their students with them and are adding more," said Kosowski.

Beginning in November under an agreement with

Wayne-Westland Schools, the Adams Upper Elementary School gym will be available for youth leagues 6-9 p.m. weekdays at no charge, said Kosowski.

"The only time it will cost to use the gym will be on Saturdays (when a custodian has to be called in)," he said.

During 16 of his 20

years working for the city, Kosowski worked out of the Bailey Center. Scheduled to retire in September, he will work from the Westland Municipal Golf Course and then spend time working at Modano Arena which will reopen in about six weeks.

The Bailey Center closing, which includes the outdoor swimming pool, coincides with the July 1 start of the fiscal year and is aimed at reduc-

ing operating costs by \$900,000. The Bailey Center brought in revenues that funded approximately half the cost of the operation.

Additionally, Westland and Wayne have merged their parks and recreation departments effective July 1. That comes a year after the two cities entered an agreement under which Westland and Wayne residents

Please see BAILEY, A2



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Memorial High School student Crystal Fletcher talks with school psychologist William Gray about her success in the Champions of Wayne program.

Champions measure success one point at a time

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

More than 500 people filled Wayne Tree Manor Tuesday evening to celebrate the academic success of a group of Wayne Memorial High School students.

Parents, teachers and Wayne, Westland and school officials applauded as the students collected checks for \$200 for meeting the goals they set as part of

the Champions of Wayne program.

Funded by businessman Richard Helppie, the program has grown by leaps and bounds since it was started in 2009 by school psychologist William Gray and Principal Valerie Orr.

"Last year, we were at the Wayne Recreation Center and celebrated 44 students who met their goals," said Champions of Wayne Director Sean Gavin. "We have 153 students

tonight. For those who want the math, that's more than triple last year's numbers."

The focus of the program is to improve student achievement. Students set a goal of improving the grade point average and are partnered with a mentor "who help them make that possible," Gavin said.

"Each student tonight has a unique story of triumph,"

Please see CHAMPIONS, A4

Firework safety urged by officials

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Michigan's fireworks law changed earlier this year allowing more fireworks to legally be discharged by consumers 30 days annually.

The law ties the expanded fireworks use to the holidays like July 4, along with the day before and day following the holiday.

During that three-day window, Roman candles, bottle rockets and mortars that leave the ground are legal. Other fireworks, such as sparklers and a snakes, continue to be legal. Exploding devices like M80s and cherry bombs remain illegal.

"If they were illegal last year, they are still illegal this year except for those three days," said Westland Deputy Police Chief Michael Matich. "On any other days, our fireworks ordinance is in effect."

So far, police haven't ticketed anyone for fireworks violations, Matich said, adding he hopes people will use any fireworks responsibly and with some consideration for

Please see FIREWORKS, A2

Summer Festival has plenty to do, see and hear

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Billed as "42 years of family fun," the Westland Summer Festival is in full swing on the grounds of Westland City Hall.

The annual festival culminates in a fireworks display which will begin at approximately 10:15

p.m. Wednesday, July 4, over Central City Park.

Throughout the festival, there are carnival rides, a midway and food. Other entertainment will include the Banana Derby — monkey jockeys riding on dogs — Monday through Wednesday.

Also on Wednesday, check out Cirque Amon-

gus for a live performance and hands-on circus acts. There will be a petting farm, pony rides and more exotic animals, such as white tigers and birds, on display daily.

The festival also has a schedule of live entertainment daily:

- Sunday, July 1 - 2-4 p.m. Toppermost, a Beatles tribute band; 8-11:30

p.m. Trilogy performs top 40 music.

• Monday, July 2 - 8-11:30 p.m., country music from Annabelle Road.

• Tuesday, July 3 - 9-11 p.m., Escape, a Journey tribute band.

• Wednesday, July 4 - 1-3 p.m., Full Throttle Acapella; 7-11:30, Second Wind performs classic rock.

All the live entertainment is free for festival goers. Free parking and shuttle service is available at Westland John Glenn High School on Marquette and the William P. Faust Library on Central City Parkway north of Ford.

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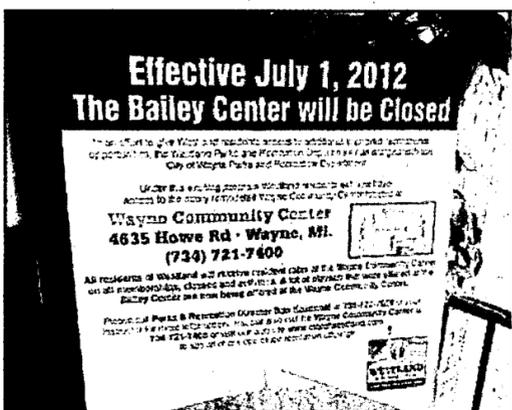
BAILEY

Continued from page A1

would pay resident fees for recreation programs in either city.

Along with cost savings for Westland, Wayne is expecting to see recreation revenues increase 60-70 percent due to Westland residents shifting to the Wayne Community Center. Westland anticipates an increase in players at the municipal golf course due to resident rates for Wayne residents.

"The Bailey Recreation Center had lost over \$4 million in the last five years and in addition to the savings, this shared service will help qualify the city for \$1.7 million in statutory revenue sharing for the 2012-13 fiscal year as part of the state mandated Economic Vitality Incentive Program," said Westland Mayor William Wild.



This sign greeted anyone who turned up the Bailey Recreation Center which officially closed Saturday.

As part of the parks and recreation merger with the City of Wayne, Wild said residents of both cities will have access to an enhanced combined parks system which includes more than 40 parks and trails, a nine-hole golf course, two ice arenas and an "incredible" portfolio of ball diamonds, tennis courts and outdoor pavilions.

For Westland residents, Wild said the merger provides access to Wayne's much improved, but underused Wayne Community Center, located at 4635 Howe Road, which offers state of the art exercise equipment, banquet facilities, an indoor aquatic park and more.

For more information, call (734) 721-7400 or visit www.cityofwestland.com.

As the city tries to figure out how to replace the current City Hall, the Bailey Center may be pressed into temporary service.

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Man to stand trial on bank robbery charges

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A Westland man has been arraigned in Wayne County Circuit Court on a charge that he robbed a Westland bank branch.

Following a recent preliminary examination in 18th District Court, Judge Mark McConnell had ordered Robert Michael Johnson, 48, bound over on a charge of bank robbery and being a fourth-degree habitual offender.

Johnson is accused of the June 7 robbery of the Westland Chase Bank, 7750 N. Wayne Road, near Cowan

Witnesses told police a man wearing a mask over his face and gloves had entered the bank, then jumped over the counter demanding money. The robber didn't show a weapon or imply that he was armed and he had no weapon when arrested.

Fleeing on foot with an unspecified amount of money, the suspect was arrested a short time later by an officer who happened to be in the area and spotted him dropping cash.

A woman who was waiting for the suspect in a running car parked nearby was arrested, but released

without being charged. Held in lieu of \$500,000 cash/surety bond, a not guilty plea has been entered for Johnson.

At the time of his arrest, Johnson was on parole for prior armed robberies. He had been sentenced to concurrent terms of 6-30 years and 15-30 years in prison in 1995, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Released from prison in June 2011, Johnson's parole was to continue until June 2013.

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FIREWORKS

Continued from page A1

their neighbors.

"If they are shooting off fireworks at 1 or 2 a.m., we'll use our noise ordinance, disturbing the peace or disorderly person," said Matich. "I would also ask for a little courtesy from the neighbors who don't set off fireworks (when neighbors do)."

There are 13 vendors selling consumer grade fireworks in Westland this year, all having been inspected by Westland firefighters and state inspectors.

Matich and Assistant Fire Chief John Adams have prepared a public

service announcement on fireworks under city ordinance that is being shown on the city's cable channel, WLND.

Like Matich, Adams also urged people to use fireworks responsibly and to especially keep children a safe distance away. Anyone using fireworks would be responsible for damage or fires caused by the devices.

"The big thing now is the weather. It's so dry. You need to fill a five-gallon pail with water when discharging fireworks," said Adams. "If there is a problem and it doesn't discharge properly, you can douse it. The ash could catch the yard on fire. You've got the bucket to put it out."

It's also important to

follow the instructions on the fireworks.

"The instructions are there for a reason," Adams said.

For the upcoming Westland Summer Festival fireworks on July 4, Adams said firefighters will saturate the fireworks discharge area a couple of times before the tubes are loaded with explosive materials.

The firefighters are also working with the Department of Public Services which has a 2,000-gallon vector truck. "We're working together to make sure this year's holiday is uneventful as far as fire is concerned," said Adams.

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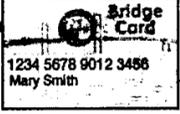
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CHAMPIONS

Continued from page A1

said Gavin. "They've all responded to significant challenges."

Teacher Lindsey Rousseau has been with the Champions program "since day one" and mentored nine students during the second semester, a feat that had her colleagues asking if she was crazy.

"As a teacher, they come to me for help or to be a mentor," said Rousseau. "It's important to embrace these kids and give them the tools to reach their goals. When I took on my first champion, I could see that my student was very capable and knew he had a goal. He went from 1.0 his freshman year to a 3.0. He went through this with hard work, determination and support."

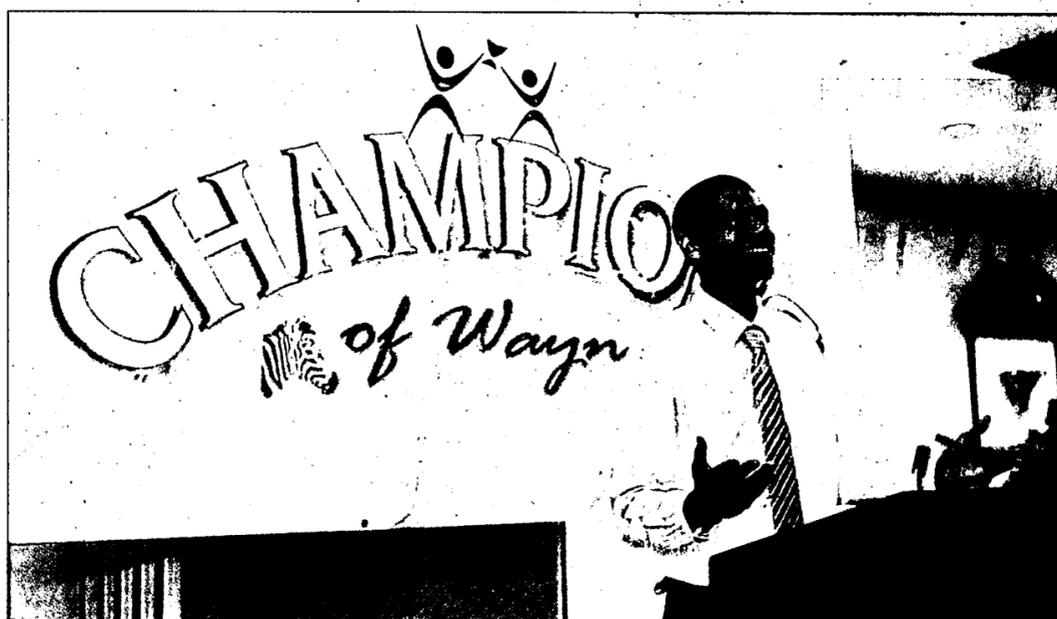
For students who spoke to the crowd, the message was clear — they were proud of reaching their goals and glad they had the mentor to help them along the way.

"They made learning easy," said Joseph Porter. "My sophomore year and I had a 4.0. In middle school, I averaged a 1.8."

Crystal Fletcher has faced her own struggles. Her father has struggled with kidney failure for 12 years, and her grandmother has been a big influence in her life after her mother left.

"I want to thank my dad for supporting me, he's the strongest man I know," she said. "And my grandmother has been a big influence in my life. This year has had its ups and downs, but it's been worth it. I look forward to next year."

Edward Saunders, who graduated earlier this month, spent the second semester of his senior year in the pro-



Student Edward Saunders tells the crowd how he was able to bring his grade point average up from a 2.3 to a 4.0, thanks to Champions of Wayne.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Proud mom Drema Stockman joins daughter Kristen at the celebration.

gram. His junior year, his grade point average had dropped to a 2.3 and "my mom was not happy," he said.

"The goal I was given was a 3.5, but with the

help of Champions I was able to get a 4.0," he said. "This taught me not to let any excuses get in the way and that I can accomplish what I want."

Helpie who has been

at every celebration to congratulate students told the crowd he wanted to hear the stories of all 153 students.

"I love to hear about their backgrounds," he

said. "And it's nice to see the people here. The numbers growing and it's a testimony to the people who do the work day in and day out — the faculty, family friends and most of all, the champions."

Helpie told the crowd that what he liked about the program is that it's like the "real world." There's no guarantee that a student is a champion once and will be it again.

"I look at this as a stepping stone for life," he said. "It's about choices. You can choose to have an excuse or choose to make the effort."

Rousseau praised the efforts of Gavin and those involved in Champions of Wayne.

"With the Champions program, we have the ability to change lives," said Rousseau. "Thank you for a great job running the program and, students, thank you for trusting us. All of us are extremely proud of you."

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ACHIEVERS

Michael Erlingis of Westland is among 37 students to receive a Board of Trustees' Awards for having the highest scholastic average at the close of his last semester of attendance at Michigan State University.

They all received a 4.0 grade point average.

A member of the Honors College, Erlingis is a hospitality business major in the Broad College of Business. He is a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School. He will be recognized at the spring commencements May 4-6.

He is the son of Janice and Stanley Erlingis.

Joseph Williams and Lauren P. Baker Lauren of Westland have been named to the Dean's List and Mailan L. Hudson,

Nasri Salim Sarkis and Christina L. Schiffer, also of Westland, have been named to the Academic Achievement List at Siena Heights University for the winter semester 2012.

To make the lists, students must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade-point average out of a possible 4.0. The dean's list is for full-time students with at least 12 credit hours, and the academic achievement list is for part-time students with at least six and no more than 11 credit hours.

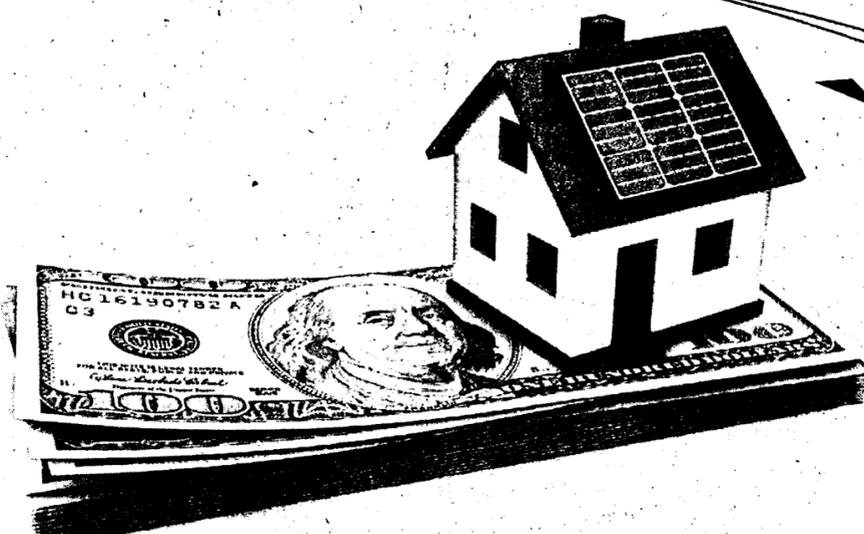
Joshua Pugliesi of Westland has been named to the Dean's List for spring semester at Northwood University in Midland. The announcement was made by Dr. Lance B. Lewis, academic dean of the university.

To achieve Dean's List recognition, students must earn a 3.25 grade point on a 4.0 scale.

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Johnson: Will advocate for state, craft policies

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Extending from Westland east to include part of Detroit and south to include Downriver communities, the new 13th Congressional District is nothing if not diverse.

First-term State Sen. Bert Johnson, D-Highland Park, is used to representing a diverse district. He points out his Senate district which includes Hamtramck, Highland Park, northeast Detroit and all of the Grosse Pointes.

"Attending U of D High, I had extensive early lessons in learning to understand the world and relate to people," Johnson said. "I'm used to dealing with extreme diversity. I'm able to marry all those points. I don't leave out the Grosse Pointes or Detroit."

Similarly, Johnson said he won't overlook any of the 13th Congressional District communities, if elected.

"I'll be there, I'll be present. I make friends wherever I go. I'm not afraid of being able to go around all of the district. Not all of the candi-



dates can say that," Johnson said. "The part of this I love is getting to know new folks in their yard. It's an incredible journey getting to meet people."

Despite the diversity and geographic spread of the 13th District, Johnson said polling identified many of the same issues for residents — jobs, health care, foreclosures and the economy.

"This is an extremely blue-collar district. People have lived the American Dream. With the economy, it's slipping away," Johnson said. "People are trying to figure out what is next."

As a state legislator, Johnson cites his sponsorship of a new film industry tax incentives and leadership in obtain-

ing historic rehabilitation credits for redevelopment of Detroit's Broderick Tower and the Taubman Center for Design Education.

As a congressman, Johnson said he would like to see Michigan and surrounding states partner to utilize waterways to move products with the Detroit area as a hub. Collectively, the states would be more successful in obtaining federal funding, he said.

"We should join with other states to improve what we already do better," Johnson said. "Southeast Michigan has more engineers than any place in the nation. We've got the manpower and the skill-sets."

Outside of jobs, Johnson said homeownership is the biggest issue. He sponsored Michigan's Save the Dream Act which reduced home foreclosures by nearly 40 percent.

"It's being patterned across the country," Johnson said. "I'm excited about the opportunity to serve. I think I can meet the needs of every person in the district."

While some candidates say they will fight for their constituents, if elected, Johnson said he cites his successes in getting legislation enacted.

BERT JOHNSON

Age: 38
Home: Highland Park
Family: Three children
Education: Attended University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy University of Detroit-Mercy
Experience: Currently serving first state senate term; previously served two terms in the Michigan House
Other: Member of Federal Transportation Taskforce; Indigent Defense Commission; treasurer, Michigan Legislative Black Caucus.

That comes from developing relationships with others on a personal level, he said.

"You get busy meeting people where they are. I've worked through family — God and family," Johnson said. "They get to know who you are and you get to know who they are. It makes you human — not Republican or Democrat."

Describing himself as a shrewd negotiator, Johnson said he recognizes that colleagues across the aisle won't necessarily see issues his way. But those personal relation-

ships do help provide a different perspective, he said.

