

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

THURSDAY 08.17.17 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



**SCHOOLCRAFT
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SPORTS, B1

Expect a smoother ride from EMS

Westland purchases two new rescue vehicles for \$394K

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

Patients transported by Westland firefighters can look forward to a more comfortable ride thanks to two new EMS rescue vehicles.

"They've changed the design. It used to be a van chassis — the front looked like a van." Westland Fire Chief Michael Stradtner said. "Now, they use a F-450 truck on the front. It will give quite a better ride. The have reconfigured the box so that is more comfortable all around."

Years ago, Stradtner said the EMS vehicles had even rougher rides. "The old truck was more like a stage coach," he said.

The two EMS vehicles will cost the city \$394,000 or about \$197,000 apiece.

"The new rescues were purchased with reliability, patient comfort and safety in mind," Stradtner said. "In the past, our vehicles have traditionally been built upon a van chassis. This style of rescue is no longer offered in a diesel engine and had limited options we were looking for in patient

design."

The EMS rescue vehicles were purchased through Michigan-based Mercy Sales, utilizing consortium pricing through the Farmington Hills Fire Department. Westland received the lowest possible price and the more departments that purchase through the consortium results in a rebate from the manufacture back to the city for added savings.

"This is a budgeted expense. We're happy with the price. We're pretty specific on what we want in the vehicle," said Stradtner, adding the city will

See RESCUE, Page A2



Two new rescue vehicles have been purchased for the Westland Fire Department.

WLND



Tatiana Hull and Juwan Perkins lead the kids in imitating the movements of different animals.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Residents speak out against dog shooting at meeting

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Laura Hilobuk said the story of her father's dog dying at the hands of a utility worker last month in Livonia has gone global. She still does not understand why the situation that happened at her father's house took place.

"As a gun owner myself, stories like this make me furious," the Pinckney resident said. "A gun is used as a last resort for protection, not a first. There's nothing more dangerous than a coward with a gun."

Hilobuk, along with others, spoke at the Livonia City Council meeting Aug. 9 to express concern over the situation that happened last month.

The incident took place July 28 in the 19900 block of Angling, when a utility worker was in the neighborhood doing some work. Livonia police say he was walking near the front yard of the dog owner's home when the dog began running toward him. Police say the man, feeling threatened, pulled out a legally owned weapon and shot the dog, killing it.

After a police investigation, a warrant request was submitted to the city prosecutor's office for review, which determined no criminal laws were broken and denied the warrant request.

Hilobuk said she believed that was the wrong decision.

"The shooter and prosecutor demonstrated a complete disregard for public safety," she said. "If a similar situation comes up down the road but

See SHOOTING, Page A2

Groups work to provide lunches to children in Livonia during summer

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Getting lunch during the summer can be tough for some children, including in Livonia. Several groups in the city have looked to combat that, and have offered a free lunch program for students that continues for another week.

The Livonia YMCA, along with assistance from groups such as the Rotary Club of Livonia and Blessings in a Backpack, have organized a free lunch program for area children interested in drop-

ping in for a few hours each day at Compton Park, located on Lyndon between Middlebelt and Inkster. The program wraps up this week, but organizers say they hope to bring the concept back again next year.

Laura Perlowski, president of the Livonia Rotary Club, said the effort, currently in its first year, has been successful overall.

"It actually worked out very well," she said. "It would nice to be indoors, but maybe next year."

See LUNCHES, Page A3



Lunch time — but soon it's back to games and play.

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SHOOTING

Continued from Page A1

the bullet lands in a child or ricochets off the intended target, will this prosecutor still say the person afraid of a barking dog is in the right?"

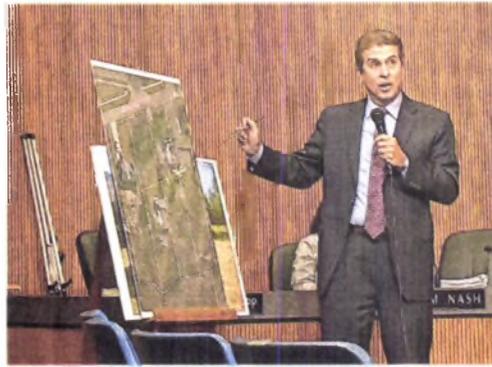
City Attorney Don Knapp said the city attorney's office became involved after the police department completed its investigation of the incident. Once a police report is complete, Knapp said, the office then applies the facts as set forth in the report to the law and determines whether any laws were broken.

"I have a dog. The assistant city attorney who made the decision not to prosecute has two dogs. We have a lot of sympathy for the owner," Knapp said. "But that being said, the decision is made on an objective analysis of the law and facts."

Knapp said while the man, a valid concealed pistol license holder, did discharge a weapon in the city, state law allows for one to defend themselves if felt they are under threat.

"He has the right, under state law, to defend himself," he said. "There is an ordinance that prohibits the discharge of a weapon in the city, but that has no application in this case."

Desire for ordinance change



DAVID VESELENAK | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Livonia City Attorney Don Knapp points to a map of the neighborhood where a dog was fatally shot by a utility worker.



DAVID VESELENAK | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Livonia resident Douglas Eiben speaks at the Aug. 9 city council meeting. Eiben was the owner of a dog that was shot by a utility worker in his yard last month.

Michael Eiben, the dog's owner, said he wanted to have something done about making utility workers give some sort of advance notice in the area and to provide a phone call if they see an issue with a dog in the yard.

"He ought to go around the front like everybody else does, come down the driveway and he would have seen my sign that says, 'Beware of dog,'" he said. "I'd kind of like these utility workers to come through the front yard,

because we are not able to have any fenced-in front yard in the neighborhood. And the only yard we're able to have is the front yard."

Council President Kathleen McIntyre said police responded quickly to the call of the shooting from the utility worker and the dog's owner that day. She said while it was determined by the city attorney's office to not pursue criminal charges against the worker, the council felt horrible that a family pet had died in the unfortunate situation.

"I would like to extend the deepest sympathies on behalf of the entire council to the Ivan family on the death of their beloved dog, Katie," she said. "We're very sorry for their loss. Most of us have family pets who we love and have a special place in our hearts."

Livonia resident Sandra Abrahamian said the case could set a dangerous precedent to dog owners in the city if utility workers are in the neighborhood.

"Me being a Livonia resident, this is very concerning, that someone can shoot your dog because they 'feel threatened,'" she said. "How do we know he really felt threatened? The dog can't talk, the people weren't there. It's his word against a dog that's dead that can't talk or the people."

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RESCUE

Continued from Page A1

soon being purchasing a fire truck also.

The new state-of-the-art EMS rescue vehicles are equipped with a new liquid suspension, mak-

ing for a better, smoother ride to the hospital for patients. They also have a new 6.7-liter diesel motor and LED light to enhance visibility when emergency lights are activated."

Westland firefighters respond to over 12,000 calls annually — about 83

percent medical rescue runs.

"The department relies on durability and understands that the patient should be afforded the best experience available from firefighters and their vehicles," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "The City of

Westland makes providing them with the proper tools and equipment a number one priority to ensure the safety of those within our community."

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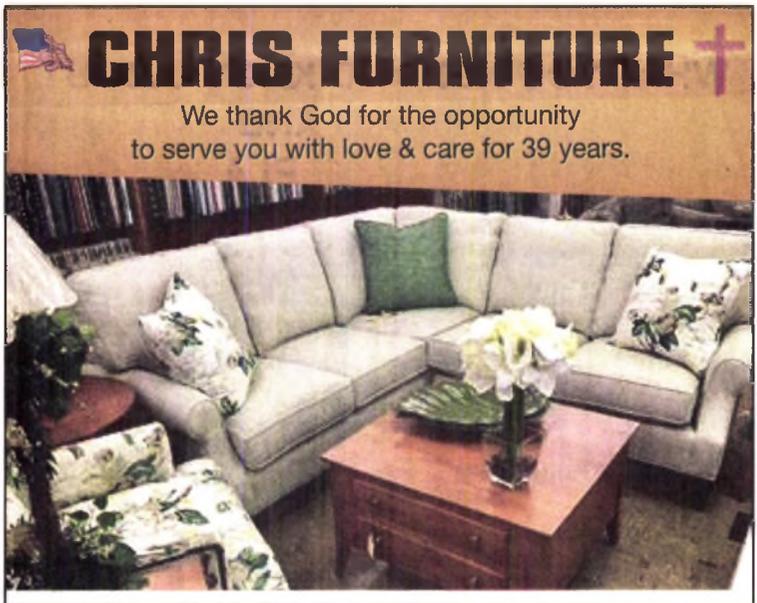
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WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

Garage door vandalized

A resident in the 6200 block of North Venoy came to the police station Aug. 3 to report vandalism to his garage door.

He said someone had come to his property sometime overnight and spray-painted the words "God help me!" on the door. He said the repairs to the door would cost a few hundred dollars and did not know who had done it.

Dash radio stolen

Police were called Aug. 6 to Beulah Baptist Church, 5651 S. Middlebelt, on the report of a vehicle that had been broken into and a stereo stolen.

The victim parked in the parking lot several hours earlier for morning services. She came out and found windows smashed and the interior ransacked. The dashboard was damaged and the radio was stolen. No one at the church indicated they heard anything at the church. No suspect information was available.

License plate lifted

Police were called July 31 to a residence in the 3800 block of Canyon on the report of a license plate being stolen.

