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**SUNDAY**

July 18, 2010

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Newspapers

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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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## IN BRIEF

### LWV voters guide

Non-partisan Voters Guides prepared by the League of Women Voters for the candidates running for the state, county and local elections Tuesday, Aug. 3, are now available at [www.lwvnmw.org](http://www.lwvnmw.org).

In this primary election, voters can vote in only one party's primary — either Republican or Democratic. A ballot will be invalidated if the voter "crosses over" from one party to another. In a primary election, voters also can't split their ticket for partisan offices.

The League of Women Voters is a trusted source of non-partisan candidate information, and the Voter Guide provides an easy vehicle for voters to compare the candidates before the primary election.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. It never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

### Orange barrel alert

If you plan to travel between Newburgh and Haggerty, be aware that from at 9 p.m. tonight (July 18) to 5 a.m. Wednesday, July 21, road work will reduce the thoroughfare to one or two lanes both eastbound and westbound.

### Concert Series

Westland's 2010 Summer Concert Series is in full swing. All of the concerts begin at 7 p.m. on Thursdays at the pavilion behind the William P. Faust Public Library on Central City Parkway north of Ford.

This week's concert will feature folk/blues music by Peter Madcat Ruth on July 22. Also on tap is Latin jazz music by the Lynn LaPlante 7 on July 29, country music by the Waco Band on Aug. 5 and R&B by the Tyrone Hamilton All-Stars on Aug. 12.

The free concert series is funded in part by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council.

### Christmas in July

The Westland Community Foundation will hold its annual Christmas in July event at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 22, at Marvaso's Italian Grille & Electric Stick, 6569 Wayne Road. There will be hors d'oeuvres, a scholarship presentation, trivia contest and raffle drawing.

The cost is \$50 per person minimum donation and non-perishable food items for the Westland Salvation Army Food Bank. For more information or to reserve a ticket, call (734) 595-7727.

### Used book sale

The Friends of the Westland Library will hold their first ever mini used book sale in the Friends Shop 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 22. Prices are two hard covers for \$1, eight paperbacks for \$1 and three large paperbacks for \$1.

The library is on Central City Parkway between Ford and Warren Road. Money raised help fund library programs for all age groups.

## Waiver clears way for opinion on library rent

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Now that a potential conflict of interest has been waived, the Westland city attorney can prepare an opinion regarding the city's ability to collect rent from the William P. Faust Public Library.

Michael McNamara had represented

the library board for some time, but had also filled the city attorney position over the past year during the illness of long-time City Attorney Angelo Plakas, who passed away Tuesday.

Last week, the library board approved a conflict of interest waiver — Mayor William Wild had already signed the waiver on behalf of the city — which will allow McNamara to prepare the

opinion requested by the council.

The question before McNamara is whether the city can collect rent from the library for use of the building without a lease.

As part of the general fund budget approved by council, the city would begin charging the library just over \$50,000 annually for rent and charge more than \$500,000 for 10 years back

rent. If collected, the money would go to the city's general fund.

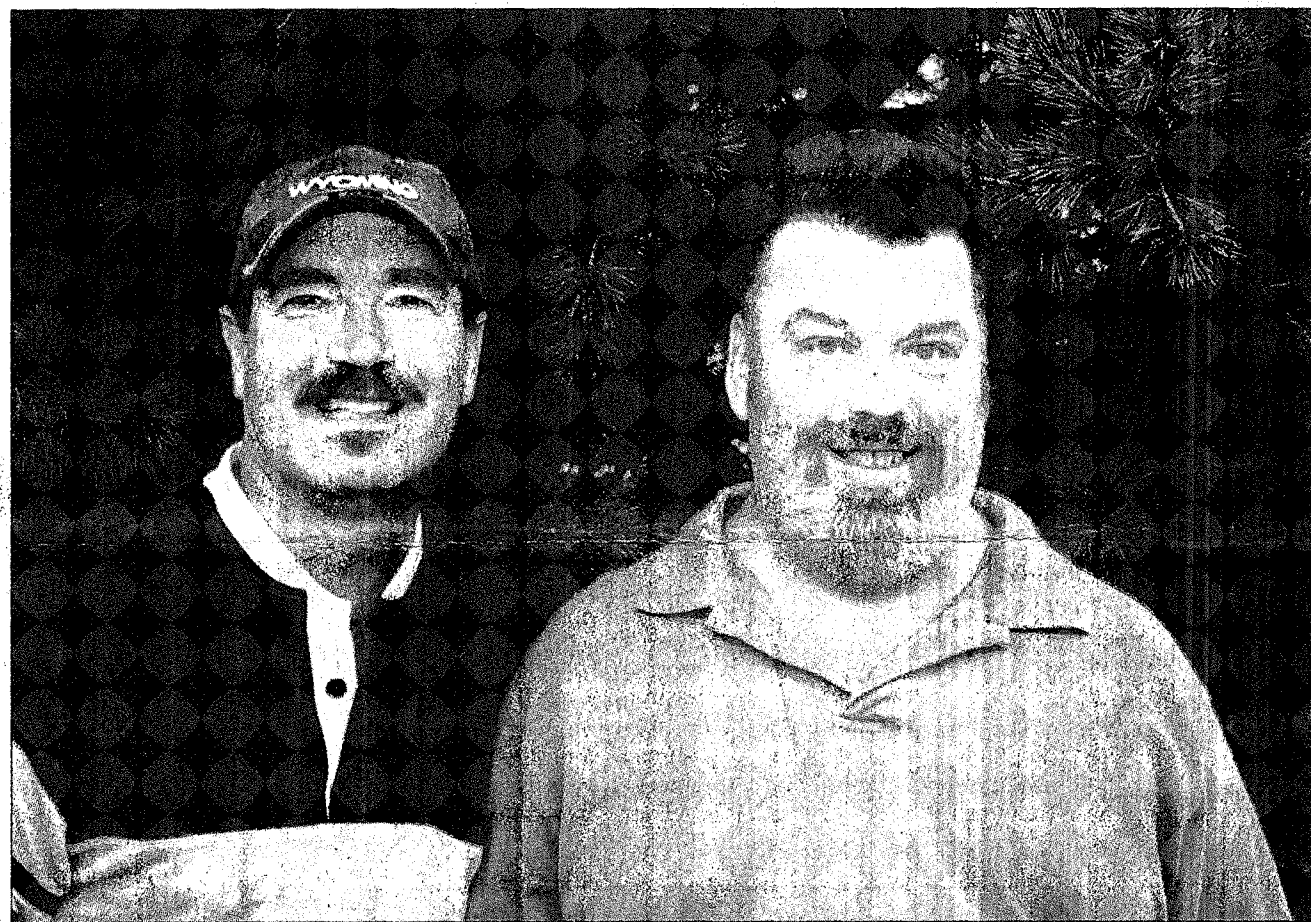
McNamara doesn't have to address the issue of who owns the library building — the city owns the land and, according to Wayne County property tax records, also owns the 34,000-square-foot building.

Please see **BUILDING, A2**

## 'Hey, bro, how's it going?'

Separated by adoption, brothers get second chance to build lives together

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Robert Staffig-Piotter (left) and David Kirk spent their Fourth of July catching up on the what's happened in the 43 years since they were separated by adoption. Kirk signed a document on June 24 that opened the door for the two brothers to be together again.

David Kirk isn't the kind of guy who signs on the dotted line without reading the fine print.

But that's the dilemma he faced June 24 as he stood in the Park and Ride at Silver Lake Road in Fenton. The only way he could find out the name of a sibling who wanted to contact him was sign a document, most of which was covered by the hands of confidential intermediary Mimi Mazzara.

Two days earlier, Kirk had received a private and confidential letter from the courts, alerting him to the fact that a sibling was looking for him. He called Mazzara the next day and agreed to meet her in Fenton.

"I couldn't see it until I signed it and I never sign anything without reading it, but I went ahead and signed it," Kirk said. "I knew I had an older brother, but I had nothing to go on to find him. I had no names."

More than 2,000 miles away in Casper, Wyo., Robert Staffig-Piotter was waiting and hoping Kirk would sign the paper so he could finally see the brother who he remembered would throw toys at him at night and laugh, the brother he had been looking for since he was 15 years old.

Please see **BROTHERS, A3**

## Westland man charged in June 9 fatal crash

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland man is scheduled to be arraigned July 29 on four charges, including manslaughter with a motor vehicle and drunken driving causing a death.

On Wednesday, 18th District Court Judge Sandra Cicirelli signed the warrant charging Thomas Rada, 55, in the death of Stanislaus "Stan" Zielinski.

The arraignment was delayed to allow Rada, who had been brought to court by police, to return to the physical rehabilitation facility where he has been receiving in-patient treatment for injuries suffered in the June 9 accident. The arraignment was rescheduled after Cicirelli indicated she would order Rada remanded to jail once he was arraigned.

The warrant charges Rada with one count of homicide-manslaughter, one count of operating with a suspended

license causing death, operating under the influence of alcohol causing a death and drunken driving.

Zielinski, 69, was driving a Chevrolet Metro Cab minivan headed eastbound on Cherry Hill near Wildwood when the collision happened around 2 p.m.

A Ford Explorer driven by Rada, headed west on Cherry Hill, rear-ended a vehicle stopped for the traffic light, then careened into the eastbound lanes, striking Zielinski's vehicle head on.

Zielinski was pronounced dead on arrival at an area hospital. Rada was hospitalized after the accident and subsequently moved to a physical rehabilitation center.

Immediately following the accident, Westland police indicated that alcohol was suspected to be a factor. Filing charges against Rada had been delayed by a lengthy wait for blood-alcohol test results.

[lrogers@hometownlife.com](mailto:lrogers@hometownlife.com) | (313) 222-5428

## City goes electronic with monthly newsletter

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As a cost-saving measure, Westland is no longer sending out a quarterly newsletter to residents.

Instead, residents can sign up to have an electronic version of the *Insider* sent to them by e-mail monthly.

The newsletter got a soft launch by being sent to council members and city employees July 1. More than 250 people have signed up for the newsletter.

"We signed people up at our community event at Tattan Park. It was all part of our soft launch," Mayor William Wild said, noting the e-version will be sent out more frequently than the printed newsletter.

The electronic newsletter also ties in with the city's Mission: Green efforts to be environmentally friendly. Residents interested in receiving the newsletter can sign up at the city website at <http://ci.westland.mi.us/>.

The city utilizes the website, Facebook, Nixle and Twitter

and other modern communication networks, but Wild acknowledged there are some people who don't have home computers or aren't interested in using a computer.

"I spoke to a lady today who is without Internet access at home, she can use the library computer (at no charge)," Wild said. "Some people love it, some people hate it. I've asked the department heads to have some printed copies available."

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Robert Staffig-Piotter believes his brother, whom he calls Don David, was about a year old when this photo was taken of them.

# Hello, Don David ...

When David Kirk signed the document allowing his biological brother to contact him, Mimi Mazzara handed him a non-identifying letter that Robert Staffig-Piotter had been asked to write. In it, he talked about the short time they were together and about his life since they were separated in 1967. Here is a portion of that letter, dated June 7, 2010:

Don David was the name I knew you by. For almost the first two years of your life and about five of mine, we were raised brothers by our biological mother in Detroit, until March of 1967, that was the last time you and I were together. You and I had different fathers and in 1967, with our mother being on her own she couldn't take care of us. She put you and me up for adoption and we were separated in the process. I was in the foster care system for a year before I was adopted into another family from Michigan; I was almost 6 years old. I've never forgotten you and have always wondered how your life turned out. I have a memory of you throwing toys at me from your crib waking me up one night, not crying but laugh-

ing. I also have a picture of you and I sitting in a large kitchen sink bath together when you were about a year old.

I do hope your life turned out as good as mine did. I was adopted into a family that had a small farm in Michigan. I have two loving adoptive parents and an adoptive brother that was three years older than I. Life was good, nothing elaborate, but it was comfortable and secure. Although my adoptive family raised me as their own, being almost six years old, I struggled with memories from another life, one where I had a different mother and little brother. In 1979 I began to search for my biological past, I contacted the adoption agency that handled my adoption but there was little information available. Five years went by and with a lot of research I found our biological mother and family in April of 1984; I believe that fate played a part in my finding the past and still continues to lead me on an amazing journey that I hope to share with you.

I was never able to find any information about your

whereabouts until now. In my research over the years I've found that you have biological family on both our mother and your father's side and have met some of them. I guess one of the things that I struggled with the most growing up with my adoptive family was the fact that "I didn't look like anyone in the family, there was no resemblance." Once I found our biological mother and family, I could see the resemblance. My adoptive family was understanding and supportive when I began to search for my past helping out with what information they had.

... I have and always will wish you the best in life. I look forward to meeting you someday. In my memories we will always be, brothers.

Take Care!

## BROTHERS

FROM PAGE A1

"He had to approve it; if he didn't, the search was over," Piotter said. "I got a call from Mimi and she asked if I wanted to talk to my brother. I said yes and she said, 'I got him right here, he signed the paper.'"

The first words Kirk heard from his long lost brother were, "Hey, bro, how's it going?"

### 'COOL BEANS'

Sitting at a table in the Westland Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and Hunter, the two brothers had smiles that stretched from ear to ear. Two weeks after making the connection, they had spent most of the Fourth of July catching up on the 43 years they'd been apart. They had discovered a lot they had in common, from each having a brother named Mark to their favorite saying, "cool beans."

Kirk, who grew up in Westland, admitted that it had yet to sink in. Signing that paper had taken him from knowing he had three blood relatives — his three daughters — to six, including three half-brothers.

"If someone had said two weeks ago I'd be sitting here talking to my brother, I would have bought him a drink," Kirk said. "This has been more than wonderful."

"It's so nice to have a happy ending for us," added Piotter, who drove 19 hours from Casper with a stop in Davenport, Iowa, to meet the younger brother he knew as Don David. "It's been just so cool. We've spent the last three days catching up."

It is no coincidence that they were in western Wayne County. A lot of their early life is connected to Garden City. Their mother, Darlene Diane Staffig, had grown up in Garden City and attended Garden City High School. Their Aunt Shelly had lived in Westland before moving

to Redford recently and had kept her maiden name listed in the phone book in hopes Piotter would find her.

Ironically, while Piotter grew up on a farm in the Thumb area, Kirk grew up in Westland less than a mile from Aunt Shelly and graduated from John Glenn High School in 1983. And his grandparents lived in Garden City.

"We've come full circle," said Piotter who is writing a book, *Fate Awaits*, a fictional story based on his life and his search for his biological family.

### LOOKING FOR HIS FAMILY

Piotter began searching for his biological family when he was about 15. His adoptive parents were always open about the adoption and gave him what information they had, "which was very little." He contacted the adoption agency, Lutheran Child and Family Services of Detroit, but was "stonewalled by sealed records."