"In my advocacy, I can't forget the advocacy on the other side. I'm not going to Washington to wave a wand and fix everything," Johnson said. "I will be an advocate for Michigan, crafting policy. No one else in this election can do that."

There is no incumbent in the 13th District. To Johnson, the primary challenge is veteran U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit, who moved after the redistricting. He views State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, as less of a challenge.

"He (Anderson) is a passing fancy, he's not a superstar legislator. I think Conyers is the big challenge," Johnson said, noting the small number of bills Anderson has been able to get enacted during his legislative tenure.

"Conyers has been there 47 years, the natural order is time has passed. We need alternatives," Johnson said. "You're not hiring me for 47 years. You hire me for two years. If I don't do the job, I won't be back seeking reelection."

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Car-bicycle accident investigated

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

An accident closed Ford between Inkster and Harrison for about three hours Thursday evening.

The accident occurred at 9:43 p.m. on Ford just west of Gilman, according to Garden City Police Chief Robert Muery. "A 30-year-old Garden City resident was riding his bike across Ford Road from the 7-Eleven when he was struck by a vehicle travelling west-bound on Ford," Muery said. "The bicyclist was transported to a Level I trauma center in critical condition."

The driver of the car, a 56-year-old Garden City resident, was questioned and released by police.

"He was uninjured," Muery said. "The accident remains under investigation."

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CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeal will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2765-K. Edmonds-35553 Palmer
Req. for a 1'6" street side yd. fence height variance from Art. X of the City Code to install a 6' high privacy fence in the west street side yd. of the home; whereas Sec. 22-303(c) states that side yd. fences that are allowed cannot exceed 4'6" in hgt.

Petition #2766-D. Marchwinski-5970 N. Berry
Req. for a side yd. fence location variance from and a 1'6i side yd. fence hgt. variance from Art. X of the City Code to install a 6' high privacy fence in the south side yd. of the home; whereas Sec. 22-304(a) states that only rear yds. may be enclosed with a fence and Sec. 22-303(c) states that side yd. fences that are allowed cannot exceed 4'6" in hgt.

Publish: July 1, 2012 OE08780787 8x3.5

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Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won.** The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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Michigan Republicans open Romney office in western Wayne County

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Now that the presidential primary season has wrapped up and Mitt Romney has pretty much sewn up the Republican nomination, Michigan Republicans and the Republican National Committee have opened a campaign office in Livonia with hopes of pushing their candidates to victories in national, state and county offices.

Located in Wonderland Village at Middlebelt and Plymouth roads, the "Victory Office" will staff campaign workers and volunteers in support of Mitt Romney and the GOP ticket in state and local elections.

Chairman of the Michigan Republican Party Bobby Schostak said the location in Livonia was "ground zero" for Mitt Romney to win the White House.

Republicans apparently used the same location two years ago in electing

Rick Snyder governor, and helped state lawmakers such as John Walsh of Livonia and Kurt Heise of Plymouth to their respective state representative seats, Schostak noted. "You got our Republicans elected in 2010 and got our state back on track," Schostak said, noting that lawmakers were going through "every line item of the state budget."

"What took place in Michigan over the last 18 months is what needs to happen in Washington and we're going to make it happen," Schostak said.

Livonia 'safe, secure'
Schostak said Mitt Romney "will help Michigan prosper."

Schostak said later the Livonia location was chosen for its broad population, easy access and a "safe and secure" community for the campaign's volunteers.

"We're seeing the state's conservatives and Tea Party activists coming together and build-



Volunteers are mobilized to help Mitt Romney and other Republicans get elected.

ing a strong allegiance to Mitt Romney," Schostak said.

When asked about the 11th congressional race, Schostak said Kerry Benivolio of Milford has an "opportunity to get the vote out" to support him, and Nancy Cassis of Novi, a write-in candidate, had a good record in Lansing, but has "a lot of work to

do" for her write-in campaign.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter "made a terrible mistake" with the duplicated signatures in his paperwork to file for his candidacy, Schostak said.

Despite that snafu, Schostak wasn't worried about losing to the Democrats in that race.

Volunteer Carl Berry of Plymouth Township said Romney "knows what he's doing" with his business and political background. "He knows how to fix problems," Berry said. "He's been doing it for years."

Berry believes Romney will help fix the economy and bring more jobs.

Joe Xuereb, chair of the Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee, said the location will help keep a Republican legislature and state Supreme Court and the Michigan Republican majority in Congress.

Xuereb said voters aren't happy with President Barack Obama.

"Polls don't reflect the level of discontent in this country," Xuereb said. "The numbers are going to reflect that discontent when people get out and vote."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591
Twitter: @KenAbramczyk

Families invited to host foreign exchange students

Families in Westland and Garden City can learn about another country without leaving their houses.

That's the word from STS Foundation which is looking for families to host a student from Italy, France, Sweden, Germany, Brazil and Australia.

The students attend high school and integrate themselves into a host family and community. They are ambassadors for their countries

and will teach families about their cultures and customs.

Host families provide a caring and supportive atmosphere while the students are expected to behave with maturity and respect. The students will be here for 10 months from August to May.

The STS program is an academic program and all students must maintain its strict academic standards. Each stu-

dent will have their own spending money and insurance. Every family will have a local STS coordinator that will be there to answer questions and maintain regular contact with the student, family and school throughout the program.

Among the many students in the program is 17-year-old Jordan from New Zealand. Her mother is a homemaker and her father owns a business. She has seven

brothers and seven sisters. Some are half sisters and brothers. Her entire family lives in a warehouse that has been converted into a large home. Her interests include writing, reading, cooking, film study, drama and fashion. She considers herself to be a loud, lively 17-year-old who is very trustworthy. Her favorite subjects in school are English, history and math. She would like to study English or

drama in college. She's also interested in being a social worker later in life.

Henry, 17, comes from Finland. His mother is a financial assistant and his father is an inspector. Henry does not have any brothers or sisters and would like to have some in the United States. He considers himself to be a polite, social and humorous guy. He enjoys going to school and his favorite subjects are psychol-

ogy, history and languages. He can speak English, Spanish and Swedish. Henry also enjoys sports and is currently practicing kickboxing and martial arts. He has played tennis and basketball and goes to the gym frequently.

Families interested in finding out more information about STS students can call Janel (906) 250-2635 or fill out an application at www.sts-foundation.org.



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Westland, Garden City residents receive degrees from Schoolcraft

There were plenty of Garden City and Westland residents among graduates at Schoolcraft College's 47th annual commencement ceremony at Compuware Arena in Plymouth in May.

More than 1,700 students received associate in art, associate in applied science, associate in engineering, associate in general studies, and associate in science degrees or skills, one- and two-year program, and post-associate certificates in recognition of their higher education accomplishments.

The graduates from Garden City included:

Kelli L. Abrahamian, Amer Elias Araj, Lewa Iskandar Araj, Julia Ann Baldridge, Christina Marie Bantau, Christine Jean Bingenheimer, Nicolae Birsan, Nancy A. Bobbish, Gerald R. Bonnici, Staci Marie Branscomb, Cara Elizabeth Braun, Kevin Michael Burek, Shawn M. Calvey, Andrew S. Clor, Bobbie Lynn Debord, Joanne Lynette Dehetre, Janis Christine Dohring, Michael David Fisher, Jesse A. Frank, Debra Jean Gorsky, Krystal A. Gosney, Bryan James Grace, Zachary D. Griwicki.

Cristal Louise Grubb, Danielle L. Gunther, Michael David Guzik, Samantha Hall, Christopher Joseph Hartmann, Emiljan Haxhi, Jessica Lynn Haynes, Ryan William Hensley, Andrew Fred Hess, Amanda Rose Jagod, Bryan N. Jakubiec, Amanda Lynn Johnson, Holly Cherie June, Deanna Hare Kietur, Ian Robert Klosner, Tamara Lynn Kosa, Nicole M. Kosikowski, Charlotte Anne Lawrie, Allen George Littlejohn, Nicole Marie Little, Ryan Greydon Lockard, Michael James Loftis, Danielle Loiacano.

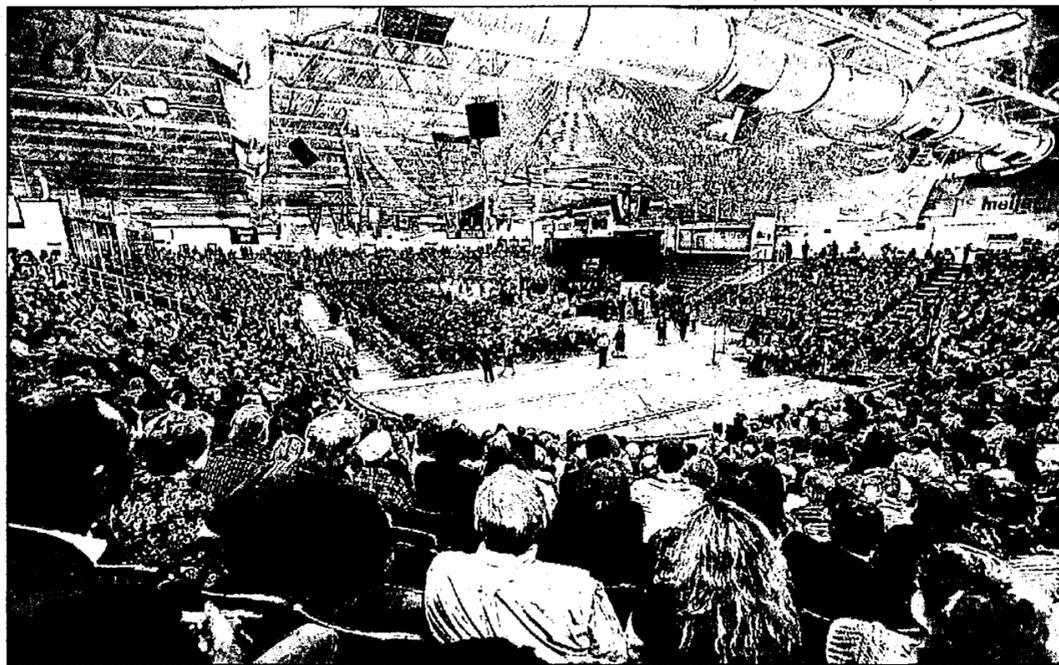
Julie-Ann Marie Magdowski, Cameron J Masucci, Louie Michael McGuffie, Jennifer A. McMullen, Diane Jennette Meadows, Tammy Lynn Mewton, Kimberly Joy Milbourn, Chelsea R. Miller, Sherry D. Mongeau, Janna Leah Morgan, Haley Lane Morris, Sarah Blair Myszkier, Sarah Ann Niemczewski, Darin Keith Nordstrom, Kathleen Gail O'Brien, Jenna Lynn Oblinger, Nicholas Ryan Opaleski, Jennifer Ann Patillo, Danell Quezette Peterka, Kimberly A. Poma, Christopher Robert Preston II.

Mary T. Remillard, Brenton Charles Reynolds, Lindsay Renee Rice, Rachel M. Rodriguez, Danielle Nina Roegner, Andrea M. Roggero, Angelee Noel Ross, Kelly Jean Sellers, Kerry Quinn Shivers, Brian Stephen Silvi, Kristy M. Smith, Brooke A. Solomon, Jessica Anne Sowden, Jonathan L. Stoddart, Dawn Marie Taylor, Deidra Marie Taylor, Tiffany Rose Thaxton, Cynthia Marie Trail, Jonathan Allen Turnbull, Andreea Maria Vestemean, Yeolander Jean Vicker-son, Nichole Lynn Wainwright.

Marc Jason Walentowicz, Kristi Jo Warrington, Daniel James Wertz, Daniel Robert Wiacek, Sarah Lynn Wiczorek, Jonathan Patrick Wiertel-ela, Andrew Dennis Wunderlich, Susan Rae Zaroni and Anthony M. Zelinski.

The graduates from Westland included:

Margaret Mary Adams, Jennifer Caroline Baker, Hetal Vinodchandra Barot, Michael Nelson Batiduan, Alan R. Biggar, Kimberly M. Blessing, Nicole Star Bonniwell, Melanie M. Bowles, Melinda Ann Bramigk, Kaylie Rose Brincat, Diamond Marie Bryant, Deborah A. Burke, Charlotte Darlene Burley-Thompson, Nicole Marie Burns Amber Rose Carranza, Erika Breezy-Nicole Carter-McBee, Leah E. Casteel, Eugene Thomas



FILE PHOTO

More than 3,000 guests filled Compuware Arena in Plymouth for Schoolcraft College's 47th annual Commencement Ceremony.

Chaban, Laurin R. Chytry, Misty L. Clouten, Karly Mae Crosby, Anne Marie Davis.

Debra L. Dawe, Jonathan S. Dean, Philip Thomas Dickinson, Deborah Elise Diehr, Tina Ann Donall, Vanilza Amaral Dossantos, Hannah Marie Drennan, Tavis Matthew Dudley, Simon E. Due, Joshua Duncan, Neil J. Eby.

John Donald Estrada, Paul Justin Estrada, Kendal Lynn Fabian, Kristen Fandrey, Zachary Michael Fargo, Megan Elizabeth Farr, Scott Lee Fletcher, Matthew Paul

Florkowski, Leslie Nicole Freedle, Kyle Thomas French, James Francis Gallagher IV, Stephanie Armenia Goodman, Shannon Elizabeth Green, Corey Allen Griffin.

Julia E. Handilah, Krystle Lynn Handilah, Kaitlyn J. Hanlon, Amelia L. Harp, Cynthia Ann Harris, Darren Nathan Harvey, Jessica Morgan Hassett, Megan Marie Haynie, Kristen Nichole Hendrie, Scott Michael Hinken, Amanda Jo Howard, Starr Love Ihekoronye, Jake W. Jacobs, Chelsea Mychal Jeffery, Courtney Briana Johnson, Crystal M. Johnson, Ryan M. Jones, Brian Judnich, Brandon Michael Juzyk, Charlie Kassiss, Christopher James Kennedy, Tammy M. Kenny, Shelby Kierczak, Corissa Danielle Kijek, Manjola Kinolli, Steven Dean

Kliemann, Danielle Lynn Klovski, Sara Koralewski, Salif Amara Kourouma, Ramya Kumar, Nicole C. Kwolek, Joseph A. Lang, Christopher David Lanham, Melissa Ann Lauerman, Gregory Edward Lee, Kathryn Jean Lenhardt, Amanda R. Letkemann, Jordan Michael Long, Constance Joy Luellen, Krystal Marie Lytle, Robert J. Mackey, Victor Manuel Matta Jr., Margaret Lorelei Mayer, Thomas Patrick McCarthy, Sarah K. McLean, Michael T. McNally, Michele Renee Michaels, Linda Marie Mika, Courtney M. Mill-

er, Emily E. Mimnaugh, Megan Lynn Mininni, Brent A. Mishowski, Kyiara S. Mitchell.

Mary M. Moore, Mary Ella Murphy, Megan Brienna Nairne, Liekken Renee Neal, Amanda M. Norfleet, Caitlin Marie Nuss, Laura Heathe O'Callaghan, Cathy Ann O'Connor, Derek Michael Opett, Julie Lynn Pack, Joshua David Parker, Ankit Rameshbhai Patel, Niraj K. Patel, Daniel A. Pauls, Chad M. Perkins, Latoya B. Perry, Katelyn M. Persh, Lori Lynne Pesavento, Brandon Joseph Pierson,

Mark Pisaneschi, Rebecca Lynne Place, Jonathan Matthew Porter, Kevin Michael Rayburn, Jalissia Damarria Rayford.

Ryan Edward Rays, Jonathan Nathaniel Reed, Michael Andrew Relling, Katie Lyn Reynolds, Michelle Renee Rhodes, Eric Daniel Roberts, Tamika Lynette Roberts, Christina Marie Rose, Joseph J. Rutkowski, Brian Ronald Sadowski, Michael Scherbarth, Nicole J. Scheurich, Corey Michael Schimming, Michael Stephen Schlotz, Christopher John Scott, Tara Kae Scott, Hari R. Shah, Austin Simos, Monica J. Smarsh, Christopher Lee Smyser, Joseph T. Smyser, Adam R. Spaeth, Nathan Carl Spencer, Angelica Rose St. John.

Holly Sharlene Stanfel, Leslie Demeka Stephens, Elizabeth A. Stevenson, Matthew Allen Stone, Bradley Edward Suchan, Robin Shevonn Tennille, Robert P. Testani, Kimberly Jean Thibeault, Joshua David Thurmond, Stephanie N. Tieppo, Lauren Elizabeth Tierney, Jaclyn Ann Truax, Krystal Nella Vroman, Krystal Nella Vroman Quynh Nhu Hoang Vu, David Michael Wade, Lezlie Ann Walton, Patrick James Ward, Michael George Warra, Lauren R. Weilnau, Kayla A. Wesolowski, April Dawn Wollschlager, Ian James Wong, Justine Rae Woodard, Ashley Woolcott, Jeffrey Adam Zajac and Shari L. Zakalowsk.

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Social change requires collaborative effort

By Joan Noricks
Guest columnist

Sometimes, it really does take a village to create change.

This awareness and knowledge is driving the Canton Community Foundation's recent formation of a Local College Access Network in far western Wayne County.



Joan Noricks

The collaborative effort is designed with the single-minded goal of increasing access to college and other post-secondary education, particularly for first-generation, low-income and students of color.

It is wholly unrealistic to assume a single school district can resolve a large-scale social and economic

issue as budget cuts and a less-than-stellar Michigan economy continue to ravage public education and undercut families' financial well-being.

Today, significant social change requires cross-sector collaboration among local and regional organizations and government institutions. A collective approach will exponentially increase the brain power and resources that the LCAN can use to prevent students from dropping out of high school and to increase the number of students who go on to post-secondary education.

We are already working with significant leaders from school districts, colleges and universities, businesses and nonprofit organizations. These leaders will collaboratively and passionately work to create

a college-going culture in a LCAN district that begins in Northville, encompasses Livonia, Garden City, South Redford, Plymouth and Canton and reaches to Belleville and Van Buren Township.

The foundation recently received a planning grant from the state-wide Michigan College Access Network (MCAN). It will help us formalize the LCAN's leadership and programming and create a common agenda that all partners will follow. Our goal is to not only secure our students' futures, but to create an educated work force to improve and sustain our changing Michigan economy.

MCAN's goal is to have 60 percent of all Michigan residents achieve some type of post-secondary education by the year 2025. Currently,

Michigan's rate is 36.4 percent.