The victim said he knew the plate was on the truck that morning when he came out to it. He placed a sticker on his

back window and remembers looking at the plate. He came out that afternoon and saw the plate was missing. No suspect information was available.

Car stereo, fidget spinner swiped

Police were called Aug. 1 to a residence in the 7300 block of Lathers on the report of a stolen car stereo.

The car owner told police he parked and locked the car the night before. He said he discovered the vehicle's in-car stereo system was missing the next morning, as well as a fidget spinner. Police checked the car and did not observe any fingerprints.

Wallet stolen

Police were dispatched Aug. 2 to a home in the 35000 block of Donnelly on the report of a larceny from auto.

The resident said she parked her car the day before and returned that morning to find it was ransacked. She found her wallet was missing from the car, which was unlocked. Police checked the area and found her wallet, but her birth certificate was missing from the wallet.

Wallet taken from car

Police were called Aug. 4 to the 30000 block of Beechnut Avenue on the report of a lar-

ceny from auto.

The victim said her husband saw a young male suspect in the car steal her wallet and run away. She said she typically leaves her car unlocked and places her wallet in the console, believing it is safe. She said her husband took the car to work, so police were not able to investigate the car. She canceled her credit cards and the only other items missing were her ID cards and social security card.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

WAYNE POLICE BRIEFS

TV, PlayStation 4 taken

A Wayne resident in the 3300 block of Niagara called police Aug. 6 to report several items had been taken from his apartment in a burglary.

He said he left his apartment that day to take a run and later returned to find his apartment's blinds open. He went inside and found someone had stolen several items, including pills, a TV and a PlayStation 4 video game console, among other items. Police photo-

graphed the scene and the victim said he was willing to prosecute a suspect if one is found.

Attempted break-in of garage

Police were called Aug. 8 to the 3600 block of Hubbard on the report of a burglary.

A resident said he and his wife left for work earlier that morning and came back that afternoon. He found pry marks on the storm door to the garage and the door was dead-bolted

with no access gained. The bottom of the garage door was also bent in. Nothing appeared missing.

Gun taken from vehicle

A resident in the 4800 block of Heather Place called police Aug. 5 to report the theft of a firearm from his car.

He said he left his handgun in the car, which he believes was locked, the night before. He returned the next day to find the gun missing and no damage done to the car. He

said it is possible he left the car unlocked. The gun that was taken was a .38 caliber semi automatic.

Car stolen

Police were called Aug. 6 to a residence in the 4900 block of Westwick Drive on the report of a stolen vehicle.

The victim said he parked the car the night before in front of the listed address. He came out the next morning and found the car missing. He said the car was taken using a set of

keys, which were in his daughter's car. Taken from her vehicle was a wallet that included some credit cards and her green card. She later got a notification that one of her credit cards had been used. She said she was unsure how someone accessed her vehicle, as her car was locked.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Wayne Police Department

LUNCHES

Continued from Page A1

The program, which takes place from noon to 2 p.m. weekdays and runs through the end of this week, was paid for with the help of grants and donations from organizations, which help cover wages for the YMCA workers that run the program as well as the healthy lunches provided to the children. Livonia Parks and Recreation allowed the program to use the shelter at the park during the day. Per-

lowski said. It's not uncommon for 20 or more children and their parents to show up each day for the program.

It's an important program to run, Perlowksi said. There is a 21-percent child food insecurity rate in Wayne County, as well as 4,000 students eligible for free or reduced lunches in Livonia Public Schools. Only 12 percent of those students utilize a summer food service program, which could mean children are going without food.

"We've been trying to get something going like this for years," said Su-

zanne Baker with Blessings In A Backpack.

Westland resident Jami Kelly has stopped in with her three children a few times. She said it's a great opportunity for her children to try new foods in a smaller serving size, especially around their peers who are eating the same thing.

"They are trying new foods that they typically would not eat," Kelly said. "There's no way I would get him to eat chicken and ranch, ever."

Perlowksi said they get different children many times during the week as well, allowing

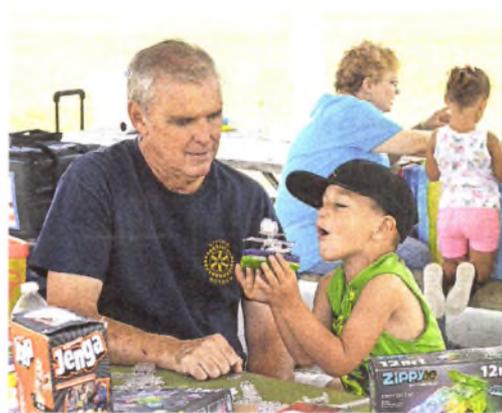
them to serve more children a lunch.

The program will run through the end of next week, though organizers say they hope it can see new life again in 2018.

"There are 4,200 kids who get free or reduced lunches in Livonia and we're serving 125 of them," Perlowksi said. "So yes, absolutely we would love to expand it."

"But for our first time effort, this has been pretty amazing."

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Rotarian Bob Moore and 4-year-old Adam Simon solve engineering problems as they play with Connect 4.

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St. Mary's Mercy psych staff caught doing the right thing

The St. Mary's Mercy Hospital Livonia leadership team recently filled its boardroom for a special meeting to honor some of its staff. Hospital President and CEO David A. Spivey smiled with pride as he greeted staff and special guest state Rep. Laura Cox, R-Livonia. She was there to recognize employees for going above and beyond for their patients — specifically, one living with a developmental disability.

"It is my honor to recognize individuals who take the extra steps to care for some of our most vulnerable," Cox said. "This approach is a



Tom Watkins
GUEST COLUMNIST

part of the culture of St. Mary's Mercy Livonia and our community at large."

The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority worked collaboratively with the hospital staff in caring for one of our consumers and assuring that her needs were met. The woman, in her early 30s, lives with severe autism spectrum disorder and was brought to the hospital by her group home staff for extreme

self-injurious and aggressive behaviors. After several weeks in the medical unit for injuries she had inflicted upon herself, she was admitted to St. Mary's Mercy's mental health unit for psychiatric stabilization. All other hospitals in the area with a unit dedicated to patients with developmental disabilities had denied her admission.

Upon admission, she was assessed and treated by a multidisciplinary team of psychiatrists, social workers, occupational and activity therapists, nurses and mental health technicians. The team included Dr. Samuel Wedes, nurse Pam



Tom Watkins (from left), state Rep. Laura Cox, Pam McCullough, Dr. Samuel Wedes, Suzanne Stevenson and David Spivey.

McCullough and case worker Suzanne Stevenson. The team delivered treatment that included therapy with medication, along with a detailed behavioral plan.

After 100 days of care, the patient did not improve to the point where

she would be considered safe to be discharged. So despite the hospital not being suited for long-term care, the team worked tirelessly, continuing its work with the patient, exploring alternative options in the community where she

would receive specialized services catered to her condition as an individual with developmental disabilities. After weeks of coordination, the team helped facilitate the safe transfer through Trinity Advocacy Services to Stoncrest Hospital in Detroit, where the patient could get the tailored care she needed.

We often single out individuals doing the wrong things, but it's quite a delight to catch people doing the right thing, administering an extra dose of care and kindness. This situation required going beyond providing the standard-level of care. That's why DWMHA and Cox worked together to honor Spivey's staff.

"We instill this philosophy from the top on down in our organization," Spivey said. "We extend ourselves where we can and this team exemplified that spirit."

Spivey's team was diligent, having engaged all parties to determine the next step for the patient and cover all basis for their hospital. Several conference calls were made and multiple meetings were convened on how to proceed for one individual.

This scenario played out as it should, professionals doing everything they can to make things right for individuals receiving services. We hear too often about the bad apples caught abusing the system or, worse, the patients they are entrusted to care for. Let's salute more heroes like those at St. Mary's Mercy Hospital.

Tom Watkins is president and CEO of the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (www.dwmha.com).

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Elfakir appointed to Westland DDA board

On Aug. 7 at the Westland City Council meeting, the council approved the reappointment of Mo Elfakir by Mayor William R. Wild to the Downtown Development Authority.



Elfakir is owner of Biggby Coffee, 36640 Ford Road. He has been a Westland business owner for 10 years and is actively involved in a number of community events. Elfakir has served on the DDA board since 2013 and his new term will expire in 2021.

"By taking one step inside Biggby in Westland, it is clear how much Mo cares about Westland and has made Biggby Coffee a staple in our commu-

nity," Wild said. "His unique perspective as a business owner has been a tremendous asset to the DDA board."

The DDA is governed by an 11-member board appointed by the mayor and subject to the approval of the city council. The DDA implements an improvement and business development plan in a commercial district along Ford Road and Wayne Road, south of Ford, and helps firms by providing design assistance for redevelopment of commercial properties. Regularly scheduled board meetings take place at 8 a.m. the fourth Thursday of each month at city hall, 36300 Warren Road, and are open to the public.

For more information, contact Aubrey Berman, administrative secretary, at 734-467-3200

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Burglary reported

Livonia police were called Aug. 9 to a home in the 16900 block of Riverside on the report of an attempted burglary.

The resident told police they got home and noticed the storm door from the garage entry area was broken on its hinges. They saw a fresh tool mark on the pedestrian door, which was new. No access to the home appeared to be gained, while police checked the area for evidence. Several items in the garage, including a blower and lawn tools that were left in plain view, were left at the scene.

Wheels, tires stolen

Police were called the morning of Aug. 8 to the 19200 block of Glen Eagles Drive on the report of wheels and tires stolen from a vehicle.

