

BLAZERS CRUISE IN SOFTBALL DISTRICT

SPORTS
PAGE B1

CLASS OF 2010
PHOTO PAGE, A5

THURSDAY
June 10, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric
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IN BRIEF

Rain delays planting

Due to inclement weather last weekend, the Community Planting Day for the City of Westland's DTE Energy Community Garden has been rescheduled for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 13.

Volunteers interested in planting should plan to bring their own gardening tools, sunscreen, drinking water and closed-toed shoes.

The DTE Energy Garden is located behind the DTE Training Facility at 38155 Cherry Hill, however volunteers are asked to enter the planting site off Avondale, west of Newburgh and south of Cherry Hill.

In the event that the rescheduled planting day needs to be cancelled due to heavy rains, the City of Westland will inform residents and volunteers via e-mail, Facebook, Twitter and Nixle.

Volunteers also are needed for weeding and harvesting the food 4-7 p.m. every Wednesday. The food will be grown and donated to Gleaners Food Bank of Southeast Michigan to be distributed to children, seniors, disabled people, working families and other individuals in need of emergency food.

To get involved with planting, weeding, and harvesting Westland's DTE Energy Garden, call Marc Zupmore at (313) 235-3579.

Friday Night Cult Classics

Westland's William P. Faust Library is showing free Cult Classics 7 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 20. The doors open at 6:30 p.m., and refreshments will be served. Those under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult to attend R-rated movies.

The schedule includes the "The Big Lebowski" (R) on June 11, the original "Clash of the Titans" (PG) June 18, "Polyester" directed by John Waters on June 25, "Blade Runner" (R) on July 9, "The Gods Must Be Crazy" (PG) on July 16, "The Warriors" (R) on July 23, "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" (PG) on July 30, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (PG-13) on Aug. 6, "Welcome to the Dollhouse" (R) on Aug. 13 and "Raising Arizona" (PG-13) on Aug. 20.

The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Ford Road repaired

The Michigan Department of Transportation will begin construction work on M-153 (Ford Road) in Garden City and Westland next week. The work represents an investment of \$4.6 million and includes drainage work, sign replacement and curb repairs to bring the thoroughfare in line with the requirements set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

MDOT is overseeing the project to resurface Ford Road from Venoy Road to Arcola Avenue. With a working schedule that includes both daylight and overnight hours to expedite the project's completion, all lanes are expected to be open to traffic in early October.

Council OKs budget without library transfer

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A balanced 2010-11 budget was adopted by the council Monday but a transfer of more than \$500,000 from the William P. Faust Public Library's fund balance to the city's general fund will get a closer look.

The library board appeared

en masse to protest the plan to charge the library rent of \$51,000 annually and collect 10 years back rent. It's a common practice for a municipality to charge rent for city-owned buildings to departments with their own budgets, such as the water department.

Reading a statement with the other board members standing behind her at the podium,

Library Board President Leslie Bell questioned whether the city had the authority to take the money from the library, noting the building construction was funded through a combination of a grant, Tax Increment Financing and other sources, including a one-mill tax levy approved by voters to fund the library.

The library has a \$1.9 million

budget with a .994 millage levy — before the Headlee rollback — generating \$1.7 million for the largest portion of its revenue. Property tax revenues for 2010-11 are projected at \$1.5 million due to decreased property values. The library had a \$1.5 million fund balance, effectively its savings account.

"The 15 percent fund balance recommended (by auditors) is

a minimum. It doesn't include capital items like the roof and HVAC — things that we will need in the next five years," said Bell. "If you take our fund balance, is the city ready to take responsibility for a new roof and maintenance as the landlord?"

The city already charges the library \$200,000 annually for

Please see **LIBRARY, A2**

W-W says goodbye to classes of 2010

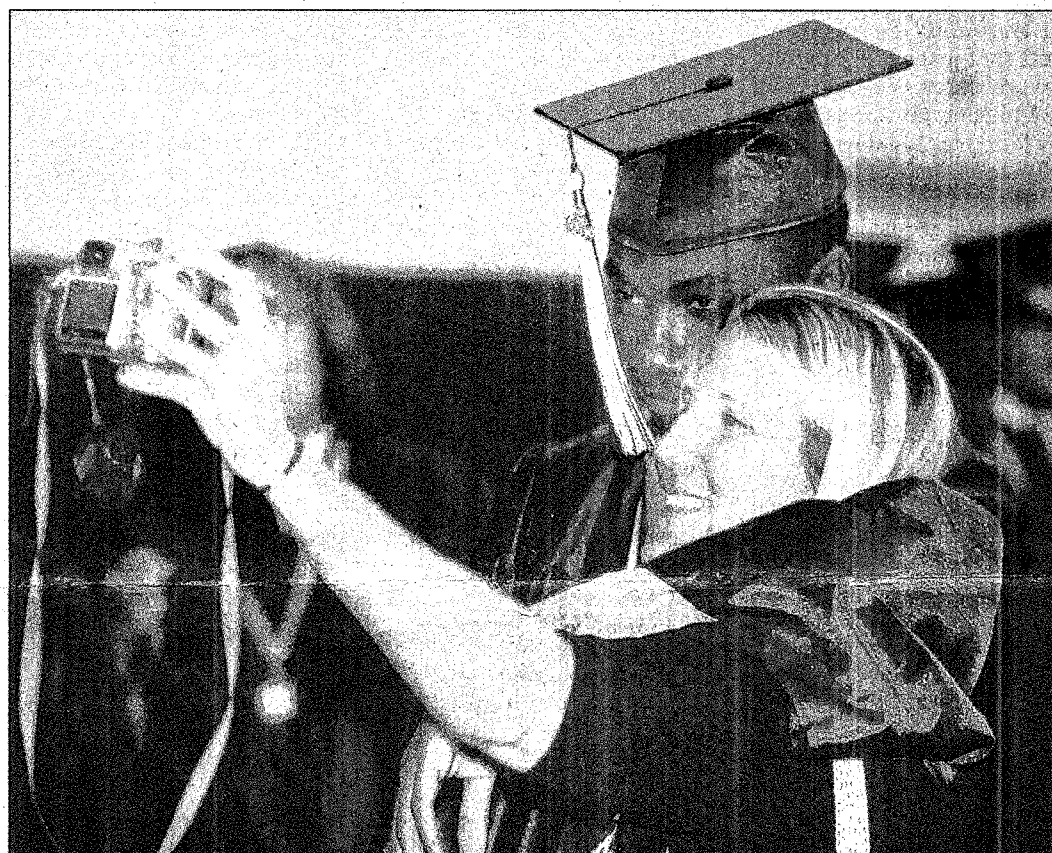
Editor's note: For photos and a list of graduates from Wayne Memorial High School, see Page A5. Coverage of the John Glenn commencement, also with photos and a list of graduates, will be published in the Sunday, June 13, issue of the Observer.

Impressive ... that's the word Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy used to sum up the accomplishments of the Class of 2010 of John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High Schools.

Baracy was among speakers at the two commencement ceremonies, held Saturday at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center.

"Several of our graduates have received full four-year academic and/or athletic scholarships at some of the most prestigious colleges in the country," Baracy said. "Several of our graduates have made the ultimate sacrifice. They have enlisted in the armed forces and will be serving our country with honor and valor."

Baracy told the audience that Wayne-Westland seniors participated in WXYZ-TV's "Brightest and Best," were named to all-conference and all-state teams by local press and media, and received regional, state and national honors in various com-



Wayne Memorial Safety Officer Mary Reddmann takes a picture with graduate Demario Robinson.

petitions in the arts.

"Many of these graduates have been involved in a variety of charity work providing clothes, food and money for the less for-

unate," he added.

Wayne Memorial's Class of 2010, with its 12 valedictorians, has an impressive track record. It has earned more than \$2 million

in scholarships and the amount is still growing. Sixty-seven Academic Letters, which require a 3.5 grade point average or better, as well as 14 Presidential



John Glenn graduates Kristel Vinuya and Michael Franks come down the runway after receiving their diplomas at Saturday's commencement ceremony.

Education Awards for Academic Excellence, requiring a cumulative 3.8 grade point average over four years, were awarded to members of the graduating class.

At John Glenn, the Class of 2010 had 15 valedictorians and has earned more than \$1.5 million in scholarships, an amount that also is still growing. Ninety Academic Letters and 21 Presidential Education Awards for Academic Excellence also were given out.

Businesses help kids and Westland Youth Assistance

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland Bowl is offering 80 local youngsters a free summer bowling program.

The six-week program offers bowling from 6-8:30 p.m. Fridays, June 18 through July 30. The only requirements are that the youngsters be 12-16 years old, Westland

residents and sign up through the Westland Youth Assistance office.

"This is a great opportunity for parents to do something nice for their kids. This kind of program ties the kids to the community and kids who are connected to community are less likely to harm it," said Youth Assistance Director Paul Motz.

Westland Bowl owner Mike

Capaldi has always been a strong supporter of the Youth Assistance Program, Motz said.

To sign up for the bowling program, call the Youth Assistance office at (734) 467-7904.

Another local business is hosting a summer fund-raiser to benefit Youth Assistance. Culver's on Newburgh just south of Warren Road, will ask customers who purchase a medium

or large fruit cooler to donate \$1 to Youth Assistance. Those who donate will receive a collectible glass.

"The glass costs more than \$1 and it has passed all the federal guidelines for cadmium," said Jamie Bell, Westland Culver's manager, taking a job at McDonald's which had its collectible glasses recalled.

Culver's is happy to work

with local programs like Youth Assistance, Bell said, noting more than \$1,000 worth of ice tokens had been donated to the William P. Faust Library Summer Reading program.

"You can't quantify an investment in youth," said Bell. "Have a way cool summer (the slogan on the glasses)."

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City works with residents to clean up mess

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Rolled up carpeting, furniture, drywall, toys and boxes on the curb — it's easy to spot which homes on Hiveley were flooded during rain storms Sunday.

"The neighbor woke us at 6 a.m. and told us there was water in the basement," said Raymond Cooper, a 13-year Hiveley resident. "We had five or six inches of water in the

basement. It was pretty much clean water but it smells like sewer. I had just put in all new tile. It's all ruined."

Westland officials are estimating that more than 600 homes had flooded basements from the heavy rains that overwhelmed the storm sewer. The affected homes were scattered around the city but the city located its mobile command site in front of Hamilton Elementary School on Avondale just west of Easley,

describing that as the epicenter of the flooding with 300 affected homes.

Cooper and his wife, Barbara, ticked off a list of belongings ruined by the flood water — a DVD player, a bed, the phone modem, an Xbox game system.

"We were lucky that the TV was higher up," said Raymond Cooper. "We pumped water out of the basement for nine-10

Please see **CLEANUP, A2**

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INDEX

APARTMENTS ... C2
AUTOMOTIVE ... C4
CAREER BUILDER ... C3
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... C2
HOME & SERVICE ... C2
OBITUARIES... B9
REAL ESTATE ... C2
SPORTS ... B1
STRICTLY BUSINESS ... B5

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Command post helps residents start cleanup, claims process

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Now that the heavy rains that overwhelmed the Westland sewer system early Sunday have receded, residents are cleaning up and trying to figure out whether they will be reimbursed for their losses.

At the mobile command post set up in front of Hamilton Elementary School, city officials got names and addresses of affected homes — estimated at more than 600 homes city-wide. The homeowners will receive a notice of claim form from Westland to be mailed later in the week, then have 45 days from the date of the flooding to submit a claim.

“We’re not able to identify mechanical failure. It looks like the amount of water was more than the system can handle,” said Mayor William Wild, noting over five inches of rain fell in a 29-hour period.

Claims submitted by homeowners will be forwarded to the city’s insurer, the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority. Under state law, the city would not be responsible for damages unless there was some defect in the city sewer system.

As part of the response to the flooding, the city had Belfor USA on site to help distribute bleach to residents for their cleanup.

Belfor crews were also helping get basements dried out and disinfected. Belfor and Westland Department of Public Services crews had helped dry and clean more than 100 homes by Tuesday evening.

“Some people are taking care of it themselves. They had no idea the city would do this. If you’re able to do it yourself, do it,” said DPS Director Kevin Buford. “You want the water out of there as soon as possible to avoid mold.”

The cleanup by city workers and Belfor were prioritized based on emergency medical need, such as people using oxygen or having other health issues, said Fire Chief Michael Reddy,

who was in charge of the command post.

Along with Reddy, Buford and Wild, the city pulled in many other staff to help at the command post, including Deputy Mayor Jade Smith, Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski, IT Director Dan Bourdeau, Economic Development Director Lori Fodale and others.

One resident who stopped by the command post shook hands with Wild, commenting that he had lived in 10 different cities and had never seen a community respond to an emergency like Westland had handled the flooding aftermath.

CLEANUP

FROM PAGE A1

hours. We have a pool in the back yard. We’re lucky ones, we had a pump. I’m glad we had it.”

Cooper and his next door neighbor, Josh Treece, went together to the mobile command post to register their problems with the city. Belfor USA is assisting with getting basements dry and cleaned up.

“It’s not even been a year since I moved in. I painted and redid the basement with carpet tiles. Now I’ll have to pull it back up,” said Treece, who lives in the home with his fiancée and eight-week-old son. “I had the same problem when I lived in Inkster. My dad sued.”

After he had been alerted to the flooding by a neighbor, Treece said he found about six inches of water filling his basement wall-to-wall.

The storm brought such heavy rain, Treece said, that he had to stuff a towel into his kitchen exhaust vent to stop water that was coming inside.

Resident Marylynn Michener cleaned out her flooded basement and put a number of toys — a Barbie playhouse, bags of Barbie

dolls, baby dolls, ride on toys, stuffed animals, games, a wooden Pooh bear decorated book shelf and books on the curb for trash collection.

Michener was concerned that a scavenger stopped and took the Barbie house, book shelf, a humidifier and bags that were filled with toys and other items.

“Where is he going to take this stuff, where is he going to sell it? Resale shop? Garage sale? What unknown person is going to buy this stuff for a child,” Michener said in an e-mail to the *Westland Observer*. “This stuff that just came from sewage water. Will that child love to chew on things like my four-year old does?”

Trash pickers were seen going through items placed at the curb by residents in other neighborhoods, too.

Since talking with the man who took the items from her trash, Michener said that she had been very upset since thinking about where this scavenger items would end up.

“I don’t want to see anybody get sick from these toys or whatever was in those bags he took,” she said. “I use a local consignment store myself for my girls old clothes, so it’s not like I’m above it. I just don’t want kids sick. I want to let people

know to think about what they purchase and where, and to wash everything very, very good before they use and especially if they give it to a child.”

Recalling a large water backup about nine years ago, Cooper questioned whether those repairs had actually been completed.

Westland has inspected the pump stations, storm water and sewer systems, finding no defect in the system, said Mayor William Wild.

“The rain overloaded the Wayne County interceptor — it was over three inches of rain in less than three hours,” said Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford. “That never happens — someone opened the flood-gates.”

Buford was working with James Jackson, Wayne County Department of Public Works director, in an effort to locate the problem. Flooding was also reported Garden City, Dearborn Heights, Inkster and Dearborn.

Residents who had been flooded came to the council meeting Monday with their concerns and complaints.

One man asked the city staff to address the rumor that pumps to handle the storm water hadn’t been turned on because the city

didn’t want to pay overtime to DPS workers.

“It’s an automatic system, it doesn’t need to be turned on. We have backup generators,” said Council President James Godbout. “If the pump doesn’t go on, there is an alarm. Most of the pumping stations have two pumps, they alternate, or if the rain is heavy enough, they would use both pumps.”

While residents had questions about who would reimburse them for their losses, there weren’t a lot of answers yet. It was recommended that residents document their losses with photographs and keeping a list of the costs they incurred.

The immediate focus was getting basements dry and cleaned up, Wild said.

While homeowners were asked to sign up with the command post, where cleaning products were also to be distributed, another concern was vacant homes that may have been flooded.

The city was working to make a list of vacant homes and attempting to contact the listed owner to get the cleanup done.

Along with the command post, the city has also set up an emergency hotline at (734) 713-3877.

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Library kicks off summer reading program

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Summer Reading Program at Westland’s William P. Faust Library officially kicks off Saturday.

The seven-week Make a Splash — Read! program is free and offers activities for youngsters of all ages. During the kick-off 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, youngsters can register for the program, receive a reading log and a calendar of events.

There will be face-painting, a fishing game, a simple craft and light refreshments.

“It’s a wonderful program and the kids have a wonderful time. There are special activities all day during the kick-off,” said Library Director Cheryl Napsha. “There is a lot of special programming.”

Kids can participate in the Summer Reading Program, if they are reading independently or are being read to aloud — the program is aimed at promoting the joy of books.

“It’s based on reading minutes. Older children in the reading program can read to little ones in the Read to Me Program and the minutes will count for both,” Napsha said.

Children earn prizes and treat coupons, which community sponsors donate, based on their reading minutes. Weekly raffles and guessing jars add to the fun. Story times, crafts, ceramics, readers’ theater, sidewalk chalk, teddy bear sleep-over, family movies, instructional dance and guest performers also are being offered.

Youngsters select their own books and read at their own pace. Those who complete the program and read 600 minutes will receive a free paperback book, entry into a prize drawing and a free ticket to a finale event with a performance by magician Jason Hudy.

“About 1,200 kids participated in the program last year. It’s a pretty busy program. About 50 kids will attend the programs — 100 or 150 for special events,” said Napsha. “The programs are pretty much indoors — one musical thing will be outside.”

The Summer Reading Program runs through Saturday, July 31. Call the library’s Children’s Services at (734) 326-6123 for more information.

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LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

overhead, Bell said, and now wants an additional \$51,000 each year for rent.

“The way this transpired shows a great lack of respect for the library and the library board,” said Bell.

Mayor William Wild had met with Library Director Cheryl Napsha to discuss the proposal several months ago. The Library Board had an attorney researching the matter but stopped when nothing more was heard of the proposal.

Wild hadn’t included the transfer of library funds in the proposed budget he submitted to the council. It was back on the table last week when the council held their study session to wrap up remaining budget issues.

After resident Burke Rock unleashed a torrent of name-calling and insults on Wild, Council President James Godbout said that the library transfer was revisited at his request.

“You don’t know what went on and it’s wrong. We significantly changed what was proposed (in the budget). I take

great offense that you come up here and call people names,” said Godbout. “I asked that the library money be put back (into the city budget) because of the city’s financial situation and long-term needs.”

Although a one-year budget was adopted, Wild noted the city had effectively balanced its budget for the next two years. A five-year project had projected a \$3.5 million deficit for 2010-11 and a \$12 million shortfall for 2011-12.

“You want to take cheap shots, OK. We are being proactive and have cut \$35 million out of the budget over five years,” said Wild. “There was no sleight of hand with the library. We were looking at a five-year deficit of \$46 million and have cut that to \$11 million.”

When it came to adopting the budget, council members agreed that the library transfer should have further study. Councilman Bill Johnson asked for a legal opinion from the city attorney after finding that an opinion had not already been prepared.

“If we can’t do it legally, we won’t do it. I agree that we shouldn’t go back 10 years,” said Johnson.

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W-W explores partnership with Chinese university

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

East met West in a conference room in Westland Tuesday morning as school officials and Chinese university representatives got together to talk about a possible partnership.

The unusual conversation took place over the Internet and linked educators from the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and officials and students from Mianyang Normal University, located in China's Szechuan Province.

"There seems to be a genuine interest in partnering with us and it seems there are people desirous of teaching Chinese to our kids," said Wayne-Westland school board President Skip Monit who participated in the hourlong discussion. "I'm enthusiastic about it. It's a real good opportunity for our district to get involved in the initial phase to offer Chinese to our students."

Specifically, the language is Mandarin Chinese, which, according to educational consultant Tom Watkins, is "spoken by one-fifth of all humanity." The exploratory discussion centered on creating a partnership in which Mianyang University would send student



Wayne-Westland school board President Skip Monit (from left) Superintendent Greg Baracy, consultant Tom Watkins, Paul Salah, senior executive director of instruction, and Koralo Chen listen to students from Mianyang Normal University in China during a Skype conference Tuesday morning.

teachers to Wayne-Westland to teach Mandarin Chinese.

"Think how powerful it would be to develop a relationship with a university that prepares Chinese teachers to teach Chinese to non-Chinese speaking individuals," said Watkins who is an honor-

ary professor at Mianyang University. "If that can be set up, Wayne-Westland could have a very solid exchange program and people for quality teaching."

According to Superintendent Greg Baracy, the interest is there on both

ends of the Internet connection. The university president, professors and students want to come to this country to teach Chinese, and a partnership would allow the district to offer it to its students.

"If you look at the information about the future,

Mandarin Chinese is going to become the language our students are going to need," he said.

The discussion is aimed at setting up a program that will be long-term, ongoing and advantageous to Wayne-Westland students, according to Watkins. Szechuan Province has a sister province relationship with Michigan, and Mianyang University is looking for a similar relationship that will be "mutually beneficial."

"We have to build bridges with China that are educational, manufacturing based, cultural and academic," said Watkins. "Children in Wayne-Westland are no longer competing against the children sitting next to them or living in Livonia, they're competing against the children of the world. They have to have a knowledge of the fastest growing country in the world to better compete."

If the partnership was developed and all of the pieces fell into place, Wayne-Westland would join a handful of Wayne County school districts that offer Mandarin Chinese as a foreign language.

"We'll have to talk to the unions, we'll have present it to the community as another

option for our students," said Monit. "China needs to be a country we need to understand. We need to know about their culture and we need to know their language."

Watkins added that Baracy "is sensitive to how to do it and do it right."

Admittedly, the district is in a difficult financial position, but Watkins believes the exchange program would have low cost or no cost for the district. The students' teachers possibly could come with stipends and require host families to house them.

The two sides will meet talk again later this summer and there's a possibility of a face-to-face between Wayne-Westland and university officials. Watkins who has championed learning everything possible about China, foresees the day 12-13 years from now that a Wayne-Westland valedictorian delivers a portion of his or her commencement address in Mandarin Chinese.

"In the next 20-30 years China will eclipse the United States," Watkins said. "The smart schools, individuals, communities and states are making the connection now."