In 1982, he moved west with friends and ended up in Wyoming. During a return visit to Michigan in 1984 to see family and friends, he went through his folks' paperwork and found information that led him to the last foster care family who cared for him.

They provided him with information about his baptism and a kindergarten picture with his birth name on the back of it. He uncovered his mother's and father's names. Through a baptismal certificate from St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth, he was able to hook up with his godmother, Diane Paquin, who provided him with baby photos of himself and his mother. He eventually found his mother, who died in of cancer in 2006.

Piotter also got information on his brother's last name from his biological mother. He started searching the Internet and found Kirk's half-brother living in North Carolina and talked to him. According to Piotter,

his mother married Don Corman, but they divorced, prompting her to put the two boys up for adoption in 1967.

"I meet her. She couldn't handle the past, but I got the ghost out of the closet," he said. "The marriage didn't pan out and she couldn't care for us. We weren't placed together. The neglect was enough that they decided to separate us to give us one-on-one."

Kirk wasn't as lucky in his search. He knew he had an older brother, but with no names, he was stymied.

"It's bothered me my whole life. I've wanted to look like someone; it's an identity thing," he said. "I'd been searching, but I had no other data than a brother three years older than me. I contacted the agency and got the same non-identifying letter about my parents and nothing on him."

"People would tell me you look like so and so, and I'd go up and talk to them to see if we might be related," he added.

Kirk was worried that his older brother might have spent his childhood growing up in the system. That question has been answered. They both know they were raised by families that loved them.

Piotter is back in Wyoming, and Kirk is back working at his computer job in Ann Arbor. They plan to get together again in December, when Piotter will return with his wife Vivian, who stayed in Wyoming to be with her daughter, who was due to deliver their first grandchild. It will be a family reunion that will include Kirk's wife Darcelle and their children.

"We've been given a second chance to build a life as brothers, but there will be no throwing toys at me," Piotter said. "I never gave up and other people looking for their relatives shouldn't either. It can happen. It happened for us, and it's been amazing."

"I'm along for the ride and I'm loving it," Kirk added.

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# Two W-W programs win Educational Excellence Awards

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has two new signs to hang up after two of its programs were recognized by the Michigan Association of School Boards to earn Educational Excellence Awards.

The Bright Futures programs at Wayne Memorial High School, Adams and Marshall middle schools and Lincoln and

Jefferson-Barns elementaries and Marshall Middle School's Power Lunch program were among 27 programs in nine categories to receive Educational Excellence Awards.

Bright Futures was among three winners in the Before and After School Program category, while Marshall's Power Lunch was among the three winners in the Improving Student Achievement-English and Social Studies category.

"It's nice to receive this on behalf of Bright Futures, Eastern Michigan University and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools," said Lynn Malinoff, director of Eastern Michigan University's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Programs' Bright Futures. "We offer homework help and academic support, but the students tell us what they want to do. They are driving the program."

Bright Futures has six after-school programs in Wayne-Westland, as well as programs in the Willow Run and Ypsilanti school districts. The district's elementary programs will be consolidated at Adams Upper Elementary with the launch of the district's reconfiguration this fall. The program is funded through a five-year federal grant.

"Thank you. This is truly a partnership we have going

on with this school district," Malinoff said.

According to Marshall Principal Aaron Baughman, the staff recognized the need for tutoring at-risk students and created the Power Lunch, in which students eat lunch and get "intensive one-on-one tutoring."

"We see 60-100 students a year," Baughman said. "We've seen great results and hope to continue it at the middle school

next year."

MASB has used Educational Excellence Awards to make people aware of the "great things happening in the schools." From the 27 award recipients, one winner in each category will be selected as for the MASB's Michigan's Best designation. The winning program also receive a \$1,500 prize and trophy.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Listings** for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@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

### Vacation Bible school

**Time/ Date:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 19-23

**Location:** Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church, 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City

**Details:** The Raindrops to Rainbows vacation Bible school includes a program for preschool children in addition to one for children 5-13 years old. It will feature a weather station, a science laboratory and a puppet show in addition to the Bible stories, crafts and snacks. There is no cost or obligation.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 524-0880 or visit its website at www.CherryHillFellowship.com.

### Mental health program

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28

**Location:** Oakwood Heritage Hospital, 10000 Telegraph, Taylor

**Details:** National Alliance on Mental Illness Metro is presenting a program on mental health education and legislative issues parents, professionals, and caregivers, anyone who wants to learn and understand more about mental illness. The topics of discussion include Signs and Symptoms, Stress, Dual Diagnosis, Dealing with the Difficult, Communications

and Legislation Issues Impacting Mental Health. The speakers will be Milton Mack, chief Wayne County probate judge and Leon and Mary Ellen Judd of NAMI Metro. The program is free of charge and a light lunch and certificate of attendance will be provided. The program is sponsored by Oakwood Heritage Hospital.

**Contact:** Reserve a spot by Aug. 19, by calling Mary Ellen at (248) 348-7197 or by e-mail at tamera.varkas@oakwood.org

### Golf outing

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. Sunday Aug. 1

**Location:** The Strategic Fox, Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial, Plymouth

**Details:** Check-in starts at 8 a.m. and the shotgun start is at 9 a.m. for NAMI Metro's 2010 Skins and Pins Shootout. Cost is \$85 per player or \$320 for a foursome and includes 18 holes with cart on The Strategic Fox, Brunch in the Golden Fox Clubhouse immediately after golf, a Gift Bag for all golfers, closest to the pin prize winner on every hole, Hole in One contest to win a Two-Year Lease on a new car, \$25 Skins on every hole, carrying over to the 18th hole and special contest holes. Brunch only tickets are available for \$25 per adult and \$10 for children ages 3-12. For more information, visit Skins and Pins online at www.skinsandpins.org.

**Contact:** Leon or Mary Ellen at (248) 348-7197, Tony Mitchell at (313) 550-2117 or Vince Toia at (734) 634-6360.

### Craft show sign-ups

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9

**Location:** St. Theodore Church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** The St. Theodore's Confraternity of Christian Women is accepting signups for its fall craft show. Table rental is \$25. **Contact:** Mary at (734) 425-4421, voice-mail 10.

### 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 or by e-mail to eangeli986@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 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 or send an e-mail to shepy@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 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.

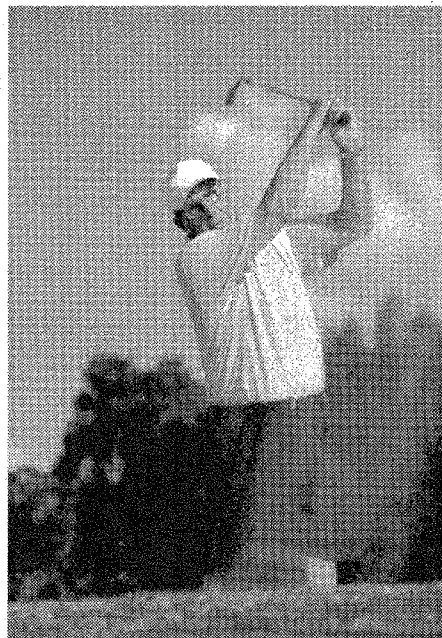
**Contact:** Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

# Don't Let Back Pain Or Sciatica Ruin Your Life

You've got too many dreams left undone. Too many special moments waiting to be experienced. Life is too short to let pain slow you down.

Yet, for many, severe back pain and sciatica puts a halt to any enjoyment in life.

Maybe you can't play golf like you used to. Or you're not able to enjoy that cruise like you should.



**Many former back pain sufferers are now playing golf after using this natural treatment.**

Sciatica and back pain are NOT "just a part of life" and something you have to live with.

In fact, many former back pain sufferers are now pain free after using a new drugless, painless treatment.

This new therapy is called non-surgical disc decompression, and it is helping to keep people from having to 'go under the knife'.

**The conditions this amazing treatment has proven successful are:**

- Herniated discs
- Degenerative disc disease

- Back pain
- Sciatica
- Facet syndromes

### Medical Proof This Treatment Works

While non-surgical spinal decompression is a rather new treatment, there's plenty of research to back up its claims. Here's just a handful of scientific studies...

"We thus submit that decompression therapy should be considered first, before the patient undergoes a surgical procedure which permanently alters the anatomy and function of the affected lumbar spine segment." — **Journal Of Neuroscience Research**

"86% of the 219 patients who completed the therapy reported immediate resolution of symptoms" — **Orthopedic Technology Review**

"vertebral axial [spinal] decompression was successful in 71% of the 778 cases" — **Journal of Neurological Research**

"good to excellent" relief in 86% patients with Herniated discs" — **The American Journal of Pain Management**

"decompression therapy reported a 76.5% with complete remission and 19.6% with partial remission of pain and disability" — **Rio Grande Hospital, Department of Neurosurgery**

As you can see, spinal decompression has a high success rate with helping disc herniations and back pain.

What this means for you is that in just a matter of weeks, you could be back on the golf course, enjoying your love life, or traveling again.

**Until July 28, 2010 you can get everything for only \$49.**

It's time for you to find out if spinal decompression will be your back pain and sciatica solution.

My name is Dr. Greg Kramer, owner of Advanced Spinal Fitness. I understand what it feels like to live in pain, because I see it every day.

I've seen hundreds of people with disc herniations, back problems and sciatica, who were once told surgery was the only option, leave the office pain free.

For 10 days only, I'm running a very special offer where you can find out if you are a candidate for spinal decompression.

What does this offer include?

Everything I normally do in my new patient evaluation. You'll get...

- An in-depth consultation about your health and well-being where I will listen...really listen...to the details of your case.
- A complete neuromuscular examination, full set of specialized x-rays, review of your MRI, and a thorough analysis of your findings so we can design your plan to being pain free.
- You'll get to see everything first hand and find out if this amazing treatment will be your back pain and sciatica solution, like it has been for so many other patients.

And the best part about it is...

**No Dangerous Drugs, No Invasive Procedures, And No Painful Exercises.**

Spinal decompression treatments are very gentle. In fact, every once in awhile I even catch a patient sleeping during sessions.

You'll simply lie on your back and then a specialized belt is gently put around your waist. We'll set the machine to focus on your problem area — then the advanced computer system will do the rest.

The normal price for this type of evaluation, including x-rays, is \$250 so you're saving a considerable amount by taking me up on this offer.

Call today and we can get you scheduled for your consultation, exam and x-rays as soon as there's an opening.

Our office is located on the corner of Eight Mile and Farmington, just a few minutes from you. When you call, tell the receptionist you'd like to come in for the *Spinal Decompression Evaluation* so she

can get you on the schedule and make sure you receive proper credit for this special offer. Phone 248-615-1533.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Greg Kramer

**P.S. What Will Your Pain Feel Like One Month From Today?**

One of the biggest myths about pain is that it goes away all by itself, without any treatment.

A May 1998 study in the British Medical Journal proved this myth false, showing that 75% of back pain sufferers who do nothing about it will have either pain or disability 12 months later.



**Enjoy life again without sciatica, disc herniations, or back pain.**

If you've been having pain for awhile, it's probably not going to get better on its own.

Life's too short to live in pain like this. Call today and soon I'll be giving you the green light to have fun again. Phone 248-615-1533.



# Volunteer ready to explore after Peace Corps assignment

BY MAGGIE WUNDERLICH  
CORRESPONDENT

"The toughest job you'll ever love" is the Peace Corps motto and Ashleigh Shiffler couldn't agree more.

The 22-year-old Shiffler recently returned from two years of Peace Corps service in Guatemala.

"It was an incredible experience with some of the hardest and best days of my life," said Shiffler, Council Director of Girls on the Run of Greater Detroit through the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit. "It taught me to be creative and resourceful and to see the potential that I have in myself."

As a freshman in high school, Shiffler came home one day and told her mom she wanted to join the Peace Corps. The idea was not far-fetched, since her family always emphasized community service. Around the same time, she fell in love with the Spanish language and desired to travel and see the world.

Upon high school graduation, she attended Hope College, where she attained degrees in Spanish and Sociology.

Established in 1961, the Peace Corps is an agency devoted to world peace and



Ashleigh Shiffler recently returned from two years of Peace Corps service in Guatemala, where she helped youngsters such as these children she posed with in Chuistanci.

friendship. Currently, 7,671 volunteers and trainees are serving in 77 countries. Their service includes the areas of education, health and HIV/AIDS, business development, environment, agriculture and youth development. Peace Corps service is a 27-month commitment and the application process is lengthy.

Shiffler's placement in Guatemala, a Spanish speaking country, had a lot to do with her previous volunteer work in health related and social services. She'd been there before and envisioned

a tropical and warm climate and, at first, it was. Her three-month language and technical training was right outside Antigua, a popular tourist attraction. She lived with a family, who taught her about local customs and culture.

"Learning so much about another culture and country helps you learn a lot about yourself, your culture and your country," she said.

After her training, Shiffler was assigned to Olinpeque, a village in the mountains, about 2,500 meters above sea level. The climate was a shock for

## FAST FACTS ABOUT PEACE CORPS

- Peace Corps was officially established on March 1, 1961, when then Senator John F. Kennedy challenged students at the University of Michigan to serve their country in the cause of peace by living and working in developing countries.
- The current number of volunteers and trainees is 7,671 - 60 percent are female, 40 percent are male.
- The average age is 28.
- Currently 77 countries are served

Shiffler.

"It was six months of rain every day and six months of not a drop of rain," said Shiffler, who had a cell phone and Internet access, but no indoor heating. "I could even see my breath inside my house on cold nights." The first months were rough, she said.

Shiffler's primary assignment was part of the healthy schools program, where she taught health, nutrition and hygiene in three very rural elementary schools. She saw students frequently, but her main focus was to train the teachers. She learned to be resourceful when she held an 8-hour long workshop, in Spanish, for 250

teachers with a \$12 budget. Shiffler's secondary project was as director of Girls Leading Our World, which was an overnight three-day camp for underprivileged and indigenous girls between 12-17 years old. For most of the girls, GLOW was their first camping experience and first night away from home. Guatemalan girls, Shiffler discovered, are hardly given any opportunities.

"When they are given just a little bit of encouragement, a little bit of motivation from people they look up to, the results are just incredible," said Shiffler, who taught the girls about self-esteem, health

and leadership. These are new concepts for most, said Shiffler, who admitted she "loved to see their enthusiasm when they realized that they can play an active role in their own lives and their communities."

Guatemala has over 20 different indigenous populations, each with its own language. They share a lot of the same culture and customs, but it varies between regions. Shiffler found it interesting that cell phones came quickly for these regions and almost everyone has a cell phone.

However, when she went to the mall, she said, "Many had never seen an escalator and were taking pictures with their cell phones."

