

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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GUIDE TO 65 SPREE

SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE
TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

Westland considers community center study

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland residents may soon be surveyed to see if they are willing to support a new healthy living community center/YMCA.

At a study session Monday, the council heard a presentation about the survey and a

possible public-private partnership with the YMCA.

"We're here as a resource for you — not necessarily to bring a Y here," said Scott Walters, executive vice president/COO of the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit. "As a nonprofit, we feel we are pretty good at figuring out what community we can help."

A feasibility study would look at what the Y would do, if the community wanted the organization to come in, Walters said.

When Westland closed the Bailey Center and merged parks and recreation departments with Wayne, the potential closing of the Wayne Community Center hadn't been

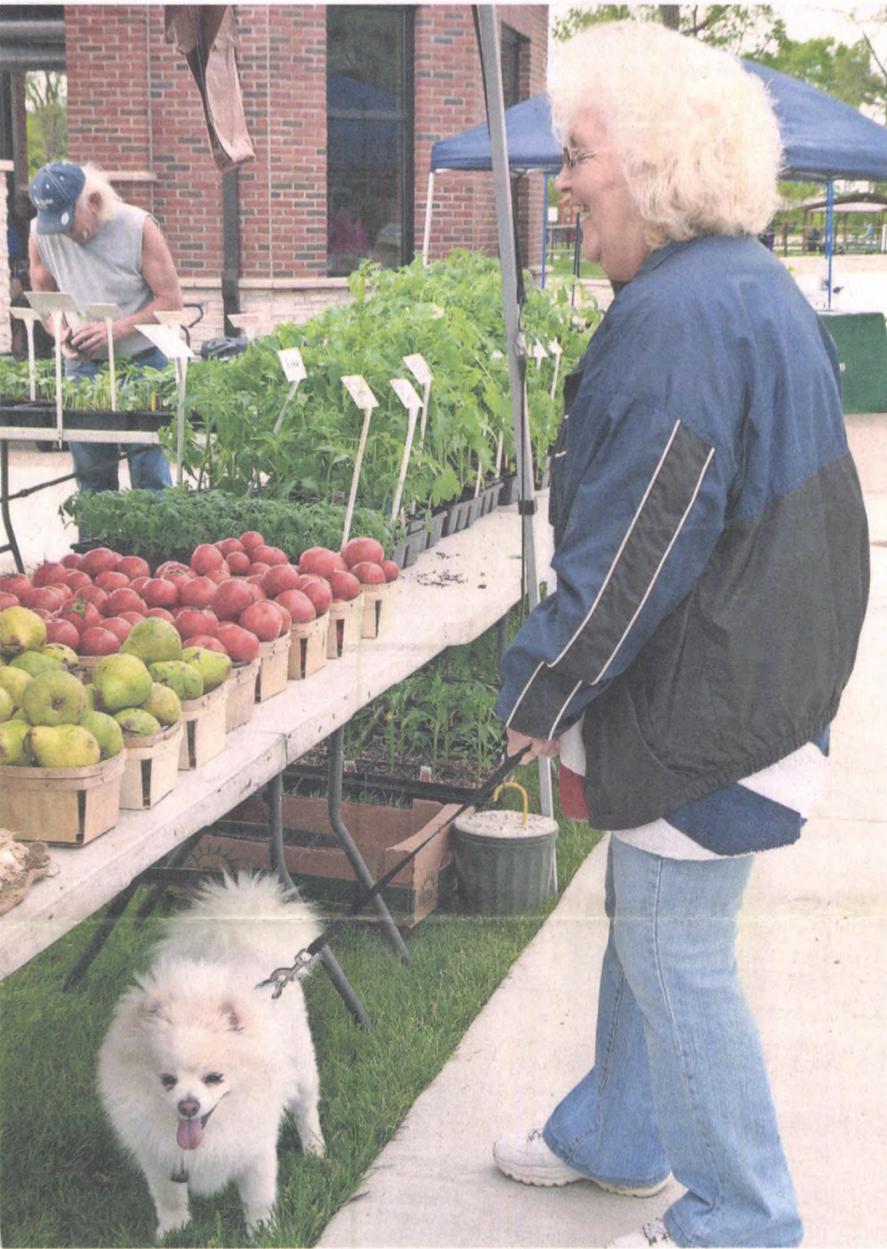
considered, Westland Mayor William Wild said.

Part of the merger had been aimed at getting higher usage of the Wayne facility, which had been heavily subsidized by Wayne's general fund. Due to a deficit, the Wayne Council had subsequently closed the ice arena and the aquatic center. Most recently the Wayne Coun-

cil voted to close the community center July 1, although talks are underway to privatize the operation.

"As we are moving towards demolition of our buildings (the Bailey Center, former city hall and former fire station 1) we want to look at the all the

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Lind Stinnett and Simba shop for produce at the weekly Westland Farmers and Artisans Market. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Farmers market invites pooches to Pet Palooza

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Westland's Farmers and Artisans Market will be going to the dogs on Thursday with its first activity — Pet Palooza.

Dog owners are invited to bring well-behaved pooches to the market for a day of shopping and four-legged fun. The event is sponsored by Four-Legged Rascals Training and Last Day Dog Rescue.

"We have a lot of pet own-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
You'll find crafts at the Westland Farmers and Artisans Market, too.

ers in Westland and we'd love to have them bring them to the market," Westland Cham-

ber President Brookellen Swope said. "I had one lady tell me yesterday (June 11) she's bringing her three dogs."

Four-legged Rascals will provide two free seminars: How to Handle Reactive Dogs at 4 p.m. and Obedience Training, including basic commands at 6 p.m. There also will be a question-and-answer session with professional trainers.

Market goers will also be

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Sale of city-owned land sought to expand business

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

The sale of 2.5 acres of vacant city-owned land is being recommended to facilitate the expansion of a new business in Westland.

The property is located behind the former Sam's Club warehouse store on Central City Parkway. The business most recently housed DDI, a medical supply company that is relocating, but is being sold for use as a grocery warehouse.

The additional property, which has frontage on Nankin Boulevard, would be used for truck parking and turn-around space. Vehicles wouldn't enter from Nankin Boulevard.

"In a short time, the new owner is looking at a 50,000-square-foot addition to the west side of the building," Westland Planning and Building Director Bruce Thompson said.

That addition to the existing 100,000-square-foot building would require the removal of a number of existing parking spaces, Thompson said, which would be replaced on the east side of the building along with additional storage.

A sale price of \$1,000 was recommended for the parcel,



Thompson Wild

which was donated to the city by the former owners of the nearby Optimize building.

The parcel would be expected to generate \$9,500-12,600 in property taxes annually if sold — it currently is tax exempt due to city ownership.

The current taxes are about \$56,000 with a \$43,000 increase expected due to the taxable value being uncapped under state law with the property being sold. Without the sale or improvements, state law limits property tax increases to the rate of inflation or 5 percent, whichever is less.

"The building sold for \$1 million. It is on the market for \$3.6 million. The sale will uncapp it. That's another reason why it makes sense to put it (the land) into this deal," Westland Mayor William Wild said.

The sale of the building by DDI is contingent on obtaining the land from the city. The

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Wayne-Westland school district issues layoff notices to 10 teachers

Ten Wayne-Westland teachers have received layoff notices, but for several the job loss was short lived.

The school board approved the layoffs Monday. Effective June 11, the layoffs affected elementary, middle and high school teachers.

Calling it a "difficult piece of business," Assistant Superintendent Kelly Bohl said declining enrollment and the district's continuing budget constraints prompted the layoffs. However, in response to a question about their recall, she said one teacher would be called back last Tuesday and three more as partials by the end of the week.

"We get resignations throughout the summer and the coming weeks and we'll be able

to call teachers back," she said.

This year's layoffs are in line with last year when 11 teachers were pink-slipped. Only one remains on the recall list "due to a unique certification," Bohl said, adding that "there is a strong likelihood that the 10 teachers who received layoff notices this year will be recalled to either a full-time or a partial position."

Wayne-Westland's number of layoffs is relatively low in comparison to neighboring school districts. The Livonia Public Schools has laid off 40 teachers, while Plymouth-Canton has notified some 73 educators that they may lose their jobs for the coming school year.

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STUDY

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options," Wild said.

Looking at alternative

That includes looking at an alternative similar to the partnership between the Y and the city of Southgate. The Y took over operation of a community center that had already been built in Southgate.

"We are really a social service agency. A lot of people think we offer sports," Walters said. "We go into a community to meet needs — education, sports. We have outreach in Detroit. We serve cradle to grave, we cover the full gamut."

Since the YMCA is a not a for-profit organization, Walters said there needs to be sustainability in facilities.

"We are here to stay. We come in with no exit strategy," Walters said. "We collaborate, we are all on the same page, all in agreement on what we are trying to achieve. We only exist to meet needs that are not met.

We have not got any other agenda."

The Y has a lot of experience with recreation centers, he said, having been asked to come into many such facilities that have been constructed but aren't financially sustainable.

That was the situation in Southgate when the Y was asked to come to operate their recreation center, Walters said.

"The building was not the way we would build a Y. We came in to maximize meeting the needs of the community," he said. "What they built was not appropriate for community needs. What they charged was not appropriate for sustainability."

If a facility is paid for by tax dollars, Walters said people don't want to pay much for a service and expect a lot more access than probably can be provided.

The council is expected to consider authorizing a feasibility study, including a survey, at their July 6 regular meeting.

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Vacant home in Westland destroyed following fifth arson attempt

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

An early morning fire Wednesday that destroyed a vacant Westland house — the source of complaints from neighbors — has been ruled an arson.

"It was 100 percent arson. It was the fifth attempt to burn the structure down in three months," Wayne-Westland Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Kelly Eggers said. "This time accelerants were used."

Information about a possible suspect who lives in the neighborhood of the home — 1612 Beatrice, at the corner of Barrington north of Palmer and west of Meriman — has been forwarded to police, Eggers said. The home had been vacant for more than five years.

"We have had several complaints from neighbors in a couple block radius," Eggers said. "It's blighted, there is tall grass, homeless people were living in there. I can't tell you how many times I have been out



WAYNE-WESTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT
The fire that destroyed this vacant home on Beatrice in Westland early Wednesday has been ruled an arson. It was fifth fire set at the home, according to firefighters.

one fire reported at 9 a.m.

From previous visits to the house, Eggers said he knew there were holes in the floor and firefighters were ordered not to enter the structure.

While the arson is investigated, Eggers said the owner of the property has been given 30 days to demolition and clean up what is left of the house.

Lightning causing an electrical power surge is being called the likely cause of fire last weekend that destroyed a Wayne garage but possibly more importantly, a restored 1972 Chevrolet Camaro that was parked inside.

The garage was located at a home 4137 Carnegie.

"It was a detached garage and a total loss. It was definitely electrical," Eggers said. "The Camaro was all restored except the interior. The owner was pretty upset about the Camaro."

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WWCSD
Board Secretary Carol Middel and President Thomas Buckalew received awards from the Michigan Association of School Boards.



Middel, Buckalew honored

At its annual awards ceremony the Michigan Association of School Boards recognized two Wayne-Westland Board of Education members.

The MASB presented board President Thomas Buckalew with the Master Board Member Award and board Secretary Carol Middel with the Master Diamond Award.

The Master Board Member Award requires a school board

member to complete classes at Level 1, 2 and 3, a total of nine Advanced Level Certified Board Award courses and attain a minimum of 368 education credits.

The Master Diamond Award requires the member to complete classes at Level 1, 2, 3 and 4, a total of 14 Advanced Level Certified Board Award courses, and a minimum of 528 education credits.

PETS

Continued from Page A1

able to adopt a pet from Last Day Dog Rescue, get pet portraits and have behavioral assessments done by the Michigan Humane Society.

There also will be contests for best in show male, best in show female and cutest pup (one year and under). Registration will be at 4:30 p.m. with the winners announced at 5 p.m. Winners receive a \$25 Petco gift card and a certificate with a photo of themselves and their pet, courtesy of Westland Car Care Automotive Group.

This is the second year the chamber of commerce has managed the market, which is held from 3-7 p.m. Thursdays at the Market pavilion of Central City Park on Carlson south of Ford Road.

The market has added a lot of new vendors, due in part to an expansion of the cemented area outside the pavilion. It now features 30 vendors.

Attendance has been growing, and Swope expects the numbers of shoppers to increase with the end of school last week.

"We've drawn more people, the park area is more conducive for the market," she said. "Everyone enjoys coming because it's more inviting and welcoming."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The Westland Farmers and Artisans Market is open from 3-7 p.m. Thursdays through October.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Popcorn knows no season. Craig Primeau makes a fresh batch of kettle corn at his booth.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Valerie Wilson, or Macro Val, sells her healthy delights.

LAND

Continued from Page A1

expansion would require site plans to be submitted, including screening, Thompson said.

"There will also be a certain amount of storm water detention that will be required," Thompson

said. "Unless they put it underground, it will need to go there (on the 2.5 acres). We will make sure to keep it as far as possible from residents."

The council is expected to consider the land sale in July.

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TEACHERS

Continued from Page A1

Garden City, which also is facing declining enrollment and a \$4 mil-

lion deficit, issued layoff notices to 46 teachers last month, and the Farmington Public Schools has pink-slipped 30 teachers for grades kindergarten through 6. It expects to add to the list

in coming weeks. According to Bohl, the lower number of layoffs is due to a change in the placement process.

"Due to changes in the contact and administrative guidelines, we are

displacing fewer teachers," she said. "That results in less of a need for layoffs as part of the process and recalling them sooner."

By Sue Mason

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Superintendent Liepa to take county school job, but Livonia 'is still my home'

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa said being offered Wayne County's top school job is an honor but also bittersweet. "I love my job here, but this is an opportunity to make a more significant difference as it relates to education policy and local district support both in Wayne County and in Michigan," he said. "Know that Livonia is still my home and I plan on helping here wherever I can. And with the strong leadership at central office and on the board

here at home, I have the utmost confidence that LPS will continue to do great things for our students."

The Wayne RESA school board voted unanimously Wednesday night to offer Liepa the position of superintendent of the regional educational service agency that provides services and support to Wayne County's 33 school districts.

Liepa was selected over three other candi-



Liepa

dates. He was the only one called back for a second interview, which took place Wednesday. The other candidates were Westwood Community School District Superintendent Sue Carnell, Riverview Community Schools Superintendent Russell Pickell and St. Johns Public Schools Superintendent Dedrick Martin.

"I think he's very qualified," Wayne RESA Interim Superintendent Steven Ezikian said of his new boss.

Ezikian said Liepa and the board are in the process of negotiating his pay, benefits and start date.

Liepa has been with LPS, one of the 10 biggest districts in the state, since 1994. He has been superintendent since 2003. The board in December extended his contract by another year to June 30, 2018.

Before coming to LPS, Liepa was Wayne-Westland Community Schools assistant superintendent for business and operations after joining that district as supervisor of accounting. From 1984-87, he was a public accountant for Plante Moran.

Former Wayne RESA Superintendent Christopher A. Wigent left in March to become exec-

utive director of the Michigan Association of School Administrators.

Ezikian, who had been the deputy superintendent for Wayne RESA for 15 years, said he declined to apply for the position and will return to his former position.

Liepa was one of six semifinalists for the state superintendent's job in March. He lost to Dearborn Public Schools Superintendent Brian Whiston, who will succeed Mike Flanagan on July 1.

Livonia school board President Colleen Burton said at the time Liepa was identified as the Wayne RESA finalist

that she is thrilled he has the opportunity to represent all Wayne County school districts, which will give him an even more influential voice in Lansing on the changes needed for the way schools are funded. That will be beneficial for all school children, she said.

However, she said, he leaves "enormous shoes" to fill in Livonia. "It places a very large responsibility on the Board of Education; it will be a very significant piece of work (to find a replacement)," she said.

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Livonia parks and rec commission chooses top candidate

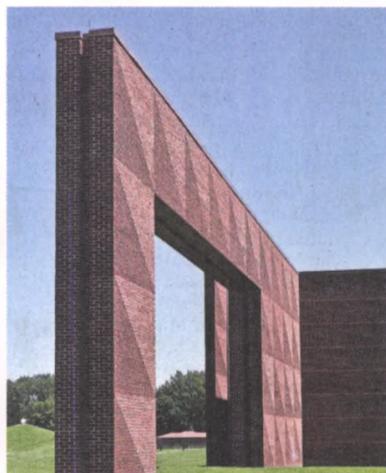
By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The Livonia Parks and Recreation Commission selected West Bloomfield recreation superintendent Edward Davis as its top choice for the city's next parks and rec leader.

The commission voted 4-0 offer the position to Davis. Davis has served in West Bloomfield since 2013 and was with the City of Southfield for more than a decade before then.

Commission chairman Mark Johnson said he was impressed with how Davis handled himself during his interview with the commission.

