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FOOD, B11

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Bigger bill comes after new water meter

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

As outdoor readers are replaced along with water meters some Westland residents are getting reconciliation bills to cover the gap from their actual water use and estimated water billings.

After her water meter and outside meter were replaced in late November, resident Becki Brand received a bill for \$679. Her family's two-month water bill is usually \$150-\$180.

"I talked to the city multiple times. I was told it was due to two years of estimated bills," Brand said. "The last time they had an actual reading of the meter was December 2013."

A resident living near Joy and Merriman since 2008, Brand was unhappy that she had never been notified that her meter readings were being estimated.

"I don't know if we used the water or not. I had two years of estimated bills," she said. "I was never given the opportunity

of an appointment (for the meter replacement). Neither my husband nor I were alerted — the nanny let them in. It was extremely unsettling."

Adjustment needed

The reconciliation bill was calculated at current water rates, Brand said, until she called the city and an adjustment to utilize 2014-2015 rates were applied for an \$80 reduction.

"We had to catch them," said Brand, adding she shouldn't be

responsible for charges due to the city's failure to maintain equipment and reliance on estimated bills.

When the citywide water meter/reader replacement program was implemented, the city announced that it would apply the earlier water rates — what the city calls a rollback credit — to the reconciliation bills. The city is also setting up payment plans when contacted.

"Some people are getting reconciliation bills. If we overestimated the bills, they would

get a credit," Westland Finance Director Steve Smith said. "Out of 10 people, probably three of them get credits. There are three or four who don't see a big change. Three or four out of the 10 get a reconciling bill."

Failure begins

A big factor, Smith said is how long the water customers had been receiving an estimated water bill. The outside readers that allow meters to be read

See BILLS, Page A2

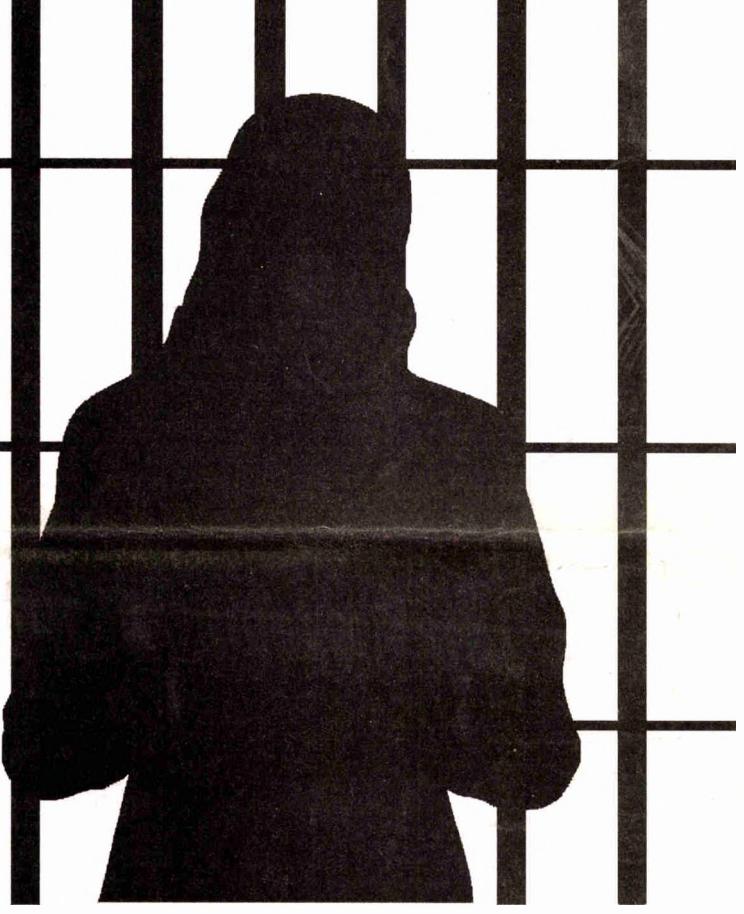
WOMEN BEHIND BARS

USA TODAY NETWORK
ILLUSTRATION | THINKSTOCK

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Shocking headlines dominate the news as a murder trial unfolds. The prosecution and defense offer different versions of the same event. Sordid details and dark secrets are revealed — pain turns to sorrow and questions of what might have been. Why really happened that day? What went so terribly wrong? What if?

Reporters Aileen Wingblad and David Veselenak set out to answer those questions in a series of interviews with convicted murderers Nancy Seaman and Lakeshia Valdez.



COMING MARCH 24

» Lakeshia Valdez still has decades to serve for stabbing to death Redford resident Matthew Olivarez.

» Battered woman syndrome is gaining more attention in legal circles.

» Domestic abuse can be physical or psychological.

INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER
Prison by the numbers, A7

Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

"I took a life. I never said I should just walk away free. I never wanted to kill him, I was only trying to protect myself. I just wanted to get away."

Those are the words of Nancy Seaman, 11 years and a couple of months after a judge ordered her to spend the rest of her life in prison for the grisly hatchet murder of her husband Bob.

Seaman, an elementary school teacher at the time of the killing, claimed self-defense. An argument over her plans to end the marriage and move into her own condo had turned physical, she said, and she truly feared for her life the day Bob died.

Bob had threatened to kill her time and again, she said, and this time, she believed he'd do it.

The Oakland County prosecutor who tried her case didn't buy it. Neither did the jury.

Seven months after what she calls "the tragedy" in the garage of their upscale Farmington Hills home, Seaman started living out her days at



Nancy Seaman



Robert Seaman

the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility in Pittsfield Township.

Tears daily

Eleven years-plus and still, Seaman said, not a day goes by that she doesn't cry.

She cries for herself, as she continues her legal fight, knowing that her options for appeal are extremely limited — if not already exhausted.

She cries for her family — her two sons, their wives and the four grandchildren she's never met. She cries for her brother, for the friends she misses so much.

And, she said, she cries for Bob.

"The person I loved for 31 years is dead and I'm responsible," Seaman said, during a recent interview with the *Observer & Eccentric*. "I'm tormented — I can't even put into words what it feels like."

Seaman has yet to completely adjust to prison life.

Not your everyday gig: Visit with convicted killer

I'm sitting in the visitor center at the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility, waiting to meet Nancy Seaman, a convicted murderer.

This place has been her home for the last 11 years.

I'm not sure what to expect once our interview begins. I'm a bit apprehensive, of course, but curious and ready.

I've already muddled through the intake requirements — allowed only "clear pens" and my notebook, patted down by an officer, proving to her that I'm not trying to sneak anything in under my tongue, behind my ears, between my toes. The jewelry I'm wear-



Aileen Wingblad

Murderer Nancy Seaman describes torment of prison life

Aileen Wingblad

Staff Writer

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See PRISON, Page A7

See VISIT, Page A7

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GC business to host reading therapy dogs March 19

The Lucky Dog business on Middlebelt, north of Ford Road, in Garden City will host the Kids R.E.A.D. to Dogs event from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 19. Kids can bring in their favorite book or choose one donated to Lucky Dog by the Garden City Public Library.

Parents need to call ahead and schedule a time for reading at 734-261-7387.

Several different breeds of trained thera-

py dogs will be at Lucky Dog from the local chapter of Pet-a-Pet. The dogs are trained to be still and listen while kids of any age read to them.

Dogs don't judge or make fun of young readers who may have difficulties learning, a press release notes.

It is a free event for any child who loves to read and loves dogs. All children are welcome.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Jefferson Barns receives state grant

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Thanks to a state grant, two new baseball fields, a basketball court and a pavilion will be constructed at the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center recreation complex.

The \$175,000 grant comes through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The Westland City Council recently voted to accept the grant.

State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland, received thanks for his efforts in obtaining the grant.

"I would like to thank Rep. Kosowski for his assistance in getting the DNR grant," Councilman Kevin Coleman said. "He was instrumental in obtaining the grant."

Along with the ball



FILE PHOTO

diamonds, basketball court and pavilion, Community Development Director Joanne Campbell said that a handicap-accessible play structure would be added to the project if there is suffi-

cient money through the grant.

» Also regarding Jefferson Barns, the council approved a rental agreement between the city and National Faith Homebuyers for the rental

bills.

"We knew we needed an alternative. We had demonstrations and a Request for Proposals," he said. "We quit replacing the outside readers."

Replacement program

The city council approved a program to replace the outside readers along with inside meters — ending their useful life after 15 years or 20 years — in August 2014.

"We had the first readers go bad, 50-100. The new devices that were installed were still under warranty," Smith said. "Months went by and more and more of the readers went bad. The company got backlogged."

Other communities were seeing similar problems and eventually the company went out of business.

"We had 400-500 readers failing a month and the meter readers (who would replace faulty devices) couldn't keep up," said Smith. "In the winter of 2013-14, it took all our guys to plow snow."

By early winter of 2014, Smith said there wasn't meter reading resulting in estimated

meters. The new meters send information to the readers, which transmit data to a cell tower and then the information goes to the city water billing department.

"Probably 95 percent of the time when we go through their account with someone, the people are okay with it. They don't like but they understand it," Smith said. "The water went through the meter."

Water loss rate

The more accurate meters/readers are expected to help reduce the city's 10-percent water loss rate — water that is billed to the city wholesale but can't be charged to a specific account, he said. "The water did go through the meters," Smith added.

Tammara Orman, who lives near Venoy and Avondale, hasn't had the water meter and reader replaced at her home.

"I'm scared. It started off innocently enough but when DTE (Energy)

of two classes in the building, beginning April 1 and continuing for five years with a clause for a five-year renewal.

The cost is \$800 per month.

"National Faith Homebuyers has managed our home buyers assistance program. They have been wonderful partners," Campbell said.

"For just under 10 years, we have administered the program for Westland and now we are moving into Westland," said Dina Harris, founder and CEO of National Faith Homebuyers. "We work to help people find a home in 34 cities. We are proud to be a newcomer to Westland."

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BILLS

Continued from Page A1

without access to the inside meters began to fail in the summer of 2013, he said.

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Tammara Orman, who lives near Venoy and Avondale, hasn't had the water meter and reader replaced at her home.

"I'm scared. It started off innocently enough but when DTE (Energy)

replaced my meter with a smart meter, it was a horrible experience," said Orman, adding her electric bills had jumped with the new meter.

Unlike many residents, Orman said she noticed her water bill was being estimated and called the inside meter number into the city.

"They were only about \$19 off what was estimated. My actual last reading was two years ago," said Orman, who was concerned that the reconciliation bill would be an ongoing charge.

Water/sewer rates will increase 2.35 percent July 1. The city had received notice from the Great Lakes Water Authority for Westland to expect a 6.5-percent wholesale rate increase, although it hasn't yet been approved by the board.

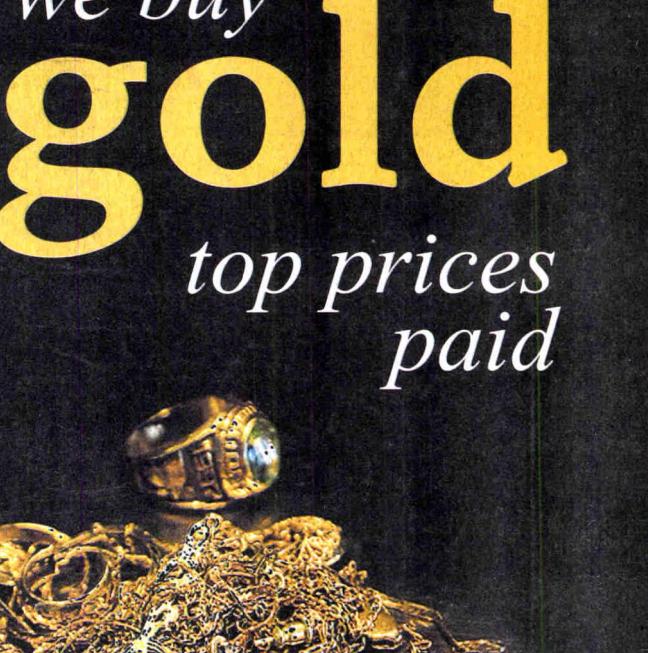
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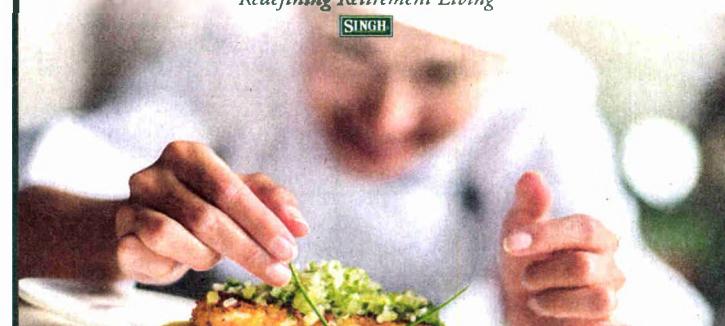
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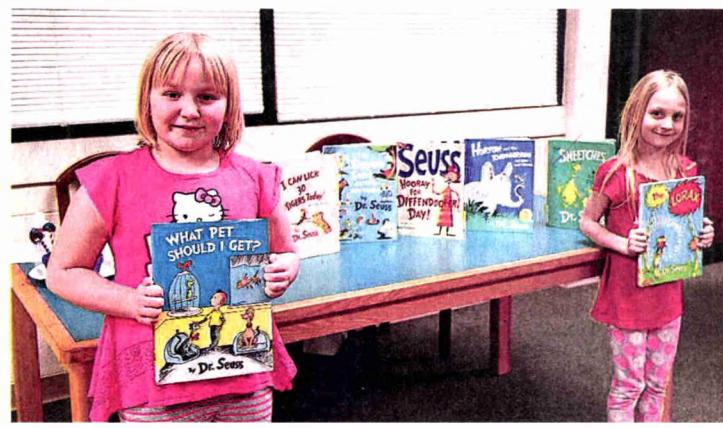


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Tiffany Seals of Garden City watches as her son, Jamie, makes the "Cat in the Hat" craft at the Garden City Library March 10.



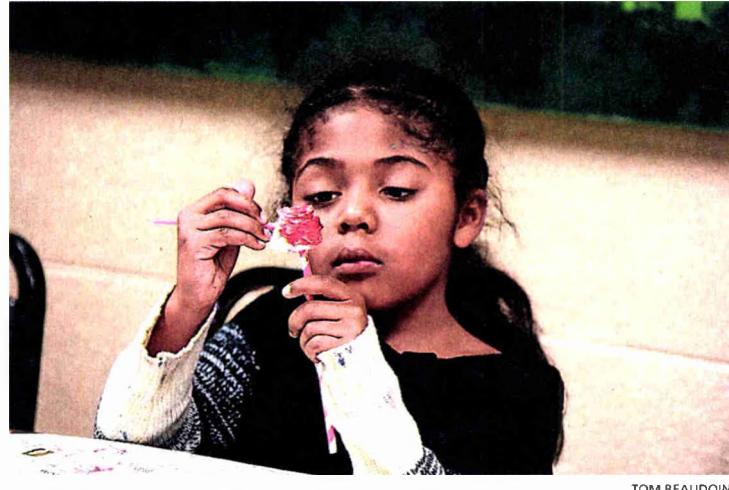
What's your favorite Dr. Seuss book? Carley Mohlman and Reese Fisher show off their favorites at the Dr. Seuss celebration held March 10 in Garden City.

It's fun to have fun: Dr. Seuss a great reason to visit Garden City Library

Dr. Seuss has entertained and educated generations of children. With his birthday near, the evening of Thursday, March 10, was the perfect time for a Dr. Seuss celebration at the Garden City Public Library.

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Thursday, March 17, the library will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Craft Night. The library has had previous success with a themed holiday craft with its Valentine's Day Craft Night back in February and is eager to continue this trend. The event starts at 6 p.m. and the library staff asks that you call in advance to register.

Family Game Night will take place at 5 p.m. Monday, March 28. It will be a chance for families to come to the library and enjoy board games, card games and Wii games, with the added bonus of free pizza. This is another event the library would like people to register ahead of time for. For

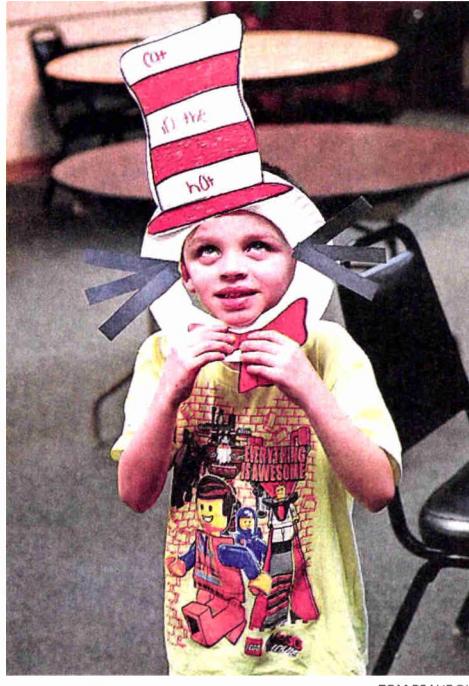


Garden City resident Mya Smith paints her "Truffula Tree" based on the Dr. Seuss book, "The Lorax Book." The Garden City Library celebrated Dr. Seuss Thursday evening, March 10, with movies and crafts.

teen patrons, the library will host a movie night to coincide with the DVD release of *Mockingjay Part 2*, the last movie in the Hunger Games series. The movie will start at 5 p.m.

Thursday, March 31. The Garden City Public Library is available to answer inquiries during normal business hours in person or over the phone at 734-793-1830. When visiting,

enter the Balmoral side of Maplewood Center located at 31735 Maplewood. Library hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and noon to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.



Evan Thomason, 5, of Garden City shows off his "Cat in the Hat" craft that he built at the Dr. Seuss celebration held at the Garden City Library on Thursday, March 10.

ORDINANCE NO. 248-A-79

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE AND RESTRICT THE USE OF LAND AND STRUCTURES BY DIVIDING THE CITY OF WESTLAND INTO DISTRICTS AND ESTABLISHING THE LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES THEREOF BY ADOPTION OF AN OFFICIAL ZONING DISTRICT MAP; TO SPECIFY THE DISTRICTS WITHIN WHICH LANDS MAY BE USED FOR BUSINESS, INDUSTRIAL, RESIDENCE AND OTHER SPECIFIED PURPOSES; TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND PROHIBITIONS GOVERNING THE LOCATION, ERECTION, CONSTRUCTIONS, RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION AND USE OF BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND LAND WITHIN SUCH DISTRICTS; TO LIMIT THE HEIGHT AND BREADTH OF BUILDINGS, SIGNS AND OTHER STRUCTURES; TO REGULATE THE INTENSITY OF USE OF LOT AREAS AND TO DETERMINE THE SIZE OF YARDS AND OTHER OPEN SPACES; TO ESTABLISH SITE DESIGN REGULATIONS AND TO PROVIDE SITE DESIGN REVIEW PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS; TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL LAND USE AND SPECIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT; TO LIMIT CONGESTION IN THE PUBLIC STREETS BY PROVIDING OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESTRICTION AND GRADUAL ELIMINATION OF NON-COMFORMING USES OF LAND, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES; TO REGULATE SIGNS BY ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS UPON THE SIZE, HEIGHT, LOCATION AND NUMBER OF PERMISSIBLE SIGNS AND PROHIBITING CERTAIN SIGNS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND AMENDMENT OF THE ORDINANCE, TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS, TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS WITH RESPECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE; AND TO REPEAL THE PRIOR ZONING ORDINANCE.

THE CITY OF WESTLAND ORDAINS:

Section 1. That the zoning map of Ordinance No. 248 of the City of Westland be and same is hereby amended to show PUD district classification where CB-4; CB-3; CB-1 and R-5 district classifications are now shown in the area situated in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, described as:

Being part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 18, Town 2 South, Range 9 East, being all of Lots 11, 12, 13 and 16, except the east 10 feet thereof, together with all of Lots 14 and 15, except the east 10 feet thereof and also except the west 264.75 feet thereof, of "Nankin Little Farms" as recorded in Liber 39 on Page 46, W.C.R., together with part of Lots 981 through 986 of "Supervisor's Nankin Plat No. 21" as recorded in Liber 71, Page 58, W.C.R. all being more particularly described as: Commencing at the Northeast Corner of said Section 18, thence N89°44'51"W, 33.00 feet along the north line of said section; thence S00°27'31"W, 84.99 feet along the northerly extension of the west line of Newburgh Road (variable width), as recorded in said supervisor's plat, to the Point of Beginning, said point also being 32.19 feet westerly of the east line of said section; thence continuing along said line, S00°27'31"W, 154.10 feet to the south line of said Lot 986, said point also being 30.74 feet westerly of the east line of said section; thence along said line N89°44'51"W, 12.26 feet to the west line of Newburgh Road (43' wide) as recorded in Liber 27615 on Page 713, said point also being 43 feet westerly of the east line of said section; thence along said line, S01°00'00"W, 405.16 feet to the south line of said Lot 11; thence along said south line S89°55'19"W, 1254.00 feet to the west line of said "Nankin Little Farms"; thence along said line, also being the west line of said Lots 11 through 13, N00°35'59"E, 197.98 feet to the north line of said Lot 13; thence along said line N89°55'18"E, 264.77 feet to the east line of the west 264.75 feet of Lots 14 and 15 as recorded in Liber 46206, Page 1497 W.C.R.; thence along said line, N00°35'59"E, 121.96 feet to a north line of said Lot 15; thence along said line, also being the south line of Lots 976 and 977 of said Supervisor's Plat, S89°44'51"E, 131.25 feet to a west line of said Lot 15; thence along the west line of said Lots 15 and 16, N00°35'59"E, 90.90 feet to the north line of said Lot 16; thence along said line, also being the south line of Lots 978 through 980 of said Supervisor's Plat, S89°44'51"E, 295.73 feet to the west line of said Lot 981; thence along said west line, N00°16'39"E, 179.10 feet to the south line of Ford Road (M-153) as recorded in Liber 22018, Page 775 W.C.R.; thence along said south line S89°44'51"E, 552.87 feet, said line also being 60 feet southerly of the north line of said Section 18; thence continuing along said recorded line, S44°38'40"E, 35.29 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 12.575 acres of land more or less.

PARCEL NOS.

56-049-01-0011-301; 56-049-01-0012-301; 56-049-01-0013-303; 56-049-01-0013-002; 56-049-01-0014-304; 56-049-01-0014-305; 56-049-05-0981-001; 56-049-05-0982-001; 56-049-05-0983-001; 56-049-05-0984-001; 56-049-05-0985-001; 56-049-05-0986-002;

Section 2. The other classifications in effect in all other areas of the zoning map shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Repeal. All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 5. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication thereof.

Published: March 17, 2016

L0-000278074 3x10.5

You are invited to an...

Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH

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50 ANNIVERSARY

7 Days in Livonia



Officer receives top military rank

A Westland Police sergeant has been promoted, but not within the department.

Sgt. Timothy Horvath was recently promoted through the U.S. Air Force as a member of the 127th Air Refueling Group based out of Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Horvath has been promoted to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant/E9, the Air Force's highest enlisted rank. Only 1 percent of enlisted military members achieve this rank.

Many members of the Westland Police Department attended Horvath's promotion ceremony Feb. 6.

Horvath will serve as the 127th Air Refueling Group's superintendent, whose mission is to fly and maintain the KC-135 aircraft that handles in-flight refueling operations. The planes reach all ends of the world and support domestic missions and the war on terror overseas.

Horvath has served the Westland Police Department for over 13 years and has been serving in the military for nearly 29 years.



Westland Police Sgt. Timothy Horvath (right) at his promotion to U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant/E9, the highest non-commissioned rank. With him is Westland Deputy Police Chief Brian Miller.