The victim said he parked in the driveway the night before. He came out that morning and

found the wheels and tires missing. He said no damage was done to the interior of the vehicle, with nothing being disturbed inside the car. The car was left on landscaping blocks.

More wheels stolen

Police were dispatched Aug. 9 to the 16400 block of Rougeway on a call of stolen wheels from a parked vehicle.

The victim said she parked the car in the driveway the day before. Her husband then came out and found the car resting on landscaping blocks. The lug nuts were left on the grass and minor damage was done to the bottom of the vehicle from the blocks. She said she was unsure if the car was locked, though nothing appeared missing from inside.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

World War II Navy veteran Sachau is August honoree

Dwight (Mickey) Sachau, a World War II veteran living in Hartland, was honored as the August 2017 Veteran of the Month by the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, of the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

Sachau served in the U.S. Navy from 1941-45. He was born in Anthon, Iowa, and raised in Sioux City, Iowa. Sachau was in high school in 1940 as things were really heating up in Europe. In April 1940, Germany invaded Denmark and Norway. In May, it invaded France forcing, that country to surrender in June. In March 1941, Germany invaded Russia. On St Patrick's Day 1941, Sachau turned 17 and decided to join the navy.

His father signed for him and June 28 he was on his way to the induction center in Des Moines and then off to boot camp at Great Lakes in Chicago. After nine weeks, he was sent to Dearborn to the U.S. Navy Service School at the Ford Rouge Plant. There he joined 2,400 other servicemen to be trained as machinists mates. On Dec 7, 1941, Sachau was with a buddy at a picture show in Wyandotte when they heard the news about Pearl Harbor. They rushed back to their base, which was now under guard. They were ready to go, but were told they had to stay and finish their training.

He was then sent to Norfolk, Va., to Baltimore and, finally, to New York City, where he was assigned his first ship. It was the USS McCawley, APA-4 Troop Transport, built in 1928 in England and purchased by the U.S. Navy in 1940. Its first mission, during February 1942, was to sail to Iceland with army troops to replace the 4,100 marines stationed there. The marines were dropped off in Norfolk and Sachau's ship returned to NYC, where it was



Dwight (Mickey) Sachau, a World War II veteran living in Hartland, served in the U.S. Navy from 1941-45.

outfitted with more guns and ballast then sent to Norfolk to pick up those same marines and transport them through the Panama Canal to Pago-Pago on American Samoa Island, where they would spend two months in training. Sachau's ship was then sent to Wellington, New Zealand, where it joined the amphibious force, South Pacific, and she became the flagship for Rear Admiral R. K. Turner shortly before the first Allied counter invasion of the war, Guadalcanal.

Sachau said, "On Aug 7, the Battle for Guadalcanal started. First were landings at Tulagi on Nggela Sule Island, followed by troops from our ship at Lunga Point on Guadalcanal. Air raids started on the next day and we scored our first kills, destroying three or four Japanese planes.

"On (Aug. 9), we lost three heavy cruisers and Australia lost one. The heavy cruiser Chicago had her bow blown off, but was still operational. It was the first blow to the Japanese and a costly one for the U.S."

The McCawley then sailed to its base in Nouméa, New Caledonia Island. It returned three times to Guadalcanal with supplies and reinforcements and departed back to Nouméa with wounded and, occasionally, POWs. On Nov 24, the McCawley sailed to Wellington for overhaul, which was completed in January 1943. In February, the McCawley was designated Attack Transport APA-4 and continued to supply Guadalcanal until mid-June.

"On June 30, 1943, we finished unloading at Rendova Island and were in the Blanche Channel when torpedo planes attacked," Sachau said. "We shot down four of them before we were hit. I was below in the machine shop when a torpedo slammed into our side and hit the engine room one deck below me. There were only nine of us that made it out; 15 men and two officers were killed. It knocked out all power, but did not sink. Later that day, we were attacked by dive bombers and we shot down one of the three with no more damage. By evening, we were sinking and the McCawley pulled alongside and we all transferred to it. At around 2023 hours, we were hit by more torpedoes and she sunk."

The next day, they discovered the final torpedoes came from U.S. PT boats that thought they were a Japanese ship. During the time Sachau was aboard the McCawley, it received five Battle Stars. The survivors were picked up by the USS President Adams the next day. Sachau spent the next six months in Munda, New Georgia Island, as a mechanic helping keep 15 ships running.

In December 1943, he received orders to report back to the states for a 30-day leave. He spent two weeks at Tre-

See VETERAN, Page A7

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WAYNE COUNTY EVENTS

Send calendar items to LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com.

Old Village Restaurant Crawl

The annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl is set for 5:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21, and members of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce are invited to enjoy restaurants in a unique part of the city. The Old Village area is the original city-center of Plymouth, filled with history and seven restaurants to try for just \$15 (\$5 for children 12 and under). An additional local restaurant, Wok Asian Bistro, will be participating and setting up a booth at the Old Village Restaurant Crawl.

To purchase tickets, contact the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce at 734-453-1540.

Griffin Golf Classic

The 16th annual Emily Ann Griffin Golf Classic will be held at Livonia's

Idyl Wyld Golf Course, 35780 Five Mile Road Livonia, at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, with a shotgun/scramble start at 2:30 p.m.

The fee of \$100 buys 18 holes of golf with cart, snacks, pop and water on the course, and dinner with chances to bid on silent auction items at Sacred Heart Banquet Center, 29125 W. Six Mile, Livonia. For guests wanting dinner only, the price is \$60 and approximate meal time is 7-7:30 p.m.

The Emily Ann Griffin Foundation was founded in memory of Emily Ann Griffin by her parents, Matt and Inger Griffin, longtime Livonia residents. The foundation benefits families of special needs children with assistance to purchase costly medical equipment often prescribed to support and enhance their child's lives, but too often not covered by insurance.

For more information, contact the Griffins at 734-542-0469.

Fall book sale

The Friends of Westland Library is preparing for its Fall Book Sale.

The Friends Preview Sale day is set for 3-6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14. Regular sale hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 15-16. From noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17 is a \$4 Bag Sale day.

Mackenzie alumni picnic

The seventh annual picnic for 50s-60s alumni of Detroit Mackenzie is set for noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20, at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Westland.

Bring your own picnic or buy from the vendor. Merchandise with the Mackenzie logo will be available for purchase. For more information, contact Janet Cable at 734-377-4009 or mackenzie50s-60s@hotmail.com or visit www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960.

Summer bash

The Livonia Parks and Recreation Department will host Summer Bash from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25, at Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, on the lawn.

Summer Bash will feature music from four area bands: Novara, a pop rock band from metro Detroit that combines aspects of hard rock and soft R&B tones with soulful vocal melodies; The Anders Orange, whose debut 10-track self-titled album balances easy-to-absorb pop melodies with

progressive rock adventures; Michigan Left, A psychedelic rock group; and If Walls Could Talk, a five-piece alternative pop rock group. For more information,

call 734-466-2900 or go to www.livoniaparks.org.

Bookstore bag sale

Secondhand Prose Bookstore is having a Bag Sale through Saturday, Aug. 19.

Bookstore hours are: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Thursday; 2-3 p.m. (premium members only) and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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

Dragg



Irene Rose (Renee) 94, of Livonia, passed away Wednesday, August 9, 2017, surrounded by her family in Muskegon, MI. Irene was born on March 9, 1923, the daughter of Alexander and Rose Smolenski. Irene married Alfred Dragg in 1943 and together they raised 2 daughters in Livonia, Michigan. Irene and Alfred were blessed with 67 years of marriage until his death in 2010. Irene was a founding member of St. Aidan's Catholic Church in Livonia, where she remained faithful until her move to Muskegon. She loved spending time with her family and had a great sense of humor. She was a passionate reader, enjoyed traveling, and loved to spoil her grandchildren, but was never too busy to watch a Tiger game. Irene met every challenge of aging with strength, determination and grace. She was loved by all and made friends wherever she went. She will be deeply missed.

Irene is survived by her children, Carrie (Michael) Krohn and Laurie (Richard) Fantine; grandchildren Julia, Claire, Alex, and Brandon; nephew, Tom Berlin; nieces, Sue Berlin, Debbie Hinchman, Denise Farr and Toni Olech. Irene was preceded in death by her husband Alfred; her parents; and sister, Diana (Stanley) Berlin. A Mass of Christian Burial was conducted 11:00 AM Monday August 14, 2017 at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 1110 Dykstra Rd., North Muskegon with Fr. Godfrey Onyekwere officiating. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Harbor Hospice Foundation, Beacon Cremation & Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements. www.beaconfh.com

Harger



Harger, Dorothy Jean, 81 of Plymouth; passed on August 7, 2017. Preceded in death by her parents Carl and Tess Harger, and former spouses Eugene Kafila, and Yngue (Bob) Linne. Loving mother of Daniel Kafila, Nancy Arnold (Daniel), Gary Kafila (Janelle), and Michael Kafila (Gretchen). Dear grandmother of Angela, Jessica and Nicholas Arnold, Ethan, Seth, Jenna, Ainsley, Nolan and Kendall Kafila. Also survived by her brother Donald (Fran) Harger, sister Andrea (Logan) Mathis, nephew Keith Harger (Deana) and niece Cynthia Harger. Memorial Service to be held Saturday, August 19th 11 AM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. Visitation will be held on Friday, August 18th from 4 - 9 PM at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to Amnesty International, Habitat for Humanity, or Detroit Public Television. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

