

## CEREMONY HONORS WORK OF FIRST RESPONDERS

SEE PAGE, A3

## ALL-AREA GIRLS TRACK TEAM

SPORTS, B2

## JOHN GLENN GRAD PHOTOS

SEE PAGE A6

**SUNDAY**

June 13, 2010

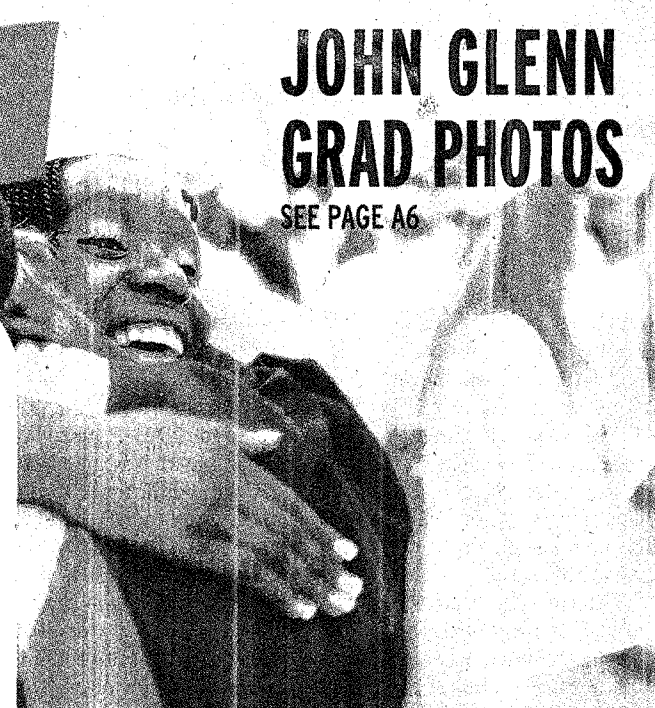
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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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## IN BRIEF

### Habitat holds meeting

Western Wayne County residents hoping to own a home can attend a Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, east of Venoy, Westland.

The 11/2-hour session will include a video presentation, overview of criteria to qualify, history of Habitat, question and answer segment and distribution of applications. Current homeowners will be on hand to talk about their experience.

The meeting is mandatory for those interested in participating in the Habitat for Humanity program. A family selection committee will consider three criteria to determine eligibility:

- Need - Eligibility is based on, but not limited to, if the current shelter has problems with heating system, water supply, electricity, structural damage, overcrowding, etc. The selection team will make a home visit to assess the situation.

- Ability to pay - Eligibility is based on, but not limited to, a family receiving sufficient income to pay a mortgage; a debt to income ratio that does not exceed 38 percent, and household income that is at least 25 percent and does not exceed 50 percent of the HUD Area Median Income.

- Willingness to partner. The applicant must complete application and submit by the deadline of June 30 with required documents and must readily engage in home visit. The family doesn't reserve the right to choose house location, elevation and model. Also, each adult over the age of 18 must earn a minimum of 250 sweat equity hours.

The applicant/co-applicant also must attend home buyer education and financial literacy courses and pay an earnest money deposit.

Applicants also must reside in the Habitat of Western Wayne County's geographical service area - Belleville, Canton, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Huron Township, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Romulus, Sumpter, Taylor, Van Buren, Wayne and Westland.

For more information, call Habitat of Western Wayne County at (734) 459-7744.

### Great guitar songs

Come learn two great songs and recommend and vote on a third during the next session of guitar lessons at the Bailey Recreation Center. First, learn one of the greatest songs and rock licks of all time, *Johnny B. Goode*, by Chuck Berry.

To balance out the rock, students will learn one of the great folk songs of the '60s and now a favorite campfire song, *Puff, the Magic Dragon*. Finally, recommend and vote on a third song which will be added at the last class. Bring a capo for *Puff, the Magic Dragon*.

The three-week class will be held 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 16, 23, and 25. The cost is \$45 for residents, \$50 for non-residents. To register, call (734) 722-7620 or stop by the Bailey Center 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

# A fact: Health care will cost more for W-W

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When the Wayne-Westland school board takes up the 2010-11 budget at its meeting Monday evening, there will be a certainty: Health care and retirement costs will be up substantially.

The district, which is in deficit spending, is hoping to cut at least \$12 million through school closings, employee con-

cessions and spending cuts. It is seeing the gains it has made dissipate with an almost 20 percent of payroll it must pay to the state retirement system and a 17.2 percent increase in the MESSA health insurance for its 800 teachers. The MESSA increase, which takes effect July 1, is 11 percent higher than the increase for SET-SAG insurance offered to other employees.

"A 17 percent increase is a

whopper this year," said Deputy Superintendent Gary Martin, who oversees the district's finances. "That's a \$1.7 million increase. We had planned on a 4 percent increase for all employee groups. I'm disappointed, it's another \$1.3 million we weren't planning on that we got to cover."

The district must have a balanced budget in place by July 1, and according to Martin, the

document the board receives tomorrow will include layoffs in all employee groups, however, as of Friday, the exact numbers were not known due to the recently adopted state early retirement plan.

According to Richard Ringstrom, director of MESSA Marketing and Rating, the increase is to Public Act 106 of 2007 which mandates that districts seek at least four competi-

tive bids when they negotiate a new insurance plan, has forced MESSA to move from a business model built on large area rating pools that spread the risk for accounts of all sizes.

That, coupled with the insurance provider "experiencing increased claims for spouses and dependents as a result of layoffs or spouses losing their

Please see **HEALTH CARE, A2**

## Saying goodbye

### Friends and colleagues, teachers closing the book on 40-year career

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

School won't be out for the summer, but Madison Elementary School teachers Rene Love and Madeline Sommerman already are thinking about the new school year.

"I think I'm going to take a short vacation, I don't want to be around when school starts," Love said.

"I've always wanted to walk the bridge, but never could, now I can," said Sommerman. "Labor Day wasn't a vacation, I used to stay at home and make name tags."

Love and Sommerman are among more than 50 teachers who are retiring this year from the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. They will say goodbye to their fellow staffers and students and walk out the door of a school that has been their home away from home for 40 years.

"We pulled into the parking lot together on the first day. We got out of the car and introduced ourselves and who would think that we'll walk out together," said Love. "We grew up here."

Madison Elementary is one of six Wayne-Westland schools that are closing, a fact that played into the two women's decision to retire. While change is good, starting over at a new school was something they didn't know if they could or wanted to do.

Love was 22 and Sommerman was 21 when they met. Love had done her student teaching at Monroe Elementary, making it easy to interview with Wayne-Westland. Sommerman was a senior when she interviewed, getting her degree that July.

The year was 1970 and Madison

Please see **TEACHERS, A4**



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rene Love (top) and Madeline Sommerman say they grew up together and became friends while teaching at Madison Elementary School for 40 years. The school is closing this year and the two fifth-grade teachers have decided to follow suit by retiring.

## City sends out claim forms after flooding

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland's flooding mobile command post was set to be moved Friday afternoon from Avondale to the Mike Modano Ice Arena as it appears most affected homes have been dried and sanitized.

Working with Belfor USA, the Department of Public Services crews have visited more than 500 homes to provide assistance to homeowners who had water in the basements following massive rains a week ago.

"We know of no homes that have water in them. I did get a call from a lady who is in Florida. Her mother was checking the house — the water is down, but the carpeting is squishy," DPS Director Kevin Buford said.

DPS was working with the city's Building Department in an effort to identify vacant homes and contact the owners about possible flooding.

Under state law, homeowners have 45 days to file claims for losses caused by the flooding. A letter and the forms were due to be mailed Friday to homeowners who provided their name and address to the city. The claim forms will be reviewed by the city's insurer.

The city would not be liable for damages, if there was no defect in the city sewer system. The excessive amount of rain that fell during the storm is being blamed for overwhelming the city's sewer system.

"We just got so much water, so fast. It was bigger than a 24-hour 100-year storm. No system is designed to handle that amount of

Please see **CLAIMS, A2**

## Police continue to investigate fatal accident

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Results of a blood test on a Westland man involved in a fatal accident Wednesday afternoon are being awaited by Westland police, who continue to investigate a fatal accident that claimed the life of a Waterford man.

He was fatally injured following a head-on collision on Cherry Hill near Wildwood.

Westland police haven't released the name of the 69-year-old man, who was driving eastbound on Cherry Hill in

a 2003 Chevrolet Metro Cab minivan when the collision happened at 2 p.m.

A Ford Explorer headed west on Cherry Hill rear-ended a vehicle which was stopped for a red light at Wildwood.

"The vehicle then careened off the stopped vehicle into the eastbound lanes and hit the oncoming vehicle head-on," Westland Deputy Police Chief Mark Engstrom said.

The Waterford man was pronounced dead on arrival at an area hospital, Engstrom said. The other driver, 55-year-old

Thomas Rada of Westland, was hospitalized Wednesday evening following the accident, but the extent of his injuries weren't known.

"Alcohol is believed to have been a factor in the accident," Engstrom said.

Police are continuing to investigate the accident, which closed Cherry Hill between Wildwood and Wayne Road for about three hours.

The occupants of the rear-ended vehicle weren't injured and the vehicle suffered minor damage, police said.

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## INDEX

APARTMENTS ... .. C3	COMMUNITY LIFE ... .. B5	HEALTH ... .. B10
AUTOMOTIVE ... .. C6	CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... .. C2	REAL ESTATE ... .. C2
CAREER BUILDER ... .. C1	OBITUARIES ... .. B9	SPORTS ... .. B1

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## HEALTH CARE

FROM PAGE A1

own health coverage has created a huge cost shift to those with medical insurance.

"As is the case with many Michigan medical plans, MESSA is experiencing increased claims from spouses and dependents as a result of layoffs or spouses losing their own health coverage," Ringstrom stated.

"With the other insurance we know of, this is an extraordinarily high increase," said Kelly Bohl, human resources executive director.

The increase erases some of the savings the district has already garnered through concessionary agreements with its administrators and several unions, including pay freezes and step freezes and increased health care co-pays. And it has "not made any real progress" with the Wayne-Westland Education Association, secretaries, or paraprofessionals, Martin said.

"We're going in in the middle

of contracts and asking for concessions," said Martin. "We're halfway with the groups, they're about 20 percent with the money, but the teachers are the biggest piece with the pay and step increase and increased premiums for their insurance."

School officials also would like to get class size reduction planned for 2010-11 halted. If that happened, it would save the district an additional \$1 million.

MESSA insurance was at the heart of a four-day strike in 2008 and reduced class sizes the rallying cry among parents during the work stoppage. And while the district offered comparable insurance plans, the union eventually succeeded in getting all of its members covered by MESSA.

"We could take this (health plan) out for a bid again and expect a 14 percent difference," said Bohl. "But we have a difficult time taking it out every year because the teachers don't want to change."

What the budget will reflect is the \$5 million it has saved by closing six elementary schools and reconfiguring its elementary program. There also will

be savings reflected through board-initiated cuts in staffing and spending.

The board has cut 25 positions in building and central office administration and building trades and there are another 60 positions — principals, custodians and teachers — related to the school closings. It's also ordered a cut in purchases of supplies, textbooks, library books, school buses and conferences that totals another \$5 million, Martin said.

"We're already working under a deficit reduction plan. If we do nothing, we would be in worse shape than Garden City," Martin said. "The board had the courage to address shortfall for the last seven-eight years, but we're still running a deficit."

"It is what is and per the contract we're on the hook for what it costs," he said. "We have to find another \$1.3 million in savings. If we get through negotiations and make through next year, our plan is making it two years. We'll be OK, if we don't get hit with another 17 percent increase."

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## 2 Westland officers earn POAM honor

Two Westland police officers have been named 2010 Police Officers of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

Officers Robert Wilkie and Jason Brassfield were honored at the recent POAM annual convention at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids.

Wilkie and Brassfield were recognized for their actions in the early morning hours of Jan. 10, 2010.

Driving in their patrol car near Merriman and Michigan Avenue, the officers noticed smoke billowing into the air

from the west. Driving into the city of Wayne about half a mile, the officers discovered the Park Lane Motel was on fire.

Hearing screams coming from one of the exterior facing rooms, the officers discovered a woman trapped by flames. Wilkie was able to push back overhanging wires from in front of the door as Brassfield used a fire extinguisher to put out the flames, allowing the woman to escape unharmed. The officers alerted other sleeping guests to the fire and assisted Wayne police in safely evacuating all occupants.

"Without any regard for their

own safety, Officers Wilkie and Brassfield personified heroism and selfless sacrifice," said Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden. "I couldn't be prouder of them. This is the latest example of what the men and women of the Westland Police Department do in serving the citizens of our communities on a daily basis."

Wilkie has served as a Westland police officer since 2002, while Brassfield joined the department in 2005. The officers also were honored during a departmental awards program.

## CLAIMS

FROM PAGE A1

water," Buford said.

City engineers OHM have prepared a model showing nearly five inches of rain fell in

Westland, Buford said, compared to 1.7 inches of rain that fell in Livonia during the same time period.

Flooded homes were reported scattered around the city, but the biggest concentration — about half of the 600 total flooded homes — were near Avondale and Easley. The mobile command post was located in that area, which city officials termed the epicenter of the flooding.

Flooding was also reported in Garden City, Dearborn Heights, Inkster and Dearborn. Like those commu-

nities, Westland's storm water and sanitary sewage flows into the Wayne County interceptor.

"When Wayne County came out, they told us they opened the drains, but they won't tell us when," Buford said.

Wayne County Department of Public Services Deputy Director Butler Benton, who is also the county drain commissioner, has been on site and available throughout the past week, Buford said.

"The county has been very responsive," he said.

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# Ceremony honors work of first responders

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As a teenager, Leroy Mattic probably wouldn't have envisioned himself as an adult speaking at First Responders Appreciation Program.

But sometimes what seems like a small thing can have a big impact and there he was Wednesday at a program honoring police and firefighters. A member of Annapolis Park Church of Christ, which hosted the program Wednesday, Mattic recalled small incidents involving police officers that affected his life.

"When I was a teenager, I was young and dumb like most teenagers. My parents divorced and my dad was off somewhere," Mattic said. "I fell in with a really bad group of kids. I thought they were cool. We'd hang on the corner and a couple of times we had run-ins with

the police. I didn't appreciate them."

Then one night the police were dispersing the group when an officer looked at Mattic and told him to go home.

"He looked specifically at me. I don't know if he knew me from somewhere or knew my mother. He didn't say that to anyone else," Mattic said. "I didn't appreciate it, but it planted a seed."

The second incident happened on a cold Christmas Day, as a young Mattic was trying to drive to his sister's home when his car broke down. Being a teenager, he said the gifts were in a trash bag, which he carried as he began walking to his sister's home.

"There weren't cell phones and I didn't have the money for a cab. I made it (from I-275) to the sheriff's department on Middlebelt near the



Holding cards made by students in the Annapolis Park Development Center are Westland Fire Capt. David Sukel (left), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Special Agent in Charge Roland Herndon, Michigan State Police Trooper Brad Cox, Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden and Wayne County Undersheriff Daniel Pfannes.

airport," Mattic said.

When a police officer stopped him, Mattic said he feared he was going to be accused of stealing the items he was hauling in a trash bag.

"The officer asked me where I was going and gave me a ride. I started thinking about things. Those instances stuck with me," Mattic said. "Those were not the only

influences, but if I hadn't had those, I could easily been somewhere else. Most of those friends are dead or have spent a long time in prison."

On a much larger scale, Mattic recalled Sept. 11, 2001, seeing planes fly into the twin towers of the World Trade Center on television. His cousin Margaret Mattic was inside the North Tower

and didn't survive the terrorist attack.

"I remember seeing a fireman helping someone out the building. His face was black with soot. Other police and firefighters were going into the building," Mattic said. "If there is any comfort or consolation in knowing people can create devastation, it is that other people rush to help, putting their lives on the line to go assist others. Serve and protect isn't just a motto."

Along with Westland police and firefighters, other agencies represented at the program included the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, Michigan State Police and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The Annapolis Park Church of Christ choir sang, as did youngsters from the Annapolis Park Child

Development Center. The children also had made large cards which were presented to representatives of each agency present.

Westland Mayor William Wild, church elder Leonard Mungo and congregation member Cornelius James, who served as master of ceremony, also made comments in appreciation of the service by police and firefighters.

"If you ask a first responder why they do what they do, it's those children," Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden said. "I'm proud to be a policeman and this makes me feel prouder."

Following the program inside the church, each of the agencies had equipment on display along with Westland's two police dogs and two deputies from the mounted division.

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# EDUCATION

Sunday, June 13, 2010

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# W-W program gives at-risk students extra assistance

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When it comes to helping struggling students, it's all hands on deck for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

That's the idea behind a Response to Intervention program that will be rolled out in the district's elementary schools this fall.

RTI is a general education intervention model for students with special needs. Its goal is to provide services to struggling students before they end up in special education.

"I'm extremely excited with

this program," said Jennifer Munson, elementary special education director. "This makes us proactive rather than doing a waiting game. It is general education and special education working together. We do it before something before it becomes a problem."

The program focuses on students who have deficiencies in mathematics and reading with a goal of making them established in the subjects.

"The idea is to keep them moving as much as we can," said Munson. "We see what they need and target it quickly."

RTI has a four-tiered

approach that looks at the student and what needs to be done and providing intervention in small groups of four-five students or one-two students who those need more intensive intervention.

The building principal, grade level staff, counselors and trained interventionists are part of RTI which was piloted this year in five elementaries — Hoover, Lincoln, Patchin, Taft-Galloway and Wildwood — this year. It will be expanded to the district's 11 K-4 buildings next year.

"The trained interventionists were the key to what worked

for me in the classroom," said Audrey Bennett, a first-grade teacher at Taft-Galloway. "Because of its newness I didn't expect to see a first-year improvement, but it helped struggling students achieve grade level content. Fifteen minutes a day offering one-on-one ... it works."

District data for the current school year has shown an improvement due to RTI. There was a more than 10 percent decline in deficiency from the fall to the winter for initial sound fluency among kindergartners and a more modest decline of 3 percent in math-

ematics among fourth-graders.

"We work with all students using best practices in English language arts and math," said Munson. "We have a cohesive plan to use across the district so we're all following the same path."

According to Munson, parent participation is an important part of RTI. Parents are informed about the program and what they can do to further it.

Taft-Galloway parent Shawnn Maxwell said RTI has been a "tremendous help" for her child, a first-grader who didn't know the alphabet or sounds.

"They met with us and gave us a program to repeat the skills at home and build self-confidence," she said.

"What I like is we are working with a lot of staff in a lot of schools," said Munson. "With RTI, we get strategies that work with special education, we have classroom modeling and constantly try to survey the crowd. We ask the parents if it's working, we ask the teachers what they need."

"RTI is all about the things we do and know, we all speak the same language," she added.

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## TEACHERS

FROM PAGE A1

had an enrollment of more than 800 students. It had portable classrooms behind the building and a principal and assistant principal.

"We were bursting at the seams and now we're closing because we don't have enough students," said Love.

The school was "innovative" and offered individually guided education, according to Sommerman. There were learning centers, multi-aged classrooms and a mix of more than two grade levels.

"When people met us, they'd say, 'Wow, Wayne-Westland, what a great district to work in, you're on top of it,'" she said.

Love started as a fourth-

grade teacher, Sommerman taught the third grade.

Eventually, they ended up in side-by-side classrooms teaching fifth-graders. They went from being colleagues to friends and raised their families together along the way. Love recalls buying a dress for her daughter only to find out Sommerman had bought the exact same dress for her daughter.

"When we started, the kids had an hour for lunch and all the kids went home to eat," said Sommerman. "Now they have a half hour. I always thought it was something they did away with that they shouldn't have."

A lot has changed since then. The biggest thing is the curriculum. Both admit that just when they think they have it under their belts and all figured out, it changes. Grade level expectations are forever

evolving and teachers have to stay on top of it.

"It used to be state standards, now we do national standards and benchmarks," said Love.

"The curriculum has to change, you have to meet what's happening today," added Sommerman.

They remember the "cute little things" that students said, those who have come back to say hello or show them their report cards or an e-mail from a student they had in the 1970s.

"They want us to be proud of them, that makes me feel good," said Love. "Some of them come back for advice."

"I had one come back with a report card and I got a hug," added Sommerman.

But it's the sad times they will remember most — the little girl who wasn't adopted,

the little boy whose mother had AIDS and had died.