WAYNE COP CALLS

Attempted break in

On March 3, a resident in the 3500 block of Mildred told police she arrived home about 4:45 p.m. and found her back privacy gate was open. She said it is always closed and locked due the family dog.

The resident also heard the audible alarm on her home going off and found a window screen on the ground. She went inside the house but nothing appeared to be disturbed.

Security footage at the home showed a suspect pull into the driveway and enter the backyard through the gate. He tried to pry the front door open but was unable to do so due to the deadbolt lock. The footage showed the suspect attempting to enter through a window unsuccessfully before returning to the

front, which triggered the alarm.

Larceny

Six semi truck tires and rims valued at \$1,800 were reported stolen from Rush Trucking, 38500 Van Born, March 8. The tires were of various makes and models, and the rims were described as white.

The manager told police he was in his office about 6:30 a.m. when he heard loud banging in parking lot. When he went outside, he said he saw an older white Ford F-150 leaving the lot at a high rate of speed. He said he could see several semi truck tires in the bed of the truck.

Checking the maintenance garage, which had its door open, the manager said he saw the tires and rims were missing.

Vandalism

Police were called to Services to Enhance Potential, 35000 Van Born, March 8 about a damaged fence. An employee told police that a neighbor alerted her to the damage that had happened about a month earlier. Employees wouldn't see the fence due to a row of trees.

The fence, which surrounds a garden, had been struck by a vehicle that continued into the garden damaging the fence and several fence posts. The damage was estimated at \$2,000.

Vandalism

A resident in the 34000 block of Chestnut told police March 9 he arrived home to find his fence/gate damaged.

LeAnne Rogers

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CONGRATULATIONS! WE'RE PROUD OF YOU!

These area students were among the more than 1,400 named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2016 Semester, with a grade point average of 3.25 or higher.

Berkley	Maggie Wunderlich
Nicole Murley	Nathan Young
Michelle Zacharzewski	Hongwei Zhao
Birmingham	Clawson
Aleksandra Rokosz	Katie Miller
Bloomfield Hills	Farmington
Nathaniel Mularoni	Ronald Butzu
Kelli Rohloff	James Carzon
Brett Rornisch	John Carzon
Ashley Samuel	Bradley King
Bria Simons	Kelly Marques
Canton	Danielle Owen
Shade Adesina-Sah	Sara Raad
Melissa Augustine	Annika Taylor
Megan Avery	Jamie Vasko
Annette Beatty	Farmington Hills
Caitlin Berdjo	Blake Amhowitz
Kendall Bergthofe	Thomas Ashmore
Fatime Beydour	Chloe Atcho
Jacquelyn Castelose	Stephanie Bubby
Denisse Castro	Christopher Brennan
Stacey Christie	Kelly Capoccia
Anna Cratty	Young Cho
Ashley Crespo	Samit Chowdhury
Joy Crocker	Jessica Clare
Courtney Dempsey	Amanda Davidson
Evan Dennis	Grace Deighton
Christopher Dierker	Samantha Drew
Alicia Elhaoui	Madelyn Adams
Hannah Fenton	Simone Dukes
Angela Gasparotto	David Edwardson
Qi Geng	Janea Glass
Rachel Gocaj	Jonathan Harris
Jordan Gunn	Jonathan Alessandrini
Dean Gunter	Lauren Alexander
Jennifer Gunther	Devona Kachi
Brittany Hayden	Hanah Jaffrey-Koumaisha
Lameese Houli	Ammar Alzuaad
Joseph Hubley	Kaylin Austin
Terra Hunni	Sang Hyun Lee
Melissa Hurst	Su Young Lee
Heather Jahn	Erin Lenda
Ayodeji Kalejaye	Strahinja Ljubevic
Paige Killenbeck	Natalie Manzo
Dong-Woo Kim	Matthew Marky
Sydney Korth	Matthew Mosby
Haley Kowalski	Dominique Obre
Nichole Kriner	Andrea Neagu
Jasmine Lauch	Yousif Nisan
Stephanie Mackley	Kunchan Park
Lindsey Madaj	Sang Hyun Park
Jessica Magill	Kimberly Poirier
Spencer Magnuson	Sarah Rau
Zander Meehan	Kaylyn Scott
Swati Nagar	Lisa Scott
Katherine Naiilos	Lauren Walker
Sarah Redman	Kimberly Wallace-Smith
Adam Robinson	Monica Brydges
Lorraine Schaller	Monica Carmack
Suhayr Solangi	Emily Buttigieg
Mathias Symonik	Hannah Buttigieg
Talar Taksessian	Tyasha Williams
Annette Tefft	Jami Murray
Emily VanHartesveldt	Jing Yuan
Heather VanHartesveldt	Li Zhu
Alexandru Vlad	Ferndale
Elena Voyles	Danyes Routhier
Rachael Warnick	Janyette Washington
Halee Warren	Taylor Grzelakowski
Samantha Wilder	Dorothy Guion
Garden City	Sadiq Alkaifi
Armen Yavas	Mohammed Almousawi
Kendall Atkins	Kendall Atkins

Paige Boedighemer	Roberto Colone
Nicole Craine	Catherine Crombez
Justice Dean	Emily Crombez
Mariah Diaz	Jordan Daniels
Kendal Dunham	Michelle Danou
Caitlyn Feasel	Kayla Dempster
Samantha Furchi	Matthew Denneau
Nicolas Gonzalez	Erik Dennison
Heidi Ingalls	Benjamin Derrick
Kayla Jakel	Claire DeWitt
Maria Kujawa	Maria Diedo
Kathryn Linzmaier	Adam Donahoe
Lauren Minch	Troy Donahue
Kevin Moynahan	Hailey Duff
Wayne Rayleean	Marjorie Edelbrock
John Rice	Jennifer Engels
Rebecca Rosemary	Nicholas Engels
Ann Stacherski	Ashlee Erickson
Evelyn Stillwell	Bridget Fitzgerald
Breanne Taub	Zoey Fox
Huntington Woods	Amry Frederick
Caitlin Unisko	Emann Freij
Keego Harbor	Rana Freij
Alexander Duenas	William Frush
Livonia	Charissa Fuqua
Ragha Adam	Angela Gagnon
Madelyn Adams	Elizabeth Gagnon
Kelly Capoccia	Erica Godinez
Young Cho	Samit Chowdhury
Samit Chowdhury	Chloe Atcho
Jessica Clare	Stephanie Bubby
Amanda Davidson	Christopher Brennan
Grace Deighton	Kelly Capoccia
Samantha Drew	Young Cho
Madelyn Adams	Samit Chowdhury
Simone Dukes	Chloe Atcho
David Edwardson	Stephanie Bubby
Janea Glass	Samitha Beaman
Jonathan Harris	Jacquelyn Castelose
Jonathan Alessandrini	Denisse Castro
Lauren Alexander	Stacey Christie
Bushra Alshabi	Anna Cratty
Victoria Gorecki	Ashley Crespo
Bonnie Green	Joy Crocker
Charles Griffin	Courtney Dempsey
Richard Grinnette	Evan Dennis
Jordan Grohoski	Christopher Dierker
Katie Gubachy	Alicia Elhaoui
Karen Barden	Hannah Fenton
Valerie Baunoch	Angela Gasparotto
Hanher Bea	Qi Geng
Celeste Haddad	Rachel Gocaj
Jacqueline Haddad	Jordan Gunn
Samantha Haddad	Dean Gunter
Christopher Haldane	Jennifer Gunther
Annalee Hanlon	Brittany Hayden
Christina Harris	Lameese Houli
Bianca Hasani	Joseph Hubley
Amanda Hawkins	Terra Hunni
Caroline Hay	Melissa Hurst
Karen Haldane	Heather Jahn
Christopher Haldane	Ayodeji Kalejaye
Annae Hanlon	Paige Killenbeck
Jenny Padgor	Dong-Woo Kim
Stephanie Panaretos	Sydney Korth
Tae-Hun Park	Haley Kowalski
Lauren Patla	Nichole Kriner
Anna Phillips	Jasmine Lauch
Evan Plichta	Stephanie Mackley
David Pierson	Lindsey Madaj
Delvonta Pinkston	Jessica Magill
Hannah Poole	Spencer Magnuson
Adam Prashad	Zander Meehan
Samantha Hickman	Swati Nagar
Hien Ho	Katherine Naiilos
Mitchell Hudgamer	Sarah Redman
Christina Ideh	Mathias Symonik
Chukwuebuka Igboke	Talar Taksessian
Emily Buttigieg	Annette Tefft
Hannah Buttigieg	Emily VanHartesveldt
Tyasha Williams	Heather VanHartesveldt
Jami Murray	Alexandru Vlad
Jing Yuan	Elena Voyles
Li Zhu	Rachael Warnick
Ferndale	Halee Warren
Danyes Routhier	Samantha Wilder
Janyette Washington	Garden City
Taylor Grzelakowski	Sadiq Alkaifi
Dorothy Guion	Armen Yavas
Sadiq Alkaifi	Garden City
Mohammed Almousawi	Armen Yavas
Kendall Atkins	Kendall Atkins

Ami Keeler	Jaclyn Sanchez
Noor Khouri	Yago Scalet Pires
Catherine Crombez	Katherine Schmitz
Emily Crombez	Marcel Schmid
Jordan Daniels	Jacob Schmidt
Michelle Danou	Paige Schmidt
Kayla Dempster	Lisa Schwartz
Vanessa Klassa	Zymbyle Semcsedi
Alexi Kliza	Krysta Senczyszyn
Sarah Knapp	Jordyn Shepler
Molly Knoph	Laura Kurtjian
Jennifer Kropp	Marina Laird
Lauren Levinsky	Levi Larmour
Nicholas Engels	Danielle Las
Ashlee Erickson	Raya Lasiewski
Bridget Fitzgerald	Tai Kyung Lee
Zoey Fox	Lauren Levinsky
Amry Frederick	Kevin Liao
Ryan Freij	Manuela Lopez Hernández
Rana Freij	Sara Lubanski
William Frush	Matthew Luck
Charissa Fuqua	Elizabeth Lupher
Angela Gagnon	Elisabeth Magdalena
Erica Godinez	Angela Maggiorcalda
Samit Chowdhury	Angela Maggiorcalda
Chloe Atcho	Tanya Ghajary
Stephanie Bubby	Heidi Gabala
Denisse Castro	Lauren Gavalko
Stacey Christie	Lauren Gavalko
Anna Cratty	Lauren Gavalko
Ashley Crespo	Lauren Gavalko
Joy Crocker	Lauren Gavalko
Courtney Dempsey	Lauren Gavalko
Evan Dennis	Lauren Gavalko
Christopher Dierker	Lauren Gavalko
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Rachel Gocaj	Lauren Gavalko
Jordan Gunn	Lauren Gavalko
Dean Gunter	Lauren Gavalko
Jennifer Gunther	Lauren Gavalko
Brittany Hayden	Lauren Gavalko
Lameese Houli	Lauren Gavalko
Josephine Castillo	Lauren Gavalko
Julia Cavagnini	Lauren Gavalko
Zachary Cebulski	Lauren Gavalko
Nicole Chestnut	Lauren Gavalko
Ye Bin Choi	Lauren Gavalko
Sung Sung Chong	Lauren Gavalko
Bridget Coffie	Lauren Gavalko
Matthew Cohan	Lauren Gavalko
Cynthia Kavanaugh	Lauren Gavalko
Paige Boedighemer	Paige Boedighemer
Nicole Craine	Paige Boedighemer
Justice Dean	Paige Boedighemer
Mariah Diaz	Paige Boedighemer
Kendal Dunham	Paige Boedighemer
Caitlyn Feasel	Paige Boedighemer
Samantha Furchi	Paige Boedighemer
Nicolas Gonzalez	Paige Boedighemer
Heidi Ingalls	Paige Boedighemer
Kayla Jakel	Paige Boedighemer
Maria Kujawa	Paige Boedighemer
Kathryn Linzmaier	Paige Boedighemer
Evelyn Stillwell	Paige Boedighemer
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Caitlyn Feasel	Paige Boedighemer
Samantha Furchi	Paige Boedighemer
Nicolas Gonzalez	Paige Boedighemer
Heidi Ingalls	Paige Boedighemer
Kay	

Senior scammed trying to buy puppies online

David Veselenak

Staff Writer

One Livonia senior citizen is out hundreds of dollars after being taken advantage of by someone posing to sell puppies online.

The 70-year-old woman came into the Livonia police station the afternoon of March 10 to report the incident. She said her dog recently died and she was looking online to get a new dog. She said she was browsing online

when she came across an ad for teacup Yorkshire puppies, the type of dog she was looking for.

She found an email address for the individual and sent a message. They traded some emails and the resident agreed to send \$800 to a Bank of America account to pay for two puppies, which would be delivered to her. She later transferred the money to the account, which was associated with the name "Adams Smith."

After sending the money, the Livonia woman was told to send an additional \$950 to a shipping company, uShip Pets Cargo Ltd., to cover shipping the puppies overnight. The resident then went to Kroger at 30935 Five Mile and sent the money over a wire service to another individual. She also paid \$86 in fees to send the cash.

She was told the puppies would be delivered to her home by March 10, which did not happen. She

tried to contact the sellers, but they were not responding to emails or phone calls. Both sellers were supposedly based in Maryland.

Police began searching online and discovered testimonials from others who shared a similar story to this woman and getting scammed out of money for the promise of puppies. Livonia police gathered documents provided by the woman as evidence.

The shipping provider,

uShip, states on its website that using any form of wire service is prohibited under their policies.

"Although these services may seem safe — once you have sent the money, you cannot retract or trace the payment," the company states on its website. "Many scams occur when a Service Provider requests partial or full payment upfront."

The American Society for the Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals also recommends those looking for a puppy not buy it online for multiple reasons. The organization recommends taking several steps, including: visiting the seller at their facility, picking up the puppy at a kennel instead of having one shipped, checking references of the seller and avoid using money order payments.

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Trott, Google discuss Internet safety at middle school

Google representatives and U.S. Rep. Dave Trott paid a visit to Holmes Middle School last week to deliver the Online Safety Roadshow, an online safety assembly developed by Google for middle school students.

Two Google employees delivered the 45-minute presentation, which focuses on five tips for staying safe and being smart online. They covered topics including: thinking before you share, setting strong passwords, using settings, identifying online scams and being positive online.

Trott opened the assembly talking to students about the importance of online safety and competing in the password faceoff challenge, where students are asked to come up with the strongest pos-

sible password.

"Learning online security tips and techniques to use the Internet safely is critical for our kids in the 21st century," Trott said.

"Moms and dads in Southeast Michigan want their children to utilize the Internet in a safe, smart and effective manner. Google's Online Safety Roadshow is an excellent resource to ensure our kids have the tools and knowledge to navigate the Internet safely."

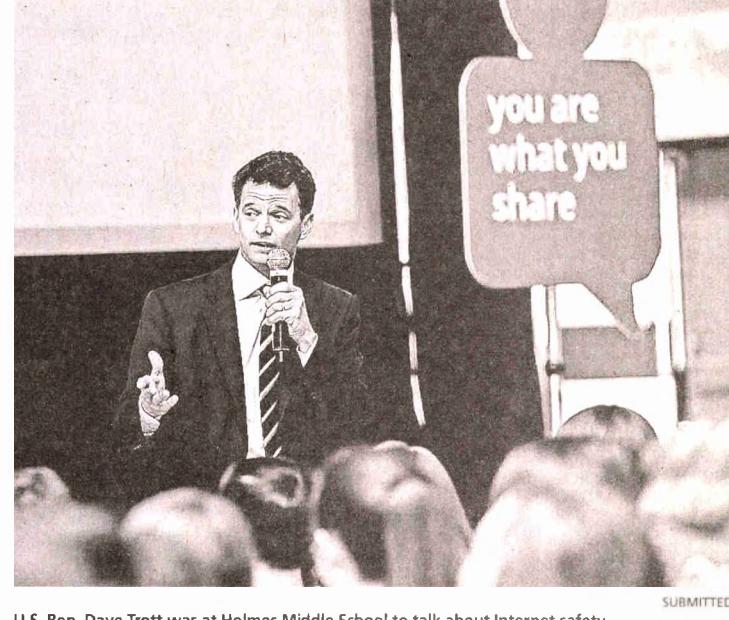
Google spokesperson Jamie Hill said the proliferation of the Internet makes safety a priority.

"With students having greater access to the Internet through cell phones and other devices, it is important that they learn to use these tools responsibly," Hill said. "The

Online Safety Roadshow teaches students how to be smart and safe online through a fun and interactive assembly."

The Online Safety Roadshow is a Google program designed to educate parents and students on how to be more successful and safe online. The presentation is a 45-minute assembly that teaches middle school students how to be smart about the content they share online. It focuses on important skills — how to create a safe and memorable password, identify phishing scams, and more.

For more tips about how to keep yourself and your family safe online, visit: www.google.com/safety_center



SUBMITTED

U.S. Rep. Dave Trott was at Holmes Middle School to talk about Internet safety.



Kids of all ages are invited to participate in the Wayne County Marshmallow Drop on March 25 at Nankin Mills in Westland.

Marshmallow Drop, Easter Bunny coming

Wayne County Parks will kick off the 2016 warm weather event season at 11 a.m. Friday, March 25, with its 32nd annual Marshmallow Drop at Nankin Mills in Westland.

The event usually sees thousands of children gather at the park to await a helicopter visit from the Easter Bunny, who will drop more than 20,000 marshmallows from the sky. The children will race to pick up marshmallows, which can later be redeemed for a prize. The lucky child who finds the single-colored marshmallow will receive a special prize.

Participating children will be separated in three age categories — 4 years old and younger, 5-7 years old and 8-12 years old — to ensure each child receives a fair opportunity to find a colored marshmallow in the bunch. In 2015, nearly 5,000 children participated in the Marshmallow Drop event.

"Wayne County's Marshmallow Drop has been a cherished family tradition for 32 years," Wayne County Executive Warren Evans said. "The Marshmallow Drop kicks off a highly anticipated season of fun activities for our Parks Division and we hope that residents and visitors will join us because it really is an exciting time for the

entire family to enjoy."

Pre-registration is not required for this event.

For more information on these and other events, call 734-261-1990 or visit parks.waynecounty.com.

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2197, Public Hearing Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Service Station Convenience Store, 110 S Newburgh Road, Southwest Corner of Newburgh Road and Cherry Hill Road, Krunal Pathak/Arif M. Blatt

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Published: March 17, 2016



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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2176A, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Pharmacy, 30775 Ann Arbor Trail, Parcel #007-01-0583-007, South Side of Ann Arbor Trail, East of Merriman Road, Regina Amadi (Lana Saad)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., April 5, 2016.

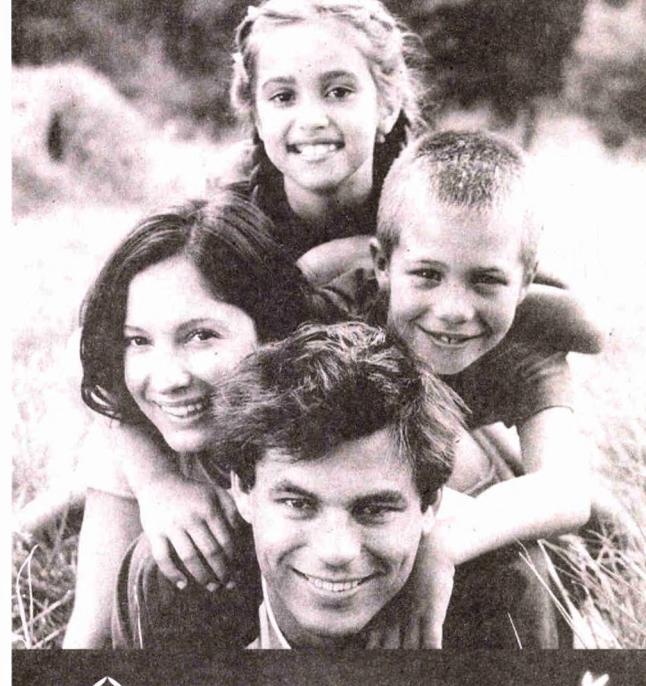
Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Published: March 17, 2016



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BUSINESS

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Seedlings fundraiser throws strikes

Seedlings Braille Books for Children raised a record \$44,000 at its 29th annual bowling event Saturday, shattering its previous record of \$36,000 set in 2015.

The Livonia nonprofit held its biggest fundraiser of the year, Bowling for Braille Books, at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth. The event set another new record with 200 bowlers participating, filling the 40-lane bowling alley to capacity.

"With the money raised Saturday and donations still coming in, Seedlings will be able to produce at least 4,400 more low-cost, high-quality braille books for children who are blind or visually impaired here in Michigan, across the United States and around the world," said Debra Bonde, Seedlings' founder and director.

People can continue to donate to the event online until June 12. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/jbtqnq2>. Every \$10 raised makes another braille book possible.

Bonde credits the success of the event, which also included a silent auction and raffles, to Seedlings' sponsors, donors, bowlers and other supporters. Headlining sponsors were Alpha USA; Cole, Newton & Duran, CPA's; Livonia Builders; Plymouth Lions; and Valassis.

Bonde, a Livonia resident, founded Seedlings in 1984 because braille books for children were rare and expensive, often costing more than \$100 each.

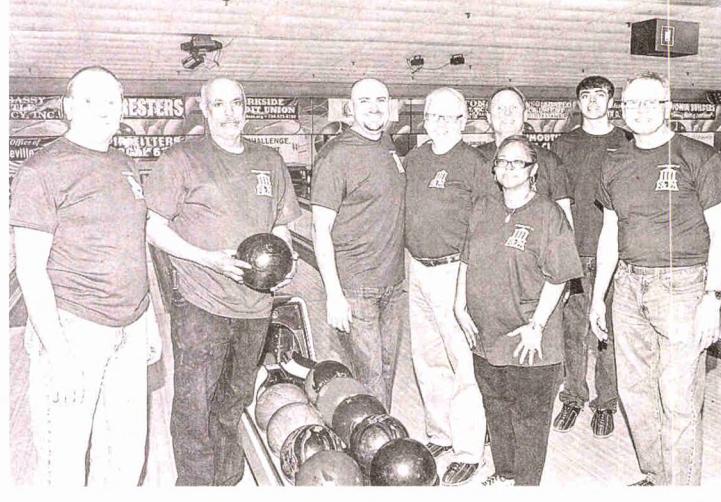
With the money raised at its annual bowling event, grants and other donations, Seedlings is able to distribute high-quality braille books at an average cost of \$10 each.



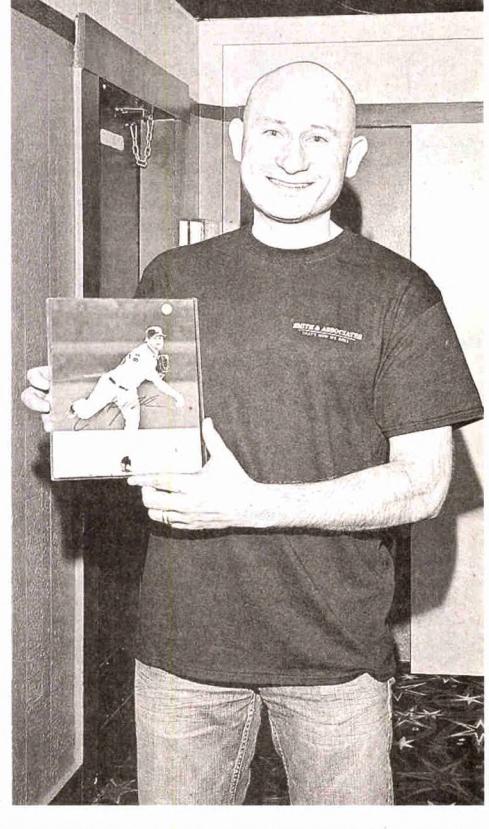
Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright (right) and Plymouth Township Supervisor Shannon Price present a donation to Seedlings founder/director Debra Bonde and Seedlings board member Patty Graff (left).



