



BUSINESS, A4

DOG GROOMER CALLING IT A CAREER AFTER 47 YEARS



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Westland's 50th anniversary time capsule.

# Westland time capsule buried

Event marks city's 50th anniversary of founding

LeAnne Rogers  
hometownlife.com

Westland's 50th anniversary celebration ended with a new time capsule being sealed underground to await another 50 years in the city.

Inside the time capsule, a new stainless steel self-sealing model that doesn't require a concrete vault, were a number

of electronic items in use today and drawings from local fourth-grade students showing their ideas of what the city will look like in 2066. There was also a copy of a commemorative issue of the Wayne-Westland Observer. Westland Historical Commission chairman Jeff Koslowski organized the items for the time capsule.

"There were donations from residents. I wrote a letter to the mayor in 2066. So did several other officials," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "We

mailed them to city hall and didn't open them, so they will have a 2017 postmark."

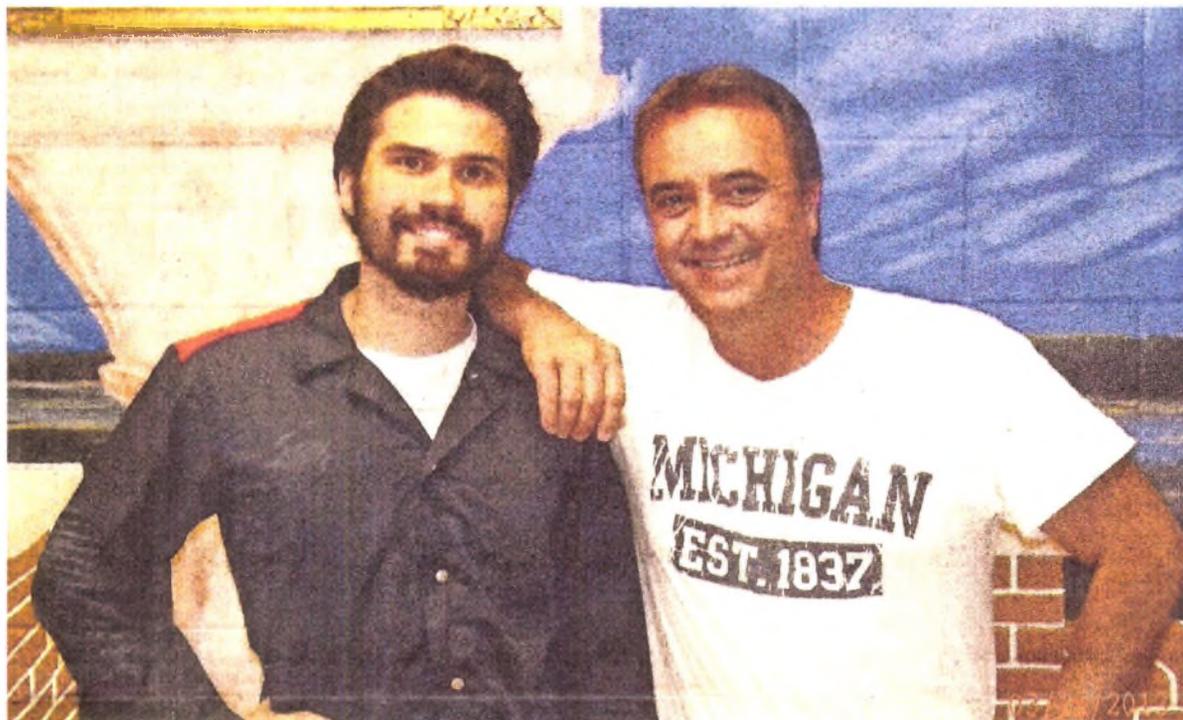
During the past year, Westland had a number of events to mark the 50th anniversary of voters approving the incorporation of the city from Nankin Township. The year of festivities kicked off on the actual anniversary of the incorporation with a special council meeting, historical displays and a panel featuring Wild and past mayors.

Like its predecessor, the

time capsule is buried on city hall grounds. In this case, the city's second city hall is located on Warren Road, east of Central City Parkway.

"(Department of Public Works) did a great job preparing the site. The time capsule is buried by the flag poles at city hall. There will be a tablet marking the spot," Wild said, adding there was water in the initial burial hole which DPS addressed with gravel and

See CAPSULE, Page A2



Pete Letkemann of Westland (right) visits his son Alex.

## National 'Mail Call' exhibit at Yankee Air Museum

A name is shouted out, and a parcel is handed through the crowd to its eager recipient — mail call is a moment when the front line and home front connect. Letters, news and packages from home unite families, boost morale and in wartime, elevate the ordinary to the extraordinary.

The traveling version of the National Postal Museum's permanent exhibition, "Mail Call" explores the history of America's military postal system, and examines how even in today's era of instant communication, troops overseas continue to treasure mail delivered from home. Organized and circulated by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), the exhibition tells the fascinating story of military mail and communication — from the American Revolution to current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The exhibition will debut May 6, at Yankee Air Museum in Belleville, and remain on display through Aug. 6, before continuing on its nationwide tour.

"We are very pleased to bring 'Mail Call' to southeastern Michigan," said Kevin Walsh, executive director of the Yankee Air Museum. "This is the natural encore to our recent project that assembled and mailed nearly 100 care packages to our troops in the Middle East. Yankee Air Museum proudly joins the past with the present as we look to the future."

Throughout American histo-

See MUSEUM, Page A2



PH1 ARLO ABRAHAMSON | U.S. NAVY  
Unloading mail aboard the USS Nimitz in 2003.

# INMATE'S DAD ADVOCATES FOR SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

Brad Kadrich  
hometownlife.com

When Alex Letkemann was sentenced to 30 years in prison in 2008 for his role in the death of a Westland man, his father Pete could have done what many family members do in that situation.

He could have melted into the background, gotten lost and struggled with a system that, while trying to improve, still presents a degree of challenge as families try to navigate it.

Instead of giving into the system and watching other families give up, as well, Letkemann, a Westland resident, decided to do something productive.

He's part of a group of people in several organizations trying to change the system, making it easier for families to navigate the morass of red tape and other problems they face in dealing with issues such as visitation.

"People don't like to talk about it," said Letkemann, an engineering manager at Franklin Fastener in Redford. "When a loved one gets in trouble, they tend to close in on themselves. As I learned the system, people would come to me with questions. As I learned, I helped other people out."

It's a system he's been trying to help improve since Alex pleaded guilty to sec-



A lot of Pete Letkemann's time is spent working with legislators on potential improvements to the state's prison system.

ond-degree murder in the highly publicized killing in a Canton garage of 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen of Westland. Alex took the plea in exchange for testimony that helped convict Jean Pierre Orlewicz of first-degree murder. Orlewicz, a 17-year-old Plymouth Township resident at the time of the murder, is serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

The publicity that trial received — Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthly

dubbed it a "thrill kill" — eventually helped bring attention to the system, Pete Letkemann said.

"When everything happened with Alex, it sort of blew up ... everyone heard about it," Letkemann said. "It helped us put a human face on it."

### Making things better

Alex's experiences in the system have helped galvanize Pete's determination to improve it. Simple things like medical release forms that don't follow transferred inmates from facility to facility, visitation that can be delayed or rescheduled for a variety of reasons not explained to families or incomplete family information packets are all things that make supporting an incarcerated loved one difficult on families.

After a few years, Letkemann decided getting involved with change was infinitely more satisfying than standing on the sideline.

A support group called Citizens for Prison Reform, a grass-roots, family-led initiative designed to engage, educate and empower families, was working with the Michigan Department of Corrections to form a Family Participation Program, designed to reach out to those dealing with

See DAD, Page A6



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INDEX Classified..... B4-5 Obituaries..... A5

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**CAPSULE**

Continued from Page A1

other adjustments.

With the time capsule burial coming a day before Earth Day, a ceremony was held before the time capsule program. A program through Westland's Mission: Green program, Wild announced that the city will offer residents a chance to replace trees lost several years ago to the emerald ash borer.

Mission: Green has \$165,000 from the city's tree fund — money paid by developers who are removing trees from their property — to help subsidize the tree replacements. The cost would be \$95 to residents, including a tree, professional planting and



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland Mayor William Wild (left) and Historical Commission chairman Jeff Kolsowski (right) are among the people that helped bury the 50th anniversary time capsule.

a one-year warranty. The tree valued at \$280, with residents having a choice between a red sunset maple, a Bradford pear or an autumn blaze maple.

"We're asking for the people who lost a tree to the emerald ash borer.

We do have a record of the trees the city took out. Some people took out the trees them-

selves," Wild said. "Once we satisfy all who lost a tree, we may be able to open it up. It will be 1,000 trees due to the funding."

The trees would have to be planted in the city right-of-way between the street and sidewalk, which is where the removed trees had been located.

For more information on the tree program, go to [www.cityof-westland.org](http://www.cityof-westland.org). To order, go to <https://squareup.com/store/westlandtree>.

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**MUSEUM**

Continued from Page A1

ry, the military and postal service have combined forces to deliver mail under challenging—often extreme—circumstances. Mail call forges a vital link with home, whether it takes place at headquarters or in hostile territory, on a submarine or in the desert. On the battlefield and at home, mail has long sustained the vital connections between military service members and their family and friends. With compelling documents, photographs, illustrations and audio stations, "Mail Call" celebrates the importance of this correspondence. Visitors can discover how military mail communication has changed throughout history, learn about the armed forces postal system and experience military mail through interesting objects and correspondence both written and recorded on audiotape. The exhibit offers an appreciation of the importance of military mail and the hard work that has gone into connecting service men and women to their government, community and loved ones at home.

"Mail Call" features a number of items that bring to life the story of military mail. One such highlight is a kit with supplies for "Victory Mail," a microfilm process developed in World War II to dramatically shrink the volume and weight of personal letters. Beginning in 1942, V-Mail used standardized

stationery and microfilm processing to produce lighter, smaller cargo—150,000 microfilmed letters could fit in one mailbox. Visitors will also gain access to dramatic firsthand records and heartfelt sentiments through excerpts from letters exchanged between writers on the front line and the home front. The exhibit also explores how the military postal system works today and describes the new ways the men and women of the armed forces are communicating with home.

SITES has been sharing the wealth of Smithsonian collections and research programs with millions of people outside Washington, D.C., for 65 years. SITES connects Americans to their shared cultural heritage through a wide range of exhibitions about art, science and history, which are shown wherever people live, work and play. Exhibition descriptions and tour schedules are available at [www.sites.si.edu](http://www.sites.si.edu).

The National Postal Museum is devoted to presenting the colorful and engaging history of the nation's mail service and showcasing one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of stamps and philatelic material in the world. For more information, go to [www.postal.museum.si.edu](http://www.postal.museum.si.edu).

Yankee Air Museum is located at 47884 D Street, Belleville, at Willow Run Airport. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

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Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Rd., Westland

**Mother's Day BRUNCH**

Sunday, May 14, 2017  
12:00 until 4:00 pm

**Entrées (served 12:00 - 4:00)**

- Corned Beef Roast
- Roasted Chicken
- Roast Turkey
- Breaded Pork Cutlet
- Baked Pot
- Chicken Scaloppini
- Italian Sausage w/peppers and onions
- Penne Pasta w/marinara
- Whipped Potatoes w/gravy
- Baked Sweet Yams
- Mixed Vegetable

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- Bacon
- Waffles with toppings
- Hash Browns
- Assorted Danish
- Orange and Cranberry Juice

**Salad Bar**

- Mixed Greens Salad
- Coleslaw
- Potato Salad
- Pasta Salad
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Cash bar available, prices include 6% sales tax, gratuity not included.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

May 8, 2017

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, May 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm. regarding the proposed ordinance amendment below.

**ORDINANCE NO. A17-xxx**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2017, AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2018.**

**THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY ORDAINS:**

**SECTION 1: MILLAGE LEVIES AUTHORIZED.**

In order to defray expenditures and meet the liabilities for the City of Garden City for Fiscal Year 2016/2017, the following millage levies are hereby adopted: **18.6410** mills for general operating purposes; **0.8200** mills for garbage and rubbish collection and disposal; **3.3186** mills for judgment debt; **0.9856** mills for Library; and **3.4496** mills for Police and Fire. The total millage levy shall be **22.2148** mills per \$1,000 of taxable valuation within the city.

