

DRIVER BOUND OVER IN FATAL CRASH, A3

IN THE FAST LANE

FOR 10-YEAR-OLD RACING FAN HIS BLOOD




SUNDAY
September 26, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric
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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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IN BRIEF

Play ball!

It's a fall classic of historical proportions as the La-De-Dahs of Greenfield Village take on the Westland Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dahs in an 1867 rules - no gloves - baseball game at 2 p.m. at Jaycee Park.

Mayor William Wild and the Doo-Dahs team will play a benefit baseball game with the two-time world champion La-De-Dahs to benefit the Westland Historic Village Park. Admission is free, but baseball fans are asked to bring a nonperishable food items collection for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

A concession stand will be provided by the Westland Historical Commission. Jaycee Park is at the corner of Wildwood and Hunter, west of Wayne Road.

On the radio

Michigan gubernatorial candidates Virg Bernero and Rick Snyder will take telephone calls from across the state in two special live call-in shows to air on Michigan Radio and other Michigan Public Radio Network stations, this week.

Each candidate will appear in a separate hourlong call-in show, both of which will be hosted by Rick Pluta, Michigan Public Radio Network managing editor and state capitol bureau chief. The program with Democratic candidate Virg Bernero will be 9-10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 27. Republican candidate Rick Snyder will appear 9-10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 1. Both programs will have an open format with the candidates fielding questions from listeners on a variety of topics. Listener phone calls will be accepted during the program by calling toll-free (877) 952-7870.

Michigan Radio is an NPR news station. Michigan Radio broadcasts at 91.7 FM in Detroit and southeastern Michigan, 91.1 FM in Flint, 104.1 FM in West Michigan, and online at michiganradio.org.

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On the run

Saturday, Oct. 2, marks the 20th anniversary of the Red October Run at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. A fall tradition, it's open to all levels of runners and walkers. Events include a 10K run, 5K run, 5K walk and 1 Mile Junior October for children age 12 and younger.

The event is designed to promote community health. Highlights include October Run T-shirts, awards, a prize drawing and postrace refreshments. In addition to the races, there will be massages, podiatrists and sport medicine doctors available to give examinations. Participants can take part in open houses at the Breast Care Center on Venoy Road and the Rehabilitation Services Center on Annapolis, too.

To register online, visit www.oakwood.org/redoctoberrun. Race day registration begins at 8 a.m. For more information, call (313) 586-5486 or e-mail Cynthia.Cook@oakwood.org.

Fresh produce abounds at farmers market



Farmer Jim Marks helps customer Sue Reitzel of Westland at the weekly Westland Farmers Market that continues through the end of October.



The produce, like these zucchini, summer squash and peppers, is still plentiful.

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There is still plenty of fresh produce and plants as the Westland Farmers Market moves into the last month of its first year in operation.

"It's been great, not only with the vendors but the people who have been coming out for Michigan fresh fruits and vegetables," Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski said. "We've had a great year. We had nice weather - it never rained on the market. The turnout from people once they knew about the market has been great."

The highest number of vendors was

Please see **MARKET, A2**



ELECTION 2010

Members of the Michigan House of Representatives can only serve three two-year terms. Their salaries and those of their colleagues in the State Senate are set by the State Officers Compensation Commission, which meets every two years. Currently, lawmakers make \$79,650 a year in addition to a \$12,000 annual expense allowance. However, beginning in January, their salaries will be drop to \$71,685 and the expense allowance will be reduced to \$10,000.

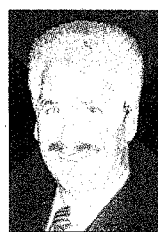
LeBlanc: Proud of service to community

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With the word incumbent almost being used as a pejorative during this election season, Richard LeBlanc remains proud of his public service as he seeks a third term as 18th House District state representative.

"I really do think that my service has been a benefit to the school community, the city and other parts of the state," said the Westland Democrat. "I'm so fortunate to be seated as a state representative. I represent the state first, then Westland. You have to be mindful of what you do, and the affect on the state. I think I do it the way Westland would want it done."

LeBlanc was first elected to the Wayne-Westland Board of Education and then was elected to the Westland City Council before he was elected to two terms in the State House. He would be term-limited, if elected for another term.



LeBlanc

Not surprisingly, the economy is a major issue for LeBlanc, who said he has met with members of the business community, who don't like

Democrats, about what is needed to attract and retain businesses.

"We hear about burdensome policies that keep businesses out of Michigan but it was all vague," he said. "I didn't entirely believe the comments until I sat down with business people. I was voted the most conservative Democrat in the House. I'd like to think that I represent Westland, it's not that liberal."

Disappointed at Michigan's failure to capture federal Race to the Top education dollars, LeBlanc is also frustrated that the Detroit River International Crossing or DRIC project, adding a pri-

Please see **LEBLANC, A2**

Collins: Cut taxes, bureaucratic red tape

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Floyd Collins doesn't remember exactly what prompted him to run for the 18th District state House of Representatives seat except that it had to do with the economy.

"A family leaves Michigan every 12 minutes. I look at my sons. I could stay here for the rest of my life - I'd figure it out. My sons might not be able to stay," said Collins, a Westland Republican. "Tax revenues are down. All you read from Lansing is increasing the fuel tax or fees making Michigan more expensive. That's not the way to go."

A truck driver, Collins said he supports eliminating the Michigan Business Tax with its 21.99 tax rate.

"That's the biggest factor in jobs not being here. A company has to figure in that 21.99 percent before they ever make a widget," he said. "I would chop away at bureaucratic red tape. If we do those



Collins

two things, you would see no employment problem in the future."

On campaign literature paid for by the Michigan Republican

Party, Collins doesn't identify himself as a Republican but rather as a conservative. He supports a unique school voucher system that would fund schools not only per student but also factoring in additional money for what schools offer in terms of extracurricular programs and busing.

"I'm a free market, free market, free market - competition creates excellence. Look at the Big Three quality before imports," said Collins, who also supports a part-time legislature.

If elected to the legislature, Collins said he wouldn't expect to make a lot of friends among

Please see **COLLINS, A2**

W-W officials to negotiate sale of vacant property

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland Deputy Superintendent Gary Martin isn't surprised that inquires have already been made about the district's six vacant schools. There are groups out there looking for deals.

But before school officials bring a purchase offer to the school board, they want to be sure it's the best that can be negotiated.

That's why the school board last week authorized Martin and Superintendent Greg Baracy to consult with legal counsel to negotiate suitable terms for the properties.

The approval comes at a time when the district, through its Realtor, Signature and Associates, has received an offer for Patchin Elementary School on Newburgh, just south of Warren Road.

Please see **SCHOOLS, A4**

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INDEX

APARTMENTS	...	C5	COMMUNITY LIFE	...	B5	HEALTH	...	B9
AUTOMOTIVE	...	C7	CROSSWORD PUZZLE	...	C3	REAL ESTATE	...	C3
CAREER BUILDER	...	C1	OBITUARIES	...	B8	SPORTS	...	B1



Business has been good at the Westland Farmers Market which is open weekly on Tuesdays through the end of October.

MARKET

FROM PAGE A1

22, but that number dropped once school was back in session, Kosowski said. It now averages about 15 vendors.

"Over the summer, we had a couple of jewelry people there along with the produce. We also had groups like the Livonia Churchill boosters who were selling spirit items like T-shirts and sweatshirts for awhile," he said.

Located on the east side of

the Westland Shopping Center along Wayne Road, the market is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Oct. 26.

The mall has been very supportive of the market, Kosowski said, hanging banners to promote it inside the facility.

"Next year, we'd really like to try and put out grants for a mobile stage. We'd like to have cooking contests and a chili cook-off," Kosowski said. "We're going to have theme each month and other things to attract people."

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COLLINS

FROM PAGE A1

his colleagues.

"When you have core values, you stand by them and don't compromise. When you compromise, you both give something up," he said. "If you want to turn the state around, you're not going to compromise. I'd be happy if people want to work with me, but my focus is not getting along. I'd ask people to look at my core values."

Those core values — reducing the size of government, lowering taxes on businesses and individuals — are formed by his life, his religion and reading history, Collins said.

"The Founding Fathers were right. The more local you can make government, the better it works," he said. "Most decisions should be made at the city and county levels."

The most important decisions Collins said he has made in his life have been keeping God in his life, getting married young and serving in the U.S. Army.

"I find religion puts you in your place — you don't look at yourself as someone who can save the world. You learn your core values," he said. "I've been married 14 years and have two great kids. It's the best thing that ever happened to me."

Joining the military right out of high school was a fairly nerve-racking experience,

Collins said, but something he had always wanted to do.

"It changed me. It instilled confidence and made me know that I could do things I never thought I could do," said Collins.

Describing himself as pro-life, Collins said he didn't seek the endorsement of pro-life organizations due to the exceptions they allow, such as cases of rape or incest.

"I don't make exceptions. We're not given the right to take a life for convenience. Studies show that women who have the baby mentally recover faster even if they give it up for adoption," said Collins. "I don't judge people who choose abortion."

Collins has scheduled a town hall meeting for 5:30-

FLOYD COLLINS

Who: Republican candidate for the 18th House District
City: Westland
Age: 33
Family: Married with two sons
Education: Wayne Memorial High School, various military schools
Employment: Brenner Oil
Community involvement: Local church activities

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Bailey Recreation Center and a second on Sunday, Oct. 24. He has a website www.collinsforwestland.com and is on Facebook at Collins for Westland.

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LEBLANC

FROM PAGE A1

vately funded second bridge across the Detroit River, isn't moving forward.

"That would mean 10,000 jobs. It's not government-funded. The Big Three want it, unions and business groups, (Wayne County Executive Robert) Ficano, (Oakland County Executive L. Brooks) Patterson, (former governors) (James) Blanchard and (John) Engler are for it," said LeBlanc. "It means billions of dollars in investment. A handful of Republican state senators are standing in the way."

That being said, LeBlanc said he has wonderful working relationships with Republican colleagues. He

notes that *Inside Michigan Politics* designated him as the most moderate House member.

"I don't close my mind to what the other side wants. There was a Republican bill on baccalaureates for community colleges and I worked for it," said LeBlanc. "It comes down to being on the right side of an issue. The partisan bickering is less prevalent than you would think. About 95 percent of what we do is unanimous. The 5 percent are meaningful and difficult."

The most important thing that the next legislature can do is a comprehensive restructuring of the tax system, LeBlanc said, noting Proposal A will be expiring.

"The Big Three loved the Michigan Business Tax but small businesses hate it. Small businesses run the

state," he said. "The MBT and surcharges deserve to be revised but not as one piece. The income tax, fuel tax and sales tax are all things that need to be involved. Votes need to vote on it and it needs to happen in 2011."

An important decision personally and politically, LeBlanc said, was choosing to be married and raise a family in his hometown.

"My wife lived around the corner in Garden City — my street is the dividing line. I became engaged in Westland and that was a great decision," LeBlanc said. "It has paid great dividends to the community and to ourselves. I'm pretty proud of that."

LeBlanc considers himself loyal to a fault and honest.

"I will work my tail off to help a person do what is right," he said. "I put everything on the line for things I believe in and for the benefit of those I represent. Like when I applied for an opening on the Board of Education — I just wanted a fair shake."

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RICHARD LEBLANC

Who: Incumbent Democratic candidate for the 18th House District
City: Westland
Age: 52
Family: Married with two adult sons and one granddaughter
Education: bachelor of arts degree and nine credits toward master of arts degree
Community involvement: He has been involved with the Westland Cable Commission, Westland Library Board, Friends of the Westland Public Library, Westland Youth Assistance Program, Westland Historical Society/Friends of the Westland Museum, Westland Jaycees, Westland Goodfellows, Nankin Transit Commission, Westland Historical Commission, Westland Cultural Society and Madison Elementary School PTA. He also was an assistant post adviser for Canton Police Explorer Program and currently is a reserve police officer-Canton Police Department.