For the majority of Shiffler's service, she was the only Peace Corps volunteer in Olinpeque, where the locals spoke K'iche' and Spanish. She lived alone in a house she furnished with recycled things. She learned how to get herself out in the community and now feels "completely capable in almost every situation."

Now that Shiffler is back in Michigan, she is ready to make a difference with GOTR. She wants to explore more of Michigan and the U.S. as a whole.

# How to pay when home equity line is cancelled?

**Q:** Dear Rick: A few months ago, I contracted to do some home improvement work. I had to put one-third down and the remaining two-thirds were going to be paid when the job was done. The job is almost done and this is where my problem develops. I was going to pay for the improvements through my home equity loan. I made the down payment with the home equity loan. However, I received a letter from my bank stating my home equity line of credit was cancelled. I am outraged at my bank. Do I have any recourse against my bank? How do I pay the remainder of what I owe (about \$15,000)? I have attached a list of my assets and hopefully you can help me decide how I should pay for the improvements. I did not want to finance the improvements using my 401(k) plan.

**A:** The home equity line of credit documents that you signed probably give the bank the right to revoke your line of credit. This is something many banks are doing for a number of reasons. They are doing it because housing values have dropped dramatically and there is not as much equity in homes as in the past and, with the sluggish economy, banks are more hesitant



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

may find that just because one bank doesn't want your business, there are others that do.

If you can't get a home equity line of credit, how do you pay for the improvements? After reviewing your assets, I recommend cashing out your certificate of deposit (CD).

to make loans to individuals.

However, just because your bank doesn't want to issue you a line of credit doesn't mean you can't try another bank. We live in a competitive society and you

The CD is paying 2 percent. Even if you were able to get a home equity loan, the after tax cost would be more than the 2 percent.

I am generally not in favor of borrowing from 401(k) plans. The general misconception is you are paying interest to yourself, so it's like free money. However, that is not the case. Keep in mind that the interest you pay into your 401(k) plan is not tax-deductible and when the money is eventually withdrawn from the IRA, the interest that you paid will be taxed to you. Since the interest you pay is not deductible and you're putting in post-tax money, the effect is that you will be double taxed on it.

There are other disadvantages to borrowing from a 401(k). Some plans provide that if you have an outstanding loan, you can no longer make new contributions. This could reduce the amount you're saving for retirement and potentially prevent you from taking advantage of the company match.

Another potential disadvantage is if you decide to change jobs and you have an

outstanding loan, it may be due immediately. Therefore, if you do not pay the loan at that point in time, there could be some adverse tax consequences. Other than in cases of emergency, I believe 401(k) money is sacred; do not like to touch it except for retirement and other extraordinary situations.

For those doing home improvements, the main issue is how to pay for them. Don't

let the contractor dictate how you pay for the home improvements. You need to decide based upon what's good for you and only you.

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).

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Macomb Twp. Hall Rd. & Hayes  
Warren 12 Mile & Hoover  
Warren 9 Mile & Ryan



# Family prays sale helps with medical bills

**BY BRAD KADRICH**  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

John Weaver has had kidney trouble since he was 4 years old, but never anything quite like this.

Weaver, now 46, has so many stones in his right kidney, his mother said doctors are considering taking it out in an effort to save his left kidney which, she said, is also starting to show signs of disease.

His mother, Beverly, is out of work due to medical problems of her own: She's got chronic obstructive pulmonary disease that has left her unable to work.

And, with no health insurance and Medicaid (Weaver said) unwilling to help cover her son's medical issues, the bills are starting to mount, adding up to more than \$20,000.

"We have to do something," Beverly Weaver said. "His medical bills are outrageous."

The "something" Beverly Weaver decided to do is an

estate sale of sorts she'll hold July 31 at the Livonia Elks Lodge in Livonia. The Weavers are gathering up nearly everything they own - "We have to keep some of the basics," Beverly Weaver said - and selling them at estate-sale prices in an effort to raise some capital to help with the mountain of bills.

For sale will be a host of household-style items, including Christmas ornaments, clothing, household goods, a small TV, brand-new linens, kids' stuff and collectibles.

She's also got a 14-diamond ring she said has been appraised between \$1,500 and \$1,800.

"What else can I do?" she said of selling most of her possessions. "I have no other way of coming up with money. I know I'm not going to come up with that kind of money (more than \$20,000). I'm just hoping to make enough to clear some of the smaller bills out of the way so I can focus on the larger ones."

**HOPING IT HELPS**

- **What:** Weaver family 'estate' sale
- **When:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 31
- **Where:** Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, just east of Merriman
- **Why:** The family is selling most of its household possessions to try to whittle down a mountain of medical bills. Sale will include household goods, Christmas decorations, kids' items, clothing, jewelry, all at what Beverly Weaver said would be "great prices."

Weaver said she's been disabled since 2002, laid up by her COPD, fibromyalgia and other medical problems that have made it difficult for her to get around and even breathe. Her son was struck by a car when he was 4 - his right kidney, she said, never grew properly - and has had

problems ever since. Doctors, she said, started surgery on him when he was 12, but had to delay it because his blood pressure dropped.

Unable to work - except for brief stints doing odd jobs such as delivering pizza when his health allows - John Weaver and his mother are hoping the sale will help.

"It's everything we've accumulated and collected," Beverly Weaver said. "Most of it is new, and a lot of it still has the tags on it."

For the July 31 sale, Weaver said her niece is helping her set up the booth, and her family, she said, has been very supportive, as have several churches in the area. With Social Security her only income, Weaver said it's been a struggle.

"My family ...," she said, choking back emotion. "I owe them so much. Them and the churches have gotten us through the last year."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899

## Miss Wayne County pageant seeks entries

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2010 Miss Wayne County scholarship pageant, an official Miss America preliminary. Young women who live, work full-time, or attend school full-time in Wayne County and who are ages 17-24 are eligible.

The winner will represent Wayne County at the 2011 Miss Michigan pageant in Muskegon. The competition includes an interview, lifestyle and fitness in swimsuit, evening gown, talent and an onstage question. In addition to competing in the Miss Michigan pageant, the winner will also receive a cash scholarship.

Call (734) 367-0560 or send an e-mail to SheilaMae116@aol.com to request an application or go to the website at [www.miss-waynecounty.org](http://www.miss-waynecounty.org).

Applications are also available for the Miss Wayne County Princess program at [www.miss-waynecounty.org/princess-program.html](http://www.miss-waynecounty.org/princess-program.html). The Princess Program for girls ages 4 to 12. Miss Wayne County's Princess Program has been developed to bring into our organization a group of younger girls who will one day be part of our Miss Wayne County program. Participants will be mentored by one of the contestants competing for the title of Miss Wayne County.

The deadline for entering the pageant and princess program is Aug. 15. The pageant will be at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at Livonia Churchill High School.

### IN BRIEF

#### Vacation Bible school

For the first time, the Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church is offering a vacation Bible school that includes a program for preschool children in addition to one for children 5-13 years old.

Raindrops to Rainbows is scheduled for 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday, July 19-23, and will feature a weather station, a science laboratory and a puppet show in addition to the Bible stories, crafts and snacks. There is no cost or obligation. Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church is at 33144 Cherry Hill. For more information, call (734) 524-0880 or visit [www.CherryHillFellowship.com](http://www.CherryHillFellowship.com).

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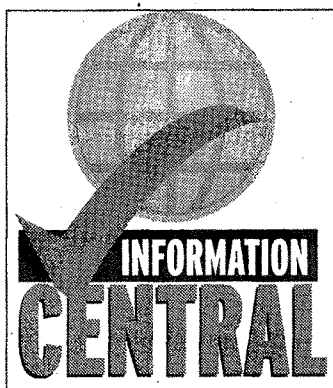


# Cheese: It's been around a long time

Pizza, cheese burgers, alfredo sauce, fondue, macaroni and cheese, lasagna, grilled cheese, quesadillas, potatoes au gratin, chili cheese fries, and cheesecake. Who doesn't like cheese?

The use of cheese in human civilization is older than recorded history. It is believed that the origins of cheese began with the domestication of animals for their milk which began around 8000 BC. People discovered that cheese (curdled milk) stayed fresh longer than milk giving it a longer shelf life. Cheese doesn't just come from cow's milk, but it can be made from the milk of sheep, goats, buffalo, reindeer, camels and yaks.

Do you like Munster, Brie, Gouda, Asiago, Cheddar, Swiss, Gorgonzola, Feta, Edam, Gloucester, Roquefort, Parmesan, Provolone and/or Mozzarella? There are thousands of different types of cheeses in the world, many of which come from France. Fifty-six different cheeses are classified, protected and regulated under French law, each of which are native to a specific French producing region.



If you'd like to learn more about all the different cheeses of the world, the Westland Public Library is a good place to start. Take a look at the "Cheese Companion: A Connoisseur's Guide" by Judy Ridgway, "A Gourmet's Guide to Cheese" by Carol Timperley and "French Cheeses: The Visual Guide to More Than 350 Cheeses from Every Region of France" by Kazuko Masui and Tomoko Yamada. If you are interested in learning how to make cheese yourself, we have you covered with "Cheesemaking" by Rita Ash. And if you enjoy wine, you might want to try "Cheese & Wine: A Guide to

Selecting, Pairing and Enjoying" by Janet Fletcher.

Additionally you can search a database of 670 cheeses by names, by country of origin, by kind of milk that is used to produce it, or by texture at [www.cheese.com](http://www.cheese.com).

## Highlighted Activities

**Blood Pressure and Glucose Testing:** 11 a.m. to noon July 21

**Adult Book Discussion Group:** 7 p.m. July 20

Join us as we discuss In the "Woods" by Tana French. As dusk approaches a small Dublin suburb in the summer of 1984, three children do not return from the dark and silent woods. When the police arrive, they find only one of the children gripping a tree trunk in terror, wearing blood-filled sneakers, and unable to recall a single detail of the previous hours. Copies of the book will be available at the Reference Desk. All are welcome.

**Songwriter Workshop:** 7 p.m. July 20, age 18 and up

For those who have attended the first two classes, John Latini will be at the library for the third, and last, class in his songwriting series. Each week covers a different aspect of writing and performing your own songs.

**One day only - Friends of the Library Book Sale:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friends Book Shop

The Friends of the Library is having a special book sale in the Friends Shop. Hard Covers will be two for \$1, paperbacks eight for \$1 and large paperbacks three for \$1. Money raised help fund programs for the library for all age groups. Everyone is invited.

**Summer Concert Series - Peter Madcat Ruth:** 7 p.m. July 22, age 14 and up Library Pavilion

This evening's featured performer is Peter Madcat Ruth, "a Grammy Award-winning virtuoso harmonica player based out of Ann Arbor. But Madcat doesn't just play blues harp, he also sings and plays ukulele, guitar, high-hat, jaw-harp, penny-whistle, kalimba, banjo and other folk instruments from around the world. Madcat's

repertoire of styles includes Blues, American Roots Music, Folk Music, Jazz, and World Music." Come early to get a seat. 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 [www.westlandlibrary.org](http://www.westlandlibrary.org)

**Friday Night Movie Cult Classics:** 7 p.m. July 23

This week's selection is "The Warriors" (Rated R). The leader of New York's biggest street gang declares a truce, and gangs from all five boroughs venture to the Bronx for a clandestine meeting. This is an after-hours program. Library doors open at 6:30 p.m.

**Job Seekers Lab:** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help.

Drop in. No reservation needed.

**Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library:** 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Special Demo: Designing Your Own Project. Everyone welcome, including crocheters.

**Chess Group:** 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to chess masters are all welcome. No sign-up required.

Computer Classes are offered all year long. Contact the library at (734) 326-6123 to find out more.

Children, teens and adults: Programs, prizes, reading, fun - Join the Summer Reading Program today!

Information Central was compiled by reference librarian Kristy Cooper. 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).

**The Medical Marijuana Clinic**

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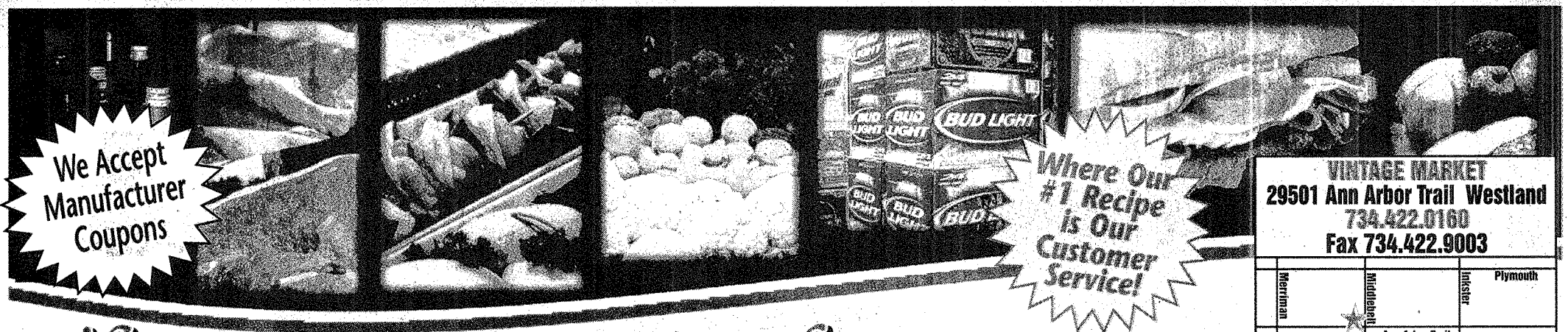
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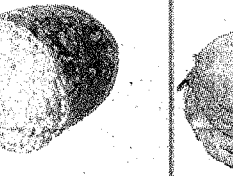
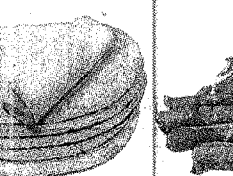

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# Rolling rookies

## First-year skaters win medals, friendships

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's the middle of summer, a time of year when pre-teen girls usually go to the pool or shopping mall with friends.

But there are five girls who'd rather spend hours going around in circles on the smooth surface at Canton's Skatin' Station II — practicing their favorite thing in the world.

Under the tutelage of veteran coach Vicki Hudson, the artistic skating club members beat the odds by qualifying for the 2010 USA Roller Sports Figure Skating National Championships in just their first year of competition in the sport.

"I was really happy to make it to nationals," 10-year-old Anna Hanson of Canton said, "because it's unheard of for beginners at their first regional meet to get to nationals, so I was really proud."

Hanson, four of her roller-skating friends, their families and coach Hudson will travel later this week to Lincoln, Neb., for the July 24-25 competition. They will take part in the 9-10 and 11-12 age brackets.

Also headed for nationals are Canton's Shelby Vassel (a gold-medal winner in figures at regionals) and Darrien Fordham, Plymouth's Rachel Bakewell and Westland's Ashlyn Nordquist.