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Holliday Park turns yard sale into walk-about

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If a 130-family garage sale wasn't enough incentive, Holliday Park Town Houses has added entertainment to their annual Walk-About Yard Sale.

This is the third year for the sale which is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June

12 — the rain date is Sunday, June 13.

"We get about 130 participants — it's plenty. It goes all the way around our one-mile circle," said co-op resident Sara Lightfoot. "When it first started, people would have little sales in front of their units."

Three years ago, Holliday Park residents decided to organize the one-day sale taking

its name from the Australian aboriginal tradition of a Walkabout.

The yard sale organizers learned from their experience the first year when the event was held in September. "We waited until the weekend after Labor Day and it really rained a lot," said Lightfoot. "Last year, we had it in spring and it was perfect. We used to hold

it for two days but it was too much."

Last year, the sale drew hundreds of people from Westland and neighboring communities including Garden City, Plymouth and Livonia.

"People come — they must think people in Holliday Park have good stuff," Lightfoot said, adding there is plenty of parking available.

In addition to bargain shopping, the Walk-About yard sale will offer a sidewalk chalk art contest for children and an appearance by Mrs. Goose and Mother Goose, a puppet, to read to children in the pavilion area. Pre-teen musicians the Jeff Davis Group will provide live music.

"Kids get bored while their parents shop. We all have a good time. Some people have

picnics," said Lightfoot.

Located on Wayne Road north of Central City Parkway, Holliday Park Towne Homes Cooperative is a moderate income nonprofit community. There are 694 units and there is currently a short waiting list to get town houses in Holiday Park.

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For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-EYES

County Parks hosts Nature Fest at Crosswinds Marsh

Enjoy free canoeing, live animal exhibits, face painting, a fishing contest and much more at Wayne County Parks' Nature Fest 1-4 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at Crosswinds Marsh in Sumpter Township.

Families will have the opportunity to have fun while taking part in various activities promoting animals and nature. The event is free. Please bring your own fishing gear for the fishing contest; a limited number of fishing poles are available to borrow.

Visitors can enjoy a host of exciting activities including live animal exhibits, frog moon walk, climbing wall, nature crafts, games, nature hikes, and live animal programs. In addition, there will also be a scavenger hunt and an art contest with prizes given for best nature photo and nature drawing/painting. Be sure to bring the nature photos, drawings for paintings to submit in the competition which is open to youth under age 18.

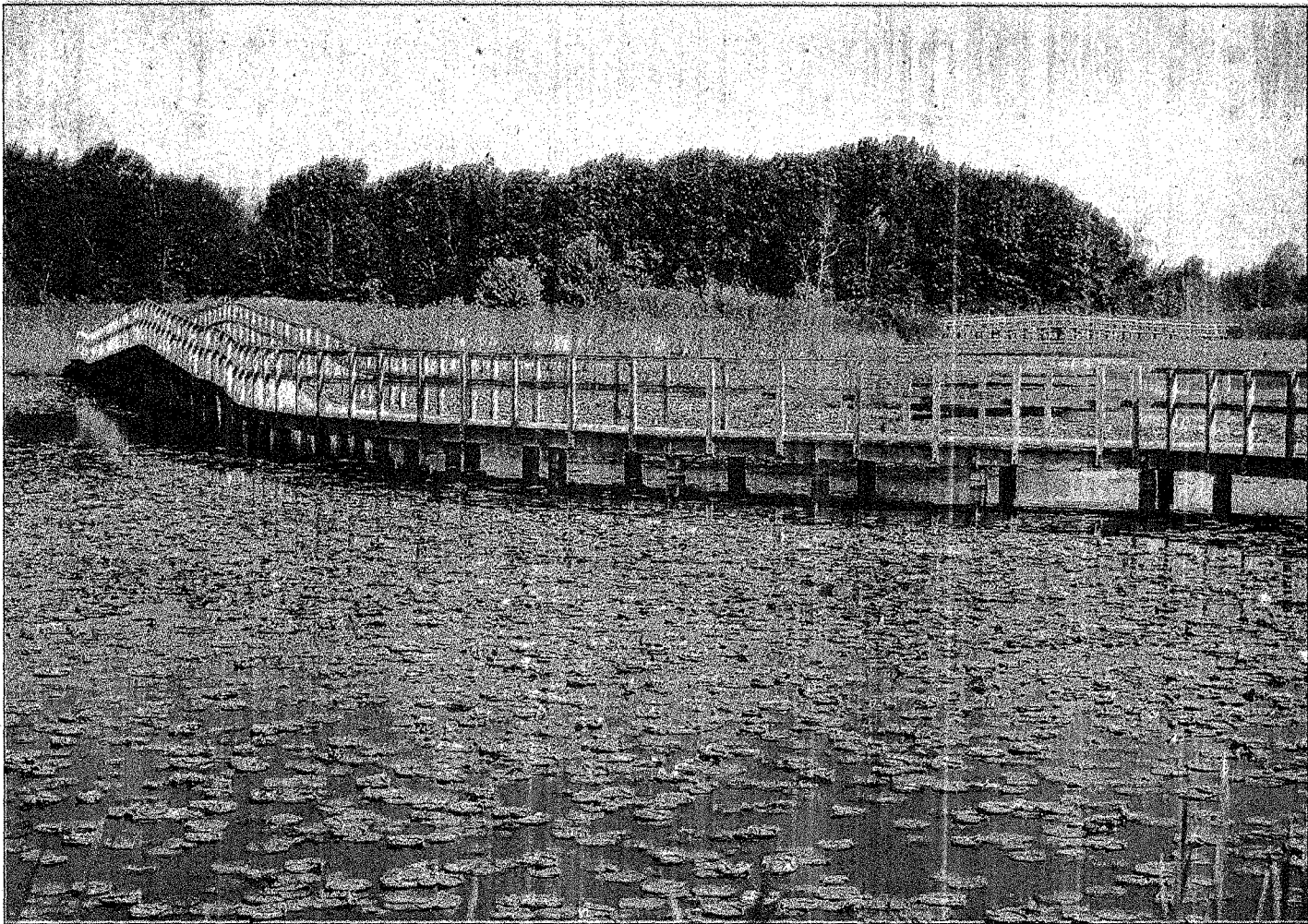
The event is funded through the Wayne County Parks millage.

The schedule of activities is:

- Starting at 1 p.m. - Walk Michigan, guided nature hike and fishing contest sign-ups until 1:30 p.m.; Cool Critters program until 2 p.m.; scavenger hunt, free canoeing and fishing contest until 3:30 p.m.
- Starting at 2 p.m. - nature hike until 2:30 p.m. and more Cool Critters until 3 p.m..
- Starting at 3 p.m. - nature hike until 3:30 p.m.
- At 4 p.m. - Door and contest prizes awarded.

To get to Crosswinds Marsh, take I- 275 south to Will-Carleton Road. Go west on Will-Carleton Road west to Haggerty. Take Haggerty north to the park entrance on the west side of the road.

For more information about Nature Fest, call (734) 261-1990.



Wayne County Parks Crosswind Marsh in Sumpter Township will be the site of a Nature Fest Saturday, June 19.

Wish You Were Here



Mary Baker, Loretta Baker, Terri Clem and Janet Lewis made sure they had their Garden City Observer with them when they stopped at Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee. According to Lewis, "Even if you are not a true Elvis fan, the place is something to see." If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send by e-mail to smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

Camp helps kids cope with family issues

Henry Ford Health System's Maplegrove Center is hosting its free summer camp education and support program for children, ages 5 to 18 years old, who are living in families with alcohol/drug abuse, mental illness or other extraordinary stress.


The day camp sessions will be offered 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, June 21-25, at St. Colette Parish, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia. An evening session also is available 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 23 - July 28 at the Maplegrove Center, 6773 W. Maple, West Bloomfield.

Growing up in a home where there is substance abuse, mental illness, or other family stresses can be confusing and difficult for children. Maplegrove Children's Programs, established in 1990, are fun, educational support groups that help children and teens learn about addiction, appropriate ways of expressing their feelings, safe decision-making and how to get help. Children also learn that they are not to blame and are not alone.

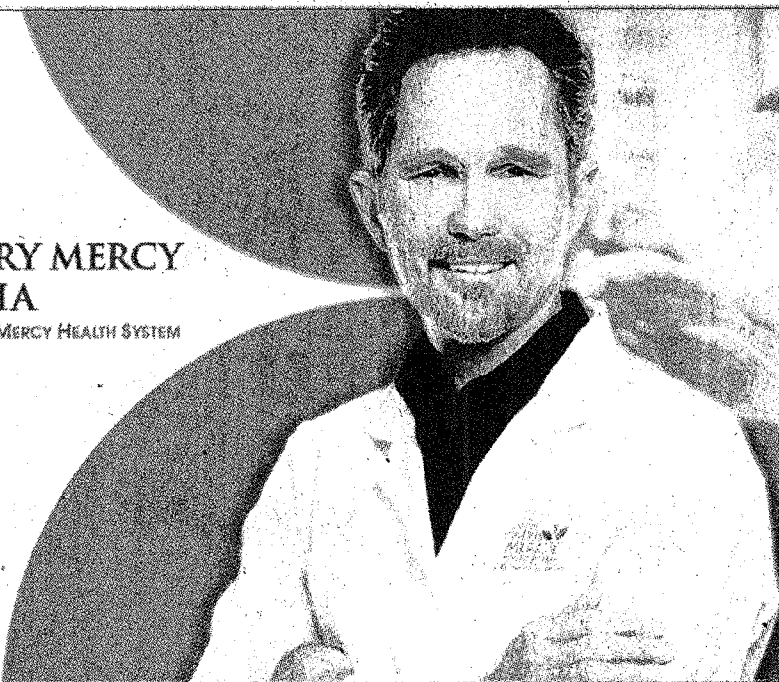
Each session's activities focus on topic information, skill development and practice, as well as related games and crafts. Topics include feelings, defenses, coping, chemical use awareness, chemical dependency, peer pressure, decision-making, and self-care.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate in sessions where they learn what the children are learning and have an opportunity to develop complementary parenting skills as well as to network with others experiencing similar issues. The parent program is held at the same time as the children's sessions.

The camp programs are free of charge, but registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Maplegrove Community Education Office at (248) 661-6170.



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Wayne High grads share stage with Broadway star

More than 300 Wayne Memorial High School seniors said goodbye to high school and hello to higher education at commencement ceremonies, held Saturday at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center in Ypsilanti.

The seniors were the stars of the show, although they did share the stage with actor Gregory Jbara, a 1979 Wayne High grad, who was honored as the school's 2010 Distinguished Alumnus.

A Tony Award winning actor, Jbara is a 1979 graduate of Wayne Memorial. He attended the University of Michigan and the Juilliard School, earning his bachelor of fine arts degree in 1986.

He received a Tony Award, Drama Desk Award and Outer Critics Circle Award in 2009 for his performance as Jackie Elliot in *Billy Elliot* the musical. His theatrical credits also included originating the roles of André Thibault in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* for which he received a Drama Desk nomination, Squash Bernstein in *Victor/Victoria* and Sohovik in the 1994 revival of *Damn Yankees!*.

His film credits include *Remember Me*, *Out Of Step*, *Exit Speed*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Out-Of-Towners*. He also has done a variety of work on television, including recurring roles on *Grounded For Life*, *The Drew Carey Show* and *All My Children* and guest starring roles on such shows as *Law & Order*, *Monk*, *The Unit*, *Malcolm In The Middle* and the web series, *The Other Hef*. His commercial credits include Olive Garden, VIVA Paper Towel and John Hancock.

Married, he and his wife Julie and sons, Zachary and Aidan.

Wayne Memorial seniors receiving diplomas were:

Ayatte Abu-lawi, Tia Adkins, Tumise Alawode, Adeela Ali, Cruz Amaya, Brittney Anderson, Danielle Anderson, Angela Reamer, Jordan Anger, Lamont Archer, Shelby Arnold, Mathew Baker, Victoria Baker, Alexander Balli, Ashley Banasiak, Farrah Barnes, Shelby Benefield, Cynthia Berean, Jordan Berry, Lauren Betke, Bhullar, Jaspreet, Heather Bingham, Breanne Blair, Chelsea Blamer, Jessica Boone, Deanna Boston, Amanda Bowie, Christopher Bowie, Joshua Bradford, Rakeem Braswell, David Brooks, Chante' Browder, Ashley Brown, James Bryant.

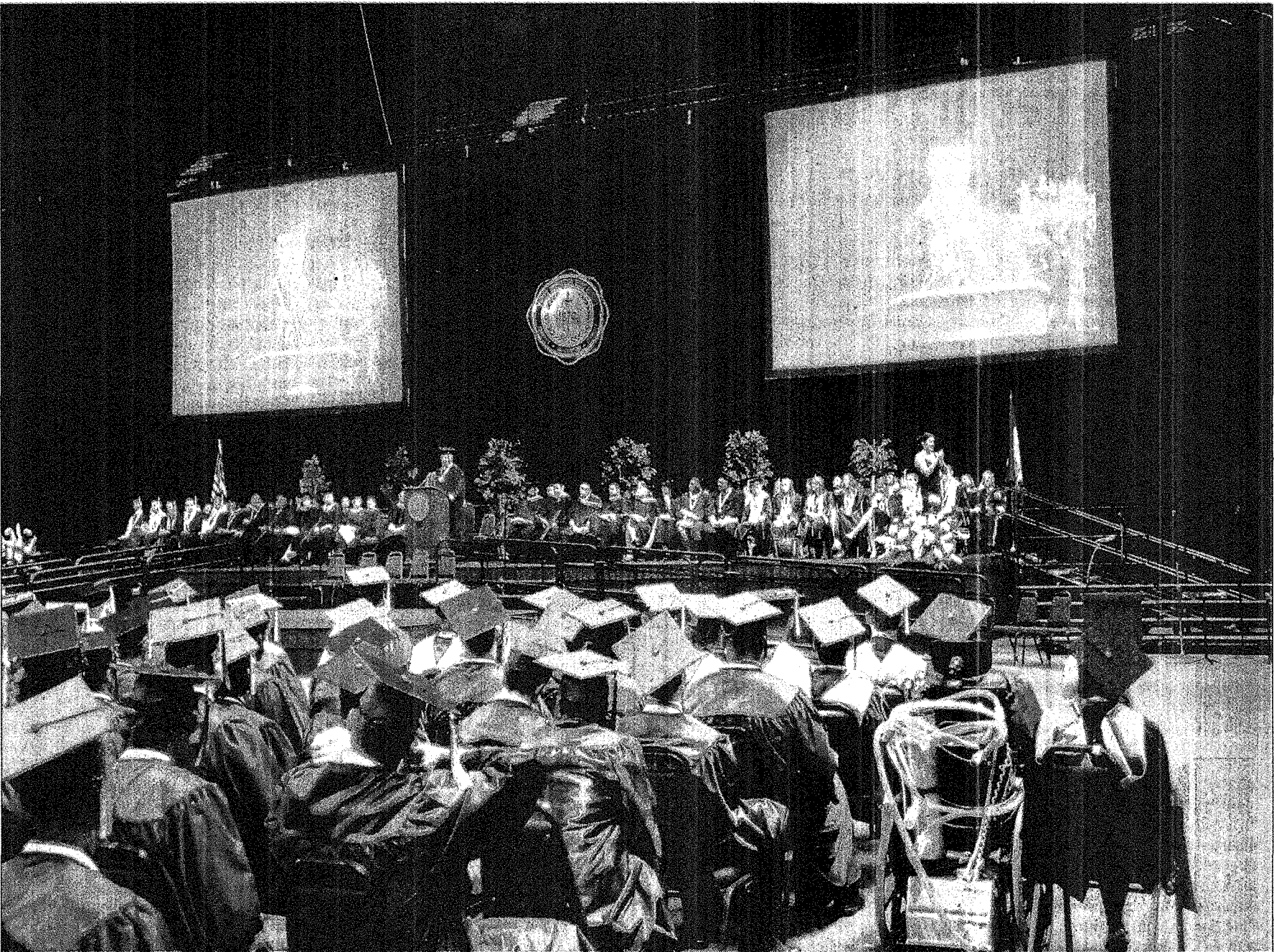
Aaron Buchanan, Katelyn Buchte, Samantha Buglione, Dominic Burnett, Ronnell Burnett, Mechal Burton, Alaina Butner, Jonathan Cahill, Cody Campbell, Sarah Carney, Jeremy Carter, Cauley, Patrick, Bradley Chandler, Kristine Chau, Cynthia Clark, Shane Clark, Caitlin Clendening, Alexandra Coleman, Samantha Collins, Kellen Collison, Megan Connolly, Amber Cook, Starkeisha Cooper, Heather Copeland, Kara Corbin, Dominik Corredino, Christopher Coscia, Ashley Cyprus, Connor Daley, Abidemi Daniel, Corey Davis, Lea DeGiusti, Staci Delezenne.

Ann Demetriou, Jessica Denny, Kaitlyn Douglas, Alyssa Draper, Cody Duncan, Chance Dunigan, Darko Duracoski, Jeremy Echols, Shaniqua Edwards-Stevens, Jonathan Elder, Ashley Elliott, Kiaira Ellis, Kaitlyn Ellison, Joshua Estepp, Alicia Evans, Brandin Everley, Avalon Felan, Patrick Fischer, Ayana Fleming, Jeremy Flores, Dominic Folgado, John Foote, Scot Fretwell, Ashley Frost, Kenneth Furtaw, Michael Gabriel, Lance Gentry, Christopher Gibson, Kevin Glass, Scott Goodchild, Elizabeth Gottlieb, Brian Gray, Ian Green, Kevante Grimes.

Tina Groves, Elaina Guenther, Jessica Gush, Raven Haley, Zakkary Hardyniec, Donnie Harris, Olajuwon Hart, Anita Hatch, Lalita Hayes, Sara Hayes, Blake Haywood, Jessie Hengy, Brandon Hicks, Joshua Higgs, Daniel Hill, Jenna Hill, Cody Hilla, Christine Horner, Derric Horton, Nicholas Hounshell, Joshua Hubbard, Cody Hubbert, Elysia Huertas, Stefanie Huffman, Johanan Hunt, Jacob Hurst, Christie Iler, Brooklyn Isbell, Chanelle Jackson, Frances Jackson, James Jackson, Alicia Jacobs, Kyle Janes, Andrew Janos, Cody Johansen.

Delores Johnson, Stephanie Johnson, Benjamin Jones, Brandie Jones, Dawn Jones, Jacob Jones, Katlaid Jones, Hope Kaminski, Adam Karson, Jimmy Kassiss, Ishpreet Kaur, Marc Kellums, Alexander Kelly, Hunter Kennedy, Dylan Korzetki, Jordan Kostora, Jeremy Kowalczyk, C.J. Kulas, Christian LaHaine, Krystal Lancaster, Terrah Landfair, Halee Lankton, Amber LaSalle, Justin Lasley, Taylor LeBlanc, Samantha Lee, Ian Letellier, Leanne Lezotte, Michael Little, Tad Lloyd, Trisha Lloyd, Zachary Lloyd, Xavier Long, Ilsi Lopez, Joshua Lowe.

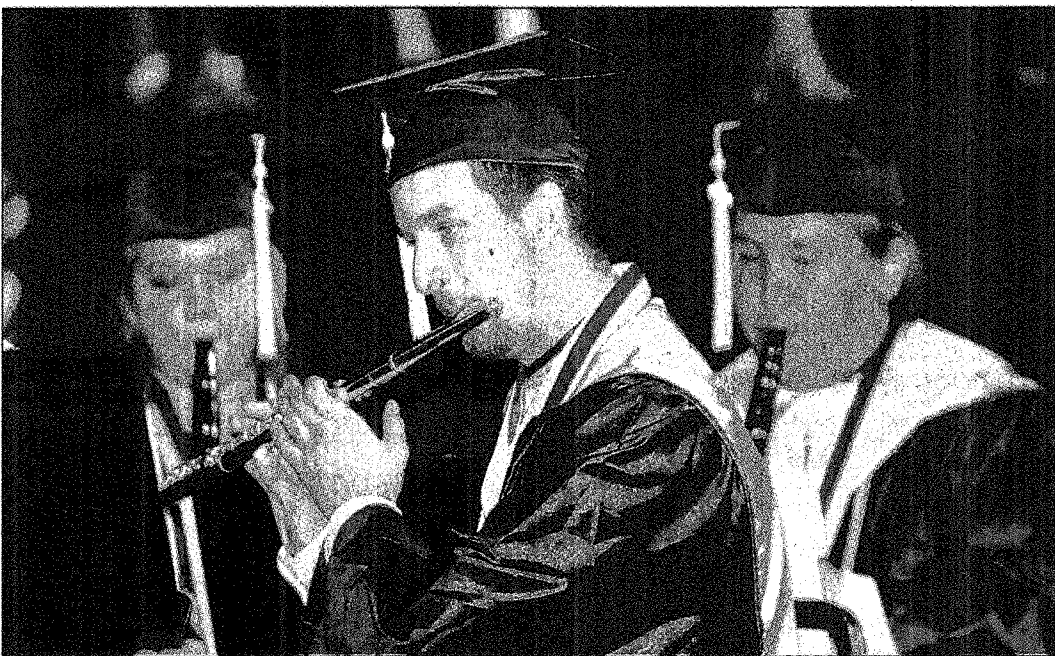
Tiffany Lowhorn, Margaret Luschas, Douglas Malcolm, Brittney Malloy, Parris Malloy, Anthony Marano, Megan Maynor, Rod McCartha, Jalya McClellan,



Distinguished Alumnus Gregory Jbara addresses the graduates.



Wayne Memorial High School graduate Jessica Gush gets a congratulatory hug from fellow graduate Chelcie Munson.



Graduate Adam Karson plays for the last time with Symphony Band. The group performed "Malaguena," arranged By John Cavacas.

Thomas McCune, William McNeil Diem, Alyssa McGeorge, Scott McGlory, Willie McGlown, Alex McIntosh, Artesia McKeever, Stephen McNamara, Maria McNaughton, John McTigue, Victoria Metropoulos, Kyle Michael, Katie Miller, Joshua Mills, Nicholas Mills, Anthony Miotto, Janie Mitchell, Sarah Mitchell, Brent Moody, Jasmine Moody, Brandon Moore, Shanaye Moore, Deon Morgan, Kristin Morton.