It is predicted that in 16 short years, approximately 62 percent of all Michigan jobs will require some type of post-secondary education. A high school education alone will no longer offer a promise or even a glimmer of gainful employment for younger generations.

Against that backdrop, retiring baby boomers will take 40-plus years of professional skills and education out of the market. "We will have a significant skills gap here in Michigan," announced Don Heller, dean of the Michigan State University College of Education.

Heller told a recent gathering of nonprofit organizations that Michigan is simply not producing enough educated and highly skilled workers who can replace the

aging Boomers or who can step in to jobs that truly require advanced knowledge.

As we use a collective impact approach to address the need for increased education, the foundation and its partners will piece together a map of what assets — programs and activities — already exist — and where there are gaps. The end result could be combining programs to use across the LCAN district or could include developing new programs.

In particular, it will be the LCAN's goal to work with parents of our targeted student groups to break social and economic barriers that have prevented children from stepping out of familial patterns and attaining brighter futures.

We have already heard from our participating school districts of the

urgent need to increase the number of students who fill out the very important Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA can determine a family's eligibility to receive federal funding for higher education. The LCAN leadership has already talked about a number of potential programs the network can institute to work directly with parents and students to complete these forms.

The foundation is looking forward to working with our existing partners and new champions who want to be a part of striking a significant change for our community and region.

Joan Noricks is president of the Canton Community Foundation. She may be reached at (734) 495-1200 or at jnoricks@cantonfoundation.org.

Montessori Center honors eighth-grade graduates

Dearborn Heights Montessori Center (DHMC) honored 16 graduates of its middle school program during the school's 23rd graduating class ceremonies.

They will go on to various private and parochial high schools.

"Many of our graduates have been with us since preschool," said Kay Neff, DHMC's founder. "We are extremely proud of their achievements. Schools readily accept our students because of the strong foundation they've received in

academics, the arts and community service."

The ceremony included musical selections by DHMC elementary students, recognition of service accomplishments and speeches written and presented by each graduate.

Service activities, in the classroom and in the community, are an integral part of DHMC's upper elementary and middle school programs. Opportunities for service include reading to younger students, assisting with office projects,

visiting senior citizens, operating the school's hot lunch and recycling programs and helping the school meet the State of Michigan's requirements to become a green school.

Dearborn Heights Montessori Center (DHMC) is a non-profit educational community with two satellites, Livonia Montessori School and Plymouth-Canton Montessori School.

For more information, call (313) 359-3000 or visit www.dhmontessori.org.



Dearborn Heights Montessori Center's eighth-grade graduates are, from left, Nick Dondero, South Lyon; Fouad Alzaroui, Dearborn Heights; Andrew Littleton, Wayne; Maurice Hagood, Livonia; Andrew Ward, Redford; Gabriel Currie, Dearborn; Sarah Angold-Stephens, Canton; Nicholas Nunu, Dearborn Heights; Lindsey Seashore, Dearborn; Carlton Helwig, Livonia; Silan Fadlallah, Dearborn; Abigail Kosch, Dearborn; Keauna Lenton, Southfield; Aria Angelos, Dearborn; and Grace Kowalski, Westland. Not pictured is Salwa Hammoud of Dearborn.



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Emergency fund important when rainy day comes

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I am recently divorced and handling money is new to me. In my marriage, my husband handled all the finances. In the divorce settlement, I received our home which is free and clear and my car which also is free and clear. In addition, I received about \$250,000 — \$100,000 of that is in an IRA while the rest of the money is in cash. The IRA is currently invested in a variety of mutual funds. I hope that you can give me some advice as to what I should do with the \$150,000. I have a job and my wages cover my living expenses. My main goal is to save for my retirement. I consider myself a moderate risk investor and I want to retire in about 15 years.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

A: The first thing do is establish an emergency fund of money. I cannot stress enough how important it is that you have a fund of money that you can tap into in case of emergencies. I recommend an emergency fund to cover three to six months of living expenses. Therefore, if it cost you \$5,000 a month to cover all your expenses, your emergency fund should be anywhere between \$15,000 and \$30,000. This is money

that you can tap into it immediately. Therefore, it should not be invested in stocks, annuities or any investment that you can't access immediately. Your emergency fund should be kept in money market accounts, short-term CDs or other similar investments.

I recognize these investments don't pay much, however, remember an emergency fund is meant to protect the rest of your assets. You can't focus on the return with this money but rather the liquidity of the investment.

Since your goals are long-term, I recommend a portfolio of stocks and bonds with the remaining money. The allocation I recommend would be 65 percent in stocks and 35 percent in fixed income investments such as government and corporate bonds. I also recommend that as opposed to using individual stocks and bonds, you use no-load mutual funds to build your portfolio.

In today's world, it is more and more difficult to handle your portfolio on your own. When I first got involved in this business, there were probably only 500-600 mutual funds. Today there are tens of thousands of them. Just like everything else in our world has gotten more complex, the same can be said about the investment world.

It makes sense to have a professional on your side, not a salesperson. I recommend you visit a fee-only adviser or consider the services of companies such as Vanguard, Fidelity or TD Ameritrade. They can also assist you in implementing your portfolio.

It is important for everyone before they begin to invest, to make sure and they have an emergency fund of money. We live in an ever-changing world and things happen. An emergency fund of money is a great tool.

If you don't have an emergency fund of money, it's time to begin one. It may take a period of time to fully fund it, however, remember that every journey starts with the first step. Good luck!

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

County Parks gets ready for 25th annual Mud Day

Wayne County Parks will transform the Hines Park's Nankin Mills Area into a giant 75-foot by 150-foot mud pit playground Tuesday, July 10.

From 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. children ages 12 and younger can get down and dirty. This marks the 25th anniversary celebration of Mud Day and plenty of surprises are planned.

Wayne County Parks is partnering with Radio Disney AM 910 for a live show from 10:30-11:30 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., thousands of kids will charge into the mud. Youngsters will be separated into age categories for events such as "Mud Limbo" and wheelbarrow races. Also, the King and Queen of Mud will be crowned.

Children should wear old clothes and shoes and bring a clean change of clothes. There are no showers on-site, however, a clean-up area is available with hoses. Parents are also advised to bring towels. Plastic bags will be provided. The Hines Park Nankin Mills Area is on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.



FILE PHOTO

Caked with enough mud to win them Wayne County Parks honors for 2011 Mud Day King and queen went to Cole Argo of Novi and Queen Kathryn Hepp of Northville.

Sponsoring Mud Day are ITC Holdings, Community Alliance Credit Union, Parkside Credit Union, Clorox Plus and the Western Wayne

County HMRT. For more information about the 25th Anniversary of Mud Day, call Kim Healy at (734) 261-9087. For more information about Wayne County Parks, call (734) 261-1990.

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'Law is the law:' Court ruling on health care draws mixed reactions

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Looking at the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the Affordable Care Act, Gary Ley is pragmatic. The law is the law and his hospital will abide by it.

"The Supreme Court has upheld everything," said Ley, the CEO of Garden City Hospital. "It doesn't matter whether we think it is good or bad, so we will go along."

The hospital, which has 1,400 employees, has been following the mandates of covering those with pre-existing conditions and allowing children to remain on their parents' insurance until age 26. But, according to Ley, "the real test will come in 2014 when the provisions take full effect."

On Thursday, the Supreme Court ruled that a controversial insurance requirement is constitutional under Congress' power to tax and let stand a major expansion of the Medicaid program although the federal government could not penalize states that chose not to expand by withhold existing Medicaid funds.

Michigan, which had challenged the law and didn't accept \$10 million in federal funds to implement a key piece of the legislation while waiting for the decision, has until Jan. 1, 2013, to set up the initial framework for health insurance exchanges where consumers and small businesses could purchase insurance, beginning in 2014.



Garden City Hospital CEO Gary Ley said the true test of the Affordable Care Act will come in 2014.

"While I may not agree with everything in the law, now that the Supreme Court has essentially upheld the act, we must act quickly to avoid an undue burden on Michigan residents and job providers," Gov. Rick Snyder said. "Implementing this law will require an immense amount of coordination between the public and private sectors. We plan on working closely with Michigan consumers, businesses and health providers to ensure that the decisions we make have as much of a positive impact on Michigan as possible."

Reaction to the ruling has mixed. People like Robert Domm of Garden City think the law is a good one.

"I think it's going to benefit more people," he said. "There are too many poor people in this country, and this should help them."

Despite television channel with a crawl with snippets about the Supreme Court ruling,



FILE PHOTO

With the help of money from the Oakwood Foundation and in partnership with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, residents in the Norwayne community have had access to health care through the Adams Child and Adolescent Health Center based at Adams Upper Elementary School.

health care wasn't the topic of much conversation among customers at the Westland Biggby Coffee.

"I supported it, everyone should have health care. If they can't afford it, we should give it to people," said a Lincoln Park truck driver, who didn't want his name used. "I'm blessed. I've got top-of-the-line insurance through the Teamsters. I've been down that road without insurance. I know what that's like."

Westland Biggby own-

er Mo Elfakir had more questions than opinions about the health care law.

"Honestly, I don't know. I haven't read enough to give personal feedback," said Elfakir, wondering who would pay additional costs stemming from requiring pre-existing conditions to be covered and no lifetime spending caps. "I'll read more about it later. I've been working the line. I'm always one day behind."

Thumbs up. That's how Robert Burnett reacted when he

found out the Supreme Court upheld the provisions of the Affordable Care Act.

"This gives everybody health care," said Burnett, a Westland resident. "I'm glad that it did pass. This gives everybody health care and gives protection to people who don't have it. This is a step in the right direction for people who don't have it. I wonder what Republicans will say about Obama now."

Zack Pohl, executive director of Progress

Michigan, believes the legislation "will one day have a place in history as one of the most sweeping and comprehensive laws aiming to help America's middle class."

"Nobody should have to choose between groceries or paying for medical bills," he said. "Now it's time for Gov. Snyder and Lansing politicians to stop the partisan games and start working together to implement this important new law

Please see RULING, A11



Rick Bloom

Rick Bloom has served clients in the area of financial planning since 1984. He gives numerous seminars and speeches on financial planning and investments for a variety of professional, civic and business organizations. Rick has been selected as one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth Magazine, and currently writes a financial column each Thursday and Sunday in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Rick has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal and other national publications on financial planning and the Stock Market. He is also a frequent spokesperson on financial matters on local TV and radio shows.



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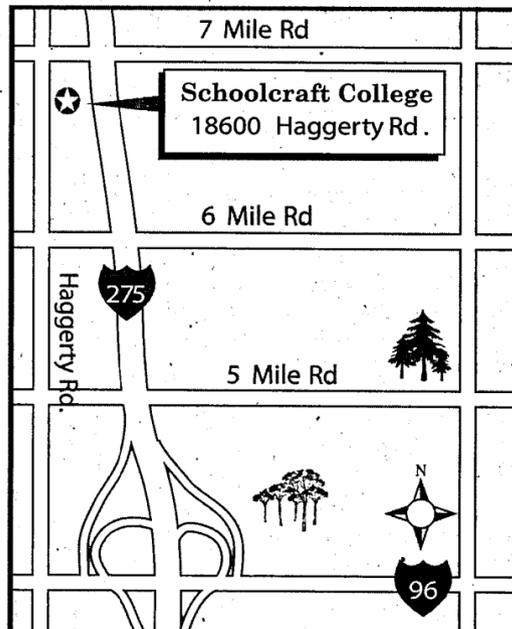
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Catholic leaders react to U.S. Supreme Court ruling

By Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

For Beverly Hills resident Sarah Davis, Thursday's U.S. Supreme Court ruling upholding Obamacare's individual mandate as constitutional points the nation in the wrong direction.

"As a Catholic, I think it is a very sad day for America," Davis said. "I think our country will never be the same after today. It's a move toward socialism."

Yet the ruling drew a reaction on the other end of the spectrum from fellow Catholic Ron Anderson, pastor of St. Mary, Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Milford.

"It's very favorable. It means 30 million people are going to be covered (by health insurance)," he said. "That's what we are here for, what the government is supposed to do."

Anderson said the Catholic Church is clearly in support of a federal health care program, which goes along with the conviction of "I am my brother's keeper" — regardless of the tax burden it could create.

Using Luxembourg as an example, Anderson said the people there "made a fundamental

decision (resulting in astronomical taxes) for its national health care plan.

"They are secure as a people, happy as a people," he said.

What isn't yet clear, however, is how the U.S. Supreme Court's decision will affect the 40-some lawsuits filed in federal court in May by the Michigan Catholic Conference and others. The lawsuits challenge a portion of the health care act requiring contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs to be offered in employee health care plans — including those offered by religious institutions. The requirement goes against the church's teachings and is therefore considered an assault on religious freedom, church leaders say.

Joe Kohn, director of public relations for the Archdiocese of Detroit, said his initial assumption is "nothing's changed on our end," regarding the church's efforts in the courts.

In reaction to the decision, the Michigan Catholic Conference released the following statement: "We are studying the Supreme Court's decision to determine if it impacts our case. A more

detailed statement will be released once we have had sufficient time to review the Court's decision and its full impact on the Michigan Catholic Conference lawsuit against the HHS mandate."

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the group maintains its advocacy for comprehensive health care reform "to ensure access to life-affirming health care for all, especially the poorest and most vulnerable." Yet flaws remain in the health care act, the USCCB stated, and the legislation still needs "to fix conscience, abortion funding, immigration problems."

The USCCB stated the Supreme Court decision "neither diminishes the moral imperative to ensure decent health care for all, nor eliminates the need to correct the fundamental flaws described above. We therefore continue to urge Congress to pass, and the Administration to sign, legislation to fix those flaws."

Staff Writer Nathan Mueller contributed to this report.

awingblad@hometownlife.com
(248) 685-1507, Ext. 261

RULING

Continued from page A10

and ensure that all Michiganders have access to quality, affordable health care."

Scott Hagerstrom, state director of Americans for Prosperity-Michigan said that in spite of the Supreme Court ruling, the president's health care law "is still bad legislation."

"It will significantly increase our nation's debt while making the health care situation worse for millions of Americans," he said. "It takes decisions that should rightfully be made by patients and their doctors and places that authority into the hands of Washington politicians and bureaucrats. This law is unaffordable, irresponsible, and unaccountable; it will cost taxpayers \$1.76 trillion and increase taxes by \$500 billion over the next

10 years. This will only hurt hardworking Americans."

For Oakwood Healthcare, which operates Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne and has medical offices and health centers in Westland, Garden City, Livonia and Canton, the decision will not change Oakwood's approach to providing health care.

"We will continue to push forward with major innovations in quality and value, and our credo, 'Patients Come First,' will always drive our business decisions and actions," Oakwood Healthcare President and CEO Brian Connolly said. "We've been developing and adopting the best methods for providing improved quality, greater value and compassionate care for several years now. We plan to move forward with those initiatives regardless of today's decision not only because it's who we are as a health care provider,

but because it's the right thing to do."

"Health care will always be an industry driven by change. Innovations in care delivery respond to the evolving needs of our patients and our communities. Oakwood's business decisions will continue to uphold our ongoing commitment to serving our patients," he added.

Staff Writers LeAnne Rogers, Sue Buck and Brad Kadrich contributed to this story.

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY SUMMER TAX NOTICE

The 2012 summer taxes will be payable from July 1, 2012 through September 4, 2012 without penalty. Beginning September 5, 2012 a 4% penalty and 0% interest per month will be added to the unpaid taxes. Beginning March 1, 2013 all unpaid 2012 REAL property taxes must be paid to: Raymond J Wojtowicz, Wayne County Treasurer, The International Center Building, 400 Monroe, 5th floor, Detroit, Mi 48226 with penalty of an additional 4% administration fee plus 1% per month interest computed from March 1, 2013

ALLYSON M BETTIS-Treasurer-City Clerk

Publish: July 1, 2012

CE0677763 - 3x2.5



City of Garden City Close of Registration Notice Primary Election, Tuesday, August 7, 2012

Notice is hereby given that the last day of registration for the Primary Election is Monday, July 9, 2012.

Candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties and non-partisan candidates for the following offices are to be voted on:

- U.S. Senator
- Representative in Congress
- Representative in State Legislature
- County Prosecuting Attorney
- County Sheriff
- County Clerk
- County Treasurer
- County Register of Deeds
- County Commissioner
- Delegate to County Convention
- Judge of Circuit Court 3rd Circuit Non-Incumbent Position

The following proposals will also be voted on:

Wayne County Art Institute Authority Millage

The Wayne County Art Institute Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 296 of 2010 and formed to allow for continuing support of art institute services for the students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax of not more than 0.2 mill (20 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on real and personal property to provide revenue to an art institute services provider for this purpose. Accordingly, to continue providing art institute services to benefit the residents of the County, shall a 0.2 mill on all of the taxable property located within the County be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2012 through 2021? It is estimated that if approved and levied, this new millage would generate approximately \$8,284,722 in 2012.

YES NO

Proposition J Jails Millage Renewal

To renew the millage authorized in 2002, shall Wayne County be authorized to continue to levy this millage at the 2011 rollback rate of .9381 mill (about 94 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation) for ten more years (2012 through 2021) for any of the following previously authorized uses: To acquire, construct, and/or operate jail, misdemeanor or juvenile incarceration or detention facilities and for adult penalty options such as work release, home detention and community restitution, with at least one-tenth of the millage used to acquire, build and operate a juvenile offender work/training institution? This renewal is estimated to generate at least \$38,859,493 in property tax revenue in 2012.

YES NO

Garden City School District Operating Millage Renewal Proposal SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW 19.8320 MILLS FOR 6 YEARS.

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the administrative offices of School District of the City of Garden City, 1333 Radcliff Street, Garden City, Michigan 48135-1126, telephone: (734) 762-8300.

Allyson M. Bettis, City Clerk
Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan

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YAHOO!

Westland resident enjoys Sunset at Zoo

By Julie Yolles
Correspondent

There were party animals of all types at the annual Sunset at the Zoo fundraiser.

Nearly 2,000 of the human variety, including Ray Chimienti of Westland and Dale Wallace of Ayrshire, Scotland, enjoyed strolling through the zoo and taste-testing cuisine from Metro Detroit's finest restaurants. This year's carnival theme was in keeping with the introduction of the new Carousel, which opened in September.

The Detroit Zoo heats up even more on Wednesday nights starting July 4 when live concerts will take place in the Main Picnic Grove from 6:30-8 p.m. Concerts will run through Aug. 29 and are free with zoo admission or \$5 after 5 p.m.



PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES

Ray Chimienti (left) of Westland and Dale Wallace of Ayrshire, Scotland, were among guests at the Detroit Zoo's recent Sunset at the Zoo fundraiser.

Then, for the 21 and older crowd, save Thursday, July 12 and Aug. 23, for Summer "Zoomance," 6-9 p.m. rain or shine. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the gate. Parking is \$5 for non-members and free for Zoo members.

On Friday, July 27, the Detroit Zoo will host "Wild Beasts, Wild Wine" from 6-10:30 p.m. for the 21 and older set.

The zoo is at 8450 W. 10 Mile Road in Royal Oak. For more information, call (248) 541-5717.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

East reunion

The Garden City East High School reunion of the classes of 1968 through 1973 will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Sept. 22, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, west of Inker Road, Livonia.

Tickets cost \$60 per person and include appetizers, dinner buffet, open bar, DJ and dancing, pizza and coffee bar at 11 p.m. and memory book. Only 450 tickets will be sold. The deadline to purchase tickets is Aug. 25. People who reserve tickets will receive a confirmation of payment within 10 days, which will serve as entry to the reunion.

The link to the reunion information and reservation sheet can be found on the Garden City (East) High School reunion page on Facebook. Checks should be made payable to Class Reunion 68-73 GC East.

Graduates from 1968 and 1971 can send their reservations to Pat Lyon Kubert, 6907 Kings Mill Drive, Canton, MI 48187.

Graduates from 1972 and 1973 can send their checks to Sue Cook Tasselmyer, 11901 Algonquin Drive, Pinckney, MI 48169.

Graduates from 1969 and 1970 can save a spot through Debi Cassidy Haller, 2108 Copley Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Car wash

The Garden City Elite Cheer teams will be working at the car wash in the parking lot at Barbee and Bean Hair Design on Middlebelt between Warren Road and Ford from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 8, as a fundraiser for a trip to national competition and cheer camp fees.

The suggested donation

is \$5 per car; 100 percent of the money will be divided between the participating girls to help offset the cost of competition.

Flea market

An outdoor flea market will be held the second and third Saturday of the month now through September in the field across Elmwood Street side of the Garden City Historical Museum on Merriman Road. Reserve a spot by calling Diane, the manager of the Garden City Craftique Mall, at (734) 765-7999.

Fall Kick-Off

Save the date — Saturday, Aug. 25. That's when Garden City High School will host a Community Fall Kick-off, showcasing its activities, clubs and sports in a fun family atmosphere. Aspiring athletes can meet the high school athletic teams and coaches and find out about the Student Council, Key Club, National Honor Society, DECA, PTSA, band and JROTC.

The kick-off will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the high school parking lot at 6400 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road.

Park and Read

Stop by the Garden City Library at the Maplewood Center for the popular Park and Read program, sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources and the Library of Michigan.

The program, now in its fourth year, offers library card-holders the option of checking out a one-day pass that waives the Recreation Passport entry fee into any of Michigan's 101 state parks and recreation areas.

The one-day pass, a \$10 savings, also provides free, one-time access to any of the more than 500 events scheduled to take place within the state parks throughout the summer. Passes are valid for seven days from checkout and are good for day use only. Park & Read runs now through Oct. 1.

The Park and Read pass is also valid at any of the 11 museums or historic sites within the Michigan Historical Museum system.

Office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-District 9, has set her office hours, beginning this month, in the communities of Garden City, Dearborn Heights and Redford Township.

Webb's office hours will be:

- At 10 a.m. the second Monday of each month in Garden City at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood.

- At 10 a.m. the third Monday of each month in Dearborn Heights at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson.

- At 10 a.m. the fourth Monday of each month in Redford Township at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway.

There will be no office hours held on May 28 due to the Memorial Day holiday.

The spring office hours are scheduled to provide constituents the opportunity to discuss issues and concerns with Webb. She also will hold evening hours by appointment only for residents unable to attend daytime gatherings. Call (313) 224-0930 to reserve a time. Her summer hours also will be by appointment.

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EMT-S Bridge Class	7/10/12	T-Th	Southfield
EMT Saturday Class	7/21/12	Sat	Taylor
EMT Day Class	8/7/12	T-Th	Taylor
EMT-S Bridge Class	8/7/12	T-Th	Taylor
Paramedic Evening Class	9/4/12	T-Th	Southfield
Paramedic Evening Class	10/9/12	T-Th	Taylor

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AROUND WESTLAND

Rocket Camp

The Glenn Wrestling Program will hold its annual Rocket Camp from 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 23-27 in the Wrestling Room of John Glenn High School on Marquette, west of Wayne Road.

The camp is open to high school students and costs \$100, including a T-shirt. Registration is at 12:30 p.m. Monday, July 23.

There will also be a Youth Camp from 4:30-6 p.m. July 25-27 for kindergarten through eighth-grade students in the Wrestling Room. The cost is \$50 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is at 4 p.m. Monday, July 25.

Registration forms are available at glennwrestling.com. For more information, contact Coach Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Support groups

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency has formed a new support Caregiving Support Group for those people who care for someone with dementia, Alzheimer's Disease or other chronic conditions.

The group meets from 6-7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Village of Westland, 32001 Cherry Hill, west of Merriman.

Wayne Metro also facilitates a Caregiver Support Group from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Tuesday of each month at the Kay Beard Building, 30712 Michigan Ave., in Westland. Call Nancy Coman at (734) 955-6752 for more information.

Christian Concert

St. Michael Lutheran Church and School are hosting a Christian music concert featuring the Spoke Folk at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 19, at the church, 3003 Hannan Road. The concert is free of charge, however, donations will be accepted.

The church also will hold a free vacation Bible school from 5-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Aug. 6-9.

Book sale

There are bargains to be had at the summer book sale in the Friends Shop at the William P. Faust Public Library.

Stock up on hardcover fiction books only with the shop's buy two get one free. Hardcover books are \$1 each, so get three hardcover fictions for just \$2. Also on the sale are audio books on cassettes for 25 cents each.

The sale doesn't include hardcover biographies, nonfiction and large-print books.

Pension seminar

Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers are co-sponsoring a free educational seminar on the lump-sum buyouts offered to salaried retirees of General Motors and Ford Motor Co. at 9 a.m. Thursday, July 12, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

A continental breakfast will be served. Participants must pre-register. For more information or to register, call (248) 932-5200 or email seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Mom to Mom sale

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is holding a Mom 2 Mom sale and an open house from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 28.

Willow Creek Preschool is located at 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland. The preschool is currently enrolling for their Tot to Toddler class, 3-year class and 4-year class for the 2012-2013 school year. For more information, call (734) 326-0078 or visit www.willowcreekpreschool.com

Farmers Market

The Westland Farmers Market has returned for the 2012 season to the Westland City Hall parking lot at 36601 Ford Road. It's held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday through Oct. 23. The market is the ultimate site for farmers, growers and producers to sell products directly to the public.

Doo Wop Show

The WhatAbouts will do a Doo Wop Dinner Show on Friday, July 13, at Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall, 33550 Ford, Westland.

Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30

p.m. Tickets are \$27 each. Dinner includes a tossed salad, rigatoni, roast beef with gravy, Italian sausage saute, green beans almondine, red skinned mashed potatoes, bread and butter, coffee, tea and pop. A cash bar will be available. Only 100 tickets will be sold. No tickets will be available at the door.

For tickets, call Kathy at (734) 216-9451 or visit www.agelos1958.com.

Golf outing

The John Glenn High School Wrestling Program will hold its 15th annual golf outing fundraiser Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Idyl Wyld Golf Course in Livonia. The cost is \$85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn and steak dinner after golf.

Contact Coach Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734) 634-4595 to make reservations or visit glennwrestling.com for more information. Hole sponsorship and raffle donations are being accepted.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army hosts Higher Rock Cafe, an evening of Christian music, fellowship, games and concessions at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Friday of the month at the corps, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer. There's no cover charge. For more information, visit Higher Rock Cafe on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WayneWestlandHRC or call (734) 722-3660.

Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another.

Meetings are 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Donations only.

For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, e-mail bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com or visit www.hope4healinghearts.com.

Nora Ephron: A woman worth knowing

Recently, we lost a huge talent with the passing of the highly respected journalist, essayist, playwright, author, producer and director Nora Ephron. She died from pneumonia at age 71 while undergoing treatment for acute myeloid leukemia in New York. Even if you don't recognize the name right away, you've surely seen one of her hit movies at some point in your life.

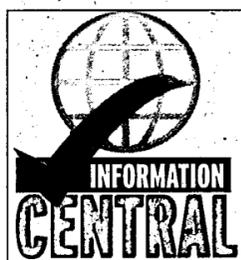
Starting out, Ephron was an intern in the Kennedy White House in the 1960s. By the end of the decade, she became known as a magazine journalist who published funny columns on women, sex and the feminist movement.

In 1976, Ephron married Carl Bernstein, shortly after he and Bob Woodward exposed the Watergate scandal. Their marriage fell apart when Bernstein cheated on her while she was pregnant. This inspired Ephron's 1983 novel, *Heartburn*, which was eventually made into a movie starring Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep.

In the early 1990s, Ephron began directing movies. She had several hits, but her most loved movies were the now classic romantic comedies of *When Harry Met Sally*, *Sleepless in Seattle* and *You've Got Mail*. The most recent movie she made is *Julie & Julia* from 2009, again starring Meryl Streep.

In addition to writing movies, books and plays, Ephron also wrote many essays. Her two collections, *I Feel Bad About My Neck*; *And Other Reflections on Being a Woman* from 2006 and *I Remember Nothing* from 2010 quickly became *New York Times* best sellers.

We've got Ephron's fic-



Nora Ephron

tion and nonfiction books here at the library. You can see for yourself what made this woman so great and what a loss she is by picking up some of her work.

Contact the library by calling (734) 326-6123, stopping by 6123 Central City Parkway, or checking us out online at westlandlibrary.org.

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

Art for Left-Brainers: 11 a.m. July 1

Ever say to yourself, "I'm just not artistic." Well, this program is for you. Artist and Instructor Megan Olsen will help you channel your creativity and produce a piece of art. Participants will be working with paints, all supplies provided. Space is limited. Sign-up at the Reference Desk or online at westlandlibrary.org/events.

This program is part of our Adult Summer Library Challenge.

New summer hours - Job Seekers Lab: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help. Drop in. No reservation needed.

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.

Computer Classes are offered all year long, and the library also offers one-on-one computer classes. Call (734) 326-6123 and find out if it's right for you.

Children, teens, Adults: The Summer Challenge is in full swing. Stop by the library and register now.

Beginning July 1, the library's new hours are: closed Sunday and Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, noon-9 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday. The library will be closed Wednesday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day.

Information Central was compiled by Andrea Perez, homebound delivery 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.

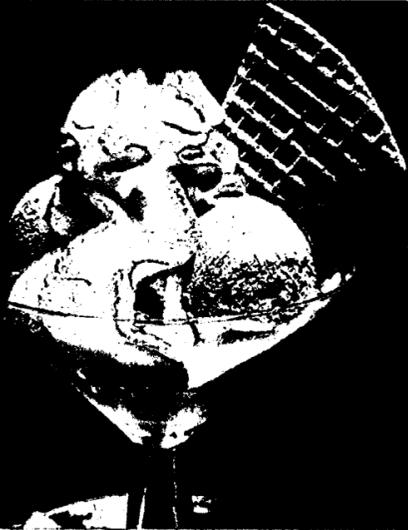
Advertisement for garage sale kit with 'Let the SALE BEGIN!' headline, coupon for \$2.00 off, and details for the garage sale kit including signs, price stickers, and inventory sheets.

Large advertisement for Dick Scott Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram featuring 'LAST DAY TO SAVE!' and 'OPEN MONDAY 'TIL 9 P.M.' with various car models and prices.

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Schmitt continues to shine at U.S. Trials

Canton swimmer breaks own American record in 200 free



Canton's Allison Schmitt broke her own American record in the 200-meter freestyle Thursday night at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb. She also won both her heats Friday in the 100 freestyle and was seeded third going into Saturday night's final.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Allison Schmitt did it again.

The 22-year-old from Canton High broke her own American record in the 200-meter freestyle Thursday night at the U.S. Olympic Trials held at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha, Neb.

Schmitt was clocked in 1:54.40 — the fastest in the world this year — eclipsing her mark of 1:54.96 set in the 2009 FINA World Championships in Rome when she won a silver medal.

Schmitt, who took the Olympic year off from the University of Georgia to train under coach Bob Bowman at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club, now has qualified for the Summer Olympic Games in London (July 27-Aug. 12) in both the 200 and 400

Please see SCHMITT, B3

U.S. Olympic swim update

Three area swimmers continued their U.S. Olympic Swim Trials quest Friday in Omaha, Neb., with Livonia Stevenson High incoming junior Nick Arakelian, 16, placing 63rd in the 200-meter individual medley with a time of 2:05.79.

Arakelian, a member of the Kingfish Aquatic Club of Waterford, improved upon his seeding of 103rd seeding time of 2:06.12.

Sister Caroline Arakelian, a recent Stevenson grad, took 106th overall in the 200 IM 2:24.02, but was well off her 85th-place seeding time of 2:18.68. Also representing Kingfish, the Queens University (N.C.) signee, 17, was also scheduled to swim in the 200 backstroke prelims where she is seeded 55th with an entry time of 2:15.73.

Plymouth Township's Amanda Tucker, 15, took 94th Friday in the 200 breaststroke prelims with a time of 2:38.77. She was seeded 93rd going in with a time of 2:35.0.

Earlier in the week, Tucker took 31st in the 100 breaststroke (1:10.45), eclipsing her seeding time of 1:11.75 (106th overall).

Martin finds success with Minnesota State

Farmington, ex-CMU pitcher named 2012 Newcomer of the Year in NSIC

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Harvey Martin was eager for a fresh start and a new opportunity in college baseball. He found that and more at Minnesota State University.

The former Farmington

High School star's decision to transfer after four years at Central Michigan could not have worked out better in Mankato, Minn.

The right-handed pitcher was 10-0 and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference's Newcomer of the Year. Martin also did his part to help the Mavericks get within a game of the NCAA Division II College World Series final.



Harvey Martin

"I got some All-American honors, and we almost won the national championship; so it was a pretty good year," Martin said.

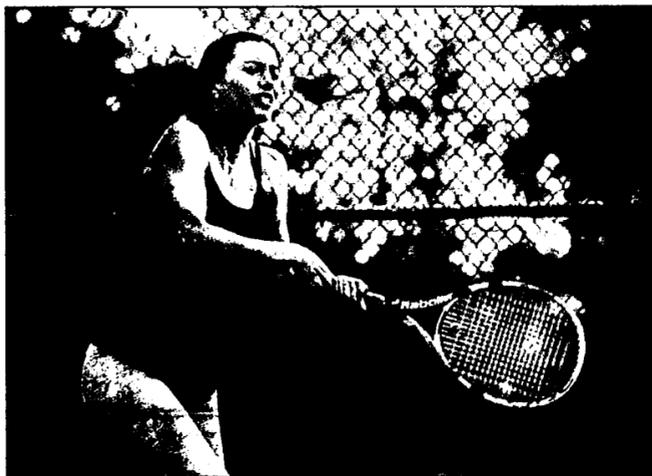
While playing for the Eau Claire (Wis.) Express last summer, he was teammates with two players from Minnesota State, and he thought about heading west to join them.

Martin wasn't content with the way things were going at CMU as he entered his fifth year, so he requested and was given his release.

Martin, who earned his undergrad degree in sports management from CMU in December, was accepted into graduate school at MSU and given a baseball scholarship.

"Minnesota State had a good record and fell short in the regional last year," Martin said. "Ben Kincaid kept telling me they were going to have a lot

Please see MARTIN, B4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia's Bianca Moldovan, who will be a sophomore this fall at Stevenson High, won the Girls 16s singles crown last week at the USTA Level 1 Midwest Closed Tournament in Indianapolis.

Moldovan captures USTA-Midwest title

Livonia girl adds to her tennis resume

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia's Bianca Moldovan took another signature step in her burgeoning tennis career by winning the Girls 16s singles title at the USTA/Midwest Section Level 1 Closed Junior Outdoor Championship last week in Indianapolis.

The 15-year-old, who will be a sophomore at Stevenson High in the fall, lived up to her top-seeded status by winning seven straight matches capped by a 6-2, 6-7 (3-7), 6-2 victory Thursday in the finals over 16th seed Francesca Dilorenzo of New Albany, Ohio.

"It's a big win because last year I didn't do so well in Indy," said

Moldovan, who has moved up to No. 3 in the Midwest rankings. "I promised myself after last year I'd do better this year and train a lot because this is one of the biggest tournaments. Every good player in the Midwest plays this tournament, so I was just really happy that I won."

Moldovan avenged a 6-0, 6-1 semifinal loss to Dilorenzo at the Midwest Level 3 Memorial in late May in Okemos.

"She is also a very good tennis player," Moldovan said of Dilorenzo. "I won the first set easily, then she picked it up. She found a way to get under my skin. She hit some winners here and there. She played a lot bet-

Please see MOLDOVAN, B3

Senior stars

Lindsey Lerg of Farmington Hills and Mercy High School has accepted an invitation to play in the 2012 All-State Senior All-Star Volleyball Classic on Friday, July 27, at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

Other Observerland players who have been invited to participate are: Miss Volleyball Maddy Doyle, Mercy; Alaina Turner and Kristen Muir, Canton; Kelly Vellucci, Livonia Stevenson; Kenzie Kettner and Alex Hines, Livonia Ladywood; and Kristin Malcolm, Plymouth Christian Academy.

The event is intended to showcase the top senior players in the state and give them a final opportunity to play with and against the best.

All seniors who made either the Class A, B, C or D all-state first, second or third teams were invited to participate.

The coaches are those who led their teams to the quarterfinals or beyond in the 2011 state tournaments in each class.

There will be an awards program from 1-3:15 p.m. July 27 and two semifinal matches at 5:30 p.m. The consolation and final matches will be played at 7:30 p.m.



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Senior pitcher Harvey Martin was named Newcomer of the Year in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.



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Area's top golfers earn All-Observer honors

FIRST TEAM

Max Kollin, N. Farmington: Kollin had an outstanding four-year varsity career for the Raiders and holds every school record. As a senior, he averaged 72.2 strokes in tournament play and 34.8 in nine-hole dual matches. Kollin, who has a golf scholarship to Indiana University, won the Azure Dynamics Invite at Oakland Hills (66), the second OAA White Division tournament (69) and the district at Lyon Oaks (67). He also shot a 3-under-par 32 in a dual match at Farmington Hills Golf Club. Kollin was the Division 1 state champion in 2011.