SEEDLINGS
Harry Owsley V, 2, and his grandmother, Rosemary Owsley, both of Chelsea, take a break from bowling to read a braille book. Harry is one of the children Seedlings serves.



SEEDLINGS
Financial & Portfolio Advisors Ltd. of Livonia, owned by Bob Hardies, was a lane sponsor of the event and had two teams there. Pictured (from left) are Larry Davis, Clarence White, Dan MacIver, George Shea, Deborah White, Ray Waldo, Kameron MacIver and John McLean. Hardies couldn't attend because he was at a conference.



COURTESY SEEDLINGS
At right, Bruce Ross, a member of the Smith & Associates-Novi bowling team, won an autographed photo of Detroit Tigers pitcher Justin Verlander in the silent auction at Seedlings bowling event.



SEEDLINGS
Volunteer Gary Deschenes of Livonia (left) sells raffle tickets to Al Blanchard, a 50-year member of the Livonia Lions Club. Blanchard, of Livonia, turned 85 Sunday.

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WEALTH ADVISORY PRACTICE

Klassa, Swaggerty & Associates has become an Ameriprise Financial Private Wealth Advisory Practice.

Klassa, Swaggerty & Associates, with an office in Livonia, is among the 12 percent of approximately 10,000 Ameriprise financial advisors to achieve this status.

Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisors provide personalized client service and are dedicated to meeting the complex and unique financial needs of their clients. To become eligible for this status, advisors must be experienced in

BUSINESS BRIEFS

providing comprehensive financial planning and advice, complete specialized training and achieve superior business results.

Klassa, Swaggerty & Associates is located at 37677 Pembroke Ave., in Livonia. For more information, call 734-432-6490 or visit <http://tinyurl.com/hz868kw>.

STEM job fair

The Global Detroit/Global Talent Retention Initiative will hold a STEM job fair from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, April 7, at Henry Ford College, 5101 Evergreen in Dearborn.

Ten schools — College of Creative Studies, Eastern Michigan University, Henry Ford College, Lawrence Tech, Oakland University, Michigan State, Michigan Tech, the University of Michigan, U-M Dearborn and Schoolcraft in Livonia.

born and Wayne State — will be represented.

General registration costs \$75; additional tables are \$25. Registration deadline is March 30. For more information, contact Gracie Xavier at gracie@globaldetroit.com or call 347-424-3159.

Business lecture

Madonna University continues its McManus Distinguished Business Lecture series with Intrapreneurship in Professional Sports and Entertainment at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, in Kresge Hall on the Madonna campus at Levan and Schoolcraft in Livonia.

The featured speaker will be Ron Wade, director of marketing for the Detroit Tigers.

To register, call 734-432-5589 or email lgatt@madonna.edu.

PRISON

Continued from Page A1

"It doesn't get easier. Every single day, I wake up and cry, realizing I'm still here. Why am I still here?" she said, her voice rising as tears streamed down her face. "I can't understand the failing of the justice system. I can't understand how they can just let me die in here."

It's a life of despair.

"And, yes, I'm angry. This didn't have to happen. I did all the right things, trying to (move out), getting everything in order, waiting for the right time to go," she said. "I did the right things and how it turned out is so wrong."

True love

Flash back some 40 years. Seaman, at the time Nancy Onofrio, meets Bob. He's charming – a young engineer at Ford Motor Co. who wasted no time stealing her heart. She was just 20 years old, working as a secretary for Bob's supervisor.

"I knew the moment I saw him that he was my true love," she said, smiling at the memory. "He had charisma, he was handsome, a gentleman, respectful ... it was love at first sight – he 'checked all the boxes.'"

Just one year later, they were husband and wife.

She claims some "red flags" emerged prior to them taking their vows – one of Bob's co-workers had dropped a hint that the marriage wasn't a good idea and a couple of her aunts simply "didn't like him," she said. And the night before the wedding, Seaman said, she saw a side of Bob for the first time – a side that concerned her.

Bob phoned her after he'd been drinking, she said, and was extremely angry that she wouldn't come over to hang out with him and his relatives. She had things to do to get ready for the wedding, she said, but Bob simply didn't understand. He was mad. Very mad, she said.

The call left her so rattled that she didn't know what to expect the next day when she walked down the aisle; she actually questioned marrying him. But she wouldn't call it off. She couldn't. That would have been too much of a disappointment – and embarrassment – to her parents, she said.

"I couldn't do that to them," she said.

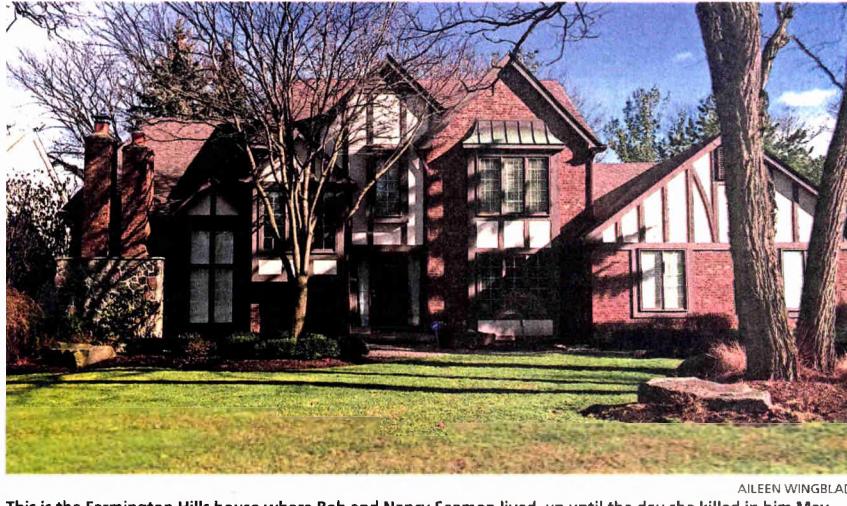
As it turned out, Bob was all smiles when she met him at the altar. "It was as if that phone call never happened," Seaman said.

Making a life

Thus began their life together. There were plenty of good times, she said, and Bob's steady climb career-wise meant a healthy paycheck. They lived quite well. He was "a generous provider," she said.

Life also had its share of challenges – the kind you expect with a growing family and job stress and other demands.

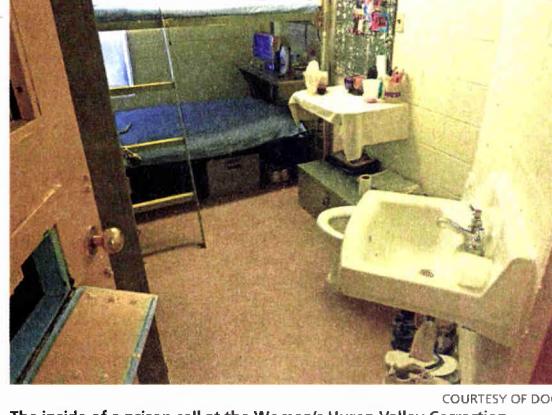
And then there were the challenges Seaman said she never had anticipated with the man she loved, the one who promised he loved her back. The kind of things she mostly



This is the Farmington Hills house where Bob and Nancy Seaman lived, up until the day she killed in him May 2004.



FILE PHOTO
Nancy Seaman in Oakland County Circuit Court for her 2004 trial.



COURTESY OF DOC
The inside of a prison cell at the Women's Huron Valley Correction Facility.

kept to herself.

Things like Bob's excessive control, hot temper, need to "always be right," she said. Things like kicked-in doors and kicked-in drywall, household items thrown and smashed. Shoving and hitting, black eyes, bruises, a broken bone, chipped teeth. Hard-core berating and name-calling. Infidelity.

These are the things, Seaman maintains, that she endured – off and on – for three decades. These are the things she tried her best to hide from their two sons – and the rest of the world, she said.

"In many ways, Bob was a good person. He had so many fine attributes – he was smart, funny, handsome. He had so many good qualities," she said. "Then there was this other side ..."

For years, Seaman said, she felt trapped. She was a stay-at-home mom, financially dependent. Bob doled out the money.

"Where could I go? What could I do? I had two kids, I had no job," she said. "I couldn't leave."

Yet that was to change. When she was in her 40s, Seaman earned a teaching degree and eventually landed a job at Longacre Elementary School in Farmington. Bob paid for her education, but had no respect for the profession she chose, Seaman said.

Yet to her, having her own classroom and students brought immense joy and personal satisfaction. "Teaching wasn't a job to me. It was a

passion, my identity, who I was," she said.

According to Seaman, as her career blossomed, Bob's began to nosedive. The fighting intensified. She made a few feeble attempts to reach out for help, but nothing came of it.

"And Bob said, 'No one will care. No one will believe you,'" she said, sobbing. "And he was right. Look where I am now. Bob was right."

A 'mental break'

Seaman is the only one who knows what really happened at her house on that day in May 2004 – Bob's last day.

Bob's voice was taken from him, denying him the chance to defend himself, to respond to the accusations, to share his side of the story when his private life became obscenely public.

During Seaman's trial, the prosecution maintained that she had planned the murder – evidenced by her purchasing a hatchet the evening before and ambushing Bob in the garage.

More than 20 hatchet and stab wounds were found on his body.

Seaman testified that she and Bob had fought that morning, that he had found out she had planned to leave him. Bob chased her into the garage and she grabbed what she could to defend herself. That happened to be a hatchet she had purchased for yard work, she said.

She remembers hitting him with it and him falling on top of her. And she kept hitting him, she said, because she still

thought he would be able to hurt her, unaware that he was incapacitated – or likely killed – by the first blow. She was scared, she said.

Seaman said she was "shocked" to later learn just how many times she had hit Bob with the hatchet – and that she had stabbed him multiple times, too.

"I don't remember having a knife, I don't remember stabbing him ... and when my lawyer showed me the autopsy, I couldn't believe it," she said. "To this day, I can't believe it, but it's true. Autopsies don't lie."

Seaman claims she had a "mental break" after the killing. In a daze, she said, she went to her teaching job that morning. A couple of hours later, "something overcame" her and she felt compelled to get home. She saw Bob's body in the garage.

"I just went into some kind of shock and thought 'this can't be happening ... Bob's dead, he's not moving.' I lost my mind right then," she said.

Seaman wrapped the body in a tarp and somehow managed to put it in the back seat of her Ford Explorer. Then she bought cleaning supplies to "take care of the mess." She says she was in "make-it-all-go-away" mode, like she did after all their fights.

See PRISON, Page A8

VISIT

Continued from Page A1

ing is accounted for; the metal detector finds nothing of consequence.

Now, I wait.

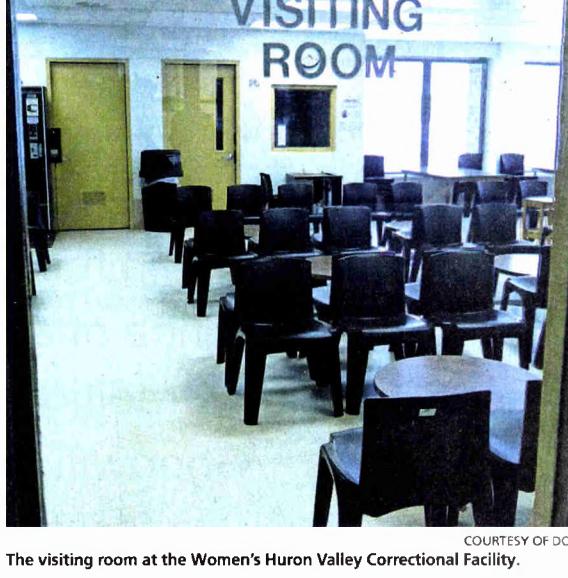
Glancing around, I see that the room looks pretty much how I had imagined it to be. A uniformed guard standing watch over the goings-on. Facing rows of austere plastic chairs. A few vending machines.

From my seat, I see small groups of inmates through a window to the outside. Dressed in dark blue uniforms and bright orange caps, they stroll the prison grounds.

A couple of rows behind me, one inmate – I guess to be in her early 20s – sits with a woman who I assume is her mom. They're talking softly, smiling, sharing a couple bags of Sun Chips, drinking pop. To my left, another inmate and her visitor quietly read the Bible together.

As the minutes tick by, I stand up and check out the room a bit more closely. In a corner is a collection of well-worn board games, books, decks of cards and bins of plastic toys – the kind of stuff you might find in a day care or waiting room of a doctor's office. Diversions to pass the time, to keep the kids occupied.

But this is no doctor's office



COURTESY OF DOC
The visiting room at the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility.

or day care. The kids who use these toys come here to see their mom, grandma, big sister, auntie or, perhaps, a close family friend.

I let that thought sink in for a moment, picturing in my mind a 6-year-old playing a game of Uno with someone who chose a serious crime over her role of mommy — and now they are both paying the price.

Deep sigh.

Family time

"Hey, you really need to sit down."

That's the guard speaking to me.

So I do.

And a few feet away, I see a family seated at a table. They look like a mom and dad a few years younger than I am, a teenaged boy and a grandma.

They are peering out that window that looks onto the yard, giddy with excitement as they see their loved one make her way toward the visitor center.

A couple of minutes later, she walks in. She's thin, has long dark hair, wears glasses. She reminds me of the typical girl you see at a high school football game or Twelve Oaks Mall or hanging out at Starbucks with her friends. She appears sweet, even.

The four rush to her and exchange hugs. The woman I've decided is the girl's grandmother looks her up and down. "You've grown so much," she says, smiling. The girl grins.

They take their places around the table and start to talk about "regular" things: books, hunting, shoveling snow, starting their own business. Also, classes the girl is taking while she's locked up.

Then the woman I figure is the girl's mom makes eye contact with me. I know she sees my reporter's notebook – but still, I tell her I'm a member of the media.

She confirms it's her daughter at the table with them, just 15 years old, sentenced to 7-20 years in prison. The girl doesn't belong incarcerated with adult convicts, she says.

"We hate the state of Michigan (now). It's corrupt," she says, scowling. "We're going to move out of this state when this is all over."

I don't know the girl's crime and the mom won't tell me.

But a sentence of 7-20 years tells enough.

The mom turns back to her family.

Again, I sigh. Silently, I thank God for my blessings.

Moments later, the reason for my visit enters the room.

Nancy Seaman.

Ugliness, consequences

Seaman is thinner than I thought she'd be. Her gray hair is cropped short. Her face, for the most part, is unlined – which surprises me.

After all, she's 63. She killed her husband in a most brutal way. And she's been in prison for more than a decade.

I had expected haggard and beaten down. I was wrong.

Inside the visitor center's tiny private room – typically reserved for attorney consultations – we sit facing each other across a small table.

Seaman seems a bit uneasy, and why not? She likely knows some probing questions are coming her way. As I find out later in the interview, Seaman isn't a fan of the media due to the way she says she was treated after the killing and during the trial. Still, she's giving me the benefit of the doubt. She says she's heard good things about me.

I tell her she looks good.

Seaman shrugs and chuckles. "No, oh no," she says, shaking her head. "No, I don't."

See VISIT, Page A8

BY THE NUMBERS

1981

— Year the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility opened

2009

— Year the Scott Correctional Facility closed, inmates transferred to Huron Valley

2,287

— Current inmate population

2,151

— Inmate population, 2015

1,881

— Inmate population, 2011

573

— Number of employees

1.03 million

— Combined square footage of facility buildings

300

— Facility's acreage

2

— Number of inmates younger than 18

15

— Age of youngest inmate

I, II, IV

— Security levels at Huron Valley

12

— Percentage of inmate population statewide serving life sentence

5

— Percentage of statewide inmate population that are women

— By Aileen Wingblad

ABOUT THE FACILITY

The Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility is the only prison in Michigan which houses females. It includes 13 housing units, Residential Substance Abuse Treatment, Special Alternative Incarceration, Residential Treatment Program, Acute Care, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Infirmary and Detention.

Programming offered includes Adult Basic Education and General Education Development preparation classes, as well as pre-release and life skills instruction.

Vocational training is offered in auto mechanics, building trades, business education technology, horticulture, food technology and custodial maintenance. Prisoners have access to religious programs, substance abuse treatment, psychological services, general library and law library services. Phase I programs are offered in cognitive therapy, violence prevention and social support.

Prisoners are provided on-site routine medical and dental care. Pregnant prisoners receive counseling, parenting classes and child care options. Medical emergencies are referred to local hospitals.

The facility has two perimeter security fences with electronic detection systems. Security cameras are located throughout the facility and perimeter. Vehicles with armed personnel patrol the perimeter.

Source: Michigan Department of Corrections

VISIT

Continued from Page A7

Then her smile fades. And before I can ask her one question from the list I've prepared, Seaman starts in on her story. Unashamedly, with an underlying current of desperation, she talks and talks. She breaks down in tears, time and again.

I listen as she tries to explain why she committed murder – which she calls “the tragedy.” I listen as she tries to explain why she believes she was unjustly sentenced.

And I wonder what really happened that day in the Seaman's Farmington Hills home.

Her husband of 31 years, killed with a hatchet blow to the head. Several other strikes

with the hatchet followed, plus he was stabbed multiple times.

All these years later, Seaman maintains that she was physically and emotionally abused throughout their marriage and that she was defending herself during an argument – fearing for her own life – on the day her husband was killed.

As she continues talking, I think of the two

sons she's left behind, the four grandchildren she's never met. I think about her dad, who died while she's been behind bars. I think about her neighbors and friends and former colleagues at Longacre Elementary School. I think about the kids she had in her classroom.

And I'm once again reminded of ugliness and rawness and abhorrent pain – and conse-

quences.

It's sitting two feet away from me.

An officer sticks her head in the door. We've been at it for nearly three hours. Visiting time is over, she says. We say our goodbyes. Perhaps I'll be back, I tell Seaman.

As I head out of the building and dash through the parking lot to my car, the January sky opens up and a

slushy rain pelts down. Glancing back at the prison complex, I welcome the stinging cold and wetness. I drive off toward the expressway that will take me from here, that will take me home.

Aileen Wingblad is a reporter for the Farmington Observer. She can be reached at awingblad@hometownlife.com or 248-390-3976. Follow her on Twitter: @awingblad.

PRISON

Continued from Page A7

Of course, she didn't make it all go away. Farmington Hills police found Bob's body in her car a few days later. She told them it was an accident.

On Dec. 14, 2004, the jury returned with the verdict: guilty of first-degree murder.

'One hell for another'

Seaman's crime sent her from one gated community – Ramblewood in Farmington Hills – to another, where people are kept in, not out.

Some 40 miles from the neighborhood she and Bob had called home.

Where they had raised their two boys.

Where Bob lost his life.

Where Seaman said she endured torment and suffering – which now continue, albeit in a different way.

"This place is terrible. I can't believe I've survived 11 days, let alone 11

years," Seaman said. "I traded one hell for another."

She's quick to note that the guards treat her fairly and decently. "They are very kind and sympathetic. Very professional," she said.

It's the "women here abusing each other, all the time" which is unsettling to see, she said. Seaman herself has had just one altercation with a fellow inmate, but escaped injury. "I was chased after by an older woman and called every name in the book," she said.

So she keeps to herself, for the most part.

"This is a scary place. And I've always been a very, very private person. I'm not going to change that – especially in here," Seaman said. "I've even had guards ask me how I cope so well and I've told them I'm using the same strategies I used to manage and deal with 31 years of abuse. I just shut it all out to survive."

She avoids being part of any of pseudo family with fellow inmates – common among the

female prison population – including intimate physical contact. "There's lots of sexual relations in here. Everyone is paired up," Seaman said. But not her.

"They just consider me the little old lady with the gray hair – thank God," she said, chuckling. "I'm cordial and friendly, but I don't get close. I don't forge friendships."

And that makes for an extremely lonely life, compounded by her decision to not let any family or friends visit her – ever.

"They've begged and pleaded, but I don't want them to see me here," she said, sobbing. "I want them to remember me the way I was – not behind barbed wire. I just don't want them to see this."

Her younger son, Greg, phones her regularly, she said, and she communicates via mail with her older son Jeff.

"They are my reason for living; they are what keep me going. I visualize walking out of here one day and wrapping my arms around them," she said.

The two sons took opposing sides during her trial – Greg being the one who supported her.

Have she and Jeff repaired their relationship? What about the brothers themselves?

This is one topic Seaman refuses to discuss. "I really don't want to talk about my sons (anymore)," she said.

But she will say the most difficult aspect of incarceration is being

separated from her family and the lack of physical contact from anybody."

"Sometimes, I just long for a hug, for comfort. But I (won't) get that in here," she said.

Her cellmate – "bunkie" in prison-speak – is in her mid-50s, Seaman said, and has been incarcerated for nearly 30 years. She, too, killed her husband.

Seaman said they get along fine, but stops short of calling it a friendship. "She gets frustrated, because I won't talk about my personal life," she said. "But I lived my whole married life keeping my business to myself. Why would I change that in here?"

"We talk about the weather, clean our room together and watch TV a lot," she added. "I'm polite and helpful when I can be, but it's all superficial."

Continuing to fight

While some may argue a convicted murderer doesn't deserve it, Seaman has managed to find a purpose, a diversion of sorts, a reason to wake up each day. Six years ago, she landed a clerk job at the prison's law library. Five days a week, she takes on two or three shifts, each lasting up to three hours.

"I love it; it's my sanity. I help with cases, show (inmates) how to find legal resources, do record-keeping and inventory," Seaman said. "It has helped to restore my self-esteem."

Now, Seaman is trying to again appeal to federal court – hoping to address the state of Michigan's limits on battered spouse abuse as a defense, in and of itself.

"I'm running out of chances to get back in court and the window of

opportunity to appeal is getting harder and harder," she said. "But there's no other way out."

"Some days, I just feel old and tired," she added, sighing. "It's incredible that, 11 years later, I'm still fighting for justice. It's like being on a merry-go-round that you can't get off of and you start to lose hope. But hope is all I have."

Seaman said she has yet to reconcile the fact that she committed murder. "I still feel humiliated and ashamed, in total disbelief," she said. "Anyone who knows me, knows this just wasn't me."

"For 30 years of marriage, I was never confrontational, never defended myself. I had no malice in my heart, never (before) did I do anything to hurt Bob. I always took the high road, acted with dignity. I took it on the chin. That's why I'm so tormented, why I feel so brokenhearted. I went from not defending myself to doing this – and he's dead."

But she has made peace with God over taking Bob's life, she said.

"Absolutely. God knows what's in my heart," she said. "God knows I loved Bob to the end. I have no second thought to that."

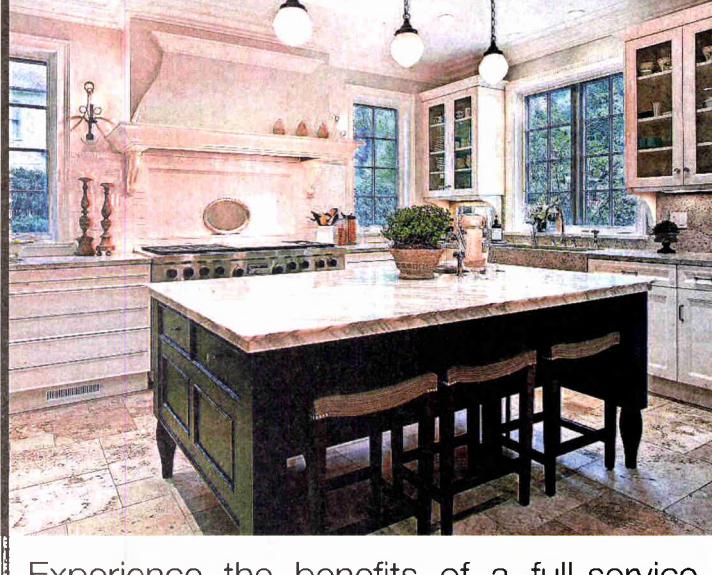
The Observer & Eccentric reached out to members of the Seaman family for comment, but received no response.