"He had AIDS, too, and one day he stopped coming to school, we never found out what happened," Love said.

Both hope the economic climate in Michigan improves so that other people can go into education like they did. They never went into it for the money — their starting wage in 1970 was \$8,050 which they thought was a "big deal" — it was the little perks provided by the students.

"We had a lot of fun teaching — going to Greenfield Village, staying overnight," said Love. "We used to go to camp with the students until other people's snoring started bothering us."

The two teachers have been slowly packing up their rooms, sharing some of their treasures with teachers who will be reassigned to other schools. As for the other stuff ...

"They are treasures to us, but they're things we worked long and hard on that may not fit in today's curriculum," said Love.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Madeline Sommerman was still a senior in college when she interviewed for a teaching job with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

When Rene Love started teaching at Madison in 1970, it had more than 800 students, portable classrooms and a principal and assistant principal.

"Rene will say remember when we did this, and I'll say, 'Yeah, pitch it,'" added Sommerman.

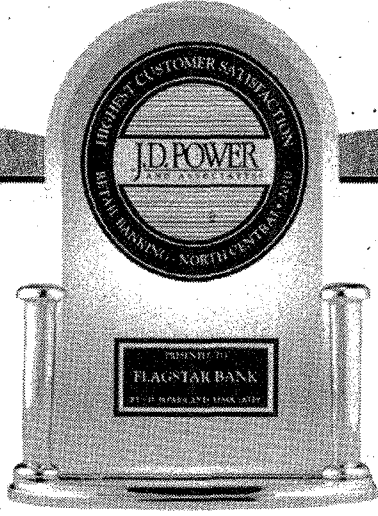
Principal Sandy Kingston who is scheduled to move to Edison Elementary, laments

that the saddest part of Madison closing is the loss of Sommerman and Love. "They're exceptional," she said.

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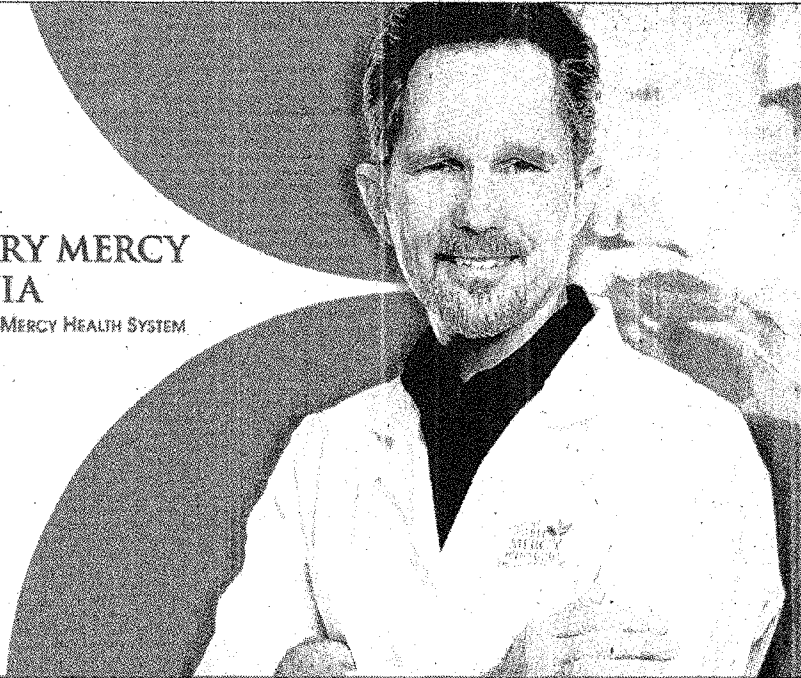
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## W-W signs on for Race to Top

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has joined districts around the state in showing support for the Michigan's latest application for the federal government's Race to the Top program.

The board approved a resolution ratifying a memorandum of understanding, signed by Supt. Greg Baracy and school board President Skip Monit, which agrees to support and collaborate with the state's efforts to implement educational reforms under its grant application.

"Michigan didn't receive funding in the first round and has rewritten and resubmitted its application," Baracy told the school board. "Our hope is, subject to federal approval, that these collaborations will provide funding for our schools."

The district is required to submit the memorandum, if it wants to receive any of the additional American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant money that the state could receive, if its application is approved.

The state is vying for a

\$400 million grant which would help districts like Wayne-Westland implement the reforms, including staff development, student assessments and evaluation plans.

Michigan was shut out of the first round, mostly because of the lack of support from teachers unions. The Michigan Education Association recommended its members approve it this time, and Wayne-Westland Education Association President Nancy Strachan has joined Baracy and Monit in signing the memorandum.

The Race to the Top program makes \$4.35 billion in federal education funding available to states that have raised student performance and show a commitment to making continued improvements by establishing innovative reforms.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed into law in December several bills for educational reform that include annual teacher/administrator evaluations based in part on student growth, merit pay, alternative teacher certification and raising the age of compulsory education from 16 to 18.

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## POAM honors Anderson as Legislator of the Year

The state's largest police organization, the Police Officers Association of Michigan has named Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, as their Legislator of the Year.

The award was presented to Anderson by POAM Legislative Director Kenneth E. Grabowski at the organization's annual convention in Grand Rapids.

According to the organization's director of member services, Ed Jacques, the distinction is given to a legislator who has a proven track record of supporting legitimate legislation that enhances the law enforcement profession.

"Senator Anderson's introduction of Senate Bill 741 would stop the practice of a ticket quota system and allow police officers to use their training and experience when determining whether a warning may be more appropriate than writing a ticket," said Jacques. "Senator Anderson



Westland Sen. Glenn Anderson accepts the Legislator of the Year Award from POAM Legislative Director Ken Grabowski.

understands that law enforcement is about fairness, not just numbers."

Anderson was resolved to continue his work supporting law enforcement in Michigan, when commenting on having received the award.

"I am honored to receive recognition for my efforts to strengthen Michigan's law enforcement, but helping to make sure that our police officers have what they need to keep Michigan safe is a no-brainer to me," Anderson

said. "These guys are on the front line, making Michigan a better place to call home, and it is incumbent upon us to make sure they have the tools that they need."

Anderson has also demonstrated a commitment to protecting state revenue sharing that goes directly to local communities for public safety and police.

POAM Legislative Director Kenneth E. Grabowski said he appreciates Anderson's integrity and work ethic, and can always expect a call from Anderson's office, if they need input on law enforcement issues.

"I respect Glenn's practice of working closely with POAM on any kind of major police legislation," said Grabowski. "Senator Anderson and his staff have always been available and responsive to POAM and our members. It was my privilege to present Senator Glenn Anderson with POAM's Legislator of the Year award."

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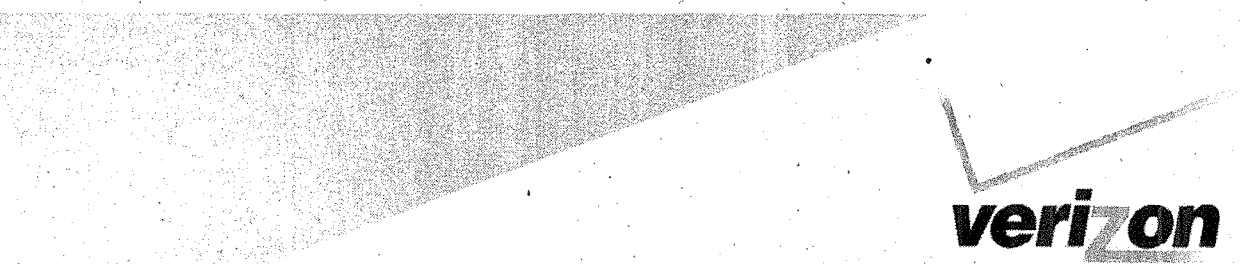
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# 424 John Glenn seniors receive diplomas

Family members shared cheers and tears as 424 John Glenn High School seniors received their diplomas during commencement ceremonies June 5 at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center in Ypsilanti.

John Glenn's 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Marine M. Sgt. Jason E. Cooper. A 1990 John Glenn graduate, Cooper has served in the U.S. Marine Corps since 1994. He has served in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, in Okinawa, Japan, assisted in tsunami relief efforts in Sri Lanka in 2004, and served in Baghdad, Iraq, in 2006 as part of the Multi-National Security Transition Command. He currently assigned to 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

During his time in the military, he has received numerous awards, including the Navy Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal.

Receiving their diplomas at the ceremony were:

Ahmed Nidal Abuzoor, Harriet Ariel Afutiti, Najib Saeed Aljumail, Alexander Rose Allen, Stephen Antoine Allen, Derrick DeMario Ammons, Shayna Marie Anderson, Shantel Tamika Anderson, Dennis Denzel Anderson, Amber Ruth Anthony, Niesha Elizabeth Arnold, Joshua James Austin, William Kamal Ayler, Demetri Abdallah Azzam, Ashley N. Bailey, Samantha J. Baker, Lauren Paige Baker, Austin C. Baker, Taylor Damini Barnes, Zariq Tyrell Barnes, Shenieka Nicole Beattie, Reginald M. Bebbi, Chelsea Anne Bechtel, Katelyn Renee Beebe, Andrea M. Bessinger.

Anthony Deon Blair, Alyssa Susan Bodin, Daniel Victor Bombach, Cherelle Marie Booker, Anndrea Marie Boris, Brianna Chiquay Bowen, Christina Lynn Bowman, Kyle Joseph Bowman, Christopher Michael Boyce, Alyssa Marie Bradke, Cha'relle Janiece Brewer, Eric James Briggs, Natalie Eva Brown, Jessica Joyce Brown, Ciarra M. Brown, William Arthur Brown, Roderick Monkeithe Brown, Andrew William Brozek, Kevin L. Budnick, Allison Marie Bulson, Chenise Mary Burchart, Brandi Briana Burns, Brittany F. Burrell, Derrica Shaneseema Bush, Jennika Yvonne Jean Butler.

Norman Adrian Butler, Christopher A. Button, Leandra Kaula Calfee, Nathan Charles Camilleri, Demario Roeshawn Campbell, Aaron Bradley Candela, TyJia DeShay Carson-Callaway, Amanda A. Caudill, Ian Michael Cavaletto, Levi James Cavender, Evi F. Cenolli, Anthony Damon Chenevert, Ashley Blake Cimino, Bennie Cosimo Clemente, Stanley Stephen Coatney, Shelbi Lynn Coniam, Malcolm Warren Connally, Ashley Sue Ellen Cooper, Samantha Berneice Cote, Sarah Jane Cox, Melody Marie Crooms, Kayley Alyssa Curry, Anthony John Czarniowski.

Genevieve Ariel Dapremont, Beth Ann Darnell, Samantha Elizabeth Davey, Vincent Carl Davidson, Jeffrey Scott Dean, Marlen Dede, Cha'e L. Dennis, Natalie Ruth Deyo, Melissa Lynn Deyo, Mario Joseph Diaz, Nathaniel K. Dickson, Shelby Lynn Dill, Courtney Lyn Dobos, Alexis D. Doe, Briana Lee-Ann Domen, Spencer James Dowd, Kathryn Renee Down, Lindsey Marie Draham, Thomas Anthony Drake, Chelsey Nicole Draper, Amber Chene' Dunson, Yasmen Monique Edwards, Jason Bradley Eiben, Imani Charmagne Elie, Ariel Christine Ellis, Zachary Paul Ernat.

Michael Alan Erwin, Shelby MarieEschker, Rhonda Joseph Farah, Travis Scott Farrar, Joshua Alan Ferguson, Marius G. Ficut, Dane Alexander Fishaw, Shayne Michael Fitzgerald, Stoney Brent Flowers, Michael M. Frank, Melissa Sue Marie Fullerton, Jessica Ann Gabbard, Dustin John Gajowiak, Genevieve Marie Galindo, Tyler Gage Garrett, Felicia Lynn Garza, Gregory Ray Gaskin, Christopher Lee Gawne, DeVonta Ronald-Shupavu Germany, Stephanie Marie Gertsen, Jennifer Diane Gibbs, Magen Elizabeth Glass, Chase Alexander Glover, Richard Jerome Gonzalez.

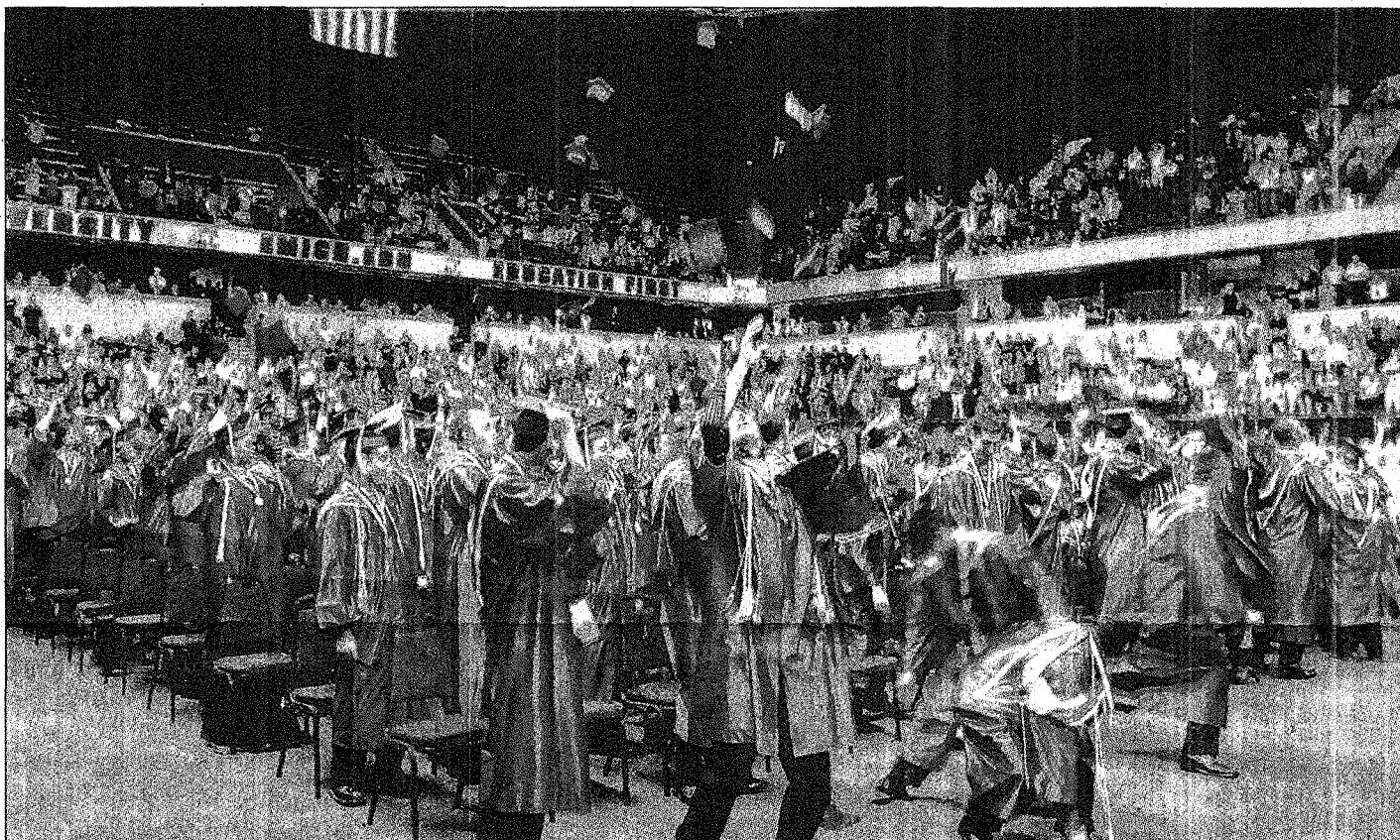
Zachary Reian Goodgall, Ishmael Lexia Govantes, Paige Marie Grant, Carleton DeVonta Green, Chase R. Griffin, Daniel Adam Griggers, Jenna Mairé Guarascio, Jeffery E. Guziak, Andrew William Gwizdala, Stephanie Marie Gysel, Kyndra Lynn Hackett, DeAndre Renard Hadden, Kyle Robert Hamlin, Brittany R. Harden, Christopher Gene Harper, Victoria Michelle Harris, Shalonta Patricia Harris, Joseph Scott Harrison, Kathleen Hegenauer, Trevor S. Hemeren, Richard Albert Henry, Tracy Denise Herriott, Alex Drake Hester,



John Glenn graduate Keenan Johnson is excited to receive his diploma.



Glenn secretary Cindy Beyer helps senior Shelby Dill with her graduation medal.



Members of the class of 2010 throw their caps in celebration at the end of the graduation ceremony.



One of 15 valedictorians, Verica Temelkova is all smiles as she receives her diploma.

Teara Gabrielle Hicks, David Michael Hochstein, William Edward Hoffman Jr., Leya Marie Holloway, Joshua David Lavelle Hooper, Ailing Huang, Bobby Lain Hubbard, Bryan Markham Hubbs, Kelly Jane Hudson, David Bruce Hunter, Justin A. Hurst, Shabnum Taj Hussain, Aamer Shahzad Hussain, Phuong Thi Huynh, SeQuoya Joyce Ingram, Heidi Victoria Irvine, Nicolas Tymarlsby, Jacquelyn Nicole Isenhardt, Nicole Marielives, Natasha Bionca Jackson, Davarius Jenkins, Gerald Jason Jennfeldt, Amanda Nicole Johnson, Breeyana Zahquamarah Johnson, Keenan Khalid Johnson, Reginald Paris Johnson.

Skylar Alexis Jones, Destiny De'Monica Jones, Steven Joseph Jones, Kaivon Jamal Jordan, Brandon Darnell Jordan, Chelsea Taylor Kangas, Alysson Elizabeth Kassab, Jessica Bachar Kassis, Amanpreet Kaur, Trisha Nicole Kelly, Megan Christine Kelly, Umberto Luciano Kenle, Nelson Kenne, Corissa Danielle Kijek, Aubrey Ellen King, Gabrielle Amanda Kirchner, Bethany Marie Kieffman, Nicole F. Konwinski, Nicholas Aaron Koveleski, Jonathon Lloyd Kreger, Adam Joseph Kuk, Melissa Renee Kukulka, Stephen Richard Kulikowski, Nathaniel Douglas Kunze.

Bryan A. Kurlovich, Jeremy Patrick Langford, Jonathan Michael Lara, Katelyn Marie Laskowski, Theresa

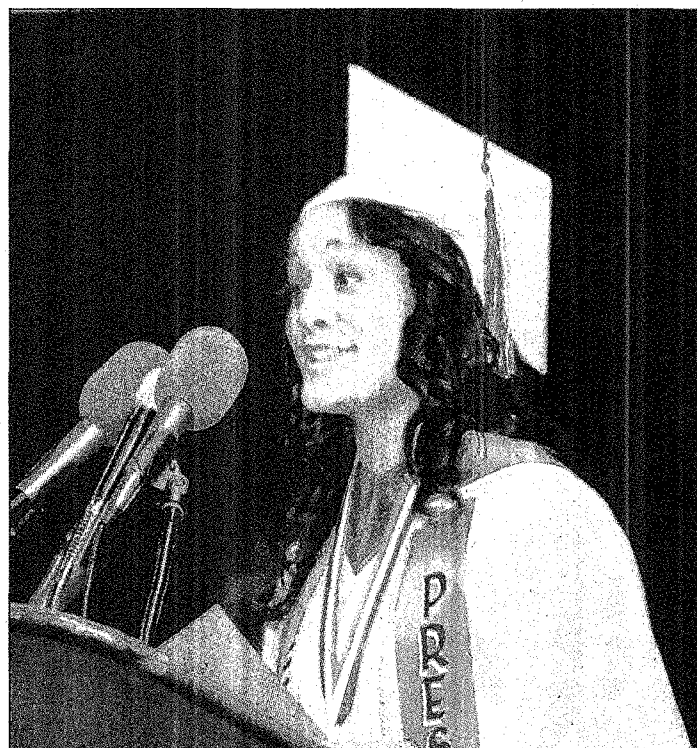
Erin Lawfield, Shelby Lynn Lawson, Tara Lynn Leleniewski, Jacob Shaun LeMond, Ashley Lee-Ann Leschinski, Marissa Loraine Letellier, Michelle Sandra Levy, Talia Breanna Lewis, Julian Cannell Lewis, Garland Edward Lloyd, Spencer Adam Lockhart, Alyssa Danielle Long, Kurt Jeffrey Long Jr., Karen Estefan Lopez, Robert William Lopez, Charlena Marie Mabry, Joel Allen MacFadyen, Bronte Y. Manier, Keena Louise Marable, Nicole Lynn Mari.