**SECTION 2: BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS ADOPTED.**

The following appropriations, representing the various budgetary centers of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget as defined by Public Act 621 of 1978, as amended, are hereby adopted for the City of Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan, for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 as shown below in the estimated revenue and expenditures summaries of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 budget document:

**GENERAL FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
General Property Taxes 7,430,518	Mayor & Council 37,418
Business Licenses/Permits 30,000	21st District Court 1,058,351
Non-Business Licenses/Permits 13,000	City Admin/Personnel 304,887
State Shared Revenues 3,908,700	Clerk-Treasurer 1,057,428
Grants - Local Units 1,399,976	General Services 1,374,416
Charges for Services 705,900	Transfers to Other Funds 8,100,284
Fines and Forfeits 716,000	Dept. of Public Services 2,095,761
Miscellaneous Revenue 1,080,200	Parks and Recreation 1,039,235
Contributions/Public Enterprises 425,000	Community Resources 1,481,508
Contributions/Other Funds 1,099,464	Boards & Commissions 9,450
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 16,808,758</b>	Debt Service 250,020
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 16,808,758</b>

**MAJOR STREETS FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Gas & Weight Tax 1,662,062	Expenditures 2,241,781
Interest on Investments 5,000	
Federal Grants	
State Grants	
Use of Fund Balance 574,719	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 2,241,781</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 2,241,781</b>

**LOCAL STREETS FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Gas & Weight Tax 672,374	Expenditures 1,569,405
Transfer in-Major Streets 831,031	
METRO Act Revenue 65,000	
Interest on Investments 1,000	
Grant Revenue	
Use of Fund Balance	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 1,569,405</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 1,569,405</b>

**PUBLIC SAFETY FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Trf from Gen'l Fund 7,640,069	Police 6,277,272
Trf from 911 Fund 140,500	Fire 3,870,244
PS Millage - Real 1,597,676	
PS Millage - Personal 77,721	
Charges, Interest, Penalties 2,100	
Police Revenues 43,875	
Fire Revenues 413,575	
Grants 232,000	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 10,147,516</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 10,147,516</b>

**STREET LIGHTING FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Revenues 350,500	Expenditures 474,200
Gen'l Fund Contribution 120,700	
Use of Fund Balance	
Interest/Penalties 3,000	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 474,200</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 474,200</b>

**911 FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Revenues 140,000	Expenditures
Interest on Investments 500	Increase Fund Balance
Use of Fund Balance	Transfer to Pub. Saf. Fund 140,500
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 140,500</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 140,500</b>

**CABLE FRANCHISE P.E.G. FEE FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
CATV PEG Fees 84,000	Personnel 114,186
Grants 3,800	Expenditures 25,000
Transfer from Gen'l Fund 46,014	
Use of Fund Balance 5,272	
Interest 100	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 139,186</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 139,186</b>

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
CDBG Grant 146,863	Expenditures
	Housing Rehabilitation 112,648
	ADA Compliance
	Public Service Activities 20,529
	Administration 13,686
	Planning
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 146,863</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 146,863</b>

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Building 425,000	Building 520,181
Planning 11,430	Planning 85,250
Trf from Other Funds 169,001	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 605,431</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 605,431</b>

**POLICE DRUG FORFEITURE FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Confiscations 15,000	Expenditures 30,200
Interest on Investments 200	
Use of Fund Balance 15,000	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 30,200</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 30,200</b>

**HOUSING REHABILITATION REVOLVING FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Repayments of Loans 10,000	Housing Rehabilitation 10,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 10,000</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 10,000</b>

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Trf from General Fund 74,500	Patrol Cars 75,000
Trf from Court Bldg Fund 45,000	Citywide MIS
Use of Fund Balance	Other Expenditures 45,000
Interest on Investments 500	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 120,000</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 120,000</b>

**WATER/SEWER FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Water/Sewer Revenue 8,278,940	Water Distribution 2,760,514
Other Revenue 733,000	Sewage Disposal 4,349,796
Decrease Retained Earnings 1,811,978	Personnel/Administration 3,713,608
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 10,823,918</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 10,823,918</b>

**RUBBISH COLLECTION FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Revenues 1,613,720	Expenditures 1,616,720
General Fund Transfer	
Use of Fund Balance	
Interest on Investments 3,000	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 1,616,720</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 1,616,720</b>

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Tax Revenue 396,058	Projects 50,521
Use of Fund Balance 39,098	Administration 267,611
Interest on Investments	Debt Service 213,824
Misc Revenue 96,800	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 531,956</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 531,956</b>

**LIBRARY FUND SUMMARY**

REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Millage 480,541	Personnel 289,682
Other Revenues 43,800	Operating/Services 15,100
Use of Fund Balance	Professional/Tech Services 155,809
	Capital Outlay 63,750
<b>TOTAL REVENUES: 524,341</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 524,341</b>

**ALL FUNDS SUMMARY**

**REVENUES - ALL FUNDS: \$45,930,775 EXPENDITURES - ALL FUNDS: \$45,930,775**  
Note: Total of all funds includes transfers between funds.

# Jury begins deliberations in Zarras shooting trial

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

A jury of six men and six women will now decide the fate of 19-year-old Livonia resident Ann Zarras after testimony wrapped up in her criminal case Monday.



Zarras

The jury was scheduled to begin deliberations Tuesday (April 25) on the

three criminal counts faced by Zarras. Those include assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault with a dangerous weapon and felony firearm. The charges stem from a shooting that took place in her parents' home June 30 in the 15000 block of Richfield.

Closing arguments took place Monday afternoon in the week-long

trial, with Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Mary Rubio depicting Zarras as someone who knew what was happening when being questioned by police about what had occurred that morning, which police say involved an argument between the two that eventually led to a gun being introduced in the conflict. Robertson ended up getting shot in the head and continues to receive treatment at a rehab facility in Westland, according to testimony from his mother.

Rubio said it was clear Zarras understood what police were asking her when she was taken to the police station to give a statement after the incident, especially as her demeanor shifted once officers informed Zarras they would give her a form with her Miranda rights. She said the sudden swing from the crying and sobbing to a more put-together attitude

once her rights were given to her is just one indication.

"This is straight up Jekyll and Hyde," Rubio said.

Zarras's attorney, Henry Scharg, said the actions by the Livonia Police Department showed its intent to try to get a confession from her the morning of the shooting. He said those signs included a hurried rush to get her down to the Livonia police station to provide a statement and not contacting her parents, who lived in the home but were up north at the time, until several hours had passed.

"They wanted to take her down and try to break her," he said.

If convicted, Zarras faces up to 10 years in prison under the assault to do great bodily harm charge.

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## LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

### Man charged in counterfeit bill case

Livonia police say a 60-year-old Detroit man used counterfeit currency earlier this month at Menards, 12701 Middlebelt.

Police say Bobby Lee Mackie was seen April 17 trying to use counterfeit \$50 bills to purchase a tool set. He was identified by an employee, who recognized him as someone who had possibly used counterfeit currency at the store previously. He was walking out of the store when he was stopped. Police later arrested him.

He was charged with five counts, including one count of possession of five or more counterfeit pieces of currency and four counts of uttering and publishing counterfeit bills or notes. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison. He was locked up in the Wayne County Jail on a \$100,000 cash or surety bond. He's due back in court Thursday morning for a preliminary examination.

### Procam retail fraud suspect arrested

Police say a woman has been charged with retail fraud after they say she stole a camera body April 6 from Procam, 34224 Plymouth.

Police say Kelle Hunt, 48, of Westland was charged after being identified as the suspect in the theft from the store. Police say she and another individual entered the store and she selected a Canon Rebel camera body from the shelf. Police say she took the box to another part of the store and removed the camera. An employee found the box later and found it was empty. She was later charged with third-degree retail fraud and given a \$4,000/10-percent bond. She's due back in court Thursday morning.

### Baby formula theft

An employee at Costco, 20000 Haggerty, came to the police station April 20 to report a theft of baby formula.

The suspects, who were also suspects in a similar theft at the Cost-

co on Middlebelt, were seen entering the store. One suspect allegedly purchased a pack of gum and placed it in her purse to avoid have the receipt checked. The other suspect also walked into the store and selected several cases of baby formula. The suspect was allegedly then seen producing a fake receipt to show the greeter.

### Stereo taken from vehicle

Police were called April 19 to Sears, 11850 Sears Drive, on the report of a stereo that had been taken out of a vehicle.

The victim said he had parked the car on the south side of the business. Several hours later, he came back and found the stereo was missing. He noticed pry marks on the side of the door. Police observed fingerprints on the glass and called to have the vehicle processed for evidence.

—Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

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**MAYTAG \$2999 package price**

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**Decedent's Revocable Trust**  
Estate of John J. Nycz, Date of Birth: December 24, 1929  
**TO ALL CREDITORS:**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:**  
The decedent, John J. Nycz, died February 11, 2017.  
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate/trust will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustee of the John J. Nycz and Anna C. Nycz Trust Agreement, at 860 Manderly Drive, Milford, MI 48381, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.  
April 20, 2017  
Poster, Swift, Phillips & Smith, PC  
Mark J. DeLuca, P80161 Karen M. Saganmasher  
311 S. Washington Sq. 860 Manderly Drive  
Livonia, MI 48331 (517) 371-8240  
Milford, MI 48381 248-496-8562  
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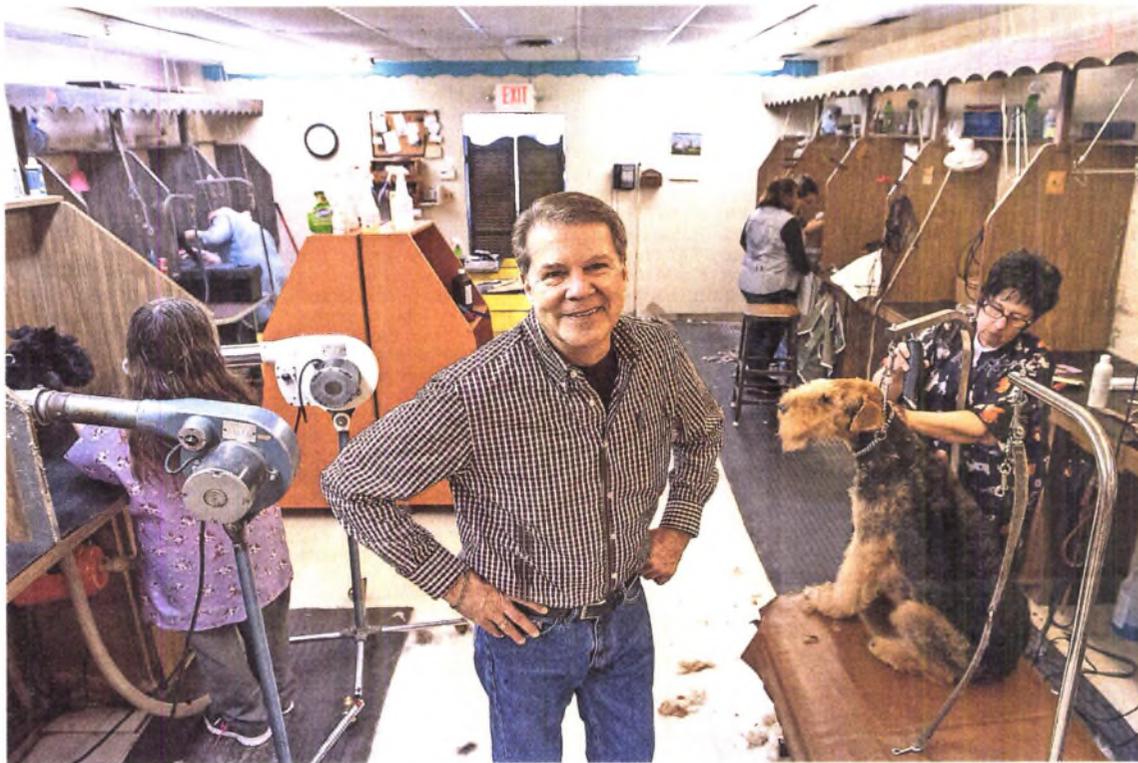
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Al Bologna will hang up the clippers this month after 48 years in the dog grooming business. At left, Karen Miles washes a dog. At right is shop manager Patty Wenner.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Groomer to turn in clippers after 48 years

Sharon Dargay  
hometownlife.com

Al Bologna's clients have come in all shapes, sizes, personality and temperament over the past 48 years.

Happy customers practically "push in the door" of his Garden City salon, eager for their shampoo and cut. The nervous ones cautiously walk in "shaking like crazy," but settle down as the pampering begins. And the aggressive complainers not only bark, but sometimes bite.

"It comes with the job. We've all been in that situation. Luckily it's nothing serious," said Bologna, who has worked at Mister B's Pet Salon for 48 years, 37 as its owner.

Most of his furry customers are happy-go-lucky, playful and often smiling.

"There have been so many really nice dogs," he said. "Then, when they passed, you feel like you lost your own. You feel just as bad because we've worked on those dogs all those years. It's been one heck of a business."

### Retirement looms

Bologna will hang up his clippers for good Saturday, April 29, passing the torch to his employee, Michelle Becker, who will take over the dog-grooming business. Although he's retiring, Bologna said he'll be at the salon "in spirit" every day and won't forget his furry customers and their owners.

"It has been a pleasure working in this community so many years," he said. "I've gotten to know so many people. I'm going to miss everybody. It has been great."

Bologna began working at Mister B's as a "go-fer" fetching coffee and running errands, during the summer of his junior year at Bentley High School in Livonia. His uncle Pete Bologna opened the business in 1969 after attending dog grooming school.

"That summer, the building was being finished and we got it set up," Bologna said. "All of my family had dogs. He taught me with my dog and the family's dog. He taught me the fundamentals of grooming and one thing led to another."

### You're opening what?

His uncle set up shop in an era when dog owners took their pets to breeders or kennels for grooming. Dog salons were just starting to gain a following. They flourished as owners began to regard their pets as family members.

"It was such a different type of business at the time. He got a lot of ridicule when he put up the building," Bologna said. "You never went to a salon, to a business. You went to where you bought the dog."

Bologna continued to work at his uncle's salon through high school and while studying music and then business at Schoolcraft College. He was 28 when his uncle, who was



Al Bologna grooms Sasha.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

eager to retire in northern Michigan, offered him the business.

"By then, I had a good 10 years under my belt," he said. "I'm thinking, 'Yeah, I've enjoyed all of it, the customers and the grooming.'"

### Like a family

He took over ownership in 1980 and bought the building in 1992. Three of his employees have been with him since the 1970s. A couple of them joined his staff in the 1980s. They form a "family" of staff members that work well together and enjoy what they do.

"These dogs go out looking great," he said. "We're very lucky that a lot of people recommend us. I can send fliers and coupons out, but a person walking down the street with a dog that just got groomed is the best advertisement I can get."

Bologna said Becker will maintain Mister B's high standards and has told customers they won't notice a difference when she takes the reins May 1.

Meanwhile he looks forward to spending time with family and friends. He moved into his childhood home four years ago to care for his father, who recently was moved to a facility for physical rehab. He'll have more time to see his father, his son and two grandchildren.

Mister B's is located at 27852 Ford Road. Go to [misterbpetsalon.com](http://misterbpetsalon.com).

## George's Senate celebrates 80 years

When walking into George's Senate Restaurant on Haggerty Road, a customer is likely guaranteed three things: fresh food, quickly served dishes and a smile from owner George Dimopoulos.

Dimopoulos is still at work every day, often before 4 a.m., to ensure potatoes, dressings, soups and rice pudding are freshly prepared. The work ethic that helped him and his family build a chain of successful family restaurants continues to drive him at an age when most of his peers are retired.

"The people keep me happy," he said. "They keep me going. I love talking to them every day."

His uncle, George Hinaris, started the family business in 1937 by opening a Detroit restaurant on Michigan Avenue called Senate Coney Island, named for its close proximity to the Senate Theater.

In 1969, Dimopoulos immigrated to Detroit from his native Greece and worked in the original Senate Coney Island. He said he quickly learned the importance of working long hours, preparing fresh ingredients and providing a comfortable dining atmosphere.

Senate Coney Island added a second location on Ecorse Road in Taylor in 1972. Dimopoulos brought the chain to Plymouth Road in Livonia in 1985, which is primarily run today by his sons, Niko and Steven.