They qualified for nationals June 26-30 at the Great Lakes Figure Skating Regional in West Chester, Ohio.

Hudson said all of the girls qualified in figures (the event where skaters gracefully follow a series of circles emblazoned on the rink), with Vassel and Fordham also making it in the dance category.

"I'm just so excited," Vassel said during a break from working with her coach. "I've only been skating for over a year and a half and I made first place in figures and that was a surprise to me."

### WHAT THEY SAID

Following are some of the thoughts of Skatin' Station II artistic skating club members who will compete July 24-25 at the 2010 USA Roller Sports Figure Skating National Championships to be held in Lincoln, Neb.:

**Rachel Bakewell** of Plymouth: "I'm really proud of it and I can't wait to go."

**Darrien Fordham** of Canton: "I'm learning you really need to focus to get a good score in competitions and I'm learning friendship."

**Anna Hanson** of Canton: "I like roller skating because it kind of challenges me to be my best. And I just have lots of fun when I'm skating."

**Ashlyn Nordquist** of Westland: "I think I've gotten better since the beginning when I started. She (coach Vicki Hudson) helps us get better."

**Shelby Vassel** of Canton: "The competitions are fun and so is coming here all the time. I love skating."

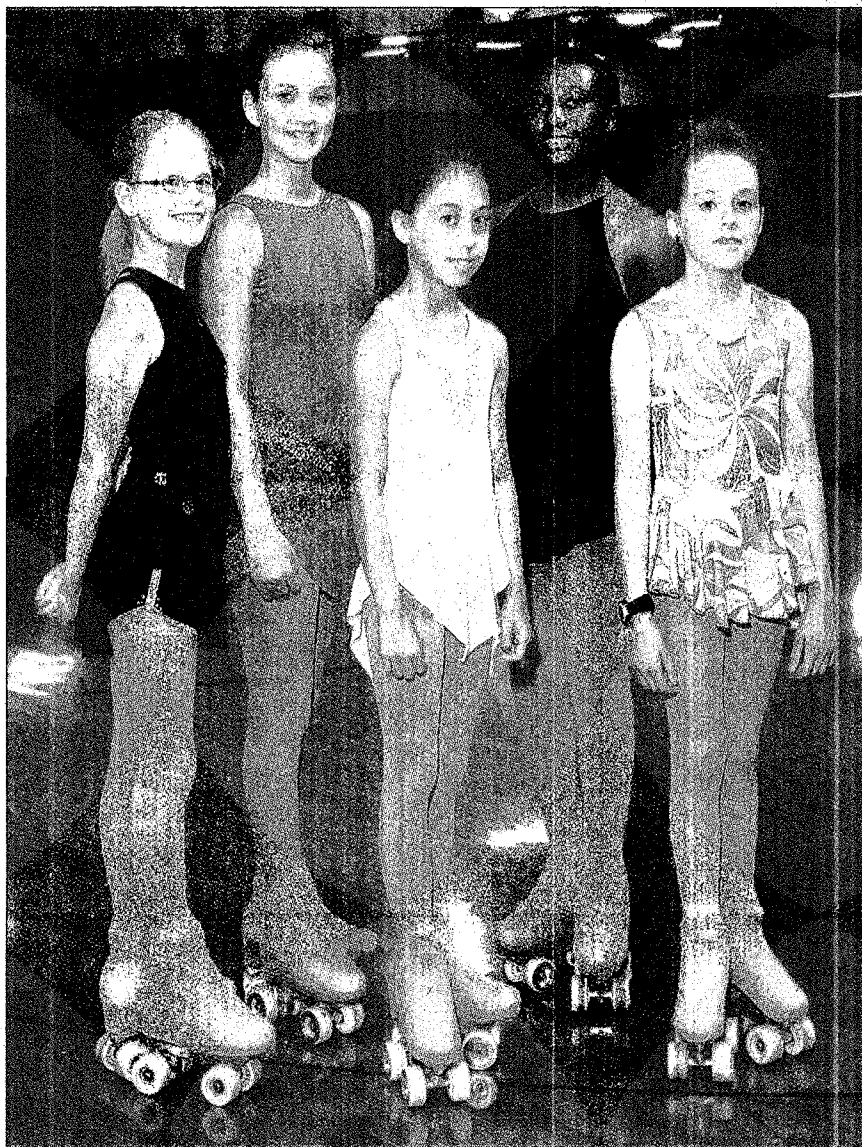
With a grin, Fordham said she is glad to have qualified in both events, especially dance "because it's different from the others. You have to follow a pattern and stay to the pattern, but it's also really fun and it has different songs that I like."

Also fun is being able to travel to different tournaments, which is one of the perks of being on the team.

"I'm really proud of it (going to nationals) and I can't wait to go," Bakewell said. "Especially because, one of the reasons I want to compete like this is to get to go places without begging my parents."

### TOTAL DEDICATION

Bakewell chuckled when saying that, but the hard work and dedication needed to rapidly go from newbie to



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The smiles say it all, as Skatin' Station II artistic skating club members (from left) Anna Hanson, Shelby Vassel, Ashlyn Nordquist, Darrien Fordham and Rachel Bakewell qualified for nationals in their first year of competition in the sport.

the nationals is no joke.

"You have to practice a lot. I practice three days a week," Vassel said. "I work on figures and dance, mostly. The hardest part is trying not to be nervous during the competitions and to stay strong."

According to Hudson, team members come to Skatin' Station II several times a week throughout the year, coming straight from school. The practice schedule usually includes three or four sessions weekly.

"It's very monotonous, the training and listening to me all the time,"

Hudson said. "But most people that start skating can be very good — if they want to be."

Their ascent in their initial year of competitive skating is plenty indication they do.

Christine Hanson, Anna's mom, said the girls put the time in and glean whatever useful instruction they can from their coach.

"Vicki's a wonderful coach," Hanson said. "They just come here and skate. Putting the time in is important."

Please see **NATIONALS, B2**

## SIDELINES

### SC athletes honored

Ten student athletes from Schoolcraft College are among the more than 1,300 student athletes nationwide to be recognized by the National Junior College Athletic Association for excellence in the classroom as well as on the playing field.

Those NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American honorees from Schoolcraft include: Emily Bronkema, 3.84, volleyball; Jennifer Brunink, 3.80, volleyball; Tayler Seroke, 3.85, women's bowling; and Nicole Trivax, 3.94, women's soccer.

Gaining Academic All-American distinction were Blake Furnari (3.60, men's bowling), Michele Heikkinen (3.60, women's bowling), Jordan Kerr (3.73, volleyball), Kirstin Kirk (3.72, volleyball), Brittany Pickett (3.76, women's soccer) and Jamie Wick (3.63, women's cross country).

Award winners were required to achieve a 3.8 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale to earn Distinguished Academic All-American honors and between 3.6-3.79 for Academic All-American honors.

### Ace shooter

Russ Baumann of Livonia recorded his first hole-in-one at the age of 74 July 14 when he used a 9-wood to ace the 149-yard 16th hole at Moose Ridge Golf Course in South Lyon.

Baumann shot 105 for his 18 holes of play.

### Fall ball signup

Registration is continuing for returning teams looking to participate in the Redford Leisure Services fall softball leagues. Registration for new teams wanting to sign up will begin Monday, Aug. 9.

All teams are guaranteed a 12-game (doubleheader) schedule. Fees are \$350 per team, plus all umpires will collect \$14 per team at the field before the start of each game. Each team will need to supply a new ball before each game. Games begin the week of Aug. 30.

For more information, contact Redford Leisure Services at (313) 387-2650.

### Tryouts

The Motor City Riversharks will host tryouts in mid-August for its competitive travel baseball program of the Kensington Valley Baseball and Softball Association. Players from Canton, Plymouth and surrounding areas are welcome to participate.

Tryouts are slated from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14 and Sunday, Aug. 15, followed by a 2-to-4 p.m. tryout on Friday, Aug. 20. All three tryouts will take place at the UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

Players must be willing to commit to 40-to-50 games including weekends and tournaments, with the schedule running from April through July of 2011.

To pre-register or have questions answered, contact coach Bill Boyd — 734-718-7782; [motorcityriversharks@gmail.com](mailto:motorcityriversharks@gmail.com). Players do not have to attend all three tryout dates.

# 'A Bitter Cup of Coffee'

## Book details how former players were denied MLB pensions

BY DAN O'MEARA  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Al Moran played his last Major League baseball game 45 years ago, but he's still ready to go to bat today for former players like himself.

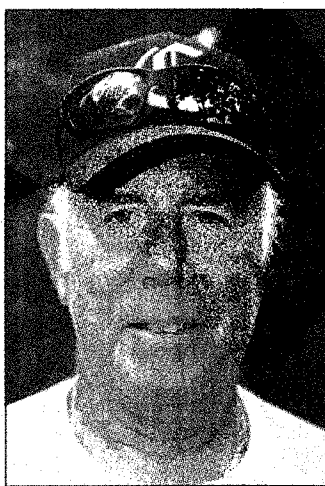
The Farmington Hills resident is among hundreds of men who were denied a pension and benefits, because their stay in the big leagues was too short.

His story is told in Doug Gladstone's new book: 'A Bitter Cup of Coffee — How MLB and The Players Association Threw 874 Retirees a Curve.'

The book title derives from the fact the men were in the majors long enough to have a cup of coffee, which is sports jargon for a short stay.

Livonia-based attorney Jim Acho represented Moran and the other ex-players with less than four years of service in an unsuccessful 2003 class-action suit.

The core issue and focus of

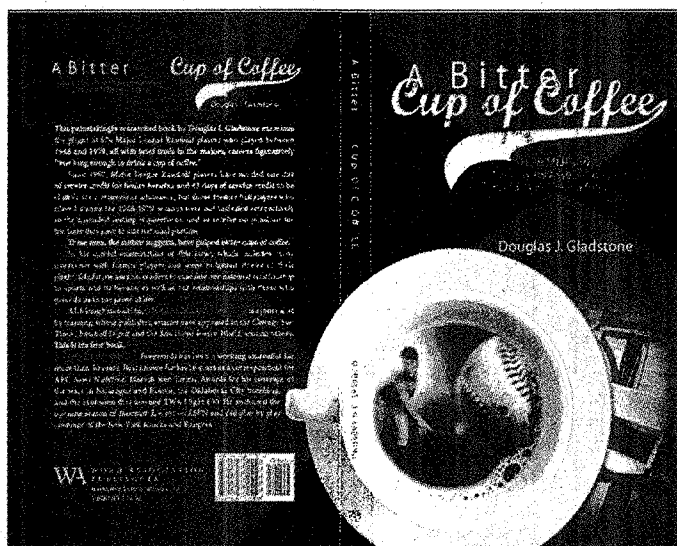


JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Al Moran, a resident of Farmington Hills, played his last Major League baseball game 45 years ago. He remains active in off the field affairs dealing with former Major League players.

Gladstone's book deals with a 1980 change in the MLB Players Association pension agreement.

Prior to that, players had to be in the majors four years



A new book entitled 'A Bitter Cup of Coffee — How MLB and The Players Association Threw 874 Retirees a Curve,' focuses on past and present pension agreements between Major League Baseball and the MLB Players Association.

to qualify. Players since then have needed one day of service for health insurance and 45 days on a MLB roster to get a pension.

Moran, a former shortstop who played less than three

full seasons with the Mets and Red Sox, and the others in his situation were never included retroactively.

Moran, 71, assisted Acho in building the case, serving as a class representative in the

Midwest, gathering information and fielding phone calls from former players.

When he left baseball in the mid 1960s, finishing with the then-Yankees farm team in Toledo, Moran went to work as a carpenter, doing construction work.

"I was pretty fortunate; I got a nice pension for that," Moran said, adding he's motivated by principle and for the sake of his former colleagues. "Like I told Doug in the book, I don't care if I get a penny."

"We've got homeless guys, guys in real bad shape. They keep promising us something, but we don't know if we'll ever get it. They say they'll do something at the winter meetings, but who knows?"

When work began on the lawsuit, there were nearly 1,500 former players who played between 1947 and 1979, from the time the first players union was organized and the change in vesting requirement.

Please see **BOOK, B2**

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## BOOK

FROM PAGE B1

"A lot of guys have passed away," Moran said. "Business is business. The longer you wait ..."

Acho, also a Farmington Hills resident and, like Moran, a graduate of Catholic Central High School, said MLB's position is it's a matter for the Players Association.

"In truth, it probably is," he said. "If we could get the player reps in a room and explain how much would be needed (to cover the men in question, it might happen)."

Acho said it would take one half of Alex Rodriguez' annual salary to provide a \$10,000 pension and medical benefits for the retirees.

"The problem is (former) union chief Donald Fehr refused to put it before the players," he said. "I had good conversations with Fehr. He always put it off and had bigger fish to fry."

"Even though he was pleasant to deal with, he made it clear it was not a pressing issue on his agenda."

"I don't think it's greed. I don't think the (current) players want to see former players (go without). It's really ignorance. They're unaware of what goes on."

The only recourse is the hope current MLPA Executive Director Michael Weiner will take up the issue, Acho said.

There's no going back to court. The judge who heard the original case said the players were morally right, according to Acho, but there was nothing that could be done. The statute of limitations was six years.

"I'm told the Players Alumni Association is actively working with (Weiner), and that's the only hope," Acho said. "There's no hope through the legal system. That ship has sailed; it had before we got involved."

"(The suit) should have been brought in the mid 1980s or earlier. The only reason we thought we had a chance in 2003 was I went under the theory of continuing violation."

MLB does provide a \$1,000-a-month pension to African-Americans who played in the old Negro League, because they were denied the opportunity to play in the Majors, Acho said. It's not called a pension but a special assessment, however.

"That's fantastic and richly



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Farmington Hills resident Al Moran spent nearly three seasons in the Major Leagues, suiting up for both the New York Mets and Boston Red Sox. The story of Moran and hundreds of other former big leaguers is told in a new book entitled 'A Bitter Cup of Coffee - How MLB and The Players Association Threw 874 Retirees a Curve.'

deserved," Acho said. "Having said that, our players deserve a charitable contribution, because they made the game what it is today and helped these (current) players make millions."

Moran, echoes Acho's statement about players from past decades helping to pave the way for Major Leaguers of today to earn salaries beyond anyone's imagination when he played.

"We're actually the ones who built the foundation for these guys in the old days," he said. "The Major Leagues are so deluded with minor league players. When I played there were only eight teams in each division, and it was tough to make those teams in those days."

Moran was disillusioned after the lawsuit was rejected and became resigned the status-quo, but he believes the issue could be easily resolved.

"It's going to take somebody in the Major League office or alumni office to say: 'OK, let's get this thing done.' That's all it's going to take," Moran said.