Chelcie Munson, Jacob Murphy, Joshua Murphy, Tyler Napier, Gary Neill, Dominick Nestor, Dominique Nestor, Kristel Nunez, James Nutt, Kevin O'Brien, Amber O'Rourke, Sean Ogle, Anwar Oliver, Kelsey Osborne, Christopher Owens, Kyle Park, Shannon Parker, Julian Parrish, Mark Patterson, Emily Penner, Brenda Perales, Glendy Perez, Elizabeth Perusse, Brandi Pietruszka, Sade Pitts, Hannah Plumley, Meghan Polington, Gabriel Ponce,

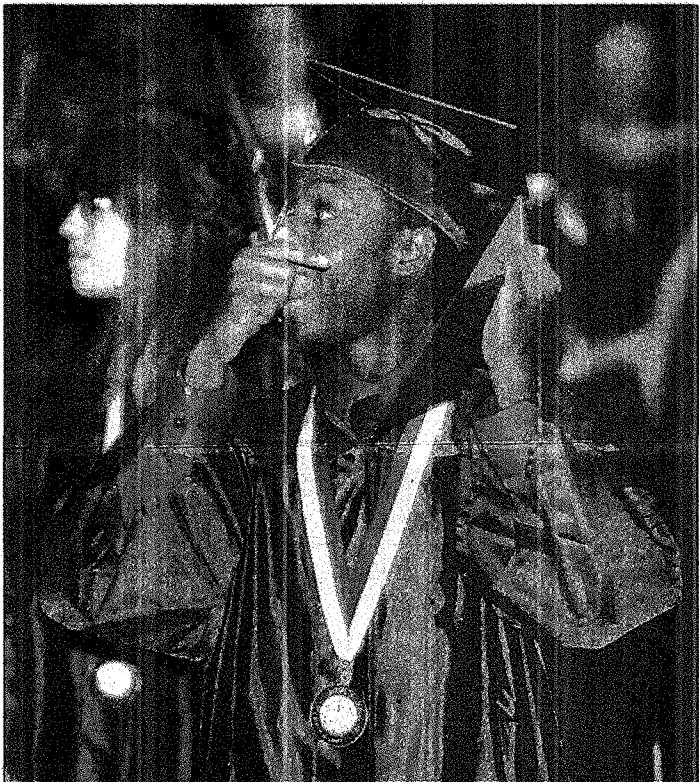
Chelsey Preiss, Stephanie Prosser, Zachery Prudhomme, Ryan Przybyla, Chloe Pyne, Jessica Raymor, Angela Reamer.

Shauree Reed, Mirando Reichow, John Renfro, Winston Reynolds, DeMario Robinson, Justin Robinson, Layla Robinson, Luis Rodriquez, Paul Rollinson, Daniel Ross, Emily Rudy, Jerold Runion, Natalia Rutledge, Tremor Sambrone, Cornell Sampson, Leah Savage, Kelsey Schmittou, Alex Schwartzberger, Anthony Sedlarik, Courtney Seiber, Jaclyn Serna, Cherrelle Shaw, Kevin Sheneman, Michael Shock, Andrea Sigler, Christopher Sims, Bhupinder Singh, Zoie Smallwood, Jered Smart, Alexis Smith, Cady Smith, Gabrielle Smith, Jessica Smith.

Raylyn Smith, Sarah Smith, Tyler Smith, John Soltis, Cecily Sparks, Ashley Stamper, Kyle Stamper, Taylor

Stewart, Shannon Storie, Dominique Stovall, Jessica Sullivan, Rachel Sullivan, Brianna Swales, Ashlee Szabo, Roger Tanner, Danyale Taylor, Jherriro Taylor, Steven Tedders, Evan Tena, Chris Thalacker, Brandon Thomas, Christian Thomas, Dylan Thomas, William Toms, Jason Trahey, Tina Underwood, Toby Underwood, Anthony VanMeter, Enrique Vargas, Samantha Vargo, Amanda Vergona, Heather Vick, Adam Vojtkofsky, Hillary Vollmerhausen.

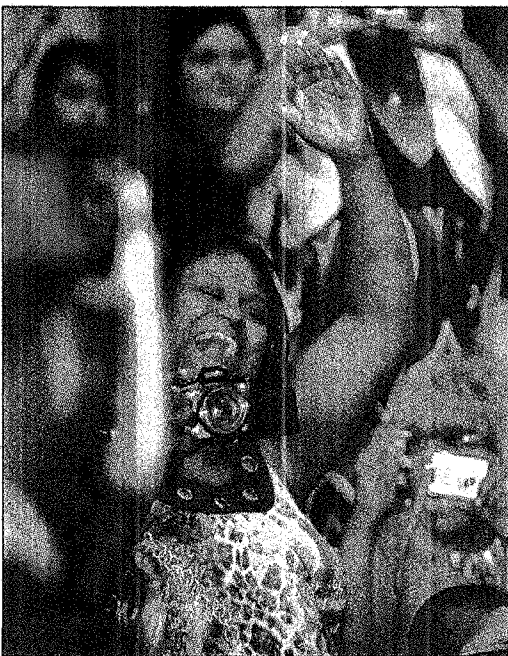
Geneva Walton, Xi Yan Wang, Joey Warren, Shavon Washington, Neil Wasinski, John Watson, Bijan Weaver, Derrick White, Jacob White, Brandon Whittenberg, Edina Whittenberg, Christian Williams, Deon Williams, Dominique Williams, Michelle Williams, Sada Williams, Nicholas Wilson, Roshelle Woods, Kadedra Wooten, Anthony Wright, Nicholas Wyrick, Steven Yohe, Torri York and John Zoller.



Kevante Grimes points out his diploma to family and friends.



Rachel Sullivan receives her diploma.



Tia Bush cheers for her brother. She also was at John Glenn High School's commencement to cheer for her cousin who also was graduating.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, June 10, 2010

hometownlife.com

Woman reports her ID used to open account

Identity theft

On May 31, a Westland woman told police that she had learned someone had opened a line of credit at Kay Jewelers in Fairlane Mall using her name and Social Security number.

WESTLAND

The address on the account was in Detroit although the suspect was reported to have shown an Indiana driver's license.

The account had been opened April 26 and more than \$8,000 worth of merchandise had been charged on the account before it was closed.

Break-ins

A resident of an apartment at 197 S. Hubbard Court told police May 31 that someone had broken into his storage room and had stolen items valued at \$800 — a window air conditioner and a fishing tackle box. The officer noted the door and frame to the room had been damaged by being forced open.

Larceny

A Wayne woman told police that she was shopping at Kroger, 31300 Michigan Ave., May 31 when she left her purse unattended in the shopping cart for a brief period of time. She said she then discovered someone had stolen her wallet from her purse. Inside the wallet, the woman said there had been \$60 in cash, identification, a debit and insurance cards.

On June 4, a Westland woman told police that she had been shopping at Kroger, 36430 Ford, when her wallet was stolen. She said that she took her purchases to her vehicle and the wallet may have fallen from her purse as she loaded the items along with her baby

into the vehicle. The store was contacted, she said, but the wallet wasn't found.

A Garden City woman told police June 7 that she was shopping at Kroger, 200 S. Merriman, June 7 when her purse disappeared. She said she turned to reach for an item on a shelf and the purse was gone when she turned back. She reported the theft to the store management. Two witnesses had reported seeing a man walking out of the store with a purse under his arm. She said a woman was reported to have been walking with the man.

Break-in

On June 8, a resident in the 32000 block of Birchwood told police that she arrived home to find that the bedrooms of her children and the basement had been ransacked. The only thing reported missing was a cell phone, the woman said, although whomever had entered the house had eaten a plate of cookies and tracked in mud.

Since the suspects were not afraid of a large dog, the homeowner said they likely knew the family. A door had been left unlocked. The missing phone was valued at \$75.

Vandalism

A resident of Trafalgar Square Apartments, 334400 Trafalgar Lane, told police June 7 that on May 19 someone had put sugar into the gas tank of her 2006 Dodge Charger. She said that the car quit running, so she took it in for service and the problem was found. She filed a police report for insurance purposes.

—By LeAnne Rogers

Bicyclist jumps GCHS student, takes cell phone

Larceny

A Garden City High School student said that he was knocked down to the ground and robbed about 7 a.m. June 4 by someone he thought

GARDEN CITY

The boy told Garden City police and the Garden City principal that he was walking to school on Cambridge and Gilman when one of three boys on bikes stopped and blocked his passage.

"I heard you jumped a kid," the bicycle rider reportedly told the teen, who said no.

The boy on the bike reportedly knocked the student to the ground and stole his cell phone and MP3 player.

The victim said that the attacker also pulled a knife on him but he wasn't hurt.

The incident was reported to the principal and the school resource officer when the victim reached the school. The police, who didn't search the area until about an hour after the incident, couldn't find any suspects or evidence.

A boy and a girl who were walking in the area at the time witnessed the assault but told police that they didn't see a knife.

The victim described the suspect as a black male about 15-18 years old with short, cropped hair and light hair on his upper lip. He was about 6-foot and wore a grey hoodie and red, white and black athletic shoes.

Home invasion

A woman who lives in the 940 block of Rose reported what she believed to be a delayed home invasion attempt at 9 a.m. June 6. She reported the incident after she found two square holes in a southwest bedroom screen. There was no evidence at the scene.

Larceny

A resident in the 32250 block of Rosslyn reported about noon June 4 that someone stole a GPS unit from a center

console and a passport and employee identification badge from the glove compartment of her 1996 Honda Accord.

Stolen auto

A neighbor in the 30400 block of Pardo told the police and her neighbor that she looked out her front window after she heard someone start the neighbor's car about 3 a.m. and then drive away with the 1991 vehicle.

The owner said that it was locked and parked in the driveway.

Theft

Garden City Hospital reported a larceny of a laptop computer from its building on Inkster north of Ford June 2.

It was taken from a classroom that was locked overnight but then unlocked in the morning. A hospital employee noticed that the cable which secured the computer had been cut. The cable was meant to keep the computer from being removed.

Stolen car

Lee's Auto Sales, 6969 Middlebelt, reported that a 30-year-old woman took a 2001 Cadillac DeVille for a test drive June 1 and never returned the car.

A short time after she arrived in a gold Concorde which was parked on James Street, store employees saw that car also leave and didn't wait for her return.

The police were not able to locate the Cadillac at the address given on the driver's license she produced for identification before she took the car.

Vandalism

A resident in the 31700 block of Windsor reported finding a trailer hitch ball that was thrown through the windshield of a 1994 Chevy Blazer and discovered at 6:30 a.m. June 2.

Stolen purse

An 80-year-old Kroger customer said that someone stole her purse from her

shopping cart while she was transferring the groceries into her car about 9:15 a.m. May 26 at the Kroger store, 5866 Middlebelt. She canceled all of her credit cards.

Theft

A 41-year-old Westland woman told police that someone stole her video camera about 3 p.m. May 31 after she set it on the ground for a short time at Garden City Park. She noticed it was gone after she attended to her niece. She said that she still owes Rent a Center \$1,200 for the camera.

A 12-year-old Garden City boy reported that someone stole his 20-inch bike after he left it unlocked outside of Kmart, 29600 Ford, about 4:45 p.m. May 27.

Drunken driving

During the heavy storms Saturday night, the police arrested two drunken drivers who disregarded road blocks they set up to help protect the public from driving through unsafe roadways.

In one case, they arrested a 34-year-old Jacksonville, Fla., woman in her 2008 Chevrolet Impala after she sped around them at Cherry Hill and Venoy.

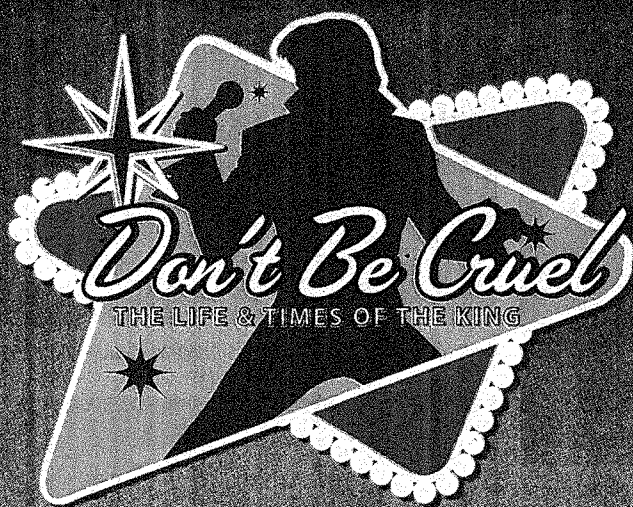
The woman, who said that she was coming from Papa Joe's Bar on Ford and Wildwood, said that she was used to driving in hurricane weather because she lives in Florida.

She drove at 50 mph in what police thought should have safely been a driving speed of 30 mph or less.

In the second incident at North Venoy and Industrial, a 23-year-old Westland man driving a 2002 Dodge Durango, was undeterred from speeding and driving erratically around a police car and Department of Public Services truck on northbound Venoy.

The city set up the vehicles in that flooded area because earlier in the evening another motorist slid into a ditch.

—By Sue Buck



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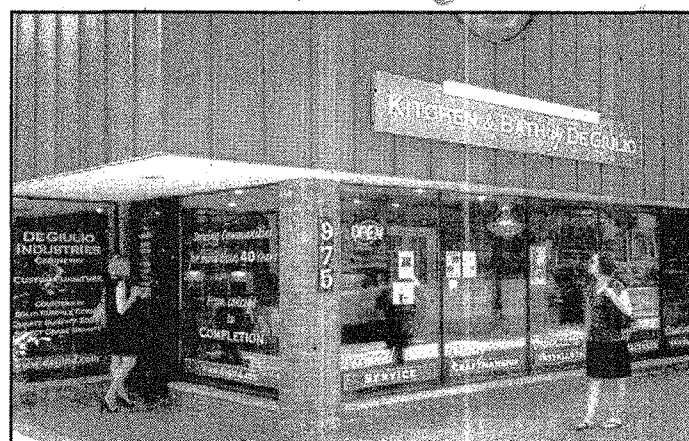
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Heed credit, other consequences of a short sale

I've been hearing about and reading more about short sales.

There are a fair number of people who have no idea what a short sale is, nor its consequences. Particularly, for people who want to sell their home, a short sale is something that many may have to consider whether they like it or not.

A short sale is where you sell your house for less than the outstanding mortgage. For example, if the outstanding mortgage is \$150,000 and the home is sold for \$125,000 that is a short sale.

The key to a short sale is what happens to the difference between the outstanding mortgage and the sales price. In this example, the shortage is \$25,000 (\$150,000 less \$125,000). It would be nice if you could just ignore the shortfall but you can't. The individual who is purchasing the home wants a free and clear title and the only way to accomplish this is to make sure the underlying mortgage is discharged.

In a short sale, there are a couple of different ways to dis-

charge the mortgage. The first is for the seller to pay the difference. Normally at closing a seller hopes to walk away with some money in their pocket. However, in today's world it is not unusual for the seller to owe money at closing.

The other way to discharge the mortgage and the method that sellers prefer is for the mortgage company to discharge the mortgage at a discount. Sometimes the mortgage company will discharge the mortgage for the sale proceeds, other times it will partially discount the mortgage, requiring the seller to come up with some money at closing.

You may ask why would mortgage companies do this? It is not because they want to be nice and generous but rather, because it is in their best interest.

Studies show that a mortgage company nets more from a short sale than they would if the house had to be foreclosed upon. Therefore, mortgage companies would rather do a short sale than take a home back through foreclosure.

Obviously, in analyzing the different ways to do a short sale most sellers would rather have the bank discharge their mortgage as opposed to having to come up with money at closing. However, there is a

consequence when the bank discharges your mortgage. It will hurt your credit scores. Sometimes there are ways to reduce the effect on your credit scores, however, the reality of the situation is that if you are discharging a debt for less than the outstanding balance, it is a mark on your credit.

Another issue that a short seller has to take into consideration is how it impacts income taxes. If the mortgage being discharged at a discount is not someone's primary mortgage, the discounted amount (in this case \$25,000) is included in taxable income.

If you are thinking about doing a short sale and you want the bank to discharge your mortgage for less than full value, the key is to get the mortgage company involved as soon as possible. You need the mortgage company's approval to do a short sale and the sooner the mortgage company is involved, the easier the process will be.

Some may ask: Can you do a short sale yourself or do you need the services of a professional? You can sell your house on your own and deal with the mortgage company but it is difficult.

If you are going to do a short sale, deal with a Realtor who has experience in this area. In

addition, you should probably have separate legal representation and that person should also have experience with short sales.

I'm sure many of you have heard the horror stories about dealing with the mortgage companies with regard to short sales. The mortgage companies are notorious for dragging their feet and making the process more difficult than it has to be. However, what I've found is that dealing with a professional who has experience with short sales makes the process easier and faster.

I'm frequently asked whether short sales are good or bad. There is no correct answer. The bottom line is if you need to sell your home and the outstanding balance of the mortgage is more than the house is worth, then a short sale with some forgiveness from the mortgage company is an alternative to consider. The key is to make sure you understand the consequences and proceed with your eyes wide open.

Good luck!

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



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

AROUND WESTLAND

Aquatic exercise

Sign up now for the one-hour HAP Aquatic Exercise at the Bailey Pool. Classes are for those 18 years and older and are offered 3-4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, June 15 through Aug. 18. They're free of charge, but pre-register at the Bailey Recreation Center. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Open Houses

McKinley Co-Op Preschool will hold two open houses 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 19 and Aug. 28, at 6500 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The preschool offers programs for toddlers ages 2-5 years. For more information, call (734) 729-7222.

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, June 14, at the at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes

place on the second Monday of each month.

LeBlanc also invites residents to join him and Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt for refreshments and an informal fireside chat 6-8 p.m. Monday, June 14, at the library.

Residents who have any comments or concerns, can also contact LeBlanc toll-free at (888) 737-5325 or at (517)-373-2576 or send an e-mail to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold local coffee hours in Westland and Redford on Monday, June 14. Anderson will be at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland 9-10 a.m. and at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone toll-free at (866) 262-7306; or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

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Sue Mason,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
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Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Flag Day

A chance to show respect

There are a variety of times during the course of a given year the American flag moves front and center as citizens pay tribute to their country, its freedoms and the men and women who fight for them.

There's the just-passed Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veterans Day and, coming up Monday, Flag Day, all designed to allow American citizens opportunities to pay their respects not only to their country, but to its most visible symbol.

And when they do, it's important they do it properly. If you're displaying an American flag, Public Law 94-344, The Federal Flag Code, contains guidelines (if you're worried about how deep the federal government is getting into our lives, know this: The code contains no penalties, though some states have their own codes and may impose penalties):

- Traditional guidelines call for displaying the flag in public only from sunrise to sunset. However, the flag may be displayed at all times if it's illuminated during darkness. The flag should not be subject to weather damage, so it should not be displayed during rain, snow and wind storms unless it is an all-weather flag.

- It should be displayed often, but especially on national and state holidays and special occasions.

- When flags of states, cities or organizations are flown on the same staff, the U.S. flag must be at the top.

- This one seems to be "violated," for lack of a better term, more often. During the hoisting or lowering of the flag or when it passes in parade or review, Americans should stand at attention facing the flag and place their right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove any headdress and hold it with their right hand at their left shoulder, the hand resting over the heart.

- Here's one that gets violated occasionally in school gymnasiums or football fields: When the flag hangs from a staff in a church or public place, it should appear to the audience on the left, the speaker's right.

- When the flag is worn out or otherwise no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

Here are a couple of things *not* to do with the American flag:

- Do not let the flag touch anything beneath it: ground, floor, water, merchandise.

- Do not place anything on the flag, including letters, insignia, or designs of any kind.

- Do not use it as wearing apparel, bedding or drapery. It should not be used on a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be attached to the uniform of patriotic organizations, military personnel, police officers and firefighters.

- Do not use the flag for advertising or promotion purposes or print it on paper napkins, boxes or anything else intended for temporary use and discard.

There are more, and you can find them on the website of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. But these guidelines give you a good idea of ways to treat the American flag with respect.

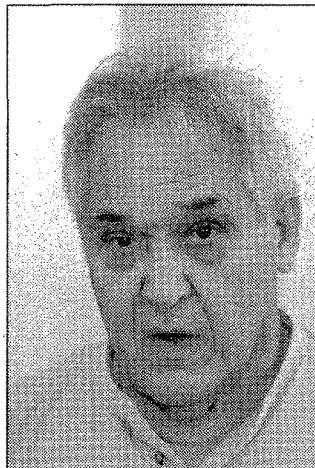
During ceremonies such as the recent Memorial Day activities, proper respect is paid to this country's military men and women, who have given so much in representing their nation.

As Flag Day approaches, it's important to remember the American flag, the symbol of our country, deserves the same respect.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you think BP acted quickly enough to cap off the broken oil well in the Gulf of Mexico?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"No, I don't think so."

William Yaumyn
Westland



"Not really. They've done a lot of things, but everything keeps failing. The original alarms were ignored and I know they should have paid attention to that. What does it take? People yelling and screaming to get it done?"

Diane Muccino
Garden City



"No, it's been six weeks and they should have fixed it by now. They should have fixed it in two weeks max. It's just disgusting. I'll never buy gas from them again."

Lisa Bierlein
Westland



"No, they probably should have fixed it before it happened."

Craig Sayers
Garden City

LETTERS

Letters a lost art

I very much enjoyed the recent article written by Darrell Clem about a long-time pen-pal friendship. What a refreshing story about the lost art of letter-writing. It left me wondering how many people still write letters as opposed to sending e-mails.

I have a pen-pal that I met in 1990, a mom from Austin, Texas, who was also dealing with a school and landfill situation during the years the Cooper School landfill was making headlines. Kim Phillips contacted me through an environmental organization that helped communities and citizens groups. We have maintained a letter-writing friendship since that time. Kim held a board position in the Texas State PTA addressing a whole host of environmental issues and later moved to Arkansas. We met in person at a convention a few years later.