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(Il Volo comes home to Detroit)

"It all started here, We Love You DETROIT"

~ Il Volo

Il Volo made sure their 2016 North American tour stopped in their favorite city of Detroit where they "lit" up the stage at the Fox Theater on Saturday, February 27th.



Gianluca and Antonio breaking bread together

Downtown traffic could have interfered providing stand still traffic as fans crawled their way to the theater, but nothing stopped the sold out crowd from seeing Gianluca Ginoble, Piero Barone and Ignazio Boschetto take the stage accompanied by an orchestra and a rock band to open the show with their album title single "Grande Amore". Il Volo, an Italian pop trio, delighted hundreds of screaming fans singing pop, operatic and international classic songs. The trio joined together for duets and also had solos. They dazzled the audience with their fun-loving personalities and their passion for music and Italy.

Since Il Volo's first visit to Detroit in 2010, when Antonio Rugiero advocated for these brilliant young singers to come to his city and the Detroit Opera House

to do their first performance in America. They took the audience in their first concert and since have become international artists.

In their short time together they have released four albums with the newest "Grande Amore" hitting #1 on the billboard charts. They have toured with Barbara Streisand in 2012, won two Latin Grammy Awards. In 2015 they won the celebrated San Reno Music festival and represented Italy in the Eurovision Song contest in Vienna. They continue to grow as artists while remaining the same grounded young men that came to Detroit to follow their dream to bring the classic music of Italy to the world.



Piero and everyone complemented Mama Rita for the great meal

After the concert, Il Volo wanted to catch up and visit with their friend Antonio so together the Rugiero family and the Il Volo family gathered at Rugiero's restaurant and Mama Rita prepared their favorite dishes. They ate, sang, laughed, shared a wonderful meal and celebrated till 3:00



The Rugiero Family and Il Volo Family together again 2016

a.m. Maestro, the conductor traveling with Il Volo, proclaimed it was the best Italian food he had had since leaving Italy. With lots of hugs and love the family said their good-byes as Il Volo boarded their tour bus for the next stop in Nashville. They have 35 stops on their Northern American tour before they leave for a tour in Latin America and Europe. Bravo Il Volo!

"I have always been so proud of these boys and honored to call them my friends. It is such a joy to watch Il Volo achieve well-deserved International stardom. They remain the same fresh-faced boys that came in 2010. They are kind, thoughtful individuals that have a passion for music, family and their fans."



Piero, Ignazio, Antonio and Gianluca spending time together after the concert at his Restaurant

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Michelle Moccia DNP, ANP-BC, CCRN**
St. Mary Mercy Livonia
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10:30 - 11:25

Rick Bloom, J.D., CPA
Bloom Asset Management
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OUR VIEWS

Record Seedlings fundraiser raises youth literacy

The folks at Seedlings Braille Books are getting used to breaking records.

At Saturday's Bowling for Braille Books event at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth Township, a record 200 bowlers registered, and Seedlings had 52 sponsors, another record. Headlining sponsors included the generosity of Alpha USA; Cole, Newton & Duran CPAs; Livonia Builders; the Plymouth Lions Club; and Valassis.

But the big number? The event raised a record \$44,000. That should make Seedlings officials, including new board president Jared Stofflett, very happy people.

It continues a level of success that's truly impressive. Seedlings, founded in 1984, serves blind and visually impaired children across Michigan, the United States and 75 countries. Their mission is laudable: Increasing the opportunity for literacy by providing low-cost braille books for children.

And they're pretty good at it, too. Seedlings had a record-breaking year in 2015, distributing 26,862 braille books and articles. Want a better statistic than that? Nearly half of those were provided free of charge.

That's a more impressive statistic when you consider only 5 percent of children's literature is transcribed into braille. That means that for every 95 books a sighted child has, a blind or visually impaired child may have only one.

The success doesn't have to end there. If you



The Seedlings Bowling for Books fundraiser Saturday drew more than 200 bowlers and raised some \$44,000.

didn't get a chance to bowl but still want to help, Seedlings will be taking contributions online (<http://tinyurl.com/jbtngv2>) through June 12.

If you're wondering if you can make a difference

you should know: Every \$10 raised makes another braille book. You can make a difference in the lives of children.

Just like Seedlings is doing.

Women's history: Progress underway, work still to do

Women have made great strides in recent decades in the workplace, higher education and even politics, as evidenced by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton seeking the U.S. presidency.

March is the time, with Women's History Month, to recognize those achievements and the hard work and sacrifice it took to get there. Michigan houses a historical gem in the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame in Lansing.

A current exhibit gives parents of sons and daughters an opportunity to see "Great Girls in Michigan History." It will continue through February 2017 and features nine girls from different eras, with different dreams, from across the state of Michigan who all accomplished something amazing before the age of 20.

It was not always easy for these girls, the www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org website notes; most had significant obstacles to overcome to reach their goals. Visitors will leave knowing what qualities Great Girls possess and inspired to reach their own dreams. The exhibit's appropriate for visitors of all ages.

Remaining Great Girls of Michigan Family Saturdays include:

» March 19, 1:30 p.m. – Storyteller Karrie Koch – An hour of special stories of Michigan's great women and girls throughout history.

» March 26 – History Detectives – You are a Great Girl! Hunt for hidden objects and facts in the museum with this fun and inspiring activity.

It's great for children to learn how inspiring women reached their goals, and the girlhoods that led them there. The women's suffrage movement in the U.S. may seem to be ancient history, yet it was only in the 1920 presidential race that women began to vote nationwide, less than 100 years ago.

To have come to the point where a woman is on the national political stage shows progress and also reminds us of women who've yet to reach pay parity in the workforce. We need to create opportunities for all those girls and women to reach goals of education, workforce equality and a fair say in their futures.

Don't overlook the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame in seeking answers, including for teachers looking to incorporate women's history into classroom lessons. Our state hosts fascinating stories of women in history,

such as abolitionist Sojourner Truth, who also advocated for women's suffrage, and sharing their stories makes life better for us all.

Got a school paper to write for Women's History Month? The website is a good place to start with biographies of Truth and other Hall of Fame inductees, such as First Lady Betty Ford, who brought awareness to issues of substance abuse and breast cancer while in the White House.

Women's History Month is a good reminder of how far we've come — and that boys and men benefit as well when women have a public voice in the issues of the day.

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

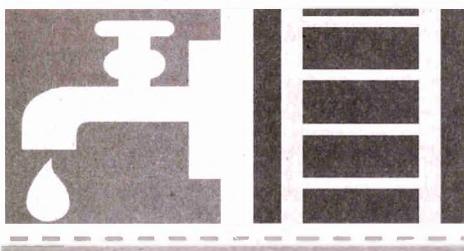
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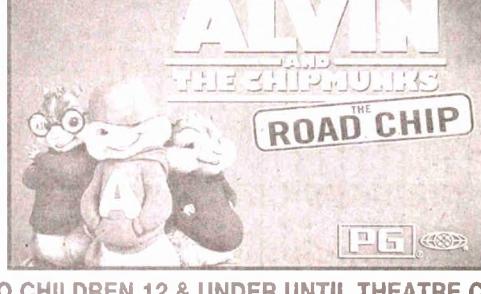
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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
March 21, 2016**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 7:00 pm. regarding the proposed ordinance amendment below.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN, COUNTY OF WAYNE
CITY OF GARDEN CITY
ORDINANCE #**

VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY BY ADDING A NEW SECTION WHICH NEW SECTION SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS THE VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE, SECTION _____ OF CHAPTER _____ OF TITLE _____ OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR THE DEFINITION OF TERMS; PROVIDING FOR SCOPE; PROVIDING FOR EVIDENCE OF VACANT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR REGISTRATION OF VACANT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR OWNER'S REGISTRATION FORM CONTENT; PROVIDING FOR REGISTRATION FEE; PROVIDING FOR REQUIREMENT TO KEEP INFORMATION CURRENT; PROVIDING FOR MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION; PROVIDING FOR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR MONITORING PROPERTY FEE; PROVIDING FOR OPEN PROPERTY AND SECURING FEE; PROVIDING FOR EXEMPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR UNPAID FEES AND ASSESSMENT; PROVIDING FOR CRIMINAL PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY ORDAINS:

SECTION I. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to help protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens by preventing blight, protecting property values and neighborhood integrity, avoiding the creation and maintenance of nuisances and ensuring the safe and sanitary maintenance of dwellings, commercial and industrial buildings. Due to economic conditions, mortgage foreclosures, and increased bankruptcies, many homes and buildings have become vacant and unoccupied. This has caused properties to become attractive nuisances for minors and criminal activity. Vacant properties have a negative impact on surrounding properties and neighborhoods. Potential buyers are deterred by the presence of nearby vacant abandoned buildings. There is an increased instance of unsecured or open doors and windows, broken water pipes, flooded basements, theft of metals and other materials, overgrowth of grass, weeds, shrubs, and bushes, illegal dumping, and rat and vermin activity at vacant structures. Such neglect devalues properties and causes deterioration in neighborhoods and industrial and commercial areas. The City also needs to be able to contact owners for utility shutoff, fire safety and police reasons.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS.

Certificate of Occupancy. As defined under the State of Michigan Construction Code Act, PA 230 of 1972, as amended.

Harborage. A shelter, harbor.

Owner. One who has the right to possess, use, and convey something, i.e. the owner, occupant or successor to title by foreclosure, sheriff's sale or by court order.

Rodent. Any of an order (Rodentia) of relatively gnawing mammals (as a mouse, a squirrel or a beaver) that have in the upper jaw a single pair of incisors with a chisel-shaped edge; also: a small mammal (as a rabbit or a shrew).

Vacant property. A lot, building, or structure that is not legally or currently occupied. Vacant property does not mean property that is temporarily unoccupied while the residents are away on vacation, personal matters or business, or is not intended by the owner to be left vacant.

SECTION III. SCOPE.

The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all existing residential, commercial and industrial structures and all vacant land.

SECTION IV. EVIDENCE OF VACANT PROPERTY.

Evidence of vacancy shall include any condition that on its own, or combined with other conditions present, would lead a reasonable person to believe that the property is vacant. Such conditions include, but are not limited to: overgrown and/or dead vegetation; accumulation of newspapers, circulars, flyers and/or mail; past due utility notices and/or disconnected utilities; accumulation of trash, junk and/or debris; boarded up windows; abandoned vehicles, auto parts or materials; the absence of or continually drawn window coverings such as curtains, blinds and/or shutters; the absence of furnishings and/or personal items consistent with habitation or occupancy; statements by neighbors, passersby, delivery agents or utility agents, including Department of Public Service and/or Police/Fire Department employees, that the property is vacant.

SECTION V. REGISTRY OF VACANT PROPERTIES.

There is hereby created in the City Building Department office a registry of vacant properties.

SECTION VI. VACANT PROPERTIES TO BE REGISTERED.

Owners of real property are required to register all vacant properties within thirty (30) days of the vacancy. Structures that are vacant at the time of the enactment of this ordinance must register within 30 days.

SECTION VII. OWNER'S REGISTRATION FORM: CONTENT.

Owners who are required to register their properties pursuant to this ordinance shall submit a completed Vacant Property Registration Form, as provided by the City Building Department, containing the following information:

(A) The name of the owner of the property.

(B) A mailing address where mail may be sent that will be acknowledged as received by the owner. If certified mail/return receipt requested is sent to the address and the mail is returned marked "refused" or "unclaimed", or if ordinary mail sent to the address is returned for whatever reason, then the occurrence shall be prima facie proof that the owner has failed to comply with this requirement.

(C) The name of an individual responsible for the care and control of the property. Such individual may be the owner, if the owner is an individual, or may be someone other than the owner with whom he/she has contracted.

(D) A current address, phone number, fax, and email address (if fax and email addresses are available) where communications may be sent that will be acknowledged as received by the owner or individual responsible for the care and control of the property. If certified mail/return receipt requested is sent to the address and the mail is returned marked "refused" or "unclaimed," or if ordinary mail sent to the address is returned for whatever reason, then the occurrence shall be prima facie proof that the owner has failed to comply with this requirement.

SECTION VIII. REGISTRATION FEE.

The registration fee shall be set by resolution of the City Council to offset the cost of processing the form. In addition, in the case where the owner has failed to register, there shall be assessed the added cost of the City's expense in having to determine ownership, which may include, but is not limited to a title search.

SECTION IX. REQUIREMENT TO KEEP INFORMATION CURRENT.

If at any time the information contained in the registration form is no longer valid, the property owner shall within ten (10) days file a new registration form containing current information. There shall be no fee to update the current owner's information.

SECTION X. MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

(A) Properties subject to this ordinance shall be kept free of weeds, grass more than eight (8) inches high, vegetation growth between sidewalk and/or driveway flags or from cracks in the pavement, dry brush, dead vegetation, trash, junk, debris, building materials, rodent harborage, any accumulation of newspapers, circulars, flyers, notices, except those required by federal, state or local law, discarded items including, but not limited to, furniture, clothing, large and small appliances, printed material, signage, containers, equipment, construction materials, or any illegal outside storage of vehicles. Property subject to this ordinance must comply with the minimum security fencing, barrier and maintenance requirements of the Michigan Building, Construction, and Property Maintenance Codes.

(B) The property shall be maintained free of graffiti, tagging or similar markings by removal or painting over with an exterior grade paint that matches the color of the exterior structure.

(C) Properties subject to this ordinance shall be landscaped and properly maintained. Landscaping includes, but is not limited to, grass, ground covers, bushes, shrubs, hedges or similar plantings, decorative rock or bark designed and maintained in an appropriate manner. Landscaping does not include weeds, gravel, broken concrete, asphalt, decomposed materials, plastic sheeting, indoor-outdoor carpet, or any similar material. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, regular watering, irrigation, cutting, pruning and mowing of landscaping and removal of all trimmings.

(D) Pools, spas, and other water features shall be kept in working order or winterized to ensure that the water remains clear and free of pollutants and debris, or drained and kept dry and free of debris, and must comply with the minimum security fencing, barrier and maintenance requirements of the Michigan Building, Construction, and Property Maintenance Codes.

(E) Properties subject to this ordinance shall be maintained in a secure manner so as not to be accessible to unauthorized persons. Secure manner includes, but is not limited to, the closure and locking of windows, doors (walk-through, sliding and garage), gates and any other opening of such size that it may allow a child to access the interior of the property and/or structure(s). Broken windows and doors must be repaired or replaced within fourteen (14) days. Boarding up of windows and doors is prohibited.

SECTION XI. MONITORING OF PROPERTY: FEE.

Upon violation of this ordinance by the owner, the Building Department is hereby authorized to monitor the condition of any property required to be registered under this ordinance. A monthly monitoring fee as set by resolution of the City Council may be assessed against the property/owner to offset the costs incurred by the City in responding to telephone calls, complaints, inquiries, site visits, owner contacts, and the monitoring of the site.

SECTION XII. OPEN PROPERTY: SECURING FEE.

Property subject to this ordinance that is left open and/or accessible shall be subject to entry by the City in order to ensure that the property has not become an attractive nuisance and to ensure that the property is locked and/or secured. The owner of property subject to this ordinance which property is found open or unsecured shall be responsible for a securing fee as set by the City Council to offset the cost incurred by the City in contacting the owner or management company to secure the property, or if the owner and/or management company cannot be contacted or does not secure the property within a reasonable time – not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours, the cost incurred by the City in securing the property.

SECTION XIII. EXEMPTION: PROPERTY DAMAGED BY NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTER: REPAIR REQUIREMENTS.

(A) A property which has been partially or completely destroyed by natural or man-made disaster is exempt from the strict requirements of this ordinance.

(B) For purposes of this section, natural or man-made disaster shall mean fire, lightning, hurricane, tornado, toxic substances or high winds, destruction by bomb, gas explosion, vehicle collision, fumes, act of war, riot, civil disturbance, or infestation by insects, rodents or disease bearing agents.

(C) Properties that have been damaged or destroyed by natural or man-made disaster shall be registered with the City within five (5) business days of the disaster and an application for a permit to start reconstruction, construction or demolition of the damaged property shall be made by the owner within ninety (90) days of the disaster. Failure to comply with this subsection shall remove the exemption provided herein and subject the property to the requirements of this ordinance.

(D) At all times, property that has been damaged or destroyed by a natural or man-made disaster shall be secured, maintained and monitored as lawfully required and/or authorized by the City Building Official and Code Enforcement Officer under any federal, state, county and/or city laws, rules or regulations, including if applicable, this Vacant Property Registration and Maintenance Ordinance.

SECTION XIV. UNPAID FEES; ASSESSMENT.

All fees hereunder that remain unpaid after fourteen (14) days written notice to the owner/management company shall be assessed against the property as a lien and included on the tax roll.

SECTION XV. CRIMINAL PENALTIES; CIVIL INFRACTION.

(A) Except as otherwise provided, a violation of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor and a strict liability offense regardless of intent. Any person, firm and/or corporation that violates any portion of this ordinance shall be subject to prosecution and penalty under the General Provisions of the City Code. Registration of property under this ordinance is in addition to, and not in lieu of, the requirements of Public Act 167 of 1917, as amended, which allows for demolition of vacant structures, or nuisance abatement by the City.

(B) Failure to file the required registration form, or failure to maintain the registration form containing current information shall be a civil infraction and subject to a \$100 fine. Each day that a registration form is not on file and each day that an owner and/or owner's agent fails to maintain current information in a registration form shall be considered a separate offense.

(C) Failure to make required repairs, or a second offense of any other requirement herein, shall be a misdemeanor subject to prosecution and penalties under the General Provisions of the City Code.

SECTION XVI. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provision not have been included in this Ordinance.

SECTION XVII. REPEAL.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION XVIII. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

All rights and duties which have matured, penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION XIX. PUBLICATION.

The Clerk for the City of Garden City shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION XX. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

Income tax

refund fraud

a \$21 billion

problem

It's tax time, which means that the fraudsters and lowlives are out in force.

One type of tax fraud that has soared over the last few years is tax refund fraud. This is where someone uses your Social Security number and birthday to file a bogus tax return seeking a refund. Two years ago, the Internal Revenue Service estimated this type of fraud cost taxpayers about \$6.5 billion. This tax season, the IRS is estimating it will cost taxpayers more than \$21 billion. Basically, all you need is



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

name, date of birth and Social Security number. This is why protecting sensitive information is so important. Unfortunately, the IRS doesn't have the means to stop tax fraud and most of us won't find out we are subject to one until we hear from the IRS that our tax return has been rejected.

If you find you've been subject to tax refund fraud either because the IRS would not accept your tax return or you received a notice from the IRS about a suspicious tax filing, there are some things that you should do. The first is to notify the IRS. The IRS has an identity protection unit that you should immediately notify. Its toll-free number is 800-908-4490. After you have notified the IRS, you should obtain Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit, from www.irs.gov and complete the form. This form should then be mailed in to the IRS, along with your tax return. You should know that even if your tax return was fraudulently paid to another individual, the IRS will still honor your return and you will get your refund, although it may take a while.

If someone has filed a fraudulent tax return on your behalf, you need to do more than just contact the IRS. I also recommend that you file a police report with your local police department and a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. Its website is www.ftc.gov.

It is also important that you contact the three main credit bureaus, Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. You should notify them that you have been a victim of identity theft and they should put a fraud alert on your account. In addition, it's not a bad idea to pull your credit report from the three agencies. One thing that you sometimes see is these thieves will apply for credit in your name. By pulling out a credit report and putting a fraud alert, you can do your best to minimize any harm to you.

I guess I will analogize to when I was a kid. I grew up in Oak Park and our door, particularly during the day, was unlocked. In fact, I think most of the houses on the block weren't locked. Today, I think the first thing most of us do when we come home is make sure the doors are locked. Times have changed and we have to change with it. My recommendation for all of us is to make sure that we regularly change our passwords and to never let our guard down.

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

1,000 books

Families are invited to join the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Livonia Public Library. It's a nationwide challenge that encourages parents and caregivers to regularly read aloud to their children. By reading just one book a night, families can reach the 1,000-book goal in three years and provide their children essential early literacy skills.

The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program is available to all families with children between the ages of birth and 5 years old. Registration is open. For more information, call the library at 734-466-2493 or visit its website at www.livoniapubliclibrary.org. This program is free of charge.

Video game group

The Westland Public Library is hosting a video game competition for adults at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 19. Players will compete for prizes while playing *Call of Duty: Black Ops III* on PlayStation 4. Players can also play games just for fun like *Mortal Kombat XL*. Free pizza, snacks and pop for all players.

The group plays once a month on a Saturday at 2 p.m. at the library. Upcoming dates are: March 19, April 23, and May 14.

Adults 18 years and older are invited to attend and must show a valid driver's license or state ID at the door. For more information, call the Reference desk at 734-326-6123 or visit westland.lib.mi.us/node/8607.

Spring craft show

The Franklin Athletic Boosters spring craft show is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road in Livonia.

Media includes paintings, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, textiles, photog-

raphy, glass, stained glass, leather, graphics, woodcarving and acceptable crafts. Vendors are also welcome (one vendor per business). Antique/treasure vendors will also be accepted, focusing on vintage items and supplies.

For an application or more information, contact Marge Gault at 734-674-5054 or gault.marge@gmail.com.

St. Patrick's Day dinners

American Legion Post 32 hosts a St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner Thursday, March 17, at the post, 9318 Newburgh in Livonia.

The cost for the corned beef & cabbage dinner is \$10; for a corned beef sandwich with pickle and horseradish, it's \$7. Serving from noon to 7 p.m.; carryouts are available. The event is open to the public.

St. John's Episcopal Church is hosting a St. Patrick's Day dinner from 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at the church, 555 S. Wayne Road (between Cherry Hill and Palmer) in Westland.

The menu includes a corned beef dinner, dessert, beverage and fun activities.

For more information or tickets, call 734-721-5023.

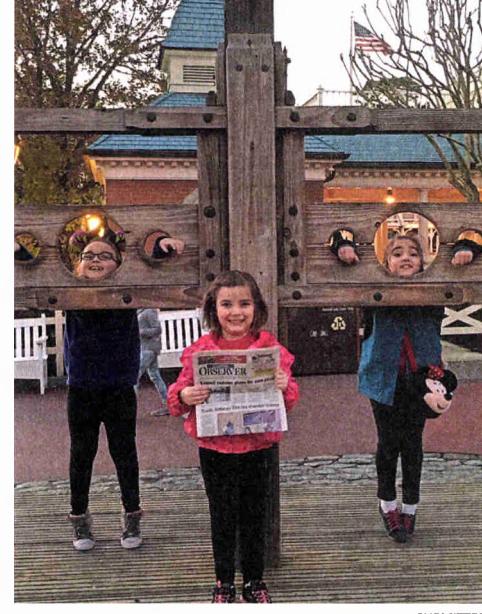
Spring bazaar

St. John's Episcopal Church will host its Spring Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the church, 555 S. Wayne Road.

The event features arts, crafts, baked goods, etc., with lunch available. For more information, call 734-721-5023 (Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.).