"He came with good credentials," Johnson said. "And, his interview. I liked his interview. He had done some homework that I thought was impressive. He knew a lot about us. I'm not surprised we all put him down as No. 1."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Davis said the facilities in Livonia, like the Livonia Community Recreation Center, are top-notch, if not some of the best in Metro Detroit.

Johnson said he hopes Davis, if he accepts the position, will be able to begin by the end of the month with Livonia.

The commission interviewed three finalists Wednesday night during a special meeting. The other two finalists were Bryan Rizzo, athletic

director at Madonna University, and Nathan Davis, the former parks and recreation superintendent for Wayne-Westland who currently works at a wellness center at Troy Beaumont Hospital.

Davis, who also formerly worked in Lincoln

Park, said the facilities in Livonia are top-notch, if not some of the best in Metro Detroit. That alone is reason enough for anyone, including himself, to apply for the superintendent's position.

"This is what you build a career toward and you stay," he said during his interview Wednesday. "You don't go anywhere else."

Four of five parks and recreation commissioners were in attendance Friday afternoon: Roger Walklin, Paul Condon, Cathy Kevra and Johnson all voted. Commissioner Kevin Summers was absent.

Those same four commissioners decided after their Wednesday night meeting to come back a few days later after receiving new information from some of the candidates during their in-

terviews.

"All three candidates were very impressive in their presentation and what they do," Walklin said Wednesday night. "It's a tough vote."

The current position has been filled on an interim basis by Dave Varga, who was appointed by Mayor Jack Kirksey to the job after former superintendent Lyle Trudell retired in October. Johnson said he had not heard where Varga would move to in the city if Davis accepts the position and passes a background check and drug test.

Process

This is the first time in Livonia's history that a new parks and recreation superintendent will not be promoted on an internal basis; in the past, assistant superintendents have risen to the top job.

With the assistant superintendent position vacant for several years, that option was not available.

That required the city's civil service department, as well as the parks and recreation commission, which is appointed by the mayor, to craft a specific plan to hire a superintendent.

Despite wanting a few things different in the process, Johnson said he was overall pleased with how it worked this time. He noted the commission and city took their time to do it right.

"It is a testament to the fact that we did not rush this process," he said. "We wanted to make sure we had some road map to follow in the future."

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Livonia school board votes 6-1 to close Perrinville Center this fall

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

The president of the Perrinville PTA said she is devastated by the Livonia school board's 6-1 vote Monday to close Perrinville Center this fall and relocate the programs for special-needs preschoolers to other buildings.

"I can't even talk," Kristin Noel said following the meeting.

The board, as part of the vote, also directed administrators to obtain cost estimates for adding onto Jackson Early Childhood Center to reunite Perrinville's early childhood and autism spectrum disorder programs during the 2016-17 school year. Parents had said keeping the two programs in the same building was necessary for their children's success.

School board secretary Tam-

my Bonifield blamed the board's decision on the state government, saying the school board is not morally bankrupt and heartless. She said the state has not provided public schools with the necessary funding. "I hope you as parents take this to Lansing; you have the power as a group of parents. You need to be the catalyst to a revolution."

Trustee Eileen McDonnell was the lone dissenter. She wanted to postpone a vote on Perrinville until after the district's audit was complete, saying the board could surely find the \$212,000 needed to keep Perrinville open somewhere in its \$43 million general fund budget. She also questioned why the board wanted to spend an estimated \$1.5 million in sinking fund money to add onto Jackson Center when Perrinville was in better shape and already outfitted for spe-

cial-needs students. "This whole thing doesn't make sense to me," she said.

Balanced budget needed

Board Vice President Dianne Laura said she personally is affected by the Perrinville decision, as her 3-year-old granddaughter will be in the early childhood program next fall. However, "my first responsibility is to balance a budget," she said. She added that she was hearing from Jackson parents who don't want their building closed either. "They're just as emotional," she said.

Superintendent Randy Liepa said the board, which had already made \$4 million in cost-saving and revenue-enhancement decisions for next school year, was still "well over \$1 million short" in balancing its budget for 2015-16. He said administrators' recommenda-

tion to close Perrinville, while difficult, was all part of a long-term plan to preserve program and services across the district.

School board trustee Mark Johnson said the board is bound by state law to adopt a balanced budget by June 30. "I am the parent of a special needs child," he said. "I understand. I also have 15,000 students I'm responsible for. I have to do what's best for all of them."

Parent Lauren Peters said board members "don't get it." She said the special-needs preschoolers at Perrinville aren't going to need the programs the board is trying to preserve for general-education students, if there is no longer a Perrinville. "They're in jeopardy of never learning to speak," she said of the preschoolers.

Peters, whose son is autistic, credits the Perrinville Center

for helping her family through "the darkness of autism." Perrinville Center works, she said, because having all the programs for special-needs preschoolers under one roof allows the children to learn from each other and try out more advanced programs for just a few minutes a day. That won't be possible, she said, when the programs are dispersed to five or six different buildings.

While there is some consolation in the board's efforts to reunite the early childhood and autism spectrum disorder programs a year from now, Peters said, the decision to close Perrinville this year and move the autism program to Roosevelt Elementary for one year until Jackson can be renovated is a lot of moving for "kids having trouble with transition."

Noel said with the decision, "My house will be going on the market."

2 W-W educators complete Galileo academy

Two more educators from Wayne-Westland Community Schools have graduated from the Galileo Leadership Academy. They are Chris Swanson, principal of Edison Elementary School, and Piper Grenfell, a teacher at Marshall Upper Elementary School.

The purpose of the Galileo Leadership Consortium is to advance the development of teacher leadership to elevate learning for all students.

The four new members of the 2015-16 Galileo Leadership cohort are Danielle Phillips from Wayne Memorial High School, Julie Plut from Walker Winter Elementary, Mary Jo Cobello-Schubert from Marshall Upper Elementary and Kathryn Croteau from Schweitzer Elementary.



Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Michele Harmala (left) and Assistant Superintendent Kelly Bohl (right) congratulate Chris Swanson and Piper Grenfell on their completion of the Galileo Leadership Academy.

STUDENT ACHIEVERS

» University of Detroit Mercy recently celebrated the commencement of its students from the undergraduate and graduate programs, the School of Dentistry and the School of Law.

The ceremony took place the weekend of May 8-9 as nearly 1,500 students walked across the stage at Calihan Hall.

Graduating were Emily McGraw, Carla-Rae Coleman, Cassandra Loftis, Shelby Traskos, Allison Chiti and Melissa Brownell, all of Garden City; Nicole Johnson and Christopher Henisse of Wayne; and Alissa Morgan of Westland.

» Xin Ye of Westland was a member of the largest graduating class in the history of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester,

Mass. Degrees were awarded to 1,680 students during WPI's 147th Commencement exercises.

Ye received a doctor of philosophy degree in electrical and computer engineering.

» Catherine Ionescu and Jessica Gnacke, both of Westland, have been named to the dean's list at Norwich University in Northfield, Vt., for the spring 2015 semester.

» Antwan Hawkins of Westland received his juris doctor degree from the Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School on May 17.

Hawkins also was on the Dean's List.

Also a graduate of Northwood University and Canton High School, he is the son of Rhonda Hawkins.

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Dearborn Heights officer and friend died of overdose

By Daniel Bethencourt
Michigan.com

Almost a month after a police officer and his friend were found dead on the floor of a garage in Dearborn Heights, officials determined that the cause of the officer's death was an accidental drug overdose.

The exact cause was cocaine fentanyl toxicity, said Ryan Bridges, spokesman with the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office. The cause of death for the officer's friend is still

pending.

On May 15, officer

John Burdick, 46, and James McEwen, 45, were found by McEwen's girlfriend in a garage at a home in the 8500 block of Lochdale.

Bridges said the men died that day. The men did not show any signs of trauma or foul play, and there also were no signs of carbon monoxide poisoning or a murder-suicide. But police were still investigating the case as a homicide.

Burdick had been with the department 18 years, and was promoted to sergeant within a month of his death. Burdick and his wife were both 1989 graduates of Redford Union High School. Their children are former students of St. Valentine School in Redford.

Police had said the two men were good friends and neighbors, and had been seen barbecuing together less than a week before their deaths. The scene had come as a shock to neighbors, who described the officer as a friendly, watchful presence in the neighborhood. He would often drive around the area in his patrol car, chatting with residents.

"I'm just really shocked," said neighbor Sheila Otis, who added that the neighborhood had been beset by rumors of what could have caused the death. "It's very sad, very tragic."

Contact Daniel Bethencourt: dbethencourt@freepress.com



Sgt. John Burdick

Hearing delayed for man charged in wife's shooting



Smiley

A competency hearing has been delayed for a man charged in the shooting of his estranged wife in Redford last year.

The hearing for Roscoe Smiley, which had been scheduled for June 11, was delayed until July 21 before Judge Cynthia Gray Hatha-

way.

Smiley was apprehended and charged in September, after five months on the run, in connection with his wife's shooting, which occurred May 10, 2014, in a home in the 9600 block of Grayfield in Redford.

The victim is a 45-year-

old female who suffered multiple gunshot wounds.

Smiley was hiding in an attic inside the Grayfield home waiting for his wife to come home before she was shot, according to reports. They were in the process of getting a divorce, according to reports.

Here's chance to go to Lions youth camp

The *Observer & Eccentric* has partnered with Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp again for a chance to win a scholarship to an upcoming football camp. The promotion was announced in the most recent edition of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights, which published last week in local

O&E newspapers.

The promotion is open to girls and boys ages 6-14. Youth can submit an essay, 50 words or less, telling why they want to attend the camp. Parents are asked to submit the letter along with a photo of the youth, youth's name, age, community of residence and phone

number to cbjordan@michigan.com with the subject line "Football Camp Contest."

All letters must be received by June 22 to qualify. The winners will be announced in a future edition of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

Winners will have the

chance to select from one of the following camp locations:

- CANTON:**
June 29- July 2
8:30 a.m. to noon
- BRIGHTON:**
July 11-12
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- WHITE LAKE:**
July 20-23
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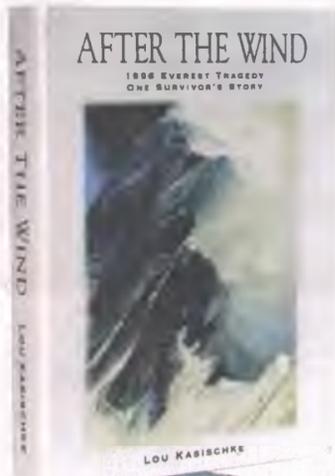
Livonia resident is Marian High School valedictorian



Valedictorian Kara Holinski of Livonia (from left) poses with salutorians Grace Milton of Farmington Hills and Molly Swayze of Bloomfield Hills before Marian High School's graduation ceremony at St. Hugo of the Hills Church in Bloomfield Hills. The Class of 2015 earned more than \$15 million in college scholarships, the equivalent of nearly \$128,000 per graduating senior.

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Western Wayne NAACP hosts All Lives Matter discussion

A roundtable discussion called All Lives Matter was recently hosted by the Western Wayne County NAACP and the City of Westland.

Attendees included mayors, city managers, township supervisors, clergy and police chiefs from about 15 western Wayne communities.

"We are here to be proactive to discuss how we deal with our cities in western Wayne. We are here to get to know one another," said Bishop Walter Starghill Jr., president of Western Wayne County NAACP. "I need you to talk to us and talk to one another so we can make things better. We are all tied together and all lives matter — Jewish lives, Arab lives, black lives, Asian lives, white lives and police lives — they all matter."

"We must talk before there is a problem," said Lisa Martin, Western Wayne NAACP second vice-president. "This is just the start of the discussion. By no means are we finishing the discussions today."

The dialogue focused on relationships between citizens and police as well as community interactions.

"You have to take a look at the culture," Interim Inkster Police Chief Joseph Thomas said. "What is happening in Inkster could happen to you. We are changing our language. We look at our citizens as our customers."

In Inkster, Thomas said there is also an effort to re-educate customers to become partners with our police to make Inkster better.

"When you dial 911, something bad has already happened," Thomas said. "When the police arrive they should not become part of the problem. They have to be part of the solution. We have to hire good people

and we can make them good police officers." Many cities have policies and strategies in place to create a positive and responsive community. Many host Coffee with a Cop sessions where police departments schedule informal meetings with citizens to discuss problems in their respective communities.

"Every day is a community policing day for our officers," said Greg Laurain, Van Buren Township public safety director. "We take the time to talk to residents. We want to put our officers on the street to be more proactive instead of reactive."

In the City of Westland, Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik, is not only hosting Coffee with a Cop but he is putting more officers on foot at apartment complexes and in neighborhoods so they can get to know more citizens.

"We are also looking to diversify our police department, and our officers are also at schools recruiting students to careers in law enforcement," Jedrusik said.

The cities of Livonia and Dearborn, among others, are also looking to create a more diverse police department.

"We desperately need to have all of our police departments more diverse as we respond to the communities we serve," Livonia Police Chief Curt Caid said.

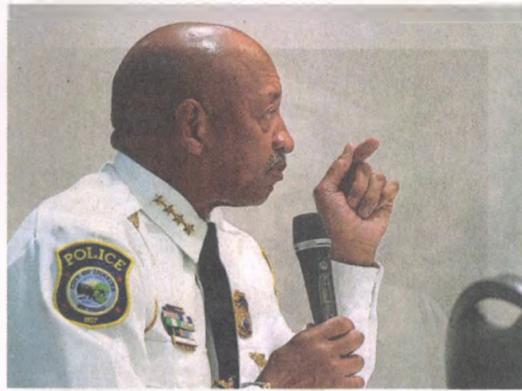
In Redford, officers are patrolling on bikes in neighborhoods and talking to people.

"There are no barriers with this approach," Redford Police Chief Eric Pahl said. "There is no car or window to be a barrier in building relationships."

The Western Wayne NAACP will follow up with each city to engage them in continued conversations about commu-



The All Lives Matter round table was held at Westland City Hall.



Interim Chief Joseph Thomas said the Inkster Police Department is looking at "our citizens as our customers."

nity outreach and race relations.

"I was extremely pleased and impressed with today's turnout. Everyone in the room had a common goal, to have a community that has faith, confidence and trust in its police force. This meeting was an

excellent opportunity to continue dialog and to share ideas," said Jedrusik.

"We are proud that Westland could lead this effort and start what we hope will be an ongoing dialogue with cities, townships, the NAACP and citizens," Westland



Bishop Walter Starghill Jr., president of Western Wayne County NAACP, tells participants that "we are here to get to know one another."

Mayor William Wild said. "This engagement was about exchanging of

ideas and building bridges for future collaboration."

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Wish you were here



Patty and Jim Kidd of Livonia spent the week of their 39th wedding anniversary in Virginia Beach, Va.



Audrey and Richard Yanity of Livonia on the beach in front of the famous Black Rock in Maui, Hawaii, holding their Observer newspaper. The photo was taken just prior to their snorkeling in the Pacific Ocean.



James and JoAnn Porth of Garden City recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family vacation at Ocean Coral and Turquesa Resort in Mexico. The trip was a surprise gift from their four sons - John, Jeffrey, James and Justin and their wives and six grandchildren. According to the Porths, "A good time was had by all." If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at smason@hometownlife.com. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.



James and JoAnn Porth on their wedding day.



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CITY OF WESTLAND

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

On or about June 15, 2015 the Westland City Council will approve hazardous abatement and demolition contracts for the following activity:

The vacated T. Gist Academy, a blighted elementary school in the Annapolis Park subdivision, 4825 Dancy, Westland will be demolished. The school was built in 1965; it has been vacant for 10 years. The site will be held as park land, with possible future affordable housing development. The demolition costs are estimated at \$102,850, to be paid from NSP grant funds.

The City of Westland has determined that this project will have no significant impact on the human environment, and an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the offices of the City of Westland Department of Housing and Community Development 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI 48186 and may be copied weekdays, upon request, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to submit comments on the project and its Environmental Review Record (ERR) may submit those comments in writing to the City of Westland Department of Housing and Community Development, 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI 48186. The City of Westland will consider all comments received by June 23, 2015 before it executes demolition related contracts.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City certifies to HUD that that William R. Wild, in his official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD approval of the Certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the City of Westland to use program funds.

HUD will accept objections to its Release of Funds and certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Westland (b) the City of Westland has omitted a step or failed to make a decision of finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a Release of Funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal Agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to HUD, McNamara Federal Building, 17th Fl, 477 Michigan Ave., Detroit, MI. 48226. HUD will not consider objections received after July 9, 2015.

William R. Wild
Mayor City of Westland

Published: June 14, 2015

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com

WHO'S YOUR TIGER?

Contest is open to kids up to 18 years old.

Garden City motorcycle students get new vests

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Seventeen Schoolcraft College students received new specially designed high-visibility vests Thursday — a bonus to their successful completion of a three-day Motorcycle Safety course.

The basic rider training class concluded Thursday.