As the article mentioned, our personal lives have unfolded over the years as we discovered other interests beyond the environment, such as collecting depression glass, gardening, traveling and of course, the health and welfare of our children (now grown). We both can attest that a card or letter — with a family photo, recipe, or newspaper article tucked inside — always seemed to arrive when we both needed a morale boost or funny diversion from whatever was going on in our lives.

Personal e-mails are wonderful, but who doesn't love getting a personal letter in the mail? Thank you to Darrell for the great story.

Cheryl Graunstaedt
Westland

Newness is no excuse

I read with interest the article in your June 6 edition about the library discussion. A few things in the article caught my attention and I will only address one issue as of now.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

As a former councilman, I was stunned at the statement Councilwoman Christine Bryant gave "she and other council members elected in November were too new to be expected to come to a consensus on budget items with such short notice." I would like to inform her that the biggest and most important part of being on the City Council is adopting and making sure the budget is implemented properly. This means making sure that the mayor, who fully endorsed and campaigned for you, is doing the right thing! There is no time for on-the-job training as this implies. She made claims in her campaign she was ready and able to do the job. I guess after being on the council almost six months, she is telling us that she was not ready. Seems to me she was involved in a campaign last fall that was full of innuendos, exaggerations and mistruths. It seems now that it is catching up to her.

She ran using her mother's name, Judge

Cicirelli, and after being elected drops that name from her use. That was a misleading thing to the citizens of Westland. She is being advised and being told how to vote by her mother, by former Councilman Chuck Pickering and Mayor Wild. This is known to be true.

Westland citizens were duped in November and are being duped today. If Councilwoman Bryant doesn't know what she is doing or can't do the job properly then get out. The state of our city is in trouble and we don't need uneasiness at this time.

By the way, the article also had comments by Chuck Pickering. This is the same guy who was on the council and is part of the reason the city is in trouble. Rumors are that he now wants to run again for a council seat next year. As I said, he is part of the city's problem, Chuck should just stay away. Less advice from him would be better for all of us.

Kenneth E. Mehl
Westland

League's nonpartisan

Thank you for the coverage of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County's 50th anniversary celebration. The strongest tenet of the League of Women Voters is our nonpartisanship so we are compelled to correct a small error in the article. Though we "do our homework" and take public positions on issues after careful study, we never support, endorse or oppose any candidate. This principle is the reason that the League has been valued as the most trusted source of nonpartisan candidate information for the past 50 years in our local community, and for the past 90 years nationwide.

Paula Bowman,
president
League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues, In Your Voice. Find more comments or join the discussion online at hometownlife.com.

The issue: Library paying rent

Make your voice heard!!!! We pay this millage to fund library services, not golf courses or ice arenas.

Come to the council meeting tonight and protest!

mary121

What the H3LL?? How can this council justify sneakin' those greedy hands into the library funds? I pay a special millage that covers the expense of that library. That millage is for that library and that library only. I really don't care if the city does charge other departments' rent for their office space. But the library is its own building, with its own budget, and its own funding from a dedicated millage. HANDS OFF!!!!

GaryLockel

The issue: Sailor offers inspiration

I am proud to count John Quinn as a friend. His book is inspiring to all, and if my children have half the "can-do" attitude that John has I will be a very proud mother. Looking forward to the graduation speech he will give this week. These graduates are fortunate to have John as their speaker. To the graduates: listen closely. Take what you hear from John and apply it to your lives and you will succeed.

poohmac1

Oil spill a reminder why we need regulations

As someone who has spent a lot of time living along the Gulf of Mexico, I have been completely disheartened with the massive British Petroleum oil spill and the absolute joke of a response from both BP and the federal government.

I was fortunate to go to college in the Tampa Bay area, and spent many, many days fishing in the flats along the Gulf Coast.

Beach communities all over the Gulf, which rely on tourism, are going to be devastated by this. As are the fishermen and others who make a living extracting the Gulf's natural resources. And the wildlife — what did the dolphins, pelicans, shorebirds, sea turtles and fish do to deserve this?

While this spill is happening more than a thousand miles away from us here in Michigan, we should be taking notes.

We have our own magnificent natural resource in the Great Lakes. In recent years, since the echo of "drill, baby, drill" grew louder and louder, there have been those who have said why not drill for oil in

the Great Lakes? Can you imagine Grand Traverse Bay or the Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes covered in globs of dirty oil? I can't. And we should never, ever let it happen.

I have found it interesting that the very people who have cried "drill, baby drill" now have the audacity to criticize President Obama and the federal government. These are the very same people who say there is too much government in our lives, and that government is a business killer. Now, suddenly, they don't think we have enough government. Government should be doing more, they now say.

Many of the politicians that are currently running for office in Michigan, including several gubernatorial candidates, say we need far less regulation of our businesses in this state. They say government is a hindrance to the business climate.

Look no further than Mike Cox, who is seeking the Republican nomination for governor. The Cox campaign has been releasing a "Reform of the Day" throughout his campaign. Just this week, one of these proposed reforms was to remove "excessive regulatory roadblocks" that our state government is putting up to stop

several proposed coal-powered electricity plants in Rogers City and Bay City — both pretty much on the shores of Lake Huron.

Coal companies have started their own campaign to sell the public on their new "clean coal" image. They say the technology is here that will take the environmental risk out of burning coal. Well, it sounds like Cox and far too many others are buying it. Cox promises to "streamline the permitting process to ensure new plants and technologies happen without sacrificing oversight, regulation and sound scientific review." The fact is our state agency that oversees development already can't keep up with the permit requests.

Major corporations like BP are in it for the money. That's the American way. I'm sure at this very moment, there are probably some big BP/big oil investors sitting on a yacht somewhere in the world, sipping a martini and looking out at a great view — living the American dream. That's great. I can guarantee you though, they're not floating around on the Gulf of Mexico.

Kurt Kuban is editor of the South Lyon Herald. He welcomes your comments at (248) 437-2011, Ext. 245, or kkuban@hometownlife.com.

Diamond deal

Bride-to-be wins wedding at Comerica Park

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

Whitney Blanchard made sure there will be a lot of diamonds at her wedding and ironically, most of them are a gift to her future husband.

The Livonia woman wanted to give her major league sports fan fiancé, Andy Hess of Canton, a wedding to remember. So, she entered the *Wedding on the Diamond* contest sponsored by WWJ News radio 950 and 98.7 AMP radio in April.

Her essay stood out among a field of 30 others.

But, the win also meant bumping her wedding day from August to Saturday, June 19, when the Tigers play the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Blanchard and Hess, both 24, will exchange their vows after the game and before the ballpark fireworks. The couple's family and friends will be mingled among an expected 35,000 baseball fans.

"I've been such a sports fan," said Hess, a who works as a private painter and a landscaper while studying criminal justice at Schoolcraft College.

"It was my life dream to be out there and be in front of all those people. This is our chance."

Hess, the son of Mike and Lori Kuehn of Canton, played baseball at Lutheran High School in Westland and still swings the bat three nights a week for fun on an adult team.

When he heard he was getting married on a major league baseball field, he said he was shocked.

Moving the date to June meant a lot of accelerated planning. It was a blessing, though, because Blanchard's grandfather, Charlie Volker of Canton was recently diagnosed with ALS, which is also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. The famous baseball player died from the neuro-muscular disease characterized by a progressive muscle weakness resulting in paralysis. Blanchard even mentioned Lou Gehrig in her essay.

"We both respect and love (my grandpa) so much and we didn't want to take any chances and we wanted to move the

wedding up," Blanchard said. "God willing, he'll be able to attend."

WWJ and AMP radio will record the wedding and run it on the big screen at the park. There are 21 people, including the couple, in the wedding party.

The wedding at the ballpark is part of many promotions celebrating WWJ's 90 years on the air. It was the first commercial radio station in the nation. In fact, one of the station's first broadcasts was a wedding, according to a station spokeswoman.

Blanchard had 300 words to wow the judges and she chose to write her essay in the format of nine innings delivered from a newscaster's voice.

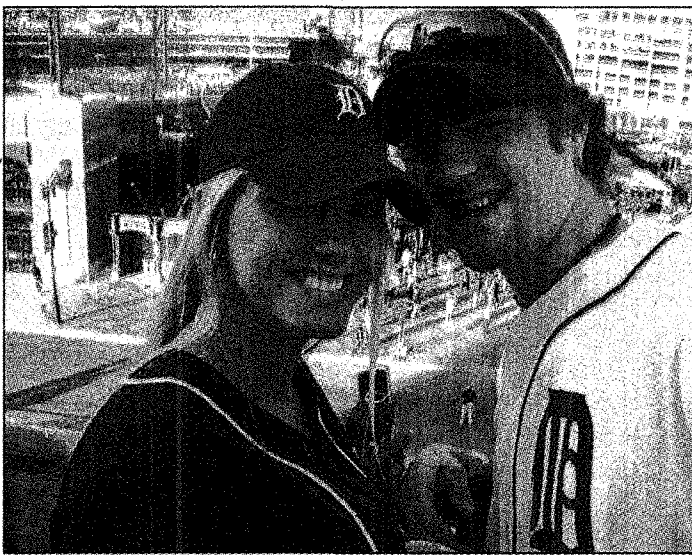
"All-star Andy up to bat and he hits one out of the park! He's bringing the most heart to this team. He's genuine, dedicated, as athletic as ever, and loyal to his Detroit Tigers to the end," Blanchard wrote in the essay. "Whitney, deep in thought in the outfield, makes the catch of a lifetime. Her Papa (grandfather) has been the MVP for the man of her heart for so long. She never thought she'd meet someone like him ... until Andy joined the team."

Blanchard didn't think she would win the contest.

"I could only use 300 words or less and every word had to count," she said. "My fiancé makes my dreams come true everyday and this would be a dream come true for him. I sent it express mail and hoped for the best. I knew they would call me if I was one of the winners and they called. During the whole process it was something we had been praying about and everything has been a whirlwind of falling into place."

Blanchard sent her essay on a picture of her and Hess in matching Tiger hats and jerseys, which Hess bought for her birthday two years ago.

Blanchard, who works in the office at Core Sport in Plymouth and as a massage therapist at Shaner Chiropractic in Livonia, while waiting to be accepted in nursing school, met her future husband at Schoolcraft College during a workout



Whitney Blanchard and Andy Hess will be married Saturday, June 19, at Comerica Park after the Tigers play the Arizona Diamondbacks.

class. Hess was the only male in the class.

"He left a note on my windshield and said he was too shy to ask me out in person," she said. "He asked me to dinner, and we've been best friends ever since."

The contest winnings include a bridal pampering at Bianchi's Salon with locations in Troy, Royal Oak and Clinton Township; a room at the Westin Book Cadillac in Detroit; a photography package at B-tech Lighting; a suite at Comerica Park the night of the wedding; a \$500 gift card to Hagopian World of Rugs; a rehearsal dinner at Mitchell's, with locations in Livonia, Birmingham and Rochester;

and \$2,500 toward rings at Ati's Jewelers in Clinton Township. The total package is valued at more than \$13,000.

Blanchard said a lot of local businesses have been helping with the cost of the wedding, including florist Clarissa Toy in Livonia; Randazzo Tuxedo in Livonia and Bella Bridal in West Bloomfield.

"We also want to thank our families and God," Blanchard said.

Her mom, Cindy Trzcinski, also of Livonia, said she hasn't been able to wrap her head around the enormity of her daughter winning the contest.

"I'm worried someone will pass out and it might be me,"

Essay hits home run with judges

Following is Whitney Blanchard's winning essay, "Victory for the home team with no extra innings" Announced by: Whitney Blanchard

1st — Whitney, leading off for the home team, hits a double when meeting her best friend and love of her life, Andy.

2nd — All-star Andy up to bat and he hits one out of the park! He's bringing the most heart to this team. He's genuine, dedicated, as athletic as ever, and loyal to his Detroit Tigers to the end.

3rd — Whitney, deep in thought in the outfield, makes the catch of a lifetime. Her Papa has been the MVP for the man of her heart for so long. She never thought she'd meet someone like him ... until Andy joined the team.

4th — Hold on, folks! Out of nowhere, Andy pulls a grand slam! Although not on the big screen at a Tigers game, this marriage proposal could not have been better played!

5th — SHE SAID YES!!! (Crowd goes wild!)

6th — This is turning out to be one exciting inning! Even with lots of wedding planning under way, Andy's on his way to a perfect game on Whitney's birthday. This was a birthday to remember complete with matching Tigers jerseys, hats and great seats at the ballpark.

7th inning stretch — Planning comes to a halt due to financial injury to the home team. Who knows how long the recovery time will be?

8th — Am I seeing this right?! Lou Gehrig is pinch hitting for the opposing team. OH, NO! He just took out Papa at second base, leaving him stunned with a diagnosis of ALS. This game can't go to extra innings. All right fans, put on the rally caps! Whitney needs her Papa on the most important day of her life.

9th — From the bullpen, bringing the hot stinky cheddar, is WWJ and AMP radio to save the game! Making multiple dreams come true, Andy and Whitney stand on home plate and proudly say I DO!!

she said. "It's big. It's hard to comprehend."

"This is so surreal. It's crazy trying to cram a year's worth of planning into just a few weeks. But it'll be great ... come what may," said

Trzcinski, adding, "Whitney has always been a good writer. She wrote an adorable little romantic story when she was

in second grade, complete with illustrations. It was about two bunnies who lived in 'Heartsville.' They ultimate-

ly fell in love and lived happily ever after. I laminated and saved it and it was displayed at her graduation party. I'll give it to her children someday."

Blanchard ended her prize-winning essay like this: "9th- From the bullpen, bringing the hot stinky cheddar, is WWJ and AMP radio to save the game! Making multiple dreams come true, Andy and Whitney stand on home plate and proudly say I DO!!"

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI, June 26, 2010 @ 1:00 p.m.

#104 Jacqueline Roberts
#208 Robert Blalock II
#331 Scott Bowles
#412 Josef Weaver
#416 Kori Anusavagw
#651 Juaita Johnson
#517 Reggie Simmons
#1119 Ashley Parker

Units contain: misc. household items-furniture.

Publish: June 10 & 17, 2010

OE08703245 - 2x2

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On June 15, 2010, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
2002	Kia	Optima/4Dr	Black	KNAGD126225107905
1991	Dodge	Spirit/4 Dr	Brown	1B3XA46K1MF686906
1998	Ford	Escort/2 Dr	Blue	3FAKP1131WR223231
2000	Buick	Regal/4 Dr	Red	2G4WF551Y1181726
1992	Jeep	Cherokee/4 Dr	Black	1J4FJ58S7NL245727
1994	Mercury	Gr Marquis/4 Dr	Teal	2MELM74WXR686280
1997	Chevy	Blazer/SW	Green	1GNDT13W6V2262543
2000	Chrysler	Intrepid/4 Dr	Gold	2C3HH46R7YH104862
2003	Mercury	Gr Marquis/4 Dr	Black	2MEFM75W83X707968

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: June 10, 2010

OE08703215 - 2x3



PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF GARDEN CITY WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To all residents and interested parties:
Legal notices are available for review at our website.

The minutes from regular and special Council meetings are available at:

www.gardencitymi.org/minutes

Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:

www.gardencitymi.org/bids

You can also access this information at Garden City City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.

Publish: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, Apr. 15, May 13 & June 10, 2010

OE0866655 - 2x3

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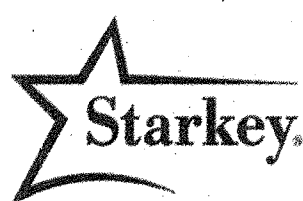
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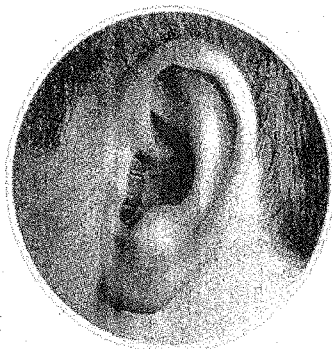


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SECTION B

(WL)

SPORTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2010

hometownlife.com

FOOD, B6

BUSINESS, B5

RELIGION, B8

PATRONS
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Yanik clears 2 major hurdles in D-2 state meet

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was a fitting conclusion to a stellar career Saturday for Livonia Ladywood senior Megan Yanik, who walked out of Zeeland High School with a pair of individual state titles.

Yanik swept both hurdles races at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Girls Track and Field Finals.

She edged Kalena Franklin of Ogemaw Heights by one-hundredth of a second in the 100-meter highs (14.75 seconds) before coming back to take the 300 intermediate hurdles title in



Yanik

43.85.

Both were school records.

Yanik was the top seed going into the 300 hurdles, but winning the 100 highs gave her greater satisfaction.

And after winning her semifinal heat, Yanik could sense she had a chance.

"It was more exciting because I was not expecting it, my goal all along this season was winning the 300 hurdles," said the class valedictorian. "You just try

and go as hard as you can, and if you hear somebody coming up on you, don't let anybody pass you."

Ladywood coach Alice Ahearn said Yanik was a deserving double state champion.

"I'm so happy for her," she said. "It's been a lot of hard work, sacrifice and determination that led up to these titles. Megan is a very focused competitor and her focus served her well yesterday."

Yanik also anchored the runner-up 4 x 400 relay team, which also included Teresa Wojnarowski, Shannon Scarlett and Megan Vitale.

The foursome clocked a

school-record 4:00.98 with Chelsea taking first in 3:57.56.

"Megan was the determining factor in our 1,600 meter relay," Ahearn said. "She motivated the other girls to do their best out there and expected even more from herself (and got it)."

"It would have been the icing on the cake to get the first place title in the relay as well, but second in the relay tastes pretty good, too, as the girls got their best time ever."

Catholic League A-B Division rival Dearborn Divine Child came away with the team title with 61 points followed by Beverly Hills Detroit Country

Day (49), Chelsea (30.5) and Ladywood (28).

"Megan led her team to the impressive fourth-place team finish with an outstanding performance for the day," Ahearn said.

Yanik considered Miami of Ohio and Michigan, but settled on Notre Dame where the preferred walk-on plans to study biology.

"I just liked the academics and whole atmosphere," said Yanik, who began her track career as a seventh-grader at Plymouth's Our Lady of Good Counsel.

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GAME WRAPS

Blazers ousted

Alexa Burns tallied four goals, but it wasn't enough Friday as Farmington defeated Livonia Ladywood, 14-10, in the Division 2 regional girls lacrosse final Friday at Ann Arbor Skyline.

The Blazers, who ended their season at 8-6-1 overall, also got a pair of goals each from Gabrielle Meyer and Kylie Barnes.

Ali Dixon led the Falcons with seven goals and one assist. Teammate Katie Mauro chipped in with four goals and two assist as the Falcons peppered Ladywood goalie Rana Freij with 24 shots.

Farmington (16-6-1) advanced to the state quarterfinal Wednesday at Hartland to face Flint Powers.

C'ville grid meeting

The new Livonia Clarenceville football staff, led by first-year coach Ken Fry, will stage an informational meeting beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 17, at the team room inside the high school.

Among the topics will be the summer calendar schedule, Quarterback Club information, Mom's Instructional Night and opportunities for parental involvement.

For more information, call Fry at (248) 982-4810; or (248) 473-8926 (school).

Patriots net honor

Livonia Franklin, posting an overall grade-point average of 3.52, recently earned the All-Academic Team Tennis Award from the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association.

Among the team members honored from the Division 1 regional tourney who participated in singles at Novi included Angelica Woods, No. 1; Chauna Gibson, No. 2; Kelsey Sitarski, No. 3; Annie McLeod, No. 4.

The doubles honorees included Crystal Henderson and Jennifer Rellinger, No. 1; Jaclyn Horsell and Sarah Noffze, No. 2; Brittany Borregard and Natalie Mays, No. 3; Kayla and Jamie Buchanczenko, No. 4.

Bucks roll, 6-0

Kenny Uziogwe scored a pair of goals as the Michigan Bucks rolled to a 6-0 Premier Development League victory Saturday night over the Cleveland Internationals at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

Goalkeeper Mitch Hildebrandt (Livonia Stevenson/Oakland University) made four saves to post his second shutout of the year as the Bucks improved to 4-2 in the PDL's Great Lakes Division of the Central Conference. Other Bucks scorers included Spencer Thompson, Tommy Catalano, Stephan St. Louis and Zarek Valentin.

Simon Ormekanda and Mauro Fuzetti each contributed two assists, while St. Louis and Stewart Givens added one each. The loss drops the Internationals to 1-3-1.

The Bucks return to action 8:30 p.m. Saturday, June 12, against Forest City London (Ontario) at Ultimate Soccer Arenas.