Jeffrey Paul Maxwell, Deanna Crystal May, Joseph Thomas May, Michael Joseph Mayes, Adam Keith McCann, Lavarro LaSoto McClendon, Shakia Taneisha McCoy, Molly Jean McFalls, Sinead Corine McGiffert, Kevin Terry McGinness, Andrew Stephen McGrath, Megan Danielle McGrew, Sarah Ann McKinzie, Devon Tyrees McMillian, Alex Morgan McNellis, Kody Alexander Merritt, Walter Semen Milewski, Karl Alisa Miller, Leslie Lee Mills, Megan Lindsey Mizzi, Kelly Lynn Money, Jennifer F. Moody, Heidi Marie Moore, Dominique William Moore, Caitlin Rose Moreno.

Sara Jean Marie Morgan, Robin Helena Mulka, Steven John Murphy, Kristopher Murray, Jayna Denise Myers, Matthew Alan Mytych, Sidra Najam, Braden Delon Nathan, Michael Logan Neal, Aquia Chenay Nelson, Christian Lee Newsome, Ashley Marie Noeyack, Stephen Charles Novak, Stephanie Jade



Glenn teacher Pam Parys congratulates graduate Teara Hicks at the ceremony.



Louissa Ann Mamenta Villaroman, senior class president, speaks to her fellow graduates.

O'Beirne, Christopher Michael O'Donnell, Shaynell Ashantie Oldham, Shavar Curtis Oliver, Venecia Ledesma Onadia, Sean Patrick O'Rourke, Caitlin Mary O'Sullivan, Chelsa Renee Ouellette, Timothy Burdette Ouellette Jr., Delwayne Owens Jr., Fatimah Omoyeni Oyedele, Erin Terese Palazzolo, Stevie Danielle Palmer, Abbey Eileen Pankoff, Chelsi Clare Paradowski,

Justin Scott, Matthew Dean Parker, JoAnna Marie Parmenter, MaLeigha Sharee Patton, Anthony Alexander Pavlich, Rachel Michelle Peel, Erin Elizabeth Perry, Casey Renee Peterson, Thomas Dylan Peterson, Brandon James Phillippi, Brittany Rose Pingle, Emily Anne Porter, Gerald R. Powell, Jerry LaShand Powell, Justin Michael Price, Nicole Elias Qassis, Garrett Todd

Quattlander, Megan Taylor Quinn, Petra Radman, William F. Rafferty, Danielle Marie Redden.

Zachary Myles Erington Redden, Illissa Lauren Reddy, Joseph George Rembert, Diamond Learice Revel, Arabela Rexhepi, Mikala Marisa Rickman, Brianne Noel Riffle, Joseph Lawrence Riggio, Joshua Logan Rigney, Vania Dulcia Rivera, Janeice Mikyra Roberson, Kayla Ann Roberts, Khaleeda Aisha Robinson, Mercedes Tierra Robinson, Brittani Ann Robinson, Justin N. Robinson, Edward John Robson, Alexander Nicholas Rochette, Marcus Hudson Rodriguez, Cody Lucas Roe, Michael Allen Keith Rogers, Anthony Paul Rudd, Kyle Elizabeth Rudnicki.

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Karlneia Ashley Smelley-Williams, Saleena Lelar Smith, Lindsey Gene Smith, Christian Smith, Aaron Dwight Smith, Michael James Smith, Scott Anthony Smith, Joseph Timothy Smyser, Joshua Matthew Sneddon, Jevarias Marquise Snowden, Steven Robert Snyder, Briana Gabrielle Southard, Ryan Spears, Kara Nicole Spisz, Steven Anthony Stanek, Khari Ajene Stargell, Shaina Mil Starks, Heather Nicole Stawasz, Mackenzie Layne Stephens, Karina Marie Stephens, Ryan Matthew Stewart, Chelsea Lee Stotiker, Jenna Leann Styrk, Joshua Steven Sullivan.

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Keena M. Walker, Justin Ryan Ruger Walker, La'Che' Dominique Walton, Dominique Francesa Walton, Von'Che Raymone Walton, Cody Glenn Warner, Onjaleese Shaniqua Warren, Caleb Nathaniel Weaver, Michael Robert Wegehaupt, Ashley Helen Wells, Al Seward Wells, Taylor Natiesh Whigham, Kristina Victoria Wiifanen, Ta'Tanisha Zanay Williams, Cierra Che'Nay Williams, Candace S. Williams, Elonda Breon Willis, Anthony Louis Wilton, David Alan Wilton, Samantha M. Winters, Alexander Michael Wojnar, Amber May Wood, Justine Rae Woodard.

Ryan Joseph Woodhouse, Cody Delorean Woods, Katherine Renee Jeanette Yax, Justin Lee Yoshikawa, Roxanne Alexandra Young, Mitchell Jordan Young, Michael Ryan Young, Alejandra Bianca Zarate, Krysta Lynn Ziegler, Christine Marie Zuke and Michael Gerard Zuke.



# Up-to-date estate plan can avoid fights

**Q: Dear Rick: I read about actor Gary Coleman and how there are fights over his estate. It seems I'm always reading something about fights when famous people die. Are fights over estates common when average everyday people die? What's the best way to prevent them?**

**A:** Unfortunately, it happens all the time to everyday people. I believe the number of fights within families has increased substantially. People have access to lawyers today that they did not have in the past and today's modern family is more intricate. It's no longer unusual for someone to have been married more than once and to have children from a variety of different relationships. When you factor all this into consideration, there are more fights and disputes upon death than ever before.

I wish I could say there is a sure fire way to avoid fights and family disputes upon death, but there is none. However, there are ways to reduce the chances of having a family fight.

The best way to reduce the chance of dispute is to have an up-to-date estate plan. A plan that reflects your current situation.

Fights within families occur because an estate plan has not been updated for years. Having an up-to-date estate plan is a key ingredient in reducing family disputes.

Those who have an estate plan, should review it when there is any change in your family situation such as a birth or marriage of an adult child. In addition, if your financial situation changes dramatically then it also makes sense to review your estate plan. At a minimum, an estate plan should be reviewed every two to three years. The number one reason to do an estate plan is to prevent family disputes upon death. It's probably one of the greatest legacies you can leave your family.

Many people assume that good estate planning means doing

wills and trusts and other legal documents. Although these are valuable in many situations, not everyone needs a trust. Everyone does need a document locator — a road map for your loved ones. If something happens to you, your loved ones should be able to pull out a list to help them locate your assets, locate your legal documents and know who your advisers have been.

When it comes to estate planning, everyone's goals should be to make things as easy as possible for the beneficiaries. That is why it is important to keep a plan current. An estate plan that's out of date may cause more problems and aggravations than not having a plan. Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).



**Money Matters**

**Rick Bloom**

## W-W students win Vision scholarships

Two Wayne-Westland students were among 90 high schoolers awarded \$500 college scholarships from the Wayne County Vision Fund, a non-profit organization started by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

The fund has awarded nearly \$300,000 in scholarships to students who have at least a 3.0 grade-point average, have submitted an essay and included recommendations from a principal or counselor.

The scholarship winners, chosen from 220 applicants, are high school seniors from across Wayne County with a wide range of academic interests, including bio-medical engineering, medicine, communications, business, law and criminal justice.

Among the winners are Fatimoh Oyedele of Inkster, a senior at John Glenn High School in Westland, and Jimmy Kassis of Wayne, a senior at Wayne Memorial

High School in Wayne.

Oyedele of Inkster has earned a 3.9 grade point average and has been accepted to Wayne State University, Kettering University, Michigan Tech University and Michigan State University. A member of the National Honor Society, she plans to study bio-medical engineering.

Her dreams are youthful and limitless.

"I want to become a bio-medical engineer," she wrote in her essay, "because not only does it give a person with a disability a chance of a normal life, it is also bringing our wildest imagination to life."

Her forward-looking and energetic view for her future is remarkable given the tragedy that touched her and her family. Fatimoh's father was shot and killed six years ago and just recently her mother was killed in a car accident. She lives with her two sisters, a niece and a family friend.

She said in her essay that she does not want to burden her two sisters who are both in college. "I would like to be able to support myself in college."

Her mother told her the key to success is education. And her commitment to scholastics comes clearly through a letter from her chemistry teacher.

"I have literally looked at her and wondered where her motivation comes from," said Ms. Laidlaw. "Her capacity for and interest in science surpasses that of all other students I have had the pleasure to teach."

Kassis has earned a solid 3.86 grade point average while remaining active in athletics, including captain of the varsity football and wrestling teams and running track, too. Teachers, counselors and coaches describe Jimmy as a leader and a skilled athlete with solid moral standards.

He's been accepted to Adrian College, Central

Michigan University, Grand Valley State, Ferris State, Wayne State University and Western Michigan University.

Kassis gets a lot of inspiration from his father who passed away. Money has been an issue ever since, he wrote in his essay.

"I found odd jobs to earn some money, which I saved so I could use for college," he wrote.

He knows what he wants to do and seems determined to do it. His ultimate goal is to earn a four-year degree in criminal justice and eventually become an agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

"To become a member of this agency will take years of hard work," Kassis said. "It's because of my father's desire to serve others that I want to go into law enforcement."

Oyedele and Kassis received their scholarships during a ceremony April 21 at the Atheneum Hotel in Detroit.

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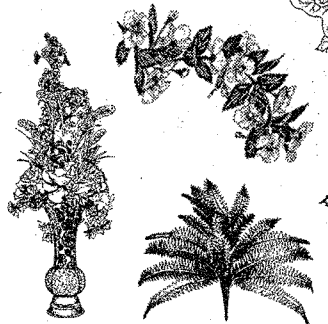
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**Listings** for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at [smaison@hometownlife.com](mailto:smaison@hometownlife.com). They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Amateur radio

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. Saturday, June 26, to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 27  
**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** Interested in Ham Radio? The Garden City Amateur Radio Club will be operating several Amateur Radio stations at the Maplewood Center as part of a national contest called Field Day. Come and learn about amateur radio. Meet local club members and. Learn about Emergency Communications, license requirements and local classes. You don't have to be an electronics whiz to be a ham, and Morse code is no longer required.

### Car show

**Time/Date:** noon-4 p.m. Saturday, June 12

**Location:** Metro Place Mall, 35425 Michigan Ave West, Wayne

**Details:** Friends of Community Living Services will hold a Classic Car Show fund-raiser to benefit Community Living Services Inc., a non-profit organization that offers services and supports to more than 3,000 children and adults with developmental disabilities in Wayne county. This fund-raiser will allow people to receive grants that traditional Medicaid funding cannot cover. About 100 classic cars will line the Metro Place Mall parking lot. Classics such as the "Monkee Mobile" from the 1960s show "The Monkees," ECTO-1 from the hit movie, "Ghostbusters," and a replica of "To-Mater" from the Disney/Pixar movie "Cars" will also make an appearance. Other "classics" scheduled to appear the Gran Torino from the TV show "Starsky and Hutch," "Herbie the Love Bug" from the 1960s Disney movie and the Trans Am from "Smokey and the Bandit" and "Knight Rider."

There will be more than 30 food and craft vendors, mostly people with disabilities, selling their products and services. Vendors include Dearborn Sausage, hand-popped kettle corn, handcrafted arts, crafts and jewelry, face painting, balloon artists, games and prizes for kids, Jimmy Buffet style music from Las Vegas entertainer Ron Devon, classic music of the 1950s-1960s by DJ David Dewitt Taylor. There will also be two pet adoption organizations - Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue and St. Julians Cat Adoptions - where kids can get their pictures taken with the animals.

**Contact:** For more information, visit the website at [www.comlivserv.com](http://www.comlivserv.com).

### Earth Angels

**Details:** Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.

**Contact:** [www.earthangelsontour.org](http://www.earthangelsontour.org) or by e-mail to [eangel1986@comcast.net](mailto:eangel1986@comcast.net)

### Higher Rock Cafe

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.

**Location:** Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

**Details:** Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands.

**Contact:** [www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com](http://www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com) or call (734) 722-3660

## ORGANIZATIONS

### Friends of Eloise

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December)

**Location:** Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857

N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.

**Contact:** Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

### Writing Group

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month

**Location:** Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

**Details:** The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.

**Contact:** [www.storycircle.org](http://www.storycircle.org) or send an e-mail to [shepry@yahoo.com](mailto:shepry@yahoo.com)

### Toastmasters

**Location:** Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center, located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

**Details:** Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.

**Contact:** For information, call Bill at (734) 306-3980 or Curt at (734) 525-8445.

### TOPS 869

**Time/Date:** Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

**Location:** Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.

**Details:** The group is for people age 18 and older.

**Contact:** The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

### Legion Post 251

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month

**Location:** 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer, Westland.

**Details:** All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join.

**Contact:** [www.post251.org](http://www.post251.org) or call (734) 326-2607

### TOPS M128

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Mondays

**Location:** Good Shepherd Reformed

Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland

**Contact:** Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

### Garden City Dems

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June)

**Location:** Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

**Contact:** Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

### Citizens for Peace

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month

**Location:** Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

**Details:** The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.

**Contact:** Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

### In Harmony

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays

**Location:** Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** For men interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting

**Contact:** call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal

### Veteran's Haven

**Location:** Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne.

**Details:** Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.

**Contact:** (734) 728-0527

### Silver Strings Dulcimer

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month

**Location:** Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

**Details:** Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass.

**Contact:** (734) 482-2902, <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>

### Garden City Kiwanis

**Time/Date:** 12:15 p.m. Thursdays

**Location:** Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City

**Details:** Kiwanis is a global organi-

zation of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

### Garden City Rotary

**Time/Date:** 12 noon Thursdays

**Location:** Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City

**Details:** Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed.

### Habitat for Humanity

**Details:** The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fund-raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided.

**Contact:** (734) 459-7744

### Annapolis Retirees

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month

**Location:** Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne

**Details:** All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.

### Garden City Amateur Radio Club

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month

**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** The club is open to people who are interested in ham radio.

**Contact:** Ben (W8AAA) at (734) 425-2629

### Garden City Lions

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month

**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

**Contact:** Dave Fetter at (734) 425-4382

### GC Garden Club

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month

**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** Everyone may attend to hear guest speakers on a variety of gardening topics and plan events around the city.

**Contact:** Della Haydon at (734) 427-9410

### Genealogical Society

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. third Monday of every month

**Location:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center on Farmington Road, south of Five Mile

**Details:** Beginning genealogy and computer classes start at 6:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

### Purple Heart

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month

**Location:** VFW Post 7575 Hall, 33011

Ford west of Venoy, Garden City  
**Details:** Meetings are open to combat-wounded veterans.

## FOR SENIORS

### Friendship Center

**Location:** 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland

**Details:** The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center) offers a variety of programs for older adults.

**Contact:** (734) 722-7632, [www.ci.westland.mi.us](http://www.ci.westland.mi.us)

### Dyer Center

**Location:** 36745 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Marquette, Westland

**Details:** Offers activities Monday-Friday at the center.

**Contact:** (734) 419-2020

### Senior Fitness

**Location:** Maplewood Senior Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

**Contact:** (734) 793-1870

## FOR YOUR HEALTH

### Safe Place

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursdays

**Location:** Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

**Details:** A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.

**Contact:** Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

### Adult Day Services

**Time/Date:** 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

**Location:** 570 S Main St., Plymouth MI

**Detail:** A structured weekday alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals

**Contact:** Laurie Krause at [laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com](mailto:laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com) and (734) 956-2600

### Metro Fibromyalgia

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month

**Location:** Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City

**Details:** The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.

**Contact:** Lucy at (734) 462-1768, [www.MetroFibroGroup.com](http://www.MetroFibroGroup.com)



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**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2010-11 BUDGET**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on June 21, 2010 at 6:45 o'clock in the evening at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District will hold a public hearing to consider the district's proposed 2010-11 budgets.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2010-11 budgets until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2010-11 budgets including the proposed property tax millage rates is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan.

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

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

**Robert J. Freeman, Secretary**

Publish: June 13 & 17, 2010

**CITY OF WESTLAND**

**INVITATION TO BID**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **June 17, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

**Underground Fuel Tank Inspections**

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com). Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Kevin Buford, DPS Director at (734) 467-3241. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Publish: June 13, 2010

**The Wayne-Westland Community Schools announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program for Children.**

Free meals will be made available to children 18 years of age and under or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program for the mentally or physically disabled that is recognized by a State or local public educational agency. The meals will be provided without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

Meals will be provided at the sites listed below:

Jefferson-Barnes Elementary 32150 Dorsey Westland, MI 48186	Lincoln Elementary 33800 Grand Traverse Westland, MI 48186
Roosevelt-McCrath Elementary 36075 Currier Wayne, MI 48184	Vandenberg Elementary 32101 Stellwagon Wayne, MI 48184

Lunch Service will start June 21 through August 13, 2010 (no service week of July 5-9) at all sites.

Lunch service times will be 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at all sites.

**For more information, please call 734-419-2118.**

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



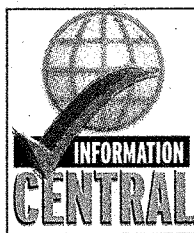
# What is '1000 Journals?'

"1000 Journals" is an idea a San Francisco-based artist named Someguy came up with in 2000.

The basic, wild premise is this: send 1000 journals out into the world and let people add to them in their own expressive ways. Once people finished their entry, they pass it onto the next person interested in adding to that particular journal.

What came back (filling the 200 or so pages) was an amalgam of journal writing, poetry, painting, photography, drawing and collage (or scrapbooking). To see some of the many entries, visit [www.1000journals.com](http://www.1000journals.com) and browse any number of the books.

In the spirit of this movie, the Westland Public Library is hosting its own Library Journals Project during its Summer Reading Program. Adult and teen patrons can check out a journal for a week and add their own artistic entries. These entries can be influenced



by what other people have added, be an extension of what someone else has done, or it can be an original work or stream of thoughts. The library is hoping to fill each of the journals by the end of the summer, so stop in starting June 12 to get your hands on one (if all are checked out, your name will be added to a sign-up list at the Reference Desk).

Also, come watch the movie "1000 Journals" with us at 7 p.m. June 28 to get a hang for what the Library Journals Project can be. What you add to the journals is really up to you and your interests. If you are feeling stuck, librarians at the Westland Public Library will be glad to help you find books on the various arts that

can be included in this book.

To get more information about Library Journal Project, visit the Westland Public Library at 6123 Central City Parkway or call the Reference Desk at (734) 326-6123 to get your name on the Journals' list. You can also find and request books via the library catalog at [www.westlandlibrary.org](http://www.westlandlibrary.org) under "Find Books, Movies and Music."

## Highlighted Activities

**Blood Pressure and Glucose Testing:** 11 a.m. to noon June 16

**Adult Book Discussion Group:** 7 p.m. June 15

Join us as we discuss "Infidel" by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Ayaan Hirsi Ali recounts the evolution of her beliefs, her ironclad will and her extraordinary resolve to fight injustice done in the name of religion. In her early 20s, she escaped from a forced marriage and sought asylum

in the Netherlands, where she earned a college degree in political science and fought for the rights of Muslim immigrant women and the reform of Islam as a member of Parliament. Copies will be available at the Reference Desk. All are welcome.

**Documentary Movie Night:** "Food, Inc.," 7 p.m. June 16

Join us for a viewing of the documentary film "Food, Inc." For most Americans, the ideal meal is fast, cheap, and tasty. This film examines the costs of putting value and convenience over nutrition and environmental impact.

**Video Game Open Play:** 6-8 p.m. June 17, ages 15-29

Come and play games like Super Smash Bros. Brawl, Mario Kart, and maybe even something old school. Also at this event, you can sign up for our summer video game tournament. No sign up required for Open Play.

**Summer Concert Series:** Livonia

Youth Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m., all ages, Library Pavilion

Join us for a magical concert of classical favorites performed by the 30 plus member Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestra. Limited seating (so bring a chair if you're late). For a complete list of Summer Concert performers, stop by the library or check out [westlandlibrary.org](http://westlandlibrary.org).