"At some point, the guys feel, if they

get something, it's a victory. Even if there's a hundred guys left, if they get something, it's all worth it, I guess."

# Moran played college football until Red Sox made right offer

BY DAN O'MEARA  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Al Moran was a sophomore at Michigan State University in 1959, playing football on scholarship for legendary coach Duffy Daugherty.

A change in the bonus rule allowed Major League baseball teams to offer more money, and Moran decided to sign with the Boston Red Sox, the team that had drafted him.

He was later traded to the New York Mets and made it to the majors in 1963. He played a full season with the Met the following year and the first month in 1965 before being sent to the minor league team at Buffalo.

Detroit owned the farm team in Syracuse at the time, and Moran played against future Tiger greats Denny McLain, Willie Horton and Mickey Stanley.

"There were so many good players in the minor leagues, and they just needed a break," Moran said. "I wasn't a great ballplayer, but I played against a lot of hall of famers."

An injury that never healed contributed to the end of Moran's baseball career. He continued to play with the injury.

"It was a pulled groin muscle that went up into my stomach," Moran said. "In the old days, they didn't just put you on the shelf until you were ready. If you were out of the lineup, you'd never get back in there."

After leaving baseball, Moran, a former shortstop and later utility infielder, played softball at a high level and has been a member of many championships teams. He still plays today at age 71.

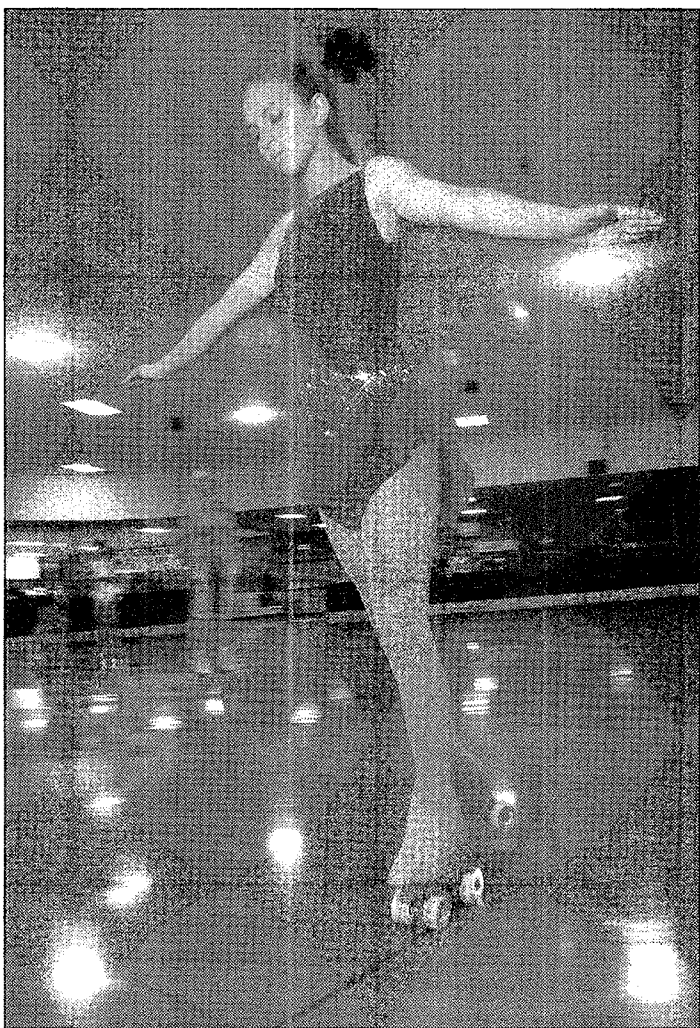
"Part of my game was running," Moran said, talking about the injury and how it affected his range at shortstop. "They time me with a sun dial now going down to first."

An all-state football, hockey and baseball player in high school at Detroit Catholic Central, Moran was the assistant to CC varsity baseball coach John Salter for 25 years.

"We hit it off well," Moran said. "We formed a partnership, and we did very well."

Moran left coaching in 2005, a year before Salter retired, but he returned this year to assist current CC coach Kevin Walters.

"Al Moran has helped hundreds if not thousands of kids over the past 40 years — quietly, selflessly," Livonia attorney Jim Acho, who worked with Moran in a class-action lawsuit against Major League Baseball and the MLB Players Association, said. "He's done a ton of good in the community."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Shelby Vassel works on figures during practice Wednesday at Skatin' Station II. Vassel won a gold medal in that event at the recent regionals. In figures, skaters must successfully complete two trips around a series of circles — requiring intense concentration.

## NATIONALS

FROM PAGE B1

### HOOKED RIGHT AWAY

Hanson signed her daughter up last fall and "she just took to it like a fish to water. She just loved it from the very beginning."

Of course, Anna has had to devote herself to the sport.

"She gets better on a weekly basis," her mother said. "Anna is very tenacious, so no matter how many times she falls, she gets right back up and does it again. I think that's a good life lesson."

Hudson said the girls must also keep their grades up in order to be on the club and being a good teammate is another must.

The first rung of the ladder tends to start with friendship.

"They skate individually, and everybody wants to win, but these girls are all real good friends," Hudson said. "They all travel together and they have someplace to go when they get out of school."

Friendship is a big reason Fordham relishes being on the team: "I like making friends here."

"When I went into skating, I never expected to actually go into doing stuff like this and competing," Bakewell said. "And I'm glad I actually did because I made lots of friends that I would never have."

### DISCOVERY

The girls also have discovered something they could be passionate about for years.

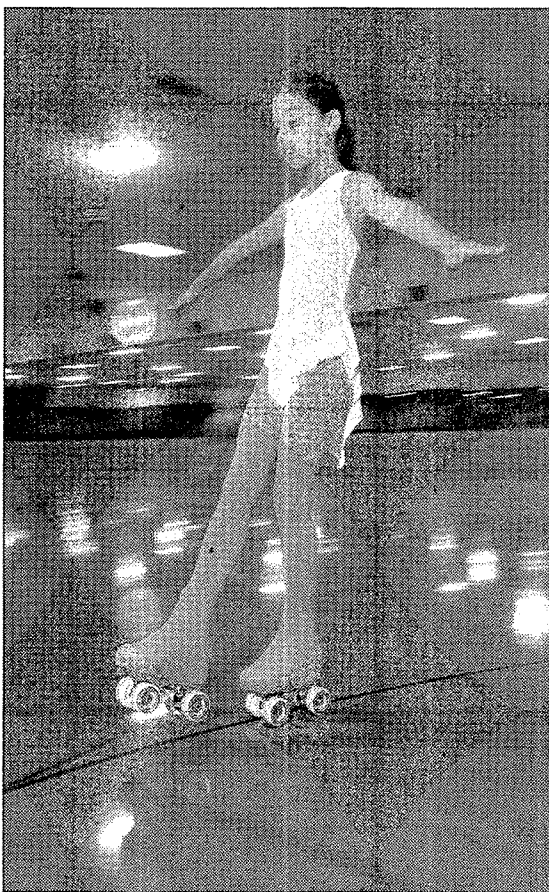
"I think it's important to keep the kids busy during the teenage years," Christine Hanson said. "I'm glad (Anna) found something. And I think it's wonderful they made nationals. I couldn't be happier."

That also goes for the youngest of the group, 9-year-old Ashlyn Nordquist, who only said one word — "happy" — when asked about how she felt about going to nationals.

These families must spend about \$5,000 per year to pay for practice time, equipment and travel expenses.

And there might be college scholarships down the road. But for now, Nordquist's response, and similar ones from the other girls, is plenty return on that investment.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Silver medalist Ashlyn Nordquist of Westland works at staying sharp in figures, an event involving body control and skating accuracy.

## SPORTS CAMPS

### Youth grid camp

Powerhouse Gym of Farmington Hills will sponsor a youth football camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 24, at Harrison High School.

The camp is part of an effort to re-establish ties between the Farmington Rockets and Harrison football programs, according to Tim Mumford, manager of Powerhouse Gym and a former Harrison player.

The camp is open to all players in the 7-14 age group, however. The cost is \$35. Lunch and a Powerhouse Gym T-shirt are included.

The camp instructors will include the Harrison coaching staff, former Detroit Lion Ron Rice and former MSU and Harrison star Mill Coleman.

There will be a cheerleading camp the same day at Harrison, too.

For more information and registration, contact Mumford at 248-875-9962.

### Just for kicks

Redford Soccer Club's Summer Soccer Camp will be held July 19-23 at Bell Creek Park for players U6 through U19. Cost for the weeklong camp, which runs from 5:30-8:30 p.m. daily, is \$130. Waza FC's professional coaches will instruct youngsters in various aspects of the game. Participants are asked to bring shin guards, a soccer ball and a water bottle.

For more information, call Jim Gibbs at (313) 995-4234.

### Cougar camp

The Garden City High School Cougar football coaching staff will host its youth football camp for 8- and 9-year-olds July 19-22 from 5:30-8 p.m. and for 10- and 13-year-olds July 26-29 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Cost for each camp is \$55 and all campers will receive a t-shirt.

For more information, visit [www.gccougar-country.com](http://www.gccougar-country.com) and click on the 'camps' section to print a registration form.

### Summer cheer camp

The North Farmington High School Summer Cheer Camp for boys and girls ages 5-12 will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 2-6.

The cost is \$100 per child. You must register by Friday, July 23, to receive a free T-shirt. Campers must bring a bag lunch.

All participants will be invited to cheer with the varsity cheerleaders at the first home football game.

For more information, contact varsity cheer coach Amanda O'Neill at either [amanda-oneill@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda-oneill@yahoo.com) or 734-624-8252.

### Hoop Skills Camp

Redford Township Leisure Services is offering its Hoop Skills Camp tailored for youngsters between the ages of three and six with little or no experience playing basketball.

The one-week camp offered, either Aug. 9-13 or Aug. 16-20, will teach fundamentals of the sport, including shooting and dribbling, and focus on the basics. Parents are required to attend the camp with their children in order to reinforce proper technique and skills after camp. Classes will be held at Pearson Education Center.

Cost is \$25 and sessions will run daily from 10-10:45 a.m.

For more information, contact Redford Leisure Services at (313) 387-2650.

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### Victory's in the Cards

The Canton Cardinals 11U travel baseball team recently went 3-0 to win the 2010 Frankenmuth tournament. Getting the squad started was a come-from-behind 7-6 victory against Huron Valley with a two-out hit by Collin Werner winning the contest. The Cardinals won their final two games of the tournament more convincingly by beating the host Frankenmuth team 12-1 before overcoming rain delays to beat a very good Saginaw River Dogs team, 5-1. Offensive heroes were many, including Phil Lessnau, Jimmy Walkinshaw, Jason Arnold, Evan Voyles, Noah Spencer and Cody Zidzik, all with multiple hits. Strong pitching from Spencer, Arnold, Justin Goethe, and Mitchell King and solid defense from Goethe, Luke Hirshman, Zidzik, Werner and Voyles were instrumental in the tourney title. Pictured are the victorious Cards: (front row, from left) Luke Hirshman, Evan Voyles, Jimmy Walkinshaw, Cody Zidzik; (middle row, from left) Noah Spencer, Mitchell King, Justin Goethe, Phil Lessnau, Jason Arnold, Collin Werner; (back row, from left) coaches Mark Werner, Rob Hirshman, Doug Spencer and Alan Zidzik.



### Big fish

The GCYAA Marlins girls softball team, comprised of players ages 11-13, completed a perfect 15-0 season by not only claiming the top spot in regular season play, but also emerging as champions in tournament action. Coached by Jim Gains, Sunday Gains and Brian Gidley, team members included Alyssa Smith, Rhiannon Stevens, Chloe Trigg, Heather Gains, Mariah Loschiavo, Hannah Udell, Melissa Beier, Jessica Pate, Rosie Muscat, Katie Thorn and Chelsea Dvikan.

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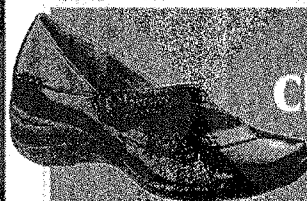
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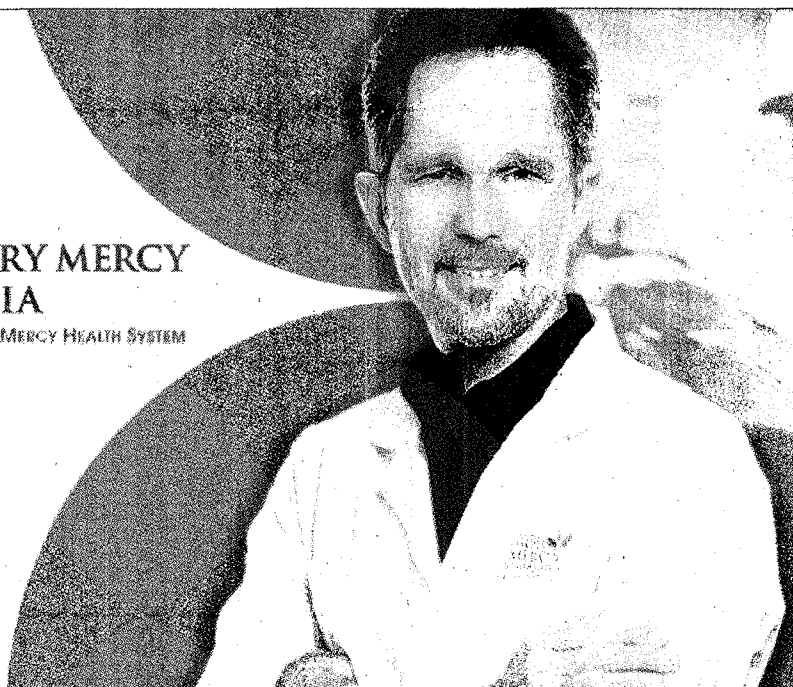
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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Tee time for ladies

Here's a unique opportunity for the women golfers out there. Hickory Creek PGA professional Tami Bealert is hosting "Margaritas on the Range," a ladies golf night out set from 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, July 19, at Tanglewood Driving Range (53503 10 Mile Road) in South Lyon.

The event is open to the first 20 ladies age 21 and older who sign up by going to [www.ewgamd.com](http://www.ewgamd.com) or calling either (734) 731-0238 or (248) 486-3355.

Bealert will provide personal instruction in an informal setting. For \$25, each guest will receive a medium basket of range balls, golf tips from Bealert, one margarita and homemade chips and salsa.

Hickory Creek Golf Course, where Bealert also holds regular instructional events, is located at 3625 Napier Road just west of Canton off of Ford Road.

Wayne-Westland soccer

Registration for the fall 2010 Wayne-Westland Soccer League (ages 4-19) will be held through Friday, July 30.