Lymphoma fundraiser

The Lymphoma Research Foundation, Take-down Wrestling Alliance and Family Video are sponsoring a fundraiser

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SUBMITTED
Claire Cytaki and Grace Cretu hang out while Chloe Cytaki reads the *Livonia Observer* during their recent trip to Disney World. All three ladies reside in Livonia.

for lymphoma research from 4-6 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at 146 S. Venoy in Westland.

The event will feature TWA stars taking pictures and signing autographs. TWA stars scheduled to appear include Machine Gun Kelly, Jamal King, Big Gun Jay Abrams, Jerome Pruitt and Lou Crank.

Bunny brunch

The annual Livonia Bunny Brunch will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 19, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The event includes lunch, crafts and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

"We are pleased to be able to continue to offer affordable family events to the community," said Ted Davis, Livonia's parks and recreation superintendent. "Bunny Brunch is what signifies spring to many young families."

Tickets are available for \$5 at the Livonia

Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. All attendees over the age of 2 must have a ticket. For more information, call 734-466-2410.

Mom2Mom sale

The Garden City High School Mom2Mom Sale is set for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at the high school, 6500 Middlebelt. Sellers and shoppers will get good deals on new and gently used baby and kids' clothes as well as toys, games, DVDs, books, strollers, bikes, swings, bouncers and more.

There will be more than 85 tables to shop from, a large item area, concessions and a bake sale. Admission is only \$1 (\$2 for early bird at 8:30 a.m.). Tables are \$25 for an 8-foot table/chair including standard rack space (you provide rack).

For more information including the table agreement, visit www.facebook.com/mom2mom.garden.city.

book.com/gcmom2mom-sale or email gcmom2momsale@hotmail.com.

Colbeck hours

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and District Manager Penny Crider will hold monthly office hours for March in Livonia on Friday, March 18, from 11 a.m. until noon. The office hours will be held at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center and will be open to the public.

Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. No appointment is necessary.

Colbeck represents the 7th Senate District, which encompasses the cities of Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne, as well as the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth.

For more information or to contact Colbeck, visit www.SenatorPatrickColbeck.com or call 517-373-5713.

Historical society meets

At 2 p.m. Monday, March 21, The Livonia Historical Society will present *Old Stores a Downtown Detroit*, a PowerPoint program by Mike Hauser who has served as guest curator for exhibits at the Detroit Historical Museum and co-authored five books including *20th Century Retailing in Downtown Detroit*.

The meeting is at the Friend's Meeting House next to the General Store at Greenmead, Livonia's Historical Park. Park in front on the south side of the road. Enter Greenmead off Newburgh just south of Eight Mile Road.

Public welcome. No charge. For more information, call 734-416-3848.

Dr. Seuss selfie

The Redford Township District Library will host

a Dr. Seuss Selfie Contest during the month of March.

Kids can take a picture of themselves with something that represents the world of Dr. Seuss — perhaps a stuffed animal, a t-shirt they own, a drawing they did — and have the picture on display in the library for the month of March.

The most creative entry will receive a prize chosen especially for them. For more information, contact the youth/teen services department at the library at 313-531-5960, ext. 117.

Maltese Bingo

The Maltese American Benevolent Society Inc., presents Shamrock Bingo at 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays at 33111 Plymouth Road in Livonia.

The MABI is donating 50 percent of its proceeds from its fundraising bingo nights to help www.flintkids.org throughout March.

For more information, call 248-557-2000.

Maple sugaring

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center hosts Maple Sugaring at Cass Benton Park in Northville 10 a.m. or noon, Saturday, March 19.

The center will share the history of maple sugaring and take a short hike into the woods for a tree-tapping demonstration. Enjoy pancakes with the "real thing" afterward. The Park is located off of Northville Road, north of Six Mile Road.

Public welcome. No charge. For more information, call 734-416-3848.

Pre-registration required for all programs (except Native Day), at the Park Office, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland, 48185.

**Westside**
Obstetrics • Gynecology & Urogynecology**Women's Health Presentation**

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

April 20

St. Mary Mercy Livonia

Classrooms 1 & 2

36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia

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

REGISTER NOW!

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

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



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



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Join us for Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 20 • 10am (New Time)

Maundy Thursday, March 24 • 6pm

Good Friday, March 25 • 12 noon - 3pm & 6pm - 7pm

Easter Sunday, March 27 • 10am (New Time)

16360 Hubbard Road
(Between 5 Mile and 6 Mile)
Livonia, MI 48154
734.421.8451

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Offers Expire 3/23/16



TOM BEAUDOIN
Violinist Charlene Chen of Canton performs at Covenant Community Church with the Redford Civic Symphony Orchestra.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Redford Symphony conductor Chris Sutton and the orchestra deliver another beautiful performance as they treat the concert attendees to the "Sounds of Ireland."



TOM BEAUDOIN
Redford resident and longtime symphony member Deanna Lee concentrates as "Excerpts of Finian's Rainbow" is performed.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Redford Symphony trombonist Benjamin Lord delivers a special touch of the sounds of Ireland.

Redford symphony treats audience to 'Sounds of Ireland' performance

It was like the audience had actually gathered in Ireland.

The Redford Civic Symphony Orchestra celebrated everything Irish on Sunday with a free concert at Covenant Community Church.

The symphony's 90-minute performance, *The Sounds of Ireland*, featured a wide variety of traditional and contemporary music, along with a few show tunes.

"We try to play a number of older tunes that everyone will recognize," conductor Christopher Sutton said before the show.

The orchestra is in its 60th season in Redford. A group of up to about 65 musicians practice each week at the township's community center in preparation for quarterly concerts. Each orchestra season starts in the fall, with other shows falling near Christmas, spring and a June finale.

Sutton is in his first season as conductor of the orchestra. A music



TOM BEAUDOIN
The oboe and English horn section had newcomer and Hawaiian transplant Chris Fujiwara performing at the "Sounds of Ireland" concert in Redford.

TOM BEAUDOIN

At left, Redford Civic Symphony Orchestra first Chair Priscilla Marino (Bloomfield Hills) and Annika Taylor (Farmington) perform "The Emerald Isle" during the Sounds of Ireland concert.

teacher in Pinckney, the Redford resident has performed at venues throughout the United States and Canada. He

said he enjoys working with his hometown orchestra.

"Working with this group, there's a huge

amount of people who have kept playing since starting off in school," Sutton said. "It's a good mix of experienced mu-

sicians and a few have only been playing for a few years that are trying to get their creative sides out."

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

2016 GENERAL NOTICE REGARDING WEED CONTROL

No person who is the owner, occupant or lessee of real property in the City of Wayne, shall allow grass, weeds, vines or other vegetation to grow to an average height of greater than six inches on his or her property.

Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of Chapter 1459 of the Codified Ordinance of Wayne shall be liable to the imposition of penalties and expenses incurred by the City in declaring the property a nuisance and abating all nuisance conditions created by the overgrowth.

Fees for mowing, established by the City Council, are as follows:

Frontage up to 40'	\$200
Frontage from 41' - 80'	\$250
Frontage 81' - 120'	\$300
Frontage from 121' - acre	\$325 per acre
Any portion thereto	\$350

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Fire Department Ordinance Division at (734) 713-3733.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Published: March 17, 2016

LO-0000274896 3x5

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 5 3/7/16

Presiding: President Godbout

Present: Cicirelli Bryant, Coleman, Hammons, Herzberg, Johnson, Kehrer

50: Minutes of regular meeting held 2/16/16.

- Minutes of special meeting held 2/22/16.

- Knights of Columbus St. Damian Council #3021 "Tootsie Roll Drive" Cherry Hill & Wayne Rd. 3/18-20.

- Appr. Contract w/ Midwest Recycling for exclusive drop-off recycling bins for clothing, coats, shoes, and textiles; term ending 1/1/17 at rate of \$0.06/pound of materials collected.

- Appr. Agrmnt. w/National Faith Homebuyers; rate \$800/mo for rental of 2 classrooms at JBCVC to commence 4/1/16 for (5) yr. term lease.

- Appr. JBCVC MI Depart. of Natural Resources Legislative Grant Agreement and corresponding Required Resolution for Park Improvements.

- Adopt. Ord. 248-A-79, rezone CB-4, CB-3, CB-1, & R-5 to PUD, PID #049-01-0011-301, -0012-301, -0013-303, -0013-002, -0014-304, -0014-305, #049-05-0981-001, -0982-001, -0983-001, -0984-001, -0985-001, -0986-002, SW corner of Ford & Newburgh Rds.

- Adopt Ord. 29-W-26-22 to amend rates for Municipal Water & Sewer.

- Adoption of Prepared Resolution to designate the Monarch Butterfly as Michigan's Official State Insect.

51: Appr. Study Session on 3/21/16 at 6:30 p.m. re. CDBG XLII status & prop. projects.

52: Set 5/2/16 as PH date for prop. 2016-17 Budget.

53: Appr. Atty. settlement in pending litigation; Reed vs. City of Westland.

54: Appr. Property Disposition Committee Recommendation for former Westland City Hall/Bailey Recreation Center/Fire Station #1 Site to actively marketing the vacant 12.5 acre site for development.

55: Appr. & adoption of resolution to temp re-locate Pcts. 21 & 42 to Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road.

56: Adoption of Prepared Emergency Management Resolution.

57: Conf. re-appt. of S. Scott to DDA for 4 yr. term to exp. 2/23/20.

58: Appr. checklist: \$3,486,109.85.

Mtg. adj. at 8:46 p.m.

Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President

Richard LeBlanc
City Clerk

LO-0000275148 3x5

ORDINANCE NO. 29-W-26-22

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 46, SECTIONS 46-1(48), 46-1(49)c, and 46-1(49)d OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE TO AMEND THE RATES FOR MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER CHARGES

THE CITY OF WESTLAND ORDAINS:

Section 1. That paragraph (a) of the portion of Section 46-1(48) of the Westland City Code entitled "Water consumption charges (Section 102-91)" shall be amended to provide as follows:

a. Water consumption charges (Section 102-91)

"(1) Per 1,000 gallons per quarter or any fraction thereof.....\$4.42"

"(2) Effective with the first billing on or after July 1, 2015, a fee will be charged to every water and/or sewer account that receives water and/or sewer service from the City of Westland. This fee will be based on the size of the meter installed:

Meter Size (inches)	Per Billing (Bi-monthly)
5/8	28.00
3/4	28.00
1	28.00
1 1/2	67.00
2	135.00
3	175.00
4	260.00
6	775.00
8	1,500.00
10	3,000.00

Section 2. That paragraph (c) of the portion of Section 46-1(49)c of the Westland City Code entitled "Sewage disposal rates (Section 102-124)" shall be amended to provide as follows:

c. Sewage disposal rates (Section 102-124)

"(1) Per 1,000 gallons per quarter or any part thereof.....\$5.70"

Section 3. That all other provisions of Chapter 46 of the Westland City Code, except as amended herein, shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 5. Repeal. All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

Section 6. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

Published: March 17, 2016

LO-0000276071 3x5



HUNTER LENGE & BRANCHES DRAIN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: April 8, 2016

TIME: 9:30 A.M.

LOCATION: Wayne County Department of Public Services Roads Division
Central Maintenance Yard
29900 Goddard Road Extension
Romulus, Michigan

QUESTIONS: (313) 224-3620

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the costs related to maintenance work have been determined by the Hunter Lenge & Branches Drainage Board on February 26, 2016 to be tentatively apportioned as follows:

CITY OF WESTLAND, Wayne County, Michigan, for benefits to public health. 96.49%

COUNTY OF WAYNE, Michigan, for benefits to county roads. 3.51%

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Drainage Board will meet at the above date, time and location for the purpose of hearing any objections to said apportionment.

Proceedings conducted at this public meeting will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's Office located at 400 Monroe Street, Suite 400, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

Kenneth M. Kucel

Kenneth M. Kucel, P.E.

Wayne County Drain Commissioner

LO-0000275474 3x5

Published: March 17, 2016

LO-0000276071 3x5

Published: March 17 & 31, 2016

LO-0000275474 3x5

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\$4.49 lb
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Dearborn Classic Trim Ham
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Dearborn Smoked or Holiday
Kielbasa
\$4.49 lb
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\$11.99 lb
Save \$3.00

Fresh All Natural
Boneless Pork Roast
\$2.99 lb
Save \$1.00

Entrees to Go
Stuffed Chicken
Bacon Muenster or Cordon Bleu
\$4.99 lb
Save \$1.00

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1/2 1920 Legend Ham
\$4.49 lb

Housemade Breakfast Sausage
Bulk or Link
\$3.99 lb
Save \$1.00

All Natural Fresh Whole Fryers
\$1.49 lb
Save 50¢



Smoked Bacon
Cherrywood or Pepper
\$6.99 lb



Fresh All Natural Whole Leg of Lamb
\$5.99 lb
Save \$2.00

Fresh All Natural Boneless Leg of Lamb
\$8.99 lb
Save \$2.00

Fresh All Natural Loin Chops
\$10.99 lb
Save \$4.00

Fresh All Natural Lamb Shanks
\$6.99 lb
Save \$1.00



Maryland Crab Cakes
\$4.49 ea
Save 50¢

Farm Fresh Tilapia Fillets
\$7.49 lb
Save \$1.50

Fresh Wild Caught Whitefish Fillets
\$6.99 lb
Save \$6.00

North American Lobster Tails
(4 oz.)
\$5.99 ea
Save \$2.00

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(31-40 ct)
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Save \$6.00



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Save \$1.00

Censea EZ Peel Shrimp
(31-40 ct)
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Save \$1.00

Farm Fresh Catfish
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- Bartlett Pears **\$1.99 lb**
- California Clementines **\$3.99 3 lb bag**
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- Earthbound Organic Salads **2/\$5** All Varieties
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DELI

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- Dearborn Black Forest Ham **\$4.99 lb** Save \$2.00
- Old Tyme Well Done Roast Beef **\$6.99 lb** Save \$3.00
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- Old Tyme Swiss Cheese **\$4.99 lb** Save \$1.00
- Jennie-O Chicken **\$5.99 lb** Save \$3.00
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- Eckrich Hard Salami **\$4.49 lb** Save \$1.50
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- Sartori Bella Vittorio Merlot **\$14.99 lb** Save \$3.00
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- Hudsonville Ice Creams **\$4.79** Made in Michigan

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CHEF'S FEATURE

Roasted Leg of Lamb

CAFE

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ChocoLove Bars **2/\$5**

Pic-a-Nut Cashew Tin **\$14.99 ea** Save \$5.00

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CLASS A REGIONAL BASKETBALL

Chargers push No. 1 Cubs hard for a half

U of D Jesuit a bear to deal with down stretch

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

For the first 16 minutes of Monday night's Class A regional semifinal game at Detroit Western International, Livonia Churchill played dribble-for-dribble, highlight-for-highlight and heartbeat-for-heartbeat with University of Detroit Jesuit, the No. 1-ranked boys basketball team in the state.

But the Cubs played with the tenacity of the ticked-off bear in the "The Revenant" during the second half and pulled

away with a 74-49 victory.

Playing without three suspended players, including one starter, the Chargers trailed the highly-regarded Cubs, 30-26, at halftime before the Cassius Winston-led juggernaut, whose starting line-up included a pair of 6-foot-8 front-court standouts, reeled off a 17-2 run to start the third quarter to put the outcome under wraps.

The season-ending setback capped the Chargers' spectacular season at 15-8. UD Jesuit improved to 24-0 and advanced

to Wednesday's regional final against defending state champion Western, which pummeled Dearborn Fordson, 68-31, in the night's second semifinal.

Just 20 minutes before Monday's game was supposed to tip off, it was moved from Detroit Cass Tech to Western due to a lead in the ceiling of the Technicians gymnasium.

"Even though, man for man, we gave up inches and weight to them at every position, our

See CHARGERS, Page B3



TOM BEAUDOIN

Churchill's Joan Andoni drives to the basket Monday night against the University of Detroit Jesuit.

DIVISION 2 HOCKEY FINAL



ED WRIGHT

Stevenson's Connor Jakacki hit the ice to block a first-period shot by Romeo's Logan Jenuwine.

HEART-BREAKER: ROMEO EDGES SPARTANS, 6-4

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Momentum is such a tempestuous and powerful intangible.

One moment Saturday morning inside the USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth Township, "Big Mo" was sitting in the raise-the-roof-loud Livonia Stevenson hockey team's student cheering section, wearing a sky-blue Spartan hoodie and going absolutely crazy after Stevenson scored its third goal in five minutes to build a 4-2 second-period lead in the MHSAA Division 2 state final contest.

A few minutes later, it was wearing a blood-red Romeo hockey sweater throughout a

game-ending four-goal scoring explosion that fueled the Bulldogs' 6-4 victory in their first appearance in a hockey state championship game.

Powered by a five-point game from Nolan Jenuwine, who proved beyond a doubt that he is the real deal, the Bulldogs capitalized on a critical five-minute major penalty called on Stevenson for head-butting with the score deadlocked at 4-all and 12:12 left on the third-period clock.

Eighty seconds into the power-play opportunity, Jenuwine tipped home a shot by Logan Canfield to give Romeo the lead for good, 5-4.

With Stevenson goalie Culen Barber pulled for an extra attacker, Romeo's Steven Mor-

ris slid in a 150-foot empty-net goal with 29 seconds left to ice the win.

The Bulldogs' performance gave the northern Macomb County high school its third state title in five months (Romeo also captured the Division 1 football crown and Class A volleyball title).

The heart-breaking setback capped Stevenson's second-consecutive D2 state runner-up season.

"That's what you get when you play high-powered hockey like both these teams play," said Stevenson head coach David Mitchell, referring to the back-and-forth action.

"Losing the 4-2 lead, you could



ED WRIGHT

Stevenson's Nate Sudek watches his rising shot head toward the crease.

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MADONNA SPORTS ROUNDUP

A trio of Madonna University basketball student-athletes have been honored for their hard work in the classroom.

Crusader women's basketball players Justice Dean and Kelsey Gerhardt, both juniors, and Austin Johnson, a member of the MU men's team, were selected as three of 253 student-athletes in the NAIA to be named Daktronics Scholar-Athletes, the national office announced Monday.

In order to be nominated by



Johnson

an institution's head coach or sports information director, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade-point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and must have achieved a junior academic status.

Dean and Gerhardt are both first-time recipients of the coveted academic award.

Dean, a business major from Garden City, appeared in



Dean

27 of the Crusaders' 28 games this season, earning a start in 24 contests. She averaged nearly seven points per game while

corraling 105 rebounds and knocking down 56 three-pointers.

Gerhardt, a criminal justice major from Flushing, played in every MU game this season, ending the 2015-16 campaign



Gerhardt

as one of five Crusaders registering 28 games played. Gerhardt earned a starting nod on four occasions while averaging four points per game.

The Crusaders ended the 2015-16 campaign at 17-11 (16-6 WHAC) after making the program's second consecutive trip to the WHAC semifinals.

Johnson a junior business

major from Spring Lake, was tabbed as a member of the national list for his commitment to the classroom since arriving on Madonna's campus three years ago.

As part of a young team, Johnson was the lone Crusader men's player to take home the award this season.

Johnson and the Crusaders closed the 2015-16 season with a 17-14 record (14-8 WHAC) and a trip to the WHAC quarterfinals.

MHSAA STATE GYMNASTICS MEET

Livonia gymnasts excel on the big stage

Blue's Rhoade earns D2 all-around championship

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Led by Bri Rhoade's all-around gold rush, several Livonia gymnasts capped their season at Saturday's MHSAA state meet with glowing performances.

Rhoade, who is a student at Livonia Stevenson and competes for Livonia Blue, won the Division 2 all-around championship by scoring a pressure-packed 36.525 points.

Blue's Jess Weak tied for fifth in the all-around standings with 35.30 points while Livonia Red's Marissa McVey, who is a senior at Livonia Churchill, placed 15th with a score of 34.350.

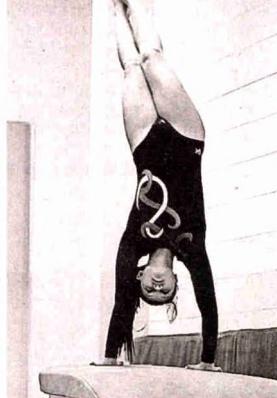
Winning an individual state title in gymnastics requires sustained brilliance, which is what Rhoade delivered on Saturday.

Her best finish was a runner-up showing on the floor-exercise category with a score of 9.225. She also placed third on the uneven parallel bars (8.925), fifth on the balance beam (9.20) and eighth on the vault (9.175), earning all-state honors in each event (the top 10 placers earn all-state med-



TOM BEAUDOIN

Livonia Blue's Bri Rhoade, pictured during a meet earlier this season, won the Division 2 all-around title at Saturday's state meet.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Livonia Red's Mackenzie Borrman tied for 10th in Division 2 on the vault on Saturday.

als).

Weak was the D2 individual state champion on the uneven bars, earning a score of 9.025. Blue's Emily Chatterjee also earned all-state recognition on the bars, placing 10th with a score of 8.575.

Weak tied for fourth on the vault with a 9.20.

Red's McVey, Mackenzie Borrman and Mikaela are an all-staters on the vault after they all tied for 10th with a

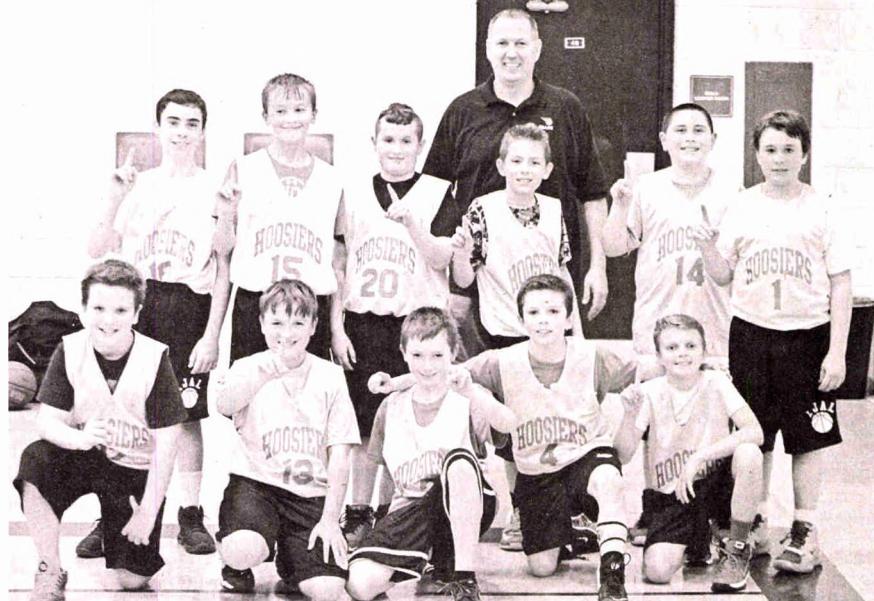
score of 9.10. Red's Megan Waters barely missed the cut, scoring a 9.1 to finish in a tie for 18th.

Chatterjee was sixth on the beam with a 9.125 and 10th on the floor (9.0) to earn all-state honors in those events as well.

Julia Hattley also qualified for the state meet with top 10 finishes in the regional competition earlier this month.