AROUND WESTLAND

Garden helpers needed

Westland's DTE Energy Community Garden needs volunteers 4-7 p.m. Wednesdays for weeding and harvesting the food that is being grown and donated to Gleaners Food Bank of Southeast Michigan for distribution to children, seniors, disabled people, working families and other individuals in need of emergency

food.

Volunteers should plan to bring their own gardening tools, sunscreen, drinking water and closed-toed shoes. The DTE Energy Garden is located at 38155 Cherry Hill but volunteers are asked to use the Avondale entrance.

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Driver bound over in fatal crash

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first Paul Raukar noticed of the dark-colored Lexus was when he heard it crossing the rumble strips along the left-hand shoulder of northbound I-275, just before it flew by him fast enough that Raukar said, "I felt like I was standing still."

Deborah Cooper and her husband were driving their truck, pulling the travel trailer they'd used on a camping trip to Cedar Point, their 6- and 4-year-old sons asleep in the back seat, when she saw the Lexus drive by fast enough, and erratically enough, that she considered calling 9-1-1 to report the potential danger, telling her husband, "Stay back from him. He's going to cause an accident and hurt someone."

A couple of miles later, she proved prophetic. Cooper and Raukar both happened upon the same scene: The Lexus, driven by Robert Bojaj of Farmington, tangled in the guardrail cords in the median of I-275 just past Koppernick in Canton Township. On the right side of the road sat a Dodge Intrepid, driven by 25-year-old Shelby Gunn of Westland, its rear end smashed and Gunn slumped over the wheel.

Gunn, the daughter of Rob and Teri Gunn of Westland, died after Bojaj allegedly rear-ended her in an accident that ended after Bojaj reportedly reached speeds of nearly 100 mph around 1:30 a.m. Aug. 15. According to testimony in a preliminary hearing in Plymouth's 35th District Court, Bojaj was not only speeding, but he was driving with a blood-alcohol content more than three times the legal limit, weaving from one side of the expressway to the other and back again, and doing it all while on a suspended license.

And now Bojaj, 28, will stand trial in her death.



Shelby Gunn of Westland, pictured here with boyfriend Ian Ferrell of Canton, was killed in an accident on northbound I-275 near Koppernick Aug. 15.

On Friday, Judge Ronald Lowe bound Bojaj over for trial after a three-hour preliminary hearing on three counts: Murder in the second degree, manslaughter with a motor vehicle and operating under the influence of liquor causing death. A fourth charge, driving with a suspended license, was dismissed. The murder charge carries a sentence of up to life in prison; the other two charges are 15-year felonies.

Raukar and Cooper were among half-a-dozen witnesses who testified at the hearing, and both said Bojaj's driving was erratic.

"It was unbelievably erratic and fast," Cooper testified. "I was nervous. I contemplated calling 9-1-1 to report it ... it wasn't much longer before we saw the accident."

Canton Police Officer Adam Shulman, one of the first responders to the accident, found Bojaj trapped in his car, which had gotten tangled in the guardrail to the left of the road. Shulman testified Bojaj admitted he'd been drinking, and that he smelled the odor of intoxicants. Bojaj's eyes, Shulman testified, were bloodshot and glassy.

Results of a blood test showed Bojaj's blood-alcohol content to be 0.26.

Bojaj's attorney, Paul Bernier, agreed his client should be bound over on the manslaughter and driving under the influence causing death counts, but argued Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Athina Siringas failed to make the case for second-degree murder.

"Just because someone is drinking and driving and causes an accident it doesn't make it murder-2," Bernier said. "It requires egregious circumstances. Murder-2 is a gross overcharge in this case."

But Siringas countered that, saying "if this case isn't murder-2, I don't know what would be."

"We're talking about drinking to such excess it's more than three times the legal limit ... witnesses clearly saw the danger," Siringas said. "This defendant acted in wanton, total disregard for any other drivers on the road."

In the end, Lowe agreed with Siringas.

"The only way we can hope to have a valid use of our roadways is to have rules about how we operate on them," Lowe said. "When these rules get broken ... people can die. Believing drinking and then driving at a high rate of speed ... it's just wrong thinking."

Gunn's parents and other friends and family sat through the hearing, wincing at testimony about their daughter's condition and again when Michigan State Trooper Eric Thompson, who photographed the scene of the accident, described pictures of the damage to Gunn's car.

They were happy to see Bojaj will stand trial in the case.

"I'd have been happier to see all the charges stick, but to see the murder-2 charge stay was very important to us," Teri Gunn said. "Our life is totally changed. Our future has been robbed from us."

Lowe left Bojaj's \$50,000 bond in place, along with the conditions that went with it: an alcohol tether that monitors his blood-alcohol level around the clock, home arrest and no driving.

That didn't sit well with the Gunns, who would have liked to see the bond raised.

"We lost our daughter, and he's home watching TV," Rob Gunn said. "He's got all the comforts of home, he gets home-cooked meals, and all we get to look at is a box of ashes."

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Health problems delay fatal accident hearing

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for a Westland man charged with killing another motorist while driving drunk has been adjourned until Oct. 28.

Thomas Rada, 55, had been scheduled to appear in 18th District Court Thursday on 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.

Seriously injured in the June 9 head-on collision,

Rada has been under house arrest while the charges have been pending.

Stanislaus "Stan" Zielinski, 69, of Waterford was killed in an accident on Cherry Hill near Wildwood. Zielinski was driving a Chevrolet Metro Cab minivan east-bound on Cherry Hill when he was struck by a west-bound Ford Explorer driven by Rada.

There have been numerous delays in Rada being arraigned and scheduling the preliminary examination due to ongoing health problems stemming from his accident injuries.

At the arraignment, Judge Sandra Cicielli ordered Rada to be placed on an electronic tether and allowed to leave his home only for doctor visits or other medical treatment. She commented that she would normally have set a \$1 million cash bond based on the charges facing Rada.

Since Rada had prior drunken driving convictions — 1992 in Redford, 1997 in Dearborn Heights and 2003 in Taylor — a drunken driving conviction in this case would become a felony with enhanced penalties.

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Livonia studio produces kids' TV show

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A new nationally syndicated children's TV show that airs this week was produced in Livonia. *Ariel & Zoey (Eli too)*, a variety show for tweens and their families, was filmed at Gear House Creative Studios near Schoolcraft and Inkster, said Susan Leigh, who owns the production studio with her husband, Michael Kudreiko, a Livonia native.

The show stars identical twins Ariel and Zoey Engelbert, 11, and their "pesky sidekick" brother, Eli, 9, of Ann Arbor, Leigh said. The Ann Arbor siblings sing, dance, play instruments, interview nationally-known guests such as comedian Heywood Banks who have a positive message for kids and share interesting facts with viewers like how many miles the earth is from the moon.

"It's unique. There are not very many children's variety shows," Leigh said, adding it appeals to families in general.

'WHOLESOME, ENTERTAINING'

Kudreiko said the show is wholesome and entertaining and has a patriotic element to some



Ariel, Eli and Zoey Engelbert of Ann Arbor got their start in show business after their first single was played on the radio by Dick Purtan. Now they have a nationally syndicated TV show produced by a Livonia studio.

Matt Engelbert, the children's father and the show's executive producer and creator, was referred to Kudreiko when he was looking for someone to film the children performing live.

Engelbert said he was impressed with Kudreiko's work, and Kudreiko and Leigh were equally impressed with the children's talent.

"I just felt it," Leigh said of the first time she heard the kids perform *Sweet Company*, composed by David Barrett of *One Shining Moment* fame. "I... commented to Mike this song just screams TV to me." *Sweet Company* is the new show's theme song.

Agreed Kudreiko, "Once you listen to it, you don't get it out of your head."

Leigh pitched the idea of the kids doing a sitcom, but Engelbert had already been thinking about a variety show, which was closer to what they were already doing live.

1ST SONG PLAYED BY PURTAN

The kids released their first single, *Rainbow Connection*, in the winter of 2007 as a tribute

to children whose parents serve in the military in Iraq. Detroit radio personality Dick Purtan featured them on his morning program, Engelbert said. Since then, they have sung the national anthem at numerous events across the country including a sold-out Detroit Pistons basketball game and have performed at military bases across the country.

Engelbert quit his job as a fund-raiser for a major college to work on the TV show, with the support of his wife, Caroline. The couple has another child, Joely, 4, who Leigh said is equally talented but hasn't been on camera yet.

The two families have become close friends, and Joely makes an appearance on the show during the first season with Kudreiko and Leigh's daughter, Emily, 4.

Kudreiko said Engelbert is the kind of producer who likes to work with the same crew. At the time he came up with the idea of a TV show, Kudreiko said he and his wife were looking for a longer-term project.

TWO SEASONS APPROVED

The show has been approved for two, 13-week seasons. The first season took about 10 months to produce. The second season is in production now.

Kudreiko, who attended Livonia Franklin High School, does all of the shooting and editing, completing about 90 percent of the work at his Livonia studio. Motion graphics artist Matthew Giorio of Redford is responsible for the show's eye-catching graphics.

Kudreiko said the Livonia studio staff is excited to see the show on television.

"It'll be kind of surreal," he said. "We've been seeing it for so long watching it on the (studio) monitor."

A debut party is being held at 4 p.m. today at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$5 and proceeds will go toward arts and music programs at Arbor Public Schools, which the Engelbert children attend.

Check local listings for when the show will air in the Detroit area.

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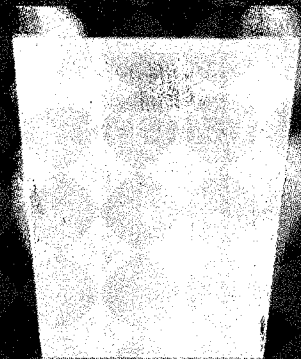
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Why try to restore anything when you can buy it new? Sometimes the history behind an item can be just as important as its usefulness. Restoring an item can even decrease its value on the market, some antique dealers say, because restoration removes evidence of wear and tear. Take away the wear and tear, and you take away the history.

However, when it's done correctly (for example, a person knows how the item looked or was constructed, etc.), restoration helps bring the item back to its original splendor. It's also common for people to restore furniture so their family can continue using it. To them, the item is priceless.

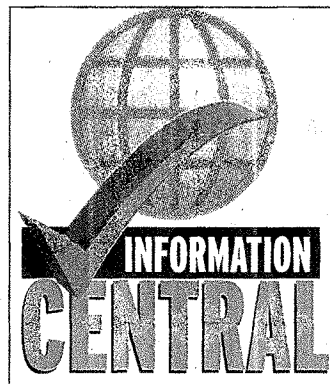
Some may wonder how long it takes for a piece of furniture to be considered an antique. Many experts say 100 years, while anything younger (50-75 years) is vintage; others simply think the piece should be rare and from another time period. The actual age for an antique is not set in stone.

Interested in restoring a piece of antique furniture? The Public Library of Westland owns many books on the topic. Try "Furniture Repair or Refinishing" by Brian Hingley, "Furniture Restoration and Repair for Beginners" by Kevin Jan Bonner, or "Restoring Antiques."

For more information, please visit the Public Library of Westland or call the reference desk at (734) 326-6123. You can also search the online catalog at www.westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Activities

Fight Foreclosure One-on-One Counseling Session: 5-8 p.m. Sept. 27
Homeowners can schedule a private, 30 minute, one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor from the Wayne



County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program: Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to schedule your appointment. Space is limited. The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive network of certified counselors who will help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure.

Urban Fiction Book Club: 7 p.m. Sept. 27

The Urban Fiction Book Club is back! This month we'll be talking about Tracy Brown's "White Lines." Brown's epic explores New York's ghettos of the 1980s and 1990s, following two characters caught up in the crack epidemic. Copies of the book are available at the Reference Desk.

Writers Club: 7 p.m. Sept. 27, age 16 and up

Do you have stories or poems or ideas you would like others to hear, but not critique, in a casual atmosphere? Join us as Cheryl Vatcher-Martin leads the Westland Library Writer's Club. All writing is interesting to us so bring whatever you are working on. Refreshments provided.