There will also be a co-ed adult league offered this fall.

For registration information, call (734) 467-5260, or visit [www.wslsoccer.com](http://www.wslsoccer.com).

Summer track meets

Dearborn Divine Child High School will stage a series of youth and adult summer track meets each Wednesday, July 21 and 28.

Field events start at 5:30 p.m. followed by running events at 6 p.m. The cost is \$4 per athlete.

Age groups include: Sub-Bantam (born 2002); Bantam (2000-01); Midget (1998-99); Youth (1996-97); Intermediate (1994-95); Young (1992-93); Open (ages 19-29); Sub-Masters (30-39); Masters (40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70-and-up).

For more information, call Randy Williams at (313) 283-4618; or e-mail [maddogsports@aol.com](mailto:maddogsports@aol.com).

Pride needs coaches

The Plymouth-Canton Pride is taking coaching applications for all ages for the 2010-11 fast-pitch season.

Experienced coaches are needed for 10-, 12-, 14-, 16- and 18-and-under teams with an emphasis on college exposure.

Those interested can e-mail a resume to: [j4olszewski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j4olszewski@sbcglobal.net). Applications are also online at [www.eteamz.com/PCPride](http://www.eteamz.com/PCPride). You can also send a resume to: Jon Olszewski, 48465 Antique Road, Canton, MI 48187.

For more information, call (313) 570-0800.

Baseball tryouts

The Canton Motor City Giants 9U and 10U travel baseball teams are hosting tryouts on Aug. 20, 21 and 28 at 48055 Michigan Avenue in Canton. Please email [giantsbaseball@wowway.com](mailto:giantsbaseball@wowway.com) or [madtyreag@wowway.com](mailto:madtyreag@wowway.com) for details.

Franklin needs coaches

Livonia Franklin is seeking a freshman girls volleyball and freshman girls competitive cheer coach for the 2010-11 seasons.

For more information, call Franklin athletic director Ron Hammye at (734) 744-2889.

Tryouts for Riversharks

The Motor City Riversharks will host tryouts in mid-August for its competitive travel baseball program of the Kensington Valley Baseball and Softball Association. Players from Canton, Plymouth and surrounding areas are welcome to participate.

Tryouts are slated from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14 and Sunday, Aug. 15, followed by a 2-to-4 p.m. tryout on Friday, Aug. 20. All three tryouts will take place at the UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

Players must be willing to commit to 40-to-50 games including weekends and tournaments, with the schedule running from April through July of 2011.

To pre-register or have questions answered, contact coach Bill Boyd — 734-718-7782; [motorcityriversharks@gmail.com](mailto:motorcityriversharks@gmail.com). Players do not have to attend all three tryout dates.

St. Mary Mercy 5K

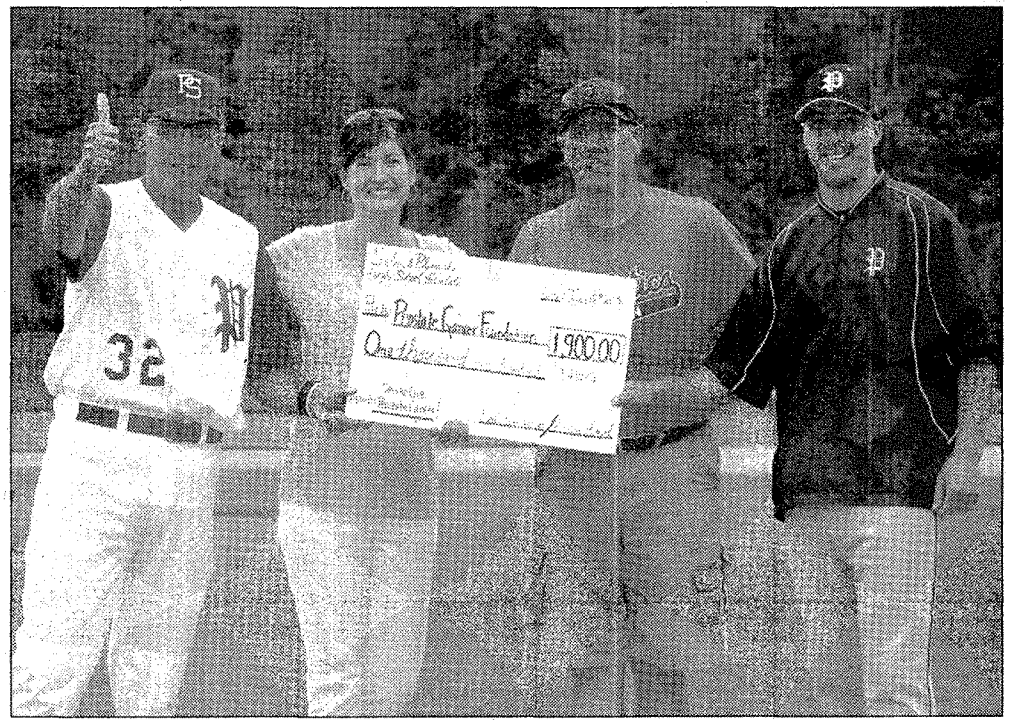
Registration is on for the fourth annual St. Mary Mercy Hospital Embrace Life 5-kilometer run-walk for Cancer on Sunday, Sept. 12.

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

The cost is \$22 for runners-walkers who register on or before Sept. 3 (race T-shirt guaranteed). It's \$27 for those signing up after Sept. 3.

Awards will go to the first-, second- and third-place overall male and female finishers in each age group of the 5K.

Following the 5K, a Community Open House will from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. offering music, games, food and health information and screenings. You can register online at [Active.com](http://Active.com) or by visiting [stmary-mercy.org](http://stmary-mercy.org).



Check it out

In May, the Plymouth and Salem baseball programs combined efforts for a 'Strike Out Prostate Cancer' fundraiser, with proceeds from varsity, junior varsity and freshman teams going to the Prostate Cancer Foundation. Approximately \$2,000 was raised that weekend and the check was presented between games of a June 15 twinbill between Salem and Adrian — whose coach, Greg Jackson, is a prostate cancer survivor. Pictured are (from left) Salem head baseball coach Dale Rumberger, event spokeswoman Audrey Rodriguez, Jackson and Plymouth assistant coach John Schneider. The Salem Baseball Dugout Club and Plymouth Baseball Boosters co-organized the benefit, part of a statewide effort all spring by the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association and Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Michigan Rams outhit by Pride

Pitching has been at the forefront of the Michigan Rams' success on the baseball diamond all season. But that area of the game took a backseat Wednesday evening as the 22-and-under Pride pounded out 13 hits against three Rams pitchers in scoring a 9-5 victory in Michigan Collegiate Baseball League action at Bicentennial Park.

The Rams, who fell to 20-7-1 on the year, were quick to open the scoring by pushing across a single run in the top of the first inning. However, the Pride (15-11) came roaring back by roughing up Rams starter Joe Posler for three runs in the bottom of the frame.

The margin stood that way until the fourth when the Pride picked up a run off reliever Alex Pierce. They would add five more in the fifth to

take a commanding 9-1 lead.

The Rams made the final score a little more respectable by scoring two runs in each of the sixth and seventh frames.

Aaron Cieslak was the top hitter for the Rams, clubbing three of the team's eight hits. He scored two runs and drove in one.

John DiLaura and Evan Piechota each picked up a hit and knocked in two runs and Brett Mazmanian finished 2-for-3 at the plate with one run scored.

Billy Hardin paced the heavy-hitting Pride attack with four hits. He also drove in three runs.

Kyle Vesey, Jason Potts and Justin Root all collected two hits and combined to score four runs.



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Email: [n.fisher@fiegertlaw.com](mailto:n.fisher@fiegertlaw.com)

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# COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, July 18, 2010

hometownlife  .com



BECOME A FAN TODAY

## Summer beach reads

### Traditional books or E-books ... the plot thickens

BY SALLY RUMMEL  
CORRESPONDENT

When you're thinking about which books to throw in your beach bag for a summer getaway, your "stack" might be as small as one of today's E-reader devices — which can hold more electronic books, magazines and newspapers than you could ever read, let alone carry to the beach.

"People are definitely beginning to use more downloadable E-books than ever before, and today's libraries are making these available to patrons for free through a variety of new tech services," said Laurie Golden, marketing and communications specialist for the Canton Public Library.

While traditional books comprise the greatest majority of books "checked out" through metro Detroit area libraries, E-book technology definitely is catching on, and people like Golden see it as a trend for the future — and the future is now.

"You can even download our E-books or audio books from home if you're a library cardholder, without ever stepping into the library to borrow or return them," said Golden. "The 'book' will actually 'disappear' from the screen after three weeks."

People also can borrow regular audio-books on CDs, so they can listen to books while they're driving or sitting on the beach. Another option are "play away" books that are pre-loaded onto an MP3 device. "All the patron needs is a set of standard play headphones and he or she can 'read' a variety of titles for free," said Golden.

Many people already have their own

E-book readers, such as a Sony E-reader, that is able to take free downloads, in comparison to other E-readers like the Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble Nook or Apple iPad. These proprietary products can take a limited number of free downloaded titles, but mostly can download titles for a nominal fee from their own "store."

The benefit of these E-readers is the sophistication of the technology, which enables people to adjust the print size, brightness of the page, and turn pages one at a time or a group of pages — just like a book.

#### CAREFUL HANDLING

Another huge benefit is portability, but the E-book's downside is its sensitivity to sand and water. "I definitely would not take an E-reader to the beach or near water," said Melissa Bliss, owner of Paperbacks & Things in Westland.

Bliss uses an E-reader for researching books or for convenience when traveling, but said she wouldn't use it where it could be easily damaged. "It's one thing to accidentally wreck a \$7.99 paperback if you're out on or near the water, but it's an entirely different thing to lose a \$300 E-reader. Electronics are too sensitive to sand and water. You're much better off to bring a bag of inexpensive books to the beach."

She and her customers are anticipating the release of Janet Evanovich's paperback, *Fingerlickin' Fifteen* and her new hardcover book, *Sizzling Sixteen*. Another favorite

Please see **BOOKS, B6**

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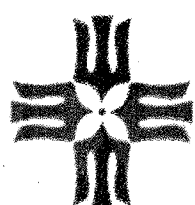
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In the event student enrollment applications exceed available space, a random selection drawing will be administered on August 16 starting at 6:30pm at 9101 Hillcrest, Livonia, MI 48150. The random selection drawing, in accordance with the Michigan Revised School Code and the chartering contract provisions with Livonia Public Schools, will be conducted under the direction of a third party administrator not affiliated with JASSEM. If required, the third party administrator will be a representative from Plante Moran, PLLC.

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## IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## Summer recitals

Enjoy free concerts this week at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

The Ambassador Chamber Players and students from the Schoolcraft Summer Piano Concerto Camp will perform works of Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart and Schumann at 7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, July 20-22, in the Forum Building Recital Hall.

A concert, featuring Alicia Doudna on violin and Julia Siciliano on piano, also is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, July 26 in the recital hall. For more informa-

tion call the Schoolcraft Music Office at (734) 462-4403.

## Learn about butterflies

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association will present "Exploring the Lifecycles and Host Plants of Blues, Coppers, and Hairstreak Butterflies," at 7 p.m., Wednesday, July 21, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

Parking is available on Hines Dr. or Ann Arbor Trail. The cost is \$3 for non-members. (734) 326-0578 or [www.sembabutterfly.com](http://www.sembabutterfly.com).

## BOOKS

FROM PAGE B5

beach read for this summer is Rachel Gibson's *Nothing But Trouble* and books by historical romance novelist Lisa Kleypas, including *Married by Morning* and *Love in the Afternoon*.

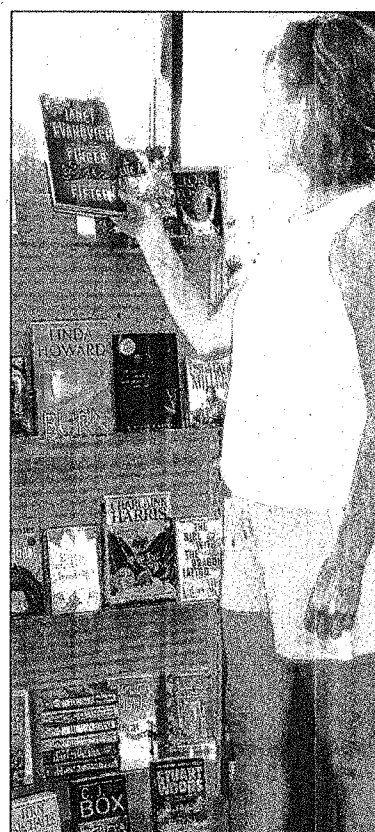
For most readers, it's not the medium that's the most important — it's still the story. A good "beach book" is engaging and a quick enough read that you can finish most of it on the beach before your sunscreen wears off, according to veteran summer readers. "Most people read for pleasure in the summer," admitted Golden.

## RELAX AND READ

At Read It Again Books in Novi, owner Mary Mansour sees a whole different group of customers during the summer than those she sees all winter. "People really want to wind down and slow down on vacation in the summer," Mansour said. "They want to take a pile of books with them so they have something fun to do while they're relaxing."

She and her staff already are anticipating *Finding Perfect*, a light-hearted book by Susan Mallery that will be released next month. The author's *Almost Perfect* hit bookstore shelves in June and *Chasing Perfect* was published in April.

"The timing of these books for pleasure reading in the summer is



"Finger Lickin' Fifteen," a novel in the Janet Evanovich series about fictional bounty hunter Stephanie Plum, is a favorite beach read.

"just perfect," Mansour said.

Other favorite authors for summer reading are Janet Evanovich, Robyn Carr and "The Virgin River Series" with her newest book, *A Summer in Sonoma* released last month. "Anything by Debbie

## Comparing E-readers: Which one to buy?

It is literally impossible to compare the dozens of E-reader devices available today, partly because the category constantly changes as models are improved and new styles added.

Also known as E-book readers, these are handheld portable devices designed to read electronic books, magazines, periodicals and newspapers, hence the E-reader name.

However, these four are seen as the leading E-readers as of June 2010, according to several sources, including ereaderes.com:

• **Sony Daily Edition:** Priced at \$399, it weighs under 13 ounces and has a 7.1-inch grayscale screen. Battery life is up to seven days with 3G wireless connection on. It has expandable storage, a virtual keyboard and has no browser.

• **Amazon Kindle:** Priced from \$259 for the Kindle 2 to \$489 for the new Kindle DX, it weighs about 19 ounces and has a 9.7-inch grayscale screen. Battery life is up to seven days with 3G

wireless connection on. It has expandable storage and a keyboard and features 400,000 books and 130,000 newspapers with a browser.