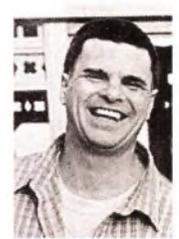
VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI FUNERAL HOMES CREMATION SERVICES



Radtke

Dolores Kathryn Dolores Kathryn Radtke, died peacefully at home on July 2, 2017, she was born February 5, 1923 in Dearborn, the daughter of Murray and Helen McFarland. She graduated from Sacred Heart Catholic School and earned her BA degree from Marygrove College and earned her Masters from Wayne State University. On August 7, 1954, she married Andrew Radtke Jr. and together they lived in Detroit and Bloomfield Hills and raised their 3 children, Andrew (Judy) Radtke III of Kingsley, MI, Cynthia (Jay) DeYoung of Traverse City, MI and Carol (Jeff) Barbus of Berkley, MI who survive. Dolores taught English at Bryant School in Dearborn and for 30 years at Coffey Jr. High/Middle School in Detroit. A devout Catholic, she was an active member and dedicated volunteer in her parishes, St. Eugene's in Detroit and St. Regis in Bloomfield Hills where she made many cherished and lasting friendships. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents and brothers Murray and Gerald. In addition to her children she is survived by her siblings, Paul McFarland and Kathleen Flores, grandchildren and great-grandchildren respectively Melissa (Brent) Wheat, Zachary, Reagan and Evan, Douglas (Piper) Radtke, Corban, Declan and Adelaide, Jeremy Radtke, Robyn (Matthew) Marks, and Timothy DeYoung and beloved nieces and nephews. According to Dolores' wishes, cremation has taken place through AJ Desmond & Sons Royal Oak, MI. A memorial mass in celebration of Dolores' life will be held at St. Regis Catholic Church, 3695 Lincoln Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301 on Friday, August 25, at 12:00pm where gathering will begin at 11:30am. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to the Detroit Goodfellows P.O. Box 44444, Detroit MI 48244-0444 or to a charity of your choice.

Spoehr

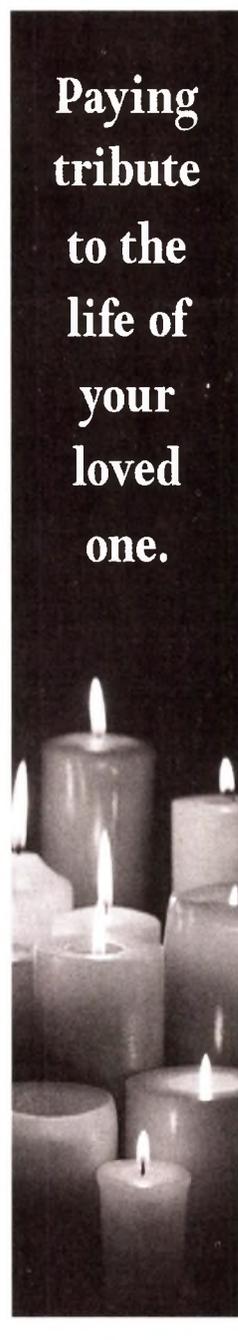


Mark Richard died at Beaumont Annapolis Hospital on August 11, 2017 in Wayne MI at the age of 57. Mark is survived by his mother, Mary Spoehr, of Garden City, MI, two siblings, Paul Spoehr (Amy) of Flat Rock, MI and Julie Spoehr (Lois) of Wayne, MI, and by numerous Aunts, Uncles, and cousins. Mark was preceded in death by his father, Bruce M. Spoehr of Florida. Mark was born on December 2, 1959 in Detroit, MI to Bruce and Mary Spoehr. He attended Garden City West Senior High and graduated with a GED in 1977. He endured a blessedly brief marriage while in his early 30's. Mark had a varied professional career, working at Moody's Landscaping, B & R Maintenance and he was most proud and satisfied with his stint as a driver for Hegira/ The Works. Over the years, Mark enjoyed the company of his cat BoBo, who unfortunately passed away in 2015. He had a long time dear companion in Cathy Fogel, and his numerous friends and family members will long fondly think of him as a friendly, kind, obstinate, demanding, charming, difficult and handsome man who will be most remembered with an abundance of love, patience, admiration and witfulness. Mark was an accomplished naturally gifted artist who could produce wonderful pieces with an easy flair, a noted storyteller, (if at times long-winded) and he possessed a clever wit and infectious laugh. Mark was a generous individual, dedicated to his family and wide circle of friends. His many loves, in no particular order included: music, hockey, food, coffee, friends, outer space, old memories, his devoted mother, Checkers, the Clubhouse, electronics and singing the occasional Old Spiritual in a delightfully deep voice. A bright light has been diminished with Mark's untimely passing, and there is a gathering planned for a later date to celebrate and reminisce about his unique and valuable life. He is, and will be, forever missed.

Walker



Grayce Sparano Torry age 89, passed away on Saturday, August 5, 2017 at her home in Granger, IN. Beloved wife of the late Richard M. Walker and Neil Richard Torry; loving mother of Jack Torry of Leesburg, VA, Matthew Torry of Hawaii and the late Pamela Henderson Levy and David Torry; devoted grandmother of Torry Corbett, Neil Henderson, and Michael Levy; cherished daughter of the late James and Mary Sparano. Grayce and her first husband, Neil, both grew up in Garfield Heights, Ohio. She was a homemaker who also lived in Euclid and Mayfield Village, OH and Troy, MI and Granger, IN. She owned and managed a boutique consignment store in Granger, Indiana. She was an enthusiastic golfer who in September of 1973 won the Morley-Sanford Memorial trophy as most improved golfer. Her great love was the stage. In 1972, she played one of the eight royal wives in the production of The King and I at St. Dunstan's Guild of Cranbrook, MI. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in memory of Grayce to The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids in Washington, D.C. Services for Grayce were held at THE DeJOHN-FLYNN-MYLOTT FUNERAL HOME OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS on MONDAY, August 14, 2017. Interment at All Souls Cemetery in Chardon, OH. Online obituary & guestbook at www.DeJohnCares.com



Kalmar Kakes opens

A ribbon-cutting was held Aug. 10 by Kalmar Kakes to celebrate its grand opening at 44930 Ford Road in Canton. Customers, employees and Canton Chamber of Commerce members and residents were all among the attendees.

VETERAN

Continued from Page A6

sure Island in San Francisco, guarding prisoners, before going home on leave. After his leave, he was sent to diesel school in Cleveland for two weeks and then to small craft training in Long Beach, Calif. In September 1944, he was assigned to the YMS-424 Mine Sweeper and sent to Astoria, Ore., where it was being built. It was a 135-foot wooden ship with a crew of 30. After completion of the ship, they spent the next two months patrolling the west coast of the U.S. before heading off to the Pacific.

In October 1945, the war was over and they were in Buckner Bay off Okinawa when typhoon Louise hit and drove them onto a reef. A total of 265 ships were damaged or grounded. "The skipper

told everyone to abandon ship and many of the crew jumped overboard," Sachau said. "I asked the skipper why he ordered to abandon ship as we weren't taking on any water. About half the crew, the skipper and I stayed on board and eventually the waves pushed us to shore. Four of our crew that had jumped drowned and one of them was my best buddy. The skipper should have never given that order without first checking."

Sachau was sent home and discharged. He had met his wife in 1941 while in Dearborn for mechanics training and they were married in 1946. They spent 46 years in Detroit and the past 19 years in Hartland. Sachau retired from Sears after 28 years and was a partner in a pest control business for 19 years. He and Eileen have been married 71 years and have three sons, two daughters, 12 grand-

children and 11 great-grandchildren. Sachau is an active member of American Legion Post 415 and he and Eileen have been members of the Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia or more than 50 years.

Sachau was interviewed by members of the S.A.L. Veteran of the Month Committee and a DVD was made. A plaque was presented to him from Livonia Trophy with his picture and service information. An additional plaque was also put on display in the vestibule of the American Legion Hall. The S.A.L. invites local residents to attend its monthly meetings to listen to the Veteran of the Month. The public is also encouraged to nominate veterans to be honored at its meetings. Nomination forms can be picked up at the American Legion Hall, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

SECTION 00 1113 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PROJECT:

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SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY REDFORD CHARTER TOWNSHIP AT THE CLERK'S OFFICE, 15145 BEECH DALY ROAD, REDFORD, MI 48239, UNTIL 3:00PM, LOCAL TIME, THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017, AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE SAID BIDS WILL BE OPENED AND PUBLICLY READ ALOUD FOR THE FOLLOWING WORK:

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MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE REDFORD TOWNSHIP CSO BASIN SITE, PURITAN AND LOLA DRIVE, ON MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2017, AT 9:00AM.

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REDFORD CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS AND TO WAIVE ANY INFORMALITY IN ANY BIDS SHOULD IT CONSIDER SAME TO BE IN ITS BEST INTEREST. NO LATE BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

BIDS MAY NOT BE WITHDRAWN FOR THE PERIOD OF 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF RECEIVING BIDS.

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Boar's Head Beechwood Black Forest Ham \$6.99 lb. <small>save \$3.00</small>	Old Tyme Yellow American Cheese \$3.99 lb. <small>save \$3.00</small>	Dearborn Smoked Turkey \$5.99 lb. <small>save \$4.00</small>



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PREP FOOTBALL

First day of hitting 'just like Christmas'

Energy unleashed as Livonia Stevenson gridgers finally get to go full throttle

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

There's nothing that football players such as Gio Agazzi look forward to more than the first practice of the season when they can hit with full pads.