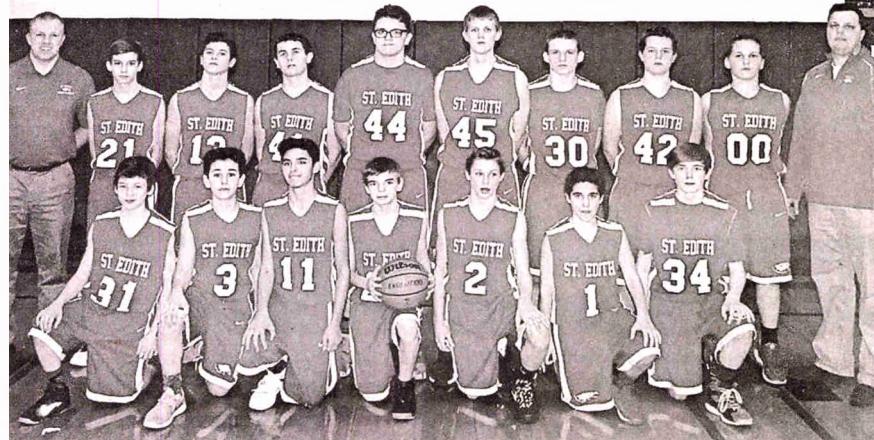
ewright@hometownlife.com

Hoosiers prove to be unbeatable



The Hoosiers completed a 10-0 season recently in the Livonia Junior Athletic League's boys Junior Varsity Gold Division. Pictured are (front row from left) Caleb LeBar, Collin Patterson, William Reed, John Wagner, Brad Cremen, (second row from left) Nick O'Leary, Jacob Patterson, Jonah Efrusy, Dylan Wilczynski, Henry Meloche, Paolo Munn and (back row) coach Casey Reed. Not pictured are Lucas Young and coach Eric Young.

St. Edith hoops team runner-up



The Livonia St. Edith's varsity boys basketball team was edged this past weekend, 40-36, by St. Regis in a thrilling Catholic Youth Organization game placed at Detroit Catholic Central. The Eagles won the Varsity 2 division title last spring.

HIGH SCHOOL REGIONAL BASKETBALL

Vikings end Novi's run in regional

Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Walled Lake Central unveiled its own version of Wile E. Coyote in a Class A boys basketball regional semifinal game Monday at West Bloomfield.

Novi chased speedy and savvy point guard Walter Kelser around the court, but the senior proved to be as elusive as the Road Runner.

Kelser scored a game-high 33 points, leading the Vikings to a 72-61 win and a spot in the regional championship game against North Farmington.

The 5-foot-10 Kelser proved to be a handful for the Wildcats, who had their seven-game winning streak snapped, coming off the heels of a 51-39 upset win over Northville (21-1) in the district final Friday at Salem.

Kelser, who missed five games with an ankle injury before coming back for the final regular-season game, appears to be completely healthy again, and it showed as he made 10 of 21 shots from the floor, including three triples. He also was 10-of-13 shooting free throws.

"I'm feeling way better," Kelser said. "I was working hard; that's it. I wanted to get to the basket, draw some fouls and get the big men in trouble, because they have a lot of size."

Central (20-4) jumped out to a 17-8 lead in the first quarter as Kelser nailed a 3-pointer before Novi scored the next nine points. Sophomore Traveon Maddox sank a twisting banker from 40 feet out as the buzzer sounded to pull the Wildcats even at 17-17.

Central made another run in the second quarter, outscoring the Wildcats, 20-11, as Rami Romaya's putback at the halftime horn gave the Vikings a nine-point cushion, 37-28.

"We shot way too many threes," Novi coach Brandon Sinawi said. "We talked about that at the half. It was one of those games where (Central) made one and our kids would get hyped up."

"I think they felt they had to knock one down to please the crowd. But it's a young team, and the core is still really young. That was the biggest thing, the 3-point shooting. It was ill-timed and, even though we hit a couple, it's not our calling card."

During the second quarter, Central went on an 11-0 run as Novi went scoreless for 5:04 before Maddox's basket broke the drought with 2:56 left in the half.

"We wanted to get out and run tonight," Central coach Chuck Spolsky said. "They were big, so we thought if we get a board, get them to take a quick shot and push the ball, we thought we'd have an advantage in the open court and we did."

With 4:13 left in the third quarter, a basket by Runako Ziegler pushed Central's lead to 50-32. The Vikings took a 55-41 advantage into the final quarter and never let Wildcats get closer than eight the rest of the way.

"After the week we went through last week, we knew that we were going to be missing a little bit of energy, a little bit of fight, in the beginning of the game," Sinawi said. "After that first quarter, we didn't score until almost three minutes left. But hey, that's the team we've got. We had two seniors that really stepped up last week and again tonight. We got a lot of



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Novi's Jay Duarte (left) blocks Walled Lake Central's Malik Abiola's shot during the first quarter of the Class A regional semifinal at West Bloomfield.

young kids coming back and it's a good learning experience for them."

Kelser, meanwhile, helped secure the win by scoring 18 of his 33 during the second half.

"We knew he was going to be a match-up problem with our young guards," Sinawi said. "Trendon (Hankerson) picking up two quick fouls in that first quarter made us go zone and we didn't want to go zone that early. But at the same time (Kelser) is a special player. He did a great job getting to the basket. He finishes really strong, he's crafty and he gave us some fits tonight, no question."

Kelser was not only a scorer, but also a distributor as Ziegler and senior forward Anton Lucaj contributed 13 and 10 points, respectively, while senior center Malik Abiola added eight.

"We were just trying to get them to play our style of play," Kelser said. "They like to go big and we like to go small. We wanted to go small against their bigs and make them adjust to us."

Senior forward Naji Ozeir led the Wildcats in scoring with 16 points, while Maddox added 14. Senior forward Jay Durate chipped in seven and played another strong game inside.

Novi shot 50 percent from the floor (23-of-46) with a total of nine triples, but committed 17 turnovers.

Central connected on 41.9 percent from the floor (26-of-62), but turned it over only five times.

"You can't run when they're making (shots) and they made a lot of threes, so when they were making shots, we were having trouble executing on the offensive end because they play good defense," Spolsky said of Novi. "They really clog the paint up. That was the game plan. If we could force them into some quick shots and play some good perimeter defense, we could get out and run with them a little bit."

Following a 7-9 start, missing the KLAA playoffs and going without senior point guard Kam Hankerson for 12 games after the Wisconsin-Green Bay signee suffered a knee injury in late January, Novi rebounded to finish 14-10 overall.

"That's been our calling card the last eight games; our team just doesn't quit," Sinawi said. "We missed some timely shots, and (Central) made some timely shots. We didn't make enough plays in the end. But the kids didn't give up."

bemons@hometownlife.com

MHSAA BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

Stevenson's O'Dowd earns 50-freestyle title

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Competing in an event that allows zero room for error, Livonia Stevenson senior Jackson O'Dowd won the MHSAA Division 1 50-yard freestyle title Saturday in Holland.

O'Dowd, a multiple-time all-state swimmer, outperformed the fastest swimmers in the state by stroking to a time of 20.70 seconds to nip runner-up Henry Schutte of Forest Hills Central by a quarter of a second.

The speedy Spartan also earned all-state accolades in the 100 freestyle with a fourth-place time of 46.12 seconds. Ann Arbor Skyline's Ryan



Livonia Stevenson's Jackson O'Dowd earned a Division 1 state championship in the 50 freestyle event.

Vander Meulen won the 100 in 45.75 seconds.

Stevenson's Parker Wasielewski just missed finishing in the top-16 in the 50 freestyle.

Wasielewski tied for 16th in the preliminaries before getting nipped in a swim-off by a third of a second.

Spartan Benjamin Rojewski

made a name for himself at the state meet, placing seventh in the 500 freestyle with a time of 4:40.60. Zeeland's Micah DeJonge won the race in 4:29.73.

Rojewski placed 25th in the 200 free with a time of 1:46.88.

Stevenson's 200 freestyle relay team of Wasielewski, Connor Beck, Luke Santi and O'Dowd touched 14th with a 1:28.48 clocking.

Wasielewski earned a 14th-place finish in the 100 backstroke with a time of 54.17 seconds.

Stevenson placed 15th overall with 56 points.

Birmingham Brother Rice won the state title by amassing 313 points. Saline finished second with 231.

Division 2 state meet

Livonia Churchill placed 26th in Saturday's Division 2 state meet by compiling 16 points.

The Chargers' top performer was senior diver Ethan Burke, who placed sixth in his event with 411.47 points.

Birmingham Seaholm's Sebastian Faye won the diving competition with 479.40 points.

Churchill's Kevin Taylor also showed well at the year's elite high school event, placing 14th in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.98) and 15th in the 200 individual medley with a time of 2:01.76.

ewright@hometownlife.com

HIGH SCHOOL REGIONAL BASKETBALL

North Farmington marches past Hartland

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

North Farmington continued its tournament march in March with a 33-point victory in boys basketball Monday in the Class A regional at West Bloomfield.

The Raiders breezed into the championship game at 7 p.m. Wednesday with a thoroughly one-sided defeat of Hartland, 63-30.

North (21-2) made its first four shot attempts and was off and running to a quick 10-0 lead that just got larger from there.

The Raiders made seven of their first 10 field-goal tries and were ahead by 11 at the end of the first quarter, 18-7.

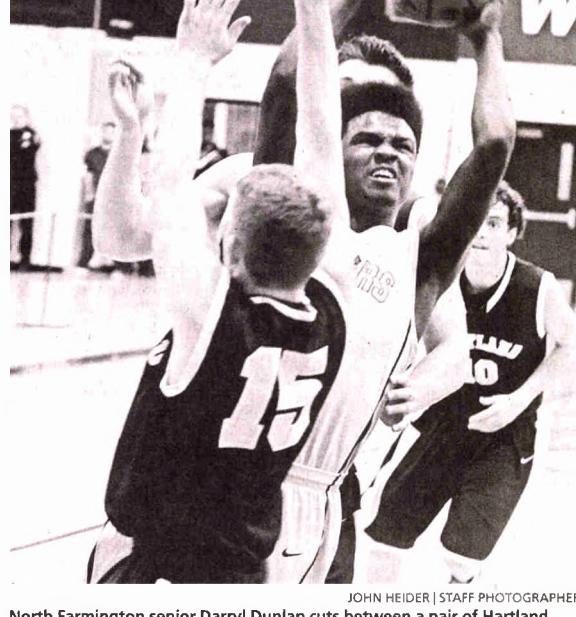
"We really feed off our defensive energy," North coach Todd Negoshian said. "Because we're so good offensively, people think we feed off our offense, but it's all about how hard we play defensively. The stops we had early were key."

Hartland showed some fight and made a short-lived rally early in the second quarter with seven unanswered points that cut the North lead to six, 20-14.

That was all for the Eagles, however. The Raiders, led by senior guard Billy Thomas, scored the last 21 points of the first half for a commanding lead.

"We just wanted to set the tone on the defensive end and let the defense create into offense," Thomas said. "We sped them up; they didn't want to play at a fast pace. We played at our speed and they couldn't play at ours."

Thomas, who scored a game-high 25 points, netted 19 in the first half, including all of his five 3-pointers. He put an exclamation point on North's big finish with back-to-back threes to end the half.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
North Farmington senior Darryl Dunlap cuts between a pair of Hartland defenders on a drive to the basket.

"They couldn't keep up with us," Thomas said. "We just wanted to play our game. We didn't want to come out lackadaisically and let them stay with us."

Senior forward Alex Darden, who had a pair of slam dunks, scored 10 of his 12 points before halftime. He also led the Raiders with nine rebounds.

Junior Amauri Hardy chipped in nine points; seniors Darryl Dunlap and Jacob Joubert added seven and four, respectively.

Darden, Dunlap and senior Sasoun Tcholakian also made one triple basket each as the Raiders went 8-of-20 behind

the arc.

Consecutive mid-court steals and layups by Thomas upped the North lead to 47-14 early in the third quarter.

The Raiders extended it to 55-24 at the end. North's starters didn't play in the fourth quarter.

Thomas also had six steals, three rebounds and two assists in less than three quarters of play. Joubert led the team with seven assists.

"It was one my better nights," Thomas said. "I think I should have been playing like this all year."

"Our goal is to win the state championship. Amauri, Jacob, Alex and I are the leaders of

the team. We need to be playing our best right now."

Hartland senior Paul Konlan scored eight points, senior Mitchell Brown and junior Jason Gigliotti six apiece and senior Miles McDonald five.

The Raiders shot 53 percent overall, making 25-of-47 field goals. The Eagles were 4-of-13 shooting the three and 12-of-42 from the floor overall for less than 29 percent.

"I thought our guys did a tremendous job of finding (Thomas), kicking it and knowing where he was at all times," Negoshian said. "We're a very unselfish group. They care about winning."

"They knew Billy was hot tonight. Our guys just kept getting him the ball and Billy kept answering the bell when they called his number."

But he reiterated it all started with North's good work at the defensive end of the floor.

"(Konlan) can shoot it; he's big and strong," Negoshian said. "When we were able to stop him from doing what he does, I thought it really gave us some momentum."

North will play Walled Lake Central in the regional final Wednesday. The Vikings (20-3) defeated Novi in the other semifinal game Monday, 72-61.

It will be the second straight regional final for the Raiders, who were runners-up last year to the eventual state finalist and this year's top-ranked team, undefeated Detroit Jesuit (24-0).

"Walled Lake Central has three really good guards and some underrated big kids," Negoshian said. "We're going to be in the sweet sixteen, so you know we're going to have a war. I'm just happy for our guys. We're back to where we were last year."

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CHARGERS

Continued from Page B1

guys didn't back down," said Churchill head coach Jimmy Solak. "Our guys were running around like crazy, attacking when we needed to and laying off when it wasn't there. I'm extremely proud of them."

Churchill promoted junior-varsity players to fill in for the missing varsity players.

"We were focused on the guys we had available, not the ones we didn't," said Solak.

"When I walked into the locker-room at the half, our guys were already in there talking about how they were going to attack them in the second half. We threw three different defenses at them in the second half, but they found ways to score. My hat's off to them."

The Churchill senior-guard trio of Jon Hovermale, Joann Andoni and Dayton Davis went out in a blaze of near-glory, attacking the Cubs with a fearless aggressiveness.

Andoni outscored Winston, 8-6, in the first half on the way to a team-high 15 points. Hovermale closed his four-year varsity career with 12 points and relentless hustle at both ends of the court.

While Davis scored just five points (he only shot four times, making two), he was the catalyst of the Chargers' zone-press breaker, facing down menacing traps with a contagious calm.

Churchill junior sky-walker Jerion Hampton made his presence felt in the game's opening minute when he nearly slammed home a put-back on a fast-break.

Senior forward Rashad Whitfield took advantage of his rare start by hanging tough with the Cubs' twin sky-scrappers — Ike Eke and Greg Eboigbedion — despite giving up at least five inches to both. Whitfield finished with seven points, six rebounds and two steals.

Winston, who is headed to Michigan State University this summer, hit four consecutive triples in the second half and closed with 20 points. Eboigbedion scored 14 while guards Elijah Collins and Scott Nelson tallied 12 points a piece.

"We didn't match (Churchill's) intensity in the first half," said Jesuit head coach Pat Donnelly. "We knew they had some shooters, but we weren't closing out on them like we needed to. Jimmy did a great job getting them. Those kids can play."

The Cubs capitalized on their height advantage early, jumping to a 12-2 lead. Four of the points came on alley-oop dunks off back-door cuts.

Undaunted, Churchill stormed back to knot the game at 14-all thanks to back-to-back treys from Andoni and Hovermale and an old-fashioned three-point play by Hovermale.

Jesuit looked like it may open things up in the second quarter, stretching its advantage to 30-22 when Collins followed up a missed free throw with a put-back.

However, Andoni knocked down a rainbow three from downtown with three seconds left in the half to bring the Chargers to within four.

The Cubs owned the third quarter, 24-10, before finishing the Chargers off with a 20-point final stanza.

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RUNNER-UP

Continued from Page B1

say we took our foot off the case, but I think it was more a case of a great Romeo team getting pucks to the net, getting some bounces and making plays.

"When you put the puck on the stick of their scorers during key situations, they find a way to finish."

The exciting encounter was Stevenson senior captain Ben Kowalske's final game.

Kowalske, who played on three Spartan teams that advanced to the finals (including the 2013 state-championship squad), was eloquent in defeat.

"Whenever an opponent scores a goal like they did when we were up 4-2, sure, a little doubt is going to creep into your mind," said Kowalske. "You can feel it, but you try to ignore it and play through it. But Romeo is a great team that knows how to capitalize on mistakes."

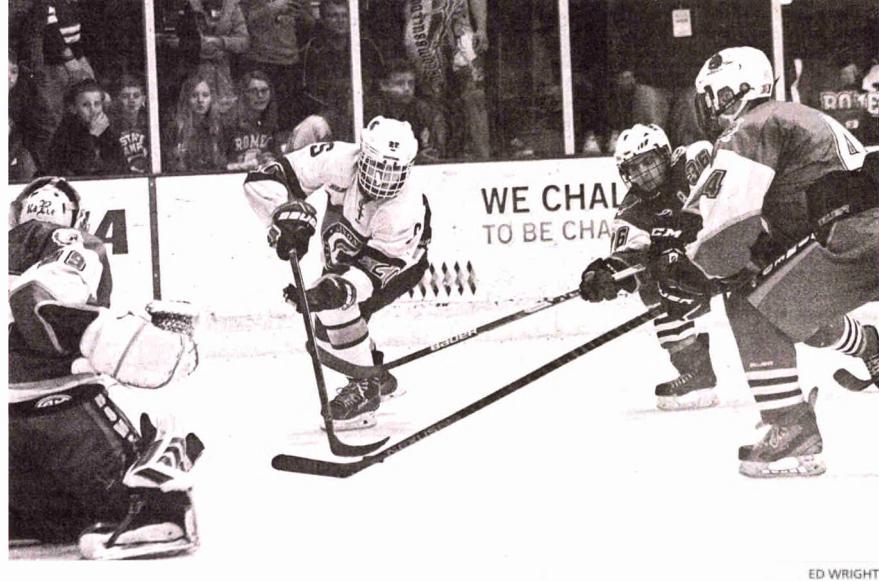
The Bulldogs bit first, scoring 7:07 into the game when Brett Lanski punched in the rebound of a Jenuwine shot.

Romeo knotted the game at 1-1 almost four minutes later when Joe Alcantara scored a goal that Kowalske and Shane Leonard assisted.

Romeo regained a 2-1 edge 6:18 into the second period when Jenuwine netted the first of his two lamp-limiters.

Nineteen seconds later, Stevenson's Nick Beers ignited a three-goals-in-five-minutes surge when he controlled a pass from Kevin Stefanick off the face-off, motored up the middle of the ice and fired the puck past Nolan Kare.

Goals from Leonard (from



ED WRIGHT
Stevenson's Alex Siroky fires a shot through a seam in the Romeo defense Saturday morning.

Adam Olson and Alcantara) and Nate Sudek (from Alex Walkuski and Sam Judd) ramped the Spartans' lead to 4-2, forcing second-year Romeo head coach Nick Badder to call a time-out.

"Stevenson had all the momentum and we were back on our heels, and you could feel it," recounted Badder. "Once the guys calmed down and realized we just had to play shift by shift and pick up our fore-checking, we kind of took over a little bit."

"We usually play our best when we're uncomfortable and we were uncomfortable most of the game today."

Romeo evened the slate at 4-4 after two periods with goals

from Lanski (14:26) and Kaczor (15:31), setting the stage for the frenzied final period.

Playing for the first time on the biggest stage in Michigan high school hockey, the Bulldogs admitted they were a little nervous at the get-go, but their comfort level grew as the game wore on.

"Coming in to today, I believed that if our football team could beat a Cass Tech team that had 20 Division 1 players on it, then we could beat a great Stevenson team," said Romeo's Nick Blankenburg. "This is an incredible feeling and something I know I'll never forget the rest of my life."

Mitchell got choked up when describing how special

this team — and the Stevenson program in general — is to him.

"I told the team in the locker-room after the game that thank-you is not nearly a strong enough word," Mitchell said. "These kids are more than just hockey players; they're incredible young men who volunteer in the community, excel in class (the team's grade-point average is 3.4) and make their school and their families proud."

"Sometimes, unfairly, we're judged by our team's record and how many championships we win, but these kids are much more than that."

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BOYS HOCKEY



Novi Detroit Catholic Central earned its third straight Division 1 boys hockey state title with a 3-0 win Saturday over Brighton at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

SCOTT CONFER

THREE-SWEET

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Novi Detroit Catholic Central got an early jump on daylight saving time by springing forward early Saturday night for its 13th MHSAA boys hockey state championship in school history.

And the Shamrocks did it in clockwork fashion with a 3-0 victory over Brighton in the Division 1 final before 2,214 fans at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

It was the third state title in a row for CC and the first for rookie coach Brandon Kalenicki, a 2000 CC grad who won two MHSAA state crowns himself as a player.

"To win this one is certainly a different feeling," said Kalenicki, who guided CC to a 24- record. "You're filled with so much pride and with the amount of effort that the players give ... it's very fulfilling as a coach, because you get to watch them, experience those same type of things you did when you were a player. You feel so much pride and you're so happy for them because they got it done."

CC applied heavy pressure in the Bulldogs' zone during the first period, but Brighton junior goalie Logan Neaton was up to the task, turning away all 15 shots.

Brighton's best scoring

Catholic Central takes bite out of Bulldogs for Division 1 crown

chance came on a CC power play, as Jake Crespi found himself all alone on a breakaway and was taken down by CC defenseman Alex Kreutzer on a short-handed effort. He was awarded a penalty shot, but CC 6-foot-4 senior goaltender Alec Calvaruso stood his ground and stopped Crespi's attempt headed toward the five-hole.

Calvaruso had not faced a penalty shot all season and didn't remember what exactly happened when Crespi took the shot. It was all a blur.

"You just got to keep the team in it and do what you've got to do, keep it going," Calvaruso said.

Despite being in a scoreless deadlock after one period, Kalenicki was confident his team was in a good position.

"We were pleased with our first period, outside the penalty shot, where we had a minor breakdown on the power play," Kalenicki said. "Then Alec bailed us out on a great save on that. And that could have been a huge turning point, but it kept it 0-0. We felt like we had the better chances, because we had a lot of possession in their zone and, eventually, we were going to break through. That's kind of been our M.O. all play-offs.

"Not every game we've been able to score in the first five minutes and it's taken a while, but we keep preaching, 'Keep doing what you're doing,' because in the first period, I thought we were a pretty good team."

Brighton went 0-of-2 on the power play in that first period, while CC was 0-of-1.

The Shamrocks finally broke through at 7:56 of the second period, on Glynn Robitaille's rebound goal after Nick Macari carried the puck through on the left wing. J.P. Lafferty also drew an assist to make it 1-0.

"Coach Kalenicki always tells me I need to drive the net more often and I need to shoot more often," Macari said. "I just kind of listened to what he said and I drove to the net and it worked. It ended up on my player's stick and it went in the net."

Macari then busted down the left wing again and went top-shelf to beat Neaton to make it 2-0 at 14:22 of the second. Brian Galvin and Lafferty drew assists.

And just 1:44 into the third period, Cody Borke's tip-in goal off a shot from just inside the blue line from Austin Roell gave the Shamrocks a 3-0 cushion.

The Bulldogs, who were outshot 29-15, couldn't get the puck past Calvaruso, who survived a six-on-three disadvantage during the final two minutes after two of his teammates were sent to the box.

And there was nothing better than the senior goalie posting a shutout in the state final.

"They made it easy for me," Calvaruso said. "I saw everything and they didn't get many shots. They played the way they knew how. It means a lot. I didn't play the last two (state finals), so it means everything."

CC played a strong game defensively en route to winning the title. During its six-game tourney run, the Shamrocks had three shutouts and gave up only four goals.

"We just had to limit their odd-man chances," Kalenicki said. "You make sure your third forward is high and make them play in the defensive zone, because if they do get possession at that point, it's a long way to go. The best way to stop the best offensive player or players is make them play in the 'D' zone, because even if they get possession, it's a long way to go."

Brighton, meanwhile, went 0-of-5 on the power play and it always seemed the Shamrocks

were an hour ahead.