St. Mary Mercy 5K

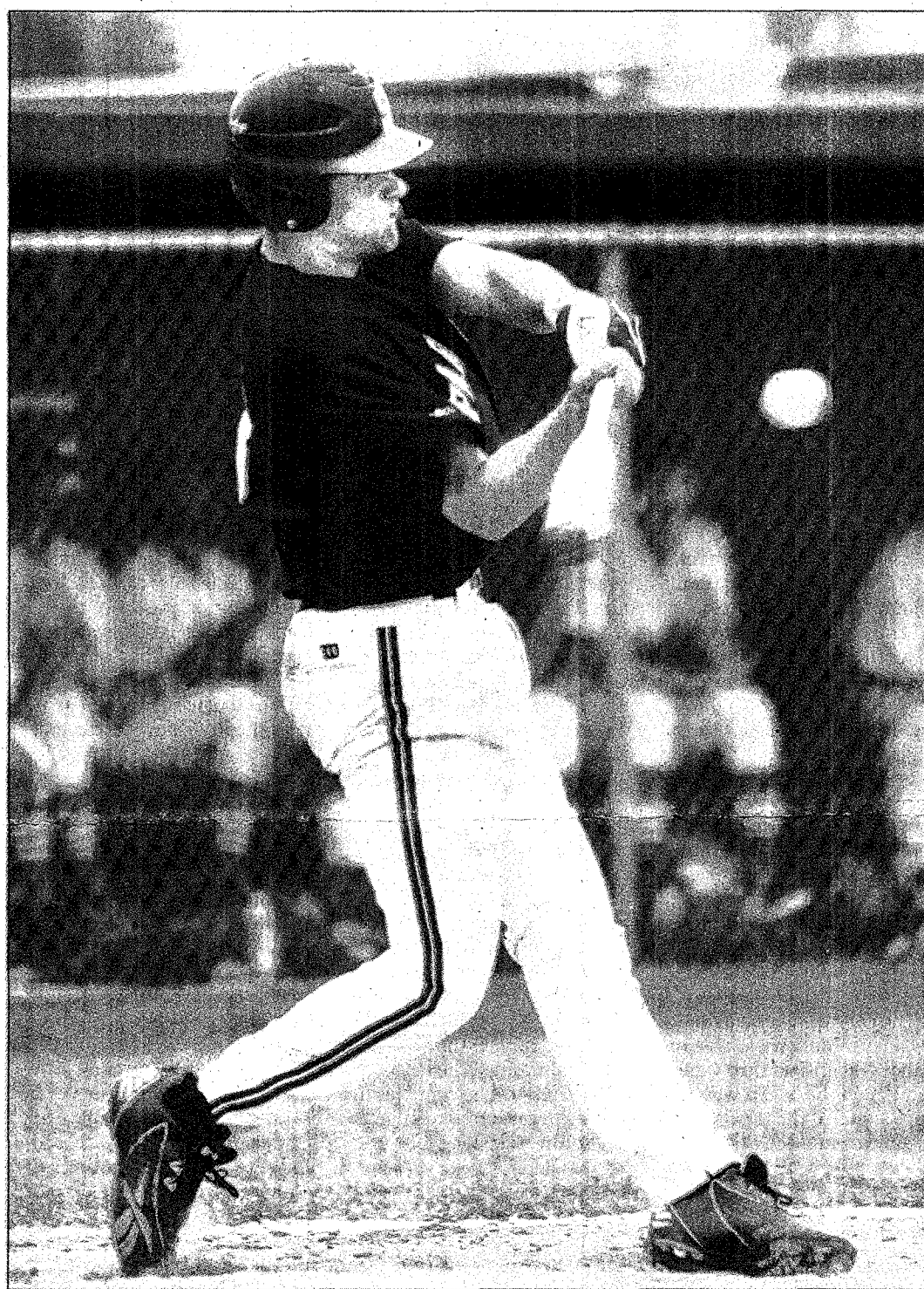
Registration is on for the fourth annual St. Mary Mercy Hospital Embrace Life 5-kilometer run-walk for Cancer on Sunday, Sept. 12.

The race begins at 9 a.m. on the St. Mary Mercy Hospital grounds, located at Five Mile and Levan roads.

The cost is \$22 for runners-walkers who register on or before Sept. 3 (race T-shirt guaranteed). It's \$27 for those signing up after Sept. 3. Awards will go to the first, second- and third-place overall male and female finishers in each age group of the 5K.

Following the 5K, a Community Open House will from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. offering music, games, food and health information and screenings. Register at Active.com or stmarymercy.org.

Brad Emons, editor, (313) 222-6851
bemons@hometownlife.com



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Dan Lopez makes contact during Saturday's Division 1 regional at Canton.

Season over

Chiefs oust 27-8 Spartans in state tournament, 11-1

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two of the top pitchers of the KLAA faced each other with Saturday's Division 1 district baseball championship on the line.

Canton senior lefthander Kevin Delapaz turned out to be a tad better than Livonia Stevenson's Jeff Sorenson and the Chiefs completed the tri-fecta. They won their third straight district — each time on a different Plymouth-Canton Educational Park field.

Although the final score was 11-1, most of the game played on Canton's baseball field was much closer. Only a 9-run seventh against four Stevenson pitchers (featuring a mammoth home run to right by junior Garrett Bryden) turned it into a blowout.

With the victory, the Chiefs will face regional-host Novi at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Walled Lake Central and Birmingham Brother Rice are slated for the other semifinal at noon.

"It was a great battle," said Canton coach Mark Blomshield about the Delapaz-Sorenson duel. "Sorenson's one of the best around, we all know that. He threw a no-hitter this year, he's usually double digits in strikeouts."

"It was a heck of a battle, we scratched two runs out, one on a home run."



Stevenson's Jeff Sorenson fires a pitch toward the plate during Saturday's Division 1 district championship final against host Canton.

Chiefs' senior first baseman Joe Galanty swung at a high fastball and blasted a homer to left in the top of the second for the game's first run.

Canton added another in the second, with a double by sophomore Ryan Bazner the key hit.

That's how the game stayed until the Canton seventh, when the first two batters reached against the tiring Sorenson.

Canton went on to scorch

Please see **BASEBALL, B2**

Blazers cruise in softball district

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

To nobody's surprise it was all Livonia Ladywood on Saturday in the Division 2 district softball tournament.

The Blazers, last year's state runner-up, increased their overall record to 28-7 with a 9-0 victory over visiting Dearborn Divine Child in the championship final.

Winning pitcher Briana Combs just missed finishing with perfect game as she retired 21-of-22 batters in posting a no-hitter. She struck out 10 and walked none with the only Divine Child batter reaching base on an outfield error in the seventh inning.

Ladywood, which collected a total of 12 hits, led 4-0 after one inning and put it away with four more in the second thanks to a two-run single by Gina Sykes and a two-run double by Celeste Fidge.

Ladywood coach Scott Combs juggled his batting order in the opener as Carli SanMillan, Julie Bushart and Jenny Kelley each collected three hits in a 7-0 semifinal victory over South Lyon East.

"We moved all three of



Members of the Livonia Ladywood girls softball team celebrate their Division 2 district title following a 9-0 win Saturday over Dearborn Divine Child.

those girls to different spots in the order and they all came through," said Combs, whose team racked up 15 hits. "They were able to relax and did not feel the pressure as much."

Briana Combs, a sophomore

battling two knee injuries, tossed a 3-hit shutout. She struck out 10 and did not allow a walk.

Ladywood now moves into the regional semifinal beginning at noon Saturday (June 12)

at home against Melvindale. The first game, starting at 10 a.m., pits Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day against Detroit Renaissance. The championship game follows 30 minutes after the second semifinal game.

Ladywood advances vs. Pirates

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Four different players scored during the second half as Livonia Ladywood stormed into the Elite Eight of the MHSAA Division 2 girls soccer tournament with a 4-1 regional semifinal victory over Riverview in a match held Tuesday at Trenton.

The Blazers, now 13-4-4 overall, will face Ann Arbor Skyline for regional championship, Saturday at Trenton. Game time is 7 p.m.

Freshmen Dominique Sarnecky and Catherine Garber tallied goals in the 45th and 49th minutes, respectively, to propel the Blazers to a 2-0 advantage. Sophomore Kelly Capoccia assisted on Sarnecky's goal, while Garber scored on a free kick.

Please see **SOCCER, B4**

GIRLS SOCCER

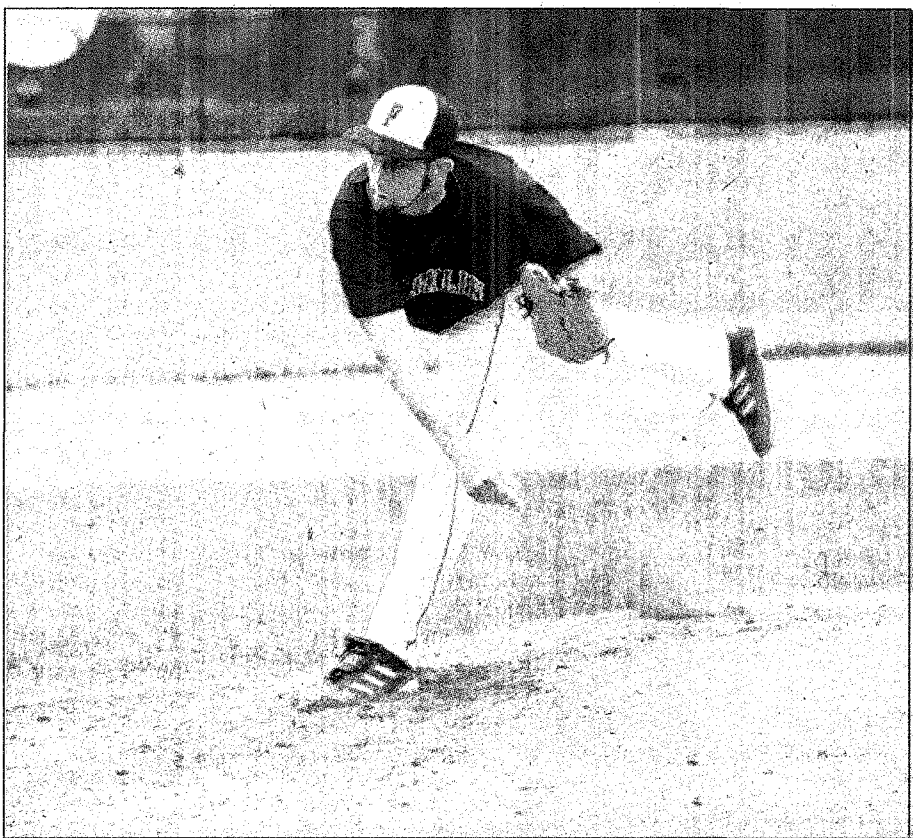
Lutheran Westland hurlers ace Division 4 district tourney test

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lutheran High Westland pitchers gave up just three hits on the day as the Warriors punched their regional ticket **PREP BASEBALL** Saturday by capturing the Division 4 district baseball tournament at Plymouth Christian Academy. Austin Baglow threw a 1-hitter in the championship final as Lutheran Westland improved to 21-5 overall by defeating neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, 10-0, in five innings. Baglow struck out 11 and walked only two as the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Blue Division champ blanked the MIAC's Red Division champ. Losing pitcher Andy Barber gave up all 10 runs in 4.2 innings as the Warriors outthit the Hawks, 11-1. Gage Flanery led the way going 2-for-4 with a run scor-

er. Jake Andrezejewski also added two hits and knocked in a run. Taurrek Fikes also had an RBI, while Baglow walked with the bases loaded in the bottom of the fifth to end the game on a 10-run mercy rule. Ivan Bell had the lone hit for the Hawks, who ended their season at 15-3 overall. In the district opener, Flanery tossed a complete-game, 2-hitter in the Warriors' 6-0 triumph over host PCA. Flanery struck out three and walked two in seven inning. PCA's John Slater, who gave up six runs in 4.1 innings, took the loss. Fikes led the Warriors' 8-hit attack going 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles, two runs scored and an RBI. The Warriors will now face Allen Park Inter-City Baptist in the regional semifinals beginning at noon Saturday, June 12 at home. The first game, starting at 10 a.m., pits Southfield Christian

against Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett. The finals will start 30 minutes after the second semifinal. **S.L. EAST 7, CLARENCEVILLE 2:** On Saturday, Brett Dippoliti's 4-hitter carried South Lyon East (9-17) to a come-from-behind Division 2 district semifinal victory over Livonia Clarenceville (14-18) at Madonna University's Ilitch Ballpark. Dippoliti allowed two earned runs on a pair of walks and three strikeouts. Losing pitcher Damien Quarles gave up one earned run on five hits and three walks. He struck out five in 6.1 innings. The Cougars trailed 2-1 after six innings before exploding for six runs in the top of the seventh. A 1-out RBI triple by Nolan Nunez tied the game at 2-all followed by a 2-run double by Ryan Ferguson to put East ahead to stay. Clarenceville led 2-0 after four innings on RBI groundouts from Damien Quarles and John James. East cut the deficit to 2-1 in the sixth on an RBI groundout by Steven Kopeck. Eric Trotter, Mike Schiffman, Dan Schiffman and Zac Rosen each collected two hits for the Trojans.



Franklin's Brent Marzion went the distance on the mound in an 8-3 district semifinal victory over Redford Thurston.

TOM BEAUDOIN

BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

three relief pitchers, with a two-run double by junior catcher Seth Tschetter making it 6-0. Following that were run-scoring singles by Cody Blakita, Galanty and an RBI groundout. Then, to put a capper on the proceedings, Bryden finished the surge with his towering home run that landed far behind the right field fence onto the grass soccer field. "He (Sorenson) was getting tired, in the 80-pitch count range," Blomshield said. "Kevin was too, that's why we got him out of there (in the seventh). I told them we

needed to try to scratch out another run and we ended up scratching out nine, so we were definitely happy about that. I wasn't anticipating that." After the nine-run inning, Blomshield brought senior Ben Staley in to pitch the bottom of the seventh. The Spartans finally scored, as junior Troy Bodtke singled home junior Evan Piechota. According to veteran Stevenson coach Rick Berryman, the Canton offensive explosion in the seventh didn't take away from how well the two starting pitchers went after it. "The two runs he gave up early — those were nonstrikes that they hit well," Berryman said. "He threw a pretty decent game, he only gave up four hits

until the wheels fell off. "Give Delapaz his due. He threw well, he kept us off balance. Sorenson threw well. It was more like a 2-0, 3-0, and the rest just got ugly." Stevenson's Berryman added that he is "very proud" of the Spartans for a highly competitive season. "Anytime a team is 27-8 and works as hard as these guys do I can't complain," he said. "They fought hard. Geez, I've got a team where I've got three freshmen playing, so this is a very good baseball team and we'll be very good again next year." Stevenson routed Salem 11-6 in the middle game of the day, while Canton beat Plymouth in the opener, 13-3.

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Patriots called out

Umps' reversal pivotal, Garden City rules district

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A one call reversal was enough to reverse the fortunes for both Livonia Franklin and Garden City baseball teams on Saturday afternoon. Facing elimination by trailing late in their Division I district championship game with the host Patriots, coach Steve Herman's Cougars made the most of an out call that was immediately reversed by the game's two-man umpiring crew. With the opportunity to prolong their half inning at the plate, the Cougars capitalized by pushing across six big runs to grab the lead and went on to post a thrilling 13-11 diamond triumph over the Patriots. "You hate it comes down to a call, but it was the right call," said Herman, whose club improved to 20-7 with the victory and now moves on to regional play 10 a.m. Saturday against Detroit Osborn at Wayne State University. "His foot (Franklin first baseman Dan Muller) was off the bag and I knew his foot was off the bag. The home plate umpire quickly reversed it, and called him (Garden City's Max Stratton) safe before I even appealed." The call was a crucial one because if Muller was able to handle the infield throw and remain on the bag, it would have signaled the third out of the inning and the Cougars

still trailing 9-7. Instead, the potent Garden City lineup immediately went to work by clubbing four hits and picking up one walk. A run-scoring single off the bat of freshman Zak Kmet was followed by an RBI single from senior Gee Williams. After a walk to junior Sean Fox, juniors Zach Vera-Burgos and Kirk Barikmo delivered back-to-back, 2-run singles that propelled the Cougars into a 4-run advantage. The Patriots trimmed the deficit in half on a single off the bat of senior Anthony Crechiolo in the top of the seventh inning, but could get no closer as sophomore Tyler Steele, who came on in relief of starter Nate McHugh, retired the final two batters he faced. "This was a tense one from beginning to end, but our kids came through and did the right thing," Herman said. "Franklin is a really good team, but even when we were down I just said to the kids if we just make the plays everything will be fine. I knew with this offense we would hit the ball." The Cougars, who gained a berth in the final on the strength of an easy 10-0 triumph over Redford Union in only five innings of the day's first semifinal, touched Franklin starter Joel Trudell for three runs in the bottom of the first inning. The key blows were back-to-back doubles by Vera-Burgos and Barikmo. It didn't take long for the

Patriots to respond, however, as coach Matt Fournier's squad plated two runs in each of the second and third frames and added four more in the fourth. Trudell and senior Wayne Hawkins supplied the key hits in the second and third innings, while Muller's bases-clearing triple keyed the uprising in the fourth. GC closed the gap to one run with a three-spot in the bottom of the fourth and picked up one more in the fifth to set the stage for the decisive sixth inning of play. The frame began innocently enough with two of the first three Garden City batters being retired. But with Stratton at the plate, the Cougar senior catcher was able to put the ball in play and hustle down the line to force a close play and the ensuing call that altered the direction of the game. "The (out) call was made and it's a tough call to overturn from 90 feet away," Fournier said. "That was the only argument I had. I said (to the home plate umpire) 'you got to be 110 percent sure on this one,' and he said he was. "To me it looked like he (Muller) got his foot back on it. You hate to see either team lose it that way." The loss surely was a disappointing one as Franklin finished the season 14-17 overall. "We've had an up-and-down type of year," Fournier said. "We told them we had to come out and hit the ball hard today to win it and they did. Unfortunately, we gave up a little bit too much. "That's two years in a row they have gotten us here in the district final. It just means we've got to work a little bit harder." **FRANKLIN 8, THURSTON 3:** The Patriots' appearance in the finals came courtesy of an district semifinal triumph over pesky Redford Thurston (9-14). The Patriots scored in each of the first three frames off Thurston starter Charlie Melvin to build a comfortable 7-0 advantage. After Thurston broke through with a two-spot in the fifth — both runs scoring on a throwing error off a ground ball hit by Ben Baker — the Patriots responded with their final run in the bottom of the frame. Brent Marzion, who went all seven innings, was the winning pitcher. "Franklin is a good team and against these teams you can't give up walks and give them extra outs," said Thurston coach Bob Snell, whose club ended the season 9-14 overall. "But it works both ways because today we couldn't have gotten back into the game without them giving us some opportunities."

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Trojans' 800 relay captures state title

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The last state track and field champion Livonia Clarenceville produced was an all too familiar name – Tim Shaw.

The year was 2001 and the Chicago Bears line-backer captured the 100-meter dash in Division 3.

Shaw now has some company as the Trojans' 4 x 200-meter relay team of Levonte Brooks, Moses Hobson, Leonard Hogan and Kassius Kelly emerged victorious at the Division 3 boys meet Saturday at Comstock Park with a clocking of 1:30.51.

Clarenceville coach Brady Gustafson found the right combination just prior to the end of the season.

"Our 4 x 200 lineup was a mix all year," he said. "After the (Livonia) city meet, we moved Leonard out of the 800 events and into the 4 x 200 lineup and we started to click. We hit a bump at the Cranbrook meet when Levonte injured himself. Fortunately, Ben Watts stepped in at regionals and we ran our best time up to that point."

"When we hit the state meet Saturday, I knew we would run a 1:30 with a healthy lineup. The only question was if we could post a good enough time since we were running in the second heat. The boys stepped up with seamless exchanges and a flawless performance. It was a great day for Clarenceville track."

Clarenceville scored a total of 14 points as the same foursome garnered

eighth in the 400 relay (44.48).

Kelly, a sophomore, contributed a seventh in the 100 dash (11.39), while teammate Antonio Hawk placed eighth in the 110 hurdles (16.22).

Division 1 girls

It was one of the fastest Division 1 meets posted on record Saturday at Rockford.

Four records fell as Rochester distance runner Megan Goethals figured in three of them as the Falcons scored a team-high 65 points.

Runner-up Rockford scored 58 and East Kentwood placed third with 46.5.

Among the area's top individual finishers included Livonia Stevenson's Becky Adamcheck, who took fourth in the 300-meter hurdles (school-record) 45.87; Livonia Franklin's Megan McPherson, fifth in the 3,200 run (school-record) 10:53.84; and Livonia Churchill's Taylor Byron, eighth, shot put (37 feet, 9 inches).

"I don't think I've ever been more proud of an individual athlete's performance," Franklin coach Dave Bjorklund said of McPherson, a junior. "She ran the race exactly the way we told her to. She got out, established herself among the top eight, locked herself into a good position with some people to run with, and ran her splits correctly. Our ultimate goal was to run under 11 minutes and go all state, and she did it."

"She was so happy after a disappointing state meet in cross country, and getting knocked down in the 3,200

last year at the state meet for track (finishing 14th). I'm so happy she can put all that behind her and show everyone what she is capable of at the state level."

Churchill's 4 x 800 relay team of Tiffany Raisenen, Bethany Pilat, Kerrigan Riley and Sara Kroll added a sixth with a school-record clocking of 9:18.98.

Kroll, the second seed in the individual 800 run, had the lead in the going into the bell lap on the main straightway before tripping and falling. She got up to finish in ninth-place in 2:15.87, but well below her blistering 2:09 split in the 3,200 relay.

Grosse Pointe South freshman Hannah Meier won the 800 in an All-Division finals record of 2:08.83.

Division 1 boys

Westland John Glenn senior Jeremy Langford was the lone scorer with a seventh-place finish in the 100-meter dash in 11.31.

East Kentwood, led by 100- and 200 dash winner Jon Henry, captured the team title with 92 points.

Ann Arbor Pioneer was a distant second with 44 points.

Division 4 meet

Lutheran High Westland picked up eight points in Saturday's Division 4 girls finals held at Jenison as Nicole Zehel led the way with a third-place finish in the 1,600 run (5:16.69).

Teammate Emilie Freeman added a sixth in the high jump (4-10).

On the boys side, the Warriors' Zach Musial placed third in the 110 hurdles with a clocking of 15.68.

Cougars: District champs

Garden City pitcher Susalla quiets Patriot bats

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Strong pitching, timely hitting, defensive gems – Garden City's girls softball team had it all on display Saturday afternoon.

Seeking another lengthy post-season run – the Cougars won the Division I state championship just two short years ago – coach Barry Patterson's troops turned in outstanding performances over Redford Union and Livonia Franklin to move closer toward that coveted goal.

The Cougars began district play at Franklin by holding off a scrappy pack of Panthers, 5-1, and closed the matters by disposing of the host Patriots, 6-2, in the title game.

"It was a tough day and I'm just really, really happy for our kids," Patterson said. "We got 14 strong innings from (sophomore pitcher) Kelsey Susalla and just some incredible plays from our defense. We hadn't been making those plays enough this season and we knew it was going to take us to be mistake-free in the field because both teams hit the ball very well."

With the win, Garden City now moves onto regional action Saturday at Wayne State University. The Cougars, 25-5 overall, will be grouped alongside three Detroit Public School League representatives – Cass Tech, Mumford and

Denby.

Cass and Mumford will open play at 10 a.m. and Garden City will tangle with Denby at noon. The winners will then square off at 2 p.m. for the right to advance to the Elite Eight.

"We have some quality teams at this regional, but it's one that I think we're very capable of winning," Patterson said.