Financial Advice: Actions You Can Take after the Great Recession: 7 p.m. Sept. 28

Featured speakers Andrew Gagne and Camille Harrison of Ameriprise Financial will offer you financial advice to help you get through these tough times. Please sign up at the Reference Desk or call (734) 326-6123 to reserve your seat.

Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club: 7 p.m. Sept. 29

Join us for a discussion of John Scalzi's "Old Man's War." With his wife dead and buried, and life nearly over at 75, John Perry takes the only logical course of action left him: he joins the army, better known as the Colonial Defense Force (CDF). The CDF has a trick up its sleeve that makes enlistment especially enticing for seniors:

the promise of restoring youth. Copies will be available a month before at the reference desk.

"My Voice, My Choice" Advanced Care Planning: 7 p.m. Sept. 30

This program is presented by Oakwood Healthcare System Clinical Ethics Center and features Edie English, RN, BSN - Clinical Manager. Learn how to prepare your own advance care plan. Patient Advocate Designation documents and materials will be provided for all attendees. Call or stop by the library to reserve your seat. (734) 326-6123

Friday Night Movie: "The Last Station," 7 p.m. Oct. 1

Stop by the library every Friday evening for a screening of a recently released movie. This week's movie is, "The Last Station." A historical drama that illustrates Russian author Leo Tolstoy's struggle to balance fame and wealth with his commitment to a life devoid of material things. Rated R. No registration is required. This is an after hours program. Library doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Blogging for Beginners: 11 a.m. Oct. 2

Back by popular demand! Share your thoughts, feelings and important elements of your everyday life with your friends, family or the general public by publishing your own blog. Using Blogger, a free service, we will cover tips for writing a great blog, personalizing the look of your blog, publishing posts and sharing your blog with others. Prerequisite: Computer Basics or some previous computer experience. Users must have a Blogger Account set up before class (see reference desk for details). Seating limited, sign-up required.

Advanced Word for Students: 2 p.m. Oct. 2

Join us for a tour of Microsoft Word features helpful in the writing and formatting of a term paper or other large document. Learn about advanced tools useful to high school and college students, including citation and bibliography tools, footnotes and styles. Prerequisite: must be familiar with common uses of with Microsoft Word, including basic formatting. Seating limited, sign-up required.

Information Central was compiled by Liz Waun, the young adult librarian. 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.

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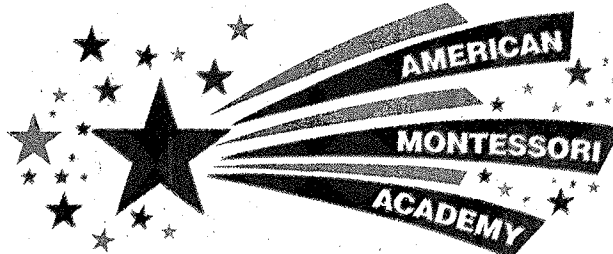
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Redford Location

Upper Elementary (3-6)
17175 Olympia, Redford, MI 48240
313-533-0000

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

Walk for Melanoma

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 10

Location: Kensington Metropark in Milford

Details: Registration for the fifth annual KDB Melanoma 5K Run/Walk will begin at 9 a.m. followed the walk/run at 11 a.m. The walk/run will begin and end at the East Boat Launch. The 5K Run will be a timed race event. Prizes will be awarded to best overall time for males and females and to the winners in each of the following age brackets - under 19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50 plus. Register online at www.melanomawalk.org - click on First Giving. All proceeds go to the Melanoma Research Foundation.

Contact: Tricia Edwards at triciae363@comcast.net or call (313) 505-2445.

Metro Fibromyalgia Group

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford, Garden City

Details: Dr. Barry Hobbs, a cervical chiropractor, will be the guest speaker in observance of Spinal Health Care month. The Metro Fibromyalgia and CFS Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. The second and fourth Thursday of the month at the church. There are no dues, but donations are accepted.

Contact: For more information, call Ruthann at (734) 981-2519 or go online to www.MetroFibroGroup.com.

Dining for Braille Books

Time/Date: noon-8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday, Oct. 4, through Thursday, Oct. 7

Location: California Pizza Kitchen

at Laurel Park Place, Six Mile and Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Join Seedlings Braille Books for Children for its eighth annual "Dining for Braille Books" fund-raiser. Enjoy a tasty way to raise funds while helping to bring the gift of literacy to blind children. Present a special flier when dining at California Pizza Kitchen and 20 percent of your total bill will be donated to Seedlings. Dine anytime during regular hours during this event will help produce more children's books in Braille. Download a PDF flier at www.seedlings.org/events.php or pick one up at its office in Livonia.

Contact: To request a flier, contact Community Outreach at (734) 427-8552, Ext. 301, or seedlink7@ameritech.net.

Railroadiana

Time/Date: noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28

Location: SS. Simon and Jude Church Hall, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman, Westland

Details: The SS. Simon and Jude Church's Ushers Club is sponsoring sponsor a Toys and Train Show. Admission to the show is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food and beverages are available. There will be approximately 130 dealer tables available at \$10. Dealer set-up is at 9 a.m. the day of the show.

Contact: To reserve a dealer table, call Norm at (734) 595-8327.

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with our volunteer drivers one day each week from the comfort of their home. Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive



Wish You Were Here

Jackie and Dave Dobransky of Westland remembered to take their Observer with them on their honeymoon trip to Cuyahoga National Park, just outside of Cleveland, Ohio. According to Jackie, they did lots of biking on the trails in the park and visited the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Pro Football Hall of Fame. They struck their Wish You Were Here pose by Brandywine Falls in Cuyahoga National Park. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

and have no alternative transportation.

Contact: For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Baby Shower

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Saturday, Sept. 30

Location: Robert H. Jones Knights of Columbus Hall, 25160 Outer Dr., Lincoln Park

Details: The Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency is holding its 13th annual Community Baby Shower, a free event for low-income expectant parents and those with infants younger than 3 months of age. Mothers and fathers will receive valuable information and resources regarding their new bundles of joy. Guest speakers will also share information regarding family health and safety, parenting tips and growth and development. To be eligible, parents must be low-income and reside in out-Wayne County (Wayne County, excluding Detroit). Participants will also enjoy lunch, prizes and raffles throughout the event. On-site childcare will be available

for children over the age of one. Space is limited and the event does fill up quickly. **Contact:** Call (734) 246-2280, Ext. 156 for more information or to register. Callers who reach a voice mailbox should leave one message with their name and telephone number so that their call can be returned and the registration process can be completed.

Craft shows

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

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

Details: St. Theodore Fall Craft Show will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. In addition to crafters, there will be a bake sale, raffles and refreshments. Admission is free.

Contact: For more information, call Mary at (734) 425-4421, voice-mail 10.

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16

Location: St. Linus School, 6466 Evangeline, north of Ford and west of Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights

Details: Space is still available for the St. Linus annual fall craft and vendor show. Admission is \$1, students free. There will be more than 50 craft and vendor tables, concession stand, bake sale, raffles and 50/50 raffle. All proceeds will help support the CYO Athletic Program through St. Linus Church.

Contact: Donna at (313) 561-6840

Crafters Wanted

Time/Date: Saturday, Nov. 20

Location: Sts. Peter & Paul Church Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights

Details: Crafters are wanted for the church's 22nd annual arts and crafts show.

Contact: For more information, call Deb Moga at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia Moore at (734) 522-9653.

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 eangel1986@comcast.net

Higher Rock Cafe

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

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

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

Contact: www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660

EDUCATION

Willow Creek

Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland

Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.

Contact: (734) 326-0078

St. Damian

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland
Details: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4 year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.

Contact: (734) 427-1680, www.stdamian.com

YWCA Preschool

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.

Contact: (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10

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 shepry@yahoo.com

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AROUND WESTLAND

Informational meeting

The public is invited to a meeting hosted by the League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County, featuring a presentation by Wayne County RESA Superintendent Christopher Wigent and RESA Board President James Petrie.

RESA is a regional education service agency that provides services and support to Wayne County's 34 school districts aimed at improving student achievement and maximizing economies of scale in staff development, purchasing and administrative services.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, in the community meeting room at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth.

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.

Vendors needed

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army is looking for sales consultants from direct selling companies to display and sell their products at a sales event Oct. 16.

Rental space is \$20-\$30 for the sale which will be held at the Salvation Army building at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. The event is a fund-raiser for two of the corps' youth groups which are working toward a week-long trip to the Northwoods Camp in Finlayson, Minnesota.

For more information, contact Sandy Kollinger at sandra_kollinger@usc.salvationarmy.org or Josh Hubbard at joshua_hubbard@usc.salvationarmy.org.

Raffle tickets

Raffle tickets for those who registered their children for Westland Youth Athletic Association activities for 2010 are now available at the

WYAA Lange Compound building, 6050 Farmington, north of Ford. The tickets can be picked up during regular business hours - 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

Ticket stubs are due back no later than Dec. 7 for the Dec. 8 drawing. For more information, call (734) 421-0640.

Dinner show

Take step a back to the 1950s at a Fabulous '50s Variety dinner show, featuring celebrity impersonators Johnny Mathis, Pasty Cline and Dean Martin, Friday, Oct. 15, at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post at 3323 S. Wayne Road, Westland.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door and include a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m., open bar 5:30-11:30 p.m. and entertainment and dancing starting at 8 p.m.; '50s attire encouraged. For tickets or more information, call the VFW at (734) 721-9876 or Larry Mosier at (734) 728-7643.

Scrappin' fun

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army will hold a scrapbook fund-raiser 6-10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Corps Building at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

There will be free demonstrations from Close to My Heart and Creative Memories. A Cricut Machine will be available to use, bring your cartridges. Each person will also have their own table and chair.

The Friday-Saturday package costs \$45 and includes dinner of Friday and lunch on Saturday, with beverages and snacks both days. Saturday only is \$40 and includes lunch, beverages and snacks. Registration must be paid in cash or by money order at the Salvation Army. For more information, call (734) 722-3660.

Questions, please

Got a question for your county and state elected officials or the candidates running against them in the November general election?

Send them to the Garden City Chamber of Commerce for use at a Candidate Forum being hosted by the chamber and the Garden City Observer. Candidates for the 16th state House District, the 9th Wayne County Commission District and the 6th state Senate District have been invited to participate in the forum planned for 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5, in the auditorium of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, north of Ford, Garden City.

Under the format, candidates will give two-minute opening

and closing statements. There also will be a question-and-answer period with the questions selected from those submitted by residents in advance and at the door.

Questions can be faxed in advance to the chamber at (734) 422-1601 or mailed to the Garden City Chamber of Commerce, 30120 Ford, Suite D, Garden City, MI 48135. For more information, call the chamber office at (734) 422-4448.

Spaghetti dinner

Good Hope Lutheran Church will hold a spaghetti dinner fund-raise 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15, at the church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City, MI 48135.

The cost is \$7 for Adults, \$3.50 for children ages 3-11,

and children under age 3 eat free. Advance tickets are available at the church or at the door the day of the event.

For more information, call (734) 427-3660.

Office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-Garden City, is resuming office hours after taking a summer break. Webb represents the county's 9th District, which includes Dearborn Heights, Garden City, and Redford Township.

She will hold office hours on the following days and times:

• 9:30 a.m. the third Monday of each month at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson, and at 11:30 a.m. at the Eton Senior Center, 4900 Pardee, Dearborn

Heights.

• 10 a.m. the fourth Monday of each month at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, in Redford Township.

• 11:30 a.m. the fourth Monday of each month at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City.

For residents who are unable to attend daytime office hours, Webb holds evening hours at 6 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month. The locations rotate throughout her district. Call (313) 224-0930 to confirm the location of the evening office hours for the current month.

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Buddy's Pizza present "Good News, Good Chews!"

Share your good news with our readers and you could win lunch or dinner for four at any Buddy's Pizza (dine-in or carry-out) location.

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The Observer & Eccentric and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and

rewarded. Tell us about that special event, person or group effort that made you smile and feel good. Tell us about the good things going on in your community and we'll share them with readers.

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Marcy Brontman and Michelle Lawton of Buddy's along with O&E editors will select one overall winner each month (through 2011) to enjoy a special meal at Buddy's.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph)

to: goodnews@hometownlife.com.