The vests are part of a project to dramatically increase the number of motorcyclists using high-visibility clothing or gear.

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning is working with the Michigan Department of State, which organizes and manages the state/public-sponsored courses. The OHSP is providing nearly 9,000 vests through federal traffic safety funds.

The newly trained riders now have sharpened skills and a more visible profile on the road. The course provides classroom and actual motorcycle operator training in a controlled, off-street environment.

The successful completion of an approved course allows a person to waive the rider skills test requirement needed to add a motorcycle endorsement to their driver license.

"It also takes you out of a high-risk group," said Joe Kelly of the Michigan Department of State Motorcycle Rider Safety Training Program. Unendorsed riders

make up 16 percent of the riders but account for 50 percent of fatal crashes.

Wearing the new high-visibility vest makes it easier for other drivers to see the motorcyclist, and they are expected to reduce the number of near misses and crashes that occur when passenger vehicle drivers fail to notice a motorcyclist in the mix of vehicles.

Three thousand of 9,000 available vests have already been distributed.

Anne Readett, communication manager of the Office of Highway Safety Planning, said that her office commissioned an observation survey of motorcycle riders to see how many riders were wearing high-visibility vests.

Conducted by Wayne State University, the survey showed that less than 5 percent were wearing any high-visibility gear though these vests are lightweight.

Instructors Scott Durant and Mike Gilmore, who are certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, urged the students to give up their leather vests for the new vests.

The mood was light as Gilmore asked the students how many thought that they got their \$25 worth, the cost of the course.

Hands went up. The students took a three-hour e-course before they began the classes on site and started riding on Monday.

"There's five hours of

classroom and 10 hours of riding," Gilmore said.

The exercises were set up in the parking lot of Schoolcraft's Radcliff Center in Garden City.

Kelly said that if the completion certificate for the safety course is shown, most insurance companies will provide a discount. Added Durant, "If they don't, shop around."

Every year, Durant said the instructors, too, get a little bit better.

"I constantly ask what I can do different," Durant said. "You have to constantly be thinking about that or you are constantly falling behind."

When instructors keep current, the students benefit, Durant said.

He urged the new riders to get input from others. "Say how would my buddies rate me or how would my mom say I am doing," he said.

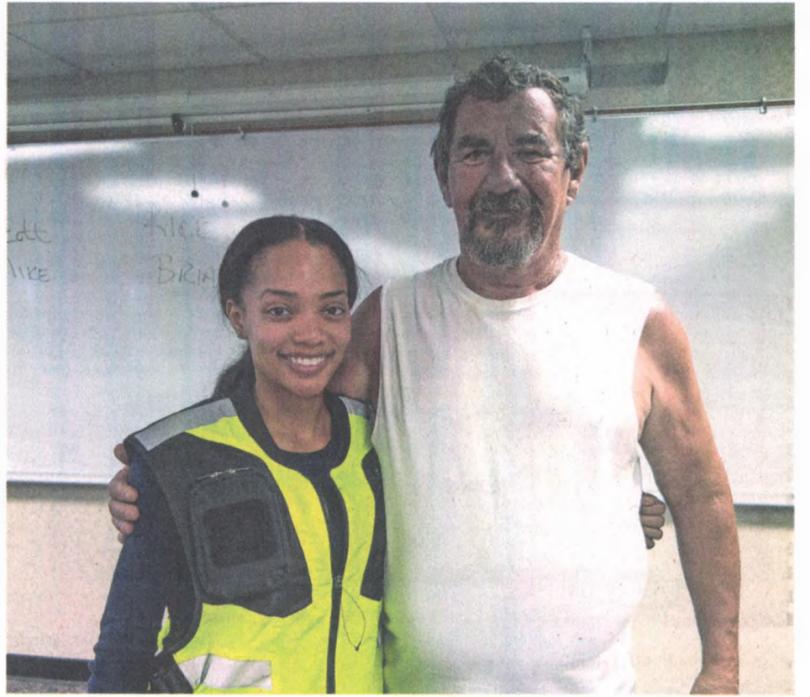
Seven women made up the class of 17 students.

Melissa Buckley, a Livonia resident, was enthused about the first class she took. Friends told her about it. "I love it," Buckley said. "I like it because you get more practice time. I like the group activities that we did."

Lavina Ayers, a Redford Township resident, proudly wore her new vest for a photo.

"I like that I was a complete beginner and now I feel safe enough to be on the road," Ayers said.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
Twitter:@SueBuck



KENDALL WINGROVE | OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANNING, MICHIGAN STATE POLICE
Lavina Ayers of Redford is smiles proudly with instructor Mike Gilmore after completing a motorcycle safety course at the Schoolcraft College Radcliff Center. The class members received a special reflective vest to wear while driving.

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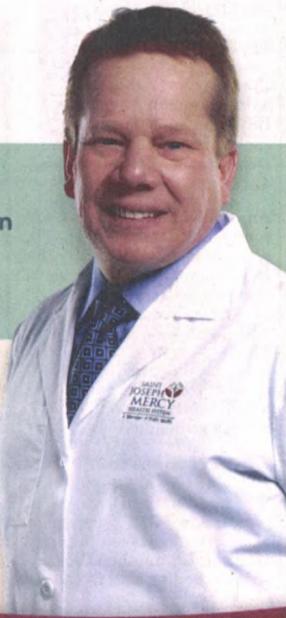
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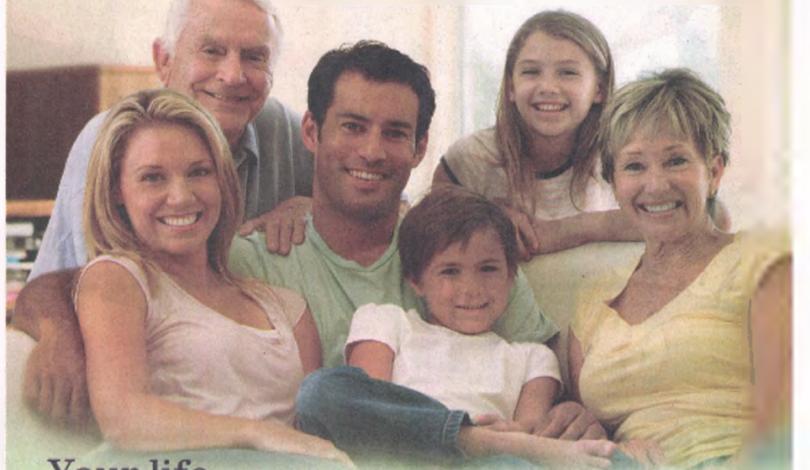
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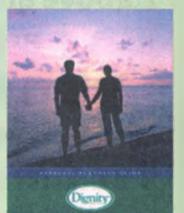
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STACY KARAFOTIS

Rosanne Audirtsh's colorful garden is on the June 20 Garden City Garden Walk.



STACY KARAFOTIS

Leslye Wolf has an inviting pond in her garden.

Yards bloom for annual Garden City Garden Walk

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

An elementary school butterfly garden and the gardens of two Garden City council omen are on the list for the Garden City Garden Club's annual Garden Walk set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 20.

The walk starts at Baron's Green House at Maplewood and Merriman where visitors can obtain their tickets and receive their booklet with the map and descriptions of the eight yards that are featured. Lawn signs in the community indicate if the garden will be on the walk.

"Three of the homeowners — Pat McKarge, Sue Orzel and Rosanne Audirtsh — are master gardeners," said Stacy Karafotis, club president. The designation requires taking classes with the Michigan State Extension and yearly re-certification.

» The first yard belongs to Rosanne Audirtsh who lives on James Street. Audirtsh has a combination of flowers and vegetables. She grows plenty of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, lettuce and squash and enjoys sharing them all with her neighbors.

"She loves to garden and has selected plants that attract butterflies, bees and her most favorite, hummingbirds," Karafotis said.

» The second yard belongs to David and Caron Lysakowski of Dover Street. A pond, rock garden and unique garden items make this yard a favorite for visitors.

"Their little garden is a magical place with an outdoor room they call Narnia," Karafotis said.

» The third yard belongs to Leslye Wolf who lives on Chester. Wolf



STACY KARAFOTIS

There's a bit of whimsy in Clay and Jennifer Shattleroe's garden that they view as an oasis.



STACY KARAFOTIS

Pat McKarge, a master gardener, features a variety of plants in her garden.

and her sons have built a large pond, patio, gazebo and fire pit.

"She is a new member to the Garden Club and hopes to learn more about perennials she can use around her pond," Karafotis said.

» The fourth yard belongs to Dawson Street resident Clay and Jennifer Shattleroe. Sitting rooms, palm trees and a feeling of serenity is what visitors get when they relax in their back yard paradise.

"Because life sometimes gets in the way of vacation, these busy people decided to build their own oasis at home," Karafotis said.

» The fifth yard is Orzel's and is on Eliza-

beth. Using food, nectar and host plants, Orzel is doing her part to increase the Monarch population and has been certified as a Monarch Way Station.

"Butterfly gardening is in her blood," Karafotis said. "Taking a small yard and renovating it into a favorite of butterflies was her goal and she sure has accomplished it."

» Councilwoman Pam King's yard on Henry Ruff is on the walk. Using peat, compost and quality soil helps create a good mixture to grow her bounty. Raised beds are placed throughout her garden and deck make for a beautiful view in this large yard.

"The idea of her family enjoying healthy home-grown food inspired Pam to start a large raised bed vegetable garden," Karafotis said.

» The seventh yard belongs to Councilwoman Pat McKarge on West Rose. Planted to provide interest in the spring, summer and fall, her yard includes annuals, perennials, bulbs, vegetables and garden art.

"Designed to attract butterflies, birds, bees and fellow gardeners, Pat's yard is also a certified Monarch Way Station," Karafotis said.

McKarge enjoys attending and participating in local garden walks because she learns so much from other gardeners.

» The eighth garden is located on the Memorial Elementary 1-2 Campus on Marquette. The garden has been incorporated into the classroom lessons in a variety of

ways, including observing the process of metamorphosis and writing books about the plants in the garden.

"Also certified as a Monarch Way Station, this butterfly garden is maintained by students, teachers and parents," Karafotis said.

Tickets are on sale now at Baron's Green House on Merriman at Maplewood in Westland and Lucky Dog Luxury Daycare and Boarding on Middlebelt, north of Ford, in Garden City. They \$8 each or two for \$15.

The garden club meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month and always welcomes new members. For more information about the club or the Garden Walk, call Lucky Dog at 734-261-7387 or check out the Garden City Garden Club Facebook page.

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To all residents and interested parties:
Legal notices are available for review at our website.
The minutes (including approved ordinances) from regular and special Council meetings are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/minutes
Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/bids
You may also access this information at Garden City City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.
Publish: June 14, 2015 LC-000244481 2x2.5

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.
RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
248-478-7860

THE RISKS OF SPRING
Readers may be aware that spring is a dangerous time for anyone who is at risk for Lupus. The reason for that risk is that spring marks the return of ultraviolet light and when those rays strike the skin a reaction occurs in Lupus susceptible persons that sets off a cascade of inflammatory reactions.
The bright days of spring also bring out another condition: Lofgren's Syndrome.
What happens is that a person experiences the sudden onset of large red blotches, often raised, on the lower legs and forearms. The blotches are painful to the touch and usually are accompanied by painful knees or ankles. In medical jargon the blotches are called Erythema Nodosum.
Lofgren's Syndrome is often associated with lung findings, so a person in whom that diagnosis is suspected should not be alarmed when the doctor orders a chest x-ray. The lung findings need no special treatment as they clear with the same therapy given for the joint and skin findings.
Prednisone is the mainstay of treatment in Lofgren's Syndrome. The surest way to relieve the joint pain is to remove any excess fluid from the joint and inject methylprednisolone. For Erythema Nodosum, therapy centers on oral prednisone usually 10 mgm-15 mgm a day for 1-2 weeks with gradual decrease of dosage until the person is off steroids completely. Once a person has experienced an episode of Lofgren's Syndrome, that person will likely never have another episode again.
Who in Michigan doesn't live for spring and the feel of sun surrounding us? That is a marvelous moment, but it is not without its hazards.
LC-000243217

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program for Children
Free meals will be made available to any child under the age of 18 or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program for the mentally or physically disabled that is recognized by a State or local public educational agency.
Meals will be provided at the sites listed below:
Hicks Elementary 100 Helen Inkster, MI 48141
Schwitzer Elementary 2601 Treadwell Westland, MI 48186
Hamilton Elementary 1031 Schuman Westland, MI 48186
Hoover Elementary 5400 Fourth Wayne, MI 48184
Taft Elementary 4035 Gloria Wayne, MI 48186
Wayne Memorial High School 3001 Fourth Street Wayne, MI 48184
Marshall Upper Elementary 35100 Bayview Westland, MI 48186
Adams Upper Elementary 33475 Palmer Westland, MI 48186
Meal Service will start the week of June 22, 2015 at all locations*
*Days and hours vary by location
For hours, program end dates, and meals provided, please call the school.
For more information, please call 734-419-2118
In Accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.
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LC-000243283

Medical, legal documents are crucial for protecting assets

Q: Dear Rick: I am a divorced woman in my early 70s. After my divorce, a friend and I decided to live together to cut expenses. We ended up buying a condominium that's in both our names. We share expenses and we keep our finances totally separate. Recently, my friend was diagnosed with early stages of dementia. She has asked me (and I have agreed) to handle her affairs when she is unable to do so. She also wants me to inherit her assets upon her death. She receives a pension and Social Security, which covers her living expenses. The money is directly deposited into her checking account, which I have been add-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

ed onto. Her other major asset is her IRA, which she has named me as beneficiary. Is there anything else that I need to do? My friend is divorced and is estranged from her children.

A: My best to your friend as she enters this new and challenging phase of her life. She is lucky that she has a friend like you.

In reviewing the situation, there are some things you should do. The first is to obtain a General Durable Power of Attorney and a Medical

Durable Power of Attorney.

The General Durable Power of Attorney will allow you to handle her legal and financial matters, while the Medical Durable Power of Attorney will allow you to handle her medical affairs. These two documents are essential to allowing you to easily handle her affairs without judges, courts and lawyers getting involved.

Also, even though she may be estranged from her children, it doesn't mean the children won't try to get involved. After all, you and I both know that when there's money on the table, even estranged relatives seem to come out of the woodwork.

By having the requi-

site powers of attorney, it gives you legal standing to handle your friend's affairs.

With regard to the Medical Durable and the General Durable, I strongly recommend that you sit down with an attorney and have those documents drafted. Particularly in this situation, where someone down the road can question whether your friend was legally competent to execute these documents, having an attorney involved in the process will certainly assist you.

In addition, you may wish to put into the powers of attorney the fact that she is estranged from her children and she does not want them involved.

Because she wants

you to be the beneficiary of everything, I also recommend that the attorney redo your friend's will to state she specifically disinherits her children. Although it appears that the assets she has would avoid probate upon her death, I believe it is important to have a will.

By disinheriting the children, you reduce the chances of them trying to cause problems upon her death.

As the population ages, more people are being diagnosed with Alzheimer's and dementia. Although there's nothing that I can tell you that will prevent the disease, there are things that you can do to make life easier for you and your loved ones.

In addition to preparing powers of attorney and making sure that your will or trust is up to date, it is important to check all beneficiary designations. Also do a document locator - a list of all your assets and important documents and where they are kept.

The key is to be proactive and to make sure these documents are in place so that in cases of a family tragedy, you and your family are protected.

Good luck.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar runs in the *Observer* as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email address is: ksmith@hometownlife.com.

FARMERS MARKET

Time/date: 3-7 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 8 (no market July 2 or Aug. 13).

Location: 1901 N. Carlson, south of Ford in Central City Park, Westland.

Details: A variety of food, craft vendors, special events and music is featured at the Westland Farmers and Artisans Market. EBT accepted.

Contact: 734-326-7222 or email at westlandchamber@gmail.com

WOUNDED WARRIOR BENEFIT DANCE

Time/date: 2-6 p.m. Sunday, June 14.

Location: Civic Center Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Details: Benefit square dance. Cost is \$10, with all proceeds going to the Wounded Warrior Project. Hot dogs, chips, cookies and soda will be available for purchase.

Contact: Ray or Ildia Wiles, 734-637-8819, 734-236-4735.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/date: 6:30-8 p.m. June 15-18.

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman Road,

Livonia.

Details: "Summer Jam, The Journey: An Exodus Expedition," is a Vacation Bible School for 5-year-olds through sixth grade.

Contact: Livoniachurch.net; 734-427-8743.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/date: 9 a.m. to noon June 15-19.

Location: Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia.

Details: Children will join Dorothy and her friends on a journey to discover what it takes to get her home during "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" Vacation Bible School. Children will enjoy music, drama, snacks, crafts, a missions moment and games.

Contact: 734-464-6722.