Agazzi, a 6-4, 285-pound lineman entering his senior year at Livonia Stevenson, took a swig of water during Friday

afternoon's practice and then flashed a smile.

"It's just like Christmas, it happens once a year," said Agazzi, who plays tackle on both sides of the line of scrimmage. "It's going to be the last time for me. I will be playing college football, hopefully, somewhere. I'll have this chance again."

"But a lot of these kids I don't think will ever get to have this day back. It's going to be something you remember forever, tell your kids and all that other good stuff."

Also thrilled to be on the hot, turf field for the first day of all-out hitting was Stevenson outside linebacker Collin Bo-

wersox, also going into his senior year.

"We're all excited, we're all pumped, I'm not going to lie," Bowersox said. "Our defense is looking a lot better than last year and we're all getting really excited for the season to come around."

"We're just working on shedding blocks, working on all the techniques that we've practiced during the year and just putting it all in with pads now."

Let's go

That Christmas morning feeling of anticipation is some-



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

First day of hitting at Livonia Stevenson. Spartans Giovanni Agazzi and Brendan Plue compete.

See STEVENSON, Page B3

COLLEGE BASEBALL

IT'S ALL GOLDEN



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Schoolcraft College Gold Glove winner Jared Merandi demonstrates proper technique for catching a throw.

Merandi grabs first Gold Glove in Schoolcraft program's young history

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Every day throughout the baseball season, Jared Merandi brought his glove, bat and proverbial lunch bucket to go to work. His job was to be quicker and more assertive tracking fly balls in center field for the Schoolcraft Ocelots.

Practice *does* makes perfect, especially for 20-year-old Merandi, a flawless defender in 2017 with zero errors next to his name.

And perfection proved golden for the Plymouth High School alum and Canton resident, who Friday received a National Junior College Athlet-

ic Association Division III Rawlings Gold Glove — the first national honor for the second-year Schoolcraft program.

"Coming here and picking it up, it was awesome," said Merandi, who knew about the award in July. "At first I was, like, 'Sweet, it's a cool award.' But actually coming here and it was right in front of me I was, like, 'All right, this is pretty sweet. It's special.'"

"I wished regionals would have ended a little differently so that the whole team could have gotten some hardware. That would have been really cool. But being able to get

See MERANDI, Page B2



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Jared Merandi proudly accepts the Rawlings Gold Glove trophy for his fielding prowess with the Schoolcraft College Ocelots.

PREP FOOTBALL

'Darko' is the straw that stirs CC's drink this year

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

When he's on the football field, Isaac Darkangelo likes to take the Theodore Roosevelt approach.

The 6-foot-1, 228-pound senior's policy on the gridiron is to "speak softly and carry a big stick."

Darkangelo, a third-year varsity player, can be presidential and diplomatic-like off the field, but once he's inside those white lines, he can lay the lumber, as evidenced by leading the Shamrocks last season in tackles with 144, including 43 solo (plus a sack and one interception).

"He has great leadership qualities," first-year CC coach Dan Anderson said. "He's not always the most vocal guy, but he just works. He's just a workhorse and people follow his lead."

The linebacker and running back, who helped Novi Detroit Catholic Central to a 13-1 record and a run to last year's MHSAA Division I state final, is a throwback.

"Isaac is an old school linebacker," Anderson said. "He loves to run downhill and he loves contact. He has great footwork and good speed, too."

Expectations remain high for the Shamrocks heading into their season opener at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25, at home against Sterling Heights

See 'DARKO', Page B3



Darkangelo

PREP ATHLETICS

Fordson, Dearborn to become KLAA members next year

League will grow to 16 schools in 2018-19

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association is entering a new phase once again.

After shrinking from 24 to 14 schools for the 2017-18 school year, the KLAA an-

nounced that Dearborn High and Dearborn Fordson have accepted invitations after being members of the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

In 2018-19, three WWAC schools will be leaving for the KLAA: Belleville, which was voted in last spring (to replace Grand Blanc), along with the two Dearborn schools.

The three are expected to link up in an eight-school divi-

sion based geographically along with Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Wayne Memorial and Westland John Glenn. It will be called the Black Division.

The other eight-team division, which will be called the Gold, will feature current KLAA members Novi, Northville, Canton, Salem, Plymouth,

See KLAA, Page B2



BRAD EMONS

Senior linebacker Isaac Darkangelo stands in front of the One Body sculpture on Detroit Catholic Central's campus.

Balconi tourney gets season rolling

Eight of state's top teams to compete

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

August doesn't just mean the return of football. Soccer is back on the horizon, too.

For starters, there is Saturday's Gary Balconi Varsity Soccer Tournament at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Taking part in this year's tourney, which begins 10 a.m. at four fields on campus, are Canton, Plymouth, Salem,

Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Walled Lake Northern, Rochester Adams, Saline and Utica Eisenhower.

"The Balconi Tournament includes some of the best teams in the state year in and year out," said Canton varsity boys soccer coach Mark Zemanski, whose team is a perennial powerhouse. "The great competition it provides helps us assess our teams strengths and weaknesses at a very early stage in the season."

"This helps us to focus on improving our team play for the season."

Teams will be competing at the P-CEP Varsity Soccer Stadium (where the championship game will take place at 3 p.m.), as well as the varsity turf, freshman soccer and baseball fields.

Opening games are as follows: Canton vs. Northern, varsity soccer field; Plymouth vs. Adams, turf field; Salem vs. Eisenhower, freshman field; Catholic Central vs. Saline, baseball field.

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AMY MCGRATH
Canton celebrates winning the 2016 Gary Balconi Soccer Tournament. This year's tourney begins at 10 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Eight teams will compete on four fields.

MERANDI

Continued from Page B1

something nationally, it's awesome."

Merandi also got it done at the plate, batting .355 with two homers and 19 RBIs.

Sharing the moment

On hand Friday at Schoolcraft College's physical education building were Ocelots head coach Rob Fay and another standout outfielder from the 2017 squad, Waymond Lemon.

"It's amazing; probably I should have worked on my defense more," Lemon said with a grin. "I could have got

one."

Both Merandi and Lemon (a .340 hitter with just three errors in 2017) concluded their second seasons with the program, with Merandi considering Michigan State University for a walk-on opportunity. Lemon will continue his baseball career in 2018 at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

"Me and (Merandi) have been throwing partners for two years," Lemon said. "So just seeing my brother like that, on a huge accomplishment, even for a program that's only been around for two years, is very special."

Merandi said it meant a lot to him to see Lemon there when Fay brought

the shiny gold glove down from the athletic office.

"Yeah, we always played catch," Merandi said. "He was probably one of my closest friends during the school year. We'd always play catch, we'd be in the outfield together, we'd be pitching together."

"It's real nice to see him out here supporting me. Experiencing it with me. It's nice, cool."

Just crazy

After Merandi takes the award home for a while, he will bring it back to Schoolcraft to be on display for future baseball players to catch a glimpse of.

"It sets a standard," said Merandi, who will study business at Michigan State University regardless of whether he wins a spot as a baseball walk-on. "Coming into the season, national awards, I don't think any one of us was thinking

about that. I know I wasn't."

"To win it, it was actually, like, it was crazy. When our coach told us we were nominated, I was thinking, like, we're going up against everyone, all the D-III teams in the nation. I didn't think I had a chance. But when it happened, I was really surprised. So I think it will set a standard and let everyone know that things are attainable."

According to Fay, he and other Schoolcraft coaches nominated Merandi and second baseman Hunter Sellers (Livonia Franklin alum) for the regional Gold Glove team.

Sellers, unfortunately, did not make the all-region squad. But Merandi's name went to the national board composed of officials from Rawlings and the NJCAA, after which one player per position is selected.

"He was error-free in the outfield, so for him it

was real easy," Fay said. "When they decide who wins these awards, they basically look at fielding position, which comes into fielding and throwing."

"And all year long out in center field, he was perfect for us."

On the map

That level of proficiency didn't happen by accident. Fay praised Merandi for his constant inner drive to work and get better with Schoolcraft outfield coach George Kontos.

"We preach here that we play defense with our feet," Fay said. "So the faster, quicker, more agile we can be, the better we are going to be to get to balls."

"We constantly tell our guys to beat balls to spots. If you can beat a ball to the spot and get your body in position, you're not only in position to field it, you're also in position to make the

throw."

And after just two seasons, Schoolcraft's baseball program is on the national map, something that can only help future high school players decide being an Ocelot is a viable option.

"Being a young program, recruits aren't necessarily familiar with our coaches," Fay said. "This award shows that if you're an outfielder, coach Kontos is a great coach for outfielders."

"It shows that we get talented players and it shows that, by coming to Schoolcraft you can get the national recognition that may help you get into the four-year school that you're pursuing."

Who knows whether future Gold Gloves are in the offing for Schoolcraft players? But thanks to Merandi, the possibilities are endless.

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HOW TO BE FLAWLESS

Take it from Jared Merandi, who just won an NJCAA Division III Rawlings Gold Glove for his fielding prowess for the Schoolcraft baseball team. Here are a few basic tips on what it takes to become a flawless outfielder:

» **GET BEHIND IT:** Merandi said outfielders need to be in proper position. They shouldn't literally take shortcuts.

"For the outfield, the main tips are staying in front of the ball," Merandi said. "I think that's the biggest mistake a lot of people try to time it out, so they get right to the ball as it's coming down. Biggest key is to get behind it, it's a lot easier to move forward than it is to move backwards."