"He has tremendous talent and love for the game," coach Bruce Sutton said. "I haven't seen a player like him who has such a desire to win in the 20-some years I've coached. I'm sure his college coach will really enjoy having him on the team, and he will benefit that team with the desire he has to win."

"I think the records he's put down will stand for a long time. He's helped us put North Farmington on the map. It's amazing what one kid will do for your team. He just elevated everybody's game."

Josh Heinze, Plymouth: The senior captain finished an outstanding high school career shooting 69 at the Division 1 regional tournament at Grosse Ile (a career best), followed by a 78-80-158 line at the finals.

Heinze also averaged 74.5 for the season, including two tough rounds at the state of the season at Indianwood under windy conditions.

His superb play sparked the Wildcats to the KLAAs South Division title (10-0 record) as well as the team's first-ever regional team championship.

Among many honors was selection to the All-KLAA, district and regional teams. He will play collegiately, either at Oakland University or Eastern Michigan University.

"Josh is a true leader and great captain," coach Chris Moore said. "He's definitely going to be missed. He'll do well (at college). He's such a great worker."

Heinze was named Plymouth High School Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year and was a finalist for MHSAA Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Kyle Rodes, Plymouth: To be the Wildcats' MVP ahead of Heinze underscores what the junior brought to the golf course this spring.

For starters, Rodes registered an 18-hole average of 74.1, the lowest on the team. He tallied two rounds of 69, finished with a 73 at regionals (held at West Shore) and a two-day line of 78-76-154 at finals — the best showing by a Wildcat.

"Just an unbelievably talented kid, and he hasn't even reached his potential yet," Moore said. "I think next year is going to be a breakout season for him."

"He's just scratching the surface of how good he can be."

Donnie Trosper, Canton: Breaking onto the scene with a bang, Trosper already is one of the best golfers in the state and he has three years to go in his career with the Chiefs.

He averaged 37.2 for nine holes and 74 for 18, while medaling in six of 10 dual matches. At the Huron Valley Invitational, he medaled with

2012 ALL-OBSERVER

BOYS GOLF FIRST TEAM

Max Kollin, Sr., N. Farmington
 Josh Heinze, Sr., Plymouth
 Kyle Rodes, Jr., Plymouth
 Donnie Trosper, Fr., Canton
 Ben Proben, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 Dante Cicchelli, Sr., Liv. Stevenson

SECOND TEAM

Ryan Rieckhoff, Jr., Plymouth
 Chris Kozler, Soph., Plymouth
 Eric Duprey, Sr., Salem
 Matt Goldi, Soph., Farmington
 Austin Alexander, Fr., N. Farmington
 Andrew Ioanou, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 Mike Maiden, Jr., Garden City
 Eric Attard, Soph., Liv. Stevenson

COACH OF THE YEAR

Chris Moore, Plymouth

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Nick Proben, Eric Hill; **Franklin:** Brian Roulier, Brian Bekkala; **Stevenson:** Nick Marsh, Austin Harris, Connor Humitz, Mike Blaesser; **John Glenn:** Mitch Dean, Nick Doupe; **Wayne Memorial:** Zachary Williamson, Jarret Williamson; **Huron Valley Lutheran:** Chase Beerbower; **Canton:** Josh Maxam, Tyler McMahan, Alex Champagne, Brent Perry; **Plymouth:** John Tatti, Alex Decker, Evan Chipman; **Salem:** Brian Patterson; **Farmington:** Nick Heffron; **North Farmington:** Ryan Masell; **Garden City:** Phil Miskulin, Sean Hackman, Joe Pummill, Justin Swisher; **Redford Thurston:** Alex Williams, Andrew Lapins; **Redford Union:** Kevin Caloia, Kyle Gross.

a 69.

Other highlights included tying for second at the KLAAs meet (71), finishing fourth at Division 1 districts (73) and medaling at regionals with a 67. He then shot 79 and 76 for a two-day total of 155 at the state finals held at The Meadows in Grand Rapids.

"Donnie is a very talented and dedicated golfer," coach Tom Alles said. "His game is solid from tee to green. He has a tremendous amount of competitive experience for a freshman."

"Donnie was consistently our best player throughout the season. He has a very positive attitude and is a pleasure to coach."

Ben Proben, Churchill: The senior co-captain and four-year letter winner earned team MVP honors for the third straight year.

Proben earned medalist honors in six dual matches and led the Chargers with a 37.9 average per nine holes and 77.1 per 18.

Proben shot a 73 to place sixth in the Kensington Conference tourney and added another 73 for a sixth at the Temperance Bedford Invitational. He also placed 10th in the Birmingham Seaholm Invitational with a 76.

Proben placed 16th at the regional (76) and 12th in the district tourney (77).

"Ben was an excellent co-captain on a senior-laden team," coach Paul Worley said, "and I expect his score to drop even more in college where he plans on attending or playing for Oakland Community College or Schoolcraft College."

Dante Cicchelli, Stevenson: The senior was the Spartans' MVP and earned an individual qualifying berth in the Division 1 state finals after placing fourth at the Timber Trace regional with a 75.

Cicchelli averaged 38.5 per nine and 79 per 18 holes. He was dual match medalist twice and was also first in medal play at the Livonia City Championship.

Other top finishes included runner-up at the district, fifth at the Dearborn Invitational, 10th at the Brighton Invitational and 15th in the Kensington Conference tourney.

"Dante is a very dedicated golfer, but also is an excellent student and helpful teammate," coach Brian Gulick said. "He is one of the best golfers I have ever coached. It was an honor to coach him this year."

SECOND TEAM

Ryan Rieckhoff, Plymouth: The future continues to be very bright for the Wildcats thanks to having golfers such as Rieckhoff back for another season.

He set a team record with a five-under par 67 at the Bedford Invitational. Other highlights included a 79 at regionals as well as a second-day score of 77 in the finals, held at the challenging Meadows.

"Ryan just made tremendous strides in his game, his attitude on the course and he started to realize his potential," Moore said. "I think next year is going to be a great year for him as well."

Chris Kozler, Plymouth: The sophomore is showing he has no trouble in big-time tournaments, serving notice he will be heard from the next two seasons with the Wildcats.

Just a few examples, Kozler shot a 77 at districts, 75 at regionals and finished with a 77 on Day 1 of the finals at The Meadows in Grand Rapids — where he finished with a two-day tally of 158, matching Heinze's total.

"Chris is very consistent and has just a great attitude on the course," Moore said. "He does really well."

Eric Duprey, Salem: The list of Duprey's achievements this season is pretty impressive, as the senior averaged 37.8 for nine and 78.3 for 18 — the best turned in by Salem golfers.

Duprey was a four-time medalist at dual meets, including a 36 at Fox Hills Golf Club against Livonia Stevenson.

At the KLAAs meet, his even-par 72 earned him fourth place and he followed up with a sixth-place score of 75 at the D1 districts at Whispering Willows in Livonia.

"Eric has been an intricate member on the Salem golf team for the last four years,"

coach Ryan Nimmerguth said. "I was very proud of the leader Eric became this year as he was a great role model to the younger players on the team."

"He works extremely hard at improving his game and has spent his entire career at the varsity level. He has a love for the game and will look to continue his career in college at Grand Valley State University."

Matt Goldi, Farmington: The sophomore and second-year varsity player lowered his average score by 10 strokes from his first year. Goldi averaged 79.8 in tournaments and 38 for nine holes. His best 18-hole round was 72, and he had four top-10 finishes. He was the team medalist in 10 events and was voted team MVP. Goldi also won the Junior Optimist tournament in Farmington Hills and qualified for the state tournament.

"He really has worked on his game over the past year," coach Dennis Zaleski said. "As the season progressed, he got better and better. The strength of his game is practice. He's relentless in his practicing; he always strives to do better. We look for great things from him in the next two years."

Austin Alexander, N. Farmington: Alexander had a fine freshman season that culminated in him qualifying for the Division 1 state tournament with a score of 75 in the regional. He averaged 79 in tournament play and 39.8 in dual matches. Alexander's best tournament score was 74, which he shot twice, at the Azure Dynamics and Milford invitationals. He shot sub-80 scores in seven of 10 events.

"He's a very methodical player," Sutton said. "His drawback at this point in time is he doesn't hit the ball as far. But he probably hits more accurately than most of the kids do. He has a great short game. On the first day at the state finals, he was sinking long, long putts."

"Hopefully, he gets on a strength program in the off season gets some more muscle behind him. With time I know he's going to get the length he wants in his game, and he's going to be playing very well. He has a great attitude. I think he's going to usher us into a new era."

Andrew Ioanou, Churchill: The senior tied for 12th at the regional with a 75 and added a 17th at the district with a 79.

He shot 77s to place fifth at the Dearborn Elite Invitational, 10th at the Brighton Invitational and 15th in the Kensington Conference tourney.

Ioanou, who averaged 77.8 per 18 holes and 41 per nine, plans to attend and play golf at Schoolcraft College.

"Andrew played some really consistent golf for the Chargers this season," Worley said. "He posted some solid numbers with his superb short game."

Mike Maiden, Garden City: The smooth-swinging junior enjoyed an outstanding season, leading the Cougars to an unbeaten dual-meet record in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference. Maiden averaged a stellar 37.4 strokes for nine-hole rounds and 81.2 for 18-hole rounds. He earned medalist honors in all but a few WWAC dual meets.



Max Kollin
N. Farmington



Josh Heinze
Plymouth



Kyle Rodes
Plymouth



Donnie Trosper
Canton



Ben Proben
Churchill



Dante Cicchelli
Stevenson



Ryan Rieckhoff
Plymouth



Chris Kozler
Plymouth



Eric Duprey
Salem



Matt Goldi
Farmington



Austin Alexander
N. Farmington



Andrew Ioanou
Churchill



Mike Maiden
Garden City



Eric Attard
Stevenson



Chris Moore
Plymouth coach

"Mike played number one all year and did an awesome job of leading our team with his great play," coach Ron Pummill said. "Mike finished the year as the top player in our division, which speaks to his consistency through out this season. Mike is a pleasure to coach and I look forward to him having an outstanding senior season. He has a quiet demeanor, but his game speaks volumes with his ability to hit fairways and greens."

Eric Attard, Stevenson: The sophomore and second-year varsity player averaged 38.8 per nine holes and 80.0 for 18.

Attard also earned a top-10 finish in the Brighton Invitational and a 14th at the Dearborn Invitational. He also added a 30th in the district, 18th in the Timber Trace regional and shot a 79 at the Kensington Conference Tournament.

"Eric worked very hard this year and always came ready to compete," Gulick said. "His score counted in all 10 nine-hole dual matches and in three 18-hole tournaments."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Chris Moore, Plymouth: Under Moore's watch, the Plymouth varsity boys golf program continues to roll at a

high level. This spring, the Wildcats went undefeated in dual meets (10-0), winning the KLAAs South Division and qualified for the Division 1 team finals for a third consecutive season.

They reached the finals again by winning the regionals with a four-player total of 296 in Grosse Ile.

"At The Meadows in Grand Rapids for the finals, Plymouth rallied in the second day to sneak into 10th place for the third time in a row."

"Still not where we wanted, but we made improvements," said Moore, following the finals. "That was good. That's three straight years in the top 10 in the state."

"I think we can be very proud of that. We had higher expectations, but it is what it is."

Although Moore will lose senior captain Heinze to graduation, he will oversee a group of highly talented returnees. Juniors Rodes and Rieckhoff will pace the team, joined by promising sophomores such as Kozler, John Tatti and Evan Chipman.

"My sophomores played awesome," Moore said. "It was a really good experience for them as they move on."

Bronco champs



The Livonia Junior Athletic League 12-and-under Cardinals recently capped off a 12-0 season with a first-place finish in the Bronco Division. Team members include (front row, from left): Colin Tracy, Riley Squire, Ryan Snyder, Brett Smart, and Mitchell Rice; (second row, from left) Jack Yardley, Jackson Fryer, Ryan Ozog, Ben Herter, and Nathan Rice; (back row, from left) assistant coach Matt Yardley, Tyler Makowski, Ryan Celmer, Caleb Boyd, head coach Matt Metzler, Collin Metzler and assistant coach Dave Rice. (Not pictured is assistant coach Tom Hicks and Colin Hicks.)



The members of the Mud Hens baseball team are (left to right) coach Doug Knedgen, Dylan Parsons, manager Roger Parsons, Will McLellan, Victor Mencotti, Blake Bean (front), Kyle Lockhart (back), Dominic Lanni, Shane Saxton, Kevin Korte, Mitchell Knedgen, Mike Dennis, Jack Budde, coach Mike Korte, Jon Montie and coach Joe Mencotti.

Mud Hens romp to tourney title

The Farmington Hills Mud Hens won the 12-and-under division of the Blues Invitational June 17 at Founders Sports Park, defeating the South Farmington Blues in the championship game, 16-5.

The Mud Hens went 3-0 in pool play with victories over the Detroit Metro Stars, 16-4; Michigan Bulldogs, 9-2; and Oakland Reds, 16-4.

The Mud Hens had good pitching from Jack Budde and Jon Montie in the final game. Other pitchers who contributed to the pool-play victories were Mitchell Knedgen, Victor Mencotti, Dylan Parsons, Shane Saxton, Kevin Korte, Blake Bean and Mike Dennis.

The Mud Hens also hit the ball well, racking up 55 runs during the weekend on 55 hits. They had a team batting average of .500 and were led by Will McLellan (6-for-9), Dominic Lanni (5-for-8) and Knedgen (7-for-11).

Budde, Parsons, Montie and Dennis each batted over .500 and added 19 hits. McLellan and Mencotti contributed home runs. Key defensive plays were made by Kyle Lockhart, Saxton, Korte and Bean.

"The Mud Hens came ready to play, and all the players did a great job," manager Roger Parsons said. "Every player contributed to our success. It was great team work by everyone."

SCHMITT

Continued from page B1

freestyles, as well as locking up a spot in the women's 4 x 200 freestyle relay.

Just like she did Tuesday night in the 400 freestyle (4:02.84), Schmitt took control of the 200 freestyle from the start of the race.

She was out ahead of world-record pace at the first turn and only built her lead on the field with each lap, finishing more than two seconds ahead of runner-up Missy Franklin, who touched in 1:56.79.

Buoyed by a great dolphin kick off the wall, Schmitt's time was the fastest in the world this year and it was the fourth fastest swim in history.

"I knew it was going to be a tight field, so I was just going for it and trying to hold on," Schmitt told the USAswimming.org web site. "I didn't feel like I was on record pace, but I could hear the crowd, and when I touched I saw the flames go off (at poolside). I was pretty excited before I even looked up and saw the time."

Dana Vollmer took third

in 1:57.47, followed by Lauren Perdue in 1:57.75, while Shannon Vreeland and Alyssa Anderson placed fifth and sixth, respectively, in 1:57.90 and 1:58.40.

Schmitt was seeded first overall (1:55.04) going into the Trials and posted the top prelim time in Wednesday's semifinal heat (1:55.59).

On Friday, Schmitt won both her heats in the 100 freestyle to qualify for Saturday night's finals. In the first round, Schmitt was clocked in 54.49 and added a time of 54.23 in the semifinal where she is seeded third behind Amanda Weir (54.14) and Missy Franklin (54.19).

"I've been having a great training year, and I've been preparing for this," Schmitt said.

The 2008 Canton High grad is a four-time NCAA champion at Georgia, who won a bronze medal in the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics in the 800 freestyle and placed ninth in the 200 freestyle.

Schmitt's performance also earned kudos from NBAC teammate and training partner Michael Phelps, a 14-time Olympic gold medalist. "She's awesome," Phelps



Canton's Allison Schmitt (right) has qualified for the Olympic Games in the 200- and 400-meter freestyle and a freestyle relay.

told USA Today after he won the men's 200-meter butterfly Thursday. "I love being around her. She always makes you smile. Very outgoing per-

son, very hard worker. "I've been able to see her transform into the person she is today as a swimmer and as a person. ... She's not afraid

of anything, and it's showing."

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Whalers acquire Storm defenseman

Plymouth Whalers general manager and head coach Mike Vellucci announced Wednesday the acquisition of 18-year-old defenseman Connor Carrick from the Guelph Storm in exchange for a sixth-round draft choice in the 2013 Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection.

Carrick was originally selected by Guelph in the 11th round (212th overall) of the 2010 OHL Priority Selection.

The 5-foot-11, 187-pound Carrick, who hails from Orland Park, Ill., was selected by the Washington Capitals in the fifth round (137th overall) of the recent 2012 National Hockey League Entry Draft.

He has played over the last two seasons with National Team Development Program in Ann Arbor. Last season, Car-

rick scored eight goals with 13 assists for 21 points in 57 games for the NTDP U-18s.

In 2010-11, Carrick tallied four goals with 16 assists for 20 points in 55 games for the NTDP U-17s.

In August, Carrick will be joining Plymouth teammates Ryan Hartman, J.T. Miller and Stefan Noesen as they participate in the USA Hockey National Junior Evaluation Camp.

The camp is an audition for a spot on the U.S. National Junior Team that will play in the 2013 International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championship Dec. 26-Jan. 5 in Russia.

Also on Wednesday, the Whalers participated in the annual Canadian Hockey League Import Draft and selected two defensemen from Sweden.

MOLDOVAN

Continued from page B1

ter than she did the first set and managed to win in the tiebreaker (7-3).

Moldovan then was able to regroup in the third and decisive set.

"I was just more focused," she said. "I knew what I had to do and what I did wrong that second set. I managed to pull it through and get it together."

There were also some anxious moments in her semifinal match as well as Moldovan had to rally after being one set down and 5-2 in the second set to oust third seed Kennedy Shaffer of Rossford, Ohio, 2-6, 7-6 (7-1), 7-6 (7-5).

"She (Shaffer) was doing great and I was just making mistakes here and there," Moldovan said. "She was hitting winners on me and being confident. I just decided I had nothing to lose, so I just tried to play my game, taking less risks. She started making some mistakes and giving me some confidence. I just had it in my mind that it was not over and I came back and won that set. We had a 10-minute break in-between (second and third sets), so I talked to my coach (Phil Eagleson) and he was just telling me what to do - keeping the same attitude and being positive. And I managed to pull it through."