## Friday Night Movie Cult Classics:

"Clash of the Titans" 7 p.m. June 18

Stop by the library every Friday evening during the summer and enjoy a Cult Classic. This week's movie is "Clash of the Titans" (the original). By answering a seemingly impossible riddle, Perseus, the son of Zeus, wins

the hand of the Princess Andromeda in marriage. Trouble appears in the shape of Calibos, the princess's former love, and his mother, the Goddess Thetis. In order that the dreaded Kraken not be released, Andromeda has to be sacrificed and Perseus searches for the Medusa; her head is the only thing that can stop the Kraken. Rated PG. This is an after-hours program. Library doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Information Central was compiled by reference librarian Andy Schuck. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to [westlandlibrary.org](http://westlandlibrary.org).

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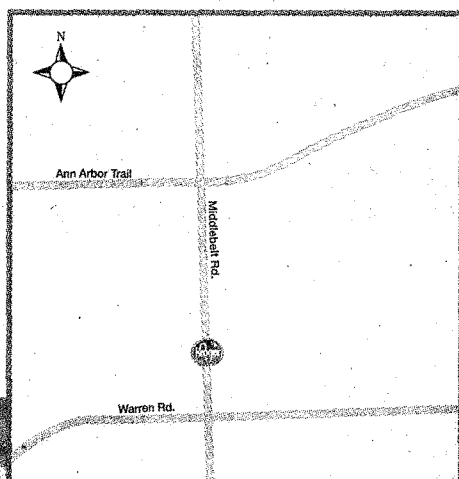
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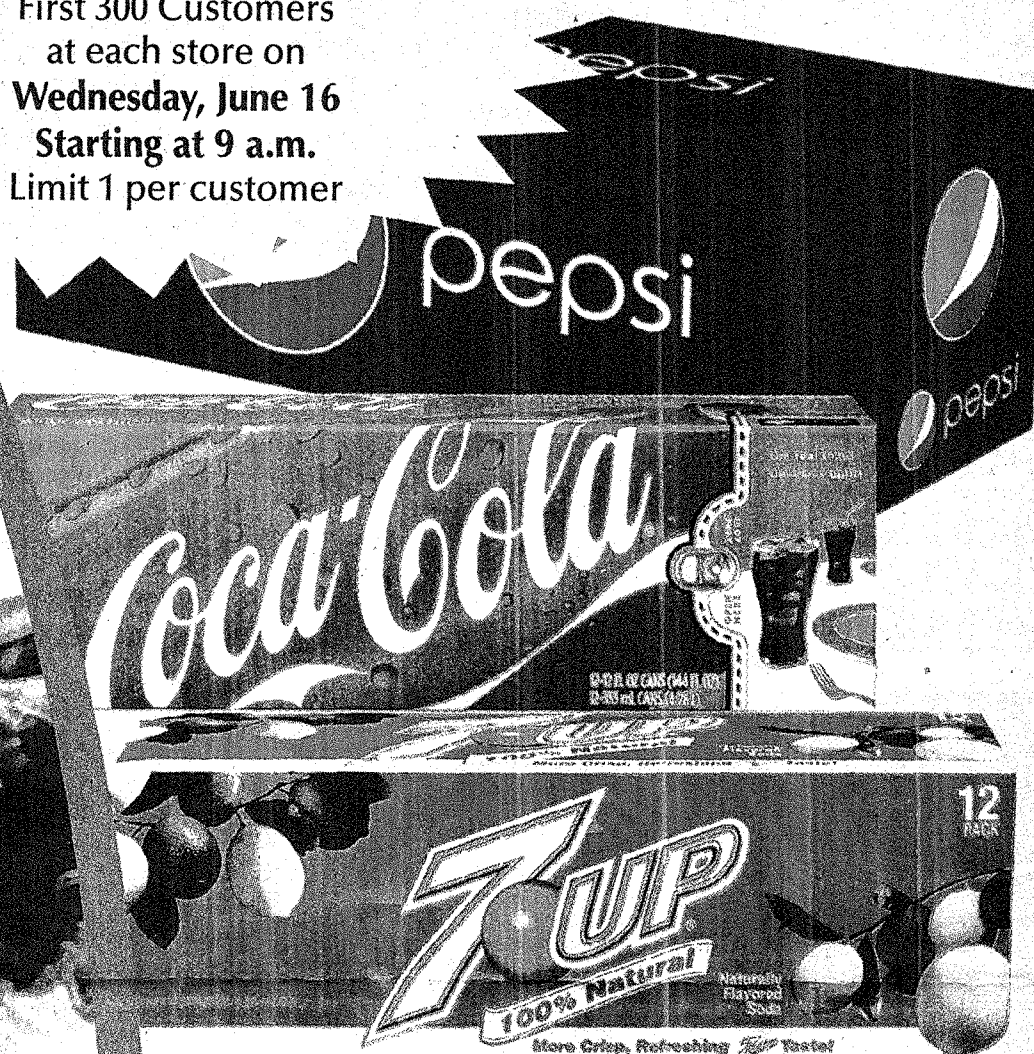
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## All-Area Girls Track

Churchill's Tiffany Raisanen (right) takes a handoff from teammate Bethany Pilat during an exchange in the 4 x 800-meter relay in a meet earlier this season. They were both members of the first-team All-Observer 3,200 relay team. See story on page B2.

## Participation fees become the norm

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The use of participation fees to help fund interscholastic athletics in Michigan high schools has nearly doubled in the past seven years.

And during that same time period, the fees paid have increased by more than 30 percent, according to surveys taken by the Michigan High School Athletic Association of its member institutions.

That's according to a recently completed survey, which indicates that of 475 member schools participating that responded, 221 schools – 47 percent – charged participation fees during the 2009-10 school year.

There are 768 senior high

schools in the MHSAA membership with the survey generating a response rate of 62 percent. This was the sixth survey of schools since the 2003-04 school year, when members reported that fees were being used in 24 percent of schools. In the last survey in 2007-08, fees were being used at 43 percent of schools participating.

The most popular method of assessing participation fees continues to be a payment for each sport a youngster goes out for, used by 42 percent of schools in 2009-10.

A standardized annual fee per student was used by 28 percent of schools in the past year. Both of these percentages have remained stable over the last

Please see **FEES, B4**

## SIDELINES

### Crusaders add spiker

Madonna University women's volleyball coach Jerry Abraham added his fourth recruit last week for the 2010 season when outside hitter Jess Martin of Greenwood H.S. (Bowling Green, Ky.), signed an NAIA letter-of-intent.

Martin, who now resides in Howell, helped Greenwood to a Kentucky state title in 2009 and a regional crown in 2008.

"Jess is a quality all-around student-athlete who excels both on the court and in the classroom," Abraham said. "She is a scholar student academically with an excellent work ethic. As a smart outside hitter she has the ability to play both left and right side for us with a variety of shot selection and the skills to compete as a defender in the back row."

"Jess plays with tremendous enthusiasm with a deep desire to win. She is going to be another positive addition to our volleyball family."

Others in the fold for MU this fall or first-team All-Observer middle hitter Emilie Freeman (Lutheran Westland), Lauren Mora (Grand Blanc) and Miranda Sechler (Coldwater).

The Crusaders ended the 2009 season ranked No. 22 in the nation and return seven letter winners off a team that went 32-7.

### Madonna golfers hailed

NAIA individual runner-up medalist Brett Quitiquit (Milford) of Madonna University was recently named to the PING and the Golf Coaches Association of America 2010 NAIA All-North Region squad.

The junior captured the 2009 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference individual championship as the Crusaders won the WHAC championship for the first time in program history.

MU advanced to the 2010 NAIA National Championships where Quitiquit shined, finishing second and earning a place on the all-tournament team as well as an invitation back to next year's national championships.

The lone WHAC representative on any of the four all-region teams, Quitiquit led the Crusaders with a 75 stroke per round average. He posted seven top-five finishes as well as 13 top-20 finishes during his second season as a Crusader.

And for the second time in his career, MU senior Justin Taurence (Wyandotte Roosevelt) was selected to the NAIA Men's Golf Scholar Athlete team for his work in the classroom.

One of the Crusaders' four seniors, Taurence is a two-time All-Academic WHAC honoree.

To be selected, a student-athlete must be nominated by each institution's head coach, maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and have achieved junior academic status to qualify.

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

## Livonia's 'Good Sport'

Bob Griffin provided plenty for youth teams

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you needed a ball glove, a bat, hockey stick or skates, or even a team sponsor, Robert "Bob" Griffin was always there to lend a helping hand.

The former Livonia businessman, who started his own sporting goods store, Griffin Sports, during the late 1960s, passed away earlier this week at age 78.

He is survived by his wife Bev, along with four children – Debbie (John) Stegges, Ron (Debbie), Pam (Bill) Kelly and Sandy (Brian) Laird.

Services were held at Saturday at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville Township.

According to his son Ron, who played on the University of Wisconsin's 1977 NCAA Championship hockey team, Bob Griffin opened up his sporting goods store, located at Five Mile and Farmington roads, from scratch.

"He worked for 20 years at Kelsey-Hayes (Co.) where they made wheels and then took a leave

Please see **GRIFFIN, B4**



Livonia native Bob Griffin, who passed away last week at age 78, is pictured with his wife Bev. Griffin ran a sporting good store and sponsored numerous youth baseball and hockey teams.

## Kromm remembered as coach, father

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bobby Kromm reached the pinnacle of his pro coaching career when he became the first Detroit Red Wings coach to earn the NHL's coveted Jack Adams Award in 1977-78.

Kromm, a Livonia resident, passed away Tuesday at age 82 after a two-year bout with colon cancer.

Kromm is survived by his wife Geraldine, along with four children, including son Richard, who played 10 seasons in the NHL for the Calgary Flames and the New York Islanders, along with a son David, and daughters Robin (Habuda) and Michelle (Ewasek). He also had eight grandchildren.

Visitation for Kromm will be from 2-8 p.m. Sunday at the Fred Wood Funeral Home (Rice Chapel), 31600 Five Mile Road, Livonia (east of Levan). Services are scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Monday, June 14, at the funeral home.

"As a parent, he was great with me," said Rich Kromm, who coached last season for the Muskegon Lumberjacks of the IHL. "Being a coach, obviously he gave me a lot of advice, but he was never at all pushy. He knew we played the game because we loved it."

Kromm, a native of Calgary, Alberta, coached the Red Wings for three seasons.

In 1977-78, he guided the Wings to a



DETROIT RED WINGS | ARCHIVE PHOTO

Livonia resident Bobby Kromm (left), who became the first Red Wings coach to win the NHL's coveted Jack Adams Award in 1977-78, holds the trophy with then team radio announcer Budd Lynch.

37-point improvement on their 16-win season with a runner-up finish in the Norris Division.

Detroit (32-34-14) earned its first trip to the Stanley Cup Playoffs in eight years beating Atlanta, 2-0, in a best-of-three

format before losing to Scotty Bowman's Montreal Canadiens, 4-1, in a best-of-seven quarterfinal round.

Kromm coached the Wings two more

Please see **KROMM, B4**

## Crusaders add guard to the mix

Madonna University head men's basketball coach Noel Emenhiser announced last week the signing of All-State guard Travis Schuba of Kalkaska High School to an NAIA letter-of-intent.

The Rapid City native

### COLLEGE HOOPS

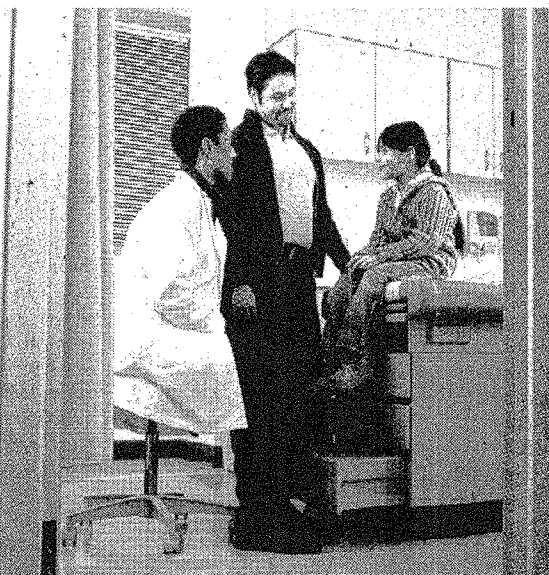
intends to play both basketball and baseball at MU starting this fall.

"We are very excited that Travis has chosen Madonna to continue his education and basketball career," Emenhiser said. "Travis is an outstanding basketball player, and more importantly, he is a great person. His accomplishments as a prep star speak for themselves and his work ethic will help translate that success to the college game."

Schuba, whose older brother Chuck played at Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference

Please see **CRUSADERS, B3**

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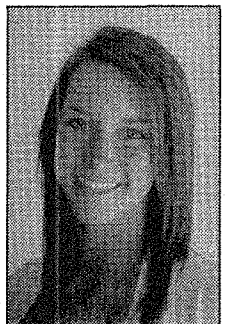

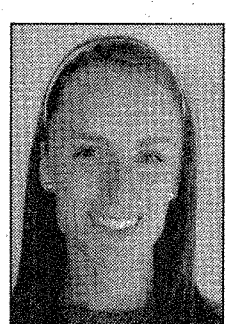
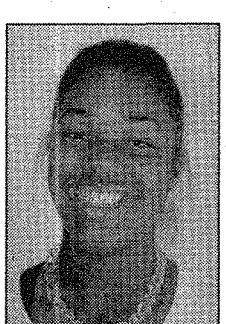



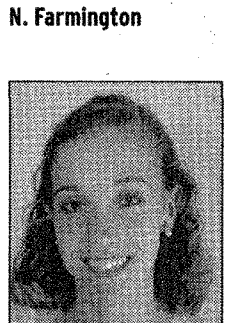



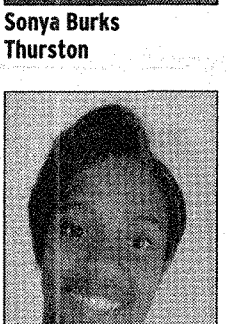

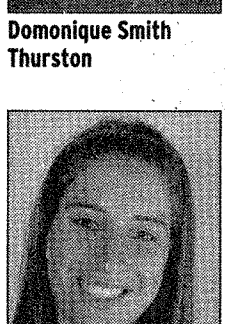
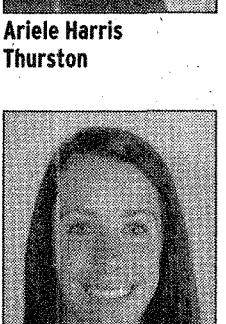
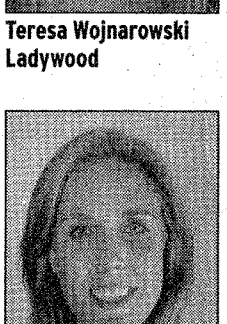
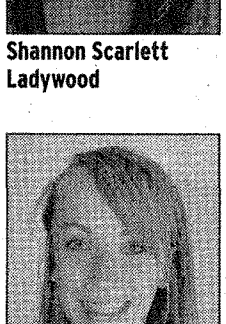

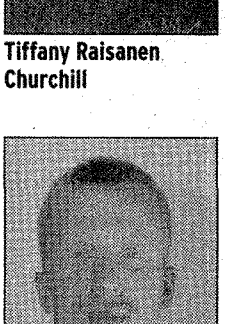
# Area girls track performers showcase talent

**2010 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS TRACK & FIELD TEAMS**  
**Shot put:** 1. Chelsea Carradine, Sr., Redford Thurston; 2. Taylor Byron, Sr., Livonia Churchill; 3. Trisha Jordan, Soph., North Farmington.  
**Discus:** 1. Cally Perkins, Sr., Garden City; 2. Savannah Haig, Sr., Livonia Franklin; 3. Lynn Nagengast, Sr., Farmington.  
**High jump:** 1. Abbey Lovat, Jr., Farmington Hills Mercy; 2. (tie) Emilie Freeman, Sr., Lutheran Westland; Senclair McDonald, Soph., Churchill; 3. Lindsay Lipa, Jr., Canton.  
**Long jump:** 1. Aubrie Scott, Jr., Westland John Glenn; 2. Becka Knox, Soph., Plymouth; 3. Leah Heinzelman, Soph., Churchill.  
**Pole vault:** 1. Reagan Engstrom, Soph., Plymouth; 2. Jane McCurry, Fr., Plymouth; 3. Meghan Lark, Jr., Franklin.  
**100-meter hurdles:** 1. Megan Yanik, Sr., Livonia Ladywood; 2. Senneca Scott, Sr., Franklin; 3. Karlyn Cassidy, Sr., Farmington Hills Harrison.  
**300 hurdles:** 1. Becky Adamcheck, Sr., Livonia Stevenson; 2. Bobbi Beveridge, Sr., Garden City; 3. Altemecia Martin, Sr., Thurston.  
**100 dash:** 1. Briana Nixon, Fr., Thurston; 2. Clara Fullilove, Fr., N. Farmington; 3. Dominique Smith, Soph., Thurston.  
**200:** 1. Tiera Parker, Soph., Harrison; 2. Madi Lewis, Fr., Plymouth; 3. Sydney Sterling, Fr., Farmington.  
**400:** 1. Cherie Gaines, Jr., N. Farmington; 2. Josephine Zolynsky, Jr., Farmington; 3. Megan Kelly, Sr., Churchill.  
**800:** 1. Sara Kroll, Sr., Churchill; 2. Megan Vitale, Fr., Ladywood; 3. Rachael Hille, Soph., Plymouth.  
**1,600:** 1. Gabby DeFlorio, Soph., Farmington; 2. Kerrigan Riley, Fr., Churchill; 3. Nicole Zehel, Sr., Lutheran Westland.  
**3,200:** 1. Megan McPherson, Jr., Franklin; 2. Bethany Pilat, Soph., Churchill; 3. Bianca Kubicki, Jr., Canton.  
**400 relay:** 1. Thurston (Sonya Burks, Sr., Briana Nixon, Fr., Altemecia Martin, Sr., Dominique Smith, Soph.); 2. Harrison (Jaki Parker, Jr., Karlyn Cassidy, Sr., Tasha Shuford, Jr., Tiera Parker, Soph.); 3. North Farmington (Ashia Freeman, Fr., Maleah West, Fr., Alex White, Sr., DeJenee Berry, Jr.).  
**800 relay:** 1. Thurston (Sonya Burks, Sr., Briana Nixon, Fr., Arielle Harris, Fr., Dominique Smith, Soph.); 2. North Farmington (Cherie Gaines, Jr., Clara Fullilove, Fr., Alex White, Sr., DeJenee Berry, Jr.); 3. John Glenn (E. Aisha Guster, Jr., Kayla Jones, Fr., Stephany Brown, Soph., Aubrie Scott, Jr.).  
**1,600 relay:** 1. Ladywood (Teresa Wojnarowski, Jr., Shannon Scarlett, Jr., Megan Vitale, Jr., Megan Yanik, Sr.); 2. Farmington (Gabby DeFlorio, Soph., Jacquelyne Zolynsky, Jr., Sydney Sterling, Fr., Josephine Zolynsky, Jr.); 3. Plymouth (Madi Lewis, Fr., Carissa Buttermore, Jr., Becka Knox, Soph., Rachael Hille, Soph.).  
**3,200 relay:** 1. Churchill (Tiffany Raisanen, Sr., Bethany Pilat, Soph., Kerrigan Riley, Fr., Sara Kroll, Sr.); 2. Farmington (Gabby DeFlorio, Soph., Olivia Salinas, Soph., Lydia Macklin-Camel, Sr., Josephine Zolynsky, Jr.); 3. Mercy (Heather Smith, Soph., Katie Clark, Sr., Lindsey Tartaglia, Soph., Jaclyn Godwin, Fr.).  
**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Pat Daugherty, Churchill

**FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS**  
**Chelsea Carradine, Sr., Red.**  
**Thurston (shot put):** One of the finest track performers to ever compete at Thurston, Carradine again displayed grit and determination in earning her fourth consecutive opportunity to line up against the state's elite. Battling through injuries to her hamstring and shoulder during much of the 2010 campaign, Carradine was able to claim her fourth straight regional crown in the shot put. Those injuries, however, were too much to overcome at the state meet and prevented her from placing.  
"Chelsea finished third last year in the Division 2 finals, but was hampered by shoulder and hamstring injuries this year," Thurston coach Al Chambo said. "She wasn't able to compete in the running events, but she was able to dominate in the shot put. Her quiet leadership by example will be missed."  
**Cally Perkins, Sr., Garden City (discus):** The Cougar senior concluded her second varsity campaign by earning a spot in the state finals. Consistently throwing the discus anywhere between 99 and 102 feet, Perkins acquired a new disc prior to the finals and promptly went on and improved on her mark by some 10 feet. Perkins' school-record toss of 112 feet at the finals placed her 12th overall.  
"She really wanted that school record," Garden City coach Kris Barrett said. "She really worked hard and was determined to get it. We were waiting a long time for that new disc to come in, but when it did, Cally practiced with it and went out and threw her best at the state meet."  
**Abbey Lovat, Jr., Farm. Hills Mercy (high jump):** Lovat was all-state again in the high jump, placing seventh in Division 1. She won the event at the Jackson Invite and Catholic League meet, and she was the regional runner-up. Lovat also excelled in the long jump and throwing events, and she was the Field Athlete of Meet at the River Rat Invite. The two-time team MVP scored 198 points this year, which is the school's third-best, single-season total since Gary Servais became the coach in 1988.  
"Her work ethic was good for everybody to see," Servais said. "She worked hard every day. She came to practice one day when she didn't have to come. That's the kind of kid she is."  
"A lot of (her success) has to do with the fact she's been in athlet-

ics her whole life, and she's a very coachable athlete. You tell her something and she has the ability to take the spoken words and put them into action."  
**Aubrie Scott, Jr., Westland Glenn (long jump):** The junior was Division 1 regional champion with a season-best 17-0.5 inches.  
Scott was also undefeated in dual meets and was Kensington Conference long jump champion (16-9).  
"Aubrie was a huge part of our team this season," Glenn coach James Fitzgerald said. "After qualifying for the state meet in three events as a sophomore, Aubrie was excited for a great junior year. Her best event is the long jump in which she had the furthest jump at every meet we attended this season."  
Scott also excelled in the sprints and sprint relays. She clocked a 12.7 in the 100 and a 26.8 in the 200. She was Kensington Conference champ in the 100 and helped the Rockets to a first in the 4 x 200 and a second in the 4 x 100.  
"Aubrie hopes to improve on this mark as well as her sprints as she prepares for her senior season," Fitzgerald said.  
**Reagan Engstrom, Soph., Plymouth (pole vault):** The sophomore missed the first four weeks of the season due to an ankle injury, but then made up for lost time in a big way.  
Engstrom took first place at the Division 1 regional with a mark of 9-feet, 8-inches. She then vaulted 10-9 in the prelims of the state final in Rockford, which established Plymouth High and Plymouth-Canton Educational Park records.  
"Reagan is an athlete that makes coaching easy," said Plymouth coach Ricky Styes, who noted that "the sky is the limit" for Engstrom during the next two years, considering her abundant talent, work ethic and leadership skills.  
"We are confident that she will be one of the elite vaulters in the state these next two years," Styes added. "Being a captain this year, her work ethic became contagious within our vaulters, as well as the rest of the team."  
**Megan Yanik, Sr., Liv. Ladywood (100 hurdles):** The senior, bound for Notre Dame, enjoyed the most productive state meet of any area athlete capturing the Division 2 state titles in the 100 hurdles (14.75) and 300 hurdles (43.85), both school records.  
Yanik, the class valedictorian was also regional and Catholic League

A-B Division champion in both events. She broke a 26-year-old record in the 300 hurdles (45.02) at the Catholic League meet.  
"We gave her our MVP," Ladywood coach Alice Ahearn said. "She scored most of the points and was the reason why we finished fourth in the state (Division 2).  
"She epitomizes one my favorite sayings: 'Spectacular things happen with unspectacular preparation.' She works a lot year-around. She works very hard and is very focused."  
**Becky Adamcheck, Sr., Liv. Stevenson (300 hurdles):** The senior, headed to DePaul University, moved up seven places from her heat to finish fourth in Division 1 in the 300 hurdles with a school-record time of 45.4.  
The two-year captain and top point-getter was also Public Schools of Livonia, Kensington Conference and regional champ in the 300 hurdles. She also helped the Spartans break the school record in the 1,600 relay.  
"Becky has been one of the toughest competitors I have coached," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "Watching her come into our program her freshman year and have the success she had back then to where she finished out her high school career as an All-State athlete and a school record holder in two events is amazing."  
The two-time MVP also earned Stevenson's prestigious Gabe Award.  
"I am thankful that I had the opportunity to watch and see her success running track and am very excited to see her continue the track path in college and rise to the new challenges that await her," Graham said. "She leaves a huge space to fill for any Stevenson athlete to fill next year and years to follow."  
**Brianna Nixon, Fr., Red. Thurston (100 dash):** This Eagle freshman left opponents shaking their heads at her ability to blaze a trail to the finish line in various sprint events. Participating in her first state final, Nixon was able to rack up a third-place finish in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.55 and took seventh in the 200 with a school-record clocking of 25.83. She also was a part of the 4x100 and 4x200 relay contingents that registered top 10 finishes at the state meet.  
"Brianna has natural speed and she will get better," Chambo said. "She is very focused, especially for a ninth grader. She is an athlete that has accomplished so much in her first year that the bar has been raised to new heights and it is difficult to guess how good she will be in the next three years."  
**Tiera Parker, Soph., Farm. Harrison (200):** Parker set a school record of 25.4 seconds in the 200 dash, surpassing Devron Kennedy's time of 25.8. Parker was second in the West Bloomfield regional and went to state. She was eighth in the 100 dash at the state meet with a 12.88 time, and she shares the school record (12.1) in that event with Kristen Hardy. Parker is the city champ in the 100 and 200, and she anchored the winning 400 relay team. She also won the 100 at the Muskrat Relays in Algonac.  
"She had a terrific season," coach Mark Babcock said. "I can't say enough good things about Tiera. She's very coachable and very talented, and she's just a great individual."  
"She very humble, soft-spoken and easy going, but she's terrific out there on the track. You can put her anywhere and she'll do well. It's a privilege to have her on the team. She's only a sophomore; she's going to get better."  
**Cherie Gaines, Jr., N. Farmington (400):** Gaines finished eighth in the state with an area-best time of 57.92 seconds for the 400 meters. Her time is a school record, bettering Heather Burcar's 1993 time of 58.4. Gaines also ran the second-fastest time (25.9) in school history in the 200. The team MVP helped set another record of 1:45.6 in the 800 relay and was part of the fastest 1,600 foursome.  
"Cherie has a great disposition," coach Bill Pinnell said. "She's always smiling and having fun. She definitely makes your day coaching; she'll make you laugh."  
"She's coming around and I think she can see she has loads of talent, and she wants to continue running in college. She doesn't beg off anything. She's not going to ask, 'Do I have to run this, or do I have to run that?' That's what you want to see in your top athletes, that they're willing to step up and do it."  
**Sara Kroll, Sr., Liv. Churchill (800):** The senior was regional champion in the 800 and 1,600 runs, along with being a part of the first-place 3,200 relay quartet that placed at the Division 1 state meet (sixth).  
Kroll, bound for Michigan State, was also Kensington Conference champion in all three events.  
She holds school records in the 800 (2:13.2), 1,600 (4:54.25) and 3,200 (10:50.32) - all set this season.  
"Sara is the most dominating distance runner in area and one of the top runners in the state," Churchill coach Pat Daugherty said. "She's the best runner I have ever worked with, and the most talented and hardest working athlete that I have ever known."  
Kroll was All-Stater in the 800

 Chelsea Carradine Thurston	 Cally Perkins Garden City	 Abbey Lovat Mercy
 Aubrie Scott John Glenn	 Reagan Engstrom Plymouth	 Megan Yanik Ladywood
 Becky Adamcheck Stevenson	 Briana Nixon Thurston	 Tiera Parker Harrison
 Cherie Gaines N. Farmington	 Sara Kroll Churchill	 Gabby DeFlorio Farmington
 Megan McPherson Franklin	 Sonya Burks Thurston	 Altemecia Martin Thurston
 Dominique Smith Thurston	 Arielle Harris Thurston	 Teresa Wojnarowski Ladywood
 Shannon Scarlett Ladywood	 Megan Vitale Ladywood	 Tiffany Raisanen Churchill
 Kerrigan Riley Churchill	 Bethany Pilat Churchill	 Pat Daugherty Churchill coach

both her sophomore and junior years.

The four-year varsity award winner was undefeated in dual meets the past two seasons and qualified last year for the Foot Locker National Championships in cross country.

"She's as great leader by example and has really dedicated herself to being the best runner she can be over the three years I have coached her," Daugherty said. "Churchill track and field will miss her greatly. She's my favorite runner and the one athlete I am the most proud of."

**Gabby DeFlorio, Soph., Farmington (1,600):** DeFlorio was 10th in the state with a school-record time of 5:11.5, breaking Janelle Lindman's record of 5:15.7. She was second in the regional to state champ Megan Goethals.

DeFlorio is the OAA White Division champion in the 1,600 and 3,200 runs, and she was the runner-up in the 800. She won the 1,600, 800 and 3,200 races in the city meet.

"Gabby displays equal measures of dedication and care toward her sport as well as her teammates," coach Chip Bridges said. "Her success is well deserved and, hopefully, just beginning."

"She made great strides this year, and she'll be even better next year. I really believe she can get better, significantly better."

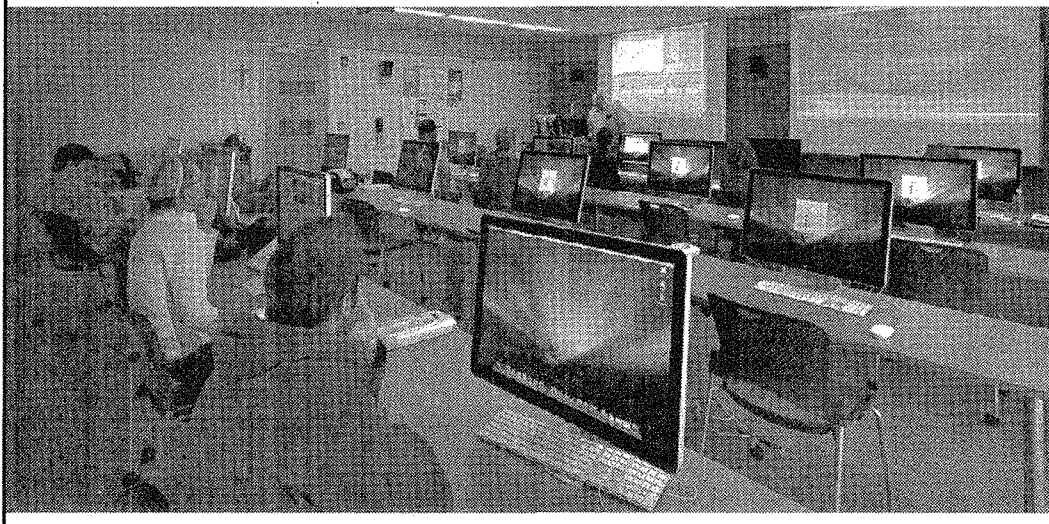
**Megan McPherson, Jr., Liv. Franklin (3,200):** The junior posted a fifth-place finish in the Division 1 state finals with a school-record time of 10:53.84.

"Her state meet performance is one of my proudest moments

Please see **ALL-AREA, B3**


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FINAL GIRLS TRACK & FIELD BESTS

FINAL GIRLS TRACK LISTING

**SHOT PUT**  
Chelsea Carradine (Thurston) 38-4.5  
Taylor Byron (Churchill) 37-9  
Lynn Nagengast (Farmington) 36-1.5  
Trisha Jordan (N. Farmington) 35-1.25  
Savannah Haig (Franklin) 34-2  
Abbey Lovat (Mercy) 33-11.5  
Mahogany Miller (Churchill) 33-9  
Magginese Holliday (Thurston) 34-3  
Andrea Gordon-McClain (Glenn) 33-2  
Kelsey Pizana (Mercy) 33-1

**DISCUS**  
Cally Perkins (Garden City) 112-0  
Savannah Haig (Franklin) 111-10  
Lynn Nagengast (Farmington) 111-7  
Teresa Wojnarowski (Ladywood) 110-6  
Chelsea Carradine (Thurston) 108-6  
Alyssa Shirkey (Luth. Westland) 103-0  
Abbey Lovat (Mercy) 100-7  
Kelli Hagopian (Mercy) 100-3  
Kayla Branton (Stevenson) 100-0  
Christine Maleske (Churchill) 100-0

**HIGH JUMP**  
Abbey Lovat (Mercy) 5-4  
Lindsay Lipa (Canton) 5-2  
Sencclair McDonnell (Churchill) 5-2  
Emilie Freeman (Luth. Westland) 5-2  
Ashley Cochran (Churchill) 5-2  
Timme Mackie (Mercy) 5-2  
Bridget Koessler (Stevenson) 5-1  
Lisa Hollaway (Franklin) 5-0  
Bobbi Beveridge (Garden City) 5-0  
Lynn Nagengast (Farmington) 5-0  
Micah Ernst (Mercy) 5-0

**LONG JUMP**  
Aubrie Scott (John Glenn) 17-0.5  
Abbey Lovat (Mercy) 16-5.5  
Becka Knox (Plymouth) 16-1.5  
Leah Heinzelman (Churchill) 15-10  
Jen Mueller (Franklin) 15-9.5  
Lexi Baker (Farmington) 15-8.5  
Natalie Modes (Franklin) 15-8  
Kristina Klusek (Salem) 15-7.25  
Altemecia Martin (Thurston) 15-7  
Delia Uke (Mercy) 15-7

**POLE VAULT**  
Reagan Engstrom (Plymouth) 10-9  
Jane McCurry (Plymouth) 10-0  
Meghan Lark (Franklin) 9-6  
Megan Parula (Salem) 9-6  
Alex Kitz (Stevenson) 9-4  
Lindsey Kreutzman (Churchill) 9-0  
Emily Wolf (Stevenson) 8-8  
Sally Tomala (Churchill) 8-6  
Kara Bongiovani (Canton) 8-6  
Lindsey Russell (Plymouth) 8-6

**100-METER HURDLES**  
Megan Yanik (Ladywood) 14.75  
Madi Lewis (Plymouth) 15.41  
Senneca Scott (Franklin) 15.7  
Karilyn Cassidy (Harrison) 15.7  
Altemecia Martin (Thurston) 16.1  
Whitney Fields (Harrison) 16.3  
Jen Mueller (Franklin) 16.4  
DeJene Berry (N. Farmington) 16.8  
Sheridan Cassidy (Harrison) 17.0  
Sierra Resovsky (Farmington) 17.1  
Jamie Coleman (Harrison) 17.1

**300 HURDLES**  
Megan Yanik (Ladywood) 43.85  
Becky Adamcheck (Stevenson) 45.87  
Karilyn Cassidy (Harrison) 48.1  
Senneca Scott (Franklin) 48.3  
Bobbi Beveridge (Garden City) 48.6  
Altemecia Martin (Thurston) 49.04  
Jamie Coleman (Harrison) 49.1  
Whitney Fields (Harrison) 50.0  
Teresa Wojnarowski (Ladywood) 50.43  
Sierra Resovsky (Farmington) 51.3

**100 DASH**  
Tiera Parker (Harrison) 12.1  
Briana Nixon (Thurston) 12.53  
Ciara Fullilove (N. Farmington) 12.6  
Dominique Smith (Thurston) 12.69  
Aubrie Scott (John Glenn) 12.7  
Leah Heinzelman (Churchill) 12.8  
Cydney Henry (Mercy) 12.9  
E'Aijsha Guster (John Glenn) 12.9  
Asha Freeman (N. Farmington) 13.0  
Brandy Jackson (John Glenn) 13.0

**200**  
Tiera Parker (Harrison) 25.4  
Briana Nixon (Thurston) 25.55  
Madi Lewis (Plymouth) 25.7  
Cherie Gaines (N. Farmington) 25.9  
Ciara Fullilove (N. Farmington) 26.4  
Sydney Sterling (Farmington) 26.5  
Jakia Parker (Harrison) 26.7  
Aubrie Scott (John Glenn) 26.8  
Jessica Soblesky (Ply. Christian) 27.1  
Sonya Burks (Thurston) 27.1

**400**  
Cherie Gaines (N. Farmington) 57.92  
Becky Adamcheck (Stevenson) 59.27  
Josephine Zolynsky (Farmington) 1:00.6  
Sara Kroll (Churchill) 1:01.2  
Stephany Brown (John Glenn) 1:01.26  
Megan Kelly (Churchill) 1:01.3  
Beth Swanberg (Canton) 1:01.6  
Katie Clark (Mercy) 1:02.1  
Krystal Whitlow (Garden City) 1:02.1  
Becka Knox (Plymouth) 1:02.1

Sara Kroll (Churchill) 2:13.2  
Megan Vitale (Ladywood) 2:19.6  
Rachael Hille (Plymouth) 2:20.9  
Megan McPherson (Franklin) 2:22.8  
Tiffany Raisanen (Churchill) 2:25.4  
Gabby DeFlorio (Farmington) 2:25.5  
Olivia Salinas (Farmington) 2:26.0  
Nicole Zehel (Luth. Westland) 2:26.2  
Katie Clark (Mercy) 2:26.3  
Bethany Pilat (Churchill) 2:26.95

**1,600**  
Sara Kroll (Churchill) 4:54.25  
Megan McPherson (Franklin) 5:06.93  
Gabby DeFlorio (Farmington) 5:11.5  
Kerrigan Riley (Churchill) 5:12.2  
Nicole Zehel (Luth. Westland) 5:16.69  
Bethany Pilat (Churchill) 5:22.93  
Heather Smith (Mercy) 5:28.6  
Paula Green (Plymouth) 5:32.0  
Meredith Houska (Ladywood) 5:36.8  
Angela Wright (N. Farmington) 5:37.0

**3,200**  
Sara Kroll (Churchill) 10:50.32  
Megan McPherson (Franklin) 10:53.84  
Kerrigan Riley (Churchill) 11:22.7  
Bethany Pilat (Churchill) 11:27.4  
Blanca Kubicki (Canton) 11:31.1  
Meredith Houska (Ladywood) 11:50.5  
Angela Wright (N. Farmington) 11:51.1  
Gabby DeFlorio (Farmington) 11:55.4  
Heather Smith (Mercy) 11:59.7  
Victoria Tripp (Salem) 12:11.33

**400 RELAY**  
Redford Thurston 48.85  
Farmington Harrison 50.1  
North Farmington 50.73  
Westland John Glenn 50.8  
Wayne Memorial 51.3

**800 RELAY**  
Redford Thurston 1:44.19  
North Farmington 1:45.6  
Farmington Harrison 1:46.2  
Westland John Glenn 1:47.5  
Plymouth 1:48.2

**1,600 RELAY**  
Livonia Ladywood 4:00.98  
Farmington 4:02.0  
Plymouth 4:02.8  
Livonia Stevenson 4:04.87  
Livonia Churchill 4:05.58

**3,200 RELAY**  
Livonia Churchill 9:18.89  
Farmington 9:52.0  
Farmington Hills Mercy 10:00.0  
Livonia Franklin 10:07.2  
North Farmington 10:17.5



Up to the Challenge

The 11-and-under Livonia Travel baseball team recently captured the Hartland Challenge, rallying from an 8-3 fifth-inning deficit to win the championship game over the Downriver Knights, 9-8, as Kolby Dewhirst drove home Nate Leach with the winning run. Members of Livonia Travel include (bottom row, from left): Joe Wozniak, Nick Cotter, Alex Walkuski, Kolby Dewhirst, John Doyle; (middle row, from left) Connor Reinhart, Nate Leach, Jack Summers, Dan Bos, Tyler Denski, Mark Pettersson, Kent Katsuda; (top row, from left) manager Paul Reinhart and coaches Mike Wozniak and Brian Dewhirst.

CRUSADERS

FROM PAGE B1

rival Aquinas College, is an honor roll member and is ranked 16th in his class at Kalkaska.

A two-time All-Lake Michigan Conference, All-Region and All-State selection, Schuba holds the Kalkaska career scoring record with 1,520 points in addition to holding the single-game mark of 43 points.