After the original Detroit restaurant caught fire in 1990 and did not re-open, the family opened a Dearborn location on Greenfield Road in 1994. Then Dimopoulos opened the Haggerty Road location on the Northville-Livonia border in 2005.

While he spends most of his time at the Haggerty Road location, Dimopoulos and his wife Kathy keep a close eye on the other restaurants.

"She goes in all the time to taste the soups all day, to make sure everything is OK and tasting right," he said.

The effort results in a loyal base of customers, such as Lita Hoyer, who started visiting the Taylor location in the 1970s and recently dined at the Haggerty location.

"We love the food, but we love George more," said Hoyer, a West Bloomfield resident. "We have family who live in Chicago and, every time they come to visit, they want to eat at Senate."

The Senate restaurants have been frequented by famed sports figures Gordie Howe, Ernie Harwell, Tomas Holmstrom and Scotty Bowman. Pictures of Dimopoulos with each are

See **GEORGE'S**, Page A7



Senate Coney Island's George Dimopoulos (right) chats with long-time customers (from left) Lita Hoyer, Laurie Mercier and Mark Hoyer.

## ON THE BUSINESS CALENDAR

### Canton Chamber auction

Tickets are still available to attend the annual auction at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$75 person. To purchase, go to [cantonchamber.com](http://cantonchamber.com). The theme is country western. The evening includes a strolling, open bar, raffles, live and silent auctions and entertainment.

### JVS hosts job fair

The Jewish Vocational Service will host more than 40 potential employers at the JVS Job Connection from 9 a.m. to noon May 10 at the Southfield Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen Road.

The event is open to the general public and veterans at no charge and will have more than 40 employers, including

FedEx, DTE Energy, city of Southfield, Robert Half and more.

On-site job seeker registration begins at 8 a.m. (pre-registration not required). JVS and Michigan Works! career experts will offer brief one-on-one sessions to provide advice on job search skills and strategies. In addition, new this year, photographers will be on-site to take job seeker head shots for LinkedIn at no charge.

Go to [www.jvsdet.org/jobconnection](http://www.jvsdet.org/jobconnection) for more information.

### Seeking a new Spokester

Michigan First Credit Union has launched its statewide search for its next Young & Free Michigan Spokester, a minimum of a year-long paid role designated to one creative and energetic young adult who will serve as the spokesper-

son for the credit union's education-focused program aimed at 17- to 25-year-olds.

The winner will become the sixth Young & Free Michigan Spokester, Michigan First President/CEO Michael Poulos said.

As the financial ambassador of the state's millennial generation, the winner will receive a \$30,000 salary with the potential for a \$5,000 bonus and an extension as the Spokester based upon performance.

Throughout the duration of his/her term, the winner will also be provided with an Apple MacBook Pro, an HD video camera and a smart phone, as well as have access to the Young & Free Michigan car for the year with paid gas and insurance. The selected Spokester will be responsible for creatively promoting smart financial decisions

among his/her peers through the management of Young & Free social media channels, daily blog posts, weekly videos and participation in community events.

"At Michigan First, we are keenly aware of how important it is for millennials to not only be knowledgeable about their finances, but also be able to manage them," Poulos said. In an increasingly digital world, the Spokester position provides valuable hands-on experiences and support from a team of industry professionals, as well as a variety of networking opportunities, serving as a great resume builder and platform to create lasting relationships throughout Michigan. Interested applicants can go to [YoungFreeMichigan.com](http://YoungFreeMichigan.com) to learn more and view previous Spokesters' efforts that have paved

the way for successful, long-term careers.

To apply, individuals must be ages 18-25, willing and able to work full time and reside in Michigan from June 2017 to May 2018. Applicants should bring their creativity, personality and passion for helping young adults and the community at-large to a three-minute video showcasing why he/she is the ideal spokesperson.

A public vote May 16-23 will help determine four of the finalists, while the Michigan First team will select another three finalists. Announced May 25, all finalists must be able to attend the "Getting to Know Each Other" event June 7 at Michigan First, where each individual will participate in an on-site interview with a series of activities that the next Spokester will

be responsible for carrying out during his/her term. The winner will be announced to the public in mid-June.

### Advanced Manufacturing Expo

More than 110 companies are expected to participate in the first Advanced Manufacturing Expo-East to showcase technology solutions to improve productivity and profitability. The show is open to the public and free. The AME-East expo is set for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 22 at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi. The show will feature booths spread throughout 30,000 square feet of space for companies involved in additive manufacturing, machine vision, automation, quality control gauging, metalworking and other technologies.

# Public libraries are key to knowledge

In large parts of Mexico, the idea of a library is quite foreign.

The children may be shown the word, "libreria" in school but often the library they know will be composed of just the few books that the teacher has been able to collect. If they are fortunate their parents may have been able to secure some books for them at home.

The precarious place that the middle class occupies in the United States cannot be compared to what might be referred to as the middle class in Mexico. In some larger cities the multi-class system may putter along, but by and large throughout Mexico there is a two class system, the gots and the not-gots. Some folks call



**Alfred Brock**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

them the rich and the poor, but economic discussions based on those two words cannot be applied by Americans to Mexicans.

Personally, I cannot imagine life without a public library. I actually find it strange if I go to a place of business, no matter what it is, and find that they don't have at least some small collection of books. When I visit my friends' homes I am interested in what books they might have, but, I must be careful about inquiry because even here in the United States, the information capital of the world, not

every house has the resources to supply books to their children.

At least they can go to the public library.

The reality in Mexico is that they cannot. They simply cannot because there isn't one. The idea of having one is absent in many communities, as well. It is as far as out reach as building an opera house or a commercial bank — which were targets of both Mexicans and Americans in the late 19th and early 20th centuries for any community wishing to find respect in the then "modern" world.

In the United States, we were blessed when Mr. Andrew Carnegie came from Scotland and put the steel industry in the fast lane. Our nation was transformed and

Mr. Carnegie became one of the wealthiest men in the world. Then, it seems, he came to realize that the few simple advantages he had been provided while growing up in Scotland did not exist in the United States. He perceived, as few do, what it was that led to his success and he set out to share the opportunities he enjoyed with others.

He built libraries. He built them all over the place in the United States. He left us a legacy of information and knowledge that had been intended by the founders of our nation. He had provided the nation with an operational form of the Jeffersonian ideal of public education.

Our laws were

changed and amended and in Michigan the state actually mandates that local governments set up, support and operate a library for public use. It has become so common place and ingrained in our society that it goes without question that we will have a library.

I want you to imagine then a situation where the library becomes a given. It belongs to everyone so everyone is supposed to get one. You've got to have one. The government mandates it. It doesn't have to be a good one. It's just got to be there. You don't even have to visit it. Just sort of know where it is. Maybe you don't have a library card. That's OK, right? You pay taxes, if you want one you can go get

one, right?

Well, what if you go to the beautiful library building and were to find the roof leaking, heating and cooling system not operating properly and posing a danger to the few books that are left? That's right — the few books that are left.

Let's say you visit your local library and rather than seeking out the one single book you might need from many, you start to count the empty shelves. Row after row after row.

In the United States, it seems, that the idea of a library is becoming quite foreign to us.

What do you want your library to be?

Wayne resident Alfred Brock is secretary of the Wayne Public Library.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Yes on Lyon library millage

"The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man." — T.S. Elliot

The Lyon Township Public Library is an integral part of our township. The people, young and old, need this resource to become better citizens, better people.

Please vote yes for the library mileage May 2.

Lois Gdowski  
South Lyon

### Restore trust with transparency

There are numerous lists one can read about on the Internet, and in the past few years, Michigan has not fared well in many of the rankings. It seems in most categories, education, environment, roads, etc. we tend to rank near the bottom. A big part of the problem is our inability as citizens to know exactly what is going on (or not going on) behind closed doors in our state Legislature and governor's office. Our state ranks 50th, dead last, in a national study of state ethics and transparency laws, partly due to its weak public records law and an absence of laws requiring personal financial disclosures by lawmakers and top state officials.

We have a chance to move out of last place and improve transparency in our state government, but our state Senate needs to hear from us. Incredibly, the state House passed unanimously — that's 100 percent bipartisan support, which is unheard of in recent times — the Freedom of Information Act/Legislative Open Records Act. This would require the Legislature and governor be subjected to the same FOIA requirements as other state agencies.

SB 246 and SB 0247 have bipartisan support in the Senate, but Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (30th District) has been obstructing these bills and doesn't appear willing to budge. We need to put pressure on him and our own state senators to get this package of bills passed as soon as possible. I have called my senator, Mike Kowall, who is on the committee that will take up these bills. I encourage everyone to do the same. This would be a big step forward in restoring people's trust in our state government.

Sherri Masson  
Milford

### A Knight's thanks

The Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council No. 7444 of Milford would like to take time to thank all the people who attended the Friday Knight Lenten fish fries. Our council thanks all those that were there every week for a fish dinner.

We also thank those that bought raffle tickets for this year's Knight's of Columbus raffle. There were a lot of people who purchased a ticket. Thanks. And there were

some who bought two or more, like Kelly Rogers, Bob Bonish, Colleen Gonzalez, Mary Segfeda, Steve Vigh, Larry Strauss, Joan Sare, Dave Craft, Ron Lennis, Emily Henning, Jodi Brooks, Pat and Dick Kostin, Joe Ciofo, Lisa Auger, Vickie Wiemer, Adam Wisniewski, Leroy Brown, Krystal Gibson, Marla Hayden, Amy O'Callaghan, Rose Ann O'Sullivan, Sally Beadle, Jim Crane, Jack Bolling, John Drouillard, Dave Morantes, Dan and Shaon Theriault, Gerard Michalak, Steve Matti of Milford Grovery, Greg and Jim Hlinski of Village Butcher, Gene Ryeson and Highland House, Shannon Prieur, Jake Thome and the girls at the Kroger bakery, Mark Stater and the crew at Pet Supply Plus. A special thank you to Mike O'Hagan who works at the Proving Ground and hustles over to our fish fries for carry outs, and he also bought a couple of books for the raffle. Can't forget the Ciarelli family (all 10 of them) for their great, great support. And then there's Kathy Johnson. She's usually our first customer, a carry out, but always bought a ticket. Hope your dad is doing well.

We hope everybody enjoyed their dinners and we wish you luck in this year's raffle.

Hope to see all of you at this year's Concerts in the Park at the AMP in Central Park, which starts at 7 p.m. June 8.

John Rogers  
Milford

### Just stop, Mr. Weber

I found Leo Weber's letter to the editor published April 16 and titled "Liberals are annoying" very disturbing. Please note that my concern is not based on politics but on Mr. Weber's choice to publish such rude and intolerant rhetoric. Name calling of individuals that Mr. Weber deems to be "Liberals" (and therefore apparently his enemy) include such terms as: "pack of wild animals, out of control school brats,

big mouths, unreasoning wild dogs, scurrilous folk, etc."

It appears that Mr. Weber is a conservative zealot and will not tolerate that others can or should have opinions that vary from his own, much less that they have the nerve to actually express them. Please note that Mr. Weber has every right to his opinions and to express them. My concern is the hate that oozes from his letter. He exercises his right to free speech and then he belittles others who want to discuss their concerns with an elected official! He even goes so far as labeling these people "vile creatures" because they chose to drive in a snowstorm and stand outside in the cold in order to exercise their Constitutional rights.

Mr. Weber, no one is lucky that you are writing these types of letters now or have been for the last 15 years. You should be ashamed of yourself. Please get some help. Here are some suggestions:

1. I am guessing from your letter that you are a Christian (reference to abortion and sodomy). Please visit your pastor and bring your letter and this response. Consider participation in a bible study. Please pay attention to God's word regarding tolerance and embracing your fellow man.

2. If Option No. 1 is not possible then get professional help. You need it.

3. Consider helping those that are less fortunate than yourself. Volunteer! You obviously have too much time on your hands. Do something positive with it.

4. Take a class at your local community college. Suggestions include U.S. government and U.S. history.

Mr. Weber, if you read this response I am guessing that you will label me as the enemy (a.k.a. a "Liberal"). While I am not interested in sharing my political views in this letter, I will state that I

am most definitely not a "Liberal." What I am is an American. My family has bled and died for this country, including service in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War (Union), WWI and WWII. United we stand, divided we fall. Your letter writing promotes the divisive nature of strong-arm politics. You are not making America great, you are hurting this great nation. Please stop!

Catherine Freeman  
Canton

### Take a deep breath

Ah, Mr. Weber. You have outdone yourself this time. I have been reading your frequent letters to the editors and citizens for what seems like so much more than 15 years. Are you really that hateful? Are you really that rigid? Are you incapable of seeing both sides of an argument?

You probably consider me to be one of those hateful liberals, but let's get something straight. While I have some liberal leanings, many of my opinions are very conservative. I prefer to think of myself as a reasonable, independent thinker who is willing to listen to all sides and accept everyone's opinion, even yours. What could be more American than that?

To be clear, I am not a fan of Mr. Trump. I did not vote for him. Nor do I not trust him — yet. But, I am hopeful. I want him to do well as president, because if he fails we all fail.

Bipartisanship is a good thing for all of us, and should be a part of everyday life in Washington. Apparently our former presidents have grasped the concept as we keep hearing about their friendships that cross party lines. Why can't our current elected officials do the same? (Why can't you?)

I notice that neither President Bush is in a hurry to rush to the White House to show support for Mr. Trump. I worry that they know something we don't, but should.

Time will tell.

Perhaps, in the future, you could step back and take a deep breath before you compose a tirade to share with all of us. Of course, your way is acceptable — it is guaranteed by our Constitution, after all. It's just so easy

to get caught up in the media hype of everything, good or bad, that gets reported. Stopping to think something through may soften or change your opinion Mr. Weber. Probably not.