Prior to the Midwest Closed, Moldovan went 5-0 to capture the Southeast Michigan District Muthig Junior Girls Qualifier (June 6-11 at Canton) capped by a 6-4, 6-0 win over Mollie Fox of Bloomfield Hills.

Moldovan then won her first four matches at the Midwest Closed all in straight sets against Molly Fletchall (Carmel, Ind.), Danielle Vasiliev (Buffalo Grove, Ill.), Caitlyn Merzbacher (Dublin, Ohio) and Tiffany Huber (Fort Wayne, Ind.) to reach the semifinals.

"It was very hot, especially the last three days," Moldovan said of the Midwest Closed. "The last day it reached 100 degrees. I played at 8 a.m. and it was around 90 degrees, so it was a little better, but still tough to get through. You just focus."

Moldovan's breakthrough tournament win came last month (May 12-14) in Grand Rapids when she got in as last-minute alternate and pulled off a string of upsets to capture the USTA Level 2 National Open in the Girls 18s.

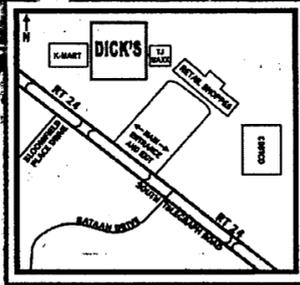
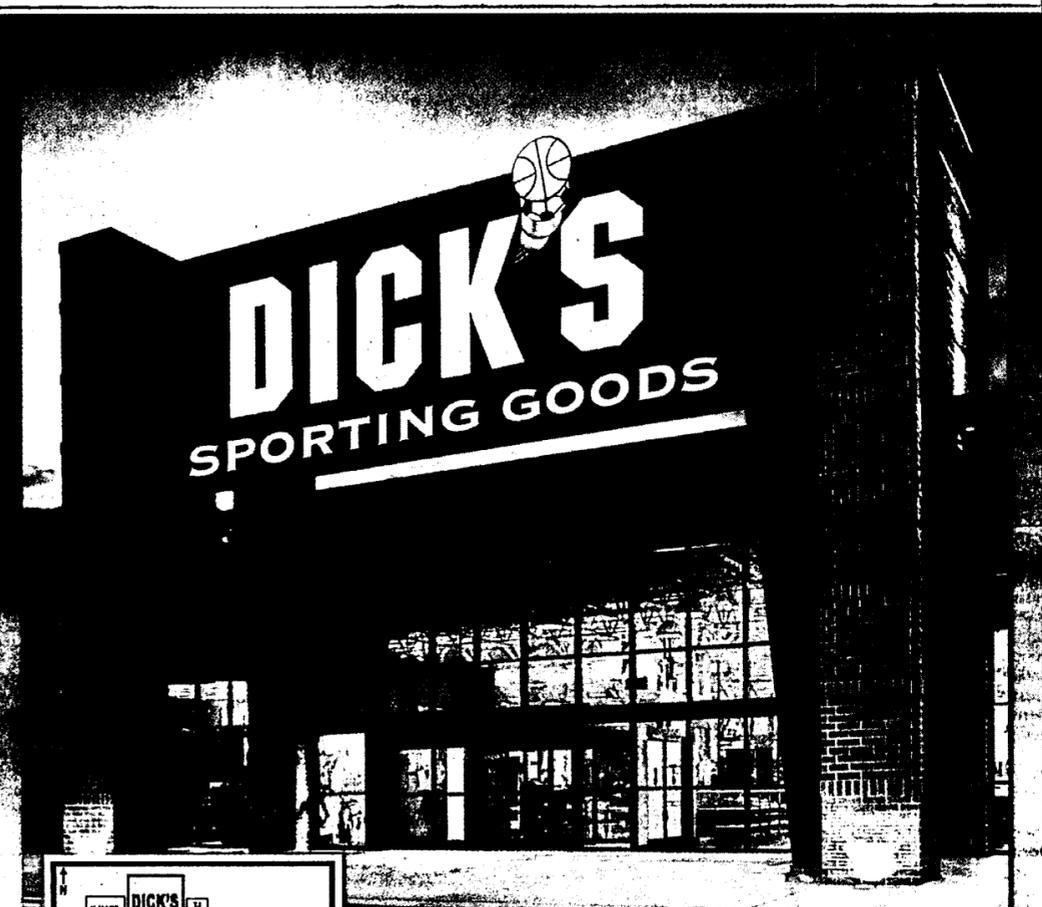
That win qualified Moldovan for a trip to Memphis, Tenn. later this month for the USTA Girls 18s Clay Courts, but she is also considering playing a \$10,000 International Tennis Federation pro circuit event, July 16-22, in Evansville, Ind.

And despite the heavy summer tournament schedule, which includes a trip this weekend to Mason, Ohio for a first-of-three stage section qualifier for the U.S. Open, Moldovan is holding up well.

"I doing good because I said I'd do a lot of fitness when I'm off the court," Moldovan said. "I'm not really tired physically, but a little tired mentally to be honest with the three-setters, but physically I'm doing fine."

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Back in the throws

Ex-Charger Henderson competes in U.S. Trials

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

After almost a three-year hiatus, Nia Henderson is glad she's back in the shot put circle.

The Westland native, who competed Thursday night in the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials in Eugene, Ore., was a stand-out thrower during her days at Livonia Churchill High and Kent State University.

But she left the sport after pursuing her masters degree for two years in sport management at Eastern Michigan University.

And it was only six months ago that Henderson got the bug again.

"One of my former teammates (at Kent State) pushed me back into training," said Henderson, who was a former NCAA Indoor All-American. "In January I wasn't

sure if I wanted to do it or not. I prayed about it and everything, and finally I got the answers, started training and going for the goals I wanted to reach, which is of course, the Olympics."

Henderson didn't quite get the result she was looking for Thursday evening. In less than ideal throwing conditions because of the cool air and drizzle of Eugene, she wound up 22nd overall among 23 qualifiers with her best throw 51 feet, 3.5 inches. (Her other two throws were 50-9.25 and 49-50.)

It was well off her best Trials qualifying mark of 16.92 meters (55-6) set in a meet earlier this month in Toledo, but Henderson wasn't deterred.

"Overall, I take it as a good experience," said the former two-time Mid-American Conference indoor and outdoor shot put champion. "My plan was to get the experience. And if I made it to the finals it, would be even better, but I didn't."

"After just starting training back in March, I was thankful I was able to



Westland native and Churchill High grad Nia Henderson had just three months training before earning a spot in the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials in the shot put held Thursday in Eugene, Ore.



Nia Henderson

make it this far."

Henderson, in fact, surprised herself after connecting with two coaches in northern Ohio - Jim Wetenhall and Justin Carvalho (an assistant at the University of Findlay).

"I'd go and see him (Wetenhall) twice a week, then see Justin once every other week," Henderson said. "I'm thinking about moving to get closer to that way so I'll be able to train more. If I get closer to them, I'll be able to train more than I am right now."

Henderson works part-time at a print service company and plans to continue training into the 2013 season.

"I definitely be train-

ing for the USA Nationals and all the meets coming up," said Henderson, who was a three-time Division 1 All-State thrower at Churchill with third and second-place finishes in 2003 and 2004. "According to my coaches, I should be at the (2013) USA Indoor Nationals in New Mexico in February."

"I'll continue to train and hopefully by the indoor (season), I'll have a sponsor, then I won't have to work as much and have time to train."

The three Olympic berths in Friday's finals were garnered by Jillian Camarena-Williams (Nike/NYAC) had the top finals throw with a toss

of 62-10.5 followed by Michelle Carter (Nike) and Tia Brooks (Oklahoma) with throws of 60-11.25 and 60-2, respectively.

"The top girls are at 60 (feet) and 63," Henderson said. "After three months at being at 55, within a year, definitely I could be up to 59 and 60 feet for sure. By then I'll be training more and have more experience. I'll have my new form down because I had to rework everything from what I already knew. Since March I'm still learning my new form with my new coaches"

Henderson's coaches were unable to attend the Trials, but her num-

ber one fan, Nia's mother Tina, was able to soak in the experience.

"I was very thankful I was able to make it this far," said Nia, who served as an graduate assistant coach at EMU and this spring at Salem High. "People dream this. I was thankful I was able to compete and I'll feel much more normal when I'm training more. I'm going to do it next year, I'm not going to stop. It was a short amount of training considering ... because I didn't qualify in college and now it's been three years. There's definitely something there."

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18-and-under Spartans win Brighton tournament

The 18-and-under Michigan Spartans won the Brighton Baseball Tournament June 24 when they whipped the Novi Elite in the championship game, 14-1.

The Spartans went 4-1 in the tournament, winning their final four games, including three on the final day. The Spartans are based in Farmington Hills, and their team is composed mostly of Farmington-area high school players.

Spartans starting pitcher Sterling Sharp threw a two-hit, complete game in the four-inning, shortened final game.

Sharp's three strikeout-and-no walk performance was supported by a 15-hit attack. Six players had multiple hits, and Brooks Reno and Brandon Jurczynski drove in four runs each.

Jurczynski led the Spartans with two singles and a double; Reno pounded two doubles, and Mark Gossett had a double and a single. Also chipping in two hits each were Nick Kipper, David Lett and Ross Williams.

The Spartans' championship-game win avenged an earlier loss to the Elite in the first tournament game Thursday night, 8-2.

In his two tournament starts covering eight innings, Sharp gave up only four

hits and one earned run.

In a semifinal game Sunday, the Spartans defeated the Commerce Warriors, 3-0, behind the shutout pitching of starter Thomas Colvin for five innings and stellar relief from Bobby Lett.

All the scoring was in the fifth inning; Reno had an RBI double and Perry an RBI single.

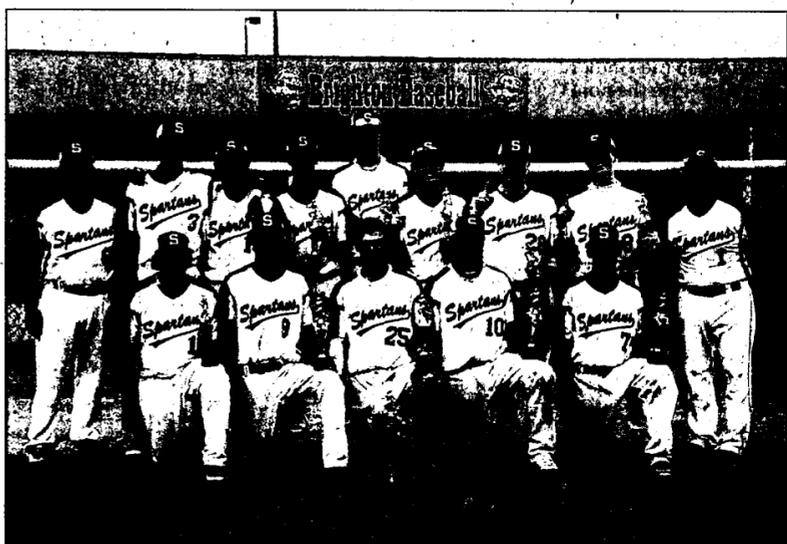
In the first game Sunday, the Spartans downed the Rochester Red Sox in five innings, 10-2, as Davis Vandercook pitched a complete game.

The 6-foot-6 right-hander was supported by a 10-hit attack, led by Perry's three-RBI performance. Gossett had two doubles and a single, and Michael Carty lined two singles. Gossett and Carty also knocked in two runs each.

On Saturday, the Spartans defeated the Michigan Mustangs, 12-1, behind the two-hit pitching of Sharp, who went four innings and was followed by Brad King.

Gossett drove in four runs with two hits, and David Lett also had a pair of hits.

The Spartans, who are coached by Kurt Yockey, are playing today in the Black Swamp Classic in Bowling Green, Ohio.



The 18-and-under Michigan Spartans won the 2012 Brighton Baseball Tournament June 24. The majority of players are from North Farmington and Farmington high schools. The team members are (front row, from left) Michael Carty, Bobby Lett, Mark Gossett, Jon Perry, Brooks Reno, (back row, from left) assistant coach Matthew Kipper, Sterling Sharp, Brandon Jurczynski, David Lett, Davis Vandercook, Nick Kipper, Brad King, Ross Williams and head coach Kurt Yockey. Not pictured are McCoy Sloan, T.J. Zak and Thomas Colvin.

MARTIN

Continued from page B1

of seniors back; they had a great group of guys and a good coaching staff. It just sounded like a good fit.

"I wanted to go somewhere that was a powerhouse school. I had to go somewhere that was Division II with the transfer rules, and I didn't want to go somewhere I didn't know anybody.

"Our goal from the first day was to get to Cary, N.C., and play in the College World Series. It sounded a lot more intriguing than saying, 'We want to win our conference.' Being a Midwest team, we knocked out teams from California and Florida. It was exciting just being part of that."

"It was one of the best decisions I made in my baseball career. We were two wins away from winning the College World Series. That's a pretty good thing, I'd say."

Starting pitcher

Martin, who had been a relief pitcher his entire time at CMU, was given the opportunity to be a starter and pitch more innings at MSU.

He started 12 games and posted a 2.95 earned run average in 76.1 innings,

which was double the number of career innings he had at CMU. Martin also had 53 strikeouts compared to 16 walks.

"I never knew what role I was going to have going into the season (at CMU)," Martin said. At MSU, the coaches said: 'Hey, you're going to get the ball; you're going to be one of the starters.' I was going to pitch my way in or out of the lineup. It was going to be a challenge.

"I felt I had a lot to prove. That was a motivational factor. My goal was to do exactly what I did. At the same time, it was a little different to have friends call me and say, 'Hey, you're having a great year.' That was pretty fun to have that support system and people following my career."

The 6-foot-1, 195 pound Martin has another year of college eligibility and plans a return to MSU. He played only two seasons for the Chippewas; he was redshirted in 2008 and missed all of 2010 with an injury to his throwing arm. Consequently, the NCAA granted him a medical redshirt and a sixth year.

Comeback Kid

Martin's fantastic 2012 season is all the more impressive since he had Tommy John surgery two



Harvey Martin of Farmington was 10-0 this year for the Minnesota State University Mavericks.

years ago. He appeared in 16 games as a reliever and was 3-3 with a 2.96 ERA for CMU in 2011.

"It took me a year and a half to get my velocity back," Martin said. "Tommy John was the best thing for my career. The rehab taught me how to take care of my body and arm. I know a lot more."

"I started pitching 11 months after surgery, but I wouldn't say I was back to normal for another two years. You're learning to throw with a completely new arm, so it was tough."

"I throw about 3-4 mph harder than I did, so I definitely

came back stronger. I think I'm definitely a better pitcher than was I two and a half years ago when I had it."

Not just a pitcher

In high school, Martin and Burny Mitchem were a one-two pitching combination that took Farmington to the final game of the state tournament in 2007.

Martin was not always a pitcher exclusively, however. He also was a stand-out shortstop and started his college career as a field player.

"Halfway through my

sophomore season, I started throwing in games and doing really well," Martin said. "I was throwing about 90 miles per hour, and I wasn't hitting the ball like I was."

"I became our closer my redshirt freshman year before I had surgery. The coach said: 'If you want to play at the next level, it has to be as a pitcher.' That's what I wanted to do, and I pretty much put the bat down."

Draft prospect

Martin had hoped to be drafted by a Major League team, "but I have

another year to chase that dream," he said, adding he had some interest from the Tigers, Cardinals and Twins after the season.

"What I have to do is keep working hard at that dream and, hopefully, I'll be the next guy from Farmington to get that opportunity. Hopefully, they'll see something they like and want to take a run at me."

"I was kinda under the radar for a couple years (because of the surgery). The past year was an eye-opener for everybody, and it got my name back out there. If I can keep doing what I've been doing, I believe I should get the chance next year."

In the meantime, Martin will focus on having another season like he had. The Mavericks, who were 51-12 overall, were NSIC regular-season and tournament champions, and they also won the D-II Central Region title.

"It was fun to be a part of it," Martin said. "I made a lot of great friends, and I'm excited to go back. We know we'll have a target on our backs after the season we just had, so we'll see how it goes."

If 2013 goes as well as 2012 did for Martin and the Mavericks, it's sure to be another winner.

Animal welfare group moves from garage to better new offices

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The new office at 28402 Five Mile, Livonia measures only 1,000 square feet, but houses enough food to feed hundreds of hungry dogs and cats.

"We're picking up nine pallets of food tomorrow and each pallet has 45-50 bags. Within 24 hours another 450 bags of food are coming into our facility," said Laura Zain, founder and CEO of Tail Waggers 1990, a unique animal welfare organization dedicated to helping animal rescues and pet owners.

Until late last year, the nonprofit's "facility" was Zain's garage, where Tail Waggers 1990 ran its Pantry 4 Paws, distributing food to both rescues and pet owners in need. Her kitchen table sometimes served as a planning area for the nonprofit's other programs, including low-cost vaccination clinics, low-cost spay and neuter surgeries, and a youth education club known as Pet Cadet. "I live two blocks away. I drive by here all the time," Zain said. "There was a for rent sign here. I called the number. The landlord comes in and shows me this empty space. Completely empty, not even a floor."

But when the landlord offered to give the nonprofit six months free rent, with discounts for subsequent years, Zain was ready to close her



Laura Zain (left), the founder and CEO of Tail Waggers 1990, and board members Felicia Arnold, Jaclyn Winkel and Judy Marinetti, show off the organization's new office.

eyes "and leap" at the offer. She and her vice president, Felicia Arnold, talked it over and presented the idea to other board members.

After 23 years, Tail Waggers would get its own office space. "Opportunity was knocking and we all said, sometimes you have to take that risk," Zain said. "We didn't know financially how we were going to do it, but we had nothing to lose."

"If it didn't work, all we were out would be moving," added Arnold, a Westland resident.

Creating offices

The all-volunteer organization began working on the space in June 2011. Zain hired professionals to put up interior walls, build shelves and paint. A supporter, who donated a

filing cabinet to the new office, also convinced her employer, the University of Phoenix, to help out with a major gift. The university donated gently-used office furniture, including desks, cabinets, and chairs.

"It was like hitting pay dirt. All of a sudden, it felt real," said Zain, who quit her job last year to work as Tail Waggers 1990's full time and unpaid CEO.

The group moved into its new headquarters late last year and with the finishing touches completed on the pantry just this week, they held a grand opening and ribbon-cutting on Thursday, June 28.

The office contains a spacious lobby, two "exam" rooms — perfect for Tail Waggers 1990's visiting veterinarian,



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Susan Krajenke and Newbie, her rescued Chihuahua, check out Tail Waggers 1990's new office.