The Cougars dodged some trouble early on in their contest with the Patriots as coach Linda Jimenez' club had runners in scoring position in each of the first two innings. But Susalla, as she has done much of this season, was able to regroup and retire key batters at crucial times.

GC pushed across the first run of the game in the fourth inning when the Cougars got a lead-off double from sophomore Sam Bellovary and a run-scoring single one out later off the bat of junior Carley Shattleroe.

They added three more in the fifth off Franklin starter Tiffany Lamble – sophomore Hillarie Werda brought one in with a single and Bellovary knocked two more in with a single.

Garden City built the margin to 6-0 with two more runs in the sixth – both scoring on a two-out double by Susalla – before the Patriots finally got on the board with two of their own in the bottom of the frame. Katelynn Devers' double plated Mariah Barcus who

had doubled to lead off the inning, and freshman Maggie Leins knocked in the other with a sharp single to the outfield.

Susalla had enough left in the tank, however, to send the Patriots down in order in the seventh and ensure her teammates would be tournament participants at least one more week.

"I thought at one point Kelsey started to lose a little velocity about the fourth inning and then we got those few runs that seemed to pump her up a little bit," Patterson said. "Again in the sixth she seemed to lose some again and then in the seventh, fortunately, they hit some balls at us and we were able to make plays."

"Franklin is a very tough team and this was a very equal game. They hit balls hard and everything, but a lot were right at us and we made plays."

Jimenez agreed with Patterson's assessment.

"We didn't get our hits together and they did," said Jimenez, whose young club ended the season 19-16 overall, including a 17-1 mercy-shortened triumph over Redford Thurston in the district's first game. "They hit the ball well and they earned it. They got good hits and scored runs. I thought we came out competitive and ready to play, but just didn't get the hits when we needed to."

jtoth@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6785

SPORTS BRIEF

Sportfishing meeting

The Huron Valley Sportfishing Club's next monthly meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 17 at American Legion Post 200,

11800 Michael Street, Taylor. (Take Brest Road west off Telegraph to Michael Street and the hall).

Pete Miller will be the featured speaker on Lake Erie bass fishing and Bass fishing in

the Irish Hills area.

Visitors are welcome. Food and drinks available, along with a 50/50 fishing tackle raffles.

For more information, e-mail rmontre@juno.com.

2010-2011 TRYOUTS

LIVONIA CITY SOCCER CLUB



The mission of the Livonia City Soccer Club (LCSC) is to provide a fun, safe, and healthy environment for soccer players from all communities. LCSC is committed to developing players and teams to their fullest potential by providing the best coaches and the best developmental environments. The club trains players to become the best possible players while also developing qualities that will serve them throughout their lives. LCSC is committed to increasing vibrant and engaging relationships with our players. We are a Club dedicated to developing quality players and winning sides without compromising a fun, safe and worthwhile experience. Come be part of a successful and affordable club.

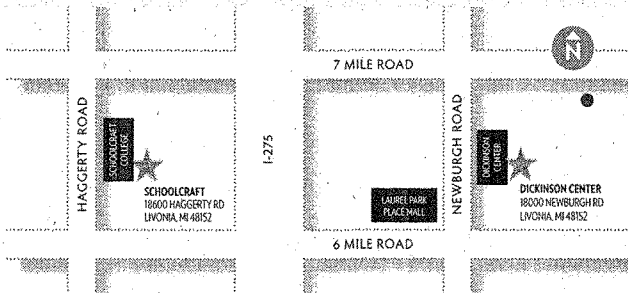
The Livonia City Soccer Club offers select, premier, and recreational levels. Our philosophy rests in granting all players opportunities and benefits within their level of play. The club provides select and premier players with opportunities to develop into elite athletes. Livonia City Soccer Club is truly the club in southeast Michigan for players of all ages and abilities.

Livonia is soccer city!

TRY-OUTS: JUNE 12 & 13, 2010
DICKINSON CENTER | SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
www.livoniacitysoccerclub.com

For questions please call:
734.634.8048

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 - ✓ FRIDAY SKILL CLINICS
 - ✓ GOALKEEPER TRAINING
 - ✓ LCSC CLUB CAMP



www.livoniacitysoccerclub.com

LCSC METEORS

2010-2011
TRYOUT SCHEDULE

BOYS TRYOUTS

AGE	SAT / JUNE 12	SUN / JUNE 13	LOCATION	# OF TEAMS
U8	4:30-5:30 pm	4:30-5:30 pm	Dickinson Center	1 TEAM
U9	6:00-7:15 pm	6:00-7:15 pm	Dickinson Center	3 TEAMS
U10	5:45-7:15 pm	5:45-7:15 pm	Dickinson Center	2 TEAMS
U11	4:30-5:45 pm	4:30-5:45 pm	Dickinson Center	2 TEAMS
U12	5:00-6:30 pm	5:00-6:30 pm	Dickinson Center	2 TEAMS
U13	10:00-11:30 am	10:00-11:30 am	Schoolcraft College	3 TEAMS
U14	6:30-8:00 pm	6:30-8:00 pm	Schoolcraft College	1 TEAM
U15	6:00-8:00 pm	6:30-8:00 pm	Schoolcraft College	2 TEAMS
U16	4:45-6:15 pm	4:45-6:15 pm	Schoolcraft College	3 TEAMS
U17	8:00-9:30 am	8:00-9:30 am	Schoolcraft College	3 TEAMS
U18	6:30-8:00 pm	6:30-8:00 pm	Schoolcraft College	1 TEAM

COACH PROFILES

Rick Larson
• Director of Coaching
• USFSA National "A" License
• Adult Football
• Federation "B" License
• Schoolcraft College Men's Head Coach

Dan Mellors
• USFSA National "B" License
• USFSA Advanced National Diploma
• FA Coaching Certificate
• MSYSA ODP Staff

Jeff Bobo
• Director of Operations
• USFSA National "C" License
• Adult Varsity Coach License
• High School
• ODP Experience Coach

Ben Davis
• Schoolcraft College Men's Asst Coach
• ODP GK Coach
• NSCAA National GK Diploma
• Played Professionally in the Romanian 1st Division

Keith Jarema
• NSCAA National Dipl
• NSCAA National GK
• U of M - Women's GK Coach
• MSYSA ODP Staff GK Coach

Sam Makki
• UEFA "B" License
• Scottish Football Association "C" License
• NSCAA Advanced National Diploma
• 12 Year Pro Soccer Player

Les Neal
• USFSA National "B" License
• USFSA Advanced National Diploma
• Former Schoolcraft College Men's Coach
• ODP Experience

Katie Rozum
• Divine Child High School Girls Varsity Head Coach
• University of South Dakota Women's Asst Coach
• Grand Valley State University Player & National Finalist

Eric Scott
• Madonna University Men's Asst Coach
• USFSA National "C" License USFSA
• Former Schoolcraft College Asst Coach
• Former U of M (Club) Asst Coach

Ken Shingledecker
• Madonna University Men's Asst Coach
• Ladywood High School Girls Varsity Head Coach
• Former Lutheran Westland High School Boys Asst (12 years)

COACHING STAFF

Rick Larson
Jeff Bobo
Dan Mellors
.....
Chris Burnette
Ken Carlson
Dave Carver
Joe Carver
Ben Davis
Craig Hearn
Dave Horgan
Keith Jarema
Chris Johnson
Walt Kliza
Joe Knoeri
Sam Makki
Kerry Mitchell
Les Neal
Dave Radcliff
Katie Rozum
Eric Scott
Steve Shiner
Ken Shingledecker
Derrick Steele
Mano Vagnini
Derrick Verant

www.livoniacitysoccerclub.com

2010-2011 TRYOUTS

Blazers ground Falcons in final, 3-0

Livonia Ladywood earned a Division 2 district girls soccer title Saturday at home with a 3-0 win over Catholic League Central Division foe Dearborn Divine Child.

The win improved the Blazers' overall record to 12-4-4 and secured a berth in Tuesday's regional semifinal at Trenton against 18-2-3 Riverview. (See related story).

Ladywood's Catherine Garber tallied what proved to be the game-winner in the 33rd minute when she made a long run from her left back position and directed a 30-yard shot over the head of Divine Child goalkeeper Jessica Shymanski.

In the 47th minute, Kelly Capoccia muscled a Falcon defender off the ball and finished a low, hard shot past the DC keeper.

GIRLS SOCCER

Devon McParlane completed the scoring in the 69th minute when she knocked home a rebound off a shot by teammate Amanda Bierkamp.

"Divine Child was coming into the final playing very well," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker. "I knew their coach would have them ready. We came out of the gate applying pressure and didn't stop. Our defense was excellent from start to finish."

Goalkeeper Maddie Reed had to only make one save for the Blazers, who outshot Divine Child 26-3.

Shymanski had nine saves for the Falcons, who bowed out with a 5-15-3 overall record.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

Riverview's Kamry Miller answered off a corner kick to cut the deficit to 2-1 in the 55th minute, but Ladywood responded on goals by Capoccia (from 20 yards out off an assist by Paige Brennan) in the 67th minute, followed by senior Shea McParlane in 77th minute (from Sydney DeLosh) to put the game away for the Catholic League A-B Division champions.

It was 0-0 at halftime despite Ladywood outshooting the Pirates 11-1.

The big reason the Blazers were kept off the board was Riverview goalkeeper Meaghan Bonadies, who made nine saves on the night, while the Blazers' Maddie Reed had to make

only one.

"She's the best keeper we've seen all year," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "I told our girls at halftime that we were doing everything right and the chances will come. We had to try and score in different ways — off restarts — and we got two."

The Pirates, the Huron League champions, end their best season in school history with a 18-3-3 record.

Ladywood, meanwhile, has won 11 of its last 13 games with their only two losses coming against defending Catholic League and Division 2 state champion Birmingham Marian.

"This team right now is unbelievable," Shingledecker said. "We're rolling right now. We're getting contributions from everyone."

hemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

Warriors remain alive, seize softball regional

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The regionals await the Lutheran High Westland girls softball team following a pair of convincing victories in Saturday's Division 4 district tournament hosted by Plymouth Christian Academy.

The Warriors upped their overall season record to 18-8 overall by defeating neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran in the championship game, 10-0, in six innings.

That victory came after they disposed of host PCA, 12-2.

The regional semifinals, beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 12, will feature host Lutheran Westland against Allen Park Inter-City Baptist followed by Royal Oak Shrine vs. Southfield Christian at noon. The finals start 30 minutes after the second semifinal game.

"It's going to be a step up and a challenge," Lutheran Westland coach Paul Guse' said. "If we play good defense,

we'll have a chance."

Pitcher Allison Guse', who has walked just 60 batters in 130 innings (less than three per outing), won both games.

She pitched at 3-hitter in the finals against Huron Valley, while striking out eight and walking three.

Huron Valley starter Lauren Jones suffered the loss as the Warriors mounted a 13-hit attack led by Samantha Roberts, who went 3-for-4 with a double and two RBI.

Catcher Emily Wilson also

went 2-for-4 with a triple and two RBI in the win.

In the district semifinal victory over PCA, freshman Shannon Abbott went 2-for-3 with an RBI, while Erica Killian had a hit, scored three runs and added two RBI.

Guse' went all five innings in the 10-run mercy, allowing eight hits and three walks while fanning six.

It was Lutheran Westland's third straight win this season over PCA and second over Huron Valley.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL REGIONAL TOURNEY DRAWS DIVISION 1 at ALLEN PARK

Saturday, June 12: Westland John Glenn vs. Dearborn, 9:30 a.m.; Saline vs. Southgate Anderson, noon. **Championship final:** 30 minutes after second semifinal. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals, noon Tuesday, June 15 at the University of Michigan's Fisher Field vs. Detroit-Wayne State University regional winner).

DIVISION 4 at LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND

Saturday, June 12: Southfield Christian vs. Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, 10 a.m.; Lutheran Westland vs. Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, noon. **Championship final:** 30 minutes after second semifinal. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals, Tuesday, June 15 at Flushing vs. Waterford

Our Lady of the Lakes regional winner).

GIRLS SOFTBALL REGIONAL TOURNEY DRAWS DIVISION 1 at ALLEN PARK

Saturday, June 12: Saline vs. Southgate Anderson, 9:30 a.m.; Westland John Glenn vs. Allen Park, noon. **Championship final:** 30 minutes after second semifinal. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals, 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 15 at the University of Michigan's Wilcox Complex vs. Detroit-Wayne State University regional winner).

DIVISION 2 at LIVONIA LADYWOOD

Saturday, June 12: Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day vs. Detroit Renaissance, 10 a.m.; Livonia Ladywood vs. Melvindale, noon. **Championship final:** 30 minutes after second semifinal. (Winner advances to the

state quarterfinals, 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 15 at Novi vs. Pontiac Notre Dame Prep regional winner.)

DIVISION 4 at LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND

Saturday, June 12: Lutheran Westland vs. Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, 10 a.m.; Royal Oak Shrine vs. Southfield Christian, noon. **Championship final:** 30 minutes after second semifinal. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals, Tuesday, June 15 at Flushing vs. Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes regional winner.)

GIRLS SOCCER REGIONAL FINAL DIVISION 2

Saturday, June 12: Livonia Ladywood vs. Ann Arbor Skyline, 7 p.m. at Trenton. (Winner advances to the state semifinals, 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 16 at Bloomfield Hills Andover vs. Fenton regional champion.)

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Ladywood golf outing

The 17th annual Ladywood High School golf outing, a fundraiser to benefit the athletic department, will be Monday, June 21 at Livonia's Fox Creek Golf Course.

Check-in is at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start for the four-person scramble beginning at 10:15 a.m.

The cost is \$125 per golfer or \$500 per foursome. Included in the cost is 18 holes (with cart), lunch and dinner. Hole sponsorships are available, along with prizes. For more information, call the Ladywood Athletic Department at (734) 591-2323.

Bon Secours Golf outing

The Society of Notre Dame de Bon Secours fourth annual family golf outing will be Saturday, July 12, at Livonia's Idyl Wyld Golf Course.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Included in the \$125 cost is 18 holes (with cart), continental breakfast, lunch and steak dinner. The cost for those 18-and-under is \$100. Foursomes and individual registrations will be accepted.

For more information, call Jim Greene at (734) 207-0503 or Paul Beaubien at (586) 419-8955.

Spiess 1-hit gem spurs 3-0 Rams

Greg Spiess fired a 1-hit shutout and struck out 10 as the Michigan Rams captured their third straight game in the Livonia Michigan Collegiate Baseball League with a 5-0 win over the Lakes Area Dodgers Monday at Bicentennial Park.

Spiess, a 6-foot-4, 210-pound right-hander from Jackson Community College, allowed only one hit to the outfield in seven innings.

Ted Newbouser had the lone hit for the 20-and-under Dodgers in the top of the sixth to break up the no-hit bid.

Offensively, Cam Walker

homered and had three RBI for the 20-and-under Rams.

Sam Ott and Brett Mazmanian each added two hits and one RBI, while Scooter Williams also went 2-for-3.

RAMS 3-2, BLUE KNIGHTS 0-1 In a twinbill Sunday at Ford Field, the Rams (2-0) swept the 22-and-under Michigan Blue Knights (0-4) despite stranding 23 base runners on the day.

Winning pitcher Brandon Sinnerly faced just 25 batters and allowed just two hits over seven innings as the Rams took the opener, 3-0.

Losing pitcher Dustin Hill allowed three runs on five hits. He walked eight and hit a batter in six innings of work.

John DiLaura had two RBI, while Cam Walker doubled twice and scored a run. Aaron Cieslak contributed an RBI sacrifice fly, walked twice and scored twice.

Tony Pounders and Ryan Bourcier had the lone hits for the Blue Knights.

In the nightcap, Tyler Higgins (Wayne State) threw a complete-game 3-hitter in a 2-1 Rams victory. Higgins struck out six and walked two and faced just 26 batters.

Bobby Thomas knocked in both runs for the Rams in the top of the fifth before the Blue Knights answered on Eric Wrozek's triple followed by a wild pitch by Higgins.

Joe Lambers, who went the first five innings walking seen and allowing four hits, was the losing pitcher.

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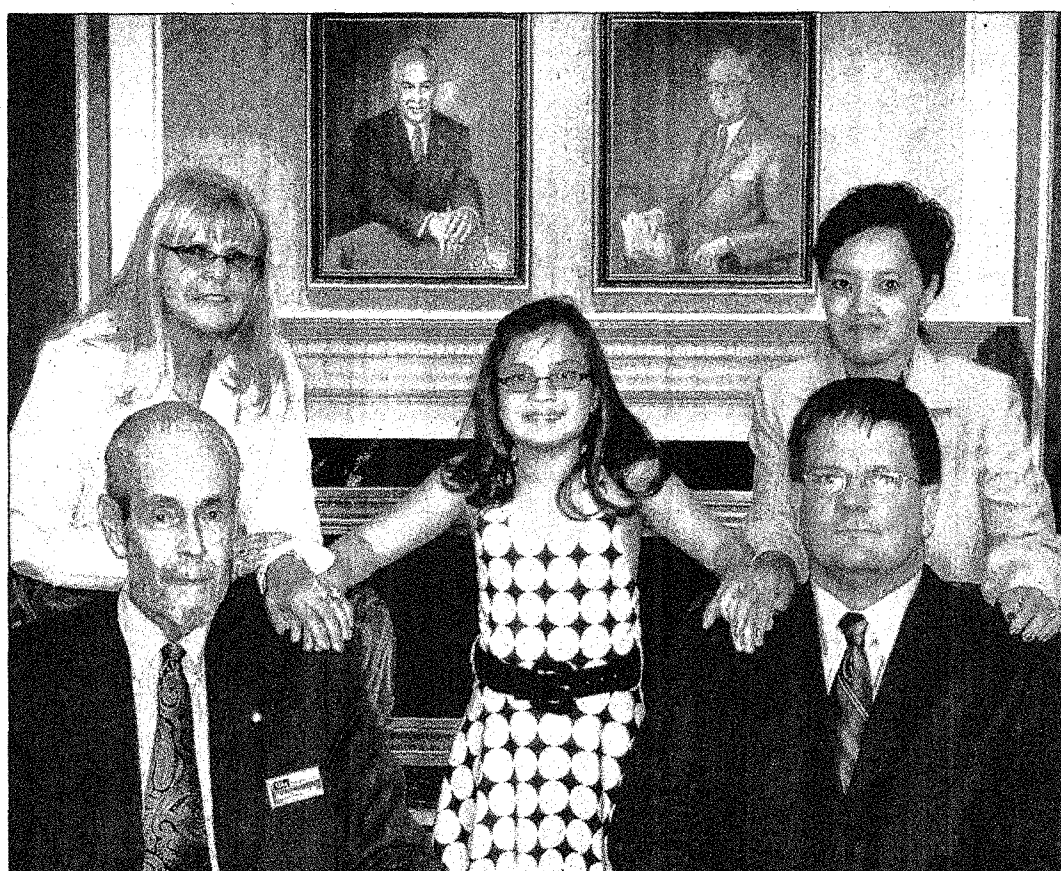
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STRICTLY BUSINESS

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2010

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Family members Claudia Rediske (back row, from left), Mackenzie Rediske, Gayle Rediske and Harold Rediske Jr. (front row, from left) join Harold "Howie" Rediske II, of Uht Funeral Home in Westland, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Michigan Funeral Directors Association.

Uht's Harold Rediske II elected to state funeral directors board

Harold "Howie" Rediske II of Uht Funeral Home in Westland has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Michigan Funeral Directors Association.

The MFDA is a professional organization representing some 1,200 funeral directors, serving 500 funeral homes statewide and nearly three-quarters of all licensed mortuary science establishments in Michigan.

In his new role as a member of the Board of Directors from District 2, Rediske will represent MFDA members from

western Wayne County, as well as from Monroe, Washtenaw, Lenawee, Branch, Hillsdale and Jackson.

Rediske is a third generation funeral director whose family has been involved with the Uht Funeral Home since 1952 and has operated the home since 1961. He is a U.S. Army veteran, having served in Bosnia, and is a graduate of the Wayne State University School of Mortuary Science.

He is a member of the Wayne Rotary and the VFW. He lives

in Wayne, a few blocks from the family's funeral home, with his wife, Gayle, and their daughter.

Founded in 1880, the Michigan Funeral Directors Association is the nation's oldest organization of funeral professionals. The MFDA board of directors guides the work of the association in its mission to enhance the value of funeral service and the profession through government advocacy, public information and professional education.

MILESTONES

Farmers Market

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning May 15

Location: The parking lot south of Ashley's at Westland Shopping Center on Wayne Road north of Warren Road

Details: The Westland Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with Westland Shopping Center to offer residents a Farmers Market, May 15 through Oct. 26. Farmers, growers and producers will sell their own products directly to the public.

Contact: For more information on applications, guidelines, or fees and permits, call Bob Kosowski at (734) 722-7620.

Blues and Muse

Time/Date: 8-11 p.m. Saturday, June 12

Location: Maxwell's Art and Treasures, 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City

Details: Come to Maxwell's for a night filled with live music and poetry. Here's your chance to come on stage for the open mic and spoken word. Or just sit back and enjoy the talented performers on stage. As always, local artists work will be on display and for sale. Stroll around the antiques and collectables. Enjoy great food during the intermission and meet new people. Admission is just \$5.

Contact: Call (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7, or visit www.maxwellsartandtreasures.com for a complete list of upcoming events and art and music classes available.

Berry good Blizzard

Time/Date: Throughout the month of June

Location: Dairy Queen of Garden City, 28825 Ford, east of Middlebelt

Details: It's berry good eating at DQ with the Strawberry Golden Oreo® Blizzard® treat. America's favorite cookie has turned golden and DQ® is kicking it up a notch by blending it with

creamy vanilla soft serve and strawberries to create one big daddy of a Blizzard treat. Hurry to your local DQ, because this tasty treat is only here for June. And as a bonus, sign up for the Blizzard Fan Club to get six free Blizzard treats every year.