Tell us your story in 150 words or less (attach photos in a jpg format as large as possible and be sure to identify everyone in the photo). Deadline is the last day of each month.

Buddy's Pizza was established in 1936 on the corner of Conant and Six Mile as a neighborhood tavern. It was not until 1946 that Buddy's introduced its famous square pizza — the first of its kind — to Detroit. It was as the Buddy's official website states: "love at first bite."

More than 61 years later, Buddy's continues to thrive under the stewardship of Robert Jacobs, the son of the late Billy Jacobs and Shirlee Jacobs (now living in Florida).

Buddy's dine-in locations are Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit (the original Buddy's), Farmington Hills, Detroit/Grosse Pointe, Livonia and Warren. Carry-out locations are Bloomfield Township and Royal Oak.

Step Out aims to help cure diabetes

This year, more than 2,000 area residents are coming together to join the movement to Stop DiabetesSM at the Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes on Saturday, Oct. 2 at the Detroit Zoo.

Every dollar raised through Step Out plays an important role in supporting the American Diabetes Association's mission: to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

"Diabetes is a devastating disease that touches us all," said Christina Johnson, manager. "Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes is such a wonderful event for friends, family and co-workers to come together and help change the future of diabetes. The camaraderie and spirit that is enjoyed by participating in this event is priceless."

Today, there are nearly 24 million Americans who have diabetes with nearly a million here in Michigan.

While an estimated 17.9 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 5.7 million people are unaware that they have the disease. If present trends continue, one in three Americans, and one in two minorities born today will develop diabetes in their lifetime. Diabetes takes more lives than AIDS and breast cancer combined and it's time to take a stand — and a step to stop it.

Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes is an event for the whole family and is for people who want to join the diabetes association to help change the future of diabetes. Locally presented by Children's Hospital of Michigan and led by hospital president Dr. Herman Gray, the Step Out Walk team inviting people to participate as either a team captain, walker, donor or volunteer.

A special welcome has been put out for Red Striders, those living with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes, to

the walk. Make sure to stop by the Red Strider tent for your free hat and goody bag. The even includes breakfast, live entertainment and a health and fitness fair.

To register, volunteer or find out more information, visit the website at www.diabetes.org/stepout or call (888) DIABETES, Ext.6692.

The American Diabetes Association is leading the fight to stop diabetes and its deadly consequences and fighting for those affected by diabetes. The association funds research to prevent, cure and manage diabetes; delivers services to hundreds of communities; provides objective and credible information; and gives voice to those denied their rights because of diabetes.

For more information please call the American Diabetes Association at (800) DIABETES (800-342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org. Information is available in English and Spanish.

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SECTION B

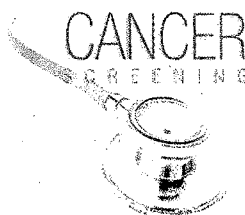
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SPORTS

SUNDAY, September 26, 2010

hometownlife.com

**SCREENINGS
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HEALTH, INSIDE



High-octane Canton offense zips by Rockets

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ben Merbler's performance wasn't quite Denard Robinson-like, but it was pretty darn close.

The Canton senior quarterback's running and passing accounted for 204 of the Chiefs' total of 405 of offense in a 48-21 KLAA South Division win Friday night at Westland John Glenn.

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound Merbler rushed for 109 yards, including a 78-yard keeper to propel the state-ranked Chiefs to a 7-0 lead just 3:41 into the game.

He also hit tight end Garrett Bryden with a 65-yard scoring toss with 2:44 to go in the first half to put unbeaten Canton (5-0, 3-0) ahead 34-7.

Despite being a first-year starter, Merbler's play isn't a shock to Canton coach Tim Baechler.

"He's had a couple good games throwing the ball and running the ball," Baechler said. "He's a lot faster than people think. He's been playing very well all year. This really wasn't a breakout. He's a good player."

Canton's 42-7 halftime advantage was also the result two touchdowns each by the speedy one-two backfield duo of Kevin Buford (10 and 1 yard) and Davion Stackhouse (5 and 2 yards).

Stackhouse finished with 90 yards on 11 carries, while Buford added 54 on six attempts.

Buford's 10-yard TD run to end the first quarter was on a pitch-out where he reversed his field in a Barry Sanders-like fashion to score.

"Kevin came back to me and apologized," Baechler said. "I told him when he came back to the sideline that 'That's in the playbook.'"

Glenn showed some first-half life when quarterback Jeff Kuhary hit Mark Layne on a middle-screen pass for a 36-yard TD to cut the deficit to 27-7.

But the Rockets still found themselves down 35 points at the half, 42-7, after Merbler hit Angelo Lanava with a two-point conversion pass.

Glenn had two turnovers during the first half as Bryden, who also plays an effective linebacker position, made an interception and came up with fumble recovery.

"You can't make any mistakes against them," said Glenn coach Tim Hardin, whose team falls to 2-3 overall and 1-2 in the KLAA South. "I thought that our guys played extremely tough, extremely physical. They didn't back down one ounce. They played hard. They played with heart."

"But, here and there we made mistakes. It seemed like every time we made a mistake, they ran the ball right where the mistake happened."

Canton also got a 31-yard TD run in the third quarter from Stackhouse to make it 48-7.

Glenn, however, answered as Rico Cole busted loose for a 95-yard TD to end the third period. Jesse Smitherman also contributed 67-yard TD run during the final stanza.

The two combined for 189 yards on the ground. Smitherman also had a 76-yard kickoff return.

"Our kick coverage was good and bad," Baechler said. "We're not breaking down and tackling well enough. That's



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Glenn quarterback Jeff Kuhary gets separated from the ball while scrambling to the sideline by Canton tackler.

Wildcats' bounce Pats, 24-7

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's halftime chalk talk Friday night was pretty direct: play tougher.

The Wildcats and host Livonia Franklin played to a 7-7 deadlock after two quarters.

Plymouth's sputtering offense only came to life by a fake punt that turned into a rousing, 42-yard touchdown run by senior running back Victor Hicks.

But Wildcats coach Mike Sawchuk and his staff helped the players regroup and they stormed out to score 10 points in the first four minutes of the third and went on to post a convincing 24-7 win. "We just talked about being tougher," said Sawchuk, following the KLAA South matchup. "We made a couple little adjustments, so they wouldn't get the edge on us. They got the edge on us a little bit on defense on a couple drives and

the kids listened."

Franklin coach Chris Kelbert, meanwhile, didn't like the way his Patriots came out for the third quarter.

"In the second half we didn't match our energy, our enthusiasm or our aggressiveness in that second half and I'm not quite sure why," he said.

"... I don't think they did anything differently except play harder. We tell the guys all the time it's who wants it more, and they wanted it more in that third quarter."

BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS

For Plymouth, junior quarterback Shaun Austin (5-18, 77 yards, 1 TD) and senior receiver Brennen Beyer (4 catches, 78 yards, 1 TD) really heeded the intermission message.

Austin hooked up on perfectly executed slant

Please see **PATS, B2**

Rockets run out of fuel, fall in 5

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The volleyball competition Thursday night inside Canton's gymnasium pretty much matched the unseasonably hot weather.

That's because visiting Westland John Glenn gave the host Chiefs all they could handle in a five-game, hammer-and-tong doozy of a KLAA South matchup.

Canton eventually outlasted the Rockets, 3-2, and John Glenn's first-year head coach Sharon Hubbard — like everybody else inside the gym — couldn't help but wipe a few beads of perspiration off her forehead.

Virtually every point was hotly contested, with players such as Glenn's Halie Baker and Canton's Kristen Muir often in the mix.

"I honestly just think we ran out of gas," said Hubbard, who thought the warm gym might have compounded matters. "So, we're going to get back in the gym, we're going to do more conditioning and we are going to be ready for Canton next time."

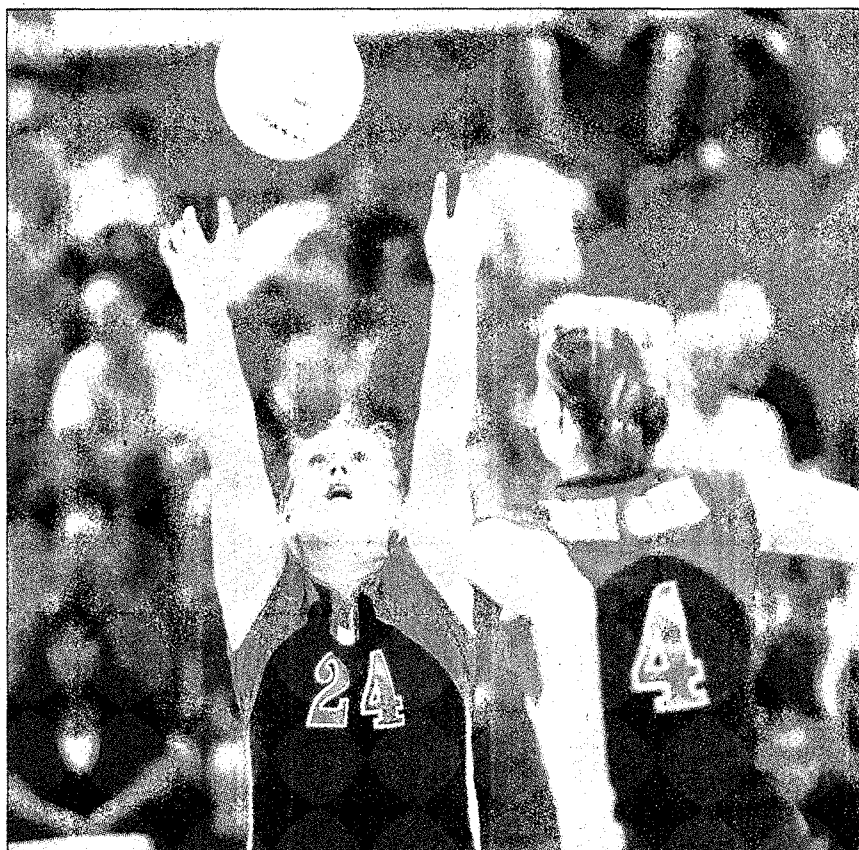
Glenn (7-6-5, 1-1) served notice the night wouldn't be easy for the Chiefs by winning Game 1, 25-23.

The Chiefs (8-0-1, 2-0) bounced back with 25-20 and 25-23 wins in the next two games — the latter requiring a three-point run at the end.

But they couldn't shake John Glenn as the Rockets rallied late for a 26-24 victory in Game 4 to set up the clincher, which Canton won 15-8.

"Our serve-receive was the best I've seen all season, it was our offense that was off today," Canton coach Mary Kryska said. "We had a lot of unforced errors, and we hit into the block a lot. But that's just because their team is good."

Kryska said Glenn senior libero Brooke Zywick (25 defensive digs) was "amazing, she was touching everything."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn's Sarah Headrick (24) makes the set toward teammate Allie Murphy (4) during Thursday's KLAA South Division match at Canton.

Just as key for the Rockets was senior middle hitter Baker, who tallied 22 kills and eight blocks, three of them of the solo variety.

"She is definitely an influence on our team," Hubbard said. "She's very strong in the middle and we rely on her quite a bit."

The Rockets also received solid outings from setter Claire Truskowski (23 assists) and outside hitter Katie McNally (seven kills, four aces).

Junior front-row players Muir and Alaina Turner each registered 14 kills for Canton. Muir also chipped

in defensively with a team-leading 29 digs.

Others helping the cause for the Chiefs were sophomore outside hitter Erica denBoer (13 kills, three blocks, 12 digs), junior setters Lauren Martin (22 assists) and Jackie Waite (19 assists), junior right-side hitter Maggie Deloy (eight digs) and senior libero Laura Fcasni (24 digs).

"This time, we didn't have one dominant hitter, we spread it all around," Kryska said.

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2637

No. 1 Marian wears down Blazers in 3

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It appears there are no peers when it comes to challenging defending state Class A girls volleyball champion Birmingham Marian.