Diane Barrett  
Livonia

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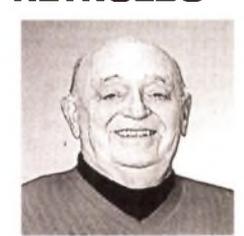
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### CHAPMAN



**LEONARD EARL** Age 85 of Howell, passed away Sunday morning, April 23, 2017. Born in Detroit on January 24, 1932, he was the son of Clarence and Alice Chapman. A Howell area resident since 1976, Leonard was a retired engineer for the City of Farmington. Known as "Chappy" by his colleagues, he was very proud of his work for the city. Leonard was also a former volunteer for St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital and enjoyed working out at the gym. He was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. His dedication extended to everyone, always offering a helping hand in any way he could. Beloved husband of Frieda Chapman whom he married in Detroit on May 25, 1957. Loving father of Glenn Chapman of Fowlerville, Kurt Chapman of Colorado, and Christopher (Jaime) Chapman of Byron. Proud grandfather of eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service in honor and celebration of Leonard's life will be held Friday, April 28, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. (visitation beginning 10 a.m.) at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions are suggested to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. Please sign the family's online guestbook at [macdonaldsfuneralhome.com](http://macdonaldsfuneralhome.com).

### REYNOLDS



**JAMES ALBERT** passed away January 13, 2017 at the age of 80. He was born April 29, 1936 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is deeply loved and will be missed by his wife Anne, his daughters Maura (Tom) Topper and Dana Reynolds, his grandchildren Kelsey Topper, Kyle Topper, Jordan Taylor, Jarred Taylor, Jacob Taylor and Savannah Taylor. He is also survived by his brothers, Tim (Sally) Reynolds and Mark (Maddie) Bryan. James was a 30 year resident of Novi, Michigan prior to moving to Durham, North Carolina. After 20 years in Durham James and Anne recently moved to Plymouth, Michigan. James was a retired Systems Analyst at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn. He was a past member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Novi. James was very proud of his service in the United States Marine Corps, 1954 until 1957, having served during the Korean War. He loved golf and sports of all kind but mostly loved spending time with his family. Friends may gather on Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. A Memorial Service will be held at the Funeral Home following visitation beginning at 2:00 p.m. Memorials in James memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association alz.org or the Humane Society of Huron Valley hshv.org Share memories at [www.schrader-howell.com](http://www.schrader-howell.com)

**The Senior Alliance**  
Area Agency on Aging 1-C

THE SENIOR ALLIANCE WILL HOST THREE PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR INPUT REGARDING THE

FY 2018 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (AIP) FOCUSED ON PRIORITIZING SERVICES TO PERSONS AGE 60 AND OLDER IN SOUTHERN AND WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY.

Monday, May 8, 2017	Wednesday, May 31, 2017	Thursday, June 1, 2017
9:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.
The Senior Alliance Area Agency on Aging 1-C 5454 Venoy Wayne, MI 48184	September Days Senior Center 46425 Tyler Rd. Van Buren Twp., MI 48111	Dearborn Heights Richard A. Young Center 5400 McKinley Street Dearborn, Heights, MI 48125

The hearing will include a brief overview and highlights from the Multi-Year Plan with the majority of time allotted for public comment.

On April 28, 2017, the AIP draft will be available online at [www.aaa1c.org](http://www.aaa1c.org)  
**Written comments will be accepted until 4:30 pm on June 2, 2017.**

Please send written comments to:  
The Senior Alliance  
5454 Venoy  
Wayne, MI 48184  
Attn: Planning Special Projects Manager

Call 734.727.2061 for more information

# Groups helping to make prison system easier on families

Brad Kadrich  
hometownlife.com

When Lois DeMott first got involved with the Michigan Department of Corrections — which came about because of the legal troubles of her then-15-year-old son — she didn't know much about how the prison system worked.

Like many family members of incarcerated loved ones, DeMott had trouble navigating a system she said was fraught with red tape. Getting a simple visitation with her son was difficult.

Inspired by those roadblocks, DeMott is not unfamiliar with the system anymore. In fact, the group she founded based on her early experiences, Lansing-based Citizens for Prison Reform, is working to make it easier for those who've followed in DeMott's footsteps.

According to the CPR website, the grass-roots group engages, educates and empowers family members and loved ones affected by crime and punishment to advance their rights.

"That came out of my own personal experience of never having dealt with the system before and, all of a sudden, being thrown into it," DeMott said. "What we experience — what we go through, some of the hardships — often don't seem real to families."

## Family connection

DeMott believed one of the biggest issues involving prisoners and their families was a matter of connectedness. She believed some of the policies within the MDOC made it much harder for the families of inmates to remain connected with their loved ones.

She formed the Citizens for Prison Reform, which began meeting monthly. The group has done educational presentations in the Lansing area every month since 2011.

The goal was to educate families about how the system works. DeMott felt the system's policies often left families in the dark about the health, condition and welfare of their loved ones.

She pointed to a couple of examples that demonstrated there was a need for improvement:

» A family authorization form, which she likened to the form patients fill out when they go to a doctor, wasn't automatically being given to prisoners; it was something the prisoner had to ask for. Without it, DeMott said, families didn't know if their loved one was ill or had been hospitalized. Because of the education effort put in by the CPR, the MDOC



Westland's Pete Letkemann (left) and Citizens for Prison Reform founder Lois DeMott (center) with other Family Advisory Board members at the MDOC.

is now making that an automatic part of the intake process.

» Another issue was discipline. For example, she said, if a prisoner had received two substance abuse tickets, the director of corrections can take away visits for that prisoner. The problem, as DeMott sees it, is that family members don't know that until they arrive for the visit. Families have lost visitation for years for that reason.

"A lot of these prisoners and families don't know ... I still get calls from families who are in crisis because they don't know enough," DeMott said. "Our point all along has been that if you truly believe family support makes the difference, why are we punishing entire families, including small children who have parents or siblings on the inside?"

## Grant helps

DeMott applied for, and received, a Soros Justice Fellowship, a grant that funds projects designed to advance reform and change on a range of issues facing the criminal justice system.

Grant in hand, she began working more directly with MDOC officials because "we had some specific issues and concerns we were seeing," she said.

"We've done a lot of legislative work and that started early on," DeMott said. "We started bringing a lot of attention to capitol hill."

DeMott said the MDOC has been a willing partner in the work the CPR and its support groups, the Family Participation Program and the Family Advisory Board.

Kyle Kaminsky, legislative liaison for the MDOC and its liaison to the Family Advisory Board, said the department is working with the group because it's doing good work.

"The work they do is really helpful," Kaminsky said. "The informa-

tion flows in two directions. They bring useful information to us so we have better knowledge and we can share information with them that they can then disseminate to families."

The work is helping. Pete Letkemann, a Westland resident whose son Alex is in the system, said the group has effected some change, particularly in areas surrounding visitation.

According to DeMott, some prisons have made enough change that visitation has improved. Families who've traveled fewer than 400 miles, for instance, are guaranteed only a one-hour visit. And the rooms often are small enough, she said, that people have to wait hours for their visit — or don't get in at all.

"Can you imagine driving two or three hours and then having to wait?" DeMott said.

## Visitation issues

Letkemann said visitation can be affected by so many things — and so dramatically — that he's heard inmates tell their loved ones the risk of not getting a visit is high enough that the loved ones "shouldn't make the trip."

That's part of the reason, according to Letkemann, that only some 14 percent of inmates get visits. But that is starting to change, he said, because of the work the FAB is doing.

"Sometimes, it feels like you're not doing any good at all," said Letkemann, who recently stepped up to the chairmanship of the Family Advisory Board. "Then you think back on some of the problems we've helped with."

The group has helped with enough that the state has considered making the Family Advisory Board — right now a volunteer group of maybe a half-dozen people — an official part of the system.

State Rep. Stephanie Chang introduced legisla-

tion in 2015 that would do just that (she has not reintroduced that bill again this year). Kaminsky acknowledged the bill, if ever approved, would formalize the FAB's standing. He wouldn't say whether he thought it was a good idea — "The department refrains from taking a position on legislation," he said — but acknowledged the group is doing good work.

"The current approach is working pretty well," Kaminsky said. "We're happy with the way it's working right now."

The groups are active now. The Citizens for Prison Reform hosts its sixth Legislative Day on May 11 in Lansing and will use a replica of a solitary confinement cell to educate legislators about what that part of prison life is like. The Family Advisory Board meets quarterly, at the will of the MDOC.

DeMott called the working relationship between the CPR and the MDOC "fabulous." She said officials with the MDOC understand prisoners need "productive, positive things to do with their time," which will make them better citizens when they re-enter society.

"When we make things difficult, has that really helped them when they come out?" she said. "Does that make for a safer neighborhood? Who would you rather have living next door, someone who has been a victim (of the issues in the system) or someone who has been encouraged with family assistance?"

"The biggest issue we're working to address is the connectedness and the support of families ... how we can have better family connectedness," DeMott added. "The department is working with us, but it's a very big department. It's a huge ship to get turned around."

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To submit calendar items email Joanne Maliszewski at [jmaliszewski@hometownlife.com](mailto:jmaliszewski@hometownlife.com). Submission deadline for Thursday paper is the previous Friday. For the Sunday paper, submit items by the prior Wednesday.

### Project Chastity speaker

Jason Evert, world renowned chastity speaker, author and co-founder of The Chastity Project, will speak at St. Michael the Archangel Church at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 27, in the church, 11441 Hubbard Road, Livonia.

Evert has shared his presentations with more than one million teens on six continents including World Youth Days in Sydney, Madrid and Krakow. He speaks directly about issues teens struggle with most — sexual pressure, pornography, modesty and starting over. Evert offers young adults encouragement to maintain their purity or begin again if they've made bad judgments in the past.

This free event is for everyone: parents and teens (grades 7 and older), young adults, married couples, those who work with teens, interested others. More information is available at 734-261-1455, ext. 200, or online at [www.livoniastmichael.org](http://www.livoniastmichael.org).

### Livonia Hazmat day

Livonia will offer a Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste Drop-off Day 3-7 p.m. Friday, April 28, and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29. The event will be held at Ford Field (enter using northbound Stark Road from Schoolcraft Road). Materials collected include household cleaners, gasoline, oil base paint, pesticides, fungicides and electronic waste. The Drop-off Day is restricted to residents of Livonia, Northville and Northville Township. For questions, call Livonia Public Service at 734-466-2655.

### Art gallery shows off artists

Dickerson Art Gallery in collaboration with Three Cities Art Club will host a special exhibition of its 10 artists beginning later this month in Westland's Gallery at City Hall. The exhibition runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 28 through May 30 (plus weekends during special events) in the gallery, 36300 Warren Road. The public is invited to a free multimedia show and reception 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, May 5.

### Sandburg Library now open

The Sandburg Library in Livonia is now open with the following hours: noont to 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; and closed Friday through Sunday.

Noble Library will be closed beginning April 24 until May 8.

### Shred away

Catholic Vantage Financial will host a free document shredding day for the community from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at the credit union's Plymouth branch, 8817 Sheldon Road, at the northwest corner of Sheldon and Joy roads.

Community Vantage Financial has also partnered with Two Men and A Truck in an annual Movers for Moms campaign to collect donated items for women at homeless and domestic abuse shelters in metro Detroit. Collection boxes will be available in the credit union's Livonia and Plymouth branches until May 11 and at the free shredding day event. Items needed include personal hygiene products, linens, towels, underwear, along with diapers and wipes for infants and

toddlers.

### Lighthouse Mission hosts yard sale

Lighthouse Home Mission pantry will have a yard sale from April 28 through May 6, at the mission, 34033 Palmer Road. Proceeds to be used to buy food for families and individuals in need. Volunteers needed for tear down from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 6. Donations of gently used items of any type will be accepted. Donations may be dropped off from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day. To volunteer, call 734-334-3104. For more information, go to [www.fgtonline.org/lighthouse/](http://www.fgtonline.org/lighthouse/).

### Walk for Autism

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' 10th Annual Autism Walk will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 29, at Plymouth High School. The walk will be outside on campus ground. No registration needed. The walk will be held rain or shine. Donations will be accepted and baskets will be raffled. Proceeds will be used for Plymouth-Canton autism programs.

### Annual stamp show arrives

The West Suburban Stamp Club presents the 48th Annual Plymouth Stamp Show from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. April 29 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 30 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland.

Thirty-seven dealers from 11 states and Canada will sell stamps, postcards and other related items. Nineteen exhibitors will place nearly 2,000 pages of rare and intriguing material on exhibit to be judged, with the grand award winner qualifying to participate in the World Series of Philately national exhibition.

Admission and parking are free. Seminars for youth and adults interested in learning how to collect and store stamps are offered at no cost. Stamps in Your Closet is an opportunity to bring items you have inherited for a complimentary evaluation. The United Post Office will be present on Saturday, April 29. The United Nations Postal Administration and Nordica Postal Agents will be present the entire weekend.

The West Suburban Stamp Club meets twice each month at the Plymouth Historical Museum. Go to [www.thewssc.com](http://www.thewssc.com), [www.plymouthshow.com](http://www.plymouthshow.com), email [mywssc@msn.com](mailto:mywssc@msn.com) or call 313-533-7377.

### Kindergarten Readiness Night

MacGowan Elementary, 18255 Kinloch, Redford, will host Kindergarten Readiness Night 5:15-7 p.m. April 27. All registered incoming kindergartners and their parents are invited to come to the school, have a pizza dinner and engage in activities intended to prepare them for kindergarten. Parents will receive materials to take home to practice skills with. At 6-7 p.m. April 28, MacGowan Elementary will also host Family Cardio Drumming Night.

### 'Barefoot in the Park'

The P-CEP Park Players Theatre Co. will present Neil Simon's "Barefoot in the Park" at 7 p.m. April 28-29 and at 2 p.m. April 29 at the Dubois Little Theater in Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at [tpctc.booktix.com](http://tpctc.booktix.com) or at the door. Credit card purchases are available online only. Tickets purchased at the door must be paid for with cash or check made to The Park Players Theatre Co.

## DAD

Continued from Page A1

incarceration.

The idea was to create a place where families feel supported and get the tools they need to have a more positive experience.

CPR was founded by Lois DeMott, who got the group started after the experiences of her own son.

"I contacted (DeMott) and told her I've been stumbling through this for five years," Letkemann said. "I thought maybe I could help."

Letkemann has done just that, both with the Family Participation Program and its sister program, the Family Advisory Board. Letkemann has recently assumed the chairmanship of that board, made up of a half-dozen or so family members, former inmates and ex-Michigan Department of Corrections officers.

## Hard on families

Letkemann said the system can be very hard on family members, some of whom have to travel for hours or even days to get to the prisons. Letkemann himself has to drive to the Upper Peninsula to see Alex at Kinross Correctional Facility.