REDFORD SEWING CIRCLE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., beginning June 17, then each first and third Wednesday of the month.

Location: Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford.

Details: Discuss whatever sewing you like to do (crafts, quilting, clothing, etc.). The group plans on having speakers and eventually hands-on programs both for itself and for charitable causes. There is no charge for participating, and you are encouraged to bring older children who are inter-

ested in sewing (10 and up only, and adults must stay with children).

Contact: 313-289-5681; sandystraz@yahoo.com.

FUND-RAISER CAR WASH

Time/date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 20.

Location: Claude Alison Park, Redford.

Details: Money raised will benefit the Redford Township Sister City Organization. Any donation amount will be accepted.

FIFTH ANNUAL STEAK OUT

Time/date: 3-7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 20.

Location: Coach's Corner Bar and Grill, 19170 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Details: Membership drive and fund-raiser for the Disabled American Veteran's Chapter 114. There will be door prizes donated by local businesses. Coaches Corner's grand prize will be two tickets and a bus trip to see a Tigers game on June 28. Cost is \$22 for a full steak dinner, \$11 for an Angus beef burger plate.

Contact: 248-615-1330.

South Redford School District Announcement of Public Hearing Budget Adoption for 2015-2016 School Year

The South Redford School District Board of Education will hold a public hearing to consider the 2015-2016 school year budget at the Regular Board of Education meeting of Monday, June 22, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Jan Jacobs Administrative Services Building located at 26141 Schoolcraft, Redford, Michigan 48239 313-535-4000 (MCL 141.412).

In addition, the South Redford School District property tax millage rate to be levied to support the proposed 2014-2015 school year budget will be subject of the public hearing at the Regular Board of Education meeting of Monday, June 22, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Jan Jacobs Administrative Services Building, located at 26141 Schoolcraft, Redford, Michigan 48239 313-535-4000 (MCL 141.412)

Published: June 14, 2015

LO-000244913 3x2

CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED 2015-2016 BUDGET

Please take notice that on June 25, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at 20210 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Clarenceville School District will hold a public hearing to consider the district's proposed 2015-2016 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2015-2016 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2015-2016 budget including the proposed property tax millage rates will be available for public inspection at the Administration Offices, 20210 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, Michigan from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., beginning Friday, June 19, 2015.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATES PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education

Published: June 14, 2015

LO-000244626 3x2.5

Livonia
Symphony Orchestra

Volodymyr Shesiuk, Music Director & Conductor
Presents

"Patriotic and Pops Concert"

Thursday, June 18, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.
Livonia Community Recreation Center
Five Mile & Hubbard Rd.
FREE ADMISSION

Note: Please feel free to bring your own lawn chair to this event since seating, at times, becomes somewhat limited.

For information on all LSO concerts and events, visit: livoniasymphony.org or call the LSO Music Hotline at: 734.421.1111

Concert co-sponsors: **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** A GANNETT COMPANY
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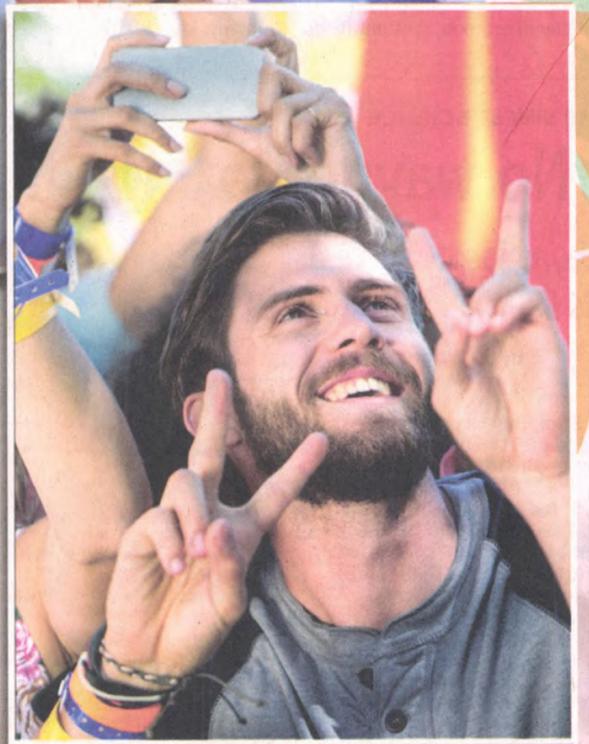
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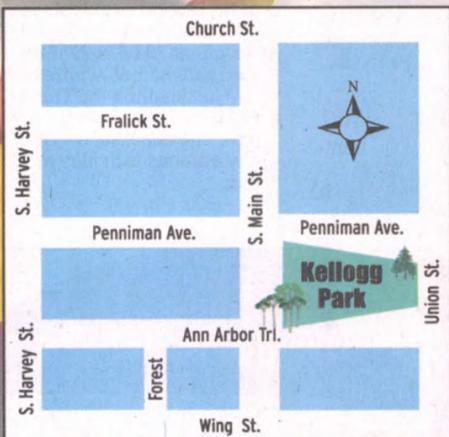
The Michigan Philharmonic conducted by Nan Washburn
7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 27 in Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

This fun, family-friendly concert showcases music from the '60s and '70s.



FREE CONCERT

in Kellogg Park,
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Bring a blanket or lawn chair to beautiful downtown Plymouth and enjoy this not-to-be-missed concert as part of the upcoming holiday celebrations in the city and township.

TIM SHAW FOOTBALL CAMP



Tim Shaw demonstrates proper technique to one of the campers during a break in a drill.

ED WRIGHT

LIFE LESSONS

Enhancing football skills the least-important goal of event

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

From Soldier Field to the "Big House," Tim Shaw's swift feet have motored across the surfaces of the most iconic football stadiums in the country.

But the gridiron that is nearest and dearest to the former NFL special-teams star's heart is the one that rests just a long post-pattern away from the sign that reads "Welcome to Livonia Clarenceville".

"This field, hands down, is the most special field I've ever played on," Shaw said Friday afternoon, motioning



Tim Shaw addressed the 200-plus participants prior to the sixth annual camp he hosted Friday night at Livonia Clarenceville High School.

ED WRIGHT

toward the longtime home of the Trojans' football team, for which he set seven state rushing records from 1998-2001. "It's where my love for the game blew up and where football became a huge part of me. "My memories here are amazing: the full bleachers,

the long touchdown runs, the great games, great teammates. When I look at this field, I think about hard work; the times I ran around that track so hard that I threw up. "It's therapeutic coming back here because nostalgia is a good thing. It's those posi-



The back of the camp's official T-shirts were emblazoned with one of Tim Shaw's mottos.

ED WRIGHT

tive memories that create positive vibes in my body."

As Shaw spoke, over 200 youth football players lined up to register for his sixth annual free camp – the first one since he revealed last August that he had been diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis – ALS or "Lou Gehrig's Disease" – a progressive neurodegenerative disease that

See SHAW, Page B2

THE SWEET SCIENCE

Norwayne Boxing Club lifts residents' spirits

Wayne facility serves as life-changing site

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Stepping across the threshold of the five-month-old Norwayne Boxing Club has proven to be a life-changing experience for several Wayne/Westland area young men – and not just because they've learned how to deliver left jabs and right hooks in the energy-driven facility located in Westland's Norwayne subdivision.

Thanks to the heavyweight-level commitment of founder Jeff Styers and manager Erskine Wade, the east end of the building that once housed Jefferson-Barnes Elementary School has become a place where lost souls have regained hope.

"I talked to [Westland] May-



Several Norwayne Boxing Club athletes take a break to pose with manager Erskine Wade (front row, second from left) Thursday afternoon.

ED WRIGHT

or [William] Wild recently and he asked me how things were going over here," said Styers, a former phenomenal amateur boxer who now owns Arrow Strategies in Bingham Farms. "I told him it's a home run, but

not just because we had eight guys in the finals and one champion in the Golden Gloves.

"The most important thing is, before school let out, we had a tutor in here from Mon-

day through Thursday, helping these guys with their school work, and every other Saturday they're out in the community, cutting lawns, cleaning the streets and working on the garden.

"When I told the mayor we're hitting a home run, he told me they want to help us hit a grand slam."

Among the lives that have changed 180 degrees toward the better is a 15-year-old boy named Phil, who dropped out of school at 13. His family recently moved to Wayne from Detroit and he was steered in the direction of the Norwayne Boxing Club.

"We've arranged for him to start going back to school – at Wayne Memorial – later this year and he's determined to work hard and get his degree," Styers explained. "He's an articulate, bright young man

See NORWAYNE, Page B2

MU baseball signs trio

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger announced the start to his 2015 recruiting class by signing three players to NAIA letters-of-intent, including junior college transfers John Rodriguez (Indian Hills CC, Ia.) and Jimmy White (Sinclair CC, Ohio), along with prep standout Jeremy Orton (Cottam, Ontario Essex).

Rodriguez is a 6-foot-3, 190-pound right-handed relief pitcher who went 2-2 with 15 saves. He struck out 41 in 38 innings. During his prep days at Sterling Heights Stevenson he helped the Titans to three straight Macomb Area Conference Red Division and Division 1 district titles, along with two state semifinal appearances. He was named All-Macomb County and All-District as a senior.

White, a 5-11, 210-pound outfielder from Cincinnati Elder (Ohio), led Sinclair to a No. 10 final ranking in 2015 and back-to-back Ohio Community College Association Association titles. The All-OCCAA first-team and All-NJCAA Region 12 pick set single-season school records at Sinclair for hits (90), home runs (14) and RBIs (85). He ranked second nationally in RBIs and fourth nationally in hits.

Orton, a 6-3, 185-pound outfielder, was named Essex's athlete of the year after lettering in baseball, basketball and volleyball for the Red Raiders. He was a two-time MVP in both basketball and volleyball, while leading his teams to three district baseball titles.

"So far our recruiting class has been small, with us losing just one senior on this year's team we were not looking to bring in a ton of guys," MU assistant coach Charlie Haeger said. "It was more of filling out our needs this year. All three of them are dynamic players and can all come in and be impact players for us from day one."

The Crusaders finished the season with a 37-17 record while earning its first NAIA National Championship appearance since 2009.

Wayne Memorial baseball camp

The Wayne Memorial High School baseball program will host a camp July 24 (from 5-8 p.m.) and July 25 (from 9 a.m. to noon) at the school's baseball facility at 3001 Fourth St. in Wayne.

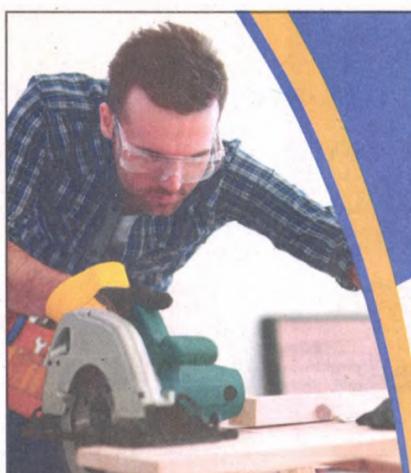
The cost of the camp, which is designed for kids ages 8-14, is \$40, which includes the cost of a T-shirt and top-flight instruction from the coaching staff on all of the game's fundamentals.

For more information and to attain a registration form, contact Kerry Johnson at kjjcmu@yahoo.com or 734-718-2649.

Reporting results

Local athletic coaches are encouraged to report results of their team's contests to Observer sports editor Ed Wright at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com.

The deadline for Thursday editions is Tuesday at 10 p.m. The deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at 10 p.m.



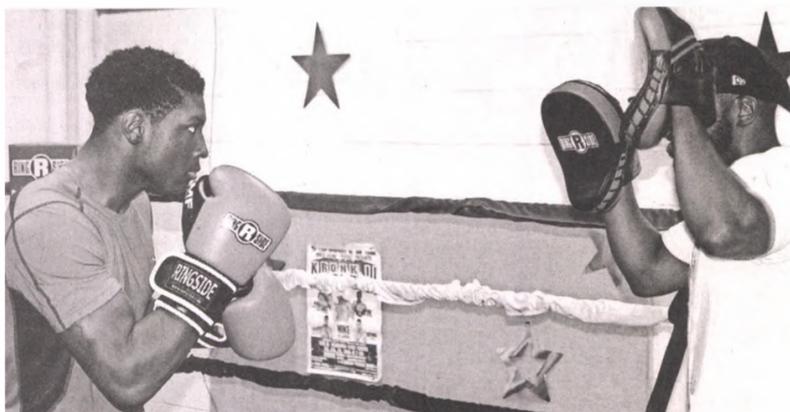
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Wayne's Antonio Wade works on his jab Thursday afternoon with Antonio Anderson.

ED WRIGHT

A true 'gloves' story

Antonio Wade flashing impressive ring skills

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The gloves did not fall far from the ring when it came to the Wade family of Wayne.

In fact, if you placed a sample of father Erskine and son Antonio's DNA under a high-powered microscope, you may find the strands are connected by mini boxing gloves.

Erskine Wade was a well-decorated featherweight from the early '80s to mid-'90s when he performed like a surgeon in the ring against a string of highly-touted opponents.

Antonio, 24, is following in his dad's esteemed footsteps – although his swing patterns pack a little more punch.

"Erskine was a slick technician while Antonio is more of a bomber," said Jeff Styers, the owner of the Norwayne Boxing Club in Wayne, where Erskine is a manager and Antonio an emerging star.

"The only reason I have more knockouts than him," Erskine said, "is because I had a lot more amateur fights."

Antonio Wade got his first taste of boxing in kindergarten when he'd occasionally visit the gym to watch his dad train.

"I liked it right away, probably because it's in my DNA," Antonio said. "I love the discipline it takes to be good and I love the way it keeps my body in shape. I just have a passion for it."

"I'm in the gym working every day, putting in the work, running, staying dedicated to my craft."

Antonio's career took a turn for the better once he realized father knows best.

Earlier this spring in a sparring session at Norwayne with Thomas Hearn's son Ronald, Antonio displayed his potential when he "destroyed" the younger Hearn, Erskine Wade said.

"Before that fight, Antonio didn't always listen to my advice," the

elder Wade said, smiling. "Tommy went up to Antonio that day and said, 'Listen to your dad; he knows what he's talking about.' That made me feel good."

Following his dad's (and the Hitman's) advice, Antonio turned the corner.

Antonio's summer schedule includes amateur fights on June 20 in Inkster and a week later in Toronto.

"After those two fights, I'm prepared to turn pro," he said. "I think I'm feared. The other boxers may not say it, but a lot of them won't fight me."

"I love boxing. It's not easy; it's harder than it looks, but if you put the time in, it can help take you places in life."

Styers said the younger Wade's future is bright.

"His style will go over better in professional boxing than in amateur boxing," Styers said. "He's aggressive and he packs a powerful punch."

ewright@hometownlife.com

NORWAYNE

Continued from Page B1

who is on the right track now."

Wade has been the facility's ring-leader, so to speak. A former featherweight dynamo, Wade does much more than manage the club – he eats, sleeps and breathes it so that others can prosper.

Stressing the benefits of hard work and a positive attitude, Wade has done whatever it takes to enhance the lives of the young men who walk through Norwayne's doors.

He's been known to do

laundry for down-on-their-luck boxers and take them food when they're in need.

"Erskine has even taken kids to church," said Styers. "The guy has been amazing. He took a group of our kids to a winter festival at the mall and I received nothing but positive feedback about how polite and what gentlemen our guys were."

"Anybody who knows me knows I love people," said Wade, whose relentless energy fills every square foot of the boxing center. "To see guys come in here and turn their lives around makes me feel good. You can't save everybody, but you can

try. It makes me feel good to know I'm making a difference."

The club's January grand-opening celebration was attended by six former world champion boxers, whose presence was just a hint of how well-respected Styers and Wade are in the boxing community.

"This gym is really, really nice, one of the best in the state, if not the country" said 24-year-old Antonio Wade, the son of Erskine. "I've been to boxing gyms all over the country – Vegas, Texas, Florida – and I haven't seen any better than this."

ewright@hometownlife.com

LIVONIA COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE

Hurricanes blow by A Green

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

A pair of five-run innings lifted the Michigan Hurricanes to an 11-2 victory over A Green in a Livonia Collegiate Baseball League game played Friday night at Ford Field in Livonia.

The triumph improved the Hurricanes' record to 4-3 while A Green is 2-5.

Josh Lockwood earned the pitching win by throwing a seven-inning complete game. Lockwood scattered seven hits and two walks while

striking out four.

Offensively, Dan Cameron (2-for-3, two runs, four RBI), Alex Oleszkowicz (3-for-4, run), Jared Terrell (2-for-5, two RBI) and Tre DeVoe (3-for-3) led the runs assault for the winners.

On Thursday, the Hurricanes nipped A Green, 6-5, despite getting out-hit 9-4. DeVoe (1-for-3, two runs, RBI) and Jared Hagen (1-for-3, RBI) powered the winners' offense.