This season he averaged 29 points per game, while setting school records for made three-pointers in a game (10), season (88) and career

(292). On the diamond, Schuba, earned All-Conference, All-Region and All-State honors as a junior. This spring as a senior, he helped lift the Blazers to the Lake Michigan Conference title. Schuba becomes Emehiser's fourth signee joining first-team All-Observer guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson), Matt Jenkins (Plymouth/Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard) and Class C All-Stater Derek Lennen (Schoolcraft H.S.). The Crusaders are coming off a 7-23 season in 2009-10 and a 4-10 mark in the WHAC during Emehiser's first full season as head coach.

ALL-AREA

FROM PAGE B2

in coaching," Franklin's Dave Bjorklund said. "Megan is our hardest worker, and after getting knocked down last year in the 3,200 run at the state meet, she was bound and determined to do well this year, and her hard work paid off."

McPherson was regional champ in the 3,200 (11:11.7) and runner-up in the 1,600 (5:07.4). She added a Kensington Conference title in the 3,200.

McPherson holds school records in the 800 (2:22.8), 1,600 (5:06.93) and 3,200 (10:53.84).

"We relied on her all year to score well for us in dual meets as well as in big meets," Bjorklund said. "She is a great kid who gets good grades and has a bright future ahead of her. I can't wait to see what she can do next season."

**FIRST-TEAM RELAYS**  
Thurston, 400 (Sonja Burks, Sr.; Brianna Nixon, Fr.; Altemecia Martin, Sr.; Dominique Smith, Soph.): This Eagle relay culminated an outstanding season of competition by placing fourth at the Division I state finals with a time of 48.85. With Burks leading off, opponents were often in quick pursuit with little hope of gaining ground on teammates Brianna Nixon, Altemecia Martin or Dominique Smith.

"They were both regional and division champions," Chambo said. "Sonya had the right mentality to run the lead-off leg. She wanted to be the one to start and put the relay team in front, was excellent out of the blocks and strong into the curve. And Dominique had the incredible ability to accelerate and was nearly flawless in her technique. She handles pressure exceptionally well and rises to the occasion to be the first one to finish the race." Thurston, 800 (Sonja Burks, Sr.; Brianna Nixon, Fr.; Arielle Harris, Fr.; Dominique Smith, Soph.): With two freshmen, a sophomore and one senior comprising the unit, this Eagle contingent was able to culminate an outstanding year of competition by racing to a school-record 1:44.19 showing at the state meet. The performance was good for 10th overall.

"They did their absolute best," Chambo said. "Arielle is the only different one in there from the 4 x 100 and is the perfect complement to the rest of the relay team. We are excited to think she still has three more years and she will continue to be an integral part to the relays and the team."

Ladywood, 1,600 (Teresa Wojnarowski, Jr.; Shannon Scarlett, Sr.; Megan Vitale, Jr.; Megan Yanik, Sr.): This foursome

placed runner-up in Division 2 with a school-record time of 4:00.98.

They were also Catholic League A-B Division champs (school-record 4:01.33), breaking a 34-year-old mark.

"I told them that record had been standing at Ladywood for a long time," Ahearn said. "They got close to it last year, and were very motivated to do it this year."

Yanik was the anchor, while Vitale, a junior, ranked second in the area (2:19.6) and was Catholic League champ in the 800.

Wojnarowski, also a junior, displayed her versatility by posting a first in the discus in the Catholic League and was third at the regional. Her best throw of the season was 110-6.

Scarlett, however, was the missing link.

"This is Shannon's first year of track and I convinced her to come out after cross country season," Ahearn said of the senior. "She's a big reason why we broke the record. She went from a 63-second quarter (mile) to a 60 the night of the Catholic League (meet). That brought us to first place and we never looked back. She solidified our relay team."

Churchill, 3,200 (Tiffany Raisanen, Sr.; Bethany Pilat, Soph.; Kerrigan Riley, Fr.; Sara Kroll, Sr.): This quartet peaked at the Division I state finals in Rockford with a sixth-place finish posting a school-record time of 9:18.98, almost eight seconds faster than their school-record effort of 9:27.19 in the KLAA Association meet.

They were also regional cham-

pions.

Riley (1,600) and Pilat (3,200), both state qualifiers in the 3,200, were second-team All-Observer individual event selections, while Raisanen ranked fifth in the area in the 800 (2:25.4).

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Pat Daugherty, Churchill: The third-year coach guided the Chargers to Public Schools of Livonia, KLAA South Division (5-0 dual record), Kensington Conference and Division I-Region 5 championships.

The girls track team at Churchill has two things going for it," Daugherty said. "First, we have girl athletes who are very talented, extremely competitive and dedicated hard workers."

"And secondly, a coaching staff made up of John Filiatraut, Angie Krolkowski, Al Smith and Vern Williams, who are great teachers and motivators. This has been our secret to our success this year."

Churchill also boasted seven state qualifiers and five All-State performers.

"Each year we set team goals and for the first time since I have become the head coach we reached every one," Daugherty said. "We had any outstanding freshman class this year, nine of which earned varsity letters. We also had a great senior class led by the best distance runner in the area, Sara Kroll, and All-State thrower Taylor Byron, and several sophomores and juniors had very special seasons for our team. I am very proud of all our athletes and coaches who helped create this season - my absolute favorite as a coach."

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## State Cup champs

After winning the Spring 2010 MSPSP Premier 1 Division with a 7-1-1 record and a 23-2 goal differential, the Michigan Hawks '97, an under-13 girls soccer team, captured the 2010 MSYSA State Cup by defeating Vardar in a double overtime shootout, 2-1, Sunday at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac. The teams battled to a 1-1 draw through regulation and two 10-minute overtime periods. Members of the Hawks, bound for the regional June 26 in Beavercreek, Ohio, include (bottom row, from left): Cassie Phillips (Hartland), Taylor Lambouris (West Bloomfield), Lexie Shamoun (Ortonville), Kelly Sweeney (West Bloomfield), Rylee Jayson (Livonia), Mackenzie Travis (South Lyon), Syd Kettlewell (Lake Orion), Claire Allen (New Baltimore), Shannon Magnan Brighton; (back row, from left): coach Dave Hicklin, Nickie Zuckerman (Livonia), Holly Hermans (Brighton), Kylie Knight (Plymouth), Olivia Hartman (West Bloomfield), Laekyn Jaciuk (Southgate), Erin Emmanuel (Livonia), Courtney Peterson (Canton) and assistant coach Tony Phillips. Not pictured is Olivia Kitz (Livonia).

## Salem ace Lee blanks Spartans, 2-0

Livonia Stevenson girls softball coach Rob Witherspoon knew getting through the Division 1 district tournament Saturday at Canton was going to be a daunting task.

"This is one of the toughest districts in the area," Witherspoon said. "And to come out ahead, you need to bring your 'A' game on that day."

His Spartans came up short in the district semifinal, falling to Salem, 2-0, as pitcher Briana Lee tossed a complete-game 3-hitter, striking out eight and not allowing a walk.

Losing pitcher Jacqueline Johnson scattered seven hits and allowed just two runs, both coming in the fourth inning.

Jen First went 2-for-3 with an RBI for the

Rocks. Lee also doubled and scored a run.

"Defensively we played well enough to win today," said Witherspoon, whose team bowed out at 22-13 overall. "One misplayed ball and one throwing error led to the only two runs of the day."

"Offensively, we hit the ball fairly hard, but we could not string any hits together. Lee did a very nice job of mixing her pitches up and not allowing us to have any momentum. I'm very proud of the way our girls have improved throughout this whole season and I look forward to doing it all over again next year."

Plymouth, which upset Canton in the other semifinal, beat Salem for the district title, 1-0.

## Rams pitchers quiet Thunder, 6-0

The Michigan Rams pitching staff continued to mow down opponents Wednesday night with the latest victim being the Thunder, 6-0, in a Livonia Michigan College Baseball League matchup at Ford Field.

The Rams, now 4-0 on the year, have allowed just one run and a total of 10 hits in four games. It was their third shutout.

### SANDLOT BASEBALL

Winning pitcher Alex Pierce (Wayne State) gave up four hits, walked four and struck out five in five innings.

Tyler Haggerson (Hillsdale College) struck out four and walked only one in two innings of relief.

Brett Mazmanian led the

Rams' 10-hit attack going 3-for-4 with an RBI.

Aaron Cieslak contributed a 2-run triple, while Bobby Thomas went 2-for-2 with two runs scored. Brad Guenther and John DiLaura each added an RBI.

Matt Hunt, who gave up five runs on seven hits and two walks in four innings, took the loss as the Thunder dropped to 1-5.

## FEES

FROM PAGE B1

five surveys.

Since the fall 2003 survey, the median cost per sport has increased from \$50 in 2003-04 to \$70 in 2009-10 – a 40 percent increase. In that same time span, the standardized annual fee for a student-athlete has increased from \$75 to \$100 – a 33 percent increase.

Next school calendar year, the Livonia Public Schools will charge high school athletes a one-time fee of \$300, which can be used for all three sports seasons (fall, winter and spring). It's been \$200 the past two years. It was \$100 prior to that.

"I've heard one parent tell me that if they're going to spend \$300, they may want their kid to be involved more than one sport," Franklin athletic director Ron Hammye said. "We hope it won't be a negative effect, but it also may spur having kids participating in more than one sport."

Hammye said hockey is going to cost an additional \$500 per player, which all goes toward ice arena rentals where each program spends approximately \$15,000 for ice time per season.

In golf, LPS athletes will pay \$150 more, which is used exclusively to offset greens fees charged by the three City of Livonia courses.

"That's obviously revenue neutral, we're not gaining anything from it," Hammye said.

Livonia Clarenceville, in 2009-10, charged \$100 for three sports for the recently after soliciting a \$75 participation fee for the two previous two years.

"A lot of parents are appreciative as far as what they see from other sports," Clarenceville A.D. Kevin Murphy said. "What it costs for AAU, the LJAAL (Livonia Junior Athletic League), or other youth organizations – that's expensive. For \$100, it's still a good bargain."

Beginning with the 2004-05 survey, schools were asked if they had a cap on what individual student-athletes and families could be charged. Caps on student fees have been used by the majority of schools, but that number has dropped from 71.3 percent in 2004-05 to 54 percent in 2009-10.

The number of schools instituting a cap on what a family pays has fluctuated from 41 percent hav-

ing a limit in 2004-05 to 46 percent in 2007-08 and back down to 43 percent in 2009-10.

Other data from the survey in 2009-10 shows that 68 percent of schools with participation fees have some kind of fee reduction or waiver program in place based on existing programs for subsidized lunch and milk; that 14 percent of schools using fees report a drop in participation; and that less than one percent of schools report losing students to other school districts because they are charging fees.

The fee waiver number is up from 60 percent in 2003-04; and the number of students transferring out has been in the one to three percent range over the course of the six surveys.

Five percent of schools not assessing fees responding to the survey in 2009-10 report transfers to their districts because of the absence of fees. This number has ranged between two and seven percent over the six surveys.

The Wayne-Westland Community School District, which includes Wayne Memorial and Westland John Glenn high schools, currently does not charge a participation fee.

"We were the first ones to have it, it was in the early '90s and we had it for two or three years," said Jess Shough, who just completed his 24th season as Glenn boys track and field coach. "It was \$250 at that time per sport. We have not had it since."

"It hurt us, particularly in the spring. That's how we formed a booster club (for track) because we had to defray many of the costs. There were kids that couldn't afford it and we lost a number of kids."

Wayne-Westland, however, has trimmed its athletic budget for 2010-11 by going to a districtwide athletic director position, eliminating one administrator position at the high school.

Schools have also trimmed busing costs to away events. Clarenceville and LPS teams are bused out to venues, but often must find their own transportation back.

Wayne-Westland has also scaled back the number of buses it uses, but still makes round-trips for athletes.

"We've been double- or tripling up teams, using only one bus combined," Shough said.

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## GRIFFIN

FROM PAGE B1

of absence," Ron recalled. "We moved here (from Detroit) in 1964 to Livonia and there was a need growing. As the story goes, he couldn't find a jock strap on the way to the game. He took out a loan from my mother's mother and that's how it all got started. He took a flyer that year and never went back."

Bob Griffin ran the family business for 21 years before retiring and moving to the Brighton area where he tried to keep tabs on his eight different grandchildren at various games and events.

A graduate of Detroit Mackenzie High School, Griffin remained active in the school's

alumni association, the Friends of Mackenzie, which provided scholarship help for athletic teams in the Detroit Public School League.

His wife Bev also served as skating director for the City of Livonia Parks and Recreation program for nearly 25 years.

"They were ham and eggs, they were a great team," Ron Griffin said. "They went hand-in-hand."

Bob Griffin is best remembered for sponsoring numerous youth baseball and hockey teams within the City of Livonia.

"The support we've received is overwhelming," Ron Griffin said. "I talked to a lot of people about what a great man he was. I've heard a lot of stories about how if people couldn't afford

it, he'd offer bats, shoes, gloves or balls. He made sure they wouldn't walk away from the store empty-handed. He sponsored over 100 teams a year. A lot of people benefitted from his generosity."

Ron Griffin also said his father, a former Marine sergeant who served in the Korean War, was very supportive of his family.

"He did whatever he could do to sacrifice for his kids," Ron Griffin said. "He was always there for them. He was a caring and generous man."

Memorial contributions may be made to Children's Hospital of Michigan and/or Michigan Patriot Guard by visiting www.PGRmichigan.org.

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### SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

#### Basketball Academy

Coach Paul Tripp of The Basketball Academy is staging his summer skill development camps at St. Damian School in Westland.

The boys' camp will be from 8-11:30 a.m. (grades 3-5), Monday through Thursday, June 21-24.

The girls' camp will be from 8-11 a.m. (grades 3-5) and 12:30-4 p.m. (grades 6-9), Monday through Thursday, June 28-July 1.

E-mail BasketballAcademy@hotmail.com; or call 248-563-0858.

#### Franklin baseball

The Livonia Franklin Future Stars summer baseball camp (boys and girls exiting grades 2-8) will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Monday through Thursday, June 28-July 1, at the varsity field or inside the fieldhouse (in case of inclement weather).

The cost is \$60 (includes camp T-shirt). You must be registered by Friday, June 25.

Call Matt Fournier at (734) 968-0499 or e-mail mfournie2@livoniapublicschools.org.

#### Churchill hockey

The Livonia Churchill-Hockey Skills two-week camp for boys entering grades 9-12 will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday, July 12-16, and 9-10:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, July 19-23, both at Edgar Arena, located at 33841 Lyndon, Livonia. The cost is \$180. Full equipment is required. The deadline for phone-in and walk-in registration is Friday, June 11.

Call Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni at (248) 345-6584.

## KROMM

FROM PAGE B1

seasons, 1978-79 and 1979-80, before being replaced by G.M. Ted Lindsay with nine regular season games remaining (as Marcel Pronovost became interim coach).

Kromm went 79-11-41 in his three years with the Wings.

Prior to his stint with Detroit, Kromm had enjoyed success with the World Hockey Association Winnipeg Jets, leading his team to a 52-27-2 record and the Avco Cup Championship in 1976. That

fall, Kromm was also an assistant coach for Team Canada at the inaugural Canada Cup.

In 1961, Kromm took an underdog team from British Columbia, the Trail Smoke Eaters, to a World Championship win over the Russians.

"From the stories I heard he was tough coach who demanded a lot from his players," Rich Kromm said. "He expected guys to compete, and if they did, they were respected. He also had a great knowledge of the game."

After his stint with the Wings, Bobby Kromm left

coaching to work for J&J Productions, an auto parts manufacturer. He later went into business for himself as a manufacturers rep in the automotive business.

"His kids were still in high school and he did not want to uproot everybody," Rich Kromm said. "For about eight years he did instruction at hockey schools in Trail (B.C.)."

"He was a fantastic father who had a great zest for life. He liked to have fun and he was passionate about his life and family."

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# COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, June 13, 2010

hometownlife.com

## Mama Jazz keeps alive art form

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
CORRESPONDENT

They call her Mama Jazz — and for good reason. For nearly 70 years Midge Ellis has produced and promoted concerts showcasing the distinctly American art form. She's the powerhouse behind the Michigan Jazz Festival held every summer in Livonia.

The musicians can thank Ellis' father for introducing her to the music at a young age in the hills of Kentucky. She would sit on his lap for hours listening to the radio. By high school she was booking a band for her senior prom.

Ellis continued to represent musicians for the next several years at Air Force officer clubs. When her husband was transferred to Detroit, she rejoiced because Baker's Keyboard Lounge is known throughout the world as the oldest operating jazz club.

In search of a good place to raise her family, Ellis came to Livonia in 1960. It was here in the 1970s and 1980s she coordinated the Clarenceville Jazz Series bringing legendary Big Bands like Stan Kenton and Count Basie to Louis Schmidt Auditorium.

Ted Mallires remembers when Ellis started the Clarenceville series. He was a band director for the schools from 1959 to 1995. Ellis' children, Gary, Holly and Tim, played in the Clarenceville band.

"She convinced me to get a jazz band together with the kids, let them do a warm up



Midge Ellis (left) and Eileen Standley met at a jazz class years ago and now work together producing the Michigan Jazz Festival at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.



Midge Ellis gets a kiss from her son, Gary, who plays with Broken Arrow Blues Band.

down in the pits. I'm glad she was adamant," said Mallires. "It was really exciting times. The kids didn't realize but they were seeing history."

Johnny Trudell met Ellis in the 1970s. The Big Band leader has only praise for the

Livonia woman who turns 87 in September.

"There's so much that can be credited to Midge," said Trudell. "She instituted a jazz program where there was no jazz. The series is historic. The greatest names in jazz played there. It was amazing."

### JAZZ FESTIVALS

She served on the committee of the Montreaux Detroit Jazz Festival for the first six years then went on to help Trudell and Big Band leader Emil Moro produce the successful Michigan Jazz Festival. By the 1990s she had taken over day-to-day details of organizing the event including raising money at concerts several times a year to keep the festival free to the public.

Ellis moved the festival to the Botsford Inn in Farmington from Freedom Hill where it was first held in

1995. When the historic eatery and hotel closed she sought yet another venue, Schoolcraft College in Livonia where it has remained since 1999. Ellis worked in special events on the campus for 17 years.

"She's been Mama Jazz for a long time around here and the musicians have benefited," Trudell said. "She put my band to work. She was instrumental in getting us into Botsford. She started a jazz series there with Jack Brokensha and brought the jazz festival there. She single-handedly does the hands-on stuff. People don't realize what's involved with putting on a festival."

### POPULAR EVENT

Matt Michaels got to know Ellis when he was playing piano with Jack Brokensha at the Botsford Inn in the 1990s.

Please see **MAMA JAZZ, B6**

## Michigan Jazz Festival salutes longtime volunteer

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Eileen Standley of Plymouth is a little surprised to find her name under the dedication on this year's Michigan Jazz Festival promotional materials.

It's a long-standing tradition for the festival committee to dedicate the event to a jazz aficionado, but Standley, a member of the committee, never thought the honor would go to her.

"We had a board meeting a month and a half ago where we determine who is chosen. It turned out to be me."

She said the committee usually chooses someone involved in teaching others about jazz, often a musician.

"It's generally an educator, someone into furthering our music."

Standley, who handles contracts, fliers and other promotional materials for the festival, has done exactly that as a piano teacher, performer and festival committee member.

She taught classical piano for years and then met Midge Ellis, and her interest in jazz grew. She began working as a hostess on weekends at Bakers Keyboard Lounge and learning jazz piano at Wayne State University.



The Michigan Jazz Festival next month is dedicated to Eileen Standley of Plymouth.

Standley also accompanied the Schoolcraft College vocal group, SCool Jazz for 20 years.

"I've had so much fun and consider myself so lucky," Standley said. "I've worked closely with Midge the last 15 years with the festival."

"It's a labor of love," she said. "It's about the music, first of all, and the mission is to get younger people to start playing our music. Some of the high schools do offer jazz and have their bands. I think it's catching on."

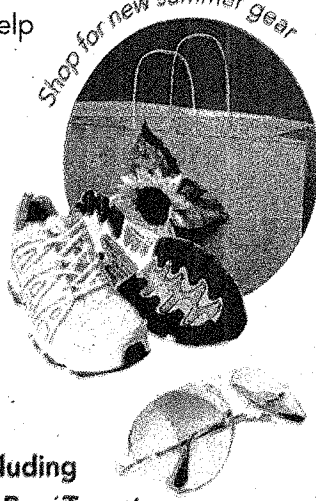
Young people will perform at "Playing with the Pros" a one-hour portion of the festival and college musicians will play on the "Future of Jazz" stage.