Such visits can be cut short, delayed or even cancelled for a variety of reasons, ranging from health problems the family members didn't know about to a lock-down due to some factor inside the prison walls.

Those kinds of problems, Letkemann points out, are partially responsible for the low number of family visits to prisoners. Letkemann said only some 14 percent of inmates across the state get visits from the outside.

"We see best practices and suggest to MDOC ways to streamline," Letkemann said. "They recognize the importance of (inmates having) contact with good people on the outside. It has an effect on re-entry (into

life). It's a measurable fact."

Kyle Kaminsky, the MDOC's legislative liaison who also serves as a liaison for the department to the Family Advocacy Board, said the work that group is doing is "helpful" and added having someone like Letkemann on the board is an asset.

"I think it's important there are people like (Letkemann) out there," Kaminsky said. "He's a constructive guy, he's trying to find constructive solutions. He understands some of the limitations faced by (MDOC)."

"Pete isn't looking to make it better just for his son," he added. "He's looking at making it better for everybody. He can see the complexity of a lot of these issues and works through it to try and offer useful advice on how to make it better."

He's made himself useful enough to DeMott to convince her to step back a little bit. She said part of Letkemann's true value is his ability to

avoid the pitfalls most families face — "A lot of people end up bitter and angry," she said — and view the group for what it is: an opportunity to help, not unlike herself, who formed CPR in 2011.

"Pete has been a godsend," DeMott said. "I turned my anger into passion and purpose and that's exactly what Pete has done. It's a life-changing experience and it can be very painful. Pete has done a remarkable thing to turn that into being able to help a lot of people."

It's not all sunshine and roses — "Sometimes it feels like you're not doing any good at all," Letkemann said — but when he looks back at what his group has been able to accomplish, there's a sense of satisfaction.

"You do get past this ... it doesn't have to be the end of the world," Letkemann said. "As long as you can see past it, you can see your way through to the end."

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# Catholic Vantage awards scholarships

Catholic Vantage Financial of Plymouth has announced recipients of the credit union's 2017 student scholarships. This year's winners and their families were honored at CVF's annual membership meeting in March.

Six scholarships of \$500 each were awarded to help cover tuition for students who attend Catholic schools. Receiving the two scholarships awarded to students in kindergarten through eighth grade were kindergartner Henry Hoeft, who attends Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, and Ethan Godin, a student at St. Edith in Livonia.



BOB BRODBECK

The youngest 2017 scholarship winner, Henry Hoeft, displays the check for the total scholarships awarded this year. Joining him are scholarship winners (from left) Garrett Zylinski, Kenneth Lashaway, Claire Ramsden, Ethan Godin, CVF board Chairman Michael Hammond, Jessie Collins, Cotter Welch, Ben Carr and Faith Emmerling. Also earning a scholarship was Brendan Hogan.

were awarded to students who attend a Catholic high school. They include two students who will attend

Divine Child High School, incoming freshman Faith Emmerling and sophomore Ben Carr. Also receiving

awards were Kenneth Lashaway who will attend Fr. Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor in the fall, and Cotter Welch, an incoming freshman at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

Four college scholarships of \$1,000 each were also awarded to 2017 high school graduating seniors. Winners include seniors Jessie Collins, Divine Child High School, Dearborn; Brendan Hogan, University of Detroit Jesuit High School, Detroit; Claire Ramsden, Salem High School, Plymouth; and Garrett Zylinski, Detroit Catholic Central High School, Novi.

## ON THE MOVE

### Named

University of Detroit Mercy named Gary J. Erwin of Plymouth Township as associate vice president



Erwin

for marketing and public affairs, effective April 17. In his new position, Erwin will oversee the university's Marketing & Public Affairs Department and promote the mission of the university to its internal and external audiences. He will be responsible for overseeing communication through publicity, publications, online systems and other marketing efforts that uphold the image, integrity and mission of Detroit Mercy.

Formerly executive director of marketing and communications with Henry Ford College in Dearborn, Erwin oversaw the institution's strategic, cross-discipline/interactive organization for the past seven years in all aspects of marketing and communications. Under his leadership, he coordinated the institution's marketing and re-branding efforts, including the new market-

ing brand and media buys for radio, television, print, digital, billboards and outside digital displays. Under his marketing efforts and leadership, Henry Ford saw increased enrollment and community participation in many college-wide activities and events.

A native of Northville, the Plymouth resident earned a master of fine arts in English from Western Michigan University and a B.S. in English from Grand Valley State University.

### Gleaners appoints

Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan has announced the appointment of Ryan Hoyle and Linda Markis to the positions of chief development officer and chief financial officer, respectively. Most recently, Hoyle was the vice president of business development and talent acquisition for technology-based consulting firm GalaxE.Solutions Inc., and Markis was chief financial specialist for Financial One Accounting, Inc., a company providing accounting and consulting services exclusively to nonprofit organizations.

# Wayne hosts Chocolate Walk for Mother's Day

Wayne Main Street's second annual Mother's Day Chocolate Walk will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 6, in downtown Wayne. Last year's Mother's Day Chocolate Walk was a successful, sold out event. Wayne Main Street anticipates a sold out event this year with more than 100 people and 12 downtown businesses participating.

The Chocolate Walk will begin at the Wayne Historical Museum at 1

Town Square. Participants will be provided a chocolate box and a map of participating businesses. Participants will be invited to walk around downtown Wayne and pick up their individual chocolates at the participating businesses.

"This is a great event for the family because, once you're done with the walk, you'll have a box of chocolates to give to mom for her special day," said Juan Bradford, Wayne Main Street

board president. Tickets are \$10 advance and \$15 day of (if available) the event and can be purchased at [www.eventbrite.com/e/chocolate-walk-tickets-32924848107](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/chocolate-walk-tickets-32924848107). More information is available at [downtownwayne.org](http://downtownwayne.org).

Launched in 2011, Wayne Main Street has evolved into one of the largest civic organizations in Wayne. Last year, WMS volunteers contributed more than 2,700 service hours to

the community. In 2014, the organization was recognized by the Michigan Main Street Association as a Select-Level Main Street community. Wayne Main Street employs the four-point Main Street approach by promoting downtown Wayne as the heart of the community, furthering the commitment to historic preservation, creating programming that draws people to downtown Wayne and producing premier events.

## GEORGE'S

Continued from Page A4

displayed on the walls of the Haggerty Road location.

The careful attention to fresh dishes and customer service helped grow the business, but the Dimopoulos family has made extraordinary efforts to give back to the community. They made many donations to churches, schools, non-

profit organizations and needy families for decades.

His effort to provide free meals to hundreds of people who are alone each Thanksgiving garnered national media attention in recent years. Dimopoulos said his personal experience moves him to provide these meals.

"When I was young in Greece, I lived alone," he said. "So when somebody talked to me or did something for me, it meant a

lot to me, so I wanted to give back to others."

The Livonia Chamber of Commerce recognized the Plymouth Road location as its outstanding small business of the year in 2010. The chamber and city officials plan a special ceremony in May to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Senate Coney Island.

"George is a legend in this town," chamber president Dan West said. "He is a model we can all admire for how to run a

successful business with good relationships, loyalty to customers and dedication to the community."

To recognize the 80th anniversary of the Senate restaurants, each location will offer coney dogs for \$1 throughout the month of May. "This is a way," Dimopoulos said, "to show how much we appreciate the support we've received from all the communities and people throughout the years."

## EYE ON BUSINESS

### New grocery service

There's a convenient new way residents can get groceries delivered right to their door in as little as an hour through their favorite local stores, free for an entire year.

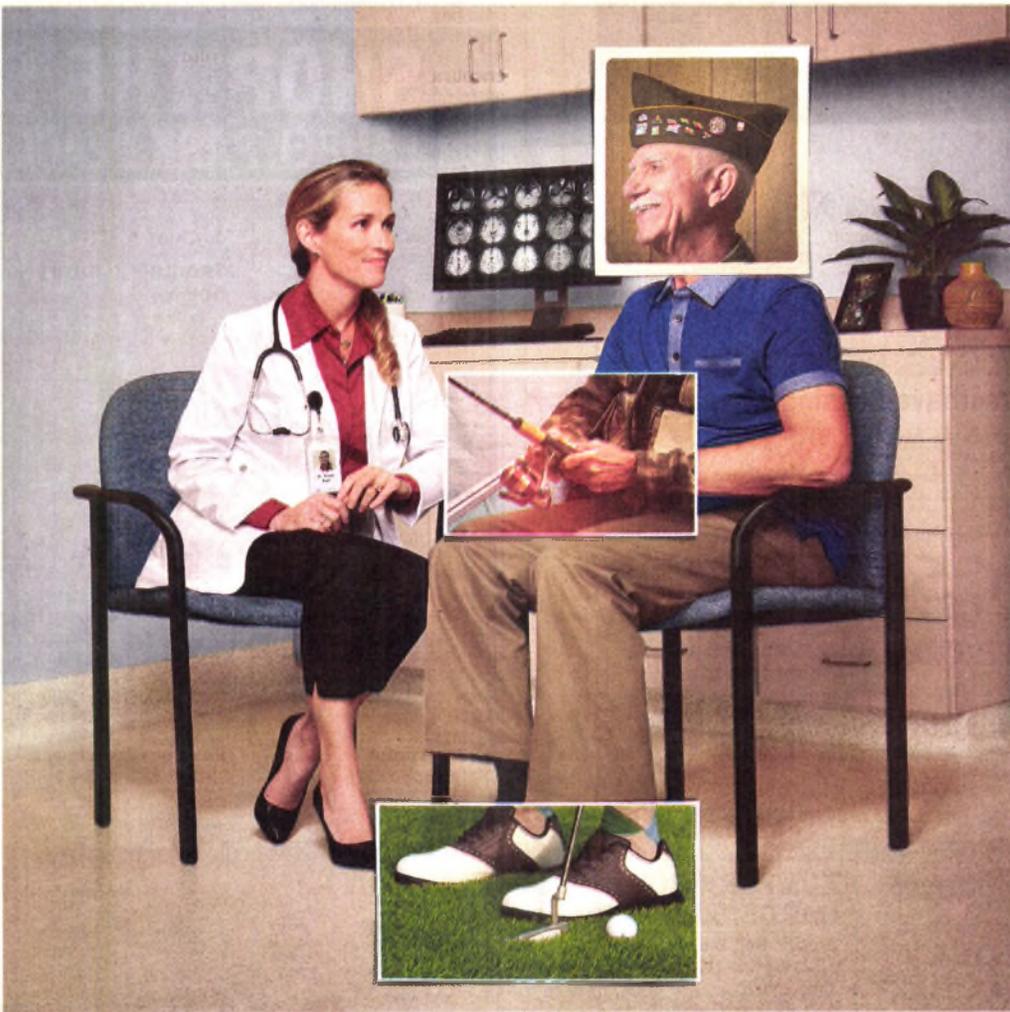
Starting April 27, Instacart will launch delivery service for its Instacart Express membership program through popular local stores, including Costco (no membership needed!), Kroger, Whole Foods Market, Plum Market, Petco and Meijer. Instacart Express offers unlimited same day, one-hour deliveries

with a free trial for an entire year. Price following the first year is \$99 a year or \$14.99 a month.

The delivery area will cover more than 1.6 million households and will also provide more than 200-plus new jobs. Areas of service include Woodhaven, Flat Rock, Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, Westland, Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Northville, Grosse Pointe, St. Clair, Royal Oak, Macomb, Rochester Hills, Troy, Farmington Hills, South Lyon, Pinckney, Brighton and more. For more information, go to [www.instacart.com/express](http://www.instacart.com/express).

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# Jimmy John's proves freaky successful for family

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

It took a visit to Kalamazoo for Dan Doelker to get a taste for Jimmy John's.

The Livonia Stevenson High School and Madonna University alumnus said he had got to the western Michigan city for a Model United Nations event in high school 15 years ago. He heard about the sandwich shop and gave it a shot.

"Somebody was, like, 'You gotta go to Jimmy John's,'" the Canton resident said. "We'd never been there. So we walked a mile there and then it was as soon as we got back, we said, 'You guys have to try this.'"

So he told his parents, Jeff and Cheryl Doelker, who were both working in medical sales at the time, to give the restaurant chain a try the next



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
The Doelker family, sons Rich and Dan and parents Jeff and Cheryl, brought the first Jimmy John's to Livonia. Now there are nine.

time they were in Ann Arbor. They did and later decided bringing the "freaky fast" sandwiches to Livonia was the next

right career move. The couple then traveled to Jimmy John's headquarters in Illinois to learn more about the

business and talked with other franchise owners. Shortly after returning home from visiting Wisconsin, they had gotten the approval needed.

"By that Monday, we got a phone call from the corporate offices saying we'd been approved to do this," Cheryl Doelker said.

In 2002, they opened the first Jimmy John's franchise in Wayne County, operating a store at 37671 W. Six Mile, just west of Newburgh, in Livonia. It opened to humongous fanfare from those who went to college in cities like Ann Arbor and Lansing.

"When we opened that store on Six Mile, we were getting people from Canton, Plymouth, Novi, Northville. People were driving to our store because we made the right decision," Dan Doelker said. "Because every kid

that went to college in the Midwest wanted Jimmy John's when they came home."

They've grown since opening that first store: They now operate nine franchise restaurants in Livonia, Northville Township, Plymouth and Canton. Combined, the stores employ more than 200 people in Wayne County.

They've taken on a few stores operated by other franchise owners outside of Livonia and are in the process of relocating their second store across Plymouth Road into a standalone facility in the nearby shopping center. Construction is currently taking place on the building and the family hopes to have it open by this summer.

The store will have a new design, with only a few others in Michigan having the same design as well.

"It's a little bigger and it'll have a drive-through," Cheryl Doelker said. "We need a little bit bigger space."

"It just seems like a good move at a timely point in our lease."

And the Doelkers hope business keeps chugging along. They attribute the success to staying in their lanes: each family member has a defined role and they stick to it.

"That's the key to family business success, I think," Cheryl Doelker said. "We each know what we're supposed to do, and we don't step on each other's toes. We know what each other is good at, and we build on our strengths and help each other with our weaknesses."

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## WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

### Home broken into

Westland police were called the afternoon of April 11 on the report of a burglary in the 5700 block of Morley.