» **READ THE PLAY:** When the baseball leaves the bat, good outfielders quickly know whether to break toward the infield or drift back toward the fence.

"It's a little bit of anticipation," he said. "Being able to read the ball off the bat. The biggest thing is your first step. You want to make sure your first step is backwards, you open up quick. That's going to be your biggest help to get the ones deep."

» **RELAY GOOD:** Hitting the relay man is an integral part of being an outfielder and Merandi said there is no easy formula — other than being a tireless worker in practice.

"Honestly, it's repetition and practice," he said. "Because you can do it, it's basically just your throwing skills. So if you're not practicing it, it'll be sloppy."

» **WORK ETHIC:** Although winning a Gold Glove is glamorous, the work that goes into raising one's proficiency to award worthy isn't. But Merandi underscored the importance of good, old, hard work.

"(It's about) practice, hard work," Merandi said. "On the field and off the field, in the gym. A lot of kids like to skip leg day. You can't skip leg day. You got to be quick; that's how you get explosive."

» **ON SECONDS THOUGHT:** "We (train with) Mercy Elite, they're really good at working with your explosiveness," Merandi said. "They always talk about it takes 0.2 seconds to change direction. That's what outfield is, being able to change direction or get yourself moving really quick."



Jared Merandi gets his first look at the Gold Glove trophy, which he won for being error-free in 2017 for Schoolcraft. He is an alum of Plymouth High School.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

KLAA

Continued from Page B1

Howell, Hartland and Brighton.

KLAA president Nicole Carter, principal at Novi, confirmed the move Friday.

"We are pleased and excited to welcome Dearborn and Dearborn Fordson into the association," Carter said in a press release. "These are two schools with strong athletic and academic heritages that share our association's commitment to excellence."

Dearborn Superintendent Dr. Glenn Maleyko sent out a letter last week to inform the WWAC that both Fordson (2,762 students) and Dearborn (2,096) will be leaving while accepting the offer from the KLAA.

"Enrollment-wise, we're going to be more aligned with what we have," Fordson athletic director Jeff DelGiudice said. "We're all a little different, the three schools that are coming over. From a personal perspective, we're

locked into a division where we think we can compete. It was attractive to us, because we'll still be in with Belleville, Dearborn and the three Livonias. It, obviously, geographically fits. And with John Glenn and Wayne in there, too, I think it's a pretty good division. And it's a great league. The football is going to be fantastic. It will be good in every other sport, too."

Fordson, a perennial state playoff qualifier in football, proved to be dominant in the WWAC, followed by Dearborn and Belleville.

"It was a tough decision, only because I think for us it was a good league for us other than football," DelGiudice said. "We were considered the big boy on the block for football. Other than Belleville and Dearborn, nobody wanted to play us in football at all. Because of that, it created a need for us to look elsewhere. From my perspective as a Fordson A.D., I think it's going to be great thing for our kids. Apart from athletics, their league is good about getting student council

kids together and doing more activities other than athletics."

The current moves were all precipitated by 10 schools leaving the KLAA following the 2016-17 school year, with nine of the 10 forming their own league this fall: Milford, White Lake Lakeland, South Lyon, South Lyon East, Waterford Kettering, Waterford Mott, Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Northern and Walled Lake Western.

Another KLAA member, Pinckney, also jumped ship to join the Southeastern Conference.

Travel concerns, enrollment discrepancies and competitive balance within each of the leagues became some of the factors for schools to look elsewhere for new alignments.

"(Dearborn and Fordson) showed interest before school got out and we looked at their facilities," one KLAA school administrator said. "That will give us 16 teams and two divisions, which would be nice. Balance-wise and competitively, I think it's good. It hap-

pens to work out geographically. It will work out really good."

Grand Blanc, the KLAA's largest school (2,662), is in its final year in the league. Voted out of the KLAA last March, Grand Blanc is headed for the Saginaw Valley Athletic Association for 2018-19.

"Sixteen (schools) works out better than 14, eight and eight in a division," another KLAA school administrator said. "Dearborn and Fordson made a push and said, 'We'd love the KLAA, great competition.' They came to us and asked for consideration. We met last June and talked about it. We had another meeting on Aug. 1 and the principals voted on it unanimously to accept them. They had to give their league (WWAC) a year's notice. We decided we're not going to do anything in terms of seeding for football or sports. You're going to stay in your division just like they did for the KLAA for every single sport."

The two new divisions, yet to be named for 2018-19 in the KLAA,

fit geographically and enrollment-wise, for the most part.

"The only exception would be Fordson, but we said it wouldn't make sense to send Fordson and Hartland (2,052) to the other side," the KLAA administrator added. "It makes no sense for Hartland to travel all that way and Fordson the other way."

DelGiudice added that Fordson and Dearborn explored getting into a football-only alliance with the Southeastern Conference, which includes the three Ann Arbor high schools, Saline, Temperance-Bedford and Monroe.

But the proposal fell through.

"If the football alliance had worked, I don't know if we'd be talking," the Fordson A.D. said. "There wouldn't have been that push to do something else, because we would have taken care of the major problem, which is football."

Meanwhile, the WWAC will be shrinking to eight schools. The largest school remaining is Dearborn Heights Crestwood (1,387), while

the smallest is Livonia Clarenceville (541).

The remaining six members include Garden City (1,107), Redford Thurston (1,103), Redford Union (925), Romulus (868), Dearborn Heights Ann Arbor (782) and Dearborn Heights Robichaud (682).

Another WWAC school, Dearborn Edsel Ford (1,411), will be joining the Downriver League in 2018-19.

"It was a good league for us in a lot of ways," DelGiudice said of the Western Wayne. "But the enrollment disparity was becoming an issue because there was us, Dearborn and Belleville (1,710) and then we had schools in the 600-700 range. Football drives things, especially when it comes to enrollment. A lot of sports, it's not a big deal because you're putting five basketball players out there, but with football, it's all about depth. With three schools having a lot bigger enrollments, it creates an issue."

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STEVENSON

Continued from Page B1

thing shared by high school football players all over the state, especially coming at the end of the first week of official practices.

The opening week schedule, as outlined by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (which in 2014 passed rules to protect players against sustaining concussions, which continues to be a major issue for the sport at all levels) gets started with two days where the only equipment allowed are helmets.

Wednesday and Thursday added shoulder pads to the mix. But those early practices pale in comparison to Friday's, with the exhilaration of being fully equipped to do what football players love most — other than scoring touchdowns, of course.

"We don't try to attack the legs of our teammates," Agazzi said. "But there's nothing like being in full pads. It's just a feeling, I guess."

Stevenson head coach Randy Micallef said the first workout with full hitting is something players put on their calendars every year.

"They're very fired up to have the opportunity to go full equipment," Micallef said. "And for many of them, it was since last season where they've been able to go and tackle somebody at full speed. They always look forward to that event."

Micallef added that players are ready and raring to get after it, having been held back somewhat by the MHSAA rules in the early practices.

"With all the (MHSAA) rules, we use a lot of the (hand-held) pads," he said, "because you can't have contact or do those type of things for the first four days."

"So we've been using a lot of the tackling pads and tackling rings and those type of things. It's nice to be able to hit a moving (human) target with full equipment."

Heating up

Next on the checklist was Saturday's inter-squad scrimmage, followed by Thursday's three-way scrimmage. The latter is set for 11 a.m. Thursday at Stevenson, with Redford Union and Walled Lake Northern also participating.

Then, of course, will be the season opener, scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25, against visiting Livonia Franklin.

For Agazzi and other veteran players, the 2017



Brendan Plue hits the sled Friday at Livonia Stevenson. It was the first day where players could practice wearing full equipment.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

season promises to be a special one. The main reason for being optimistic is the strong team chemistry exhibited so far.

"Last year, I can say personally I don't think we had the best family-oriented team," Agazzi said. "This year, I can tell, we're just one big, giant family. All of us, we know what everyone's doing on the field."

That is duly noted by Micallef and other coaches, looking to improve upon last year's record (5-5, including a loss in the opening round of the

playoffs).

"The kids have done a tremendous job picking up what we're trying to teach offensively and defensively," Micallef said. "And we've got good leadership. (Quarterback) Parker Graham, Devon Dunn, Gio, Josh Page are all three-year players so they bring a lot of experience."

"They've done a great job teaching and showing the other guys what it's going to take."

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Football practice unfolds Friday afternoon on the turf field at Livonia Stevenson.

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'DARKO'

Continued from Page B1

Stevenson.

Anderson has made some subtle changes after taking over this season for Tom Mach, who retired after 41 seasons. Mach ranks third all-time among MHSAA coaches for wins after going 370-94 overall, including 10 state titles and seven runner-up finishes.

The transition seems smooth so far.

"I think it's great. Coach Anderson is keeping all the tradition here," Darkangelo said.

Early season practices have been high-velocity and high-intensity.

"Everything is broken up like a college practice, so it's awesome for us," Darkangelo said. "We've got the young coaches that are great and keep us going."

Darkangelo, nicknamed "Darko," will also share some of the load in the running game as a lead big back, along with

seniors Cameron Ryan, Carson Kovath and Matthew Young.

"What drives me is just knowing that I have all my brothers behind me and I know they're all with me," he said. "They're keeping me going and I'm keeping them going and I know they've got my back. I'm just hoping to have the best year yet and just keep grinding."

The Shamrocks have added a couple of high-profile members to their staff this season.