Contact: (734) 427-7850

Diabetes Summer School

Time/Date: 6 p.m. beginning Tuesday, June 22

Location: Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, north of Ford, Garden City

Details: During June, July and August, in place of a monthly Diabetes Support Group, Garden City Hospital presents Diabetes Summer School. Each two-hour class includes a speaker presentation and discussion. The session begins with registration, displays, book sales and light refreshments containing approximately 30 grams of carbohydrate. There is no fee; family and friends are welcome. Subject for June is "Diabetes, Heart Disease and Sleep Problems: Is There a Connection?" If you are already being treated for a sleep disorder using a CPAP or BiPAP Mask, you can arrive one hour early and attend Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center Mask Fitting Clinic. Find out what's new in masks. Be sure to bring your old mask.

Contact: Reservations are necessary. Call (734) 458-4330 or e-mail sgoodsell@gchosp.org.

Summer Garden Sale

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, beginning Friday, June 11

Location: Materials Unlimited, 2 W. Michigan Ave. in downtown Ypsilanti

Details: Spring maybe coming to an end, but Materials Unlimited has garden accessories for all seasons! With unique stone and antique garden accessories

available in all shapes and sizes, it's easy to keep your garden looking fabulous all summer long. Visit the store starting June 11 for the Summer Garden Sale and receive a 20 percent discount on items for your garden.

Contact: For more information please call (734) 483-6980 or visit www.materialsunlimited.com

PureSleep Expo

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 19

Location: Art Van PureSleep, 41913 Ford, Canton

Details: celebrate the Grand opening of the newest PureSleep by Art Van in Rochester Hills with an informative and fun expo close to home. Enjoy a complimentary chair massage, refreshments, and enter for your chance to win a spa experience. Learn how you can get a good night's sleep by taking an exclusive, free computerized Body Diagnostic test, which takes the guesswork out of selecting the proper sleep system. This quick and easy test takes your body type and pain criteria into account. And, you'll give you a free gift for just taking the test.

Contact: (734) 983-9100

Eat Your Way Thin

Time/Date: 6-7 p.m. Monday, June 14

Location: Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Do you want to lose weight, gain energy, and increase your life span? There is help with diet, nutrition and exercise. How to eat, what to eat and when to eat will be discussed. Seating is limited to the first 30 callers. The free workshop is presented by Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, holistic physician, clinical nutritionist, and the not-for-profit Foundation for Wellness Professionals. **Contact:** Call (734) 756-6904 or visit www.TLCHolisticWellness.com.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

New physicians

Garden City Hospital's medical staff is growing. Now with more than 360 physicians in 47 specialties able to serve the community, Garden City Hospital has become a leader in providing quality health care and service to patients, visitors and staff.

Garden City Hospital has welcomed the following new medical staff members, which have expanded and supplemented the realm of services available to the public:

- Dr. Mohammad Khalil and Dr. Nsima M. Usen, Podiatry, with offices at 23822 Ford, Dearborn Heights.

- Dr. Sayed Y. Zaidi, Pathology, and Dr. David M. Komarsara, Emergency Medicine, at Garden City Hospital 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City.

For more information or to make an appointment with one of Garden City Hospital's new or existing physicians, contact the Physician Referral service at (877) 717-WELL.

New position

Harvey Industries has announced that Mark B. Stevens has been named vice president of sales and business development. In this position, he will be responsible for enhancing and driving the performance of the sales team.

Stevens will report to Jerome Harvey, president. "We are pleased that Mark has joined the team. His experience and leadership skills make him a perfect fit for Harvey Industries.



Stevens

His hands-on approach will allow us to take our organization to a new, higher level to forge even stronger relationships with customers," said

Harvey.

Stevens brings 35 years of experience to Harvey Industries. He recently served as president of Stevens & Stevens Consulting, a practice focused on North American automotive suppliers. Stevens also has been vice president and director of sales and marketing with Karmann USA Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Wilhelm

Karmann, GmbH. Stevens also held roles of increasing responsibilities in sales, marketing, procurement, engineering and product design with Sun Plastic Coating, General Motors, Dura Convertible Systems, and Chemetco. Harvey Industries is a premier global components supplier specializing in aluminum sand castings, machining, assembly, and testing for the transportation and industrial markets. Harvey Industries is a minority-owned business enterprise supplier.

For more information about Harvey Industries, please visit www.harvey-industries.com.

Petitions delivered

Representatives from Speedway and SuperAmerica convenience stores have collected nearly 1.7 million customer

petitions asking Congress to enact swipe fee reform to benefit merchants and consumers.

The 1.68 million signatures collected by Speedway and SuperAmerica stores in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, South Dakota, West Virginia and Wisconsin bring the total number of swipe fee petition signatures gathered across the country to 5.5 million.

Speedway SuperAmerica LLC (SSA) conducted the petition drive for customers to urge Congress to take action and address the problem of excessive credit card swipe fees. The convenience store chain ran an in-store petition, and consumers also could make their voices heard through the website www.fightswipefees.com, developed by NACS, the Association for Convenience and Petroleum Retailing.

Credit card swipe fees are the second-highest business cost to convenience stores and are non-negotiable, inflating the prices consumers pay for everyday goods and services, according to NACS.

Now that financial reform legislation has cleared the Senate with a strong bipartisan provision to reform credit and debit card swipe fees, the merchant groups supporting the petition drive are turning their attention to the House and asking Members of Congress to finish the job for main street merchants and consumers by keeping the swipe fee amendment unchanged and intact.

run the meeting.

The meeting will be set up so members will each have two minutes for introductions. With a rotating list of presenters, each will have 7-10 minutes to speak about their business.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222.

Brookellen Swope
president and CEO

CHAMBER CHAT

Back by member request, the Chamber is reintroducing another morning networking opportunity. The goal of the Leads Club is to provide members with an opportunity to exchange business leads and serve as a forum for sharing successful marketing strategies.

The Leads Club will meet the second and fourth Wednesday

of every month. Meetings start promptly at 8:15 a.m. and will be held at Ashford Court, 37501 Joy, west of Newburgh, Westland, unless otherwise noted.

Meeting facilitators will rotate every two months, with an assistant facilitator filling in if facilitator is absent.

The facilitator's job will be to

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ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, June 10, 2010

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Summer sounds

Concert series offer jazz, rock, big band and everything in between

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Music lovers will find an outdoor concert every week in most local communities this summer.

But in Canton, the tunes play daily for at least a portion of the June-August concert schedule.

The Wednesday series has brought performers into Canton neighborhoods for the past six summers and the Friday night jazz series, sponsored by Canton's Downtown Development Authority in partnership with Canton Leisure Services and the Canton Chamber of Commerce, mixes culture and commerce in the business district along Ford Road.

The newest series, Groovin' Round the Globe, gives listeners a taste of world music, art and food on Mondays.

All of Canton's concerts, like those of other local communities, are free. Here's the schedule of upcoming performances:

Canton

Groovin' Round the Globe Cultural Arts Series runs every Monday in July at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill Road. Concerts start at 6:30 p.m. and include music, an arts and crafts activity for children and ethnic food for purchase. July 5 features Nite Flight with Caribbean, Reggae and Calypso sounds. Los Bandits de Michigán perform Tex-Mex and Tejano, along with the Fantasia Ballet Folklórico Dancers, July 12. Rare Combination Band



Rare Combination performs during Canton's new global music series on July 19.

and the Quinn Irish Dance Troupe take the stage on July 19. Get ready to polka the evening away July 26 with Big Daddy & the La De Das.

Tuesdays are Terrific is aimed at elementary and pre-school audiences from noon to 12:45 p.m. every other Tuesday, in the Heritage Park Amphitheater, on Heritage Park Drive, south of Cherry Hill and west of S. Canton Center. Free performances include Kelani's Interactive Polynesian Dance Party, June 29; The Amazing Clark's "Think Green" Show, July 13; Rosco The Clown, July 27; and Joe Chasney Magic & Juggling

Comedy Show, Aug. 10.

Backyard Beats Concerts brings local bands to green spaces and parks in neighborhoods throughout Canton. The free concerts run 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesdays beginning June 23 in Fellows Creek. Other neighborhood concerts are Cobblestone Ridge, June 30; Cherry Hill Village, July 14; Tottenham, July 21; Royal Pointe West, July 28; Cherry Hill Orchard, Aug. 4; and Windsor Park, Aug. 11.

An eclectic group of performers will play Thursday nights at the Heritage Park Amphitheater throughout the summer. The free concerts

run 7:30-9 p.m. and the concession area will be open for food and beverage sales. The Incredibles, a classic rock group, kicks off the series on June 17. Other performers are:

- The Randy Brock Group, blues/rock, June 24
 - Big Will and the 360 Degree Band, pop, R&B, funk, July 1
 - Stardusters, swing/jazz, July 8
 - Persuasion, the 2009 winners of the "Don't Change the Line-up" contest held during the summer concert series, July 15
 - Arizona Son & Devin Scillian, country, July 22
 - American Legend, a tribute band, July 29
 - Rick Lieder's Marley-Ritaville Band, Aug. 5
- The Downtown Development Authority sponsors the Canton

Color Tour live summer jazz series in partnership with the Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Leisure Services. The free concerts start at 7 p.m. Friday in parking lots at various businesses in the color blocks along Ford Road in Canton. July 9: Kimmie Horne Show kicks off the series July 9 at Centre Village in the yellow district. Don't forget to bring a lawn chair to these other performances:

- Terrance Palmer, New Towne Center (Kohls), purple district, July 16;
- John E. Lawrence, Lowe's, green district, July 23
- Kris Johnson, J.C. Penney, green district, July 30
- Gerard Gibbs, Willow Creek, blue district, Aug. 6
- Randy Scott, IKEA, blue district, Aug. 13
- Thornetta Davis, Sam's Club, orange district, Aug. 20
- Chris Codish, Home Depot, orange district, Aug. 27

Farmington/Farmington Hills

Take your pick of Friday night concerts in Riley Park, in Farmington or Thursday night concerts in Heritage Park, in Farmington Hills.

Rhythmz in Riley Park, presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield, runs 7-8:30 p.m. June 11-Aug. 27, in the Sundquist Pavilion in the park. The rain location is the First United Methodist Church, across Grand River Ave. Annabelle Road, a "must" for fans of Rascal Flatts, Carrie Underwood and Sugarland, kicks off the series on June 11. Other concerts are:

- The BackBeats, a Beatles-style show, June 18
- Billy Mack & the Duke Joint Johnnies, rockabilly classics and Americana, June 25
- Poor Boy Music, horn-

infused pop and rock, July 2

- Catfish Mafia, bluegrass with a blend of Motown, rock and country, July 9
- Caribbean Blue Band, island sounds of Jimmy Buffett, classic rock and originals, July 23
- Swing City Big Band, 18-piece big band sound, July 30
- The Luddites, 11-piece band with big bombastic sound, Aug. 6
- The Kreellers, Celtic rock, Aug. 13
- Bones Maki & The Treble-Aires, rockabilly, Americana, blues and swing, Aug. 20
- Hullabaloo, ska, funk and jazz, Aug. 27

For more information call the Downtown Farmington Development Authority at (248) 473-7276.

Parrots of the Caribbean, a Jimmy Buffet-style tribute band kicks off the Daimler Financial's Stars in the Park concert series on June 17 in Heritage Park, located at 24915 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. All concerts are free and start at 7 p.m. Thursdays. The concert rainout site is the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Other concerts in the series are:

- Farmington Community Band, June 24
 - Rock & Soul, with oldies and pop, July 8
 - Jeremy Kittel, Celtic, country, jazz violinist, July 22
 - Farmington Community Big Band with jazz standards and vocals, July 29
 - Austin Scott, with rock-influenced country, Aug. 5
 - Farmington Community Chorus, Aug. 12
 - Saline Fiddlers, Aug. 19
- For more information about the free summer concert series, call the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1857/1870

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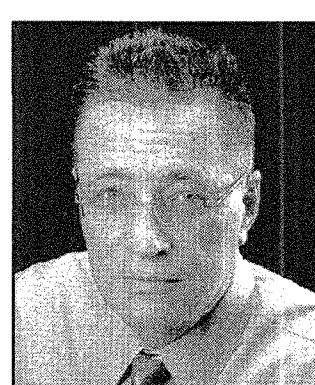
SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

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

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.



In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

www.ssdfighter.com

CE08065758

Barefoot Productions rolls out summer improv series

Barefoot Productions will debut a new summer improv series, Barefoot Laffs, at 8 p.m., June 19, in its performance space at the Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main, Plymouth.

Patterned after the television show, *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, Barefoot Laffs will feature a new improv group each month through August. Improv troupes will take spontaneous audience suggestions and pair them with quick wit, sharp humor and zaniness to keep patrons roaring.

"We're hot off our fourth and best season to-date," stated Craig A. Hane, Barefoot Productions' artistic director. "We recently hosted a variety show fund-raiser, featuring an array of musical acts, improv, skits and more. It was met with such enthusiasm and great reviews that we wanted it to continue. We realized an improv series was a novel idea for Plymouth — the first of its kind — and perfect for the summer months when we're readying the building for our new season."

The June 19 Barefoot Laffs, sponsored by Compari's On the

Park and Fiamma Grille, features "Strangers in the Alps," a four-man improv group that has performed in Royal Oak and Ferndale. Canton brothers Matt and Tim Majzlik are no strangers to the Barefoot stage, having acted in *The Good Doctor* and other shows. They are joined by fellow Canton residents Paul Schimmel and Brett Thurmond. Emceed by Hane, the improv nights require no advance reservations, but seats are limited. The \$10 ticket includes complimentary refreshments provided by Barefoot.

Future Barefoot Laffs dates are July 17 and August 21 with more headliner improv acts and sponsors.

Barefoot's formal fifth season opens in October. It will include the psychological thriller, *Mindgame*, a narrative reading of *A Christmas Carol*, the British farce *Black Comedy* and contemporary comedy/drama, *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*.

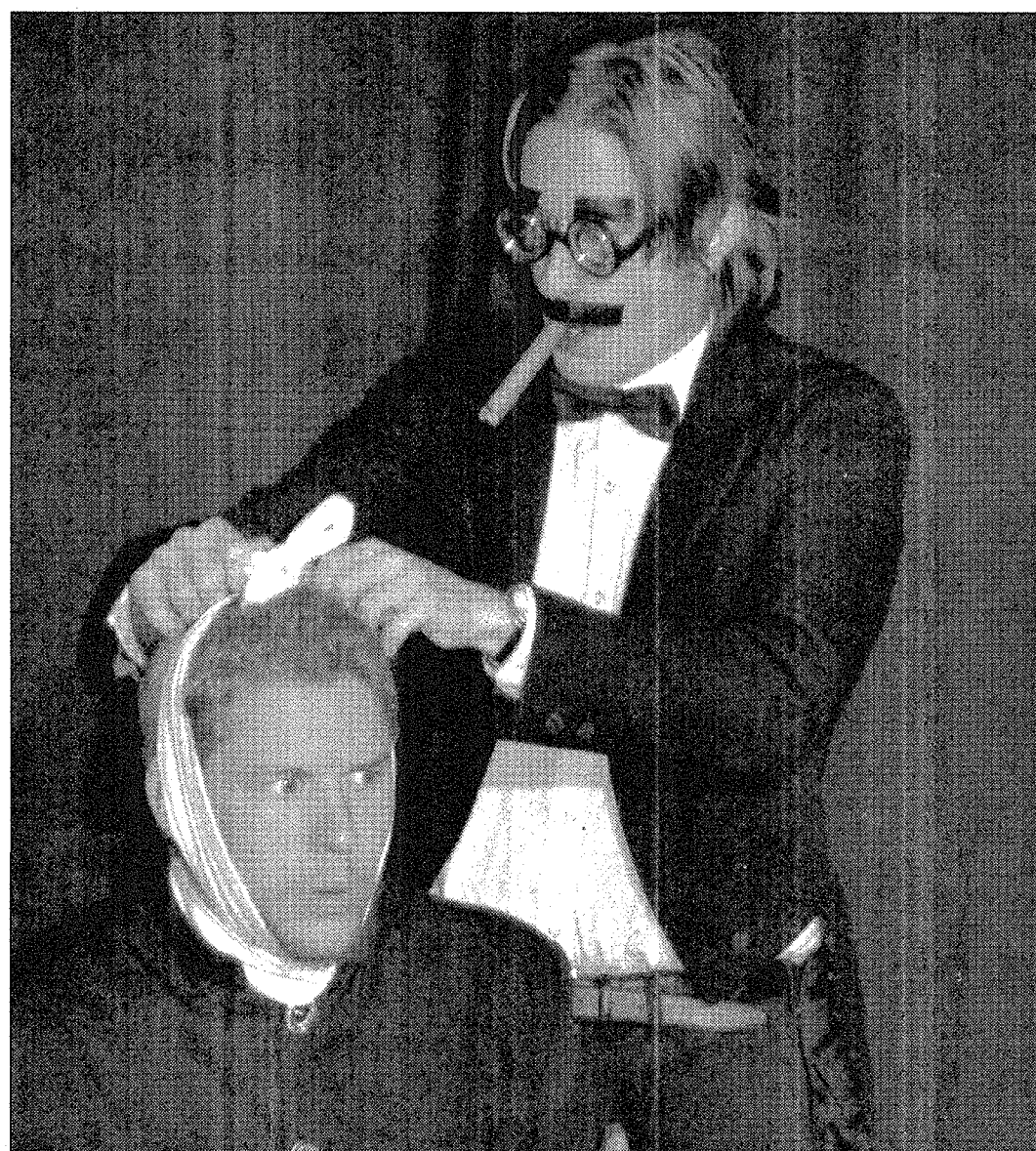
Barefoot also plans to launch its "After Hours" theatre this summer, showcasing more mature content theatre. During

the summer season, Barefoot Productions will also be busy renovating its theatre, having just signed a five-year lease for its performance space at the Walker-Buzenberg Building.

"We're thrilled to call the Walker-Buzenberg Building home for the next five years," Hane stated. "It's been our dream to be Plymouth's permanent resident theatre company and thanks to the generosity of the building's owner, Karen Knopper, and the continued patronage of our audiences, it's now a reality. We're committed to bringing Plymouth and its surrounding communities the best in theatrical and special performing arts events."

Among the improvements slated for this summer are new flooring, carpentry projects, painting and more. Barefoot asks anyone who has the time, energy and interest to consider lending hand to these special projects.

For more information about Barefoot Productions, its shows, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.justgobarefoot.com or call (734) 582-9688.



Canton brothers Matt (left) and Tim Majzlik of the improv troupe, 'Strangers in the Alps' headline the Barefoot Laffs show on June 19.

Irish music party June 19 by Gaelic League of Detroit benefits crime victim

The Gaelic League of Detroit will present a night of music and dance on June 19, to help Natasha McShane, an Irish exchange student living in Chicago, Ill., who was robbed and brutally beaten about the head with a baseball bat in April. McShane was left in a coma with severe head trauma, and has a long recovery ahead of her.

Entertainment will be provided by the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance, the O'Hare School of Irish Dance, and a host of local Irish fiddlers, pipers, harpists, songsters and bards. More fun will follow with Irish set dancing and Ceili dancing

lessons. Food and cash bar will be available all night. The party begins at 5 p.m., at the Gaelic League, 2068 Michigan Ave., Detroit.

Mick Gavin of Redford is among the local chairpersons of the event, which has been organized in association with the Natasha McShane Fund, chaired by Irish tenor Paddy Homan of Chicago.

Donations can be made in person, online at helpnatasha.net, or mailed to: The Gaelic League of Detroit, 2068 Michigan Ave., Detroit, MI 48216; Attn: Kathleen O'Neil. Make checks payable to The Natasha McShane Fund.

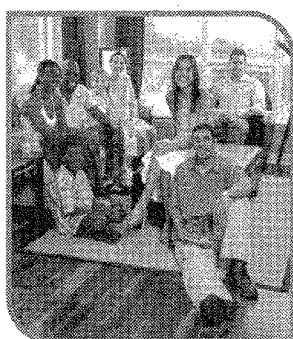


On display

'Still Life' by Michelle Strong is among the works on display this month at the Northville Art House, located at 215 W. Cady in Northville. The gallery is open 1-5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. The current exhibit runs through June 27.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form.