• **Barnes & Noble Nook:** Priced at \$259, it weighs 12 ounces and has a 7.7-by-4.9-inch grayscale screen for reading, but color for navigating. Battery life is 10 days with 3G wireless connection on. It has expandable storage, a virtual keyboard and offers 350,000 books for sale, 30 newspapers plus 1 million Google Books, without a browser.

• **Apple iPad:** Priced from \$499 to \$829 depending on features added, the iPad is more than just an E-reader, but it's the one all others are being compared with. It weighs 1.5 pounds and has a 9.7-inch color screen. Battery life is 11 hours with 3G wireless connection on. It has expandable storage, a touch screen keyboard and offers 500,000 books and several hundred newspapers, including Apple's Safari browser.

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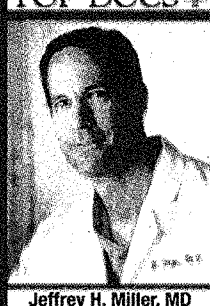
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## SHOULDER-HAND

Nature acts in curious ways, and human bones and joints are no exception. An arthritic condition exists called shoulder-hand syndrome, in which the shoulder becomes stiff and immovable and the hand becomes swollen and painful. What is curious is that the rest of the arm, including the elbow joint, is completely normal.

Shoulder-hand syndrome most often occurs in people who are diabetic though the degree of diabetic control and the type of diabetes, that is whether the person needs insulin or not, does not matter. Mild diabetes may experience the condition as well as those individuals who are uncontrolled.

Physicians do not know the underlying cause for Shoulder-hand syndrome, particularly why the elbow is spared. Present theories focus on the blood supply to the shoulder and hand and that nervous system control of the blood vessels to these areas is impaired. However, that explanation alone does not explain why the elbow is not involved.

Since doctors are unsure of the underlying cause of Shoulder-hand syndrome, the treatment is uncertain. The usual approach is to prescribe high doses of oral steroids such as 60 mgm a day of prednisone. However, if the patient is a diabetic this regimen is not practical since prednisone can raise blood sugar to a dangerous level even with diabetic treatment.

An alternative is injection of cortisone into the involved shoulder and hand joint. This procedure may not resolve the pain and swelling, but often brings discomfort to a level the patient can accept.



## Independence Village

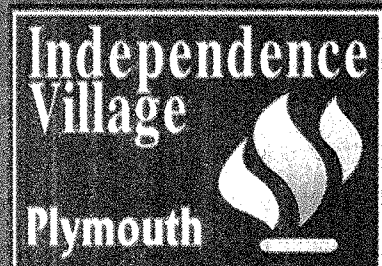
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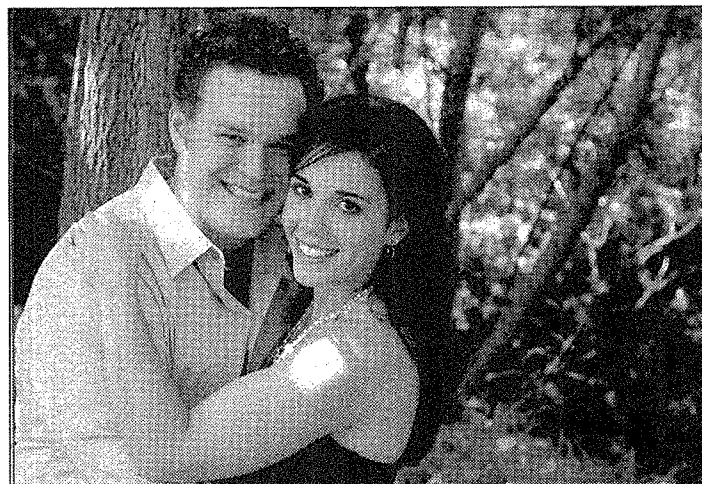


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# MILESTONES



## Grima-Bradley

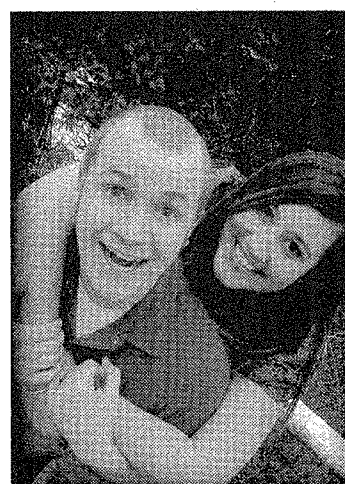
Jennifer Marie Grima and Clark Benton Walker Bradley announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Edward and Rita Grima of Livonia, graduated from Divine Child High School in 2004. She earned a bachelor's degree in communicative sciences in 2008 from Michigan State University and a master's degree in speech and language pathology in 2010 from Wayne State University. She is employed as a speech

pathologist in a public school system.

Her fiancé, son of Terry and Debra Bradley of Dearborn, also graduated in 2004 from Divine Child High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in finance in 2008 from Michigan State University and is employed as a personal banker for Chase Bank in Birmingham.

A July 2010 wedding is planned at Laurel Manor in Livonia.



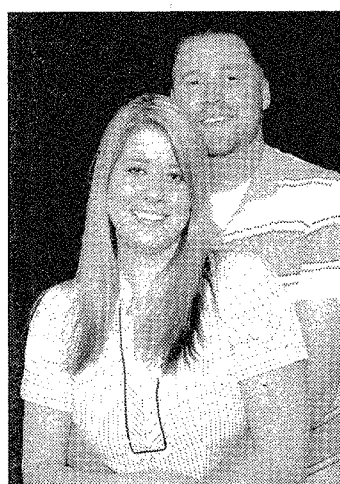
## Van Haften-Murray

Michelle Rose Ann Van Haften and Alexander Rockwell Murray announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Jo Linda Van Haften of Canton, graduated from Plymouth High School in 2006. She is pursuing a degree in teaching Spanish from Central Michigan University.

Her fiancé, son of Brennen and Kimberly Murray of Upper Saint Clair, Penn., graduated from Salem High School in 2005. He is pursuing a degree in information systems at Central Michigan University.

A July 2010 wedding is planned at Burton Manor in Livonia.



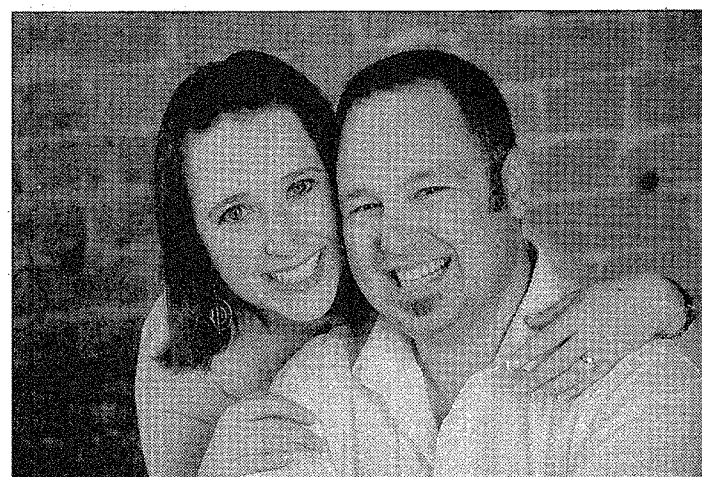
## Hermann-Horback

Erin Elizabeth Hermann and Michael William Horback announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of James and Marcia Wilson Hermann of Livonia, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education at Western Michigan University. She teaches second grade at Star International Academy in Dearborn Heights.

Her fiancé, son of Michael and Gail Horback of Livonia, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in construction management from Eastern Michigan University. He is self-employed.

A July 2010 wedding is planned at First Presbyterian, in Northville.



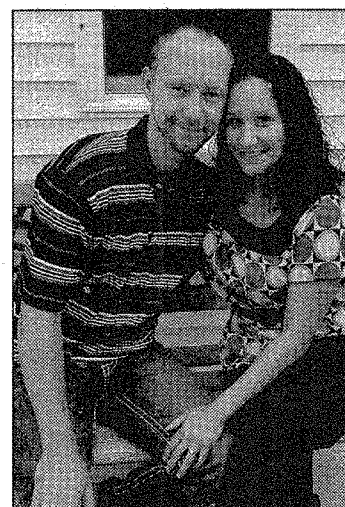
## Weidl-Cooper

Sandra Weidl and Nathaniel Cooper announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Karen Weidl of Farmington Hills, is a 1996 graduate of Harrison High School and a 2000 graduate of Michigan State University.

Her fiancé, son of David Cooper of Chelsea, and Nanette Cooper of Ann Arbor, is a 1998 graduate of Chelsea High School and a 2002 graduate of Kalamazoo College.

An August 2010 wedding is planned in Grand Rapids.



## Moran-Johnson

Angela Moran and Rob Johnson plan to marry in September 2010.

Angela, daughter of Elias and Sheryl Moran of Westland, received her master's degree from Western Michigan University and is an occupational therapist.

Rob, son of Robert and Norma Johnson of Westland, is a Ford Motor Company employee of 10 years.

Angela and Rob met in junior high school and have known each other for 16 years.

Their wedding will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Wayne.

# Passages

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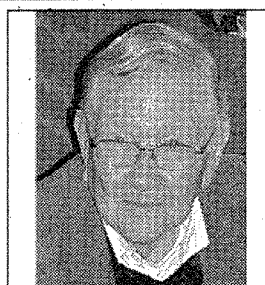
## LORETTA "Jean" REINNING BEDFORD

Age 74, of Redford, MI, passed away quietly at home on Sunday, July 11, 2010, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was of the Roman Catholic faith. Preceded in death by: father Robert Reinning, Canon City, CO; and mother Evelyn Haire, Sweetwater, TN. Survived by: daughter Evie Proulx, Ionia, MI; son Bill Bedford Sr. and wife Shannon, Ooltewah, TN; son Joe Bedford and wife Jill, Knoxville, TN; grandson Nathan Proulx, Fort Wayne, IN; granddaughter Sarah Hill and husband Jerome, Fort Wayne, IN; grandson Billy Bedford Jr., Knoxville, TN; and grandson Blake Bedford, Ooltewah, TN. No services will be held at the request of the deceased.



## EDWARD CHARLES BROWN

Died July 15, 2010, at Henry Ford Village in Dearborn. He was 89 years old. Mr. Brown was born March 28, 1921, in Newark, New Jersey to Mary and William P. Brown. He lived in Bloomfield, New Jersey until he entered the U.S. Coast Guard during WWII. Mr. Brown was sent to the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, to receive his commission and Lt. JG spent most of his four years of service in the Coast Guard as Captain of his PT boat, the AVR9, on the Pacific Ocean off southern California. He married Roberta Kegan, also from Bloomfield, New Jersey, on January 24, 1945, and they lived in Oceanside, California until the end of the war. After the war he finished his schooling, graduating from Rutgers University and then receiving his MBA from New York University. Mr. Brown began working at Ford Motor Company in Buffalo, New York in 1950 and retired in 1982 as Assistant Divisional Controller of the Metal Stamping Division in Dearborn, MI. He lived with his family in Bloomfield Hills, MI beginning in 1961, until moving to Henry Ford Village Retirement Community in 2007. Mr. Brown is survived by his wife, Roberta, daughter, Valere, of Prospect Heights, IL, son, Karl Edward (Mary) of Bloomfield Hills and grandchildren, Eric (fiancée, Lauren) of Washington, D.C., Rachel of Washington, D.C. and Kelly (Bradley) Ferrara, of Shelby Twp. He is preceded in death by his sister, Dorothea Bennett. A private committal service will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. Condolences at: [lynchfuneraldirectors.com](http://lynchfuneraldirectors.com)



## GEORGE M. CLELAND

Passed away on June 13, 2010 at the age of 85. Born in Detroit, MI on June 24, 1924, Mr. Cleland graduated from the Detroit Institute of Technology with a degree in Business Administration. While an undergraduate, Mr. Cleland served as the Treasurer of Chi Phi fraternity. A veteran of World War II, he served with valor in the Pacific Theater in the U.S. Army's Quartermaster Corps. During his professional career in the aerospace industry, Mr. Cleland supplied materials and product to the airline and air cargo industries. He was renowned and respected for his finely-tuned negotiation skills, and was twice called out of retirement to provide his expertise in negotiating with national and international clients. Mr. Cleland was an active member of various men's groups including the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. A dedicated family man, Mr. Cleland was noted for his devotion to church and love of his country. Mr. Cleland was the beloved husband of Geraldine; father of Lynda (Michael) and Kim (Michael), grandfather of Colby, Kendall, Jordan and Chelsea; and great-grandfather of Campbell. Memorial service Friday, July 23, 11a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. Memorial contributions may be made to The Salvation Army or First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500

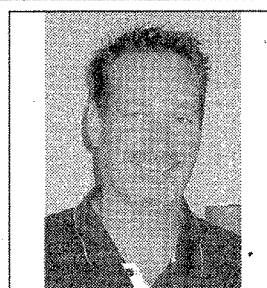
View obituary and share memories at: [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



## HELEN ANN CLINANSMITH

Age 86, of Plymouth, MI, widow of Stanley Clinansmith passed away on June 30, 2010. She is survived by her sons Michael and Thomas, daughters Patricia Visger and Nancy Jowsey and step-children Henry Fallot and Phyllis Hazel Bodnar.



## JOEL GOEBEL

Of Plymouth, age 41, died Sunday, July 11, 2010 at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. A Memorial Service will be held 2p.m. Saturday, July 17, 2010 at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 67234 Fenton Road, Grand Blanc, Pastor Will Stenke officiating. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Maple Grove. Visitation 1p.m. Saturday until the time of the service at the church. Joel was born in Grosse Pointe, MI on November 9, 1968. He enjoyed snowmobiling, boating, golfing and coaching hockey. Surviving are sons, Logan Philip and Brayden Keith; Sister and brother-in-law, Carol and Tito Delfavero; Parents, Philip and Eleanor Goebel; Grandmother, Helen Goebel; Niece, Carolyn Centofanti; Nephew, Tony Centofanti; Aunt, Diana Manly; Uncles, Tom and Bill Goebel; Many cousins. He was preceded in death by nephew, Aaron Philip Centofanti. Your condolences may be shared with the family at: [swartzfuneralhomeinc.com](http://swartzfuneralhomeinc.com)



## GAYLE KUCZEK

Born October 5, 1919 and died June 30, 2010 at the age of 90. Dear wife of Edward, they celebrated 42 years together on June 14, 2010. Over the years they lived in Livonia, Walloon Lake, Farmington Hills and Dearborn, with many winters in Florida. Both enjoyed dancing, golf and playing Bridge. Gayle graduated from Purdue and taught home EC for 32 years at Ferndale High. Parents Willard and Nell Bradshaw, brother Willard Jr. (Jean) and first husband John Willingham passed before her. Survived by brothers Elbert (Geneva) and Sherrill (Dora), also nine nieces and nephews Sisters-in-law Frances Kuczek and Lillian (Jerry) Chermak and step-mom to Karen. Much loved and greatly missed. Memorial visitation July 20, 2010, 1:00pm until service at 4:00pm at John N. Santeu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (South of Ford Rd).