The resident said she left town for a few days and came back that morning to find her back door was kicked in. The resident looked inside and found that nothing appeared to be missing. Police saw damage to the door frame. No suspect information was available.

### Lug nuts taken

Police were dispatched the evening of April 11 to a residence in the 36000 block of McKinney on the report of stolen lug nuts.

The victim told police she got into her car and tried to back out of her parking space. While backing out, one of her rear tires fell off. She found that all of the lug nuts had been removed and were on the pave-

ment. She said she parked her car earlier that morning after she got home from work and could not provide details about any possible suspects.

### Trash can missing

Police were called April 11 to the 33000 block of Cherry Hill on the report of a stolen city trash can.

The resident said her trash can was in her fenced-in backyard the night before. The serial number on the can was unknown.

### Window damaged

Police were called April 15 to the 8600 block of Haller on the report of damage to a home window.

The homeowner said the home has been vacant. He said he came to the home to do repairs and discovered someone shot at a rear window with a BB gun. Police saw the damage to the window and a BB lodged in the window. The owner

did not know who had done the damage to the window.

### Vehicle mirror broken

Police were called April 13 to a residence in the 1100 block of Berkshire on the report of an attempted larceny from auto.

The victim told police she had parked her vehicle in the roadway in front of her residence. Later that night, her son told her that her car alarm was going off and noticed another vehicle leaving the area. She went to the car and found that the driver's side mirror was knocked off and damage was done to the driver's side door lock. Police saw a small puncture in the door underneath the keyhole. The resident said the car was locked and nothing appeared to be missing.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

## REDFORD UNION EVENTS

### Strategic Plan review

The Board of Education and the administration of Redford Union School District No. 1 will host a Year One Review of the district's five-year strategic plan from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 29 at Redford Union High School Library, 17711 Kinloch.

The purpose of this session is to review progress on the 2016-17 goals and strategies, examine new areas of need and seek opportunities for ongoing creativity and innovation. The Redford Union School District is committed to its efforts to offer an excellent education for its students, while using public education resources in the most effective and efficient way.

The Redford Union

School District invites all interested stakeholders to take part in this important session. The public is invited, even if this is your first time participating in the district's strategic planning process. Parents, students, staff and the broader community are invited.

### Redford Union Partnership Council

The council host a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 17, at the Redford Township Library, 25320 W. Six Mile Road. Come hear an update on district initiatives, strategic planning and share ideas to continue to foster strong community partnerships. RSVP by Friday, May 5, to Jackie Warren at 313-242-6002 or warrenj@redfordu.k12.mi.us.

## Canton foundation, United Way host PTSD forum

The Canton Community Foundation and the Plymouth Community United Way will host "Fighting PTSD Trying to Mask the Trauma and Veterans Abusing Drugs & Alcohol" 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 28, at Madonna University, Kresge Hall, Livonia.

The free event is open to veterans, families dealing with someone with PTSD or anyone wanting to know about the diagnosis and steps for treatment.

Register for the event at [www.cantonfoundation.org](http://www.cantonfoundation.org) or call Beth Meade at 734-495-1200.

The event is sponsored by Community Financial.

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COMMUNITY-MINDED GRIDDERS

# THEY'RE PIN PALS

Chargers bowl, bond with Special Olympians

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

Livonia Churchill football players love to score touchdowns.

They also love to touch hearts of kids who maybe aren't as big, strong or fast as they are.

But for those Chargers who shared laughs, strikes and spares April 8 with Special Olympians at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth, they found out why they gravitate to the gridiron rather than the bowling alley.

"Just about everyone there was bowling better than I was," Brennan Mikel said. "They're absolutely amazing and so much fun to watch. And they're very, very talented."

It was the sixth year that the Chargers participated in the Special Olympics Area Bowling Tournament, assistant football coach Allen Feigel said.

"Our football program does quite a bit of community outreach," said Feigel, Churchill's offensive line coach.

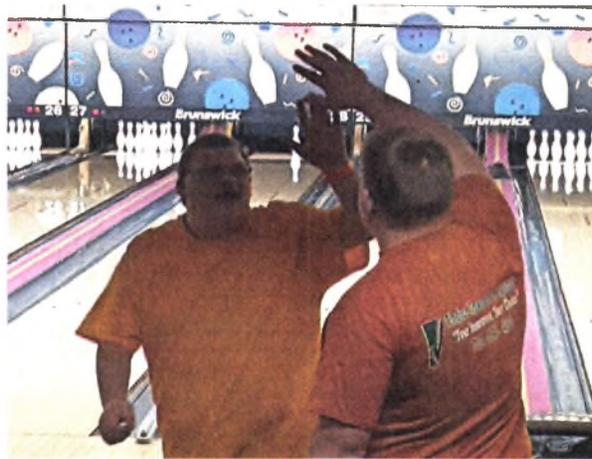
Mikel is glad that Feigel

continues to schedule the team for such events.

"They're all there to have as much fun as they can," Mikel said. "So just being there and helping cheer them on, their faces just light up and it's just amazing to see."

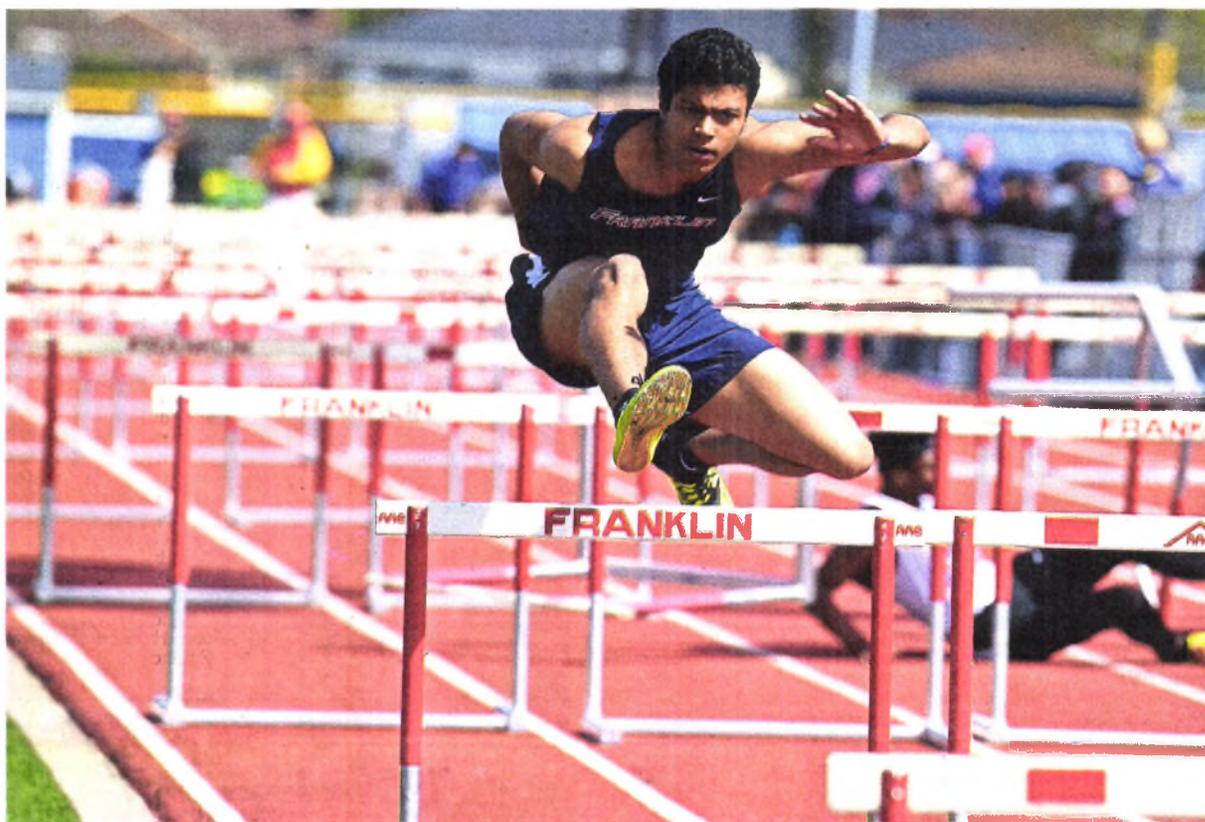
"A couple of us went up to Special Olympics basketball and reffed for them. It was about six of us. It's the same thing. No matter what sport they're doing, they're just happy to be doing it. They love

See BOWLING, Page B2



Exchanging a high-five are a Special Olympian bowler (left) and Livonia Churchill's Brennan Mikel.

PATRIOT RELAYS



Livonia Franklin's Marcus Martin kicks it into overdrive during the shuttle hurdles.

TOM BEAUDOIN

# IT'S 'RE-LAY' DIFFERENT

Plymouth girls, Franklin boys come away with first-place finishes in annual track and field event



Livonia Stevenson's Madison Droste performs the high jump during Saturday's Patriot Relays.

TOM BEAUDOIN

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

Run and fun, that's what the annual Livonia Franklin Patriot Relays are all about as boys and girls from 12 area high schools mixed and matched their abilities with the unique track and field invitational.

Garnering first place among boys teams were the host Patriots, who edged city rival Livonia Stevenson by a 80-78 score. On the girls side, Plymouth prevailed with 98 points, while Franklin came up just short with 94 points.

"We haven't been at the top of the heap in a few years, so it's good to be back up there," Franklin head boys coach Aaron Moran said. "It's always good to protect the house, if you will, but it's even better to, in front of our fans, be able to have a good showing and both

the boys and girls have had a good showing today."

Moran noted the continuing strong performances from seniors Brandon Smiley, Christian Bagnall, Khalil Pasha and Jacob Clark.

"They all have done a wonderful event," Moran said. "They've won every event they've been in so far. It's different; our kids are competing."

He said the format of the Patriot Relays rewards teams with a lot of depth and versatility.

"The different type of events allows us to get different kids to see what they actually have," Moran said. "Some kids we don't get to see in dual meet format because it's regimented, you get to see your top three, but you don't get to

See RELAYS, Page B2

PREP SOFTBALL

# Cougars ready for prime time

Garden City takes 9-1 victory over Livonia Stevenson in annual 'Under the Lights' game

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

The weather Friday evening might have been chilly, but the lights hovering above Garden City High School's softball field were white hot.

And the host Cougars were ready for the prime time contest against Livonia Stevenson, quickly erasing an early deficit with three runs in the first inning and going on to post a 9-1 victory.

The Spartans only briefly had the upper hand, scoring in the top of the first when Kelly Newman spanked the first of three base hits in three official trips to the plate against Garden City junior pitcher April Rudolph.

But heading hall of fame coach Barry Patterson's mantra to always "win the inning," Alicia Ascencio ripped a two-run triple over the right fielder's head and scored on a subsequent sacrifice fly by Shelby Casey and the rout was on.

"I think it's very important," said Ascencio, who collected five RBIs for the night, later coming up with run-scoring hits in the fourth and fifth innings against

See COUGARS, Page B2



Garden City senior Alicia Ascencio runs out a two-run triple during the first inning Friday against Livonia Stevenson.

TOM BEAUDOIN

PREP BASEBALL

# Clutch hits spark Canton to 5-3 triumph

Spartans tie game, then give up two late runs

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

Canton came up with a couple of more key base hits than Livonia Stevenson did Monday and that was the difference in a KLAA crossover baseball game.

The visiting Chiefs scored twice in the top of the sixth to go up 5-3 and senior pitcher

Tyler Newsom made it stand up as he retired the Spartans with little trouble over the final two innings.

"We played a crisp, clean game," said Canton head coach Mark Blomshield, whose team improved to 11-5 overall.

His Stevenson counterpart, Rick Berryman, struck a similar key.

"When we play Canton, it's always a good game, it's competitive, just good high school baseball," Berryman said. "Sometimes they win, some-

times we win."

Berryman lamented getting only one run out of a bases-loaded situation in the bottom of the first, against Canton sophomore starting pitcher Ben Spencer.

But then the Chiefs took a 3-1 lead in the third, with the help of walks, a wild pitch and a two-out, two-run single to right by senior first baseman Lou Baechler.

"(Baechler) had a big two-

See BASEBALL, Page B3



The throw to Canton first baseman Lou Baechler (right) is in time to retire Livonia Stevenson runner Jacob Way during Monday's contest.

JULIE BAECHLER



Livonia Churchill football players took part in a Special Olympics bowling event April 8.

## BOWLING

Continued from Page B1

it."

### In the pocket

Ja'Vante Van Buren said the Special Olympian he partnered with (each Churchill player had a bowling buddy for the day) knocked over more pins and good-naturedly knocked him down a peg in the process.

"I mean, I didn't believe he was going to beat me, but he did," Van Buren said. "He got more strikes than I did."

But as far as the Special Olympians were concerned, the Churchill players all were just perfect from the line — for no other reason than they were spending time with them.

"I got mauled," Van Buren said. "The kid told me he was thankful I came to help him. A football player came to help him."

He noted that, to the youngsters in Special Olympics (who have various intellectual disabilities), it seemed inexplicable and out of the realm of possibility that high school football players actually would be there for them.

"That's what they thought," that the Chargers wouldn't take the time, Van Buren explained.

But after an afternoon of fun, friendship and camaraderie, he added that "They want to play football now."

Churchill's Drew Alsbrooks said the team really enjoys hanging out with the Special Olympians, too.

"We've been helping out with Special Olympics the past couple years and we've had a lot of fun," Alsbrooks said. "The athletes there really love having us there, cheering them on and helping them out."

"Some of them actually are pretty good bowlers, too."

### Coming together

There were 24 Chargers players who volunteered for the outreach and just seeing how their bowling buddies responded to their participation was more than enough reason to do the event.

Yet the team gets a different kind of benefit for doing community service.

"Helping out with this



Kibitzing after another strike are Henry Washington of Special Olympics (left) and Chargers football player Ja'Vante Van Buren.

event really brings our team together and creates a bond," Alsbrooks said.

Concurring was Van Buren, who said Churchill's football team can't help but become tighter on and off the field.

"This is a group," Van Buren said. "We didn't have to do this, but we chose to do this because we're one big family."

"We just decided we should go up there and give back. It was good, you know?"

Their efforts were applauded by Terry Jobbitt, competition and volunteer director for Area 23 of Special Olympics.

"I think it is great how these young men take time out of their day off to spend time with our athletes," Jobbitt wrote in an email to the Observer. "It makes our event be a success as too many people today do not want to volunteer."