Cerie Couture — a vet tech office, Zain's office, a storage room, kitchen space, restroom and large space, with access to a drop-off and pick-up area, for the Pantry for Paws program.

Needed services

"These are clients right now that we service," said Zain, opening a file cabinet filled with folders and applications for the pantry. "They tend to call us when they run low. They know they can come back and get help. Just last week alone I had nine families come through here for food. And they aren't walking out with one bag. They are walking out with 100 maybe 200 pounds of food."

The organization recently gave 500 pounds



Cory Routen collected more than 2,000 pounds of food and cat litter for Tail Waggers 1990's Paws 4 Pets pantry.

of food to Better Life Canine Center, an animal rescue in Redford. Arnold said pet owners come from throughout Detroit

Metro to obtain food. "No one else does what we do," she noted.

The group's low-cost shot clinics have expanded from four cities to nine, including Southfield, Beverly Hills, Sterling Heights, Utica, Ypsilanti, Livonia, Plymouth, Howell and Inkster, this year.

The organization also assists with emergency medical payments. When Zain agreed to buy ear medication for a dog in need, the grateful owner offered to help her write grant proposals.

"She came in here and she is pushing me to the limits," Zain said.

Their hard work has paid off. Petco Foundation awarded Tail

Please see OFFICES, B6

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A fanciful creature looks out from the greenery in a Northville garden.

Visit a 'secret garden' in Northville during July 11 garden walk

"Blossoms, Bees & Butterflies," the 19th Annual Northville Garden Walk sponsored by the Country Club of Northville, will feature six gardens, including a two-acre area with 20 separate flower beds, on Wednesday, July 11.

Judie and Robert Braun have nurtured the 'secret garden' behind their condo for years. The low-lying area includes a stream and plants in every shape, color and species imaginable. The

20 flower beds are planted according to themes and contain ornaments and large decorative pieces.

The Brauns' garden is just one highlight of the tour that also will feature a garden market with live plants, garden books, and handmade items for sale.

A raffle also will be held for a pagoda statue from Gardenviews. Guests will receive one raffle entry.

The garden walk will

run from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Homemade cookies will be served at Cady Inn in Historic Mill Race Village, at the end of the tour.

Tickets are \$10 at Gardenviews, 117 E. Main, in downtown Northville.

Tickets will be available the day of the walk at Mill Race Village, located on Griswold, one block north of Main in downtown Northville.

For more information, visit www.cgcnv.org or call (248) 348-3263.

Taste Michigan brews and help First Step

Drink Michigan, an organization dedicated to celebrating Michigan-made beer, wine and spirits, will present "Sip of Michigan" Friday, July 13, at the Rattlesnake Club in Detroit.

Ticket holders will be able to stroll from table to table and taste samples from more than 20 Michigan-based breweries, wineries and distilleries from 8 p.m.-midnight. Chefs at the Rattlesnake Club have designed hand-crafted appetizers that will complement the featured beverages. The evening will feature entertainment and live band karaoke from Double Take. All

proceeds from the event will support First Step, the local non-profit organization that provides education, advocacy and intervention for victims of domestic and sexual violence. First Step's mission is to reduce the incidents of domestic and sexual violence and to provide services to individuals affected by these crimes.

Tickets are \$50 per person and will include appetizers, entertainment and drink tickets. For more information or to buy tickets, visit SipOfMichigan.com.

To learn more about First Step visit www.firststep-mi.org.

OFFICES

Continued from page B5

Wagger's 1990 with a \$20,000 capital grant in May. It came on the heels of a \$16,360 grant from PetSmart Charities.

The Petco grant bought the sign on Tail Wagger's new office, a computer and other items. The PetSmart grant will fund an intensive spay and neuter program in Redford Township.

"That is an area I know for a fact that no one is paying attention to. They are our neighbors. With the help of animal control and people in Redford, we pounded this down and sent in our grant," Zain said. "It's usually not the rookies coming in the door that get the grants."

Tail Wagger's 1990 had never appealed for grants in the past, but it's by no means a "new" animal welfare organization.

Zain started it in 1990 as a promise to her aunt, Jean Polka, a major animal lover who had died the previous year. For the first several years, Tail Wagger's held an annual bowling event and simply passed the thousands of dollars it raised to the Michigan Humane Society, and eventually to other animal rescues. In 2005 it began creating its own programs and slowly became a nonprofit.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Debbie Groves and Zena, a rescue dog, stop by the grand opening of Tail Wagger's 1990 office in Livonia.

For a schedule of shot clinics, spay and neuter program information, and details about obtaining help from the pantry, visit www.tailwaggers1990.org.

Guide to Employment

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

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AUTOMOTIVE PARTS SALES Large volume Wholesale Distributor in Redford looking for highly motivated Outside Sales Associate, to grow and maintain Installer and Fleet accounts. Automotive experience required. Benefits available. Send resume to: P.O. Box 39742, Redford, MI 48239

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CASHIER FT & PT Southfield. Call Sid, (248) 860-4499

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HOUSEKEEPER Full & Part time Days Apply within at: Independence Village of Plymouth. 14707 Northville Rd

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN - Manufacturing

The Crown Group Livonia, Michigan The Crown Group-Livonia seeks 2nd shift Maintenance Technician. Selected candidate will be offered a competitive hourly pay rate and benefit package.

Essential Duties: • Troubleshoot/repair electrical and mechanical equip. within the facility. • Set up/install basic motor circuits. • Maintain/repair air compressors and air dryers. • Perform PM's • Facilities maintenance and repair.

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Qualified candidates should send their resume and cover letter to: hrrcruiting@thecrowngroup.com Directions: type "Maintenance Livonia" on the Subject line. Visit our website at www.TheCrownGrp.com

Help Wanted-General

Jamestown JAMES TOOL MACHINE & ENGINEERING, INC. IS SEEKING QUALIFIED CANDIDATES For both our Columbus, North Carolina & Morganton, North Carolina Facilities. Minimum of three (3) years experience is required with competitive pay and benefits.

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Email Resume to: bhelfner@jamestown.com Fax Resume to: 828-584-8776 Mail to: James Tool Machine & Engineering, Inc. P O Box 1865 Morganton, N.C. 28680 Attn: Brenda Helfner EOE

MATERIAL HANDLER Elna Supply Company is seeking a full-time Material Handler.

Must have 2 years warehouse and/or plumbing experience and forklift exp. Duties include shipping, receiving, loading/unloading trucks and picking orders. Please apply at www.elnasupply.com or in person at: 29949 Beck Road.

New Car Sales Assistant Busy dealership looking for a full-time New Car Sales Assistant to support sales staff and handle vehicle technology training. Please see Sales Manager at Hines Park Lincoln in Plymouth to apply. Full line of benefits offered for this position.

PLUMBER - Exp'd New Construction Commercial. Reliable transportation. Email resume ostlundplumbing@aol.com Westland- 734-729-1300

PLUMBER- JOURNEY Full time, 40+ hrs/wk. Must have clean driving/criminal record. Email: MIPlumbingHR@gmail.com

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Sales Position: Real Estate Sales Licensing Classes Now Forming

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ACCOUNTING ASST. Quality driven Moving & Storage Company looking for a self-motivated, teamwork oriented individual for position in our Romulus location. Computer skills a must, knowledge of Excel, Outlook and data entry experience helpful. Will train. Excellent benefits, profit sharing, 401K and room for advancement. Send resume to: resumes@moorsmoving.com or fax to 734-485-0640

DENTAL ASSISTANT Exp'd. Plymouth/Canton area. Email resume: janice@cantondentists.com or fax: 734-981-2683

DENTAL ASSISTANT Full-time and benefits. Friendly Farmington office. Exp. Call 248-478-3285

DENTAL ASSISTANT Needed for progressive dental practice. Must have 5 yrs exp, be self-sufficient & motivated with exc. people skills. Dedicated to detail and follow-up. If you are this special person, then we would like you to join our team. Fax resume: 248-435-6322

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical

Accounting Office Auto Dealership

Large Ford/Lincoln Dealership is seeking an individual for a full time position in the accounting office. This person must be highly skilled in dealership accounting and be familiar with all facets of the office. Dealership experience is required, and payroll knowledge is a plus. We are interested in individuals who are energetic, accurate, and have good work ethics.

We offer a great work environment, medical, dental, and life insurance, as well as paid vacations and a 401K plan. Fax resume to: 248-448-2016

Administrative Assistant Farmington Hills based real estate development company seeks Administrative Assistant with 2 plus years experience. Must be highly organized, self-starter and proficient in Microsoft Word. Offers competitive salary and benefits package. Please forward your resume to: jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT Full time needed for OBGYN office in Bloomfield. Email resume, Ref Box 1902 careers@hometownlife.com

RADIOLOGY TECH Experience in C-arm preferred, but willing to train the right candidate. Full-time, excellent benefits for busy pain management clinic in Brighton. Day shift Mon-Fri, no weekends or holidays. Send resume via fax: ATTN: HR Mgr. 734-995-4366 or e-mail to: debk@michiganpainspecialists.com

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Livonia woman's award-winning show airs on Catholic television

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Audrey Sommers has made a career out of kindness.

When the Livonia woman found a tattered monarch butterfly at a beach, she took it home in a shoebox, nursed it with sugar water and gave it shelter in her garden. And, with the help of a heat lamp and fresh flowers, she extended "Howie" the butterfly's life some three months.

She recently turned the experience into a children's book and is working with a publisher toward an autumn release.

When Sommers, a lifelong Catholic, noticed several years ago that some lectors spoke in monotone at Mass, she created a training program to help laypersons improve their lackluster delivery.

Today, as the volunteer lector trainer for the Archdiocese of Detroit, she speaks at churches across the country and is a lector at St. Colette in Livonia. Her DVD, *Lector and Gospel Reader's Workshop: A Resource for Bringing God's Word to Life*, won a Telly award and is sold worldwide.

When Sommers, a former Channel 50 anchorwoman, heard about the Salter family of Dearborn, she knew their story would inspire others. She and a video crew spent hours with Mike and Ellen Salter and their children — including daughter, Meghan, who requires 24-hour care. The show forms the pilot of what Som-



The Salter family of Dearborn is the subject of "Stories of Faith-Meghan's Miracle." They are Michael, (left) and his dad, Mike, Meghan — dressed for her first communion — with sisters Shannon, Lauren, and mom, Ellen.

mers hopes will become a television series about maintaining faith through trials and tribulations.

Stories of Faith-Meghan's Miracle, was broadcast on CTND — the Archdiocese cable station — and EWTN earlier this year. Sommers also earned an Emmy Award from the National Chapter of Television Arts and Sciences - Michigan Chapter, for the show. The 34th Annual Michigan Emmy Awards was held last month at the Motor City Casino Soundboard Theatre.

"Tears came to my eyes," Sommers recalled, adding that while accepting the award she also said, "Thank you God. This one is for you."

"Looking at this huge audience of peers I said,

'I've got to thank him first. After all, this is the religion category.'"

Making a difference

Sommers, a former writer for the Michigan Catholic and Catholic Television, said she didn't start winning awards until she traded secular work for faith-based reporting.

She worked in secular broadcast news in both Michigan and Massachusetts, sometimes reporting what she calls "crime and slime" stories.

"I think I got tired of covering crime stories. I wanted to make a difference in people's lives."

She won two bronze Telly awards for *Angels in the Caribbean*, a television special that generated thousands of dollars for Food for the Poor. Her two-part print

series, *Angels in the Caribbean*, also received honors from the Society of Professional Journalists and earned a Herald Award.

The Redford Thurston High School graduate has taught broadcast classes at Madonna University and is a long-time volunteer model for Redford Suburban League's annual fashion show. She and her husband keep ducks at home as pets and Sommers enjoys thinking up new projects while riding her bike through the neighborhood.

She's seeking a sponsor for *Stories of Faith* and also hopes to find a secular network to run the series that would focus on "people of all faiths and religious denominations" telling their stories. Although Meghan's

Miracle, the pilot for the show, focuses on a Catholic family, Sommers said it's not aimed at a Catholic-only audience.

"When you look at it, you might say, if a family can stick together through something like this, anything is possible."

Loving, living

Meghan was just a few months old when she experienced a series of life-threatening seizures. At one point, the parish priest was called to administer Last Rites, but when he did, the seizures stopped. For the subsequent eight years, Meghan has remained mostly unresponsive and in need of 24-hour care.

"I was amazed at the family's joy. The mom is always smiling. There is so much love from this family. They paint her (Meghan's) fingernails. They fight to be with her. A lot of times she is just lying there. She might have a little smile now and then, but the whole family exhibits joy."

"At one point the medical profession told them maybe they should pull the plug... they followed the teaching of the Catholic Church to do what is right," Sommers said. "The family

is a shining example of togetherness and love."

Sommers will accept story ideas for her television faith series at sommersproductions@yahoo.com. Or visit www.lectortraining.com.

"I'm open to ideas. But you can't be something that's not shootable. You have to think of video."

See the pilot show at 2:30 p.m. Monday, July 2; 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 3 and Monday, July 9; 11 a.m., Thursday, July 5; 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 10; and 10 a.m. Thursday, July 12 on CTND.

Stories of Faith-Meghan's Miracle has been added to CTND's Ustream channel, www.Ustream.tv/CTND and can be directly accessed at: <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/17162548>. Or view the show at www.meghansmiracles.com.



Audrey Sommers wins an Emmy for her television show, "Stories of Faith — Meghan's Miracle."

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Hardly a doctor works alone. Being a solo practitioner only means that the physician does not share an office with another doctor, but a solo physician is not in isolation. Every doctor has a need to develop connections with a host of colleagues.
Rheumatologists are no exception. For instance: rheumatologists and ophthalmologists constantly exchange patients. Often, a patient with an eye inflammation such as iritis is hiding a rheumatologic condition like spondylitis or Sjogren's Syndrome. In turn, rheumatologists frequently treat rheumatologic conditions with the medicine, Plaquenil. This medication may cause change in the eyes, and necessitates a periodic ophthalmologist's exam.
Invariably rheumatologists become acquainted with orthopedists. The time comes when pain medication and joint injection of an osteoarthritic knee no longer suffices. The patient needs knee replacement; with good reason the patient will turn to the rheumatologist and ask: "whom do you suggest I see?" In turn, the rheumatologist will try to match the patient with an orthopedist best suited to the patient's technical and temperamental needs.
Another doctor whom the rheumatologist wants a connection is a radiologist. Imaging beyond joint x-rays requires decisions that call for advice from a specialist in the field. A rheumatologist needs to be able to call a radiologist in cases where deciding between CT and MRI becomes difficult. Other times, the doctor needs a radiologist to help interpret a film.
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REUNIONS

BELLEVILLE
Class of 1957
55-year reunion, Sept. 21-22, at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, I-94 and Belleville Road. Informal gathering starts at 6 p.m., Friday. Social time starts at 5 p.m., Saturday, followed by dinner. For more information call Donna (Watkins) Gotts at (734) 331-9180 or e-mail to donnagotts@aol for more details.

CENTERLINE
CLASS OF 1977
35-year reunion, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at Ernie's in Clinton Township. \$25 per person. E-mail to chs1977@hotmail.com.

DEARBORN FORDSON
CLASS OF 1948
The January and June classes will hold a 64-year reunion lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 20, at the American Legion, Carl E. Stitt Post, 232 Warren Road, Dearborn. For more information call Rose Marie Listwan Kopelkin at (734) 421-1485.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ANNAPOLIS
CLASS OF 1982
For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeschoffield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ROBI-CHAUD
CLASS OF 1962
50th class reunion, Sept. 29 at the 1-Under Bar & Grill Banquet Facility in Livonia. The committee is looking for classmates and contact information. All classes are welcome to attend. Send names, contact info and questions to the reunion committee website, robichaud62@yahoo.com. Check out "Robichaud 50th Reunion Class of 62" on Facebook and on classmates.com. Or call Paula (McGue) at (517) 304-9755.

DETROIT CODY
CLASS OF 1962
Looking for Classmates from

January and June graduations for 50th reunion, 6 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. North, Livonia. Call Neal and Barb Gehring at (248) 568-2254; NGBG@comcast.net.

1950S, 1960S
Annual Cody 50s-60s picnic, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, located at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. Music, camaraderie, memorabilia, door prizes, hot dogs, chips, bottled water, baseball hats, T-shirts, sweat shirts, tassels, beads, music CD's are all available. Special parking for classic cars. Bring chairs and pop-ups. No need to register. Questions? Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or e-mail to Pvarilone@wowway.com; Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134 or e-mail to Jmarsares@sbcglobal.net.

DETROIT MUMFORD
CLASS OF 1962
50-year reunion, 6:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at the Somerset Inn, Troy. Make reservations at www.mumford62.com.

DETROIT WESTERN
ALL CLASSES
Friday, Sept. 14 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Meriman, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Family-style luncheon plus prizes and plenty of school spirit. \$25 per person. Phone Mildred (Lois) Carpenter at (248) 427-0673 for tickets. Deadline is Aug. 25.

CLASS OF 1962
Looking for classmates from January and June classes for 50th class reunion Saturday, Sept. 22 at Western Golf and Country Club, Redford. Cost is \$62 per person. Other weekend activities include tour of school, evening icebreaker and Sunday brunch. For information call Judy Alegnani Murray, (313) 399-0507, Judy Hull Rakowski, (734) 459-3832, Helen Knight Tucker, (734) 285-4927 or Ralph Brighton, (734) 513-7499.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1962
The 50th class reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 22

at Farmington Hills Holiday Inn, 37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills; (248) 477-7800. The \$60 per person cost includes a welcome reception from 2-5 p.m. and an evening dinner dance with cash bar. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations deadline is Sept. 1. For more information call Michele Cook Hoffmeyer at (602) 290-6006 or e-mail to russmichele@yahoo.com. Check Classmates and Facebook FHS Class of 62 Reunion pages for more information.

CLASS OF 1967
Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelspach) Whittaker at S_whittaker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST
CLASSES OF 1968-1973
Reunion Sept. 22. Looking for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on facebook.

Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wowway.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@charter.net, SuzieWright Rogiero at suzierogiero@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@gmail.com or Jeff Fordell at jeffreyfordell@comcast.net.

GARDEN CITY WEST
CLASS OF 1972
6:30 p.m. Oct. 27. For more information e-mail to Janine (Allioto) Brown at jbrown@psm.inc.net.