The festival runs from noon to 9:15 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at Schoolcraft

Please see **SALUTES, B6**

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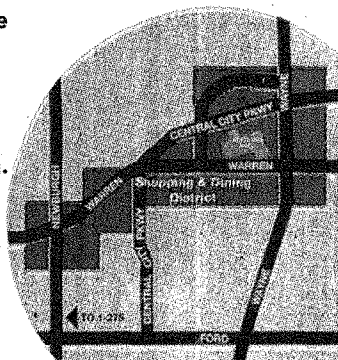
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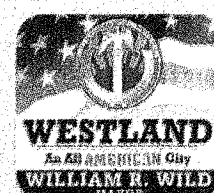
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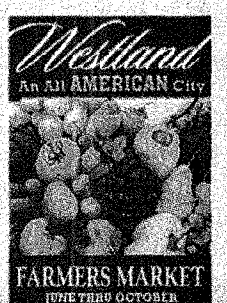
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Tell us about it. Write to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com or 615 W. Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Include a photo if you like. Make sure it's in jpg format if e-mailing.

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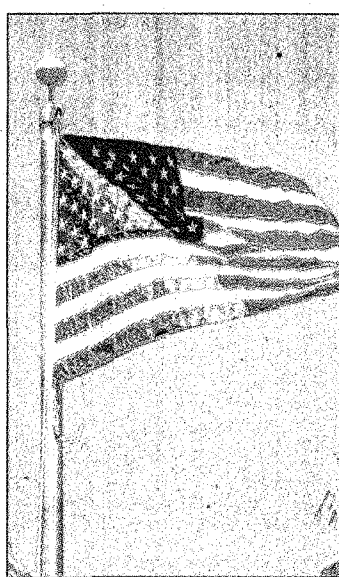
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But hydroxy apatite does not respond to colchicine or allopurinol, the two drugs most commonly used for gout. Also, no antibiotic can resolve the pain or inflammation from hydroxy apatite. The only medication that resolves a flare of hydroxy apatite is cortisone either by injection or by mouth.

I prefer injection because it brings the amount of steroid needed to quell the problem right to the area experiencing the flare. Other physicians prefer oral steroids or a "dose pack," because of the convenience compared to the preparation and equipment needed for injection.

For unknown reasons, older people, that is individuals above age 80, experience recurrent attacks of hydroxy apatite disease having as many as 4-5 attacks in six weeks, then inexplicably, the attacks end.

## SALUTES

FROM PAGE B5

College in Livonia and will include more than 147 musicians and six piano workshops.

The music, which includes a variety of jazz styles, is continuous. Parking and admission is free. The festival is expected to draw 5,000-7,000 music lovers.

"We have six stages. If you don't care for (the music) on one stage, you can walk to another," Standley said. "Everything is free except for the food."

The festival's annual Father's Day brunch helps to keep it that way. The fund-raiser runs noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 20, in the DiPonio Room in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, just south of Seven Mile. Brunch will be served from noon to 1 p.m. The Cliff Monear Trio, with vocalist Kelly Broadway, will perform until 3 p.m.

Tickets cost \$27.50. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with a check payable to Michigan Jazz Festival and mail to 20457 Maplewood, Livonia, MI 48152-2022. For more information call Midge Ellis at (248) 474-2720.

## MAMA JAZZ

FROM PAGE B5

"The Michigan Jazz Festival was on the grounds, in the banquet hall, a tent and the hotel," said Michaels of Southfield. "It was packed. You couldn't even walk through the crowd."

Ellis knew the Botsford Inn well and thought it was the perfect spot for a jazz series and festival.

"She was great friends with Buddy Rich, Woody Herman and Maynard Ferguson and they stayed at the Botsford. She was a Big Band buff, a real music lover, historically quite accurate, quite knowledgeable especially from the Big Band era," said Michaels, co-founder of the jazz studies program at Wayne State University. "She became a booking agent, booked Maynard. Woody Herman, when he was ill she got him in a hospital in Detroit where he passed away. She was a good friend of Stan Kenton. She knew all these band leaders."

Jerry McKenzie met Ellis in the 1970s when he was playing drums with Kenton. He credits Bob Talbert, the late *Detroit Free Press* columnist, with naming her Mama Jazz. Ellis has always mothered jazz players.

"When Stan's band came to town she would alert Stan and I would be invited up to play," said McKenzie who works in Farmington Hills and lives in West Bloomfield. "Over the years we just kept in contact. Midge has told many people about my band (Just Jazz) playing at Nikola's (in Southfield Thursday nights). She's stayed very active in promoting jazz."

Dan Jordan met Ellis in



Midge Ellis has been a part of the music scene for many years. Here she poses with Count Basie in the 1980s at Ford Auditorium in Detroit.

1972 at the Showers Club. Ellis had rented the space, usually used to show dogs. Every Sunday night, Jordan and the house band would jam with guest artists from the Clarenceville series.

"She certainly must be commended for her dedication to the cause of jazz and the Michigan Jazz Festival," said Jordan, a South Lyon resident who plays bass with Just Jazz.

Saxophonist George Benson admires Ellis for her dedication to the Michigan Jazz Festival as well. He will perform at this year's event, which is free to the public.

"I've known Midge for years," said Benson of Detroit. "She's always been very active as far as jazz goes. She's worked hard to promote it."

In 2006 she led a drive for used instruments that were donated at the festival then distributed to band programs in need. Ellis believes if jazz is to survive, young musicians must be exposed to the art form.

The Michigan Jazz Festival takes place noon to 9:15 p.m. Sunday, July 18 at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

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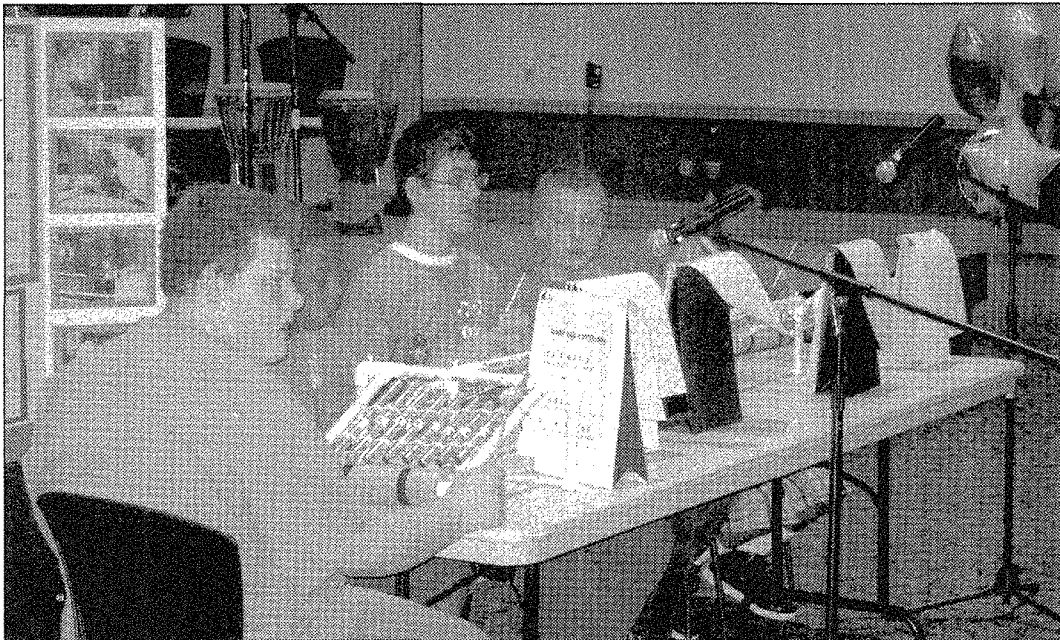
# Festival spotlights arts abilities

Nearly 200 children and adults sang and danced, made art projects, and painted murals at the 19th annual Celebrate Abilities Festival presented by VSA Michigan's Southeast Region Committee June 4, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, and June 5, at Michigan State University Community Music School in Detroit.

Founded by Jean Kennedy Smith, VSA was originally known as Very Special Arts, then VSA arts. The nonprofit organization, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., sponsors art, music and dance therapy sessions throughout the year to help children and adults with disabilities express themselves. The annual Southeast Region festival showcases those talents.

Among the performers were students from Old Village School in Northville. They brought handmade xylophones to the DiPonio Room at Schoolcraft College to play *We Are the World* under the direction of Hayley Mieras, music therapist. Students from Pontiac, Detroit, Lincoln Park, and Monroe performed as well.

On Saturday, Karen Barsy's tap students from 5678 studio in Livonia danced to *We Will Rock You*. Cameron Barsy, Brandon Miller, Gabrielle and Brooke Kreza, and Caroline Pietroni all had a good time. Raymond Wells of Plymouth enjoyed himself, too. A pianist, Wells performed *Sonatina*



Students from Old Village School in Northville play handmade xylophones at the Celebrate Abilities Festival in Livonia.



Students from 5678 Studio in Livonia tap dance at the Celebrate Abilities Festival, presented by VSA Michigan's Southeast Region Committee.

*Opus 36, No. 1* by Clementi. The PAR Conservatory Band from Birmingham played *Jailhouse Rock*.

Many visitors admired the touring Emerging Artists Exhibit while students enjoyed workshops in African drumming with Kevin Collins on Friday, and creating murals with Royal Oak artist, Daniel Cascardi, and movement with therapist Cindy Babcock both days.

Outside the DiPonio Room, Deb Madonna, co-chair of the Miracle League Plymouth, and

Elizabeth Anchor, marketing associate for Schoolcraft College, sat at a table taking donations for the Miracle League Field to be built behind Central Middle School in Plymouth. The field will provide children with disabilities an accessible area with rubberized surface for playing baseball. The Southeast Region Committee and Miracle League Plymouth decided to partner for the festival because of their like goals of helping children with disabilities. The children were the

main reason volunteers from CVS pharmacies came to Schoolcraft College to set up easels and help with art projects including Father's Day cards and gift bags. CVS began partnering with VSA Michigan, the state organization on arts and disabilities, about two years ago as part of the CVS Caremark All Kids Can initiative to improve the quality of life for children with disabilities.

Without monetary support from CVS and in-kind donations from Schoolcraft College and the MSU Community Music School, the festival would not be heading into its 20th year in 2011.

Southeast Region Committee members include Jody Stark, Margaret Hull, Cindy Babcock, Linda Ann Chomin, and Connie Lott.

For more information about Miracle League Plymouth visit [www.miracleleagueplymouth.org](http://www.miracleleagueplymouth.org). The organization believes "Every child deserves a chance to play baseball."

For information about VSA Michigan's Southeast Region Committee Festival, contact Jody Stark at (313) 273-7762 or [catinc@earthlink.net](mailto:catinc@earthlink.net).



Claudia King (left), daughter Jessica and son George make sure a family tradition continues. That's Zane in the heirloom gown, held by his father. His big brother, Vance, stands nearby holding great-grandfather Claude Centers' hand.

# Livonia family's heirloom garment is almost like new

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Patricia Centers of Livonia owns a 105-year-old gown that never seems to go out of style.

Dozens of family members have worn the cotton and lace garment, although each is allowed to dress in the handmade piece only once in a lifetime.

"I'm Claude's wife. It was his mother who wore it initially. His grandmother made the gown for her," Centers explained the history of the family heirloom christening gown.

In 1905, Edna Tischbein was baptized at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Detroit in the handmade baptismal dress.

Edna married Clyde Centers and with their three children Claude, Paul and Joanne, who all also wore the gown, moved to Livonia in 1950.

Patricia married Claude in 1952 and became the gown's

keeper. Since then Edna's 14 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren all followed the family tradition of wearing the family heirloom. Two great-grandchildren have been christened in the gown, one most recently this year.

"All we do is it's wrapped in tissue paper. I used to keep it in plastic and then someone said to use tissue," Centers said. "When it's used, we wash it carefully and keep it in the dresser drawer. There's just a little mark around the neck. I think it's from formula. I was afraid to bleach it, but the rest is just perfect."

Centers said both sexes have worn the gown, raising a few eyebrows in the process.

"I remember when our little son was christened at Our Lady of Sorrows. There were 11 (being baptized) that day. We could hear the snickers, people saying 'Oh, look, that boy has a gown on.' But our whole family was proud."

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**DENTAL ASSISTANT -**  
Rapidly growing Milford office is seeking an exceptional dental assistant with a strong work ethic. Must be friendly, professional, dependable and a team player. Candidates must have working experience (min 3 yrs) with digital imaging, digital charting and x-ray certification. EagleSoft and implant experience a plus. Must be able to handle a fast paced schedule. Position is part time with evening hours. Competitive hourly pay, for qualified candidate.  
Email resume to: [milforddds@gmail.com](mailto:milforddds@gmail.com)

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### Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**FOOD SERVICE SUPERVISOR ASST.**  
West Bloomfield Nursing Center has a full time opening for an Asst. Director. Healthcare experience or CDM preferred. Will be responsible for afternoon shift and general sanitation of kitchen. Variable hours from 10 A to 8 P.  
Email resume to: [jgarber@beaumont-hospitals.com](mailto:jgarber@beaumont-hospitals.com) or fax to Kim Kaas 248-661-2276

**LEGAL SECRETARY**  
Experienced only for multi-specialty group in the Garden City area. Must have at least two years experience in a medical setting. Full & part time avail. benefits. Please send your resume & salary requirements to: Fax (734) 458-4723 Reference 1813, & email: [oceresume@hometownlife.com](mailto:oceresume@hometownlife.com)

**Medical Biller & Medical Coordinator**  
Full-Time for Southfield office Medical Biller must have knowledge of insurance billing and coding. Medical Coordinator (for nursing facilities). Must exhibit strong communication skills, be organized & motivated with basic computer knowledge. Full benefit package available. Fax resume: 248-355-3626

**MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER**  
Exp'd., full-time for medium sized internal medicine practice. Healthcare exp., basic computer skills req. Duties include payroll, scheduling, supervising office staff, interacting with insurance companies and general clerical work. Must have exc. interpersonal skills and be comfortable dealing with patients. Benefits offered.  
Email resume to: [arbor\\_lane\\_physicians@hotmail.com](mailto:arbor_lane_physicians@hotmail.com)

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For internal medical practice in Commerce Twp. Fax resume: (248) 363-6202

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### Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**Recreational Therapy Assistant**  
Woodward Hills Nursing Center in Bloomfield Hills needs a Part Time afternoo Recreational Therapy Asst. Previous exp req'd. Fax resume to: Melissa Houston at (248) 644-0555 or Email: [Premier.jobs@yahoo.com](mailto:Premier.jobs@yahoo.com)

**RESIDENT ASSISTANT**  
Immediate Opening. Midnight shift. Apply in person: Plymouth Inn Assisted Living 205 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth 734-451-0700

**RN/LPN**  
Assisted Living Facility Plymouth Inn 205 Haggerty, Plymouth 734-451-0700 Fax: 734-451-0727

**SOCIAL WORKER**  
Part Time position available for Social Worker at West Bloomfield Nursing Center. You must have nursing home experience to be considered. Position is 20 hrs a week, flex time available. Fax your resume to: (248) 661-2276

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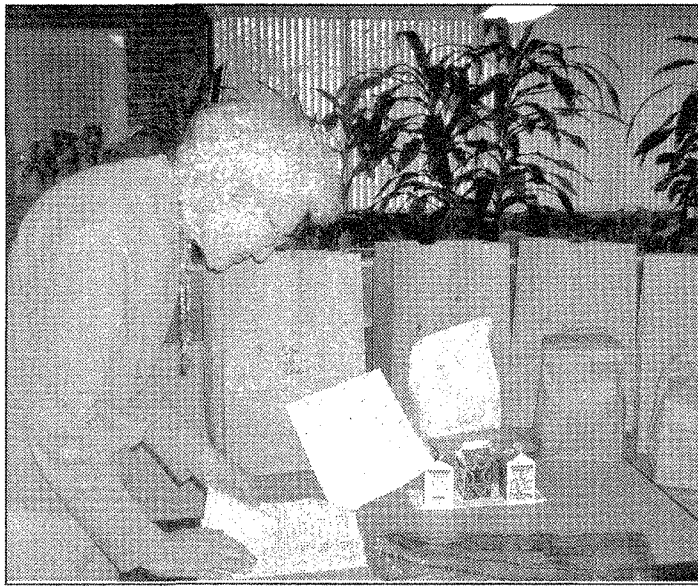


# Drive, package foods for kosher Meals on Wheels

The National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section's Meals on Wheels program is in need of volunteers. For 37 years, Kosher Meals on Wheels has provided high quality lunches and dinners for the homebound. It's the only Meals on Wheels program in the community to provide kosher and glatt kosher meals, preparing and delivering 40,000 meals a year.

More than 150 volunteers package and deliver the meals to local communities five days a week. Volunteers range in age from youngsters just old enough to be volunteering for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah service requirements to adults in their 90s. Each morning, packagers organize the meals and have them distributed in less than a half hour to cities throughout Oakland County. They deliver to Wayne County one day a week.

Founded by current volunteer treasurer Esther Rosenblum, Kosher Meals on Wheels provides lunches and dinners to its clients, who do not need to be Jewish, but who keep



A volunteer double checks paperwork near bagged meals that are ready for delivery.

kosher. Meals are prepared at the Jewish Senior Life Prentis Apartments in Oak Park by Morrison Senior Dining chef Dave Dry and his team.

Program participants make a donation within their ability to pay for meals, and some clients need not pay at all. The National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit

Section provides the additional funding from the proceeds raised at their Council Thrift Shops in Royal Oak and Berkley. Additional support comes from AAA 1-B, the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) and the Older Americans Act. The program is run in cooperation with Jewish Family Service, which provides intake and casework



Volunteers assemble kosher meals.

services.

Drivers have dedicated routes and know the status and behaviors of each of their clients, who in some cases is the only person they will see all day. Not only do the drivers deliver the food but they also provide the social interaction that some of their clients are lacking.

"Kosher Meals on Wheels provides much more than

food. The program provides friendship and can sometimes be a very real lifesaver to our clients," stated Irma Glaser, President, National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section. "Our delivery volunteers have, in some instances, been the first at the side of a person in need.

"While we have wonderful, dedicated volunteers,

we are always looking for more. We have come to mean something to the community and to so many families. Our goal is to serve more in the years ahead."

For more information on Kosher Meals on Wheels, or to alert the organization to someone in need, call (248) 967-0967, 8-10:30 a.m. Monday-Friday.

## GARDEN & NATURE

Send garden and nature items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

### FAMILY BUTTERFLY EVENT

Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association offers crafts for children, a tour of the Butterfly Garden, a movie on Monarch Butterfly migration and a Butterfly Plant sale by Barson's Greenhouse of Westland, noon to 3 p.m., Sunday, June 13 at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail. For questions call (734) 326-0578 or www.

sembabutterfly.com.

### RAISE BUTTERFLIES

Learn how to find butterfly eggs, how to care for them until mature butterflies are born, and how to nurture them in your yard, at the next meeting of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA). The meeting starts at 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 16, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Parking on Hines Drive and Ann Arbor Trail. Meeting fee is \$3 for non-

members. For more information call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

### GROW IN FARMINGTON

The Chesley Street Community Garden in Farmington is accepting new gardeners. The garden is open to residents and business owners in the city of Farmington.

Each 7-foot by 11-foot plot costs \$15 for one growing season. Rent a plot at the treasurer's department at Farmington City Hall,

23600 Liberty Street. E-mail to info@growfarmington.org for more information.

### BOUNTY AND BLOOMS

Gardeners of Northville-Novi present a tour of seven exceptional gardens, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, June 26. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile, on the day of the walk. For more information visit gardeners-northville-novi.org or call (248) 349-0376.

### LIVONIA GARDENS

The Livonia Garden Walk, benefitting Historic Greenmead, runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, June 26. Tour the Hill House gardens of Greenmead and six residential gardens. Tickets are \$9 in advance, \$10 on event day. Greenmead is

located at 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. (248) 477-7375.

### TRAILWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Tickets will be available beginning June 1 for the "Flowers are Forever Garden Walk" sponsored by the Trailwood Garden Club in Plymouth. Cost is \$8 before the walk; \$10 the day of the walk. Tickets for children, 12 and under are half off. Strollers will not be permitted in the gardens. The event runs noon to 8 p.m., Tuesday, June 29 and includes several gardens where complimentary refreshments will be served. Buy tickets at Saxton's Garden Center, 587 Ann Arbor Trail, Backyard Birds, 627 S. Main, and from Darlene Rinke, (734) 455-6867.