David Cole laced three hits for A Green. Starting pitcher Zach

Zsolchak earned the win after yielding two earned runs in three frames. Jacob Makowski picked up the save after retiring the last two batters in the seventh.

On Wednesday, the Hurricanes dropped a 6-3 decision to the Michigan Storm in a game played at Allen Park High School.

Cameron played well in defeat, ripping three hits and two RBI while Jake Weshalek went 2-for-3.

The victory improved the Storm to 3-5.

Bash champions



JOSEPH LACK

The Livonia City Thunder, an under-14 baseball team consisting of players from Livonia, Northville and Novi, recently captured the FFAST Slam Jam June Bash. Team members include (front row, from left): Gannon Van Riper, Brendan Rudolph; (back row, from left) Erik Sparschu, Brandon Unger, Carter Goebel, Coach Dennis Bushart, Trevor Van Vliet, Marco Genrich, Cole Bushart, John O'Connor, Hayden Scott, Andrew Lack, coach Rick Genrich, coach Joe Lack and Joshua Winowich.

SHAW

Continued from Page B1

affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord, and is ultimately fatal.

During the eloquent pre-camp address that he delivered to the campers, Shaw talked briefly about the battle he is waging and how adversity can bring out the best in people.

"Life is tough sometimes, but so what?" he emphasized. "That's why we have family and friends."

"The most important thing is getting through life's struggles and doing whatever you can do to help someone else whose troubles may be worse than your own."

Shaw was originally diagnosed with ALS in the spring of 2014.

The decision to go

public with his diagnosis last summer – just as the inaugural "Ice Bucket Challenge" was picking up a head of steam across the country – was difficult, he admitted.

"The last thing I wanted was sympathy," he said. "I didn't want to be the person everybody was praying for, the person everybody is feeling sorry for, the person everybody knows is dying. I just want to be a normal person, just like everybody else."

"But, happily, there is so much good that came out of my diagnosis, No. 1 being that it could inspire people who were going through an adverse situation of their own."

"As much as ALS is a burden every single day, and as tough as it is, it was important to share it and know I didn't have to go through it alone."

Shaw said the feedback he received following his revelation was "overwhelming."

"To have people come up to you and tell you, 'If there is anything you need, let me know,' and know that they meant it, well, what greater thing can someone give you," he said. "To feel that overwhelming love from people has been a special thing for me."

Shaw's father, John, marveled at how his middle son has dealt with the daunting disease.

"Tim hasn't stopped doing one thing he'd normally be doing, other than the things he can't do because of his physical limitations now," said

John Shaw, as Tim high-fived a young fan a few feet away.

"Tim's always been a person who says, 'Let's live life today, let's have fun today and let's serve today.'"

Shaw said his spirits are high, but the disease is taking a physical toll on his once chiseled body.

"I have very little strength, but I have a lot of energy and I have a lot of heart, so I just keep pushing forward."

While his camp is labeled as a "football" camp, enhancing the participants' gridiron skills is the least of his concerns.

"To be perfectly honest, the goal of this camp is not to make these kids become better football players," he said. "The most important thing is for them to see a positive mentor, hear a positive message and see people are here for them who want to make them a better person," Shaw said.

The statement that drew the loudest applause during Shaw's pre-camp pep talk came toward the end, just before the players took the field for four hours of life-building exercises.

"Just so everyone knows," Shaw said, pointing his finger in the air for emphasis, "this will not be the last Tim Shaw football camp."

And there wasn't a soul within range of Shaw's voice who doubted him.

ewright@hometownlife.com

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2015-16 BUDGETS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 22, 2015 at 6:45 o'clock in the evening at

15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2015-16 budgets.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2015-16 budgets until after the public hearing.

A copy of the proposed 2015-16 budgets, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan.

The property tax millage rates proposed to be levied to support the proposed budgets will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order to the Board of Education.

Tammy Bonifield, Secretary

Published: June 11 & 14, 2015

LO-000245942 4x8

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2015-15 June 6, 2015

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Saturday, June 6, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Wayne Activity & Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Ave. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. APPROVED: the City Council interviewed five candidates for the City Manager position (David Flaisher, Linda Gable, Kerreen Conley, Dale Stuart, John Adams) Adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: June 14, 2015

LO-000246639 2x2

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on June 26th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

FIRE APPARATUS

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams
City Controller

Published: June 14, 2015

LO-000246826 2x2.5

All-area gymnasts lauded for achievements

FIRST TEAM

Allison Kunz, Canton: The defending state champion Chiefs lost several key members from that 2013-14 team to graduation. But the squad didn't miss a beat thanks to newcomers such as Kunz and finished second in the team finals.

A senior, Kunz moved over to Canton from Eurostars (where she was a Level 10) and her lone high school season was stellar – capped off by a Division 1 state championship on uneven parallel bars with a 9.750 score.

She also earned all-state honors on floor exercise (eighth, 9.450) and all-around (tied for fifth, 37.20).

Kunz matched Robyn Piwowar's Canton record on floor with a 9.775, became the team's first Elite All American in every event and was an all-state gymnast.

"Allison was the team MVP and was the primary reason for our state runner-up finish," coach John Cunningham said.

Carina Wright, Farm. United: Wright is on the all-area team for a third consecutive year. A Division 1 gymnast, she was all-state

in the all-around again with a 10th-place score of 35.975.

She was the state runner-up on vault (9.55) and was all-state on floor, too. She was 10th on floor (9.325) and 16th on beam (8.525).

At the regional, Wright won the vault (8.95) competition and was second on bars. She was the runner-up in the all-around with a 34.675 total. She also was third on floor and fourth on beam.

"She's our No. 1 all-arounder," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She's loaded with talent. She averages in the nines on everything but bars. She's been all-state three years in a row. You don't see a lot of gymnasts do that."

"To be all-state in the all-around is one of the harder things to do. You can't do that without the talent and the work ethic. I look forward to next year. That senior year is a real big motivator."

Katie Dickson, Canton: With Dickson only a freshman this season, the future looks as bright as ever for the Chiefs.

Competing as a D1 gymnast, Dickson excelled at regionals, where

she won on balance beam (9.6) and qualified in the all-around with a 36.00 mark, good for sixth overall.

At individual finals, Dickson finished 10th on beam with a 9.175 to garner all-state honors.

"By medaling at states," Cunningham said, "Katie became an all-state gymnast and her scores made her an All American on every event except vault."

Rebeca Simu, Plymouth: Instrumental to the Wildcats qualifying for the team finals (Plymouth finished third at regionals), the junior co-captain pretty much did it all for the team.

There were numerous honors bestowed on Simu to reward her for her stellar year. She was named the Wildcats' most valuable athlete for the second time in her career, highlighted by setting a school record on vault with a 9.225.

Simu, an All America gymnast in the all-around and an academic all-state member, qualified for the individual state meet in D1 by finishing tied for second on balance beam (9.3), third on vault (9.2) and seventh on bars (8.8) and floor (9.075).

Her tally of 36.375 in the all-around also enabled her to qualify for the state meet. At Rockford, she tied for seventh on beam with a 9.225.

"Rebeca works hard, sees the best in each member of the team and is willing to help them achieve their best, always encouraging," coach Pam Yockey said. "Rebeca works to achieve her best in all she does, overcoming setbacks that come her way."

Hailey Hodgson, Canton: It was another outstanding season for Hodgson, medaling in all but one event in Division 2 at state

finals. The junior was a force to be reckoned with throughout the regular season, when the Chiefs again cruised to KLAAs Kensington Division and association titles.

Then, at the Plymouth High School-hosted regional, Hodgson captured D2 firsts on vault (9.3), beam (9.05), floor (9.2) and all-around (36.0).

She medaled in four events at the state finals in Rockford, including vault (tied for sixth, 8.950), beam (tied for sixth, 8.875), floor exercise (fifth, 9.225) and the all-around (fifth, 35.225).

"In the state's toughest region, Hailey took first place in every event except bars," Cunningham said.

"Next year's team captain was an Elite All American, All State and (received) the team's most dedicated gymnast award."

Brianna Rhoad, Livonia Blue: Rhoad was brilliant this season for Blue as she formed a dynamic duo with teammate Jess Weak. Rhoad shined brightest at the biggest meets, taking second in the all-around at the regional competition at Canton.

Among her best events was the bars, on which she placed second at the regional.

"Bri is a strong all-around gymnast for us," Blue coach Lisa Broomfield said. "She battled last year with an ankle injury but has come out strong this season and increasing her start value on each event. She is a force to be reckoned with."

Elisa Bills, Farm United: Bills was all-state in the Division 2 all-around as a freshman, finishing seventh with a 35.025 score.

She finished sixth on the vault (8.95) and eighth on bars (8.625) to earn all-state in those events, too.

She was close on beam, finishing 13th (8.60).

Bills was the regional champion on vault (9.0) and bars (8.8) and was the runner-up in the all-around (35.00). She was fifth on beam and floor.

"At the beginning of the season, I knew she would be a valuable asset," Dwyer said. "She loves to practice, listens to advice and loves to compete."

"Sometimes, you can't teach kids how to compete under pressure. I was really proud of what she did this year."

Jacquelyn Farquhar, Farm United: Farquhar was all-state in the Division 2 all-around, finishing in ninth place (34.875). She also achieved all-state status on vault (9.0) and beam

(8.7), placing fifth and 10th, respectively.

At the regional, she was third in the all-around behind teammates Marissa Schuch and Elisa Bills. Farquhar was second on vault and floor at the regional, third on beam and fourth on bars.

"Jacquelyn is one of our hardest working gymnasts," Dwyer said. "She's hungry to get better. We recognized her effort in the gym and made her one of the captains as a sophomore."

"She has come a long way as a competitor. She has always had the determi-

nation and work ethic to be a high-level gymnast. She believes in her abilities and has gained confidence now."

SECOND TEAM

Haley Metz, Plymouth: The junior co-captain qualified for the D1 individual finals in all events. She was the Wildcats' top performer in the all-around at regionals with 36.95 (third) and

took second on bars (9.425), fifth on vault (9.1) and beam (9.25) and sixth on floor (9.175).

Other honors poured in for Metz. She set Plymouth records in the all-around (37.05) and bars (9.425), was the team's most valuable gymnast, earned selection to the academic all-state and all-regional teams.

In addition, Metz was the KLAAs D1 all-around winner and a KLAAs scholar athlete. And, for the third consecutive year, she was named an All American gymnast.

"Haley was a consistent performer and excellent team mentor," Yockey said. "She shows her love of gymnastics in every smile."

Brooke Rabban, Farm United: Rabban is a Division 1 gymnast and repeat member of the all-area team. She was a state qualifier in the

all-around and placed 16th (34.575). She was close to being all-state on

floor, finishing in 12th place (9.3).

Rabban was the regional champion on floor (9.65) and the runner-up on beam. She was fourth on bars and sixth on vault. She earned third place in the all-around with a 34.125 score.

"She dominates on floor and beam," Dwyer said. I was most proud of her on bars this year. You have to work hard on your weakest event and she did. That's how gymnasts improve.

"She's a very coachable gymnast; she works hard every day. On floor, she took all the coaches' advice and worked on her dance. That part of her routine improved, and it was reflected in her scores."

Jana Hilditch, Canton: An influx of young talent helped the Chiefs remain a

state powerhouse despite losing key performers to injury and Hilditch was at the top of that list.

Hilditch, just a sophomore, was a strong and consistent performer during the KLAAs season and followed that up with major

success at regionals and states. Her efforts enabled her to be named an All American gymnast.

At regionals, she missed out on qualifying for the state finals as an all-arounder by just 0.25. She did medal in two events (10th on vault, 9.225; ninth on floor, 9.4).

"Jana had a terrific year, excelling in every event and posting high scores in every event helping her team win every dual meet except one," Cunningham said. "... She was one of our most consistent and most improved gymnasts."

Jordyn Williams, Salem: The freshman made an immediate impact with the

Rocks, winning the individual regional championship in Division 1 on floor with a mark of 9.7.

She also qualified for the state meet on beam with an eighth-place finish of 9.0 at the regional.

At the individual state finals in Rockford, Williams tied for third on floor with a 9.6.

"Jordyn was a welcome addition to the Salem team, coming in as a freshman with a lot of talent," said Canton's Cunningham. "As the season progressed, her super tricks on beam and excellent floor routine became highlights."

Jessica Weak, Livonia Blue: Weak and Rhoad formed an awesome one-

two punch for Blue as they frequently registered 35-point-plus scores in the all-

around. An example of Weak's strong season was reflected in her third-place all-around finish in the Division 2 regional meet, where she took third in the uneven bars and tied for second in the floor exercise.

"Jess is a strong all-around gymnast for us," said Broomfield. "She worked hard over the summer improving all she skills and getting new ones. She has grown so much in two years that nothing is going to stop her."

Emily Chatterjee, Livonia Blue: A junior, Chatterjee is a three-year all-arounder who excels on floor and bars, her coach revealed.

"Emily is the most graceful gymnast I have ever coached," Broomfield said. "She is a perfectionist and will not put any skill into her routine unless she knows it will be perfect. She is a huge part of our team."

Marissa Schuch, Farm

2015 ALL-OBSERVER GYMNASTICS TEAM FIRST TEAM

Allison Kunz, sr., Canton
Carina Wright, jr., Farm. United
Katie Dickson, fr., Canton
Rebeca Simu, jr., Plymouth
Hailey Hodgson, jr., Canton
Brianna Rhoad, jr., Livonia Blue
Elisa Bills, fr., Farm. United
Jacquelyn Farquhar, soph., Farm U.

SECOND TEAM

Haley Metz, jr., Plymouth
Brooke Rabban, jr., Farm. United
Jana Hilditch, soph., Canton
Jordyn Williams, fr., Salem
Jessica Weak, soph., Livonia Blue
Emily Chatterjee, jr., Liv. Blue
Marissa Schuch, sr., Farm. United
Marissa McVey, jr., Livonia Red

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Canton: Stephanie Cox, Kelsea Kemosek, Rachel Socha; Plymouth: Sam Fontana, Lindsay Badger, Kayla Janesvick, Molly McSwiney, Emily Welch; Salem: Camille Burt; Farmington United: Daanna Burns, Kelly Shrosbree; Harrison: Taylor Cherry; Livonia Blue: Katie Grovet, Catic McDougall; Livonia Red: Kikaela Hillie, Sydney Grenier.

United:

Senior Marissa Schuch was a Division 2 regional champion in



the all-around (35.475) and just missed being all-state, finishing 11th (34.325) and one place away.

At the state meet, she was tied for 14th on vault (8.75), 12th on bars (8.525) and 16th on beam (8.475). Schuch also was the regional champion on beam (9.20). She placed third on vault and bars, fourth on floor.

"Without her we're not regional champs three years in a row," Dwyer said. "I don't think we finished lower than fifth in the state in her four years. She was a main part of our 'A' team."

"She had a great career. She's one of the girls who puts her heart and soul into it. I wish it could have ended on a little better note for her."

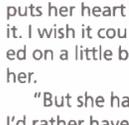
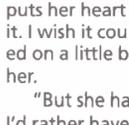
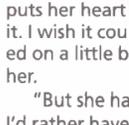
"But she has my respect. I'd rather have a gymnast with her heart and soul than a gymnast who is blessed with talent and doesn't work at it."

Marissa McVey, Livonia Red: The talented junior qualified for the regional competition on the vault, bars and floor exercise. Among several highlights were a first-place finish on the beam (9.3) at the

Lakeland Invitational, where she placed ninth in the all-around with a score of 35.35. McVey also placed 10th on the vault (8.75) at the Canton Invitational.

At the KLAAs Conference Meet, McVey placed 10th on the vault, fifth on bars, eighth on floor and first on beam.

"Marissa is a very strong athlete," said Red coach Kelly Grodzicki. "She loves to compete and displays passion for the sport of gymnastics. I am very excited to see what her senior year will bring."



Michigan Bucks prevail in Great Lakes soccer showdown

The two perennial Great Lakes powerhouses of recent years squared off Tuesday at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac with undefeated records in the young Premier Development League men's soccer season.

The defending champion Michigan Bucks (4-0-1, 13 points) shut out visiting FC London (4-1-1, 13 points) 3-0 to take over first place and run their PDL unbeaten streak to 14 games, including their run of nine without a loss closing out the 2014 season.

The 3-0 score line didn't paint an accurate picture, as the two teams were locked in a midfield defensive struggle for most of the game.

The Bucks did, however, make the necessary adjustments they failed to make Saturday when they dominated the Pittsburgh Riverhounds U23 for most of the match, but failed to score.

They jumped on the scoreboard early Tuesday with some tight give-

and-go passing inside the 18-yard box when David Goldsmith (Butler) found Sean Sepe (Akron) six yards out. The Zips forward neatly tucked a low shot inside the far post for his first goal in a Bucks uniform in the fourth minute.