The deep and talented Mustangs are ranked No. 1 again — and for a good reason — as they captured

VOLEYBALL

their 29th straight match of the season Thursday night with a convincing 25-21, 25-15, 25-18 Catholic League triumph over host Livonia Ladywood.

Senior Alessandro Dietz, bound for Loyola Marymount (Calif.) University, led Marian's hitting attack with 12 kills, while Iowa-bound Alexandra Lovell contributed 10 kills and 10 digs.

Setter Mary Henry finished with 26 assist-to-kills, while senior Erin Klosterman added 13 digs. Kari Fidelholtz contributed five kills and Allison Vakerics added 10 digs.

"This is our third time playing them this year," Marian coach Erick Gardner said of the Blazers. "I think their defense was better than earlier in the year."

"We were not as aggressive as I would have liked. Not as fundamentally sound as I would have liked, but enough to win."

Ladywood, 19-7-2 overall and ranked No. 6 in Class B, had its moments, particularly in the first set as they trailed by only three

Please see **BLAZERS, B3**

SIDELINES

Motta lifts Ocelots

It was the Adrian Motta Show on Wednesday as the Schoolcraft College sophomore goalkeeper provided both offense and defense in the Ocelots' 4-0 men's soccer win at Delta Community College.

Motta, from Livonia Churchill, went all 90 minutes in goal and made five saves, including a penalty kick stop with less than a minute to play, to preserve the shutout as the nationally-ranked Ocelots improved to 6-1-1 overall.

Motta also converted a penalty kick himself in the 85th minute as No. 5 Schoolcraft stands 4-0-1 in NJCAA Region XII and 3-0-1 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

After a scoreless opening half, Schoolcraft's Asher Wilson scored twice within the first 10 minutes of the second half and Gavin Kelly added a goal 10 minutes later to make it 3-0.

The loss drops Delta to 3-4-1 overall and 0-3-1 in the MCCA.

Lady Ocelots roll

In an MCCA-Eastern Conference match on Thursday, Schoolcraft College rolled to a 25-17, 25-14, 25-15 victory over host Henry Ford CC.

Lauren Meadows powered the Lady Ocelots with 10 kills in 16 attempts, while teammate Lauren Macuga (Canton) turned in a solid all-around effort by totaling 22 digs, four aces and a perfect 14-for-14 passing. Setter Alyssa Cuthbert dished out 33 assists, while Millie Velez chipped in with two solo and two block-assists.

"I thought Alyssa had her best game of the season," said Schoolcraft coach Rich Lamb, whose team is 11-5 overall and 3-1 in the conference. "They were trying to attack her when she was in the back row to take her out of the play. She did a great job of digging up what they sent towards her, which caused them to change their game plan."

Sarah Supplesa (Livonia Churchill) added nine kills for the winners.

"This was our most complete match of the season," Lamb said. "I think for the first time this group of players sees where their talent, along with some hard work, can take them. They have really dialed in to what the coaching staff has been preaching all season. We're very excited about our next two weeks as well as the rest of the season."

Meanwhile, the Hawks drop to 1-8 overall and 0-4.

MU spikers 2-for-2

The Madonna University women's volleyball team got 18 kills from Karie Altman in a 25-15, 25-13, 25-11 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference triumph Friday night over visiting University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Megan Fricke added 11 kills and setter Evia Prieditis had 41 assist-to-kills as the Crusaders improved to 11-6 overall and 4-1 in the WHAC.

Amanda Koszela recorded a team-high 20 digs, while teammate Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) added 14.

Mallori McCuckin had six kills and Michelle Porada 12 digs for the Wolves (9-10, 1-3).

On Thursday, three players notched double figures in kills as the host Crusaders upended Cornerstone University in three straight sets, 25-21, 25-23, 25-18, in a WHAC encounter.

Fricke paced MU (10-6, 2-1) with 14 kills and 10 digs, while Dempsey contributed added 12 kills and 12 digs. Karie Altman also contributed to the winning cause with 11 kills.

Prieditis finished with 34 assist-to-kills and nine digs.

Cornerstone (7-12, 1-2) got 19 digs from Tamara Bethke and nine kills from Megan April.

Madonna returns to WHAC action 7 p.m. Tuesday at home against Northwestern Ohio and travels Thursday to face Davenport University.

PATS

FROM PAGE B1

routes to Beyer, good for 19- and 34-yards during Plymouth's first series of the second half.

On the latter, Beyer angled from the sidelines into the center of the field, turned toward the quarterback and squeezed the pigskin in front of a Franklin defender.

Beyer then raced untouched into the end zone, making it 14-7 with 9:31 left in the stanza.

"When those two are clicking they're pretty good," Sawchuk said. "They're pretty good."

According to Beyer, Plymouth's offensive coordinator told him he "saw an open-

ing on the slant and that they were going to throw it to me.

"I just took advantage of the play-calling and it was a great pass by my quarterback. I just caught the ball and ran."

Franklin (3-2, 1-2) fumbled the ball right back to Plymouth (4-1, 3-0) and senior kicking standout Kyle Brindza (bound for Notre Dame) connected on a 33-yard field goal to make it 17-7.

Beyer caught another pass, this one for 12 yards, to spark another Plymouth march to open the fourth quarter.

The Wildcats drove 49 yards in 11 plays, chewing up more than six minutes off the scoreboard clock and all but sewing up the victory.

An eight-yard end-around by senior tailback Jerel Jenkins (18 rushes, 64 yards, 1 TD) moved the chains down to Franklin's 19 and he ultimately

finished off the drive with a five-yard score.

Another big play in that series was a 17-yard run by junior running back Donte Fox, who gained 91 yards in 11 rushes.

"No disrespect (to Plymouth), but that's a team we should hang with every day and all the time," said Kelbert, whose team suffered a big loss when senior wide-out Mike Sharp (2 catches, 35 yards early in the first half) left with an injury.

Both teams were blanked in the first quarter, but Plymouth finally struck first on the dazzling fake punt - where the ball was snapped to Hicks instead of Brindza waiting to kick.

Hicks started his run at Franklin's 45, eluding Patriot defenders down the right side-line before finding an open

seam. Following Brindza's extra point, it was 7-0 with 7:52 left in the half.

But Franklin answered with an efficient TD drive (80 yards, 12 plays) to even the game up.

Senior quarterback Brent Marzion (8-for-24, 74 yards) started the drive with a 26-yard strike to Sharp, his final grab of the night.

Senior fullback Dan Muller was a standout in the march, scoring from 11 yards out with a nifty move to get away from Plymouth pursuit.

Muller rushed for 46 yards in the first half, nearly 30 coming on that TD drive. But he only managed three yards in the final two quarters.

Franklin's leading rusher was senior Tino Benavides (19-for-101) while Marzion's favorite receiving target was senior Blake Lukas (3-for-25).

Fighting Irish stuff Trojans

Livonia Clarenceville had its record drop to 3-2 Friday night as Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard came in and powered its way to a convincing 34-7 victory over the host Trojans.

A 17-point second period proved to be the difference as the Fighting Irish turned what was a tight 7-0 first-quarter lead into a commanding 24-0 advantage at halftime.

The margin grew to 31 points in the second half before the Trojans finally got on the scoreboard on a 30-yard touchdown run by senior Henry Seruga in the final period.

"We just couldn't put anything together offensively," Clarenceville coach Ken Fry said. "We had a lot of missed blocks and never could get it going."

"In the second half we came out and played a little better. But Richard is the real deal. They have good players at a lot of positions."

OAK. CHRISTIAN 14, LUTH. WESTLAND 12: In a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference game Friday, host Auburn Hills Oakland Christian (2-3, 1-2) came away with the two-point victory over winless Lutheran High Westland (0-5, 0-3).

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GIRLS SWIM RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 102 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 78
Sept. 23 at Churchill

200-yard medley relay: 1. Franklin (Kayla Douglas, Autumn Vitale, Kaitlyn Kozyn, Colleen Anthony), 2:03.91; 2. Churchill (Christina Fox, Rebecca Van Gorp, Brittany Gates, Allison Mayer), 2:08.11; 3. Churchill, 2:21.69.

200 freestyle: 1. Amanda Washko (LC), 1:59.88 (state cut); 2. Kozyn (LF), 2:06.64; 3. Jenna Michniewicz (LF), 2:15.73.

200 individual medley: 1. Gates (LC), 2:31.09; 2. Catharine Studzinski (LF), 2:34.04; 3. Tamara Marek (LC), 2:43.97.

50 freestyle: 1. Mayer (LC), 26.93; 2. Anthony (LF), 28.39; 3. Fox (LC), 29.63.

1-meter diving: 1. Kaitlyn Gluth (LC), 143.45 points; 2. Yumi Nozawa (LC), 128.25.

100 butterfly: 1. Douglas (LF), 1:02.00; 2. Gates (LC), 1:07.74; 3. Marek (LC), 1:16.32.

100 freestyle: 1. Mayer (LC), 59.33; 2. Clarissa Roberts (LF), 1:05.13; 3. Alex Herten (LC), 1:07.54.

500 freestyle: 1. Washko (LC), 5:24.74 (state cut); 2. Kozyn (LF), 5:38.88; 3. Studzinski (LF), 5:49.58.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Churchill (Mayer, Gates, Herten, Washko), 1:51.31; 2. Franklin (Anthony, Studzinski, Roberts, Rachel Clark), 2:00.04; 3. Churchill, 2:04.28.

100 backstroke: 1. Douglas (LF), 59.95 (pool record); 2. Michniewicz (LF), 1:12.59; 3. Fox (LC), 1:14.36.

100 breaststroke: 1. Van Gorp (LC), 1:20.88; 2. Vitale (LF), 1:22.41; 3. Anthony (LF), 1:22.74.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Kozyn, Roberts, Studzinski, Douglas), 4:06.09; 2. Churchill (Fox, Marek, Herten, Washko), 4:24.22; 3. Franklin, 4:43.57.

Dual meet records: Churchill, 3-5 overall, 2-1 KLA South Division; Franklin, 1-3 overall, 1-1 KLA South.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 101 NOVI 85
Sept. 23 at Stevenson

200-yard medley relay: 1. Novi (Andrea VanderMey, Sarah Sultana, Becca Berman, Madalyn Buha), 1:56.02; 2. Stevenson (Shaelyn Dolinski, Sarah Cauzillo, Ashley Reed, Kelly Laporte), 2:00.38; 3. Stevenson, 2:00.4.

200 freestyle: 1. Savannah Hatt (LS), 1:58.5; 3. Evelyn Stein (LS), 2:07.16.

200 individual medley: 1. VanderMey (N), 2:15.04; 2. Kaylee Dolinski (LS), 2:17.1.

50 freestyle: 1. Kara Berg (N), 26.38; 3. Kayla Perchall (LS), 26.84.

1-meter diving: 1. Rachel Aepelbacher (N), 202.20 points; 3. Cassie Morford (LS), 183.75.

100 butterfly: 1. Hatt (LS), 1:01.38; 3. Reed (LS), 1:05.25.

100 freestyle: 1. Berg (N), 57.37; 2. Cauzillo (LS), 57.51; 3. Perchall (LS), 57.75.

500 freestyle: 1. K. Dolinski (LS), 5:12.03; 3. Stein (LS), 5:33.88.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Hatt, Perchall, Aidan O'Dowd, K. Dolinski), 1:43.89; 3. Stevenson, 1:51.89.

100 backstroke: 1. VanderMey (N), 1:01.2; 2. Emily Rogue (LS), 1:05.62; 3. Reed (LS), 1:06.3.

100 breaststroke: 1. Cauzillo (LS), 1:11.48; 3. Julia Hurley (LS), 1:15.88.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Hatt, K. Dolinski, Perchall, Cauzillo), 3:44.11; 3. Stevenson, 3:59.03.

Dual meet records: Stevenson, 4-1 overall, 1-1 KLA Central Division; Novi, 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLA Central.