Former Birmingham Brother Rice head coach Dave Sofran will be working with the quarterbacks, while former Michigan State standout Greg Jones, who played for three NFL teams (including 2011 Super Bowl champion New York Giants), is helping coach the defense.

"He's an All-American and he's been helping out," Darkangelo said of Jones. "It's been great and I've been doing one-on-one with him. He helps us with our feet movement. He helps us

with our hands ... quicker. He helps us with our read steps and everything."

Darkangelo acquired his work ethic from his older brother Anthony, a former CC standout who just finished a stellar career as a linebacker at Ferris State.

"He taught me what hard work is," Isaac said. "He's always been on my back and getting me to go. It's really just driven me to be more like him and to lead like he did."

Family is important to Darkangelo, too, who is the youngest of six children. There are three boys and three girls.

Just above his right pectoral muscle, Isaac has a small tattoo that reads "Mi Casa."

"It actually means 'my house' and it's all my family's (first) initials," he said.

When he's not in school or playing football, Darkangelo can be found during the summer on Woodland Lake in Brighton.

"We actually just bought a beach house,"

he said. "I like to water ski, slalom ski. I'm pretty good. Me and Anthony go at it. It's pretty good."

The Shamrocks return three other starters: seniors Mike Harding (6-5, 220), a two-way end; Nick Carrey (6-7, 295), a two-way lineman; and Joe Natoci (6-0, 250), another two-way lineman.

Junior Marco Genrich (5-10, 175) and senior Jake Hinshaw (6-1, 185) are vying for the quarterback job, while juniors Keegan Koehler (5-11, 170) and Parker Bohland (5-8, 155) will get a strong look at running back.

"I really liked the hard work ethic that they had," Anderson said of the team's off-season. "They came to work every day and they worked hard and they're still working hard now. They really kind of have a chip on their shoulder after the loss (49-20 to Detroit Cass Tech) in the state championship game last year."

Anderson plans to tweak a few things as the Shamrocks will play



Anderson

another ambitious schedule, which features three Ohio teams: Toledo Whitmer, Cleveland St. Ignatius and Dayton Dunbar.

"It's going to look different from what you've seen the past, but it's still the same mentality," Anderson said. "We're going to be coming at people. We're going to have that bring your lunch pail to work

mentality."

Darkangelo, however, knows when it's time to let his hair down and time to get serious.

"He's a joker," Anderson said. "He's a funny kid. It doesn't always appear to be that way when he's out on the field because he has that workman mentality. Once he's off, he likes to have some fun."

Darkangelo's goal is to play at the highest level possible in college, but his priorities remain with his current CC teammates.

"I'm focused on high school right now, but still hoping for that Division I offer," he said. "Right now, it's been Division II. Got to focus on my season and have my best season and, hopefully, they will come. I've been working out and we've all been grinding together and it's great."

And according to the world of No. 38, it's called Big Stick Diplomacy.

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Robert Bosch LLC seeks a SW Eng in Plymouth, MI. Telecom permitted. REQS: BS degree in Auto Eng, Mech Eng, Electronic Eng, SW Eng, or rel eng field, +5 yrs of auto SW exp. Must have 1 yr exp w/ (1) perf algorithm SW dvlpt w/ ASCET, StateMachine/Stateflow & C coding; (2) analyzing customer reas & impl changes in DOORS; (3) eval brake syst from pedal to wheel & func of every component & ability to draw a full brake system & name all components; (4) using brake control func & vehicle dynamics, s/as Anti-Lock, Traction Control & Stability Control; (5) System Failure Modes & degradation (vis); (6) utilizing diagnostic func, purpose & usecases; (7) perform SIL to test the developed SW; & (8) util dvlpt tools s/as Uniview, TKWinX, XFlash, CANalyzer. Apply online at www.boschjobs.com, search Software Engineer (REF5415K)