JUNE 10-16

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
Saturday, June 12
Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield,
Details: Rabbi Steven Rubenstein will lead Bet Midrash as a part of the Shabbat morning services that will begin at 9 a.m.
Contact: (248) 851-6880 or e-mail ravsteven@cbahm.org
Faith Community Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, June 12
Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: Outdoor sale; spots for rent. The church will supply the area and vendors supply "the stuff" to sell. Cost is \$10 for a 12-foot by 12-foot spot. All proceeds support the Vacation Bible School program at the church
Contact: (313) 541-0396 or (313) 255-9717

St. Anne Church
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, June 11, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 12
Location: 38100 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Rummage sale
Contact: (734) 462-3200
St. Dunstan
Time/Date: Doors open at 6 p.m., silent auction starts at 6:30 p.m., starts at 6 p.m., June 11
Location: 1526 Belton, Garden City
Details: "Slide into summer" silent auction with fellowship, food and fun; tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Ticket price includes buffet dinner
Contact: (734) 425-6720
Unity of Livonia
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday-Saturday, June 11-12
Location: 28660 5 Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: Rummage sale
Contact: (734) 421-1760

JUNE 17-23

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 21-25
Location: 34567 Seven Mile, in Livonia
Details: Children completing kindergarten through 6th grade may attend the Good News Day Camp. Games, music, skits, snacks, crafts, nature, Bible stories, water play, and more are planned. Registration fees are \$60 per child and includes a T-shirt. Registration deadline is Monday, June 14.
Contact: Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail judy@emmanuel-livonia.org
Garden City Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 5-9 p.m., Friday, June 18
Location: On Middlebelt one block south of Ford Road
Details: Strawberry Festival offers strawberries, ice cream, choice of cake and beverage (combo) for \$4 or order ala carte. Other activities include children's games, a bake sale, spring craft boutique featuring jewelry, garden ornaments, sun catchers, sun visors and many other unique and beautiful items. Proceeds help to fund the church's mission work.
Contact: (734) 421-7620
Leon's
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., June 19
Location: 30149 Ford Road, Garden City
Details: Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting
Contact: (734) 513-9479
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, June 21-25
Location: at 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills
Details: Fine Arts Camp for children entering 2nd grade-6th grade. Registration fee is \$35 per child and \$25 for each additional child in the family; includes a camp T-shirt and snack. Space is limited.
Contact: Register by calling (248) 553-3380

JUNE 24-30

Canton Christian Fellowship
Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m., June 26
Location: Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia
Details: Women in the Word ministry annual prayer breakfast with guest speaker Tara Jenkins; \$30 per person. Attire is dressy. The event colors are purple and white.
Contact: www.cantoncf.org

(734) 404-2480
Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian
Time/Date: 1-7 p.m., Monday, June 28
Location: 9601 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: The Southeastern Michigan Bloodmobile will be at the church in an effort to help meet the needs of hospital patients in the five-county area. If you are at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and are in general good health you are eligible to donate. Bring identification with you. All blood types are needed. Walk-ins are welcome make an appointment
Contact: Call (734) 513-5067 to make appointment
Timothy Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, June 25 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, June 26
Location: 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: Rummage sale with a bag sale on Saturday. Plastic bags \$1, paper bags \$2.
Contact: Jean Coleman at (734) 422-8855

JULY 1-7

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: 12:30-2 p.m. July 3, 10, 17 and 24
Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: "Back to the Sources," lunch and study series will explore the world of Rabbinic text, including Torah commentaries, Talmud, Midrash, and Aggadah. Each session will be self-contained and can be attended separately. To help plan for food and seating and ensure enough copies of study materials for Back to the Sources, advance registration is requested. However, walk-ins will be accommodated
Contact: (248) 851-6880 or e-mail director@cbahm.org

ONGOING

AWANA
Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays
Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills
Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade
Contact: (248) 426-0096
Breakfast
St. Michael the Archangel
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to noon, third Sunday each month, October

through May
Location: 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, in Livonia
Details: The Ushers' Club presents an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast served in the school cafeteria and featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, 4-11, free for children under 3, and \$15 for a family with two adults and children
Contact: (734) 261-1455
Career workshops
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Time/Date: First and third Mondays
Location: 30900 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Workshops are designed to help people in employment transition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone looking for work.
Contact: (734) 422-6038

Classes/study
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month
Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia
Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.
Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.
Livonia Unity
Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.
Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions
Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org
Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491
New Life Community Church
Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m.,

Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays
Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: (734) 846-4615
Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford
Details: Scripture study
Contact: (313) 534-9000
St. Andrew's Presbyterian
Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday
Location: 26701 Joy
Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey
Contact: (313) 274-3820
St. Michael the Archangel
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second and fourth Thursday of each month
Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia
Details: Led by Catholic author and apologist, Gary Michuta. The in-depth study of the Gospel of St. Matthew continues, using the Hahn-Mitch study guide. New students of any faith are welcome
Contact: (734) 261-1455
Seeds of Mercy Mission Home
Time/Date: 7 p.m., every Friday
Location: 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
Details: Bible study
Contact: Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234
Ward Presbyterian
Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays
Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville
Details: Learner's Bible study is held
Contact: (248) 374-5920
Clothing bank
Canton Christian Fellowship
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday
Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty
Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need
Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org
Fellowship dinner

St. James Presbyterian
Time/Date: 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month
Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Details: Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals
Contact: (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730
Food Bank
New Hope Church
Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only
Location: is 44815 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton
Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528
Moms
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Mothers of Preschoolers. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners
Contact: Angie at (248) 427-1020
Dunning Park Bible Chapel
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays
Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford
Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope
Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Prayer
Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesday
Location: 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: Prayer, spiritual healing
Contact: (734) 427-3660
Nardin Park United Methodist Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday
Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests
Contact: (248) 476-8860
St. Edith Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church

Please see **CALENDAR, B9**

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200
Mass Schedule:
Fri. 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a.
Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,
Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196

LUTHERAN-ELCA

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA
Farmington Hills 23225 Gall Rd. 248-474-0584

SAURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM
Sunday Worship & Sunday School
9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE
10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES
11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
NURSERY AVAILABLE
BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS

UNITED METHODIST

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills
www.orchardumc.org
248-626-3620
Worship:
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
Friends in Faith Service
9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am
Visit www.rosedalegardens.org
For information about our many programs

GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI
Sunday Services
Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Rev. Fr. George Vapouris
Parish Office 734-420-0131
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
www.nativitygochurch.org

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • **Worship:** 10:30 a.m.
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: **Saint Andrews Episcopal Church**
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830
Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413
Staffed Nursery Available
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martini, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 mile W. of Dodge)
(734) 453-5252
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30
Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.
www.risenchrist.info

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church
36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted)
(248) 848-1750
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School
Faith - Freedom-Fellowship
Ministers
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

Calling for scripts: See your play produced at one-act festival

TLC Productions is accepting scripts for consideration, postmarked by Aug. 24, for Canton's first One-Act Festival.

Comedies, dramas and musicals will be considered. Canton's 1st One-Act Festival will take place January 21-23, 2011 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

TLC is looking for original plays and musicals that will run 15-60 minutes. Preference will be given to 30-45 minutes shows. Multiple submissions from a playwright are welcomed, however, no children shows will be considered. For a list of guidelines and for information on the judging process go to www.TLCprod.wordpress.com.

In October, semi-finalists will be notified via telephone and e-mail. In October, TLC will present dramatic readings of the semi-finalists' scripts. Selected shows for the One-Act Festival will be announced online at www.tlcprod.wordpress.com by October 31. In November, there will be auditions for the selected plays.

Playwrights can request to direct their own show if show is selected or TLC Productions will appoint a director. Preference will be given to aspiring directors.

All rehearsal space is provided by The Village Theater at Cherry Hill at no charge. A production team from TLC Productions will provide support and supervision. Rehearsals at The Village Theater are required. A limited budget for each show to be provided, along with joint printed programs, technical support (lights/sound/stage management) and a pianist for musicals. No remuneration for actors or production team members available.

The One-Act Festival is organized by TLC Productions, sponsored by the Partnership for the Arts and the Humanities offered in partnership with The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

For more information, e-mail to tlcproductions@wowway.com or visit www.tlcprod.wordpress.com.

Local theater sets auditions for actors older than age 50

If you're older than 50 and love acting, head for auditions at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

The Spotlight still Got it Players is looking for cast members for its production of *Larceny and Old Lace* this summer.

Auditions will run from 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, at the theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton.

The troupe is looking for backstage crew such as sound, lights, props, and costumes, in addition to cast.

Debbie Lannen, director, says audiences of all ages will enjoy *Larceny and Old Lace*, which she describes as a "clever and well-crafted spoof."

The plot involves Harold

Peabody's sweet aunts, Millie and Gertie, who are away in Las Vegas, while Harold stays at their home to watch over his eccentric Uncle Charlie. Uncle Charlie thinks he is a pirate and is constantly "burying treasure" in the basement. When Harold hears the local bank has been robbed and then discovers a bag of money in the house, he figures that Charlie has buried his last treasure and decides he must go to a home for senior citizens. But Aunt Millie and Aunt Gertie can't imagine doing such a thing. Mix in Harold's jailbird cousin Mordred who shows up with his own bundle of money and the pandemonium multiplies.

"I especially like when

grandchildren come to see their grandparents perform. They are such an example for them as well as other seniors. It is as if they are telling the audience, 'never stop, you can continue to be vibrant as long as you keep active,'" Lannen said. "Seniors are a unique group to direct. They bring so much enthusiasm to every rehearsal. They bring their life experiences and help in developing well rounded characters."

Performances are set for Aug. 25-29.

For more information call Lannen at (248) 739-0987. Visit: www.spotlightplayersmi.org. Click on Still Got It Players.

Youth sought for television pilot

Suite 160 Digital Studios plans an open casting call for a 30-minute, children's television sitcom pilot and a series of safety videos.

The open casting call is for lead players, day players, and extras. Those attending the call will be asked to do some cold reading and must be able to dance and be athletic. Character age range is 14-18. Actors can be older if they have a look that represents that specific age group.

The casting call is being coordinated by Kathy McKee Casting and will be held 2-6 p.m., Saturday, June 12, at Casting Motor City Studio, 27310 Southfield Road in Lathrup Village. For more information on the casting call, visit www.kathymckee-casting.com or the Michigan

Film Office Web site at www.michiganfilloffice.org.

The studio's goal is for the children's TV series is to motivate, inspire, encourage and develop self-esteem, as well as character with today's youth through positive songs and situational skits. The live-action sitcom will feature a children's group called The Rap Katz, which was developed by Mitzi A. Davis, a teacher in Detroit's inner city.

Davis has worked with many children that often look for love and heroes in all the wrong places. Some of her students know rap song lyrics better than they are able to read.

"Because what they don't realize is that rap is a form of language arts, were we learn how to write poems, rhymes, and verses," Davis stated. "Use

the students' strengths and implement the teachers' content, and if the students need to rap to become better readers, then let's rap on!"

The Rap Katz featured characters are KC-Jaguar, AJ-Panther, Tasha-Cougar, and Zeke-Tiger. An interactive Web site is being developed in conjunction with the television series and will be launched this fall.

Suite 160 Digital Studios is a minority-owned, full-service production company and boutique post-production facility serving independent film producers in metro-Detroit.

For more information on Suite 160 Digital Studios, contact Derrick Davis at (248) 327-3012 or info@suite160digital.com or visit <http://suite160digital.com>.

GET OUT

ART

Art & Ideas

Time/Date: Through June 12

Location: 15095 Northville Road,

south of Five Mile, Plymouth
Details: "From Women to Little Girls" portrait exhibit

Coming up: "Inner Worlds & Animals" paintings by Charles Aimone and sculpture by Joan Painter Jones, June 18-July 31

Contact: (734) 420-0775

Downtown Northville

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Friday, June 25, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, June 26 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, June 27

Location: Streets of downtown Northville

Details: "Art in the Sun," with more than 75 artists selling their works.

Contact: (248) 344-0497

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through June 27; gallery hours 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: "West of Center," contemporary annual all media show features works by more than 60 artists

Also on display: Photos by Northville dentist William S. Demray, through June 24

Contact: (248) 344-0497

AUDITIONS

8th Wonder Theatre

Time/Date: Open call, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. June 14-15; 6-9 p.m., June 16, callbacks

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, at Ridge, in Canton.

Details: Auditions for "Blackwater Ballad" and "Phantom." Both are musicals. Actors auditioning may be asked to stay for a dance call the night they audition. Everyone should prepare two 16-bar selections that are contemporary - musical theatre or pop - and include a ballad and up-tempo piece. Participants may sing songs from the shows. Neither a Capella nor karaoke auditions are permitted. Everyone must have sheet music, and must sing with the accompanist at the piano. 8th Wonder is composed of theater professionals with extensive experience, including Broadway veterans, and faculty in the theater department of Eastern Michigan University

Contact: Ryan Lewis at (734) 945-5316 or e-mail him at ryan.lewis@8thwondertheatre.com

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times

Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times

Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside

Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays,

Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local

Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays,

Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Butch Bradley, through

June 12; Kevin Bozeman, June 16-19;

comedy festival June 23-26, June

30-July 1 and July 7-10; Bill Bushart,

July 14-17; Greg Lausch, July 21-24;

BT, July 28-31

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Karen Rontowski, June

10-12; The Showoff Show, June 17-

19; Dave Coulier, June 24-26; Lars

Callieou, July 1-3; Steve Bills, July

8-10; Heywood Banks, July 15-17;

Greechy Guy, July 22-24; L.A. Hardy,

July 29-31

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B8

Details: Music, singing, prayer
Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906

St. Michael's Church of Livonia

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday

Location: Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia

Details: Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction service follows. (734) 261-1455

Singles

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5

Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others who are ready to help cope or become involved in the other social activities offered by Widowed Friends.

Contact: (313) 534-0399

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Sunday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation

Contact: (248) 374-5920

Song Circle

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services.

Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: (248) 737-1931 or e-mail

nancyellen879@att.net.

Support

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

Contact: (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second

Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: (248) 433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibro-Myalgia support group meets; no dues, but donations are accepted

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768



PETER JOSEPH AHRENS

Died peacefully on June 4, 2010. He was born on March 10, 1928, in Germantown,

Pennsylvania to Don and Lucile Ahrens. He attended the

University of Detroit Jesuit High School, received his undergraduate

degree, with honors, in English Literature in 1949 from Notre Dame

University, South Bend, IN and an MBA from Harvard Business School

in Boston, MA. In 1951. He also served as a 1st Lieutenant in the

United States Air Force from 1952-1953. Peter married Margo Anderson

on June 21, 1952 while working for the General Motors Corporation, Motors

Holding Division, as a branch manager and lived in 12 locations across the

United States. From Dallas, Texas they moved to Madison, when, in 1962, he

established Ahrens Cadillac and Oldsmobile in the former Pyramid

Motors on Gilman Street. Shortly thereafter Peter built the first automobile

dealership on the West Beltline and led a successful business until his

retirement in 2002. His son D.J. continued the dealership until 2004. Peter

was also very involved with the Madison business community and

served on the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce, the Red

Cross, the YMCA, United Bank, Little Brothers Home for Troubled Youth,

Wm. F. Buckley's National Review, Madison Charity Horse Show, Non-

Profit Capital Campaign and Apostolate to the Handicapped. Peter

was greatly loved and admired by all who knew him. His hobbies were

many and included golf, WWII History and international travel. He

was preceded in death by his sister Gay Byrnes and is survived by his

beloved wife Margo Anderson Ahrens, brother John Jeffery, sisters Sara Jane

Ahrens and Sr. Louise Ahrens, M.M. He is further survived by his children,

Catherine (Gary) Edge, Peter Martin Ahrens, Amanda (Bruce) Meier,

Matthew (Deborah) Ahrens, D.J. Ahrens, Justin Ahrens, Adam Ahrens

and his grandchildren, Matthew Alexander Ahrens, Austin, Jordan and

Max Meier, Alexandria and Anna Ahrens, as well as 6 step grandchildren

and many nieces and nephews. Peter was active in his Catholic faith

and served as Eucharistic Minister and Commentator at St. James Church

for many years. His faith was ever present in his life. A visitation will be held on

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at the Joyce-Ryan Funeral Home, 5701 Odana

Road, Madison WI from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will

be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2010, at 10:30 AM at St. James Catholic

Church, 1128 St. James Court. Private burial services will be held at a later

date. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials to the following:

Apostolate to the Handicapped, PO Box 443, Monroe, WI, 53566 or St. Mary's Hospital Foundation, 700 S.

Park Street, Madison, WI 53715. Lastly, we would like to express deep

appreciation to Dr. Patrick McKenna, Michelle and Sr. Sandra Schmitz, O.P.

of the St. Mary's Hospital MICU for their compassionate care of Peter and the family, as well as to Shaina of Brightstar Caregivers.

HAZEL ASHWORTH

84 of Gaylord, died June 4, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Bob

Ashworth. Dear mother of Rob and Carole, Grandmother of Katie.

Memorials to Gaylord Kiwanis Club C/O Nelson Funeral Home,

PO Box 1548, Gaylord MI 49734.

www.nelsonsfuneralhome.com



LOUISE ANNA (SHOEMAKER) BAUR-HECK

Passed away on June 4, 2010, at Hospice House of Cheboygan. Louise

was born on August 27, 1920, in Boston Massachusetts to Andrew and

Mary (Silber) Shoemaker. On June 1, 1940, she married Andrew Baur, who

preceded her in death in January, 1989. On November 5, 1994, she married

Richard Heck, who passed away in June, 2009. Also preceding her in

death were her parents, her sister Alfreda and husband Charles George

and several sisters and brothers-in-law. She is survived by her children

Dianna Baur of Winter Park, FL, Marilee (Bernard) Lillie of Cheboygan, MI,

Karen (Roger) Richardson of Longwood, FL, Andrew (Marie) Baur

FOOD

Thursday, June 10, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Patrons eat and lend a helping hand at St. Anthony event

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

It was only natural that the Rugiero family began a fund-raising event at their restaurants 18 years ago in honor of St. Anthony.

Anthony and Rita grew up in Italy hearing about the saint as Catholics. They later passed their strong faith and beliefs to their children.

On June 14, the family will hold a day-long celebration in honor of the feast of St. Anthony (of Padua) at their Antonio's Cucina Italiana restaurants in Canton, Farmington Hills, and Dearborn Heights.

There is no charge for the special lunch buffet of pastas, pizza, and authentic Italian dishes, guests are asked to donate what they can. Proceeds from this annual event are distributed to charitable causes in the community.

Selected charities this year are the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Team in Training (Leukemia & Lymphoma Society) and Shades of Pink.

Supporters also can order off of the regular menu knowing a portion of the proceeds help feed the hungry, research blood cancers, and support breast cancer survivors too.

Anthony Rugiero, Jr., better known as Antonio to family and customers, is enthusiastic about keeping up the tradition of the feast day event started by his mother and late father. The family has a long history of giving back. Today Rita Rugiero and sons Anthony Jr., Patrick, Mark, and Robert not only continue to serve authentic Italian food, they also support the community.

VARIED CAUSES

Anthony Rugiero Jr. tells the



Rita Rugiero and son Anthony Rugiero hope to help out on the Feast of Saint Anthony.

story of opening their second restaurant 18 years ago. Since then they have donated money to PIME Missionaries (the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions), diabetes research at University of Michigan, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and the family of a young girl killed while riding her bike.

"In the Gubbio area St. Anthony is someone many families pray to, to watch over them or because they're in need of shelter or food," said Anthony Rugiero, Jr. "It's always been part of our lives. Mom and dad started with Roman Village on Dix in 1964. From there we had the opportunity to open in Dearborn Heights and called it Antonio's to give it more of an Italian feel."

Usually observed June 13, the date of the St. Anthony event changes so as not to fall on a weekend. That first year the decision was made to serve a buffet.

"We asked if customers had money to leave a donation," said Rugiero. "We had a statue of St. Anthony and a big glass bowl or if they didn't have the money, to eat and go. It was very nice. You sometimes do things and it comes back tenfold. It's a promise we made to God."

GENEROUS FAMILY

At Christmas, the Rugieros bring in Santa and live reindeer for Toys for Tots. On May 13, they held a fund-raiser for Michigan Opera Theatre where Rugiero serves on the

board. The list of charitable activities goes on.

In honor of Patrick their father, Anthony, Marco and Robert established the Antonio Rugiero Sr. Diabetes Research Fund at the University of Michigan and annually hold a benefit.

Brother Jerry Smith of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen appreciates the generosity of the family. On June 14, friars will be hand at all the restaurants to answer questions about the soup kitchen founded in 1929. The money raised on June 14 goes into a general fund to buy food for the two soup kitchens, food pantry, and programs that provide tutoring for children and fresh produce for families through the Earthworks Urban Farm.



Antonio's is a landmark restaurant in Canton.

"Earthworks ensures the availability of good fresh food in the community," said Smith, executive director of the soup kitchen. "Besides growing foods and advocating for better food availability, we teach them to grow their own food, composting, how to plant. The idea is to train people for jobs in the urban farming developing in Detroit. We're trying to teach them to feed themselves."

Smith feels a special bond with the event.

"St. Anthony is a Franciscan saint, keeping in line with our Franciscan tradition which has always been to work with poor people, hungry people," Smith said. "We have a history of walking with common ordinary people."

MARATHON FOR CHARITY

Gino Bitonti is grateful to the Rugieros as well. He's competing in a half-marathon in Traverse City and needs to raise \$1,600 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team

in Training program. TNT provides training for anyone who competes in endurance events and fund-raise for blood cancers. According to the society, leukemia is the number one disease killer of children under age 15 and lymphoma is the leading killer of men and women under 35. Bitonti has two children ages 5 years and 2 months.

Last year the Michigan chapter of the society spent \$1.6 million on research, \$911,000 to support patients.

"It's something every parent would fear and want to help out," said Bitonti. "I really wanted to run a race and to help people struggling with these diseases."

The St. Anthony's fund-raiser runs from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with the buffet from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Antonio's has three locations at 2220 N. Canton Center Road, (734) 981-9800; 37646 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills (248) 994-4000; and 26356 Ford, Dearborn Heights (313) 278-6000.

EVENTS

Outdoor Concert Under the Trees

June 9
The Schoolcraft College Wind Ensemble will perform an outdoor concert at 7:30 p.m. at the college's Radcliff Center in Garden City. The concert is free and open to the public. Lawn chairs and blankets for seating are suggested.
More information at 734-462-4403 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu

2nd Annual Electric Vehicle Rally & Show

June 12
Visitors will have the opportunity to see more than 50 Electric Vehicles of all shapes and sizes, talk to the EV owners, go for a short ride in an EV with the owner driving, and watch the EVs in a Rally-style competition. The event is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the college's North Parking Lot of the Livonia campus.
More information visit www.michiganeda.org or www.schoolcraft.edu.

American Harvest Friday Lunch Buffets

June 11, 18 and 25
On Fridays in June you can enjoy a delicious lunch buffet from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the college's American Harvest Restaurant for only \$10 per person. The theme for June 11 will be California Splendor; June 18 will feature Old Fashioned Midwestern; and on June 25 enjoy Fresh from the Garden.
Reservations can be made through www.OpenTable.com or call 734-462-4448

Father's Day Brunch to benefit Michigan Jazz Festival

June 20
Tickets are \$27.50. Proceeds benefit the annual Michigan Jazz Festival (July 18). Gourmet brunch will be served from noon-1 p.m. followed by entertainment by the Cliff Monear Trio with Kelly Broadway.
More information at 248-474-2720 or visit michiganjazzfestival.homestead.com

Register now for Kids on Campus summer camps in July

Sessions run July 12 - 30. Some of this year's Kids on Campus offerings include: robotics, aviation and aerospace, adventures in medicine, crime detection, gaming design, culinary boot camp, study skills, academic basics in writing, math, science and for those preparing for college, navigating the daunting process of college applications. Open to students in grades K-12.
More information at 734-462-4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/kec.

Explore your creative side this summer

Whether you are interested in the visual arts, the performing arts, or the culinary arts; or you want to develop your professional skills or improve your health, the resources of the college's Continuing Education and Professional Development are sure to have what you need. There are new classes starting all throughout the summer months.
More information at 734-462-4488 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd.

AT SCHOOLCRAFT

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18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI 48152
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For more information on these or any other events visit www.schoolcraft.edu/webcalendar

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