Defensively, both teams were solid throughout the match and the key for the Bucks was rookie goalkeeper Drew Shepherd (Western Michigan), who was making his second start in goal for Michigan.

Shepherd was called into action in his first game the previous week with two huge saves, including a last-minute beauty to preserve the shutout against Pittsburgh. He was on his game again Tuesday and made several point-blank saves to register his second career shutout in as many starts.

As in the first half, the Bucks came out flying trying to make a statement to give the team some offensive breathing



The Michigan Bucks began their current hot streak at the recent Canton Cup. Here, players from the Bucks and K-W United vie for possession of the ball at Independence Park.

room.

The team's two top scorers and college teammates at Butler, Goldsmith and Jeff Adkins connected in the 47th minute to put the home team up 2-0. Adkins made a 40-yard run through the midfield, collected the ball near the center circle and

raced down the right flank when he beat two defenders before sending a perfect cross into the area that Goldsmith volleyed home for his third goal of the season.

The Bucks would basically put the game on ice when Sepe followed up a long rebound and unleashed a 24-yard

bomb into the upper corner to give the Bucks a 3-0 lead in the 60th minute. The only question left was would the defense be able to register their third shutout in five PDL games. Shepherd and his back line kept a close eye on the dangerous London strikers to finish the match

on top of the Great Lakes division with the head to head victory.

Bucks coach Demir Muftari was glad to see the ball hit the back of the opponent's net early in the game to give the team some confidence. "Anytime you have a game like we had the other night when the ball just won't go into the back of the net, you can get a bit frustrated. The boys came out and forgot about Saturday and just took it to London to see what they could create early. That fourth-minute goal gave us a ton of confidence and really put the pressure on London. Once we got the second goal, you had a feeling that we were going to tighten things up defensively and be OK even if they pulled one back. Fortunately, Drew made some fantastic saves to keep them off the score sheet and the rest of the team did their job. I hope to see more of the same with lots of attacking flair again on Friday night."

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

USA HOCKEY

There's a new team in town

USA Hockey era skating into longtime Compuware Arena

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Scott Monaghan understands there will be a hole to fill in the hearts of hockey fans who supported the Plymouth Whalers the past couple of decades at Compuware Arena.

But Monaghan, senior director of operations with USA Hockey, is more than confident that those fans — and many more — are going to love the new kind of junior hockey that will be rolling into the Beck Road arena beginning in September.

"I encourage people to come out and check it out," Monaghan said during a recent interview in Mike Vellucci's old office. "I think they'll find it's really, really good hockey to watch. And watching these kids grow as a group over two years is one of the most unique things."

With Compuware Arena officially to become USA Hockey Arena soon, not to mention a sprawling makeover (a 20,000-

square-foot addition is in the works), Monaghan is confident many of those fans will flock to see one of two high-end National Team Development Program squads (under-17 and under-18).

Those teams will play a schedule of games, including against United States Hockey League (a major junior circuit) and NCAA teams.



Monaghan

Famous alums

It's not the Ontario Hockey League, which had a successful 25-year run in metro Detroit. But Monaghan said folks with a Whalers' heartache might eventually learn to fall in love all over again.

It might help that transition, he said, to realize the USHL is an American version of the OHL.

"I actually have spoken to a handful of (Whalers fans)," Monaghan said. "I try to explain to them what we are and our correlation. We're producing a huge amount of NHL talent out of this program."

"Some of that high-end talent that you ultimately

see in the OHL has come from the program. Sonny Milano, Ryan Hartman, just among the guys who have played for Plymouth."

Detroit Red Wings fans would be interested to know that goaltender Jimmy Howard is an alum of the NTDP.

So is forward Dylan Larkin, a highly touted player who just left the University of Michigan's hockey team to turn pro with the Detroit Red Wings. He joined Grand Rapids (Detroit's American Hockey League farm team) for the playoffs.

Place to identify

Monaghan promises that the coveted Compuware Youth Hockey Program will be bigger and better than ever.

The history of USA Hockey (yes, including the 1980 Miracle on Ice) will be celebrated within the walls of the arena and international men's and women's tournaments could be in the offing as soon as 2015-16.

"I think it's a great facility, in good condition," Monaghan said. "But for us, what we want to do is make it a place where people identify it with USA Hockey. Where people can tangibly walk in and say, 'Ah, this is USA Hockey's home.'"

USA Hockey is moving from the tiny Ann Arbor Ice Cube (1,200 capacity) to the facility recently sold by longtime Compuware/Whalers owner Peter Karmanos.

"The Ice Cube is a great facility. We've had a long relationship with them and they've treated us very well," Monaghan said. "We had somewhat outgrown our space in there, which was one of our challenges."

"The other was, the ability for USA Hockey to own its own facility and operate it and try to be a little bit about setting the bar for this type of facility down the road."

Room to grow

Essential to that transformation is the addition of a two-story wing, which will include office space for USA Hockey employees, as well as room for weight training and other facilities that will be put to use by the U-17 and U-18 teams.

"Right now we're at about 2,800 square feet of weight training space and off-ice training space," Monaghan said. "Our plan is to go closer to 10,000 here."

"For the kind of things you have to do with kids now, for the idea that we may also be bringing in larger group USA Hockey functions that may

need that kind of space, that provides us with what we really need."

Helping connect the dots from the Whalers to USA Hockey will be marketing and media relations people Denise Ronayne and Pete Krupsky (both longtime staples with the OHL team).

So will other staff members who are continuing to work the phones to convince old fans to stick around. (Full and partial season ticket plans are now available.)

The Whalers last season averaged about 2,400 per game. Monaghan would like to see similar attendance figures for the first season at USA Hockey Arena.

Bang for the buck

What might ticket buyers get for their money? Monaghan stressed that USA Hockey won't just be about the USHL.

With enough seating for nearly 4,000, he is looking to annually schedule a handful of games against NCAA hockey programs, including Division I teams such as Michigan or Michigan State.

"We play about 20 college games a year with our under-18s, the older group," Monaghan said. "The younger group plays primarily the USHL, which are 18- to

20-year-olds, whereas these kids (on the U-17 team) are all 16.

"The U-18s play some junior games, but they also pick up 20 college games, which as you know is anywhere from 18- to 23-year-olds. The idea is to put the kids in over their head, to put them up against bigger, stronger guys and force them to push themselves to get better."

"But one of the disadvantages we had at the Cube is we couldn't bring a college team in."

In addition to the full-time NTDP teams, Monaghan said international hockey events will be brought in each season to USA Hockey Arena — which will officially be unveiled later this summer.

"They'll still have that base league schedule, but they'll also have some things like that, unique stuff to enjoy," Monaghan said. "I think probably the best-kept secret is the international part. We're going to hope to do three or four events a year and those games are just fantastic."

For more information about USA Hockey's new Plymouth programs or to inquire about season/partial tickets, go to www.usahockeyarena.com or call (734)-453-8400.

SOFTBALL STATE SEMIFINAL

Marlins end softball run with 5-2 loss

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

It's a rare occasion when Farmington Hills Mercy runs up against a better hitting team, but it did Thursday in a Division 1 state semifinal softball game.

Mercy's longest tournament run in a dozen years ended with a 5-2 loss to Caledonia at Michigan State University's Secchia Stadium.

Both teams had nine hits; however, the Fighting Scots made better use of theirs. They got them

early in the game, too, and had the Marlins playing catch-up the entire way.

Caledonia jumped out to a 4-0 lead and held Mercy scoreless for five innings behind the pitching of freshman Samantha Gehris.

"That's a very good team; that's a very good thrower," Mercy coach Alec Lesko said, adding Gehris kept the Marlins off-balance for the most part. "That young kid has a very bright future."

"I thought she threw the best when we had

people in scoring position. That's was how we got here. We were able to get the two-out hit and today we just didn't get it."

Caledonia scored in the second inning with back-to-back doubles by the Nos. 6 and 7 batters — McKenzie Butgereit and Danielle Oracz.

Oracz started the fifth inning with a single; pinch-runner Lauren Kimes scored on Ashley Miller's triple to deep left field.

Miller made it 3-0 when she scored on an infield error — the only

one of the game. Butgereit hit a solo homer — her team's 49th of the season — over the left-field fence in the sixth inning.

"This is the best hitting team I've ever had," Caledonia coach Tom Kaechele said. "Any one of them can hit the long ball. I just tell them the long ball is great, but we have to get people on base."

"And they were hitting gaps today; that was big for us. They hit the ball hard. They knew we had to play the best ball we could and they stepped up and did that today."

Mercy cut the Caledonia lead in half in the bottom of the sixth with an inside-the-park home run by sophomore Nicole Belans.

Cari Padula drew a two-out walk ahead of her and scored in front of Belans, who hit a line shot to right field that eluded the reach of Kimes and rolled to the fence.

The Fighting Scots (34-4) added a fifth run with two outs in the seventh on three straight singles. Lexi Lieske had the last one to drive in the run.

Mercy threatened with one out in the seventh and had the tying run at the plate.



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior pitcher Andrea Elmore allowed nine hits, struck out six and walked one in the state semifinal game.

Alex Sobczak and Sophia VanAcker had back-to-back singles with the Nos. 3 and 4 hitters — Abby Krzywiecki and Jordan Johnson — coming to bat.

Gehris pitched out of the jam, however, and ended the game by getting Krzywiecki to pop out to the third baseman and Johnson to hit a soft liner to second base.

"We were at a position in our lineup that those were the kids we'd want up (to bat)," Lesko said. "It was a good battle and

it just didn't happen for us today."

The Marlins, who left eight runners on base, would have loaded the bases in the third inning with Molly Murphy's single. Krzywiecki, who started the rally with a two-out single, got a little too far down the third-base line and was thrown out.

Sobczak, VanAcker and Belans had two hits apiece. Miller and Lieske were 2-for-4 for the Fighting Scots, Butgereit and Oracz 2-for-3.

Mercy ends the season 27-4. The first three losses were to Catholic League champion Warren Regina, which defeated Mattawan in the other semifinal game Thursday, 7-1.

Caledonia scored all of its runs with two outs, a testament to its timely hitting.

Mercy pitcher Andrea Elmore's stats were nearly identical to those of Gehris, who struck out eight, hit one and walked one. Elmore retired six on strikes and also walked one.

"I wasn't worried there in the seventh when they got two people on because of Sami's focus and the way she can pitch," Kaechele said, adding Gehris was in a zone. "She had a lot of their big hitters popping up, so she had her good stuff."

Notice of Public Sale City of Livonia Accident and Impounded Vehicles

Tuesday, June 16, 2015
Inspection begins at 8:30 a.m.
Auctions starts at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Livonia Towing
12955 Levan
Livonia, MI 48150

Vehicles to be Auctioned:

2005	Chevrolet Monte Carlo	2g1ww12e959212554
1998	Ford Escort	3fakp1134wr246907
2006	Ford Taurus	1fafp53u16a179353
2000	Jeep	1j4ff48s6y1163570
2009	Ford	1ftrx14869fb20632
2010	Toyota	2t1bu4ee5ac309723
2005	Ford	1fafp34n05w204076
1998	Chevrolet	1gndx03e2wd342160
2007	Saturn	1g8zy127x2z167054
2004	Dodge	1b3el46x74n300170
2007	Saturn	1g8aj58f47z176265

ALL ITEMS TO BE AUCTIONED ARE SOLD "AS IS" AND ALL SALES ARE FINAL. ALL SALES ARE "CASH ONLY" AND PAYMENT IS DUE, IN FULL, THE MOMENT THE BID IS ACCEPTED.

Published: June 14, 2015

LO-000246803 3x3.5

CITY OF LIVONIA PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 502 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2006, as amended, and Articles XIX and XXIII of Ordinance #543, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, as amended, the City Planning Commission of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 30, 2015, in the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the following items:

Petition 2015-06-02-08 submitted by The Kroger Company of Michigan requesting waiver use approval pursuant to Section 11.03(r) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, to utilize an SDD liquor license (sale of packaged spirits over 21% alcohol) in connection with the Kroger store at 30935 Five Mile Road, located on the south side of Five Mile Road between Merriman Road and Henry Ruff Road in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 23.

Petition 2015-06-02-09 submitted by O Chi Massage Spa/Oriental Chi, L.L.C. requesting waiver use approval pursuant to Section 11.03(u) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, to operate a massage establishment (O Chi Massage Spa) within the Laurel Park Place shopping center (Suite H-640) at 37700 Six Mile Road, located on the northwest corner of Six Mile Road and Newburgh Road in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 7.

Petition 2015-06-02-10 submitted by O Chi Massage Spa/Oriental Chi, L.L.C. requesting waiver use approval pursuant to Section 11.03(u) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, to operate a massage establishment (O Chi Massage Spa) within the Laurel Park Place shopping center (Suite E-385) at 37700 Six Mile Road, located on the northwest corner of Six Mile Road and Newburgh Road in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 7.

The above-mentioned petitions will be on file in the City Planning Commission office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan during the period of five (5) days immediately preceding the said hearing and may be examined by any and all persons during the normal working hours Monday through Friday.

R. Lee Morrow, Chairman
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Published: June 14, 2015

LO-000246801 3x3.5

CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA Zoning Board of Appeals

June 30, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall – Gallery (5th Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466-2259

APPEAL CASE 2015-04-12 (Tabled on April 28, 2015): Derek Robbins, south side of Puritan, (30451) between Merriman and Henry Ruff, seeking to construct an addition to include attached garage, resulting in deficient front yard setback.

APPEAL CASE 2015-06-31: TSFR Del Retail Center, LLC, 17800 N. Laurel Park Dr., Ste. 200C, Livonia, MI 48152, on behalf of Lessee TSFR Pizza, LLC, (MOD Pizza), west side of Middlebelt, (13229) between Industrial and CSX Railroad, seeking to erect three (3) wall signs, resulting in excess number of wall signs and wall sign area.

APPEAL CASE 2015-06-32: Edward Collins, west side of Wayne, (9659) between West Chicago and Parkdale, seeking to maintain a "non-home occupation" which involves the processing and retail sales of firewood, which is prohibited on residentially zoned property.

APPEAL CASE 2015-06-33: Septimiu and Maria Puscas, west side of Merriman, (20121) between Norfolk and Fairfax, seeking to erect a detached garage while maintaining an attached garage, resulting in excess number of garages, garage area and excess height of the detached garage.

APPEAL CASE 2015-06-34: Joseph and Cindy Rivet, west side of Ellen, (15619) between Edgewood and Roycroft, seeking to erect a five (5) foot tall open picket aluminum and six (6) foot tall privacy fence(s) upon a corner lot, resulting in the picket fence being excess one (1) foot in height. Non-sight obscuring fences cannot exceed four (4) feet tall. The six (6) foot privacy fence, on the corner side street, cannot exceed five (5) feet in height, making it excess one (1) foot in height. This fence also partially blocks the view of the sidewalk from the private drive leading onto Edgewood Street, which is not allowed. Also, this fence would not align with any fence on the adjoining property to the west.

APPEAL CASE 2015-06-35: Christopher Arcand, north side of Auburndale, (14450) between Lyndon and Berwick, seeking to erect a six (6) foot tall privacy fence at the rear of a double frontage lot, resulting in deficient rear yard setback.

Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 – all comments must include name, address and signature.

Published: June 14, 2015

LO-000246874 3x3.5

SEE STUNNING CLEMATIS FLOWERS ON PLYMOUTH GARDEN WALK

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The International Clematis Society describes the four-petal, indigo-violet durandii variety as an “old-timer” among clematis flowers.

It's definitely the most senior plant in Ann Warne's Plymouth Township yard, where pink, cranberry, purple and blue clematis are the stars of her garden.

“This one is 36 years old. It's French. It's the first one I put in. I just liked it. That is one of my favorites,” said Warne, describing the durandii clematis that climbs on a trellis against the house she shares with her husband, Pete.

Warne figures she has planted approximately 12 clematis throughout the garden. They grow on trellises, archways and along a fence and will be in full bloom when visitors on the Trailwood Garden Club's annual Flowers Are Forever Garden Walk stop by to tour the Warnes' yard, noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 30. It's one of several gardens in the Plymouth area that will be open to the public that day. Pre-sale tickets are \$8 and are available at Saxton's Power Equipment Center, 587 W. Ann Arbor Trail, 734-453-6250, Backyard Birds, 627 S. Main, 734-416-0600, and Sideways, 505 Forest, 453-8312. Tickets are \$10 the day of the walk. Tickets for children under 12 are half the adult price ticket. There is no charge for babes in arms. Strollers aren't permitted.

Perennial garden

On the day of the walk, Warne, a Trailwood Garden Club member, will help coordinate the Club's plant sale, which will take place in her driveway. A master gardener will be on hand in the backyard to answer questions.