LINCOLN PARK HIGH
CLASS OF 1962
50-year reunion for January and June graduates is set for 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Marriott Hotel, located at Six Mile and I-275 in Livonia. For more information or to RSVP e-mail Marilyn Roy Snyder at MarilynRoySnyder.com, or call (586) 215-9445.

CLASSES OF 1971-73
A "40ish" class reunion hosted by the class of 1972 is planned for 6-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, at the Holiday Inn Laurel Park, 17123 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia. Friends from junior high may also attend the gathering. Tickets are \$65 per person. Go to www.churchillalumni.com for a registration form. Contact Susan Burke at susanamyburke@gmail.com if you want to help organize this party.

NORTH FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1987
25th reunion, 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, July 28, in Livonia. For information or to register, contact Sharon at (734) 261-3264 or e-mail rsculbert@sbcglobal.net.

NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1971-75
The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

PONTIAC CENTRAL
CLASS OF 1962
Informal social gathering, 6 p.m., Friday, Sept. 21 and reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, both at the Radisson Hotel, 30475 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. For more information call Bob or Marilyn (Coffing) Pomeroy at (248) 625-5301.

CLASS OF 1972
40th class reunion Sept. 22 at The Lafayette Grand of Pontiac. A "Meet & Greet" also will be held Friday, Sept. 21. Location to be determined. E-mail Tina Johnson tinastribe@charter.net.

REDFORD THURSTON HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1962
Looking for classmates for reunion on Sept. 8. Contact: nkkkwestberg@yahoo.com or Sue (Hughes) Morman at (734) 414-9941 for more information.

Milestones



Betty and Ron Westerfield

60th anniversary

Ron and Betty Westerfield of Plymouth celebrated their 60th anniversary June 28.

The couple met through a friend in school — both attended Wilson Middle School in Detroit — in 1947. They dated for five years and were married at Gilliad Baptist Church in downtown Detroit just a few weeks after Betty graduated from Southwestern High School in 1952. Ron had been discharged from the U.S. Army that same year.

Before retirement in 1993, Ron was self-employed with his brother and father in Westerfield & Sons Commercial Refrigeration in Livonia. Betty worked as a secretary for Livonia Public Schools for 21 years and retired in 1994.

The couple has three married daughters, Deborah (David) Alexander, of Reno, Nev., Sandra (Marty) Dodes of West Bloomfield and Karen (Terrance) Miller of Livonia. Their grandchildren are Ryan Alexander, Aaron Geddes, Terry Miller, Tyler Miller and Alicia Verardi. Great-grandchildren are Siannah Alexander, Sloan Alexander and Liam Miller.

They enjoy being with family and friends and are involved with the Plymouth Elks and its activities. The Westerfields also belong to a very active senior group that takes trips, goes on outings and organizes dinner and theater days. Ron and Betty volunteer for veterans and usher at the Fisher and other theaters.

The couple celebrated their big day with family.



Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

View Online www.hometownlife.com

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

CRAIG, JERRY N.
Of Waterford, MI, June 21, 2012, age 49. Simple Funerals 248-227-1954 SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

DEKROUB, JOSEPH CASSEM
Passed away June 17th surrounded by his large, loving family. Born June 25th 1918 in Highland Park, Michigan, Joe graduated from Plymouth high school in 1936 and received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Texas Chiropractic College in 1938. He served in the United States Air Force during WWII, as a pilot trainer. After the war he worked for Ford Motor Company until 1976 when he retired and resumed his chiropractic practice. A generous and devoted family man, Joe was also a terrific dancer, an enthusiastic golfer and an avid hunter and fisherman. Preceded in death by his parents Cassem Solomon DeKroub and Agnes Mandry DeKroub, sister Dorothy Sata, and first wife, Francis Dunn, he is survived by his wife Sheila DeKroub, daughters Paula Marie (Smith), Michele Ann (Monson), Linda June (Darwish), Lori Ann (Karides), and son Joseph Cassem DeKroub, Jr., as well as nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. Donations to Henry Ford Hospice would be gratefully accepted. Services will be private.

HAMMOND, ROBERT L.
Age 79, of Farmington Hills. Beloved husband of Marian (nee Bunn) for 59 years. Dear father of Cheri L. (Chris) Noble and Barbara K. (Donald) Tyler. Loving grandfather of Christopher, Casey, Carly, Christina and Gregory. Robert was a 1952 graduate of Farmington High School and a Navy Veteran. He was a retired Die Designer for General Motors. His funeral service was Saturday, June 30th at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, downtown Farmington. Burial was in Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association of Michigan or St. John's Hospice. www.thayer-rock.com



SEPTRION-SMITH, DOROTHY
Age 104, peacefully June 24, 2012. A long time Birmingham resident, Dorothy graduated from the University of Michigan with a Masters Degree in Social Work. She had an international assignment with the American Red Cross during World War II, followed by a lengthy career with the Birmingham School system as a social worker. Dorothy was a member of Embury United Methodist Church and is survived by her nieces and nephews. A family memorial service will be held at a later date in the Scottville, MI area where she was born. Memorial tributes in her memory may be sent to Embury United Methodist Church, A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



WEBSTER, GERALD W.
Passed away Friday June 22nd in Novi, Michigan at the age of 92. Beloved husband of the late Ethel for 61 years. Dear father of Linda (Tim) Smith & Brian (Cathy) Webster. Loving grandfather of Ryan, Christopher, Michael, Kyle, Blake, Hailey, Rachel & Sarah and great-grandfather of Willa. Longtime Redford Resident, President of Redford Union High School class of 1938 and a WWII Army Veteran. Visitation Sunday, July 1st 1:00 pm until Funeral Service at 4:00 pm. Interment Monday, July 2nd at Oakland Hills Cemetery.

WESTBERG, Charles R.
Of Rochester, MI, 2012; Age 80. Arrangements by Simple Funerals, 248-227-1954 SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

WILLIAMS, SHIRLEY M.
Age 82, June 26, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Carl. Dear mother of Michael (Gail) and Deborah (Thomas) Dubois. Grandmother of Robert (Andrea), Aimee (Thomas) Lawrence, Lauren and Anne Dubois. Great grandmother of Colin & Guy. Visitation Thursday 2-8pm. Funeral service Friday 11:30am at the John N. Santeufel & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Family suggests memorials to Civitan of Plymouth, Farmington Community Library or Odyssey Hospice. www.santeufel funeralhome.com



DiDOMENICO, PATRICIA "PATSY"
Age 81, June 24, 2012. Loving wife of Chick DiDomenico. Beloved mother of Mary Medley, Joseph (Lisa) DiDomenico, Geraldann "Keke" (Phil) Lester and Robert "Sundance" (Jennifer) DiDomenico. Dear grandmother of Lauren, Joey, Joshua, Alyssa, Jon, Zachary, Solair and Morla. Sister of Dayton Kennedy. Services were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home and burial was at Parkview Memorial. Memorials may be made to the American Kidney Foundation or to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.

LECKIE, DAVID M.
Age 63, June 23, 2012, died at home with his family by his side of a long battle with ALS. Beloved husband of Yvonne. Proud father of Alex and step father of Cory and Andy. Dearest son of his late parents, William and Maurine. Dear brother of Linda (Paul) and special companion to his dog, Willie. Born in Palo Alto, Ca., graduate of Stanford and USC. David spent his career in the automotive industry, working for Detroit Diesel and Leckie & Associates that his father founded. He was a member of Northbrook Presbyterian Church, President of the Village of Bingham Farms since 2009 and trustee on the Bingham Farms Village Council since 1995. In his capacity on Council he was the Village liaison to both the Franklin/Bingham Police and Fire Depts., was a supporter of the Neighborhood Mobile Watch, an avid golfer and loved the Village of Bingham Farms. Private cremation has taken place and a Memorial Service is planned for the fall in California. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. www.mccabefuneralhome.com



WATSON, NORMAN R.
Age 90; June 24, 2012. Beloved husband of the late Marjorie. Dear father of Susan M. Creeth and David N. (Suzanne) Watson. Grandfather of Bradley and Mallory Watson. Brother of James T. (Jane) Watson and Irene (the late Keith) Miller. Past president of Michigan Insurance Executives Assn. (1961); Retired V.P. of Mason-McBride, Inc.; past President of USS WASP CV-7 Stinger Club and survivor of the sinking of the Aircraft Carrier USS WASP CV-7 in the Battle of Guadal. Canal 9/15/42. Many retirement years proudly spent as Editor of the USS WASP CV-7 Magazine; member of St. Matthew's United Methodist Church. Funeral arrangements by Harry J. Will Funeral Home and interment at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. There will be no memorial service by Norman's request. Tributes suggested to St. Matthew's UMC 30900 Six Mile, Livonia 48152.

In memory of



IN MEMORY OF MARGARET L. HARRISON
Born on 6/29/1910 and passed away on 8/24/2005 and this will be her 102nd birthday. We think of you everyday. Happy Birthday. Love, Sharon and Dick.

Best-Kloman

Kelly Best and Ryan Kloman are engaged to be married. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Chris and Laurie Best of Farmington Hills. Her fiancé is the son of Karl and Carol Kloman of Columbus, Ohio. A July 2012 wedding is planned at St. Fabian Catholic Church.



Kevra-Gierak

Kristyn Kevra and Brett Gierak announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Karl and Cathy Kevra of Livonia, is a 2002 graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Eastern Michigan University and teaches special education in Livonia Public Schools. Her fiancé, son of Mark Gierak of Farmington Hills and the late Sandy Sound, is a 1999 graduate of Clarenceville High School in Livonia. He earned a degree from Lake Superior State and works in construction as a bricklayer. An August 2012 wedding is planned in Detroit.



Sabada-Streicher

Katelyn Marie Sabada and William Michael Streicher announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Joanie Sabada of Canton and the late Jeff Sabada, graduated in 2009 from Salem High School and is a student at Eastern Michigan University with plans to graduate in 2013. She is employed by Genuine Toy Co. in downtown Plymouth. Her fiancé, son of Mark and Michelle Streicher of Northville, graduated in 2007 from Catholic Central



High School and is a student at Moody Bible Institute. He is employed by Marketplace Homes. A May 2013 wedding is planned at Mystic Creek in Milford.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

MARTIN, Bernard T.
Of Macomb, MI, June 19, 2012, age 81. Arrangements by Simple Funerals 586-777-0555 SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

Don't let your feet ruin a beach day

If you're heading to the beach this summer, be aware of the hidden dangers to your feet under the sand and in the water.

The American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons offer these safety tips to help prevent injuries that can ruin fun in the sun:

- Wear shoes to protect your feet from puncture wounds and cuts. Sea shells, broken glass and other sharp objects when stepped on can ruin your day at the beach. Avoid the water if your skin gets cut — bacteria in oceans and lakes can cause infection. If you do suffer from a puncture wound, have it treated by a foot and ankle surgeon within 24 hours to avoid complications.

- Feet get sunburned, too. Rare but deadly skin cancers, such as melanoma, can occur on the foot. Prevent skin cancer on your feet by lathering up with sunscreen. Don't forget to apply to both the tops and bottoms of your feet.

- Wear shoes to protect your soles from getting burned as you walk on blistering-hot sand, sidewalks and pavement. Take extra precaution if you have diabetes.

- Be careful with your footing while playing beach sports



such as Frisbee or volleyball — walking, jogging and playing sports on soft, uneven surfaces frequently leads to arch pain, heel pain, ankle sprains and other injuries. It's best to

wear supportive shoes while playing beach sports. If injuries occur, use rest, ice, compression and elevation to ease pain and swelling. Any injury that does not resolve within a few

days should be examined by a foot and ankle surgeon.

- Remember jellyfish stings can still occur even if it's washed up on the beach. Remove any tentacles that may stick to the foot or ankle, and protect your hands. Vinegar, meat tenderizer or baking soda reduce pain and swelling. Most jellyfish stings heal within days, but if they don't, see a doctor.

- Diabetes Risks: People who have diabetes face serious foot safety risks at the beach. The disease causes poor blood circulation and numbness in the feet. A person with diabetes may not feel pain from a cut, puncture wound or burn. Any type of skin break on a diabetic foot has the potential to get infected and ulcerate if it isn't noticed right away. People with diabetes should always wear shoes to the beach, and remove them regularly to check for foreign objects like sand and shells that can cause sores, ulcers and infections.

For more information on foot and ankle health, visit the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeon's patient education page at FootHealthFacts.org.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

July

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL
Here's a sampling of offerings:

- Eating Disorders Support Group meets 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, 18 and 25.
- Alzheimer's Support meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 11
- "Focus on Living" Cancer Support is a monthly self-help group facilitated by a nurse. Next session is 7 p.m. Thursday, July 12.
- Diabetes Summer School is a two-hour class with a speaker presentation and discussion each month during the summer. The session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 17 is "A Look Backward and Forward at Diabetes Medications."
- Breastfeeding class runs 6-9 p.m. Monday, July 23 and is aimed at expectant mother. There is a fee for this one-time session. The Diabetes Summer School will be held in the community room at Westland Mall, located at Central City Parkway and N. Wayne Road. Other classes are held at the hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City; (734) 458-4330.

NEW FACES

Three doctors recently joined the medical staff at Botsford Hospital in Farmington:



Plymel

Dr. Karen Plymel earned a M.D. degree from Ross University School of Medicine and performed her clinical training at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Plymel is a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology. A board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist, Plymel sees patients at Michigan Perinatal Associates, P.C., 18181 Oakwood Blvd., Suite 302, Dearborn, (313) 593-5957.

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Yeamans

Jeffrey C. Yeamans, is a board-certified urologist who earned his M.D. degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. Yeamans remained at Georgetown for a general surgical

internship and the urologic residency. He has been the lead researcher in several medical studies, has given many lectures and presentations, and is an assistant professor at Oakland University's Medical School where he developed, and is the course director for, the Male Reproductive Basic Science Unit taught to medical students. Yeamans is a member-at-large on the Medical Executive Com-



Telang

mittee of the Michigan Urologic Society. He sees patients at Comprehensive Urology in Roseville, Warren and Clinton Township.

Dr. Dinesh J. Telang, a board-certified urologist, earned a M.D.

degree from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. He did post-doctoral clinical training in urology and surgery at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and has taken additional training in laser applications and safety, Urolase laser prostatectomy, laparoscopy and da Vinci robotic surgery. He sees patients at Comprehensive Urology in Roseville and Warren.

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or
Thursday, July 12, 6-8 p.m.
Summit on the Park, Canton

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Paul R. Makela, MD
Medical Director, Gynecological Robotic Surgery, St. Mary Mercy Hospital

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Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights! 4th of July Family Fun!

Submit a photo and brief description to tell Scoop how you and your family have fun on the 4th of July!

Mail to:
Scoop the Newshound
41304 Concept Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions:

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on July 27th. Winners to be announced in the August Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

You could win Movie Passes admitting up to 4 people to Emagine Theatre and a Free Buddy's Cheese Pizza!

July 4th FUN!

Youth Name: _____

Youth Age: _____

Youth Community: _____

Parent's information to contact winning entry:
(Phone, email, home address)

Selected winners will have their name, age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

Scoop's Craft Corner

4th of July Holiday Centerpiece

- Materials**
- 3 - cardboard tissue rolls.
 - Craft glue
 - Scissors
 - Paint - red - white - blue
 - Ribbon - red, white or blue or (combination)
 - Yellow and Orange gift tissue wrapping
 - Cardboard base - example - top of shoe box
 - Decorative trimmings - stars, glitter, confetti (optional)

- Instructions**
- 1 Cut the 3 tissue tubes into 3 different heights.
 - 2 Paint one tube red, one white, and one blue.
 - 3 Paint your cardboard base the color of your choice. Allow paint to dry. When tubes and base are dry, glue bottom of each tube to the cardboard base. Allow the glue to dry.
 - 4 Add ribbon and decorative trimming (i.e. stars, glitter, confetti). Use your creativity.
 - 5 For the look of flames, tuck in yellow and orange tissue wrapping in each tube. Take the scissors and snip into stripes. Fluff and style tissue paper to create flame fullness.



Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Boy or Girl _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

*Parent's Printed Name: _____

*Parent's Signature _____

Fill out the form and have your parent's fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

* Required for Birthday Club

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sydney Spiridon	Garden City	July 1
Matthew lamoley	Beverly Hills	July 2
Isabelle Schwarz	Farmington Hills	July 13
Dalen Cobb	Westland	July 29

Share your talent!

Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about?

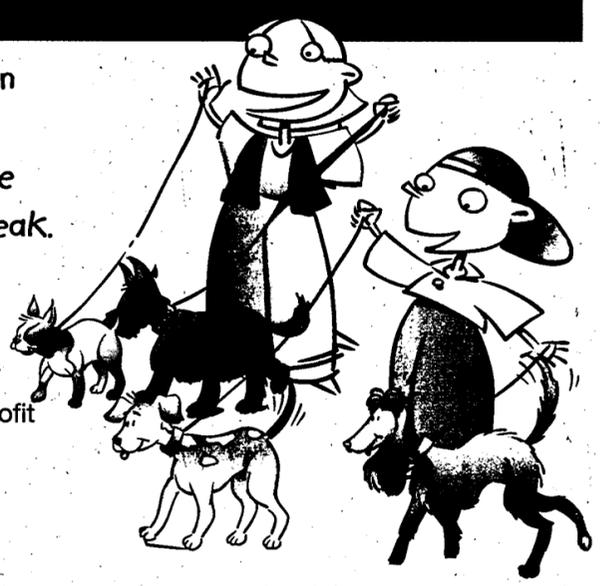
Share your talent with us. We may share your extraordinary talent in an upcoming Scoop's Hound Dog Highlight.



Earn Extra Money

Are you looking to do something fun this summer and get paid doing it. Here are a couple of ideas to make some cash during your summer break.

- 1 Have a Car Wash
- 2 Grow and Sell Sunflowers
- 3 Make and Sell Soap and Candles
- 4 Collect Pop Bottles from Friend and Family
- 5 Count and Roll Coins for a Portion of the Profit
- 6 Have a Bake Sale and Lemonade Stand
- 7 Sell your Unwanted Toys and Games
- 8 Become a Dog Walker
- 9 Do Extra Chorus for Your Parents



Freezer Pleasers!

Here is a fun and easy treat to kick off the summer. What you need is an ice cube tray, toothpicks, plastic wrap and your favorite beverage.

Just fill the ice cube tray with your selected beverage. Carefully wrap the plastic wrap around the filled ice cube tray. Now insert the toothpicks into the center of each ice cube compartment. Put this in the freezer for about 1 hour. ENJOY.



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