LIVONIA LADYWOOD 140 MONROE ST. MARY CC 33
Sept. 23 at Livonia Comm. Rec. Ctr.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Ladywood (Jessica Arabi, Caleigh Griffin, Maddy Pelen, Abby Pelen), 2:08.77; 2. Ladywood (Alliana Ternacki, Kimberly Solak, Lia Andreassi, Alyse Samoray), 2:24.59.

200 freestyle: 1. Heather Pijor (LL), 2:12.55; 2. Nicole Munson (LL), 2:16.2; 3. Katie Franczak (LL), 2:29.88.

200 individual medley: 1. C. Griffin (LL), 2:36.95; 2. Arabi (LL), 2:38.14; 3. A. Pelen (LL), 2:41.71.

50 freestyle: 1. Hannah Weaver (LL), 28.53; 2. Alaina Stevenson (LL), 28.81; 3. Ternacki (LL), 20.85.

1-meter diving: 1. June Teifer (SMCC), 161.35 points; 2. Molly Griffin (LL), 124.10.

100 butterfly: 1. A. Pelen (LL), 1:12.36; 3. Andreassi (LL), 1:18.17.

100 freestyle: 1. Weaver (LL), 1:02.94; 2. Stevenson (LL), 1:05.02; 3. Franczak (LL), 1:08.76.

500 freestyle: 1. Pijor (LL), 5:53.53; 2. Munson (LL), 6:04.04; 3. Natalie Winter (LL), 6:58.07.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Ladywood (M. Pelen, Stevenson, Weaver, Pijor), 1:55.23; 2. Ladywood (Griffin, Franczak, A. Pelen, Munson), 1:57.69; 3. Ladywood (Mia Fortura, Solak, Andreassi, Winter), 2:15.59.

100 backstroke: 1. Arabi (LL), 1:12.36; 3. Ternacki (LL), 1:24.1.

100 breaststroke: 1. C. Griffin (LL), 1:15.8; 2. Solak (LL), 1:21.6; 3. Fortura (LL), 1:34.32.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Ladywood (Weaver, Stevenson, Arabi, Pijor), 4:13.38; 2. Ladywood (Munson, Andreassi, Ternacki, Franczak), 4:38.79.

Ladywood's dual meet record: 2-2 overall.

GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

LIVONIA STEVENSON 180 SOUTH LYON 192
Sept. 24 at Riverbank G.C.

Stevenson scorers: Becca Bubenheimer, 43 (medalist); Madelyn Ormietanski, 45; Sarah King, 49; Brynn Cavanaugh, 51; Chelsea Phillips, 52; Dana Smith, 54.

South Lyon scorers: Danielle Godair, 44; Jackie Smith, 47; Lizzy Higgins, 49; Sarah Thompson, 52; Alli Russell, 55; Lindsay Cocklin, 60.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 2-6 overall, 2-6 KLA Central Division; South Lyon, 3-5 overall, 3-5 KLA Central.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 190 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 221
Sept. 23 at Whispering Willows G.C.

Churchill scorers: Jordyn Shepler, 42 (medalist); Jackie Burdette and Maggie McGowan, 46 each; Margo McClain, 56; Nicole Kruse, 57; Claire Rose, 68.

Franklin scorers: Lexi Smith, 50; Mariah Barcus and Haley Szpara, 56 each; Luci Patrick and MacKenzie Meyers, 59 each; Angelica Woods, 67.

Dual match records: Churchill, 6-2 overall, 6-2 KLA South Division; Franklin, 2-6 KLA South.

NORTHVILLE 180 LIVONIA STEVENSON 204
Sept. 20 at Fox Creek G.C.

Northville scorers: Emily Folan and Camilla Zhao, 44 each (co-medalists); Lauren Grigo, 45; Brianna Roberts, 47; Stephanie Sakaoratis, 51; Lindsay Matych, 53.

Stevenson scorers: Dana Smith and Sarah King, 49 each; Becca Bubenheimer, 52; Brynn Cavanaugh, 54; Chelsea Phillips, 57; Kathleen Karczewski, 63.

Dual match records: Northville, 6-1 overall, 6-1 KLA Central Division; Stevenson, 2-5 overall, 2-5 KLA Central.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

BOYS DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA STEVENSON 20 SOUTH LYON 37
Sept. 21 at Cass Benton Park

Individual winner: Yard (South Lyon), 17:24.8.

Stevenson finishers: 2. John Lynch, 17:42.5; 3. Joe Urso, 18:02.7; 4. Matt Williams, 18:11.0; 5. Adam Chludzinski, 18:16.0; 6. Ryan Petru, 18:25.5; 10. Jake Colley, 18:49.1; 11. Stephen Fenech, 18:51.3.

Dual meet records: Stevenson, 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLA Central Division; South Lyon, 0-2 overall, 0-2 KLA Central.

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Spartan effort

Stevenson posts KLAA Central win over Mustangs

Junior Kelly Vellucci recorded 13 kills and setter Allie Koesterling collected 18 assist-to-kills as Livonia Stevenson earned a 25-20, 31-29, 25-16 KLAA Central Division girls volleyball win Thursday over visiting Northville.

The Spartans, now 8-6-2 overall and 1-1 in the Central, also got seven digs and three ace serves from Vellucci.

Other contributions came from Monika Rudis and Reina Tyl, 10 kills apiece; and Jorden York, 12 digs and three aces.

The loss drops Northville to 18-6-4 overall and 1-1 in the Central.

Chargers zap Franklin

Junior Erin Menard had a match-high 16 kills Thursday as host Livonia Churchill rolled to a 25-13, 25-12, 25-14 KLAA South Division triumph over Livonia Franklin.

Sophomore Emily Norscia added nine kills, while setter Cory Urbats added 25 assists as the state-ranked Chargers improved to 18-4-1 overall and 2-0 in the South.

Kara Kempinski chipped in with 11 digs, while Ashley Pedrotte added four aces, two assists and two digs.

Franklin (5-13-2, 0-2) was led by Chelsea Williams, five kills and nine digs; Maggie Leins, five kills and two aces; and Nicole Williamson, 11 digs.

Clarenceville falls

In a non-conference match Thursday, host Auburn Hills Oakland Christian outgunned Livonia Clarenceville in three straight, 25-23, 27-25, 25-15.

"The first two games were really close and they battled hard," said Clarenceville coach Wendy Merschman, whose

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

team falls to 5-9-3 overall. "Those were tough losses, but we just lost focus and missed too many serves."

Tonya Vernier was the Trojans' top attacker with seven kills. Ayanna Buckley added six, while setter Kellie Ankiel had 18 assist-to-kills and seven digs.

"We lost senior starter Joanna Burling to injury on Monday and were trying to see who is going to step up and take her place," Merschman said. "We were just beat mentally in the third game."

Warriors lose in 3

In a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference match on Thursday, Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest posted a 25-23, 25-23, 25-14 Blue Division triumph over host Lutheran High Westland.

Amanda Terranella had five kills, two blocks, 16 digs and served six points as the Warriors fall to 6-10-2 overall and 1-2 in the MIAC Blue.

Setters Erica Killian and Mary MacKenzie combined for 17 assists. Killian also served seven points.

Other contributions came from Jacqui Schwartz (four kills, two blocks); Leah Refenes (three kills, three blocks); Marisa Hahn (12 digs, seven service points); Taylor Wiemer (10 digs); Jamilyn Preece (three kills); and Alyssa Shirkey (six service points).

"We didn't do the little things right today which lead to our defeat," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "We spotted them eight

points in Set One to come all the way back and make three straight errors to lose. Set Two we are up 20-15 and lose, which hurt us because going into Set Three tied is whole lot different mentally for both teams. Maybe they have a little less confidence and we have more if we go in tied.

"Set Three, with the score 10-11, we proceeded to make five errors and that did us in. We need to learn to finish and communicate more in addition to trusting each other on the floor if we are going to have any success."

Northwest improves to 9-5-2 overall and 2-1 in the division win.

Hawks clip Parkway

Senior Leah Miller recorded 12 kills, 10 digs and three aces Thursday as host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran edged Sterling Heights Parkway Christian in three sets, 25-23, 25-22, 25-23.

Junior Meghan Kubinski added nine kills, a pair of aces and five digs as the Hawks improved to 7-7-1 overall and 2-1 in the MIAC's Red Division.

Junior setter Paige Schmidt contributed 20 assists, while junior libero Allie Dest finished with seven digs for the victorious Hawks.

"Overall a great volleyball match tonight," Huron Valley coach Kris Ruth said. "We still have some things to work on, but our ball control was better tonight. We saw a lot of energy and enthusiasm, which was great. We need to just keep building and improving week by week."

Parkway falls to 1-2 in the division.



The members of the national champion Detroit Metro Firefighters softball team are (left to right) Pat Wilson, Livonia resident, Detroit Fire; Pat O'Dowd, Livonia, Detroit Fire; Russ Zarras, Northville, Detroit Fire; Russ Schaller, Detroit Fire; Mike Albo, Southfield Fire (wearing cap); Danny Cipolla, Dearborn Fire; Tim Prokop, Novi, Dearborn Fire; Ray DeWalt, Hazel Park Fire; Denny Hughes, Farmington Hills Fire; Randy Gibson, Detroit Fire; Ron Goss, Detroit Fire; Keith Lampear, Farmington Hills, Birmingham Fire; and Jimmy Nadolski, Detroit Fire.

Firefighters win 3rd national title

The Detroit Metro Firefighters softball team captured yet another national championship Sept. 18-19 in Bowie, Md.

It's the third time Detroit Metro has won the championship in the past eight years. It also was runner-up once during that time.

The team is composed of professional firefighters from the metropolitan area and competed in the Masters Division (40 years or older).

Throughout the year, the players have sharpened their skills by playing in "open" tournaments against players of all ages.

The strategy seems to have worked out perfectly, according to manager Denny Hughes of the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

The 37th tournament, sponsored by the Prince George's County Professional Firefighters, also doubles as

one of the largest fundraisers for Muscular Dystrophy and has raised more than a million dollars over the years.

The guys from the Motor City had a great start in their first game against the Providence, R.I., firefighters, pounding them for 22 runs in the first inning en route to a 38-6 win in just three innings. It was the most lopsided loss in their team history.

The next game provided a better test as the Houston, Texas, firefighters played a great game. But steady hitting and some outstanding defense carried Detroit Metro to a convincing, 17-11 win.

The always strong and dangerous team from New York City was expected to be the toughest game of the tournament, but nobody anticipated what happened next.

Detroit Metro pounded New York from the start and never let up. The game ended after

just three innings, also, with Detroit Metro handing New York its worst loss in recent memory, 22-1.

Detroit Metro and Florida Combined were the last two undefeated teams in the tournament and were scheduled to play on Sunday, but heavy rains rolled through the Chesapeake Bay area, cancelling the remaining games. The tournament director declared both teams to be national champions.

Assisting manager Hughes are Detroit Metro coaches Tim Prokop (Dearborn Fire) and Keith Lampear (Birmingham Fire).

The players are Pat O'Dowd, Russ Zarras, Randy Gibson, Pat Wilson, Ron Goss, Jim Nadolski and Russ Schaller of Detroit Fire; Ray DeWalt, Hazel Park Fire; Dan Cipolla, Dearborn Fire; Mike Albo, Southfield Fire; and Benny Lampton, Louisville, Ky.

ROCKETS

FROM PAGE B3

got to improve. I think defensively we played well, but we're still not tackling as well as we could. A lot of credit goes to them (John Glenn). Their backs are very good. Offensive

line-wise we've got a long way to go still. Our backs are awesome, but our line is adequate." Meanwhile, Hardin summed up the loss very succinctly.

"There's no doubt they're a good football team," the Glenn coach said of the Chiefs. "I don't think they were more

physical than us. You look at the scoreboard and it doesn't look good, but if you match this game on physical toughness, hitting and heart, we played just as well as them. But X-and-O-wise, you've got to play a perfect game."

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Spartans denied on last play

PREP FOOTBALL

a seven-play, 63-yard drive.

Dylan Dunn, who ran for all three of the Spartans' TDs, opened the scoring with 4:30 left in the first quarter on a 5-yard run. But the Spartans failed to convert the extra point.