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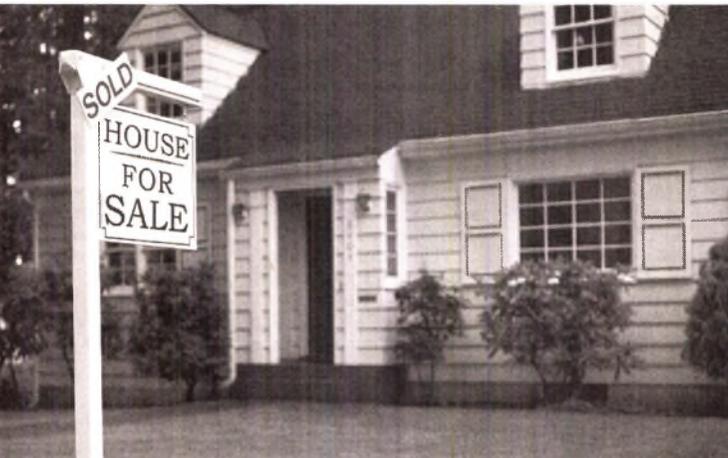
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Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.75	0	2.875	0
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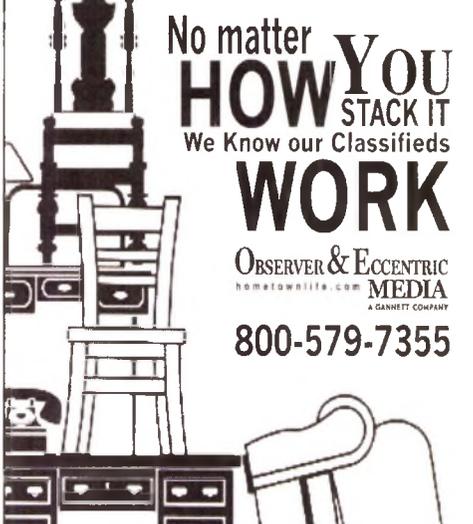
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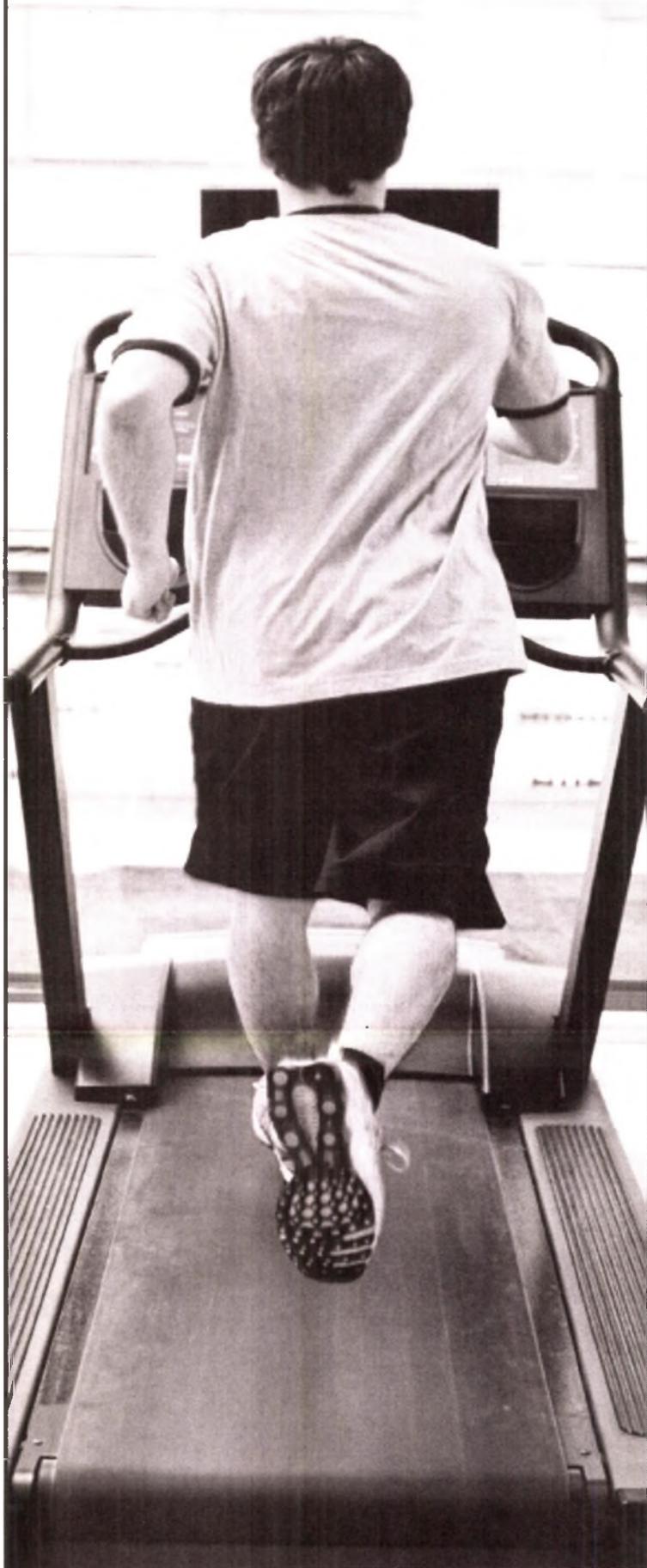
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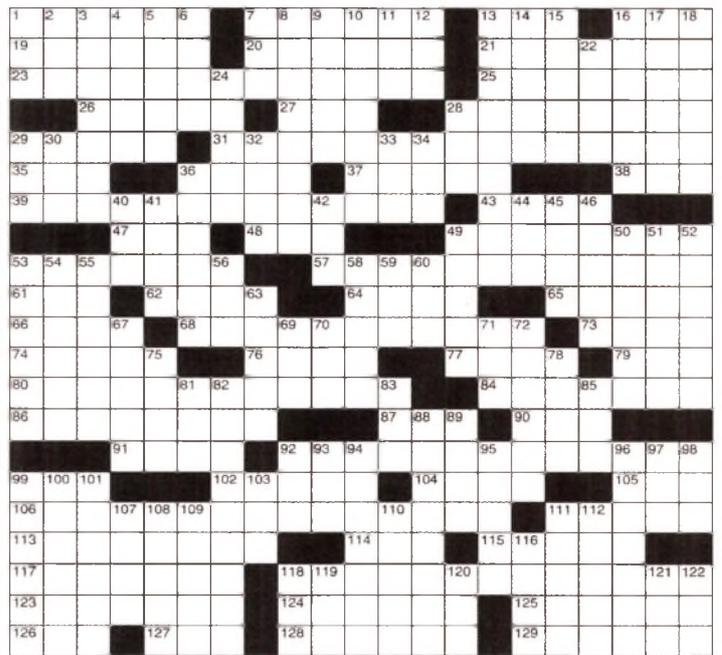
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 1995-96 CIA director John
 - 7 Seat of Johnson County, Kansas
 - 13 Dah's counterpart in Morse code
 - 16 Ungar of poker
 - 19 African antelope
 - 20 Mink's relative
 - 21 Actress Jennifer
 - 23 Nebraska-based insurance company [1935]
 - 25 Panther [1955]
 - 26 "I've Got a Crush —"
 - 27 Bean high in protein
 - 28 "Wide — Sea" (Jean Rhys novel)
 - 29 Desires
 - 31 Summons for speeding, say [1948]
 - 35 Footfaraw
 - 36 Like granola
 - 37 Up to the time when
 - 38 Chicago-to-Tampa dir.
 - 39 Sharp items with eyes [1956]
 - 43 Bond part
 - 47 Day, in Chile
 - 48 "Seats sold out" sign
 - 49 Mood of an environment
 - 53 Cloud layer
 - 57 Being attacked
 - 61 Funny [1946]
 - 62 Water, in Chile
 - 64 "— you one"
 - 65 Ventriloquist
 - 66 Egg layers in coops
 - 68 Refittings of cars' motors [1955]
 - 73 Fluids with antibodies
 - 74 Writer Asimov
 - 76 Comical idle
 - 77 Water pit
 - 79 Racer Jarrett
 - 80 Having recognized the value of one's own conscious being [1978]
 - 84 Artist's mixing board
 - 86 Amber wines
 - 87 "You betcha"
 - 90 "Angle" actor Stephen
 - 91 Ollie's buddy
 - 92 Executive arm headed by Antonio
 - 99 Acer or Asus products
 - 102 Touch base on a fly
 - 104 Easy throws
 - 105 Go backing arms
 - 106 "Just Shoot Me!" actress [2005]
 - 111 Protest type
 - 113 Tree expert
 - 114 Christmas party quaff
 - 115 Chicago air hub
 - 117 Machine on a skating rink
 - 118 Event won by the horses at the ends of eight answers in this puzzle
 - 123 Up for debate
 - 124 Lipton drink, informally
 - 125 Actress Driver
 - 126 Booming jet of old, briefly
 - 127 Suffix with Hollywood
 - 128 Quagmire
 - 129 Actor Liam
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Lose luster
 - 2 Tail bird
 - 3 Thus far
 - 4 Razz
 - 5 Pottery materials
 - 6 Sainly glow
 - 7 A bit amiss
 - 8 "When I Need You" singer
 - 9 Long — the law
 - 10 Cookie batch, often
 - 11 Snarky laugh
 - 12 Socrates' H
 - 13 Buddhist leader
 - 14 Like neon
 - 15 New York county
 - 16 Equilibrium
 - 17 Trunks
 - 18 Not finished
 - 22 Petty fight
 - 24 Eke — existence
 - 28 Phys., e.g.
 - 29 Existed
 - 30 Sweet drink
 - 32 Map nos.
 - 33 Opal ending
 - 34 Dol. divisions
 - 36 Model railroad size
 - 40 Lupino of old Hollywood
 - 41 Naldi of old Hollywood
 - 42 "How — Want It" (#1 hit for 2Pac)
 - 44 "The Detour" channel
 - 45 French river
 - 46 Honey drinks
 - 49 Realsms
 - 50 Guitarist Ted
 - 51 Table wine
 - 52 Big online investing site
 - 53 Deep divide
 - 54 "La Mer," translated
 - 55 President after Jimmy
 - 56 Part of SPF
 - 58 Sibling of a nephew
 - 59 Two, in Chile
 - 60 "That's icky!"
 - 63 "— just a number"
 - 67 Bank boxes
 - 69 Like the verb "lie": Abbr.
 - 70 Game with matchsticks
 - 71 Baby wolf
 - 72 Stings
 - 75 "I Am —" (Jenner's reality show)
 - 78 Supplication
 - 81 Clerical title
 - 82 Dreams
 - 83 Tincture
 - 85 Incus' organ
 - 88 Pastoral poems
 - 89 Grads' event
 - 92 Sheepskin boot brand
 - 93 "Rapa —" (1994 film)
 - 94 Wrench, to a Brit
 - 95 Kindle download
 - 96 ER trainees
 - 97 Moviedom's Meyers
 - 98 Bronzy
 - 99 Some statue sites
 - 100 Gem measures
 - 101 Yield (to)
 - 103 Home pest
 - 107 Rips off
 - 108 Sprang forth
 - 109 Congested cavity, often
 - 110 Terra — (tile material)
 - 111 The Beatles' "Sexy —"
 - 112 "Fame" star
 - 116 Choir melody
 - 118 Basinger of "Batman"
 - 119 — in "crossword"
 - 121 Yearbook bit
 - 122 Deep longing



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

2			4		6			
	6			1	9			
	7					6		
9			4	7				
		8				1		
			9	3				5
		4					7	
			2	7			1	
			6		8			9

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	3	4	8	5	9	2	7	1
8	2	7	4	5	1	9	6	3
9	6	3	2	7	8	5	4	1
5	8	5	1	9	6	4	2	7
4	7	3	8	6	5	2	1	9
2	5	1	9	3	7	8	4	6
8	7	9	3	2	5	6	4	1
4	6	5	7	1	9	8	2	3
7	8	6	9	4	8	3	1	2

QUILTING WORD SEARCH

FRUNKDHGBATTINGSBRWB
RENSLNMKNKNPOWHDOEIE
RLELBMIHITIFSGIMRDWT
VPUETBQEPFVWBLBDWK
FMQERHTTCNTFGACYOEIE
EAIIVQFEAHTPUNCIRRT
GSLLEQMWPHSNTSTIKLKAN
R L I P O C R K C E H N P S T I A B S
ARPLRHNCTYMGCFWUTNCB
IEAKAIAQLNATNGBOOAGS
N T S R F S A F I M L R N E D Y H E T E
EUMFDGWNUIAKMILACKIL
BEREHEENIQOFEETOLELBB
APEUUESDWGOBLTWPA S P I
SFEYNEAISFN G E L I S N H K S
TQBILEGDYOOGF S I I Y O C U
INLDRSAIBEM I Y N A N G L Q F
NTEHFKNILSUMB I I E E S I P
GETSTIPPLINGMUBLAHAD
NKFPYDNL ENN AL F G B H N C U

WORDS

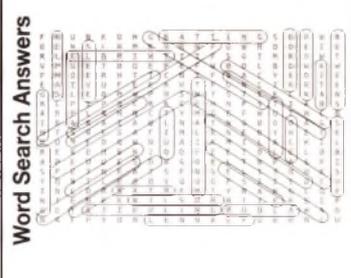
- ALBUM
- APPLIQUE
- BACKING
- BASTING
- BATIK
- BATTING
- BETWEENS
- BIAS
- BORDER
- CALICO
- CHALLENGE
- CHARM
- CHENILLE
- EASE
- ECHO
- FEEDSACKS
- FIMBLE
- FUSTIBLES
- GRAIN
- LAYOUT
- LTNEN
- MONOFILAMENT
- MUSLIN
- NEEDLES
- ON POINT
- PIECEWORKS
- QUILT
- REDWORK
- SAMPLER
- SLEEVE
- STIPPLING
- STUFFING
- TATTING
- TEMPLATE
- THIMBLE
- THREAD

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Crossword Answers

DEUTICH	OLIATHE	DIIT	STU
TIMPALA	FERRET	ANISTON	
MUTUAL	OFOMAHA	LEOPARD	
ONYOU	SOY	SARGASSO	
WANTS	TRAFFIC	TIATION	
ADO	QUATTY	UNITILL	ISSE
SEWING	TEDE	LES	ATOM
DIAT	SRO	AMBIENCE	
STRATUS	UNDERASSAULT		
CHO	AGUA	IOWE	EDGAR
HENS	ENGINES	SWAPS	SERA
ISAAC	ERIC	SUMP	NED
SELF	AFFIRMED	PALETTE	
MADE	IRAS	YEP	REAR
STAN	UNSECRE	TARIAT	
PCS	TAGUP	LOBS	INRA
LAURAS	ANGIAC	OMOS	SITIN
ARBORIST	NOG	CHARE	
ZAMBONI	KENTUCKY	DERBY	
ATTISSUE	TICETEA	MINNIE	
SST	LESS	MORASS	NEESON



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