## CHARLES RODERICK LECTKA

Age 84. Died July 7, 2010. Beloved husband of the late Janice. Loving father of Jill and John. Loving father-in-law of Cindy. Proud grandfather of Mallory, David, and Anna. Visitation was Sunday, July 11 at 2:00 PM; A Memorial Service was held Sunday, July 11 at 3:30 both at Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft Rd, Livonia, MI 48150. In lieu of flowers, donations in Chuck's memory to Mt. Hope Church or the National Parkinson's Foundation.



## MARIE MALLAMS

Age 78, passed away July 10th with her family by her side. Former wife of the late Thomas Eugene Mallams Sr. for 31 years. Beloved mother of Kassie Kavanaugh, Andy (Cindy) Mallams, Lisa (Chris) Sprow, Tom Jr. (Sandy) Mallams. Proud Grandmother to Nicole, Tiffany, Justin, Brian, Jonathan, Joey, Michael, Danielle and Chelsea. Great-grandmother to Stevie Jo, "Destinee", Brett, Ashley, Ava, Chloe and Russell. Great-great-grandmother to Logan, with new baby sister Madalyn on the way. Also survived by best friend Maggie. Our hearts are broken but her legacy of love will remain within us forever. Visitation Thursday from 6-9pm and Friday at 10am with services immediately following at 11am. L. J. Griffin Funeral Home 7707 Middlebelt Road, Westland.

## SHIRLEY ETHEL JAKUST MCINTOSH

Age 79, wife of the late Neil John McIntosh, of 900 Doubloon Street, West Union, SC, passed away on Thursday, July 15, 2010 at Cottingham House. Mrs. McIntosh was born on August 30, 1930 in Detroit, MI, daughter of the late Charles and Ethel Shaw Jakust. She was a homemaker and was of the Lutheran faith. Mrs. McIntosh was a 1948 graduate of Mackenzie High School in Detroit, Michigan. Mrs. McIntosh is survived by daughters, Terri (Bill) Graham and Laura (Scott) Belue; daughter-in-law, Trish McIntosh; grandchildren, Lyndsay (Matt) Paruch, Kristin McIntosh, Alec Shick, Logan Shick, Kelci Belue, Amanda Belue, and Cheyenne Belue. She was also blessed with two great-grandsons, Jeffrey McIntosh Paruch and William Dale Children. In addition to her husband, Mrs. McIntosh was predeceased by son, Dale John McIntosh and daughter, Linda McIntosh; brother, Norm Jakust; and will return home to Michigan for eternal rest. Memorials may be made to Oconee Humane Society, 1925 Sandifer Boulevard, Seneca, SC, 29678 or Oconee Hospice of the Foothills, Attn: Foundation Office, 298 Memorial Drive, Seneca, SC 29692. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: [www.davenportfuneralhome.com](http://www.davenportfuneralhome.com) DAVENPORT FUNERAL HOME 864-638-3611 Walhalla, SC 29691

## RICHARD E. MOFFITT, SR.

Age 82, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed away July 11, 2010. Arrangements by: THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington

## OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

### Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to: [oeobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:oeobits@hometownlife.com)

or fax to: Attn: Obit c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968

For more information call: Char Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538

or toll free 800-579-7355

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7/18/10



## PAMELA MARIE MISENAR

63, a long time resident of Farmington Hills, MI was granted her angel wings on July 8, 2010. After a long and very debilitating illness, Pamela was granted her eternal peace, with Family by her side at Providence Park Hospital in Novi, MI and is joined into her eternal life with Our Lord Jesus Christ. Pamela was born in Detroit, MI on May 29, 1947, the first born child and beloved daughter of David and Helen Misenar of Farmington Hills. She is survived by her Mother Helen, and siblings, David (Marilou), Maxine, Daniel (Brenda), Annette (Bill), who are crushed and heartbroken at her passing, but delighted in the thought that she joins her Father David and two other siblings, Clare and Donald, in the Kingdom Of Heaven. Her many surviving Aunts, Uncles, nieces, nephews, and friends, whose lives were touched in so many thoughtful and personal ways by her, grieve for her and miss her sorely. Pamela's entire work career was in the health insurance industry. Her career gifted her, a real and very compassionate outlook on life. Pamela loved "crafting", party planning, entertaining and Christmas Time. Pamela always put a great deal of thought, time and effort into the very personal things she did for those she loved. Her "personalized" photo albums reflected those qualities. Those that attended her Christmas Parties know the legends. Her parents 50th Wedding Anniversary, an exquisite and memorable affair, is but an example of her thoughtful, caring ways. Pam was active in social circles in her early years. A member of the "Detroit Tip Topper Club" for women 5' 10" and taller, she was a real socialite frequenting many charity events and fundraisers, and being spotted about town and at the "Detroit Yacht Club" with dashing young men. A finalist in her share of beauty pageants, she was beautiful both inside and out. A member of the Young Republicans, she loved political action and discussion. In later life, as a long term breast cancer survivor, she was active in the movement to bring about more awareness to women as well as participating in charity events where she could. As a final thoughtful act, she gifted her body to Wayne State Medical College, for the further study of CIDP, the rare illness that so debilitated her body at the end of her memorable life. We will be celebrating Pamela's life with a Memorial Mass to be held at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 23815 Powers Road, Farmington, MI on Saturday, July 17, 2010 at 10:30 AM. The Mass will be followed by a great party that Pamela planned, held at Vladimir's Banquet Hall, 28125 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 at 11:30 AM. Memorial donation by check are requested to be made "In Honor of Pamela Misenar" and sent to GBS/CIDP Foundation, The Holly Building, 104 1/2 Forrest Ave., Narberth, PA 19072 or online at: <https://www.gbs-cidp.org>.



## EVELYN G. SCHWARZE

Age 92, July 9, 2010. Birmingham resident for 65 years. Loving wife of the late Ralph. Mother of Richard (Janet) Schwarze and Katie (Tom) Carey. Grandmother of Jennifer (Bruce) Rivera and Kathie (Mike) Tomlanovich. Great grandmother of Christopher, Kristina, Michael and Jenna. She was a life member of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel and the Suburban Association of Retired School Personnel. She was a member of the Ezra Parker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for 43 years and a member of St. James Episcopal Church. Please sign Evelyn's online guestbook at: [www.cremationmichigan.com](http://www.cremationmichigan.com). Arrangements by the Cremation Society of Michigan, Detroit.

## MARGARET E. WILSON

Age 84, of Seminole, FL (formerly of Plymouth, MI) passed away June 26, 2010. She was the former owner of the Penn Theater in Plymouth. She was well known for her community services including the Plymouth Symphony (Board of Directors), Chamber of Commerce and worked with the Fall Festival Board. When she moved to Florida she continued her community service with Friends of the Library, Florida International Museum, Bay Ridge Civic Association and the Food Bank. Although she enjoyed the warmth and sunshine of Florida, her heart remained with the Plymouth Community. No funeral service is scheduled

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

ONLINE PHOTO GALLERIES

[hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



## HEALTH

Sunday, July 18, 2010

hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

## Study looks at aspirin and the elderly

In an effort to extend the length of a disability-free life for older adults, researchers from Wayne State University are partnering with colleagues from across the U.S. and Australia in the largest international trial ever sponsored by the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health.

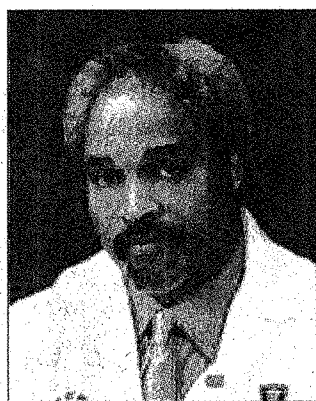
The research study, "Aspirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly," (ASPREE), aims to assess whether aspirin can not only prolong life but help provide a life free of physical disability and/or dementia for healthy older people.

"ASPREE is the largest study of its kind, and its sheer size and scope will enable investigators and society to learn a great deal about whether aspirin can help older adults 70 years and older live longer, healthier lives," said Dr. John Flack, professor of Medicine and Physiology, and chair of Internal Medicine at Wayne State University, and site investigator for the study.

In addition to Flack, Peter Lichtenberg, director of the Institute of Gerontology at WSU, will work with the ASPREE study team on community outreach and recruitment efforts.

Although it is known that aspirin prevents heart attacks and strokes in people with established heart disease, the role of aspirin in people without a history of cardiovascular disease is less certain.

"In the U.S., Australia and elsewhere, people are living longer, so identifying treat-



Flack

ments to prolong life free of physical disability and memory problems is increasingly important," said ASPREE investigator Dr. Anne Murray, epidemiologist and geriatrician and associate professor of medicine and geriatrics at the University of Minnesota. "Aspirin is a potentially useful drug, as it is cheap and widely available."

## BENEFITS AND RISKS

To date, very little information is available about the overall effects of aspirin in older adults because most trials focus on middle-aged people. The ASPREE study, for the first time, will determine whether the potential benefits of low-dose aspirin outweigh the risks specifically for people age 70 and over.

"Because of its proven effectiveness in preventing second events, many doctors have also prescribed aspirin to prevent heart attacks and strokes in otherwise healthy people," said John McNeil, head of the Monash School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine

in Australia and also a principal investigator for ASPREE.

"However, in the last couple of years, serious doubts have been raised about the evidence supporting this practice and, as a result, editorials in major medical journals have called for this question to be settled."

## ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

The ASPREE study will enroll 6,500 healthy individuals age 70 and over in the U.S. and another 12,500 in Australia. Six hundred participants will be sought by Wayne State University. All eligible participants will be randomly assigned to take either low-dose aspirin or a placebo daily for about five years.

Patients will receive initial measurements on specific health markers as well as functional and cognitive ability, and changes in these will be monitored throughout the study.

"What we learn from the ASPREE study extends far beyond the effects of aspirin," said Dr. Flack. "The scope of the study includes other clinical measurements and assessments that could impact and transform the way clinicians medically treat the elderly in their everyday care."

ASPREE is being conducted in clinics and universities in select cities in Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Texas. For more information visit [www.ASPREE.org](http://www.ASPREE.org).

## Upcoming walks aid programs for mental health, bleeding disorders

## NAMI WALKS

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, (NAMI) is gearing up for a family event and walk on Saturday, Sept. 25, at Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills.

The event is designed to raise money for and the mental health services it provides to families across the state. All the funds collected by walkers will be used to fund NAMI programs in Michigan. Registration for the 5K walk will begin at 9 a.m., with the walk running from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information or to register visit [namimi.org](http://namimi.org) or call (800) 331.4264.



## HEMOPHILIA FOUNDATION

Registration is being accepted now for the Walkin' on the Wild Side fundraiser to benefit the Hemophilia

Foundation's programs and services for individuals with bleeding disorders. The walk will start at 8:45 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Detroit Zoo, located on Ten Mile (I-696 service drive) and Woodward in Royal Oak. On-site registration will begin at 7:45 a.m.

The Foundation aims to raise \$100,000.

A registration fee of \$15 per person includes all-day admis-

sion to the zoo, refreshments and a Walk T-shirt. Children under 2 are free.

For every contribution of \$100, the individual donor's name will be put in a drawing for a 50-inch plasma television, an Apple iPad, and an Amazon Kindle. Winners will be drawn immediately after the Walk ends at 10:30 a.m. on the Grassy Knoll at the Detroit Zoo.

Donate to your favorite team captain, walker or directly to the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan. Donate online or mail donations to the Foundation by Wednesday, Aug. 25. Donations made after that date will not be included.

Register at [www.hfmich.org](http://www.hfmich.org) or contact Dawn Evans at (800) 482-3041 or [dawn@hfmich.org](mailto:dawn@hfmich.org).

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

## JULY

## Comedy for a Cause

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan offers a night of comedy, Wednesday, July 28, at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia. Tickets for the event are \$15, with \$10 of that amount benefitting the organization. Seating will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the show will start at 8 p.m. To buy tickets, call Dawn at the Foundation at (800) 482-3041.

## Free concert

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan is offering free concerts at rallies for its upcoming "Walkin' on the Wildside" fund-raising walk. Steel Traxx will perform at 6 p.m., July 28 at Booth Park in Birmingham. A concert also will be held at 6:30 p.m., July 27 at the Corner Brewery in Ypsilanti. The Foundation will provide free pop and pizza at each event. RSVP at (800) 482-3041.

## Caregiver class

Learn the skills necessary to care for a child with diabetes, 1-4 p.m. July 29, at the Danto Auditorium, in the Cardiovascular

Center at the University of Michigan Medical Center, located at Fuller and East Medical Center Drive, in Ann Arbor. The Pediatric Endocrinology Department at the University of Michigan is offering a class for grandparents, teachers, baby sitters, step-parents, and others interested in learning about how to care for a child with diabetes. The cost is \$15 per person and covers the handouts that will be given at class and light refreshments. Call (734) 764-5175 with questions. Make checks payable to the University of Michigan and send it to Pediatric Endocrinology, Attn: Caregiver Class, 1500 E. Medical Center Drive, D1205 MPB, SPC 5718, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

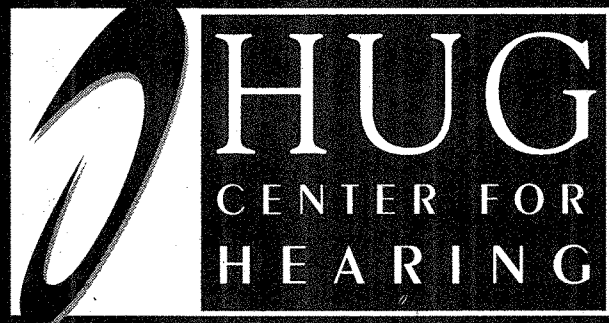
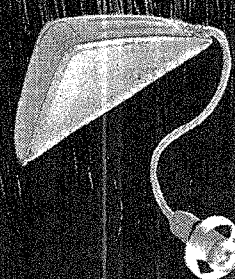
## Physical Therapy

Find out how physical therapy can help relieve back, knee and shoulder pain while keeping joints and muscles strong and healthy, at a free community seminar presented by Beaumont Hospital. The one-hour seminar will be led by a Beaumont physical therapist and a Beaumont doctor. The program is scheduled for 2-3 p.m., July 29 and 6-7 p.m., Aug. 2, at the hospital, located on Woodward Ave., and 13 Mile in Royal Oak. Register at (800) 663-7377.

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