With 5:19 remaining in the second period, South Lyon took a 7-6 advantage on a run from two yards out.

But Dunn answered for Stevenson with a 3-yard run with only 11 seconds left to give the Spartans a 12-7 halftime lead. (The two-point conversion try failed.)

In the third quarter, South

Lyon quarterback Andrew Garcia ran for a 1-yard TD to put the Lions on top 21-12.

Dunn then scored his third TD 49 seconds into the final quarter on a 1-yard run to put the Spartans on top 18-14.

Stevenson outgained the Lions in total offense, 270-246, and held the edge in first downs, 20-13.

Mims was 14-of-32 for 193 yards, but the Spartans rushed for only 77 yards on 35 carries.

Garcia was 6-of-12 for 95 yards. He was picked off once (by Stevenson defensive back Ryan Lackey).

The Lions rushed for 151 yards on 41 attempts.

QB Grohoski ignites Churchill by Zebras

Livonia Churchill racked up 436 yards in total offense Friday to earn its first KLAA South Division football win with a 38-6 triumph at winless Wayne Memorial.

The Chargers, who improved to 2-3 overall and 1-2 in the KLAA South, got untracked after a scoreless opening quarter with 17 second-period points.

Senior quarterback Jordan Grohoski, who rushed for a game-high 128 yards on 12 carries, scored on a 5-yard touchdown run to cap a 13-play, 87-yard drive with 10:23 left in the half. He followed with a

24-yard TD run with 4:28 left in the half.

With 31 seconds left until intermission, Mike Harp booted a 26-yard field goal to make it 17-0.

The Chargers then increased their lead to 38-0 after three quarters thanks to a 59-yard TD run from Justin Chantres; a 7-yard TD run from Romello Brown; and an 8-yard scoring run from Andre Abram.

Dean Bokuniewicz booted all five extra point attempts.

Wayne got its lone touchdown with 6:50 left in the game when Sam Ekanem picked up a teammate's fumble

and raced in 20 yards for a score.

Ekanem had 64 yards on five carries, while quarterback Dean Caldwell was 8-of-23 passing for 63 yards for the Zebras (0-5, 0-3). Wayne had 225 total yards on the night.

Chad Lipinski added 51 yards on nine attempts.

Grohoski was 4-of-8 passing for 85 yards.

Churchill had 21 first downs to the Zebras' 11.

Harp and Dylan Ochala each had seven tackles to lead the Chargers, while Dimitrius Renfro had four solos for Wayne.

BLAZERS

FROM PAGE B1

points 22-19.

Marian, however, closed out the set and dominated the next two to win the Central Division opener comfortably.

"I have to give them different goals," Gardner said. "Depending on the team it's a different goal. But the main goal is always keep them up, because like any team, they can tend to lose a little focus or play down figuring we've won all these games. We won 75 - whatever - matches last year. I want them to remember they still have to play hard to win and it's not just going to happen."

Ladywood found itself on the defensive much of the night as evidenced by senior libero Katie Aurand and junior Jennifer Rhodes combining for 47 digs.

Katie Rooney, a 6-foot senior headed to Lafayette College (Pa.), was Ladywood's top attacker with eight kills and four blocks, while Caitlin McClorey, a 6-1 senior, added six kills.

Setter Alexandra Hines finished with 23 assists.

"We made a lot of errors - serving errors, a lot of attacking errors," Craggs said. "And when you're playing a team that is that tough you've got to make them earn points."

Craggs, who guided the Blazers to last year's state Class B semifinals, said Marian is a notch above the rest of the teams in the state.

"I think it's their discipline," she said. "They don't miss assignments. They're constantly running down balls. Then it always seems they have two or three elite players that kind of get the job done for them."

Marian, meanwhile, has won 29 straight since losing its season opener to Temperance Bedford in the Portage Central Invitational.

Gardner keeps his team mentally sharp in games, but also in the preparation for matches.

"Same thing in practice - different goals to keep them focused," he said. "Practice is different. They know what to expect in terms of giving 100 percent in practice. They know that and it usually transfers into the game. But sometimes they have to be reminded."

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C'ville ace bags 5 in triumph

Ardit Dushkaj struck again on Thursday.

The senior forward continued his torrid scoring pace with five more goals as Livonia Clarenceville blanked winless Redford Thurston in boys soccer match, 6-0.

Dushkaj raised his season goal total to 26 as the Trojans improved to 6-4 overall.

Matt Kurdziel added the other goal for Clarenceville, which led 4-0 at intermission. Masambou Jatta chipped in with two assists, while freshman goalkeeper Evan Gregg made seven saves to post the shutout.

S.L. EAST 2, CLARENCEVILLE 1: Travis Hamers scored the game-winner Friday as host South Lyon East (2-8)

BOYS SOCCER

downed Livonia Clarenceville (6-5) in a non-conference encounter.

Clarenceville went up 1-0 on Ardit Dushkaj's 27th goal of the season from Jimmy Moody, but Andrew Hogan countered for the Cougars to tie it at 1-all.

PCA 2, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 1: On Thursday, junior forward Alex Chapman tallied a pair of goals, including the game-winner with just two minutes remaining as host Plymouth Christian Academy (6-4, 4-3) escaped with a MIAC Blue Division win over Lutheran High Westland (4-5-1, 4-4).

Chapman opened the scoring in the 22nd minute to give the Eagles a 1-0 lead before the Warriors' Evan Shirkey answered with the equalizer in the 42nd minute off an assist from Ernie Babon.

Chapman's game-clinching goal came on a throw-in. Lutheran Westland goalkeeper Marc Rosin made six saves, while Jayme Putney had five stops for PCA.

"I liked the way we played," Lutheran Westland coach Rich Block said. "We were strong and carried the play, but we made a couple of mistakes and they (PCA) capitalized. We're playing better but we have to capitalize on other people's mistakes."

CHURCHILL 5, JOHN GLENN 0: Down to their fifth goalkeeper because of injuries and illness, KLAAS South Division co-leader Livonia Churchill (6-5-2, 4-1-1) got a sterling performance from freshman Colton Robison in a victory Thursday at Westland John Glenn (5-6-1, 1-5).

Robison preserved his shutout by stopping a penalty kick in the second half.

Churchill, which led 3-0 at halftime, got a pair of goals from Stephen Foster.

Karl Tiama, Chad Evans and Andrew Mira each tallied their first goals of the year. Evan Schweizer and Jeff Thomas drew assists.

FRANKLIN 9, WAYNE 1: Jordan McGuire's four-goal outburst Thursday propelled host Livonia Franklin (8-4, 4-2) to a KLAAS South win over Wayne Memorial (0-10, 0-6).

Gabe Edwards added a hat trick, including the game-ending goal with less than seven minutes left.

Dillon DeBeliso scored off a free kick, while Jordan Monroe contributed a goal and assist. Zach Miller also collected two assists for the Patriots, who led 4-1 at halftime.

Franklin goalkeeper Jake Allen made 11 saves.

Thomas Collins scored for the Zebras.

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS

HARTLAND 5 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 4

Sept. 23 at Churchill

No. 1 singles: Akshay Moorthy (LC) defeated Ben Johnson, 5-7, 6-2, 6-4.

No. 2: Grant Comly (H) def. Matt Cezar, 6-3, 6-3.

No. 3: Jalen Woods (LC) def. Julian Cafmeyer, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

No. 4: Andrew Sherman (H) def. Rishabh Aruikar, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 1 doubles: Mason Brier-Andy Cabush (H) def. Mike Houghan-Joe Mulka, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 2: Alhabeel-Alex Zuccarini (LC) def. Corey Lewandowski-Dennis Gess, 6-4, 6-4.

No. 3: Nick Lipon-Nick Willis, 6-4, 6-1.

No. 4: Jordan White-Cameron Sloan (H) def. Kyle Appel-Mike Ingilis, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 5: Brian Baumgartner-Kenny Denslaedt (LC) def. Abram Jensen-Derek Andren, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Dual match records: Hartland, 10-3 overall; Churchill, 8-5 overall.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 9 WALLED LAKE NORTHERN 0

Sept. 23 at W.L. Northern

No. 1 singles: Kevin Francisco (LS) defeated Alex Gauthier, 7-6, 6-3.

No. 2: Josh Rochette (LS) def. Joe Fox, 6-0, 6-1.

No. 3: Vince Sabatini (LS) def. Joe Fox, 6-0, 6-1.

No. 4: Marcus McCathney (LS) def. Andrew Hahanbery, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Josh York-Paul Franchina (LS) def. Austin Bonmarito-Adam Rock, 6-0, 6-4.

No. 2: Kaemen Holman-Rayos-Chad Northey (LS) def. Danny O'Toole-Marcus Romain, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 3: Simjae Holman-Rayos-Jacob Ratliff (LS) def. Ryan Ferro-Noah Sobie, 6-1, 7-6.

No. 4: Kenny Nikkila-Sam Tabor (LS) def. Nick Ferro-Shlomo Honig, 6-7, 6-3.

No. 5: Alex Parrinello-Nick Marsh (LS) def. Garrett Kamichke-Nathan Vader, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 4-3 overall; W.L. Northern, 2-6 overall.

NORTHVILLE 8 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 1

Sept. 21 at Churchill

No. 1 singles:

Akshay Moorthy (LC) defeated Anthony Rossi, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

No. 2: Matt Satterfield (N) def. Matt Cezar, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

No. 3: Nathan Albaneli (N) def. Jalen Woods, 6-2, 6-1.

No. 4: Matt Evasic (N) def. Rishabh Aruikar, 6-0, 6-1.

No. 1 doubles: Phil Lee-Austin Weaver (N) def. Mike Houghan-Joe Mulka, 6-4, 6-4.

No. 2: Bryce Groshok-Veer Shah (N) def. Abe Alhabeel-Alex Zuccarini, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 3: Drew Baldwin-Brian Manney (N) def. Ryan McPherson-Eric Stromberg, 6-1, 6-4.

No. 4: Rahul Raj-Trevor Page (N) def. Kyle Appel-Mike Ingilis, 6-0, 7-6.

No. 5: Robert His-Luke Jacobi (N) def. Brian Baumgartner-Kenny Denslaedt, 7-5, 7-6.

Dual match records: Northville, 4-2 overall; Churchill, 8-4 overall.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 7 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 2

Sept. 21 at Stevenson

No. 1 singles: Stephen Payne (LF) defeated Kevin Francisco, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 2: Walter Woods (LF) def. Josh Rochette, 6-4, 6-4.

No. 3: Vince Sabatini (LS) def. Brandon Kozyn, 6-1, 6-2.

No. 4: Marcus McCathney (LS) def. Tim Crouson, 6-3, 7-5.

No. 1 doubles: Josh York-Paul Franchina (LS) def. Chase Semonick-Jake Turchan, 6-1, 6-0.

No. 2: Kaemen Holman-Rayos-Chad Northey (LS) def. Joe Bastas-Chris Sitarski, 6-2, 6-0.

No. 3: Simjae Holman-Rayos-Jacob Ratliff (LS) def. Tyler Kaldobsky-John Vetula, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 4: Kenny Nikkila-Sam Tabor (LS) def. Mike Adams-Quentin Palais, 7-5, 6-2.

No. 5: Alex Parrinello-Nick Marsh (LS) def. Jacob Liberati-Aaron Rogers, 6-1, 2-6, 7-5.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 3-3 overall; Franklin, 3-5 overall.

SOUTH LYON 8 WAYNE MEMORIAL 1

Sept. 21 at South Lyon

No. 1 singles: Tommy Slankard (SL) defeated

Brandon Harnos, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2.

No. 2: Dakota Heidt (SL) def. Zach Williamson, 6-2, 7-5, 7-6.

No. 3: Kyle Spratke (SL) def. Zach Lankton, 5-7, 7-5, 7-6.

No. 4: Brett Yerke (SL) def. Stephen Gush, 6-1, 6-1.

No. 1 doubles: Mike Shears-Jared Choniore (SL) def. Abhishek Roy-Michael Battaglia, 7-5, 6-3.