### NORTHVILLE GARDENS

The 17th annual Garden

Walk, sponsored by the Country Garden Club of Northville, Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, July 7. The tour includes six gardens. Other unique attractions include a garden market, live music, and refreshments at historic Mill Race Village. Proceeds from the event support charitable contributions to local and national horticultural causes.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, available after June 7, at Gardenviews, 117 E. Main, Northville; (248) 380-8881. Limited tickets will be sold the day of the event and will cost \$12 at Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold Ave., Northville.

Visit the Country Garden Club of Northville Web site at <http://cgcnv.org/>



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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers /Hometown Weeklies  
615 W. Lafayette Blvd, Detroit, MI 48226  
Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.

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## MILESTONES

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
PLANNED

Family and friends will gather on June 27 to celebrate the 67th anniversary of Woodson "Woody" and Fay Kilgore of Livonia. The couple originally exchanged vows at Camp Crowder in Neosho, Mo., where Woodson served in the U.S. Air Force.

They lived in Joplin, Mo., before moving to Livonia 54 years ago. They are the parents of four children, the late Tom Kilgore, Pat Escoe of Livonia, Diane Kilgore of Westland, and Mickey Kilgore of Westland. They have 10 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Woodson retired in 1982 from Firwood Manufacturing, where he worked as an electrical engineer, manager of



Woodson and Fay Kilgore's wedding photo. The Livonia couple will celebrate 67 years of marriage this month.

product development and the company pilot.

The couple says love, faith, communication and "til death do us part" is the key to their longtime marriage.

DECEMBER WEDDING  
PLANNED

Rebecca McCurdy of Grosse Pointe Park and Scott Robichaud of Detroit announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Robert and Marie McCurdy of Lansing, earned a B.A. degree in political theory and constitutional democracy from Michigan State University and a juris doctorate degree from Notre Dame. She is employed as staff attorney for Freedom House, Detroit.

Her fiancé, son of Daniel and Peg Robichaud of Canton, holds a B.S.E.E. degree from the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He is employed as an automotive engineer for Ford Motor Company, Dearborn.

A wedding is planned for Dec. 11, 2010 at St. Aloysius, Detroit.



McCurdy-Robichaud

## LOUIS-GRANDMASON

Jason Robert Grandmason of Belleville and Miranda Renee Louis of Garden City announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Debra Louis of Garden City and the late Randall Louis. Her fiancé is the son of Carolyn Noble of Fenton and Tom Grandmason of Belleville.

The couple plans to wed in June 2010 at Laurel Chapel in Livonia.



Combs-Roberts

## COMBS-ROBERTS

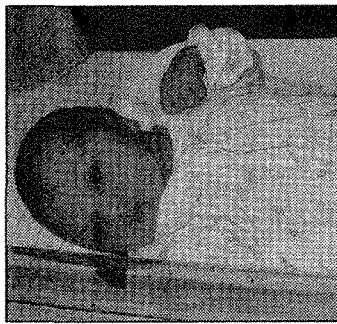
Edward and Cynthia Roberts of Westland and Larry and Patricia Combs of Garden City are pleased to announce the marriage of their children, Kristen Roberts and Jeff Combs.

The bride is a 2003 graduate of Lutheran High Westland and a 2006 graduate of Eastern Michigan University, and is employed in the hospitality industry.

Her husband is a 2003 graduate of Garden City High and a 2004 graduate of Northwestern Technical Institute, and is employed as a heating and cooling technician.

The two were wed May 1, 2010 in St. Thomas in the United States Virgin Islands. They honeymooned in the Virgin Islands, the British Virgin Islands, and St. Martin.

They currently live in Farmington Hills and plan to relocate to Chattanooga, Tenn., in a few years.



Brandon James Halik

## BRANDON JAMES HALIK

Brandon James Halik was born May 15, 2010, at Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo.

He weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce.

Parents are David Halik and Dr. Janice Eagle of Kalamazoo. Proud grandparents are Ed and Eleanor Halik and Cheryl and Clarence Eagle, all of Livonia. Great-grandmother is Genevieve Uroda of Livonia.



CHERYL K. NICHOLAS

Passed away at the age of 54 on June 3, 2010. The cause of her death was breast cancer, which she and her doctors had managed for the past 17 years. Ms. Nicholas had worked as a summer associate at Brobeck Phleger and Harrison in Los Angeles and San Francisco and as a real estate lawyer at Goldstein & Manello in Boston. Ms. Nicholas also served the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the late 1980s as the head of the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program, the state's farmland preservation program. In that capacity, Ms. Nicholas traveled throughout the Commonwealth in order to find important farmland and open space that the Commonwealth could preserve through the purchase of development rights. Ms. Nicholas was born in Detroit, Michigan, and moved to Plymouth, Michigan near Ann Arbor, after her father had a stroke. She attended the Honors Program at the University of Michigan, and earned a B.A. in History in 1977, and also attended Wellesley College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, for one semester. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Ms. Nicholas attended the Harvard Divinity School with a fellowship, and earned a Masters of Theological Studies degree in 1981. While at the Harvard Divinity School, she had particular interests in the relationship of architecture to spirituality and in feminist theology. She subsequently attended Boalt Hall at the University of California at Berkeley, where she earned a J.D. in 1985. Ms. Nicholas was voracious reader who was interested in history, philosophy, religion, urban planning, architecture and politics. She married Brett Robbins, now a partner at Ropes & Gray LLP in Boston, in 1981, and gave birth to her daughter, Kelsey London Robbins, in 1988 and her son, Brennan Nicholas Robbins, in 1991. She was extremely dedicated to her children, and ceased working professionally after they were born. She nonetheless remained active in her community, devoting energy to causes that moved her. She was a board member of the Weston Land Trust, and an active member, and for some time President, of the League of Women Voters of the Town of Weston. She supported political efforts in favor of conservation land, agricultural land, and organic farming, and opposed governmental projects that, as planned, would adversely affect wetlands and conservation land. Ms. Nicholas's family and friends found her fascinating, profoundly intellectual, elegant and, most of all, empathetic and kind. She disliked hierarchy and class distinctions, and continually supported the disadvantaged. She was always open to new ideas, and easily made deep connections with those whom she encountered. Ms. Nicholas is survived by her husband, Brett Robbins, her daughter, Kelsey London Robbins, who is attending Brown University, and her son, Brennan Robbins, who will graduate Milton Academy this month and will attend Princeton University in the fall. Ms. Nicholas also is survived by two sisters, Susan Nicholas and Margaret Baker, three brothers, David Nicholas, Roland Nicholas, and Harold Nicholas, and a host of nephews, nieces and cousins. One of her sisters, Dorothy Noblet, is recently deceased.

DORIE J McCOLL  
(Little Bit)

July 29, 1958 - June 6, 2010

Loved by children Brian, Candy & Tony, Grandchildren Harmony, Christian, Billy and Amaya. Dearest daughter of Joan Gardner and Jim McDowell. Cherished sister of Sis (Larry), Sherry, Kathy (Gary), Merri Lou, Dawn, Wayne, Bill and Kenny. Aunt to many nieces and nephews. Dearly loved her companion Jeff. Dorie will stay forever in our hearts.

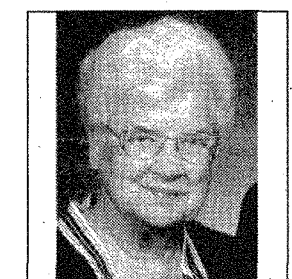
## PHYLLIS M. TROMBLEY

Age 87, of Novi, MI, passed away June 9, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington, MI.



## 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



## JANICE H. (BRADLEY) ELSTON

Age 87, of Miller's Merry Manor in Hope, IN, died peacefully on June 5, 2010. She was born in Charleston, West Virginia, September 11, 1922, the youngest of three to Anna and Mont Bradley. She was the first in her family to get a college degree, which was a BA from Anderson University. She went on to get a Masters Degree of Library Science from Eastern Michigan University. She was a teacher and an Elementary School Librarian at Bird and Tanger Schools for 33 years. She retired from the Plymouth School District in Michigan in 1984. Since retirement, she has done missionary work in Japan, worked at Warner Pacific College in Oregon, Warner Southern Christian Academy and White Chapel Christian School in Daytona Beach. She attended Riverside Park Church of God in Livonia, Michigan for 30 years and Park Place Church of God in Anderson for 15 years. While she was a resident at Four Seasons' Retirement Center she attended the chapel on-site regularly. Janice had a deep Christian faith that was committed to loving God, her family and serving the church. As an avid gardener, she started two garden clubs in Plymouth, Michigan and won numerous awards for her flower gardens. She was an amazingly fun hostess who enjoyed creating great celebrations. In her travels around the world and at home, Janice was a beloved storyteller and read to children of all ages. Her spirit was bright and loving, which drew people of all ages, races and faiths to her warmth. She had a passion for music and she loved singing traditional Church of God hymns. In essence, her enthusiasm and joy in living were unsurpassed. Her husband, Gerald E. Elston of 57 years preceded her in death, as did her sister Ruth Davidson and brother, James Bradley. Survivors include a daughter, Sheryl Elston and her husband, David Hamilton of Columbus, IN and son Mark Elston and his wife Rhonda Elston of LaCenter, Washington, grandchildren, Kate and Davy Hamilton, Aaron and Rachael Elston, a nephew Nicky Bradley and his wife Becky Bridges and her husband Lawrence Bridges of Covington, Georgia. She had an extended family including Harold, Doris, Eric and Kevin Elston, Shirley, Ron and Randy Vandyne. A memorial celebration service will be held at Park Place Church of God on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. with Dr. David Markle sharing. There will be a gathering after for fellowship and story telling about Janice. Memorial contributions may be given to Anderson University, Attn: Development Office, 1100 East Fifth St., Anderson, IN 46012 or Hospice of South Central Indiana, 2626 E. 17th St. Columbus, IN 47201. E-mail condolences may be sent to RJFuneralSvc@AOL.com. Rozelle-Johnson Funeral Service is handling arrangements.



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## JUDY SMOCK

Passed away June 9, 2010 at the age of 46. Judy is the beloved wife of Raymond M. Smock. Dearest mother of Michael Paul Smock and Jonathan Ryan Smock. Dear daughter of Joseph (Betty) Signorelli and the late Beverly LaVoisine. Dear sister of Lynn Signorelli, Cheryl (Mike) Signorelli-Watts and Julie Summerfield. Dear daughter-in-law of Raymond and Alice Smock. Judy was a resident of Westland, having grown up in Plymouth and graduating from Salem High School. She worked at St. Kenneth Catholic Church doing many jobs but mostly worked in the office. She enjoyed her job and also enjoyed volunteering many hours around the church to help out with various events. Her heart especially went out to seniors, helping them out with cleaning and laundry when they were unable to do it. Funeral services took place Saturday, June 12, 2010, 11am at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Plymouth, followed by burial at Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Arrangements handled through Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. To share a special thought or memory visit: www.schrader-howell.com



## JUSTINE FLORENCE MULLETT

Age 76, June 7, 2010 of Garden City, a graduate of St. Leo High School and Magna Cum Laude graduate of Madonna University. Beloved wife of Donald. Loving mother of Donald W. (Wendy), Michele (Wayne) Woodard, Margaret (Charles) Henry, John (Diane), Joseph, Marilyn (John) Estrada and Justine (Ron) Pummill. Sister of Patrick (Helen) Brown. Survived by 33 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Visitation Wednesday 2-9 pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City, and 9-9:30 am Thursday at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City followed by a funeral mass at 9:30 am. Please sign the on-line guestbook at: www.rgrharris.com.

## KENNETH D. CLARY

Age 65, of Jamestown, KY, June 9, 2010. Beloved husband of Loreita Clary. Loving father of Craig (Christina) Clary and Stacey (Jeff) Beaudoin. Dear papa of Amanda and Sean. He was preceded in death by his parents Ivan and Frances Clary and his sister Jo Ann Lax. Service is Tuesday, June 15, 2010, 10:30 AM at Michigan Memorial Park. Arrangements by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Interment in Michigan Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to Habitat for Humanity, Russell Spring, Kentucky 42642.

## LORRAINE J. BUSH

Age 77, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed away June 6, 2010. Arrangements: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

## Belleville High School

## Class of 1971

Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail BHS.1971@yahoo.com. If on Facebook join the group by searching BHS reunion 1971 40th sign up site; also on CLASSMATES/REUNIONS.

## Birmingham Groves High School

## Class of 1975

35th class reunion, Oct. 22-23, will include homecoming game, Friday night, and party, Saturday night, at The Birmingham Community House. Contact groves1975@gmail.com or Groves Class of 1975 - 35th Class Reunion, on Facebook.

## Birmingham Seaholm

## Class of 1970

40-year reunion, 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18 at The Community House, in Birmingham. Visit www.seaholmclassof70reunion.com for information and to register contact information.

## Bloomfield Hills Andover

## Class of 1970

Reunion planned 7 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Heathers; contact Cis Sloan Stokas at Quintop@aol.com.

## Bloomfield Hills Lahser

## Class of 1990

20-Year Class Reunion Weekend is Aug. 6-7, with a meet & greet, family picnic and reunion party. For tickets and additional information, contact Matt Fox at: sub-

## REUNION CALENDAR

blime71@yahoo.com.

## Dearborn Lowrey High School

## Classes of 1949-51

A joint reunion of all three classes will be held Sept. 26 at the Warren Valley Golf Club in Dearborn Heights. Call Peggy Webster at (313) 383-4699, Bob Rock at (313) 274-8370 or Shirley Vonn at (313) 291-6069. Or e-mail to yankeesouthern@hotmail.com.

## Dearborn Heights Haston High

## Class of 1965

45-year reunion, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. July 24; Contact Pat Beadle-Kopczyk, 3334 Kneeland Circle, Howell, MI 48843, at (517) 552-1182 or e-mail to her at patkopczyk@aol.com.

## Detroit Cody

## Classes from 1950-1969

Annual picnic for all '50s-'60s Cody Comets and friends, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 22, Nankin Mills Pavilion, at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. BYOB and bring a chair; organizing committee will supply music and memorabilia. The Optomystics will perform. Door prizes, hot dogs, bottled water, T-shirts and sweatshirts, tassels and music CDs will be available. Free parking for classic cars. No need to register - just show up. Classmates.com will have information and photos from past picnics. Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134.

## PEGGY MACDONELL TOOMEY

June 6, 2010, Age 85 of Boca Raton, Florida formerly of Farmington, Michigan. Preceded in death by husband Jack Toomey and son Terry Toomey. Survivors include Linda (George) Todd of Mills, MA, Paul Toomey of Coconut Creek, FL., Jayne Toomey Henderson of Jupiter, FL., Gregg (Clara) Toomey of Ft. Myers, FL., Leigh (Paul) Peterson of Knoxville, TN and Patrick Toomey of Boca Raton, FL. Eleven grandchildren. Visitation was at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi (248) 348-1800 Wednesday 6-9 PM. Instate Thursday 10 AM until funeral liturgy at 10:30 AM at St. Gerald Catholic Church, 21300 Farmington Rd., Farmington, MI. Contributions can be made to Kids Cancer Foundation, 13833 Wellington Trace Suite E4-137, Wellington, FL 33414 in memory of Peggy Toomey. www.kidscancerst.org

(561-371-1298) Online condolences: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



## 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, where, 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 Bellline 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 Ahrens, 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 Commensal 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. Patricia 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.



## HEALTH

Sunday, June 13, 2010

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## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

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# Father's Day event raises prostate cancer awareness

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

John Miles of Plymouth had no history of prostate cancer in his family.

But when a friend at work mentioned that his own father died from the disease, Miles, 57, decided it was time to get serious about early detection.

"He told me, 'you'd better get checked,'" Miles recalled. "So I did."

A rectal exam and Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test led to a biopsy, an ultrasound and finally surgery two months ago. Robotic-assisted minimally invasive surgery at the Michigan Urology Institute removed the gland, which had been diagnosed with a "stage two" cancer.

Although recovery has been painful at times, Miles says he's glad he underwent the procedure. He urges other men to follow through with health exams and screening.

"Because it runs in the family I told my brothers to get checked," he said, adding that his 16-year-old son understands the importance of early detection.

Increasing awareness of prostate cancer is exactly why the Michigan Urology Institute is sponsoring the second annual Run for the Ribbon, a 5K run/walk on Father's Day, at the Detroit Zoo.

"For us, the most touching thing is to see our patients there ... to see fathers with sons and families celebrating Father's Day. One of our catch lines is 'Do it for Dad,'" said Dr. Michael Lutz, a urologist with the Institute

who primarily works out of Beaumont Hospital's West Bloomfield office.

"The first annual run was a huge success," he said, adding that the practice partnered with the Prostate Conditions Education Council in demonstrating the need for education, research and awareness.

Last year's event drew more than 200 participants, making it the largest of 11 Prostate Awareness and Cancer Education (PACE) races held that year, Lutz said.

"We hope to have over 5,000 runners this year."

## THE DISEASE

Prostate cancer is cancer that grows in prostate gland, a small, walnut-sized structure that makes up part of a man's reproductive system. Although the cause of prostate cancer is unknown, some studies suggest that a high fat diet, as well as genetic factors, may play a role.

Men at higher risk include African-American men older than 60, farmers, tire plant workers, painters, and men exposed to cadmium. The lowest number of cases occurs in Japanese vegetarians, according to the Michigan Urology Institute Web site.

"There's no question that if you follow a heart-healthy diet, you're following a prostate-healthy diet," Lutz said. "A diet that's low in dairy fat and meat fat, that has a reasonable amount of cruciferous-type vegetables, a lycopene-rich diet, vitamin D — those are things that are healthy for the prostate."

Prostate cancer is the most common non-skin cancer in the United States. It's the second leading cause of death



The crowd applauds for participants in the first annual Run for the Ribbon last year. The second annual event will be held June 20, at the Detroit Zoo.



The Michigan Institute of Urology's Run for the Ribbon raises awareness and funds for prostate cancer research.

from cancer among men and the most common cause of death from cancer in men over age 75. Lutz said more

than 200,000 men will be diagnosed with the disease in the U.S. this year. Although that's higher than in previ-

ous years, the mortality rate of prostate cancer has dropped as early detection has increased.

Screening includes rectal exams and a PSA test that pinpoints the amount of prostate-specific antigens in the body. The antigens are proteins produced by cells of the prostate gland.

The PSA test is aimed at all men age 50 and older and men at risk for the disease who are age 40 and older. An abnormal PSA count may lead to a prostate biopsy or imaging test.

"Early detection truly does help save lives," Lutz said. "What we haven't figured out yet is how we can prevent prostate cancer in the first place."

## RUN FOR THE RIBBON

**Night on the Townsend:** 7 p.m. Friday, June 18, at the Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend Street, between Pierce and Henrietta, three blocks south of Maple, in downtown Birmingham. The event features fine wine, food, a charity auction and music by Alexander Zonjic. Murray Feldman of WJBK Fox 2 is master of ceremonies. Tickets are \$125 and \$250.

**Run for the Ribbon:** 6:30 a.m. registration, 8 a.m.-noon event, Sunday, June 20, at the Detroit Zoo, located on Ten Mile (I-696 service drive) at Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak. Free parking, awards, commemorative T-shirts and medals for all finishers, live entertainment, raffle and free entry to the Detroit Zoo for anyone registered to run or walk in the event. All participants will receive a blue ribbon honoring individuals with prostate cancer. Survivors will be given a hat. Early registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children; race-day fees are \$30 for adults and \$20 for children.

**Proceeds:** Both events benefit prostate cancer awareness, education, treatment and research in Southeastern Michigan. The Michigan Urology Institute in partnership with Prostate Conditions Education Council and PACE Race Series have partnered to present both events.

**Contact:** (586) 443-4272 or e-mail to info@MIURunForTheRibbon.org. Or visit [www.MIURunForTheRibbon.org](http://www.MIURunForTheRibbon.org).



## Independence Village

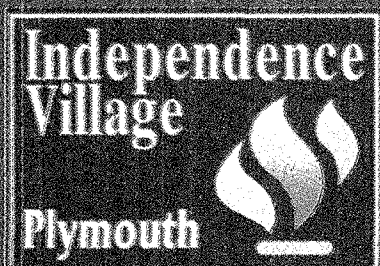
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