"The Churchill boys did a fabulous job and were very hands-on and encouraged our special athletes. I always enjoy watching these young men step up. It is a very rewarding day for the Churchill students, too, as they can see how our much our athletes enjoy this event and learn that life is not always about winning."

"Special Olympics' oath is: 'Let me win, but if I can not win, let me brave in the attempt.'"

### Giving back

Jobbitt added that Churchill athletes aren't the only ones from area schools who go the extra mile to help Special Olympics.

He noted that Livonia Franklin has hosted Special Olympics spring games for more than a quarter-century. This year it will begin at 8:30 a.m. May 5.

Plymouth High School boys and girls basketball players volunteer each February for a Special Olympics basketball tournament and, each March, Northville students chip in to help with a regional hoops tourney.

According to the Special Olympics website, there are more than 4.7 million athletes in 169 countries with intellectual disabilities.

That term is used to describe those "with certain limitations in cognitive functioning and other skills, including communication and self-care. These limitations can cause a child to develop and learn more slowly or differently. Intellectual disability is the most common developmental disability."

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## COUGARS

Continued from Page B1

Spartans starting pitcher Sarah Mesack. "You always want to try to win the inning, whether it's one run, two runs or even five runs. You always want to try to one-up them."

Ascencio also said the Cougars came out with zest for the annual night game against Stevenson. "This is a game everybody always looks forward to, playing underneath the lights," she said.

Patterson said the Ascencio triple in the bottom of the first turned out to be a game-changer for his team, now 4-1 entering a Saturday tournament.

"That gave us the momentum and we just carried that through," Patterson said. "We had a couple big swings. (Aleea) Montgomery had a big double up the gap in a big situation."

Montgomery's liner to right in the fourth keyed a five-run inning, which also included RBI hits by Brittany Radtke (of the infield variety) and Ascencio.

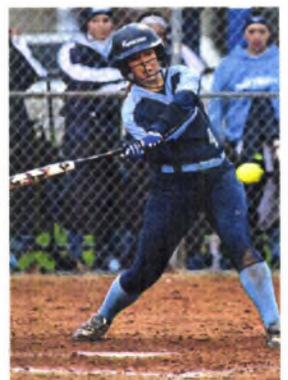
And with Rudolph fanning batters and also having strong defense behind her when needed, Garden City never really was threatened after breaking out in front early.

"Normally, she's not a big strikeout pitcher," Patterson said about Rudolph. "But today, her change-up was effective and her drop had some nice snap on it."

Ascencio also said when a pitcher is on her game, it makes fielders more alert and ready to make plays.

"She's always out there doing her job and relying on us to do our job, which is to get the outs," she said.

Stevenson head coach Kevin Hannigan, whose team



TOM BEAUDOIN

Kelly Newman of Livonia Stevenson connects on one of her three hits Friday against Garden City.

dropped to 3-3, tipped his cap to Rudolph.

"She did a great job pitching," Hannigan said. "She had a good change-up today, which I think threw our girls off a little bit."

Hannigan, however, said his team just had too much rust from a week off — much of that down time due to rainouts.

"We haven't played in about a week and it showed," Hannigan said. "We just weren't focused. I don't know if it was the (chilly) weather or being off a week."

"That's on us as coaches. We got to get them ready to play."

And the task doesn't ease up anytime soon "because we play state-ranked Canton on Monday and then we have a doubleheader against Novi."

Hannigan said the bright spot was first baseman Newman's three-hit performance: "She's a good senior, a good captain."

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TOM BEAUDOIN

Garden City junior pitcher April Rudolph was on target Friday. She struck out 10 Spartans.

## RELAYS

Continued from Page B1

see what you have after that."

### Plenty to like

Plymouth head girls coach Ricky Styes saw plenty of positives, beginning with high jumpers Gabby Chouinard, Kennedy Chastang and Amanda Radke, who finished 1-2-3.

"Our distance kids ran really well today. They took second place in all the distance events with a lot of good splits and PR times," Styes said. "We've scored in every event except the sprint medley relay."

More than results, however, coaches agreed that the Patriot Relays are good to take part in because of the variety of events usually not on the menu at traditional meets.

"We like the format of the meet," Styes said. "It's a little different, with all the relay events vs. the normal regional format. So the kids get to have more fun here — the co-ed relay, the throwers relay, just changing it up in the middle of the season."

Concurring was Franklin first-year girls head coach Megan Wilson, who also ran the Patriot Relays during her high school career a decade ago.

"This meet is very unique and the events they do, the shuttle hurdles, co-ed relay, throwers relay ... they don't

have that in most invitationals," Wilson said. "So it's really fun to kind of mix things up."

Wilson added that her athletes "exceeded my expectations in almost every event. Everyone was PRing. I think they're really getting into it."

### Chance to shine

Livonia Stevenson head boys coach Scott Shaw, whose team finished third with 80 points, likes the format because younger team members get a taste of varsity competition.

"I like the relay event part of it," Shaw said. "So all the kids, the high jumpers all the scores are combined, the long jump and throws, all that kind of stuff. It lets us get a little bit more of the younger kids involved."

One of the Spartan veterans also was on the mark, too.

"Ian Knoph, our high jumper, did pretty well today, he went 6-4," Shaw said. "And our relays are getting better. Today really is the first day we started putting together some true varsity relays. They're looking a little better than we have the last couple dual meets."

Meanwhile, athletes like Plymouth sophomore Malcolm Caldwell also enjoyed the meet. "It's a lot of fun because it's all about teamwork, everyone has to work together to place really high."

FRANKLIN PATRIOT RELAYS  
April 22 at Livonia Franklin H.S.

**GIRLS TEAM RESULTS:** 1. Plymouth, 98 points; 2. Livonia Franklin, 94; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 90; 4. Dearborn, 59; 5. North Farmington, 38; 6. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 20; 7. Garden City, 18; 8. Dearborn Fordson, 9; 9. Redford Union, 8; 10. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 6; 11. Lincoln Park, 4.

**BOYS TEAM RESULTS:** 1. Livonia Franklin, 80 points; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 78; 3. Plymouth, 72; 4. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 53; 5. Garden City, 45; 6. Dearborn Fordson, 26; 7. (tie) Lincoln Park, North Farmington, 25; 9. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 24; 10. Dearborn, 21; 11. Summit Academy, 10; 12. Redford Union, 6.

**GIRLS 4-BY-1600 RELAY:** 1. Stevenson (Emily Lauzon, Erin McAlinden, Bri Lebbos, Cassie McDougall, Kayla Sencyszyn), 23:21.00; 2. Plymouth (Annie Bonis, Isabelle Tiplady, Lily Tiplady, Emily Britton), 23:39.92; 3. Dearborn, 23:45.70; 4. Franklin (Erin Seibert, Camryn Zurawski, Ashley deGuse, Hailey Kutruski), 23:47.83; 5. Crestwood, 25:09.38.

**BOYS 4-BY-1600 RELAY:** 1. Plymouth (Brandon Boyd, Carter Solomon, Jarrett Warner, Ethan Byrnes), 18:52.95; 2. Stevenson (Jack Balint, Alex Brauer, Ben Griffith, Nathan Wilson), 18:54.22; 3. Franklin (Grant Rudi, Jackson Nordbeck, Joseph Nichol, Logan Evanshuk), 20:19.33; 4. Lincoln Park, 20:32.88; 5. Crestwood, 21:00.66.

**GIRLS 4-BY-100 SHUTTLE HURDLES:** 1. Plymouth (Kayla Dudek, Olivia Dillaha, Allison Range, Erin Bradley), 1:11.81; 2. Plymouth, 1:15.24; 3. Stevenson (Emily Nettie, Jenna Chmura, Alexa Loconte, Beth White), 1:17.26; 4. Franklin (Kelly Peyton, Sarah deGuse, Riley Shine, Sarah Channey), 1:19.98; 5. Garden City (Tianna Thompson, Claire Wandorf, Ilyana Collazo, Emily Tudosa, Sydney Charlton), 1:20.60.

**BOYS 4-BY-110 SHUTTLE HURDLES:** 1. Franklin (Marcus Martin, Ian Hogg, Hunter Klotz, Mason Hart, Greg Fox), 1:09.68; 2. Plymouth (Malcolm Caldwell, Martino Dalton, Binyah Howard, William Jones), 1:12.23; 3. North Farmington (Donald Wrench, Miles Lewis, Klarc Crockett, Charlie Steward), 1:13.20; 4. Edsel Ford, 1:14.13; 5. Lincoln Park, 1:14.48.

**GIRLS 4-BY-800 RELAY:** 1. Stevenson (Lauzon, Lexi Jenkins, Kylie Callison, Gracie Droz), 10:31.35; 2. Plymouth (L. Tiplady, Natalie Grasso, Britton, Ana White), 10:45.94; 3. Franklin (Patty Sant, A. deGuse), 11:19.98; 4. Garden City (Tianna Thompson, Claire Wandorf, Ilyana Collazo, Emily Tudosa, Sydney Charlton), 11:28.49; 5. Fordson, 11:44.35.

**BOYS 4-BY-800 RELAY:** 1. Plymouth (Matt Weiner, Alex White, Bassil Syed, Timothy Hoang), 8:47.60; 2. Franklin (Gregory Thaxton, Michael Mackiewicz, Andrew Ulaszek, Russell Rusnell), 8:53.80; 3. Stevenson (Matthew Donahue, Trevor Tillman, Ryan Maisoville, Hunter Satz), 8:56.90; 4. Lincoln Park, 9:06.40; 5. Summit Academy, 9:09.20.

**GIRLS 4-BY-100 THROWERS RELAY:** 1. North Farmington (Chasadie Searcy, Mackenzie Cleaver, Alyssa Murphy, Raven Tatum), 52.02; 2. Franklin (Mikaela Hill, Brooke Gietzen, Alaina Herrera, Ciera Echebleim), 53.25; 3. Dearborn, 53.30; 4. Redford Union (Jalayah Gray, Anel Clemons, Jalia Plair, Nekoi Jones), 53.56;

5. Plymouth (Delia Brennan, Sarah Dottovio, Ally Niemiec, Kennedy Chastang), 54.81.

**BOYS 4-BY-100 RELAY:** 1. Franklin (Nyassiru Crowell, Brandon Smiley, Jacob Clark, Christian Bagnall), 43:27; 2. Garden City (Jacob Sears, Darius Benson, Dylan Rayburn, Eian Castonguay, David McDaniel, Chase McGraw), 43:67; 3. Fordson, 44:65; 4. North Farmington (Kiajuan Tobe, Matt Coleman, Robert Allen, Charlie Steward), 45:01; 5. Stevenson (Dalen Cobb, Nick Broome, Michael Jaafar, LaDarius Sharp), 45:72.

**GIRLS SMR (100-100-200-400):** 1. Franklin (Jessica Huddleston, Hollie Reynolds, Christianna Benson, Hillie), 2:01.20; 2. Dearborn, 2:03.20; 3. Fordson, 2:10.70; 4. Redford Union (Gray, Jones, Jakyla Jackson, Kayla Dixon), 2:11.06; 5. Stevenson (Tosanae Sharp, Gillian Terry, Mavis Asante, Madi Downs), 2:13.20.

**BOYS SMR (100-100-200-400):** 1. Edsel Ford, 1:36.56; 2. Garden City (Castonguay, Rayburn, Benson, Dylan White, McDaniel, McGraw), 1:39.77; 3. Franklin (James Carpenter, Clark, Fox, Khalil Pasha), 1:41.04; 4. Crestwood, 1:41.89; 5. Plymouth (Michael Mathias, 2. Kevin Dorsey, 3. Emmanuel Lloyd, 4. Joseph Ahern), 1:42.17.

**GIRLS SMR (1200-400-800-1600):** 1. Stevenson (Jenkins, Julia Kozler, Sedona Koon, Julia Cercone), 13:42.10; 2. Plymouth (White, Gabby Chouinard, I. Tiplady, Bonds), 13:53.40; 3. Dearborn, 14:02.00; 4. Franklin (Sant, Olivia Melville, Zurawski, Seibert), 14:11.70; 5. Crestwood, 14:29.20.

**BOYS SMR (1200-400-800-1600):** 1. Plymouth (Boyd, Cade Ablijian, Byrnes, Solomon), 11:00.33; 2. Stevenson (Ben Griffith, Jaafar, Balint, Brauer), 11:26.37; 3. Summit Academy, 11:42.68; 4. Franklin (Mackiewicz, Gregory Thaxton, Rudd, Evanshuk), 11:58.66; 5. Fordson, 12:04.45.

**GIRLS 4-BY-200 RELAY:** 1. North Farmington (A.Jani Williams, Cleaver, Kierra Crockett, Tatum), 1:46.24; 2. Dearborn, 1:53.88; 3. Franklin (Kerry Peyton, Herrera, Hannah Strasser, Emily Esker), 1:53.82; 4. Plymouth (Chastang, Brennan, Allison Range, Dudek), 1:54.42; 5. Stevenson (Hope McMullen, Emily Ehrhart, Allie Terry, Szabelski), 1:56.25.

**BOYS 4-BY-200 RELAY:** 1. Franklin (Pasha, Benson, Clark, Bagnall), 1:31.48; 2. Garden City (Smiley, White, Rayburn, Castonguay, McDaniel, McGraw), 1:34.00; 3. Edsel Ford, 1:34.60; 4. Fordson, 1:36.80; 5. Plymouth (Lloyd, Ivan Davis, Eric Knudson, Ahearn), 1:37.80.

**MIXED 4-BY-100 RELAY:** 1. Plymouth, 48:28; 2. Franklin, 49:50; 3. Redford Union, 49:54; 4. Edsel Ford, 49:76; 5. Stevenson, 52:31.

**GIRLS 4-BY-100 THROWERS RELAY:** 1. Plymouth (Jenna Ammar, Katarina Jostofski, Sydney McCaig, Malalyn Harden), 40:20; 2. Stevenson (Jenna Serazio, Jenan Shareef, Emma Ryan, Alexa Pieczynski), 42:30; 3. Franklin (Peyton, Alexis Browning, Emily Thompson, Anna Lauber, Paige Rivati), 45:70; 4. Edsel Ford, 52:30; 5. Garden City (Alexis Lehman, Tina Fenner, Kiyana Morris, Jordan Rice, Jillian Denison), 55:40.