"From the beginning, I don't think we got totally into our game, because Catholic Central didn't want us to," said Brighton coach Paul Moggoch, whose team finished 22-9. "I think they played a great game on both sides of the puck, offensively and defensively. We just didn't find a rhythm and didn't find a way to get to them. I think if we had scored on that penalty shot, we might have had a little bit of a chance, but they outshot us, outplayed us."

For the Shamrocks, it was a culmination of another stellar state championship run.

"It's really hard to explain. I'm on top of the world right now," said Macari, a captain who had a goal and assist. "I've been on the team for three years and we're fortunate to win all three years. We just got better and better each year. Knowing I went out on top as a senior ... nothing better."

Kalenicki is the third different CC coach to claim a state title in the last three years. Doug Itami was the coach in 2014 and Danny Veri did it as an interim coach in 2015.

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HIGH SCHOOL REGIONAL BASKETBALL

Northville reels in Marlins for crown

Mustangs capture first regional championship in school history

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Like the Lewis and Clark expedition, the Northville girls basketball team is discovering new territory as it traverses through the Class A state tournament.

The Mustangs saddled up once again March 10 at Novi and rode to a regional championship - the first in school history - with a convincing 46-29 win over Farmington Hills Mercy.

Northville (21-3) made its first quarterfinal appearance ever Tuesday at Southfield against Warren Cousino (20-4).

The long-armed Mustangs, despite 25 turnovers on the night, turned in a masterful defensive performance, holding Mercy scoreless with a 15-second-quarter run and limiting the Marlins to 21-percent shooting from the floor (8-of-39).

"We knew Mercy was going to be really good after watching them beat Howell and we didn't play well on Tuesday," Northville coach Todd Gudith said, referring to a 35-28 win on March 9 over Milford.

"The girls kind of knew we were kind of down in that game, so we knew we had to give it our best effort tonight. I thought we probably played our best game of the year."

Northville's two junior 6-footers, Jessica Moorman and Brook Adams, led the way with 14 and 11 points, respectively. Sophomore guard Roan Haines



Northville senior forward Lindsay Rathsburg is all smiles holding the school's first-ever Class A regional tournament trophy.

and senior forward Lindsey Rathsburg added six apiece, sophomore point guard Kendall Dillon five.

"It's a great feeling, knowing this is my senior year and we made it this far," Rathsburg said. "We thought it was going to be a lot closer, but it was

nice to know it wasn't at the end."

Although Northville trailed 10-6 after one quarter, the Mustangs quickly changed the course of the game in the second quarter as Mercy went 0-of-8 from the floor and trailed 21-10 at halftime.

"Pretty much the whole first quarter, I thought we were pretty patient; we hit some shots and defended well," Mercy coach Gary Morris said. "Then came the second quarter and it's just the way things work."

"We started missing shots; we started forcing shots, which weren't good shots, which led to scoring opportunities for them. That second quarter couldn't get over soon enough for us, so we could go in and talk about some adjustments."

The Marlins, however, came out in a trapping, full-court press and quickly cut the lead to 23-21 with 4:37 left in the third after senior guard Zora Pullen converted an old-fashioned three-point play.

But Haines answered for Northville with a basket 12 seconds later and Northville closed the quarter with a 12-3 run to maintain its 11-point advantage going into the fourth, 35-24.

There were a few anxious moments during Mercy's third-quarter spurt, so Gudith burned a couple of timeouts to help his team refocus.

"Even though we had the lead at the half, we told the kids, 'Look, they're going to make a run; you got to be ready for it,' and, sure enough, they came out of the gate in the second half and took it to us," Gudith said. "But our girls weathered the storm. Our goal was to 'Let's bring it even in the third quarter' and I thought we did that."

Gudith also employed more players to help break Mercy's press.

"I thought we struggled with the two players we had," he said. "Mercy was bringing everybody. They were throw-

ing everything at us. Bringing four players up helped. A couple of timeouts settled them down and calmed their nerves."

By the fourth quarter, Mercy went stone cold again from the field (0-of-10). Northville gradually stretched its lead to 18 points as Moorman scored eight of her 14.

"A lot of our struggles on the offensive end led to easy shots for them," Morris said. "But give a lot of credit to Northville. It's the first time they've been on this stage, so to speak, and their kids responded well."

While the Mustangs shot an impressive 60 percent from the floor (15-of-25) to go with 15-of-23 foul shooting, the turnovers were a concern.

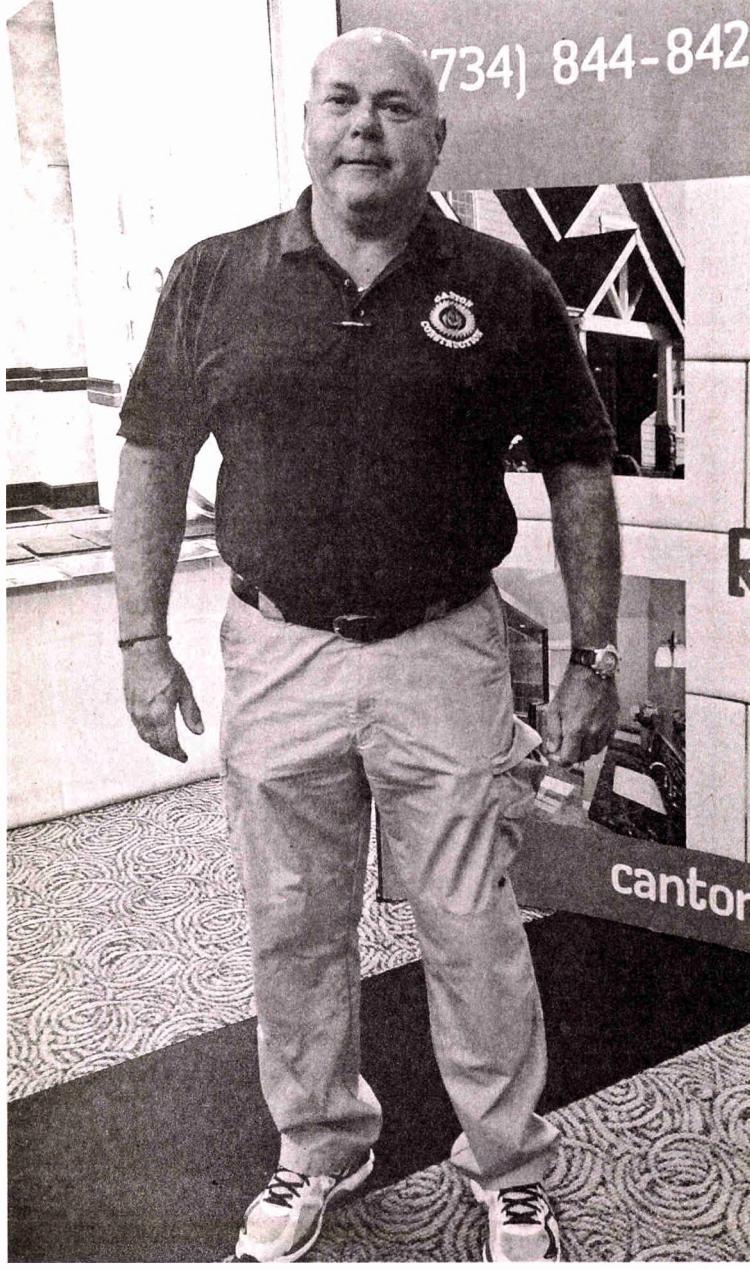
"I know we had a lot and a lot of that is because of Mercy's defense," Gudith said. "A lot of that was nerves. We had some open looks, had open players, but we just overshot them with passes. If we connect on a couple of those, maybe it's not so much of a game in the third quarter."

Junior guard Jackie Bauer paced the Marlins with 14 points. Pullen added seven, but there was little offensive production from the remaining cast.

"This is not a typical Mercy team," Gudith said. "Usually, they have a couple of post kids. They spread the floor a lot and they're just good shooters. We saw them hit a bunch of triples the other night, so we knew we had to force them to take tough shots. And when they drove inside, they saw our length."

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Time to build: Home Expo in Canton offers ideas, expertise



John Sarnecky of Canton owns Canton Construction with his wife, Marissa.

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

John and Marissa Sarnecky own Canton Construction, among some 70 vendors at the Canton Home Improvement Expo March 5-6.

"Last year was outstanding for us," Canton resident John Sarnecky said of the Expo. "We've been here from Day One," some 15 years ago. "They've expanded to just about every nook and cranny."

Indeed, the Summit on the Park was busy with vendors and people seeking home improvement ideas. Sarnecky said when the economy slowed people backed off on upgrades, and that's gotten a lot better.

"Additions," he said. "A lot of exterior work. The more important items they were holding off on I think they're addressing now."

He noted the auto industry's bonuses and profit sharing help Canton Construction's business. Rental inspections started by Canton building officials have been a factor he's seen as well.

"That had an impact on us as well as the community, keeping things up to par," Sarnecky said. "They're up to snuff now."

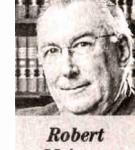
Nearby at Mans Lumber and Millwork was Jim Trudeau, installation sales manager for the firm dating back to 1900. Mans has locations in Canton and Trenton.

"Decks are really big and also kitchen remodels," said Riverview resident Trudeau. "We're seeing a really big jump in window replacement. People are really going up the next level. They really seem to want to improve their homes."

Trudeau agreed March is ideal to start such projects. He was helped that Saturday by colleague Dottie Kelly of Canton, facilitator for sales support.

Trudeau noted the Expo helps boost awareness of their Canton site at the Michigan Avenue-Beck Road area. "We get a lot of response," he said.

His own home isn't neglected either. "My wife makes sure I keep it up," Trudeau said.

Julie Brown
Vanessa Mattson-Boze traveled with sons Eli, 4, and Soren, 3, from Madison, Wis., and stopped by the Expo while visiting family here. The boys liked the Home Depot building projects for kids and meeting Canton police officers.Julie Brown
Representing Mans Lumber and Millwork at the Expo are staffers Jim Trudeau of Riverview and Dottie Kelly of Canton. Mans, in business since 1900, has Canton and Trenton locations.

Robert Meisner

Easement case could be thorny, based on Kentucky court ruling

Q: Our developer has retained an easement access through our condominium to another project but we are thinking about amending our documents to eliminate that easement. What do you think the chances are of that being successful?

A: That is a tough task to accomplish particularly based upon a Kentucky Court of Appeals decision which stated that easements and restrictive covenants are entirely different and are not an interchangeable concept of property law. The court indicated that a covenant only restricts the use of property, while an easement confers the right to enter the property upon which the easement is held. In your case, the owner of the property burdened by an easement (i.e. the association) even with the vote of the members does not have the authority to alter or terminate the easement without the easement holders consent. Thus the easement cannot be extinguished without the developer's consent. Therefore, you may have a problem getting that easement extinguished. *Majestic Oaks Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Majestic Oaks Farms, Inc., No. 2014-CA-000492-MR (Ky. Ct. App. Nov. 20, 2015)*

Q: We are in a football college town and we want our association to eliminate renting a unit to a student enrolled in a two- or four-year college, institution or university. I understand that this could be argued that this type of provision is a restriction discriminating against a class of persons. What do you think?

A: Based upon a recent decision out of South Carolina, the Supreme Court of that state upheld a restriction prohibiting rentals to college students. The court basically stated that college students are not of a class of citizens normally suspect for discrimination. They aren't faced with a long history of discrimination, are not a distinct minority and have not been classified according to an imputable trait acquired at birth. The court in that case found that the leasing restriction to be rationally related to protecting the safety, comfort, and investment of owners. The restriction minimized the risk of creating a dormitory like atmosphere by barring those who have a tendency to engage in disruptive conduct. The court basically said that state and federal housing laws prohibit discrimination in housing sales or rentals based on a person's race, color, religion, sex, family status or national origin and that under both state and federal law, familial status refers to persons under the age of 18 who live with a parent or guardian. In that case since the restriction did not involve any of those criteria, the court found no housing violation. It is important to understand the full context of that case as it relates to your possible situation.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Canton policewoman has tips on vacation home security

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Canton police Officer Patty Esselink was happy to answer questions about home safety when you're away on vacation. She and other Public Safety personnel, police and fire, were staffing the booth at the Canton Home Improvement Expo March 5-6.

"The biggest thing is letting your neighbors know you're going to be away, a trusted neighbor," said Esselink. Other key tips she offered are:

- » Maintain snow removal in winter;
- » Make sure grass is mowed in warm weather;

- » Make arrangements for your mail and newspapers, so they don't pile up and advertise you're away.

Letting a family member or trusted neighbor know your travel plans allows him or her to check and see if, for example, a garage door is open, she said.

"Then the neighbor can call us, or a family member" if something's not right, Esselink said. "Encourage them to call the police. We will come out and check the situation."

Lighting indoors and outside can also help make your home more secure.

Julie Brown
Canton police Officer Patty Esselink said of vacationing, "The biggest thing is letting your neighbors know you're going to be away, a trusted neighbor."

"You can put your television on a timer, you can put your lights on a timer," she said. There are also motion-activated lights for outdoors which will indicate "there may be something going on outside."

Of the busy Home Expo, she added on Saturday, March 5, "It's going absolutely wonderfully."

deau said of their home, which has recently had two bedrooms remodeled with new doors, molding and flooring.

Visiting the Expo on March 5 from Madison, Wis., was Vanessa Mattson-Boze, with sons Eli Mattson-Boze, 4, and brother Soren, 3. Vanessa's husband and her parents came to the Expo, as the family was visiting in Canton.

"It's been large," she said. "We didn't really expect it to be this many vendors. The kids have had fun."

Her sons liked meeting Canton police officers and doing the Home Depot building kits for kids.

The Expo is presented the first weekend in March by Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division. Partners include the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Joe Gagnon, "The Appliance Doctor," also participated.

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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayde Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker-owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m.

each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@addedvalue-realty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

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Events & Fairs

DEARBORN HTS -Vendor Show, St. Peter & Paul Church, 750 N. Beech Daly Rd., Sat. Mar. 19th, 10a-3p. Over 40 reps. Facebook.com/spinball

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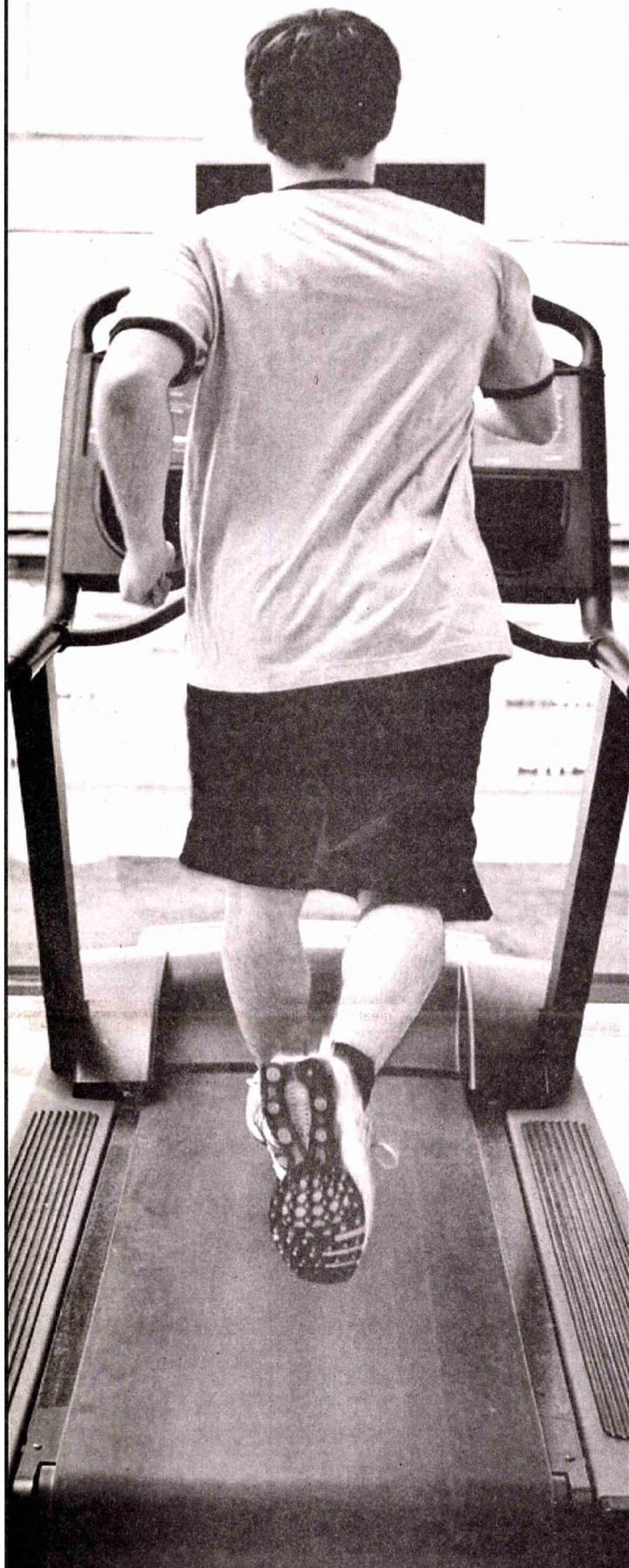


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Canton author to attend Plymouth Author Fair



Brian Webster (left) and his son, Christopher, who was a teen at the time, using skateboarding to battle frustrations with dyslexia. Christopher now is 31.

Latest novel is based on son's teenage struggle with dyslexia

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Some writers draw inspiration from a muse. Author Brian Webster credits dyslexia for his original ideas.

The Canton man says the disorder is "a gift" that helps him create stories and then translate them into screenplays that he has written over several years. Some have won awards. Some are under consideration by a production company. Almost all have been adapted into books with the help of collaborators.

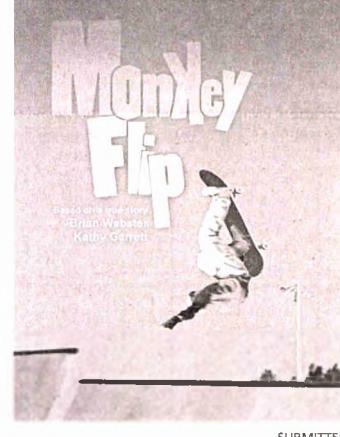
"I'm not a great writer but I'm a very visual person," said Webster, explaining his ability to overcome his dyslexia and visualize a story. "If I have a story in my head, I can see it played out on the screen."

Dyslexia not only inspires his stories, it's the subject of his latest book, "Monkey Flip," a young adult novel based on his son, Christopher, who also struggled with dyslexia when he was a teen.

Webster will sign copies of his new book, which was co-authored by freelance writer Kathy Garrett, at the Plymouth Author Fair, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at the library, 222 S. Main, Plymouth. Books. Twenty authors will be on hand to meet readers and sign their books, which will be available for purchase. Friends of the Library will serve refreshments.

Mastering a flip

"Monkey Flip" tells the story of a dyslexic teen who is misunderstood at school and bullied. He takes out his frustrations in competitive skateboarding, which shores up his self-



SUBMITTED
The cover of Brian Webster's new book, adapted from a screenplay, "Monkey Flip."

esteem and helps him to overcome his disability. The title refers both to the tendency of some dyslexic readers to transpose or flip letters. It's also the name of a skateboard move that Webster's son, Christopher, learned to master.

"I drew a lot on the things he went through," said Webster, who wrote the story first as a screenplay. "My son was not like everyone else. He needed more time to take tests. He was a smart kid. The difficult part was getting teachers to be aware of techniques of teaching my son. The problem, too, was me trying to help him. It was like two people trying to dance and they both have left feet."

PLYMOUTH AUTHOR FAIR

Teen and youth fiction

In addition to Brian Webster, other teen and youth fiction writers will include S.J. Lomas, author of "Dream Girl," and Jennifer Weiser, author of "The Touched."

Children's books

Kris Yankee, author of "Every Day Is A Character Day," Toya Wilson, author of "The Old Lady in the Shoe," Whitney Pytlowany, author of "Say Please, Amanda Louise," and Timothy Dziobak, author of "Red Boy Tours Michigan."

Adult fiction

James P. Katus with "The Secret Past of a Perfect Woman," LeAnn Mathis with "A Timely Romance," and Cheryl Vatcher-Martin with "The Purple Flower: Dreaming of a Time Machine."

Adult non-fiction

Exie Susanne-Smith, "When the Dead Come Calling," Will Swartz, "A Walk Across Michigan Shore-to-Shore Riding and Hiking Trail," Robert Omilian, "No Fear No Doubt No Regret: Investing in Life's Challenges Like a Warrior," Donovan M. Neal, "The Third Heaven: The Birth of God," John Lankford, "The Answer is Leadership, What is the Question?" Kurt Kazanowski, "A Son's Journey: Taking Care of Mom and Dad," Robert M. Haig, "Ten Little Police Chiefs: A Detroit Police Story," R.J. Fox, "Love & Vodka: My Surreal Adventures in the Ukraine," Karen Dybis, "Better Made in Michigan: The Salty Story of Detroit's Best Chip," and Helga Henn, "Can You Read Me Now?"

"He's 31 now. Instead of flipping letters, he flips houses for a living."

Promoting work

Webster, a retired Detroit Public Schools science teacher, managed to get "Monkey Flip," both the book and screenplay, into the hands of film producer Mary Jane Skalski when he saw her speak at the Detroit Film Theater a few weeks ago.

"I constantly keep my eyes open for opportunities," he said. "I may not see a way, but God will show me a way. That is my personal faith."

He won second place in a screenplay contest and was awarded a trip to a script festival in Los Angeles, Calif. While there he gave scripts and his three children's books, to a representative from a production company.

She liked the holiday-related and family stories and asked for revisions. He is re-writing two of the scripts and hopes to find out this week if his work has a chance for production.

Webster writes while in the basement of the home he shares with his wife, Cathy, who also is a retired teacher. Motivational posters and slogans at his desk urge him to "never give up" and reassure that "all dreams come true."

"My thing is, if it's something in your heart and you're passionate about it, no matter what it is, never stop believing in yourself," he said. "If you get a 1,000 'noes' and one 'yes,' it's all worth it, because you finally got a 'yes.'"

sdargay@hometownlife.com

GET OUT!: CALENDAR OF ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 31

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.

Bunnyville: Egg hunts, Jelly Bean Jamboree, games, whisker painting, photos with the Easter Bunny, "The Bunny Follies" musical, treats and zookeeper talks, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 25-26. Visitors with canned or other non-perishable food donations for Gleaners Community Food Bank, will receive a reduced zoo admission price of \$9.

Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through April 8

Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: "Night and Day" exhibit features new work, including landscape and portraits of other local artists, by Taurus Burns

Contact: 248-473-1859

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL

Time/Date: Through April 22

Location: 31555 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Works by local artists Pamela Alexander and Susan Warner

Contact: 248-473-1859

NORTHLVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Exhibit hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, through March 19

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: 10th Annual Member Exhibition

Contact: 248-344-0497 or www.NorthvilleArtHouse.org

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday, March 18

Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "Drawn to the Night" is an open life drawing event for all ages to practice drawing the human form.