In the Warnes' yard, ticket-holders will see seven different hydrangea plants, eight



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ann Warne rescued this garden art from a neighbor's trash.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
A delphinium blooms in Ann Warne's garden.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Roses are planted here and there, in spite of the yard's shade.

stuff,” Warne said. “I learned a lot from him. Digging the ground nice and deep and turning it over. He used to do all that and I'd watch him do it. He had a nice clematis there. I guess that got me going on the clematis. I've got quite a lot of different ones now.”

Warne buys her plants from catalogs, the Plymouth and Northville farmer's markets, local nurseries and “anywhere I see something I like,” she said. Two of her clematis came from Kroger.

She keeps track of her plants — “what I've lost and what comes back the next spring” — in a notebook, adding a picture and information each time she plants a new flower.

Gardening can be a challenge because of the rabbits that snack on some of her flowers and because a majority of the flower beds are in shade during at least a portion of the day.

Do-it-yourself

One of her favorite areas is the stone pathway that runs under an arch-style trellis that's covered in clematis, and between garden beds at the rear of the yard. Warne created the path, a small patio under the backyard swing and flower bed borders.

“I did that myself. I dug all the stone work. Last year I dug it out again myself and packed it all again because it sunk over the years and it filled up with dirt. That was a hard job. It took me all summer to do that.”

Warne enjoys looking at other yards and sometimes finds a color combination she might duplicate in her own garden.

“Some things you can't copy because you haven't got the right spot for whatever it is.”

Her advice to beginning gardeners is to cut back perennials to and to remove dead blossoms to encourage growth and continued blooms.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ann Warne shows one of many clematis vines in her yard, which is featured in the Trailwood Garden Club's Flowers Are Forever Garden Walk.

different echinacea flowers — “they are showy” — a variety of roses, hosta, phlox, a mix of other perennials, and with lots of colorful annuals, in addition to the dozen clematis.

Warne took an interest in clematis as a child, growing up in England.

“My grandfather was a gardener. My parents didn't garden, so I did right from

when I was very young in our own garden back in England. When I was about 8 we moved to the country and there was an old man there I used to visit and he taught me a lot of

Restored pool ready to make a splash at Livonia Garden Walk

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

It's only 18 inches deep and 20 feet long, but the reflecting pool at Greenmead will figure into Livonia's upcoming garden walk in a big way.

After leaking for years — and then remaining empty — the water feature has been restored and is ready for visitors. Friends for the Development of Greenmead spent approximately \$4,000 for new cement, and has added a small, portable fountain, along with potted plants.

“The whole thing is cement but it had cracked and was leaking,” said Sue Poster, a member of both Friends and the Livonia Garden Club, which tends to the flower beds near the pool. “The Garden would come out in the spring and they said last year they pulled out layers and layers of leaves.”

“People would try to repair the pond and it would just fail. There were three different types of liners and it looked horrible. The girls here (at Greenmead) had tried to get pieces to come out and fix it but they couldn't get anyone to come out and give an estimate.”

Poster contacted RAM Construction, a waterproofing and restoration contractor in Livonia.

“It's not something they normally do, but being a civic-minded company, they came out and did this for us. We are absolutely thrilled and indebted to them because they took great care to make sure it didn't look new. The intent was to restore it, not make it brand new.”

The restoration process retained the original cement pegs that line the pool wall, just below the water's surface. Poster said the pegs likely were used to secure wire that ran across the water to keep out ducks and other fowl. The original pool held goldfish, but the Friends doesn't plan to add aquatic animals.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Sue Poster, a member of Friends of Greenmead and the Livonia Garden Club, looks over the bond that was rebuilt at Greenmead — just in time for the garden walk.

Grand garden

Poster said Sherwin Hill, second owner of the Simmons/Hill house, likely had the pool built in the 1930s as an “overall plan for the garden and to have something nice for Mrs. Hill.”

“It was part of the grandiose scheme. When he married his wife, he promised her father she'd have fresh flowers every day of her life. That's why he built the greenhouse and that's our next project. It's been going downhill for years but it has been out of commission — this will be the third summer. We'd like to see it restored.”

The Greenmead grounds and five private gardens will be open to the public during the 26th annual Livonia Garden Walk, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 27. Tickets are \$10 on day of event or \$9 in advance and are available at Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia; in community resources on the 5th floor of Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive; Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile; Carl Sandburg Library, 30100 Seven Mile; Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road; and from any of the Friends of Greenmead. All proceeds will benefit the restoration of Greenmead.

Pools, plants

The restored reflecting pool isn't the only water feature on the tour this year. Ray and Terri Alexander, whose yard was on the Michigan Koi & Pond Club walk last summer, are participating in the Livonia Garden Walk.

“It's pretty much the same,” said Ray Alexander, comparing his backyard over two summers. “I got a couple of new trees because I lost some during the winter. I still have my bonsai trees.” The 10,000 gallon, 5-foot-deep pond is stocked with colorful koi.

Nancy Connor, whose yard also is on the Livonia Garden Walk, added a circular pond three years ago. It's approximately 10 feet and includes a waterfall, water lilies and plants. She adds lillies, grasses, hostas, and ferns to her surrounding garden every year.

Other backyards on the walk include a “memory” garden with bird houses and specimen plants; a meandering garden in Rosedale Gardens subdivision where antique cars also will be on display; and an acre of park-like grounds with specimen trees and “big palms in huge pots,” Poster said.

For more information call 248-477-7375.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Iris bloom in the garden at the Simmons/Hill House at Greenmead.



ARCHIVE PHOTO
Ray and Terri Alexander opened their Livonia backyard to the Michigan Koi & Pond Club last year. The pond and surrounding garden, which includes bonsai, are on the upcoming Livonia Garden Walk, presented by the Friends for the Development of Greenmead.

Save the date for Heartbeat of Plymouth's bands, speakers

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

A Bible podcaster and a comedienne known for her one-woman show about God, will speak at the Heartbeat of Plymouth Aug. 15-16, at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

Tickets are \$10 and go on sale Sunday, June 14 at five churches that coordinate the two-day music festival and speaker event. Buy them at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church Street; Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial; Plymouth Church of the Nazarene, 45801 Ann Arbor Road; First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial; and Praise Baptist Church, 45000 N. Territorial.

"Brian Hardin is a podcast bible teacher who has a huge following across the nation," said Jerry Smith, director of music ministries for First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. "We have a Christian comedian to balance the serious teaching."

Susan E. Isaacs, a humorist,

screenwriter and an actress who has appeared in such television shows as *Seinfeld*, *Parks and Recreation*, and *My Name is Earl*, and who tours with her one-woman show, will share the Penn stage with Hardin, who founded Daily Audio Bible podcast. He'll talk about "Reframing Our Relationship with God." Her presentation is "Angry Conversations with God." Doors will open at noon and the program is from 12:30-3 p.m. both days.

"We filled the theater twice last year," Smith noted.

The Heartbeat lineup also includes free activities. Teens can get involved in a service project from 3-5 p.m. both days, in the Gathering on Peniman across from Kellogg Park. Youth activities will run 3:30-6 p.m. both days and music performances are 3:30-9 p.m. Saturday and 3:30-6:30 p.m. Sunday, in Kellogg Park.

I Am They closes out Saturday performances and the Jason Eaton band wraps up the event on Sunday. Other bands are Saltz and Back, Impact, Kingdom Come Alive, Chosen, and James and June.

For more about Heartbeat of Plymouth visit Heartbeat of Plymouth Festival 2015 on Facebook.



Hardin

Plymouth artist wins top award at VAAL spring art exhibit

A soft, pastel landscape by a Plymouth artist took first place in the Visual Arts Association (VAAL) spring art exhibit, which runs through June at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Mary Ann Adams won the first place award for her pastel, *Three Kings*.

Adams taken art classes at Plymouth High School, VAAL, and Birmingham Bloomfield Center. Edie Joppich, master teacher at VAAL, taught her technique as well as color mixing in watercolor. Adams also studied with Janet Kohler, Jim Markle and Marla Baggetta. Although she has worked in acrylics, oil and watercolor, her favorite medium is pastel and nature is her muse. Adams enjoys painting landscapes from the southwest where she visits family. She is a long time member of VAAL and has won several awards for her art work.

Joshua Newth, art educator at Schoolcraft College and Wayne State University, chose the art on display from the entries submitted by VAAL members and selected the award winners.

In addition to Adams, top winners were Virginia Bosak of Livonia and Martha Barnes of Northville. Bosak took second place for her papier mache, *Garden Cherub*. Bosak, who usually works in watercolor and acrylic, created the piece in a VAAL workshop. Barnes earned a third place for her mixed media, *King of the Mountain*. She conceived the idea for the painting depicting a rooster, when her son opened an antique shop in North Carolina called "The Red Rooster." He needed a picture of a rooster for his sign and pressed his mother into service.

Honorable mentions went to Beverly Johnston of Livonia for her pastel, *Zing Zing*; Barbara Eko Murphy of Northville for her watercolor,



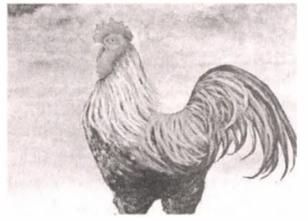
Mary Ann Adams of Plymouth and her pastel, *Three Kings*, top winner in the Visual Arts Association of Livonia show



Garden Cherub, by Virginia Bosak of Livonia, won second place.

Butterflies Are Free; and Jerry Valentine of Livonia for his oil painting, *What Goes Around*.

The Livonia Civic Center library is located at 32777 Five Mile. For more information about the exhibit or about VAAL, call 734-838-1204 or visit www.vaalart.org.



Martha Barnes of Northville earned a third place award for *King of the Hill*.

Paul's Players seeks musical theater students, actors

Paul's Players, a community theater in Livonia, offers musical theater classes for middle school students and roles in its production of *Fiddler on the Roof* this summer.

Broadway Bound, the middle school theater camp, runs 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 15-19 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$125. Students in grades 5-8 will learn songs, dances, and skits from popular musicals, and will perform a final concert for family and friends.

Parts also are available for *Fiddler on the Roof*, which will be performed July 29-31, and Aug. 1. The theater needs actors and singers for male lead roles, boys who will play young sons, and male and female members of the chorus. Lead actors rehearse Sunday-Monday and Thursday evenings. The chorus rehearses Monday and Thursday evenings. Rehearsals begin June 21 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.

Call 248-347-4134 or email paulsplayers@gmail.com for more information.

Guide to Employment

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

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

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

Help Wanted - General

ARTS & CRAFTS INSTRUCTOR
Experienced individual to teach classes to senior citizens. Part-time position. Fax resume: 734-326-6980. Mail or apply in person Mon-Fri 8am-3pm. Thomas Taylor Towers 36500 Marquette Street Westland, MI 48185 EOE

ASSEMBLY

DADCO, Inc., the global leader in nitrogen gas spring technology, is growing! We are looking for dependable, bright individuals with a strong work ethic to train for full-time, day-shift positions. Job responsibilities include part quality inspection, sub and complete product assembly build, final product inspection and order packing. Qualified candidates will be quick learners with a high school diploma, technical aptitude, and strong attention to detail. Come and work with our talented team in our state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. We will offer you training, competitive wages, and benefits, including 401(k), EOE. Email resumes to: plymouthhjb@yahoo.com

Auto Body Tech/Painter
with tools for Canton Collison. 37550 Michigan Ave., Wayne. Call: 734-729-2805

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Established Co. in Brighton is seeking quick learners. \$10/hr. No exp. needed. Paid training provided. Must have own vehicle. Call Mon-Fri, 9-3pm, 810-229-6053

Help Wanted - General

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Permanent position. Interesting and diversified work. Excellent math skills preferred. Payroll and/or sales tax experience helpful. Pleasant working conditions. Office located in Farmington Hills. Please email resume to: charlie@comprehensivafh.com

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Great Pay / Benefits. APPLY: www.durhamschoolservice.com 36540 Grant Rd. Romulus MI 48174 Direct: 734-532-1652

Direct Care Workers

Needed for traumatic brain injury group home. Previous experience with traumatic brain injury and catheter experience is a plus, with at least 2 years group home operations experience. Must possess a valid driver's license, vehicle insurance, and reliable transportation. Various shifts are available for both full and part-time.

Please email resume to powens@dnitnasc.com or via fax to (248) 919-4026. In person, Dignitas, Inc., 24505 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Direct Support Professional

Needed to assist and support individuals to live in their homes as independently as possible by assisting with recreation, daily living needs, transportation and other duties/ services. Positions available in Canton/ Westland Area. Contact: 734-722-4580 Ext #19 or apply on-line: www.ahscomserv.com/

Driver ROUTE DRIVER THERMAL ONE

Dependable individual with a good driving record. Westland. Email resume to: rgadenck@thermal-one.com

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RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

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Waste removal firm looking for CDL A or B Drivers. Full Benefits. Accepting Applications Mon-Fri 8-5
TLC Waste
28035 Beverly Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

HOTEL MAINTENANCE

Job requires basic hotel maintenance skills including dry wall, plumbing, grouting and care of equipment in areas of kitchen, laundry, fitness, guest rooms, HVAC and electrical systems. Must have flexible schedule, great communication skills and confident in ability to work alone and with simple direction. Compensation is hourly and dependent upon applicant's skill level.

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON

Apply in person Mon.-Fri. 9am-4pm 8800 Wickham Rd Romulus MI 48174

INVENTORY MANAGER

For small, growing company located in West Graft. Experience in using Great Plains Software preferred. Purchasing, receiving, invoicing and overall inventory management role. Month end reporting is required. Minimum 2 yr accounting degree, or experience in related field. Full time with benefits available. Email resume to: mcollins@esocinc.com

MECHANICAL

Part-time, every other week, operating equipment and general maintenance at dawn near Belleville. Requires 5 yrs mechanical or electrical experience. Variety of indoor and outdoor work. Clean conditions. Alarm system requires residence within 20 minutes. **NORTHBROOK ENERGY** Health Care and Home Management nprojobs@comcast.net 616-361-9910

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Novi Area Farmington Hills Area POSITIONS AVAILABLE MON THRU FRI 248-313-9465

Help Wanted - General

PHOTOGRAPHERS & ASSISTANTS
Geskus Photography is looking for seasonal employees to assist with the taking of school pictures in several areas on the east side of the state. We need both photographers & assistants. No experience needed. We need people available from Aug-Nov. This is a GREAT way to learn photography while getting paid for it & to earn some extra holiday money! Visit www.geskusphoto.com/employment to get more information or to print out an application form. Please mail application to: GESKUS PHOTOGRAPHY ATTN: Brian Gritter 0-11310 First Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49534

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(734) 581-9200 PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

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Must have excellent driving record. Experience preferred. Will train qualified applicant. Reply to: employment734@gmail.com

Help Wanted - General

SALES
Rotterdam Jewelers (Milford location) is seeking a passionate, upbeat, motivated, people friendly, part-time sales person to sell Pandora and Alex and Ani. No experience necessary, training will be provided. Hrs: Thurs-Sat from 11am-3 pm. Hry & commission plus significant savings on employee purchases. Please send resume to resume@rotterdam.com

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK/ASSISTANT Full or Part-Time for Auto Dealer. Dealer experience preferred but will train. Email resume to: carolyn@mbloomfield.com or fax: 248-644-7444

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

neapco Neapco Holdings, LLC Provide administrative support and assistance to executive staff including managing schedules, arranging travel preparing and distributing meeting minutes. Strict adherence to confidentiality. Minimum of 3 years of experience providing high level support. Strong attention to detail. Exceptional proficiency in Microsoft Office (i.e. Word, Excel & PowerPoint). Bachelors Degree preferred. Please email full job description on Careerbuilder.com EEO/AA Email resume to: pcaylor@neapco.com

Help Wanted - Medical

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST For private practice in Farmington. Resume to: jvargovick@gmail.com

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1-800-879-7355 hometownlife.com

Help Wanted - Medical

OPTICAL DISPENSER FULL OR PART-TIME Personal, caring, 1-doctor franchise office looking for a friendly, self-confident individual with good people skills. 1 office only. Top \$\$\$ for top candidate. THIS OFFICE USUALLY PAYS TIME & A HALF FOR EVENING & SATURDAY HOURS. Hourly plus commission plus benefits. Minimum 1 year optical experience required. Call: **PEARLE COVISION** Pearle Vision of Canton on Ford Rd. 734-981-8111 Fax resume: 734-981-2327

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Rewarding positions serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be 18. Paid training. Hiring in: Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Northville areas. **QUEST inc** Email resume: bellconey@questserv.org Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor 734-239-9015 Wixom/Novi 248-946-4425

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Caretel Inns is announcing an enhancement to our organization by the implementation of **Staffing Development Coordinators** to join our team in Brighton. Your primary focus will be the development and education of the nursing staff, scheduling for new staff, & orientation for FT w/some on call. RN or LPN only. Submit resume hrcaretelamerica@gmail.com You'll Want to Work Here!

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PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES

Model Veon Selman (left), represented by the Renee Godin (pictured) Agency in Farmington Hills, and Bill Roberts, owner of the Roberts Restaurant Group; attend a fundraiser for Care House and Variety, The Children's Charity.



PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES

Changez Salon Lead Stylist Courtney Louwers and Changez Manager Margaret Niehaus, a Farmington Hills resident, enjoy the Business Executive Network Chapter of Birmingham fundraising event for Detroit Garment Guild. The salon is located in Royal Oak.



PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES

Business Executive Network (BEN) Chapter of Birmingham members Todd McLaughlin of Royal Oak, Greg Coyne of Plymouth and Roger J. Nickels of Royal Oak attend a monthly meeting that pairs networking with fundraising for nonprofits.

Fashionable fundraiser benefits Variety, Care House

Restaurateur Bill Roberts, jewelry designer Karen Egren and clothing designer Nina McLemore, recently helped two children's charities — Care House of Oakland and Variety.

Egren and McLemore have a combined studio space on West Merrill Street in downtown Birmingham. And it's not unusual—it's more like the norm for these wom-



Julie Yolles
SOCIAL SCENE

en — to host shopping-for-a-cause parties at their boutiques where they donate a portion of the sales to a particular charity.

Care House and Variety both benefited on the

same day. Roberts catered the cocktail reception. He and his wife, Maria are active with Care House and have been honored for their philanthropy.

McLemore stressed the importance of philanthropy and support of the community.

"We try to help our community in any way that we can," added Egren.

As does Scott Bartram who founded the Birmingham Chapter of the Business Executive Network (BEN). Bartram's philosophy is networking for non-profits. The Business Executive Network Chapter of Birmingham held an event recently at The Stand in Birmingham to help raise funds for the nonprofit Detroit Garment Group. Members came to network

and support the cause and The Stand prepared delicious appetizers and donated a portion of the food and bar bill to the Detroit Garment Group.

Detroit Garment Group provides educational and business opportunities for Michigan's fashion community and cut and sew manufacturers of all industries. Last year, the Detroit Garment Group

partnered with Henry Ford College and Michigan Works to create an industrial sewing certificate program.

Email Julie Yolles, Social Scene Columnist, at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or leave a message at 248-642-9465.

Adventure on tap at Kensington outdoor women's program

By Laura Colvin
Staff Writer

Kensington Metropark has a day of fun and learning lined up as it prepares to host its 16th annual Women's Outdoor Adventure Program.

The event takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, and gives women ages 18 and older an opportunity to try new outdoor skills and experiences as they spend the day learning to kayak, shoot target archery and geocache with experienced instructors.

"We're also actually going to do a mini barn-raising this year," said Kensington Farm Center interpreter Chris Williams, who will be on site to lead the project. "It will be kind of cool."

The barn-raising project has been done during other programs at the park, Williams said, noting the structure is built from a kit of sorts, but disassembled and used again for the next group. The upcoming event will be the first time those who participate in the Women's Adventure will have a chance to learn what it takes to raise a small barn.

"It's a community effort and a team building exercise," Williams added. "Women don't often get a chance to do construction and building, so we thought this would be neat, and hopefully they'll come away with a sense of accomplishment."

The program, organizers, camaraderie and is appropriate for friends, family members, coworkers and others who want to share the experience, as well as individuals looking to make new friends with similar interests.

The day includes a catered lunch — complete with a colonial wood-fire baking demonstration — and all equipment is provided.

Registration limited to 30 participants; cost for the workshop is \$60, and

registration must be received by June 19. To register, stop by or call the Kensington Farm Center at 248-684-8632. Kensington Farm Center is located inside

Kensington Metropark, 2240 West Buno Road in Milford.

lcolvin@hometownlife.com | 248-390-7396 | Twitter: @MilfordReporter



SUBMITTED

Kayakers paddle along the Huron River during a previous Women's Outdoor Adventure program at Kensington Metropark.

Passages

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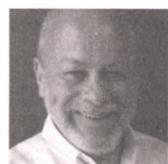
Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers • Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

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BOURLIER, LEWIS "LOU"

June 8, 2015. Age 64. Of Livonia. Loving husband of Connie for 39 wonderful years. Dear father of Katie (James) Neal, Lewis, and Kelsey. Wonderful grandfather of Hannah, Aiden, Madison, Bradley, and Myleigh. He leaves behind many loving family members and friends. Lewis enjoyed working, going to the movies, and volunteering at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Michigan. In loving memory of Lewis, memorial contributions may be directed to the American Diabetes Association or the American Kidney Association. Private services were held. Please share memories at fredwoodfuneralhome.com



CARNOVALE, FRANK A.

June 11, 2015. Age 61. Loving husband of Paula for 37 years. Dear father of Alison, Zachary, Lucas and Julia. Son of Bruno and the late Marlene. Brother of Debra Gschwendtner, Maria DiBello, Kathy Carnovale, Laurie Horrocks and the late Michael Carnovale. Family will receive friends Tuesday 2-8 p.m. with Rosary 7 p.m. A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile), 248-549-0500. Funeral Mass Wednesday 10 a.m. at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon (at Woodland), Birmingham. Visiting at church 9 a.m. Memorial tributes to the Dresner Clinic, Karmanos Cancer Center, 4100 John R, Detroit, MI 48201. View obituary and share memories at www.AJDesmond.com



CURTISS, JEAN STORER

Passed away June 12, 2015 at the age of 87. She was born September 9, 1927 in Detroit to C. Dale and Marion Anita (Hood) Curtiss. Jean is the dear sister-in-law of Carolyn Storer; dear aunt of Linda (Michael) Bagnowski and Nancy (Bob) Gray; dear cousin of Irene Gough, Donald (Rebecca) Chamberlain, and Lawrence (Patricia) Chamberlain. She was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Frank Edward (Jean) Storer and John Storer; niece, Barbara; and nephew, Frank. Jean was a teacher, having taught in the Detroit Public Schools for 32 years at White School. For the last twelve years she taught math only. She received her Bachelor's degree from Albion College and her Master's Degree from Wayne State University. She was a resident of Plymouth since 1984, previously of Detroit. She was a member of Plymouth First United Methodist Church and a former long time member of the choir there. Jean was also a former member of the Plymouth Woman's Club, Delta Kappa Gamma, the Knitting Guild and the Great Lakes Lace Group. She was also the founder of a knitting at her church. Jean enjoyed crafts especially knitting and cross stitching. Jean was dearly loved and will be missed by many. Funeral Services will be held at the Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 N.Territorial Rd., Plymouth, Monday, June 15, 2015, at 11 a.m., with Dr. John Grenfell III officiating. Friends may visit at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Sunday, from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. and Monday at church beginning at 10 a.m. Jean will be laid to rest at Acacia Park Cemetery, Beverly Hills, Michigan. Memorials in Jean's honor may be made to Plymouth First United Methodist Church or the Huron Valley Humane Society. To leave a condolence, www.schrader-howell.com.



GREGERSEN, JOHN R.

Age 89, passed away on May 30, 2015, at the home of his daughter, Cindy Reed, in Grass Valley, California. John leaves behind his beloved wife of 67 years, Edith, his children, Tom (Sandi), Cindy (Don Reed), Sharon (Mike Fortin), and his sister Evelyn Gidley of Petoskey, Michigan. John, known as "Doc", was the Pharmacist/Manager of Wilson's of Bloomfield for 25 years from its opening in 1963 until his retirement in 1988. Prior, he was Pharmacist at Wilson's in Birmingham. Area residents will remember his kindness and caring combined with knowledge and understanding. John served in the US Navy in WWII, seeing combat in the Pacific and the invasion of Okinawa. After his military service he graduated from Wayne State University, College of Pharmacy. Following retirement, John and Edith spent several years in Florida then moved to Grass Valley, California in 2002, to enjoy the mountains. Everywhere, they have enjoyed wonderful friendships and a happy fulfilling life. A Celebration of Life Service is planned for July 9, in Nevada City, California. Memorials may be sent to Hospice of the Foot-hills, Grass Valley, California.

McKENZIE, CARROLL GEORGE

Age 87, of Holly, died Saturday, June 6, 2015. Graveside services will be held 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at White Chapel Cemetery, 621 W. Long Lake Rd, Troy. Those desiring may make contributions to Meals on Wheels. Carroll was born February 23, 1928 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, the son of Gordon Henry and Marian J. (Ridell) McKenzie. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He retired from the City of Birmingham in the Parking Division. Carroll was a member of the Fenton Moose Lodge and Holly Masonic Temple #134 F.&A.M. Surviving are: sister, Nancy and husband Ted Schwarz of Brighton; nieces and nephew, Skip and wife Josie Schwarz of Carlsbad, CA, Susan and husband Bob Altman of Telluride, CO, and Cindy and husband Jeff Snyder of Grand Rapids. He was preceded in death by his parents. Online tributes may be posted on the obituaries page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



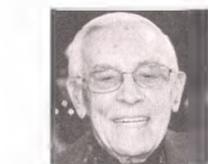
NOVAK, ELISE H.

Loving mother and grandmother. 93, of Somerset, New Jersey, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 6, 2015, surrounded by her loving family. Elise was born on September 1, 1921, in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of Alfred and Carrie (Stoner) Hafele. Born and raised in Detroit, Elise later moved to Troy, Michigan where she lived most of her life before moving to New Jersey in 2011 to be closer to family. Elise graduated from Marygrove College with a major in music. She began her career as a music teacher in the Detroit school district, worked for many years at Standard Federal Bank, and retired after 20+ years at Southfield Michigan Schools. In her early years, Elise loved to golf, decorate, and bowl in her neighborhood league. On week-end nights you would find Elise and her husband Robert dancing and having fun with friends at the Czech Hall. Elise had a beautiful voice and sang and played the organ with the church choir. She was an avid gardener, an accomplished seamstress, and played a mean game of bridge. Elise's favorite holiday was St. Patrick's Day, and loved having corned beef and cabbage along with a green beer! In recent years, she enjoyed living in New Jersey where she established many new friendships and kept a social calendar full of luncheons, card games, and community activities. She especially loved opera and recently attended La Boheme at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. An outgoing, fun-loving, and very wise woman, Elise treasured every moment she spent with her family and friends. Her wicked sense of humor and keen fashion sense will be missed by many. She is survived by one daughter, Colleen Elyse Ritchie of Bedminster, New Jersey; one son, Patrick Robert Novak of Malibu, California; and one grandson, Justin Rory Ritchie of Brooklyn, New York. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Novak; and brothers, Alfred Hafele and Charlie Hafele. Private services will be held at a later date to celebrate the life of Elise Novak. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Doctors Without Borders (doctorswithoutborders.org).



PRIDGEON, MARVIN

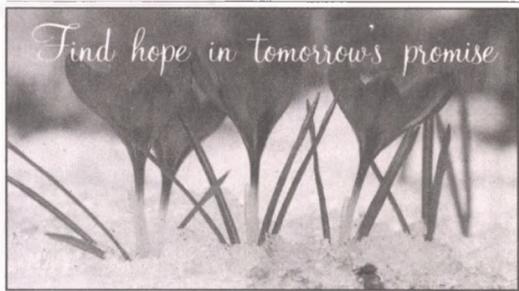
Age 86. Beloved husband of Janet. Loving father of Jill (Richard) Lohr, Paul, Steve (Julie) and the late Scott. Dear Grandfather of Katie, Jacob, Kevin, Chloe and Kendal. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 5 Mile Rd., Livonia, Tuesday from 10 a.m. until Service at 11 a.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Heart Association. Please share a memory at www.rggharris.com



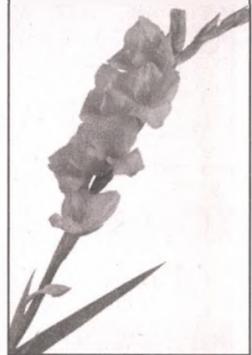
SWISHER, RICHARD MYLES (DICK)

June 6, 1921 - April 16, 2015. A Memorial Service will take place at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth on Saturday, June 20th 11 a.m., 701 Church Street, Plymouth. Military Honors will follow the service. Visitation with family at 10 a.m. Donations may be made to the American Cancer society, or Arbor Hospice. To share memories, please visit vermeulenfh.com

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A loving tribute



Learn ABCs of diabetes control during men's health week

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKF) recognizes National Men's Health Week from June 15-21, by educating men about the prevention and control of diabetes, which is the leading cause of kidney failure.

Approximately 15.5 million men have diabetes in the United States, which is 13.6 percent of all men ages 20 and older. Men with diabetes and their families can face devastating complications from unman-

aged diabetes, especially since people with diabetes are at a high risk for heart attack and stroke. In addition to causing kidney failure, diabetes also can lead to blindness, lower leg amputations, and erectile dysfunction.

Men with diabetes can reduce their chances of having life-threatening complications by managing their A1C, blood pressure, and cholesterol — the ABCs of diabetes.

The A1C test shows what

blood glucose levels have been over the last three months. The A1C goal for many individuals is below 7. High blood glucose levels can harm heart and blood vessels, kidneys, feet, and eyes.

The blood pressure goal for most individuals is 130/80. High blood pressure makes your heart work too hard. It can cause heart attack, stroke, and kidney disease.

Bad cholesterol (LDL) builds up and clogs arteries.

The LDL goal for most individuals with diabetes is below 100. Good cholesterol (HDL) helps remove cholesterol from blood vessels. The HDL goal for most persons is above 40.

For those with diabetes and those at risk for diabetes alike, it's also important to maintain healthy nutrition and to engage in physical activity, according to the Foundation. It's also important for men to quit smoking. Smoking increases the risk of type 2 diabetes and

makes diabetes harder to control, making it even more deadly and disabling for individuals with diabetes.

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan offers My Choice...My Health: Diabetes Prevention Program for persons who are at risk for developing type 2 diabetes. For more information, visit www.nkf.org or call the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan at 800-482-1455.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Birthing class

The class focuses on various techniques for breathing, pain management options, relaxation and massage, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 27, in classrooms 1 and 2 of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, located on the campus of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Register by calling 734-458-4330.

Camp 9-1-1

Huron Valley Ambulance presents a series of free two-day camps for children, 8-12, this summer. Paramedics and EMTs will guide campers through a variety of experiences including touring an ambulance, learning CPR, and visiting a local emergency department. Camps run 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days. A few spots remain for the camps that run Wednesday-Thursday, June 17-18, at Lyon Township Fire Station No. 1, 58800 Grand River Ave., New Hudson; Thursday-Friday, July 23-24, at Huron Valley Ambulance Central Station, 1200 State Circle, Ann Arbor; and Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 12-13 at U-M Boathouse at Belleville Lake, 50475 Van Buren Park, Belleville. Register by visiting hva.org, by emailing camp911@emergenthealth.org or by calling 734-477-6781.

Diabetes summer school

Harvesting a Healthy Heart will include a chef-led cooking demonstration, discussion of healthy food choices using fresh ingredients and use of alternative seasonings, 6 p.m. June 17, in the community room at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, Westland. RSVP at 734-458-4330.

Hip, joint pain

Marvin Jenter, DO, orthopedic surgeon, talks about advanced treatments for joint pain relief, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, in the Outpatient Building at Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Ave., at Beck, in Novi. Register by calling 888-751-5465.

Lunch and Learn

Join an open-ended lunch discussion on health and wellness in southeast Michigan, with Lila Lazarus, health reporter, Rob Casalou, St. Joseph Mercy Health System president and CEO, hospital leaders and local officials, noon, June 30, at St. Joseph Mercy, 1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton. Register at stjoeshealth.org/classes

Lung cancer support

David Sternberg, a thoracic surgeon and a member of the lung cancer team at Botsford Cancer Center, leads the Lung

Cancer Support Group, 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, June 15 at Botsford Cancer Center, 27900 Grand River Ave., Suite 230, Farmington Hills. The informal group is open to anyone living with lung cancer and their loved ones. The session will include a guest speaker. For more information call 248-473-4828.

Wellness Center

Oakwood Healthcare offers a free trial day at its physical therapy and wellness center. Tour the facility and join a group exercise class, from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 16, at the center, 17101 Rotunda Drive, Dearborn. The center offers more than 20 group exercise classes such as aerobics, kickboxing, yoga and Zumba. For more information visit the classes & events tab at Oakwood.org.

Ongoing

Ab-Anon

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. An Ab-Anon meeting group is available for families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-

9776.

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. Visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Bipolar support

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6-7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. Meetings open to families. Call Nancy at 734-536-3457 for directions.

Blood pressure

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, lipid panel (\$15) testing, 10 a.m. to noon June 3, Sept. 2 and Dec. 2, in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

Breast cancer support

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary

Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Choir therapy

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22, or visit www.therapychoirs.org for additional information.

CPAP/BIPAP

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed. For more information, call 734-458-7251.

Lyme support

Meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month, except January, July and September, at Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield; 248-354-4488. For more information, visit the Michigan Lyme Disease Association website, www.mlda.org, or call 888-784-LYME.



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