**BOYS 4-BY-100 THROWERS RELAY:** 1. Edsel Ford, 51:00; 2. Lincoln Park, 51:30; 3. Crestwood,

52:10; 4. Stevenson (Spencer Eddings, Taylor Garpow, Asa Hassan, Nicholas Legizma), 52:70; 5. Summit Academy, 53:00.

**GIRLS 4-BY-400 RELAY:** 1. North Farmington (Williams, Alyssa Murphy, Tatum, Crockett), 4:09:50; 2. Plymouth (Chastang, Radke, Brennan, Sydney Romps), 4:24:10; 3. Franklin (Esker, Hillie, Strasser, Echebleim), 4:24:90; 4. Stevenson (Callison, Natasha Mwila, Alyssa Bergman, Terry), 4:31:20; 5. Crestwood, 4:44:30.

**BOYS 4-BY-400 RELAY:** 1. Franklin (Thaxton, Mackiewicz, Pasha, Smiley), 3:33:42; 2. Garden City (Sears, Castonguay, Benson, White, McDaniel, McGraw), 3:38:00; 3. Stevenson (Jaafar, Balint, Griffith, Trevor Klatt), 3:40:19; 4. Edsel Ford, 3:41:70; 5. North Farmington (Marshall Miller, Quentin Ross, Donald Wrench, Charlie Steward), 3:45:23.

**GIRLS DISCUS:** 1. Alexis Browning (LF), 99 feet, 5.10 inches; 2. Layal Mustafa (D), 93.10; 3. Jessica Mancini (LF), 85-01; 4. Ammar (P), 82-05; 5. Thompson (LF), 81-09.

**BOYS DISCUS:** 1. Franklin, 261-04; 2. Stevenson, 229-06; 3. Dearborn, 226-03; 4. Plymouth, 216-09; 5. Crestwood, 182-06.

**BOYS HIGH JUMP:** 1. (tie) Robert Allen (NF), Ian Knoph (LS), 6-04; 3. (tie) Cameron Knight (P), Robert Tatum (EF), 6-00; 5. (tie) Justin Jacobs (LP), Jared Weigand (EF), Demetrius Davis (LP), 5-10.

**GIRLS LONG JUMP:** 1. Paige Sanders (P), 16-02.5; 2. Williams (NF), 15-02.75; 3. Tia Phifer (EF), 14-10.5; 4. Hillie (LF), 14-10.0; 5. Emily Caragay (P), 13-10.0.

**BOYS POLE VAULT:** 1. (tie) Ian Tesar (GC), Collin Bowersox (LS), 12-00; 3. (tie) Samuel Bonser (LS), Logan Delonis (LS), 11-00; 5. (tie) Calvin Vos (P), Zackary Alabakoff (D), 10-06.

**GIRLS SHOT PUT:** 1. Mustafa (D), 34-11; 2. Anna Lauber (LF), 30-10; 3. (tie) Browning (LF), Pierzynski (LS), 30-04; 5. Sydney McCaig (P), 28-09.

**BOYS DISCUS:** 1. Mohamed Khalifa (D), 134-06; 2. Jalen Covington (GC), 123-06; 3. Mohammed Amen (DF), 116-00; 4. Nicholas Legizma (LS), 107-05; 5. Taylor Garpow (LS), 107-00.

**BOYS LONG JUMP:** 1. Aaron Simmon (LS), 19-07.50; 2. Tatum (EF), 19-05; 3. Justin Jacobs (LP), 19-01; 4. White (GC), 18-01.25; 5. Christian Neff (LP), 17-10.0.

**GIRLS HIGH JUMP:** 1. (tie) Chouinard (P), Radke (P), Chastang (P), 4-08; 4. Madi Droste (LS), 4-06; 5. Dasia Royd (LF), 4-06.

**GIRLS POLE VAULT:** 1. Caragay (P), 10-00; 2. Natalie Janke (P), 9-00; 3. Kyra Gowman (LS), 8-06; 4. Rachel Domzalski (LF), 8-00; 5. Katie Engler (LF), 7-00.

**BOYS SHOT PUT:** 1. Mustafa Khaleefah (D), 52-03; 2. Bobby Madley (LF), 50-03; 3. Jalen Covington (GC), 48-03; 4. Zac Darwiche (DF), 44-10; 5. Brandon Plue (LS), 40-05.

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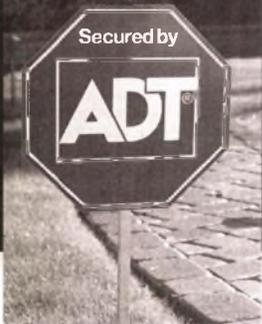
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**Offer Expires April 30, 2017**

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\$100 Visa Gift Card fulfilled by Protect Your Home through third-party provider, Mpell, upon installation of a security system. Shipping and Handling Fee applies. \$99 Customer Installation Charge. Up to 15 sensors free for pre-wired homes or up to 7 wireless sensors free. No substitutions allowed. Labor charges may apply. \$99 Customer Installation Charge. 36-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$1,007.64). 24-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$671.76) for California. Form of payment must be by credit card or electronic charge to your checking or savings account. Offer applies to homeowners only. Certain packages require approved landline phone. Local permit fees may be required. Satisfactory credit history required. Termination Fee applies. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer valid for new ADT Authorized Premier Provider customers only and not on purchases from ADT LLC. Other rate plans available. Cannot be combined with any other offer. The \$27.99 Offer does not include Quality Service Plan (QSP). Quality Service Plan (QSP) is ADT's Extended Limited Warranty. ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services, which help you manage your home environment and family lifestyle, require the purchase and/or activation of an ADT alarm system with monitored burglary service and a compatible computer, cell phone or PDA with Internet and email access. These ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services/Equipment. All ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services are not available with the various levels of ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services. All ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services features you desire. Installation starts at \$399. Burglary, Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert monitoring requires purchase and/or activation of an ADT security system with monitored Burglary, Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert devices. Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert services are an additional charge. Quality Service Plan (QSP) is ADT's Extended Limited Warranty. 36-month monitoring contract required from \$58.99 per month. (\$2,123.64), including Quality Service Plan (QSP). Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. Prices subject to change. Prices may vary by market. Some insurance companies offer discounts on Homeowner's Insurance. Please consult your insurance company. Local permit fees may be required. Satisfactory credit history required. Additional monitoring fees required for some services. Photos are for illustrative purposes only and may not reflect the exact product/service actually provided. Licenses: AL-17-1104, AK-35221, AZ-ROC217517, AR-2008-0014, CA-ACO6320, CT-ELC.0193944-15, DE-07-212, FL-EC13003427, DC-602513000006, GA-LVA205395, HI-CT30946, ID-ELE-SC-39312, IL-127.001042, IN-City of Indianapolis: LAC-000156, IA-AC-0036, KY-City of Louisville: 483, LA-F1082, LA-F1914, LA-F1915, ME-LM50017382, MD-107-1626, MA-1355C, MI-3601205773, MN-TS01807, MS-15007958, MO-City of St. Louis: CC354, St. Louis County: 79853, MT-247, NE-14451, NV-68518, City of Las Vegas: 3000002944, NJ-34BF00021800, NM-353366, NY-Licensed by the N.Y.S. Dept. of State UID#12000317691, #12000286451, NC-1622-CSA, OH-53891446, City of Cincinnati: AC86, OK-1048, OR-170997, Pennsylvania Home Improvement Contractor Registration Number: PA22999, RI-3582, SC-BAC5630, SD-1025-7001-ET, TN-C1520, TX-B13734, ACR-3492, UT-6422596-6501, VT-ES-2382, VA-115120, WA-602588694/PROTEYH934RS, WV-042433, WI-City of Milwaukee: PAS-0002790, WY-LV-G-21499. 3750 Priority Way South Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46240 ©2016 DEFENDERS, Inc. dba Protect Your Home

**CITY OF WAYNE  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON  
THE PROPOSED 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET,  
AND THE 2017 PROPERTY TAX RATES**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Wayne, Wayne County, Michigan will hold a public hearing to take testimony and discuss the City's Budget for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 8:00 o'clock in the evening, at the City Council Chambers, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, Michigan 48184. This hearing is being held pursuant to Section 16 of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act (Truth in Budgeting, MCL 141.436).

Last Fiscal Year (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017), the City of Wayne levied 15.0000 mills for operating purposes, .9620 mills for retirement, .9999 mills for recreation, 1.0000 mill for public safety, 1.0000 mill for police, .1424 mill for Act 359 (adver/promo), 1.0000 mill for the road program, .9999 mills for library purposes, and 2.9073 mills for Solid Waste. The proposed FY 2017-2018 Budget recommends 15.0000 mills for operating purposes, .9620 mills for retirement, .9999 mills for recreation, 1.0000 mill for public safety, 1.0000 mill for police, .1424 mill for Act 359 (adver/promo), 1.0000 mill for the road program, .9999 mills for library purposes, and 2.9073 mills for Solid Waste.

A copy of the proposed budget is available at: City Clerk's Office, Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, Michigan 48184 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Telephone: (734) 722-2000.

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

This Notice is given by order of the City Council for the City of Wayne, Michigan.

Matthew K. Miller

City Clerk  
Publish: April 27, 2017

LO-000018548 344

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR  
REQUEST FOR BIDS**

**CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN  
CHALLENGER MOBILE COLUMN LIFTS**

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., local time on **Tuesday, May 16th, 2017** at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

**A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting** will be held at the Livonia Fire Station 6, 37876 Plymouth Road, Livonia, Michigan at **10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 9th, 2017.**

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info)

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be accepted.

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN CHALLENGER MOBILE COLUMN LIFTS, name of vendor** and shall be addressed to the **City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.**

No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Shadd Whitehead  
Fire Chief

Dennis K. Wright  
Mayor

Published: April 27, 2017

LO-000018638 355



**CITY OF GARDEN CITY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
May 8, 2017**

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, May 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm. regarding the 2017 Sidewalk Program.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY  
COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION (#2) DETERMINATION OF NECESSITY  
Sidewalk Program (2017)**

WHEREAS, a report has been received from the City Manager on a city-wide sidewalk program for the 2017 construction season, and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to hear the views of property owners in the proposed district.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to call a Public Hearing for **Monday, May 8, 2017 at 7:00p.m.**, in the Council Chambers, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI 48135 to solicit public comments on the necessity of the 2017 Sidewalk Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of the hearing shall be given to each owner of or party in interest in property in the special assessment district to be assessed, whose name appears on the last local tax assessment record of the municipality, by mailing a notice by first class mail addressed to each owner or party in interest at the address shown on the tax records at least ten days before the date of the hearing; and by publication at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality, to be designated by the Council, or by posting notice thereof in three places within the municipality, the publication or posting to be not less than ten days prior to the date of hearing pursuant to the Garden City Code of Ordinances Chapter 40, Section 40.04(A).

Published: April 27, 2017

LO-000018621 368



**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

The Board of Education will receive sealed bids for:

**GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF**

**FARMINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND AND SITE UPGRADES**

Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: May 10, 2017  
Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: Board of Education  
Garden City Public Schools  
1333 Radcliff  
Garden City, MI 48135

Attn: Drew McMechan, Chief Financial Officer

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 21, 2017.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and reusable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Compliance Form must be included as well. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include both of these statements, which are included on the proposal execution form.

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

**\*\*END OF SECTION\*\***

Published: April 27, 2017

LO-000018721 368.5

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**ABSTRACT  
WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NO. 2017-12  
April 18, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. at the Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. APPROVED: minutes of Regular City Council meeting of April 4, 2017; Public Hearing 2017 Special Assessment; site plan review 2017-01, 2017-02, 2016-11; request to proclaim 4/28 Arbor Day; Jorge Manzano appt. Dangerous Buildings Board of Appeals; Call Public Hearing 5/16/17 @ 8:00 p.m.; 3 year agreement with POAM; 2017 Retiree Healthcare; PSA with Stantec; 2020 Bridge Deck Replacement; PSA Plante & Moran; City Council Rules and Procedures; consent calendar. Received and filed Communications and Reports. Adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller  
City Clerk

Publish: April 27, 2017

LO-000018647 373

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
15125 FARMINGTON ROAD  
LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474  
(734) 744-2500**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

**Franklin High School - Diving Board Bid for the 2017-2018 School Year  
(See Attached Specifications)**

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, [www.livoniapublicschools.org](http://www.livoniapublicschools.org) under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2017-2018 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, [www.buy4michigan.com](http://www.buy4michigan.com). Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

**Sealed bids marked Franklin High School - Diving Board Bid will be received until on the 1:00 p.m., the 3rd day of May, 2017, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan.** Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. **Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.**

The Bid Opening will take place at **1:00 p.m.** on the **3rd day of May, 2017**, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. Walk thru at Franklin High School will be Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 2:45 p.m. Building address is 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, MI. Please check in at front office before proceeding to pool area.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Finance, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.**

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be **F.O.B. Destination**. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

**Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission.** All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations  
Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154-5474

**"Franklin High School - Diving Board Bid"**

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files.

Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, [hlau@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:hlau@livoniapublicschools.org), 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

**LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

Publish: April 27, 2017

LO-000018586 398

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
15125 FARMINGTON ROAD  
LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474  
(734) 744-2500**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

**Door & Frame Replacement Bid - 6 Buildings for the 2017-2018 School Year  
(See Attached Specifications)**

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, [www.livoniapublicschools.org](http://www.livoniapublicschools.org) under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2017-2018 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, [www.buy4michigan.com](http://www.buy4michigan.com). Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

**Sealed bids marked Door & Frame Replacement Bid will be received until 11:00 a.m. on the 4th day of May, 2017, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan.** Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. **Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.**

The Bid Opening will take place at **11:00 a.m.** on the **4th day of May, 2017**, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

Walk thru of the 6 sites will be at 10:30 a.m., on April 24, 2017, starting at Stevenson High School; proceeding to Coolidge Elementary; Frost Middle School; Jackson Center; Cleveland Elementary; Franklin High School.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Finance, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.**

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be **F.O.B. Destination**. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

**Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission.** All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations  
Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154-5474

**"Door & Frame Replacement - 6 Buildings Bid"**

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files.

Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, [hlau@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:hlau@livoniapublicschools.org), 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

**LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

Publish: April 27, 2017

LO-000018584 398