Includes a costumed model with timed poses. This month's theme is Mucha Nouveau. Bring your own art supplies. Complimentary refreshments. \$10 at the door; \$5 for students

Contact: plmoutharts.com

U-M MUSEUM OF ART

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. through May 29

Location: 525 S. State Street, Ann Arbor

Details: First U.S. exhibition of Chinese artist Xu Weixin focuses on portraits of Chinese coal miners and of Chinese historical figures during the Cultural Revolution

Contact: 734-764-0395; umma.umich.edu

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances, through March 30; meet and greet is 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 17

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Paint, Color and the Figure: works by Jean-Paul Aboudib," is a solo show of 30 oil, acrylic and graphite paintings and drawings

Contact: cantonvillagetheater.org

COMEDY

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Sunday, March 20

Location: The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron, Ann Arbor

Details: Mark Sweetman emcees a show with Josh Adams, a member of the Motown Laugh Kings, and Adam Hirzel, a Chicago Second City alum. Admission is \$10

Contact: 734-985-0875; emergentarts.com

FESTIVAL

IRISH FEST

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Thursday, March 17

Location: Hellenic Center, 36375 Joy, Westland

Details: 32nd annual St. Patrick's Day celebration includes Irish food, music, song, and dance with the Ardan School of Irish Dance, Detroit Square Dance Society, Highland Pipes, Eddie McGlinchey, Ray Maguire, members of the Conor O'Neill's Session Band, and Mick Gavin's Crossroads Ceili Band. Corned

See GET OUT, Page B9

Details: "Paint, Color and the Figure: works by Jean-Paul Aboudib," is a solo show of 30 oil, acrylic and graphite paintings and drawings

Contact: cantonvillagetheater.org

GET OUT

Continued from Page B8

beef and cabbage dinners, Irish stew, hamburgers and hot dogs will be available for purchase. \$10 admission, kids 12 and under accompanied by parents enter free.

Contact: 313-537-3489

MULTICULTURAL FAIR

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Thursday, March 24

Location: VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, located on Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Exhibits, dance and music performances, food. Free

Contact: 734-462-4422

FILM

MJR DIGITAL CINEMAS

Time/Date: March 20; check theaters for show times

Location: Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland, and other MJR theaters

Details: "Alvin & Chipmunks Road Chip," March 19-20. Free for children, 12 and under; parents pay \$1. Tickets distributed on first-come, first-served basis at the door

Contact: mjrtheatres.com

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, March 18 and Thursday-Friday, March 24-25, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 19-20, and Saturday, March 26

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: "Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens," \$3

Contact: 734-453-0870;

www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 18 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 19

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Avenue in Detroit

Details: "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," \$5

Coming up: "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," 8 p.m. April 1 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 2

Contact: 313-898-1481;

redfordtheatre.com

FUNDRAISERS

GIVING HOPE

Time/Date: 6:30-9 p.m. April 13

Location: Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

Details: The "Giving Our All for Family, Fun and Fitness" event, presented by Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle, includes food, a cash bar, shopping, a fashion show from local shops and boutiques, a raffle and a silent auction. Admission is \$35 and pre-registration is required. Proceeds from the event will help bring ShapeDown, a family weight management program to the greater Canton and Plymouth area

Contact: cantonfoundation.org

MICHIGAN JAZZ FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, April 24

Location: VisTaTech Center, Schoolcraft College main campus, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

Details: Sean Dobbins Organ Quartet performs. Tickets are \$15 by April 10 or \$20 at the door

Contact: Pat Minnick 734-462-4403; music@schoolcraft.edu

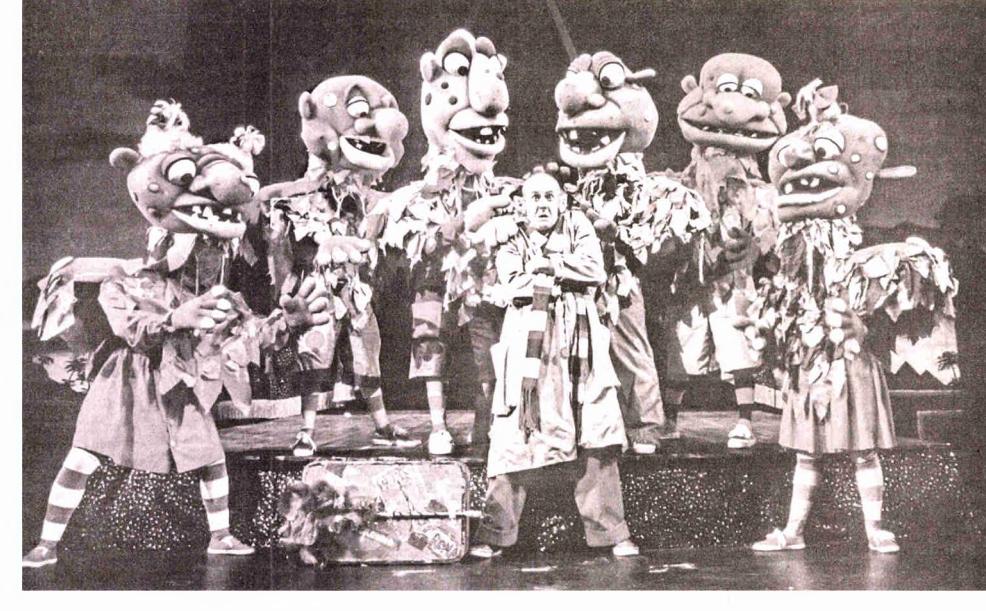
HISTORY

KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through May 15

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: "Leisure and Luxury in the Age of Nero: the Villas of Oplontis near Pompeii," explores the lavish lifestyle and economic interests of some of ancient Rome's wealthiest and most powerful citizens, who vacationed along the Bay of Naples. Includes more than 200 items on loan from Italy. Admis-



A scene from "The BFG," a children's play about giants, April 4, at Music Hall in Detroit



SUBMITTED

Kelly Broadway and her trio will perform March 29 at the Jazz@The Elks series in Plymouth.



SUBMITTED

"Blue Eyes and Crimson Rain," is

among the

paintings by

Jean-Paul

Aboudib

on display

through

March 30

at the

Village

Theater at

Cherry

Hill, in

Canton.

10
Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit

Details: "The BFG," a story by Roald Dahl that is adapted for stage by David Wood, pairs a big, friendly giant with a "human bean" to save England from "gizzard-gulping" giants. For ages 7 and up. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and older, \$10 for ages 2-12

Contact: musichall.org

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. play, Friday-Saturday, March 18-19 and April 1-2; play only 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 8-9

Location: 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

Details: Professor James Hartman stages "Come Back Little Sheba," with graduates, students, and community actors. The play tells the story of Doc and Lola, who have lost hope and love, symbolized by their lost dog, Sheba. Doc's problem with alcoholism and a beautiful boarder complicate their lives. Tickets are \$27 for dinner theater and \$15 for the play only April 8-9. Get tickets by phone or at the campus book store

Contact: 734-462-4596

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 17-18, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 19, and 2 p.m. March 20

Location: Inspire Theater, located in the Westland Performing Arts Center, 33455 Warren Road, Westland

Details: "Enchanted Sleeping Beauty" is a musical spin on the classic tale. Tickets are \$15

Contact: 734-751-7057; spotlightsyouthmi.com

ST. DUNSTAN'S THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 18, 25-26 and 2 p.m. March 20

Location: 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills

Details: In the comedy, "Lend Me a Tenor," when a famous opera singer passes out after mixing wine and tranquilizers, an aspiring singer must take his place at a concert. Tickets \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and students

Contact: 248-737-3587; StDunstansTheatre.com

STILL GOT IT PLAYERS

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Thursday, March 17; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 18-19; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 20

Location: Biltmore Studio at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Old Ringers" is about four senior women and one man who are strapped for funds and start a phone sex service to increase their incomes. Tickets are \$16-\$18

Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillagetheater.org

MUSIC HALL

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, April

sion is free

Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Exhibit: "It's a Downton Abbey Thing," looks at the PBS series "Downton Abbey" in relation to events from 1912-1930 in southeast Michigan and the U.S.

Details: Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17.

Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 6:15-6:45 p.m. open mic sign-up; 7 p.m. performances start, Saturday, March 19

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Ten open-mic performances and featured artists, Maggie and Alex Zaken, with Chris and Stephanie Sorenson. The featured performance will begin at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5

Contact: plymoutharts.com

BLUES@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Bring your dancing shoes. \$5 donation

Contact: 734-453-1780

JAZZ@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Kelly Broadway Trio performs March 29. A \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email

plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

MAMA'S COFFEEHOUSE

Time/Date: Doors at 7 p.m.,

concert starts at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 19

Location: Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills

Details: Finvarra's Wren; general admission is \$15; students and seniors pay \$13

Contact: mamascoffeehouse.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, March 18, Manell Jamal, March 19; Open Stage, March 29 and April 5; Putnam Smith and Jeff Karoub, April 1; The Waynewood Boys with Escaping Pavement, April 2; Empty Chair Night with Annie

and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and a special guest, April 3; John Latini and Jamie-Sue Seal with The Springtails, April 8; Jill Jack and Billy Brandt, April 9. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted

Contact: 734-464-6302 for additional information

SPOKEN WORD

THEATER BETTER THAN EVER PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 31, April 1-2, 2 p.m. April 3

Location: Plymouth arts and Recreation Complex, 650 Church, Plymouth

Details: "Last roundup of the Guacamole Queens," is set in a small Texas town where three

cousins are in charge of the last reunion at a high school slated for demolition. Everything that can go wrong does. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door

Contact: betterthaneproducts.wix.com/btep; 734-306-7883

INSPIRE THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 15-16 and 3 p.m. April 17

Location: 33455 Warren Road, Westland

Details: "The Sunset Limited" is a two-character drama about an ex-con who claims to hear the voice of Jesus and the professor he stopped from throwing himself into the path of an oncoming train. Tickets are \$15

Contact: 734-751-7057; inspiretheatre.com

MUSIC HALL

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, April

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #322A, Proposed Vacation of 20 Foot Wide Alley Abutting Lots 1-41 and 42-61 Block E, Ford Warren Park Subdivision, East Side of Newburgh Road, South of Ford Road, Scott & Anne Minch

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Published: March 17, 2016

LO-0000275148

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2198, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Nankin Mills Site Condominium Subdivision, Part of Parcel #009-02-0574-001, Northeast Corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Hubbard, Fadi Nassar

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

LO-0000275149

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #974G, Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Pharmacy,

MARCH BIBLE PROPHECY SERIES

Time/Date: 7:15 p.m., beginning March 28

Location: Metropolitan School Gymnasium, 15585 N. Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: An in-depth Bible prophecy series called *Unlocking Revelation* will examine prophecies of Scripture. Go to www.UnlockRevelation.com to see all locations and pre-register and receive a free Bible Prophecy DVD on the first night. Snacks will be served

Contact: www.UnlockRevelation.com

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 20

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: French toast, ham, pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: 734-425-4421

BUDDHISM CLASS

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 24, April 14 and 28, and May 12 and 26

Location: The Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

Details: Free five-week secular practical Buddhism class will apply Buddhist teachings to daily life through meditation, reflection and discussion. Secular Buddhism emphasizes the teaching of Eastern philosophy practices in a way that allows each individual to become their own teacher. Ideas such as "awakening" and "enlightenment" are goals in which there is no "one true way"

Contact: 248-478-7272; uuFarmington.org

DRAMATIC EASTER MUSICAL

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 25-26

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: "Bow the Knee"

Contact: Church office at 734-421-0472; Russell Weathers at 734-536-3553; pastor@mrbc.us

EASTER FAIR

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, March 25

Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: Egg hunt, crafts, prizes, interactive Bible stories, lunch. Children also will have the opportunity to "search" for items to make a hygiene kit for boys in foster care at the Methodist Children's Home, in Redford

Contact: 734-422-0149; newburgumc.org

EASTER FUN

Time/Date: 3-5 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: InsideOut Church, 1075 Venoy, Garden City

Details: The event will include carnival games, photos with the Easter Bunny, Easter candy and chances to win a prize package worth \$100, for families with children, fifth grade and younger

Contact: 734-983-8376

EASTER FUN

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 19

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: Crafts, stories, an Easter egg hunt, games and more for children through sixth grade. Free. Sign up by calling the church

Contact: 734-422-1470

EASTER FUN

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Family-friendly event with crafts, egg hunt, and presentation of the Easter story. Bring a basket for the egg hunt, which is for ages 12 and under

Contact: Melissa at 734-765-1827

EASTER WEEK

Time/Date: Palm Sunday service, 10 a.m. March 20; Maundy Thursday service, 7 p.m. March 24; Good Friday meditation, noon-1 p.m. March 25; Easter service, 10 a.m., March 27

Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: A continental breakfast follows the Easter service

Contact: 734-421-1760; office@unityoflivonia.org

EASTER WEEK

Time/Date: Palm Sunday service, 10 a.m., March 20; Maundy Thursday service, 7 p.m. March 24; Good Friday meditation, noon-1 p.m. March 25; Easter service, 10 a.m., March 27

Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: A continental breakfast follows the Easter service

Contact: 734-421-1760; office@unityoflivonia.org

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Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: A continental breakfast follows the Easter service

Contact: 734-421-1760; office@unityoflivonia.org

EASTER WEEK

Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 24-25 and 10:30 a.m. March 27

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Maundy Thursday service on March 24; Good Friday service is March 25 and Easter service on March 27. An Easter breakfast also will be held at 9 a.m., followed by an egg hunt at 9:30 a.m., March 27

Contact: 734-427-3660

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Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 24-25 and 10:30 a.m. March 27

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EASTER WEEK</h3

SASS UP MEALS

LIVONIA COMPANY INTRODUCES FLAVOR SAUCE

USA TODAY NETWORK ILLUSTRATION/THINKSTOCK



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judy and Mike Campbell show the five flavors of Sweet Sass.

Sharon Dargay

Staff Writer

Mike and Judy Campbell of Livonia make a sauce you can drizzle on eggs, bananas, salad and even ice cream.

You can mix it with tuna patties, slather it on ribs, spread it on a pizza crust.

It can bake with beans, marinade tempeh, stir-fry with veggies.

In fact, the Campbells say their Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce is so versatile, there are virtually no limits to "sassing up" food.

"Here's breakfast, lunch, dinner, sides, salad and desserts," said Mike Campbell, who makes and bottles the sauce at a licensed facility in Redford. "This is not Open Pit. It's not Sweet Baby Ray's. We are not just a barbecue sauce. We feel like we're the new table sauce."

"We are the only flavor sauce, but we're on the condiment shelf next to the barbecue sauces and things like that."

Sweet Sass Foods produces the sauce in five flavors. Straight Up — the original flavor — Hickory Kick and Chipotle Craze are sold at Kroger stores in Michigan and Columbus, Ohio. Other flavors are Habanero Flare and Garlic Fix. The product also is available at Busch's, Plum Market, Westborn Market, Zerbos, Better Health Market and Holiday Market.

Evolving sauce

Sweet Sass production has come a long way since Mike Campbell, who worked for Faygo Beverages, Inc. in the 1980s and 90s, first began experimenting with sauces.

"I put a couple of sauces together. I was a single father at the time and my son was young. We created the original Straight Up sauce. It was one of the things he enjoyed when he came over," he said. "We didn't go to market with it. We didn't even name it at that time. It was our thing."

Mike Campbell began to share the sauce with family members and liberally used it with food at a graduation party for his son in 2005. Rave reviews encouraged him to begin researching the process needed to produce and market the sauce.

"One thing led to another. We changed the recipe because we had to take out certain things," said Judy Campbell. "We were taking butter and fat out."

"And boy, did I have a lot of sugar in it," Mike Campbell added. "We took a lot of it out. We said, let's try to streamline it to a good calorie count. That was a big learning process."

Into stores

By 2009 they tested the sauce at a local restaurant and, enlisting the help of Mike's son, Dan, and Judy's sons, Justin and Jason, began promoting the product at public events, such as Art in the Park in Plymouth and the Women's International Show in Novi.

Two years later, they got a call from Kroger.

"Originally they told us you're going to be in 24 stores and then the order came and it was for 87," Mike Campbell recalled. "It was exciting. We had to deliver to 87 stores in three days."

By 2013, the Campbells removed high-fructose corn syrup from the recipe and it was non-GMO verified.

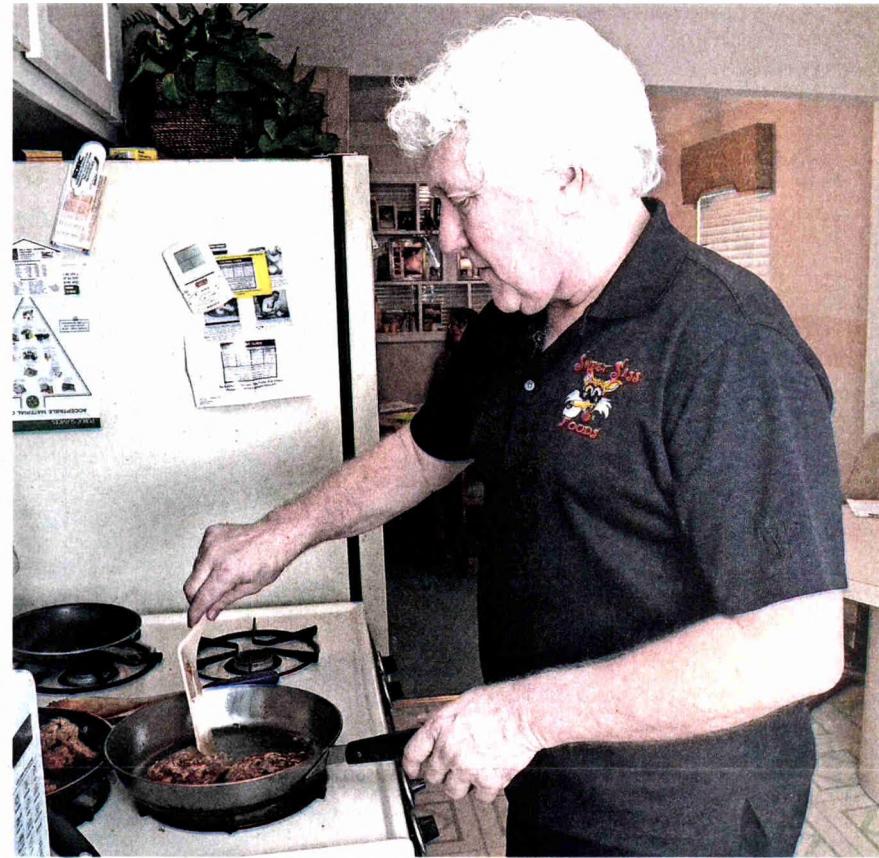
"We have a clean ingredient label. Non-GMO, gluten-free and no high fructose," Mike Campbell said. "The first ingredient we use is apple juice concentrate. That is what gives it the nice sweetness. We've got a little organic honey in there and cinnamon."

The couple sells their sauces at the Maker Faire at The Henry Ford and at the Greenfield Village farmers market, in addition to supermarkets. Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce costs \$4.99 at Kroger stores.

The newest twist in their product's evolution is a digital code on the bottle. Smartphone users scan the code and find several recipes for the sauce.

Ready to try Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce? Here are a few recipes to get you started. For more, visit sassipe.com. Check out the Sweet Sass Facebook page or visit sweetsassfoods.com.

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Campbell cooks with Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce at his home in Livonia.



SHARON DARGAY

Sweet Sass can be mixed with food, such as the tuna patties in the foreground, or drizzled on dishes, like the salad in the background.

CHIPOTLE SCRAMBLE

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 30 minutes

Servings: 4-5

5 red potatoes
1 green bell pepper
½ yellow onion
4 eggs
1 tablespoon chili powder
½ tablespoon garlic powder
½ teaspoon coconut oil
4 tablespoons Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce - Chipotle

Boil potatoes in a large pot of water for 20 minutes or until tender. While potatoes are boiling, cut bell pepper and onion into long strips. Sauté over medium heat in a cooking pan coated with coconut oil. Add chili powder, garlic powder and Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce. Mix and continue to sauté. In a separate pan, scramble four eggs. Add scrambled eggs to the veggies pan. Sauté for 2 more minutes. Serve.

SOUTHWESTERN SALAD

Prep time: 5-10 minutes

1-2 cups of mixed greens

½ cup cooked corn

½ cup cooked black beans

1 cup shredded chicken

¼ cup sliced onions

¼ cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce - Chipotle Craze used as dressing

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Toss it up with Chipotle Craze and enjoy.

HICKORY KICK CHICKEN PIZZA

Prep time: 10 minutes

Bake time: 20 minutes

½ bottle of Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce - Hickory Kick
Pre-made gluten-free pizza crust
½ cup chopped red onion
Chicken (as much as you want)
1 cup of shredded Vermont cheddar
Cilantro for taste

Spread Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce over pizza crust. Garnish with toppings. Bake according to the packaged pizza crust instructions.

MAYO-FREE TUNA SANDWICH

Prep time: 10-15 minutes

Cook time: 5-10 minutes

Servings: 4-6

3 cans (5.5-6 ounces in water) of tuna

2 eggs beaten

Chopped onion to taste

½ cup gluten-free bread crumbs or gluten-free instant oatmeal

2 tablespoons Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce - Straight Up

Gluten-free hamburger bun, bread, English muffins or waffle

Lettuce

1 tablespoon olive oil

6 slices muenster cheese

Drain tuna and add to a bowl with egg, onion, green pepper, bread crumbs, and Sweet Sass - Straight Up. Mix well.

Transfer mixture to a medium-sized cooking pan, coated with olive oil. Cook over medium heat for 5-10 minutes, stirring every minute or so.

Add tuna to a bun layered with a slice of muenster cheese. Press down firmly. Top with lettuce and drizzle with some Sweet Sass - Straight Up or Flavor Sauce of choice.

FRIED BANANAS

2 bananas

1 cup coconut oil

2 eggs

1 cup gluten-free flour, such as coconut flour

2 tablespoons cinnamon

Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce - Straight Up for drizzling

In a medium-sized bowl combine coconut flour and cinnamon.

In a separate bowl, add eggs and stir. Cut bananas out of the oil and leave them on a plate to cool. Drizzle with Sweet Sass Flavor Sauce - Straight Up.

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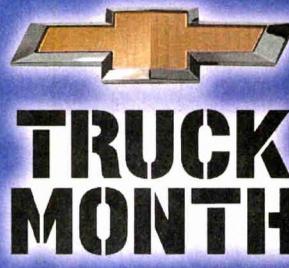
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In a medium-sized

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AS LOW AS
\$21,517



- 2.4L DOHC 4 Cyl Engine
- 6 Speed Automatic Transmission
- OnStar/XM Satellite Radio
- Rear Vision Camera
- 7" Touch Screen Radio

\$159 /MO*

Stock Number
161279

24 Mo Lease with \$0 down with Lease Conquest or \$999 Down with Lease Loyalty



2016 Malibu 1 LT

MSRP \$25,895

STARTING
AS LOW AS
\$22,633

- All New Design
- Powerful 1.5L DOHC Turbo Engine
- 6 Speed Automatic Transmission
- Remote Keyless Entry
- Power Windows/Locks

\$158 /MO*

Stock Number
161145

24 Mo Lease with \$0 down with Lease Conquest or \$999 Down with Lease Loyalty

2016 Traverse FWD LS

MSRP \$32,650

STARTING
AS LOW AS
\$25,834



- 8 Passenger Seating
- 3.6L V6 Engine
- 6 Speed Automatic Transmission
- 8 Way Power Drivers seat
- 5 Year OnStar with Automatic Crash Response

\$209 /MO*

Stock Number
161271

24 Mo Lease with \$0 down with Lease Conquest or \$999 Down with Lease Loyalty



2017 VOLT 5 Door Hatch Back

MSRP \$34,555

STARTING
AS LOW AS
\$31,092

- Rated at 106 MPGe with a 420 Combined Vehicle Range
- 8 year/ 100,000 Battery Warranty
- StabiliTrak Stability Control System
- Remote Start with Keyless Entry
- 8" Color Touch Screen

\$268 /MO*

Stock Number
#170003

36 Mo lease with \$999 down with Lease Conquest or Lease Loyalty

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