No. 2: Kenny Welsh-Austin Welsh (SL) def. Jarret Williamson-Sebastian Torres Campos, 6-1, 6-4.

No. 3: Riley Myers-Luke McCrary (SL) def. Michael Toms-Corey Robbins, 2-6, 6-2, 6-3.

No. 4: Nathan Tyahala-Gordon Galoneau (SL) def. Shane Schooley-Cody Huffaker, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5.

No. 5: Sam Herber-Antonio Heberling (WM) won by default.

Dual match records: South Lyon, 1-5 overall; Wayne, 1-6 overall.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 9 SOUTH LYON 0

Sept. 20 at Stevenson

No. 1 singles: Kevin Francisco (LS) defeated Tom Slankard, 6-3, 6-1.

No. 2: Josh Rochette (LS) def. Dakota Heidt, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 3: Vince Sabatini (LS) def. Kyle Spratke, 6-3, 6-0.

No. 4: Marcus McCathney (LS) def. Brett Yerke, 6-1, 6-1.

No. 1 doubles: Josh York-Paul Franchina (LS) def. Mike Shears-Jared Choniore, 6-1, 3-6, 6-1.

No. 2: Kaemen Holman-Rayos-Chad Northey (LS) def. Kenny Welsh-Austin Welsh, 7-6, 6-4.

No. 3: Simjae Holman-Rayos-Jacob Ratliff (LS) def. Riley Meyers-Gordon Galoneau, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 4: Kenny Nikkila-Sam Tabor (LS) def. Luke McCrary-Jeff Reichmayer, 6-0, 6-1.

No. 5: Alex Parrinello-Nick Marsh (LS) def. Nathan Tyahala-Brandon Grothe, 6-3, 6-2.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 2-3 overall, 2-3 KLAAS Central Division; South Lyon, 0-5 overall, 0-5 KLAAS Central.

MONROE CLASSIC BOYS TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Sept. 11 at Monroe H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 19 points; 2. Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central, 16; 3.

Livonia Franklin, 8; 4. Allen Park Cabrini, 5; 5. (tie) Monroe and Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, 4 each.

FINAL FLIGHT RESULTS

No. 1 singles: Paul Reed (St. Mary CC) led Stephen Payne (LF), match suspended (weather).

3rd place: Erik Knapp (Monroe) defeated Kevin Francisco (Stevenson), 6-3, 6-3.

No. 2: Josh Rochette (Stevenson) def. Ben Covington (Richard), 6-3, 6-0.

3rd: Brice Nocella (St. Mary CC) won by default.

No. 3: Vince Sabatini (Stevenson) def. Brandon Kozyn (Franklin), 6-1, 6-3.

3rd: Chris Parker (Cabrini) vs. Mike Watson (Richard), match suspended.

No. 4: Ian Cicero (St. Mary CC) def. Josh McBay (Monroe), 6-0, 6-2.

3rd: Tim Crouson (Franklin) won by default.

No. 1 doubles: Josh York-Paul Franchina (Stevenson) def. Kevin Latondress-Ben Ewert (St. Mary CC), 6-4, 6-4.

3rd: Steve DesChamps-Nick Surma (Cabrini) def. Andrew Russell-Kyle Poley (Monroe), 6-4, 6-4.

No. 2: Kaemen Holman-Rayos-Chad Northey (Stevenson) def. Justin Kegerreis-Chad Cousino (St. Mary CC), 6-0, 6-1.

3rd: Joe Bastas-Chase Semonick (Franklin) vs. Hunter Braciszewski-Dan Weil (Richard), match suspended.

No. 3: Nick Marsh-Alex Parrinello (Stevenson) vs. Tyler Kaldobsky-John Vetula (Franklin), match suspended.

3rd: Steven Eason-Jeff Osment (St. Mary CC) vs. Adam Hoffman-Kelsey Van Aken (Monroe), match suspended.

No. 4: Sam Tabor-Kenny Nikkila (Stevenson) def. Erik VanDenBerge-Pat Mulpas (St. Mary CC), 6-1, 6-4.

3rd: Paul Williams-Phillip Treia (Cabrini) vs. Gun Hee Lee-Reis Thebaud (Richard), match suspended.

No. 5: Jacob Ratliff-Stephen Kios (Stevenson) vs. Steve Hermanczuk-Matt Warren (Cabrini), match suspended.

3rd: Brian Haupt-Chris Sitarski (Franklin) vs. Zach Dikowski-Jason Antonelli (St. Mary CC), match suspended.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL

Friday, Oct. 1

Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at N.D. Prep, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at N.D. Christian, 7 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday, Sept. 28

Clarenceville at A.A. Greenhills, 6:30 p.m.
Mercy at Ladywood, 6:30 p.m.
Canton at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
Stevenson at South Lyon, 6:30 p.m.
Churchill at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at Taylor Baptist, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 30

Ladywood at Warren Regina, 6:30 p.m.
Churchill at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
Franklin at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Wayne at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Inter-City at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Mich. Elite Tournament, 8:30 a.m.
Birm. Marian Invitational, TBA.

BOYS SOCCER

Monday, Sept. 27

Clarenceville at Wayne, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 28
Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
S'field Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Huron Valley at S.H. Parkway, 4:30 p.m.
Churchill at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Novi, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 29

Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 30

Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luth. Westland, 5 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 1

Oak Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Ypsi Calvary at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
South Lyon at Churchill, 5:30 p.m.
Thurston at Franklin, 5:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luth. North, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Warren DeLaSalle at Stevenson, 1 p.m.

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Tuesday, Sept. 28

John Glenn at Wayne (Flats), 4 p.m.
Ladywood at Bicentennial Park, 4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 1

Churchill vs. Canton,
Franklin vs. Plymouth,
Stevenson vs. Salem
at Cass Benton Park, 4 p.m.
MIAC Jamboree at Luth. N'west, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Haslet Invitational, 9 a.m.
Divine Child Falcon Inv. TBA.

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

Thursday, Sept. 30

Wayne at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Canton at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
Northville at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Plymouth at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.

Mercy vs. Ladywood
at Livonia Comm. Rec. Ctr., 7 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS

Tuesday, Sept. 28

W.L. Northern at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Waterford Mott at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Wat. Kettering at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Howell at Stevenson, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Kensington Conference Tourney
at Plymouth-Canton, 8 a.m.

GIRLS GOLF

Monday, Sept. 27

Churchill vs. Canton
at Hilltop G.C., 3 p.m.
Franklin vs. Plymouth
at Fox Hills G.C., 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 28

Stevenson vs. Salem
at Fox Creek G.C., 3 p.m.
John Glenn vs. Wayne
at Fellows Creek, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 29

Churchill vs. John Glenn
at Fellows Creek, 3 p.m.
Franklin vs. Wayne
at Gateway G.C., 3 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 30

Ladywood Inv. at St. John's, 8:30 a.m.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

Tuesday, Sept. 28

Saline at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Catholic League Finals, TBA.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday, Sept. 28

N'western Ohio at Madonna, 7 p.m.
Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 30

Madonna at Davenport, 7 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Macomb CC, 7 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 2-3

Schoolcraft at Grand Rapids CC, TBA.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Sunday, Sept. 26

Ancilla (Ind.) at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
Madonna vs. Concordia
at Livonia's Greenmead Field, 2 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Lincoln Land (Ill.) at Schoolcraft, noon.
Madonna vs. Davenport
at Livonia Franklin H.S., 2:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Sunday, Sept. 26

Schoolcraft at UM-Deerborn, TBA.

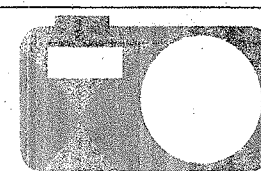
Friday, Oct. 1

Schoolcraft at Elgin CC (Ill.), 4:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, September 26, 2010

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PHOTO
GALLERIES

hometownlife.com

Kid racer

Livonia boy loves life in the fast lane

BY BETH JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lots of boys like to play with toy racetracks, but 10-year-old Garrett Rons of Livonia loves to race on the racetrack.

He races go-carts and a 250 Ninja sprint car, which is a race car with a motorcycle engine.

"I watched my dad (Marvin) watch races, and I don't know, it just got me interested," Garrett said of his long-time interest in racing.

Even at his young age he is finishing his fifth racing season in the go-cart and second season in the 250 Ninja sprint car. He competes at Jackson Speedway in the sprint car on most Saturdays and in the go-cart at Fremont Raceway in Ohio on most Sundays.

"We pretty much race every weekend from May to October," Garrett's mom Audra Rons said.

"It is getting quite popular," she said, adding there is a big age range of racers from age 5 up to adult.

"I raced some person that was 29 years old and came in second right behind him," Garrett said of a recent race.

He was just turning 6 and in kindergarten when he started racing in go-carts. He is now in the fifth grade at Riley Elementary in Livonia. "He's been wanting to race since he was a little guy," Audra said. "We just starting doing research," to find something for him to race, she said.

It has become a big part of family life for them now. When they race in Jackson, which is about an hour and a fifteen minutes away from their Livonia home, they are gone almost the whole day. When they travel

to the track in Ohio they go down Saturday night and camp out and then are there all day Sunday. Garrett has a 16-year-old sister who also goes to the races to watch. They take a camper to the races because it's easier that way, Audra said.

Race practice starts at the end of April and Garrett starts racing in May. The season ends in October.

RACE WEB SITE

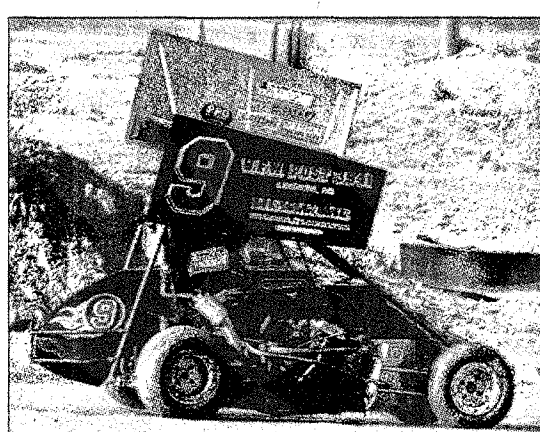
By competing most weekends Garrett accumulates points for the season. He had a second place points finish in his class for his first season driving the 250 Ninja. Garrett's mom keeps a website www.4rracing.com with up-to-date information about his weekend racing successes.

And the racing has the added benefit of family bonding time. "Garrett's racing has made him and his dad real close," Audra said. "They spend quite a bit of time together." They also travel three times a year to NASCAR races just for the fun of being a spectator.

It is a monetary commitment for the family as well, with fees to get into the track and a fee to race and the cost of making sure all his equipment is kept working. Garrett's grandfather's VFW Post 3941 started sponsoring Garrett last year. The post's name and information is on the car. "It gets their name out there and helps us out a lot too," Audra said. "It also gets Garrett involved with other people," she said.

DANGEROUS?

Of the safety of Garrett's racing, Audra points out the 250 Ninja has safety features. "He's strapped in there pretty good," she said. He also



Garrett Rons' 250 Ninja sprint car is sponsored by his grandfather's VFW Post 3941 of Livonia.



Garrett Rons of Livonia races in a 250 Ninja sprint car on the weekends.

wears a helmet, neck brace and a five-point harness. On top of the car are "wings" to help keep the car from tipping over, according to Garrett.

"Thank God he's never gotten hurt," Audra said.

But for Garrett it's just about the racing.

"It's fun," Garrett said, adding that he mostly thinks about having fun and wanting to win while he's competing. "If there's someone in front of me I think about how I'm going to get around them," he said.

There is a bit of difference between racing a go-cart on asphalt and a sprint car on dirt, but he says he likes them both. Sprint car racing is on an oval track, while go-cart racing is on a road course with straight-aways, left turns and right turns, he said.

His racing is limited to the weekends at the track, his mom says. He does his schoolwork during the week and also just hangs out with his friends. He only practices on the weekends at the track before the races.

But he does tell his classmates about it. "If we have show and tell day I take in a picture and say 'this is what I do and this is my sport,'" he said. "They think it's cool," he said.

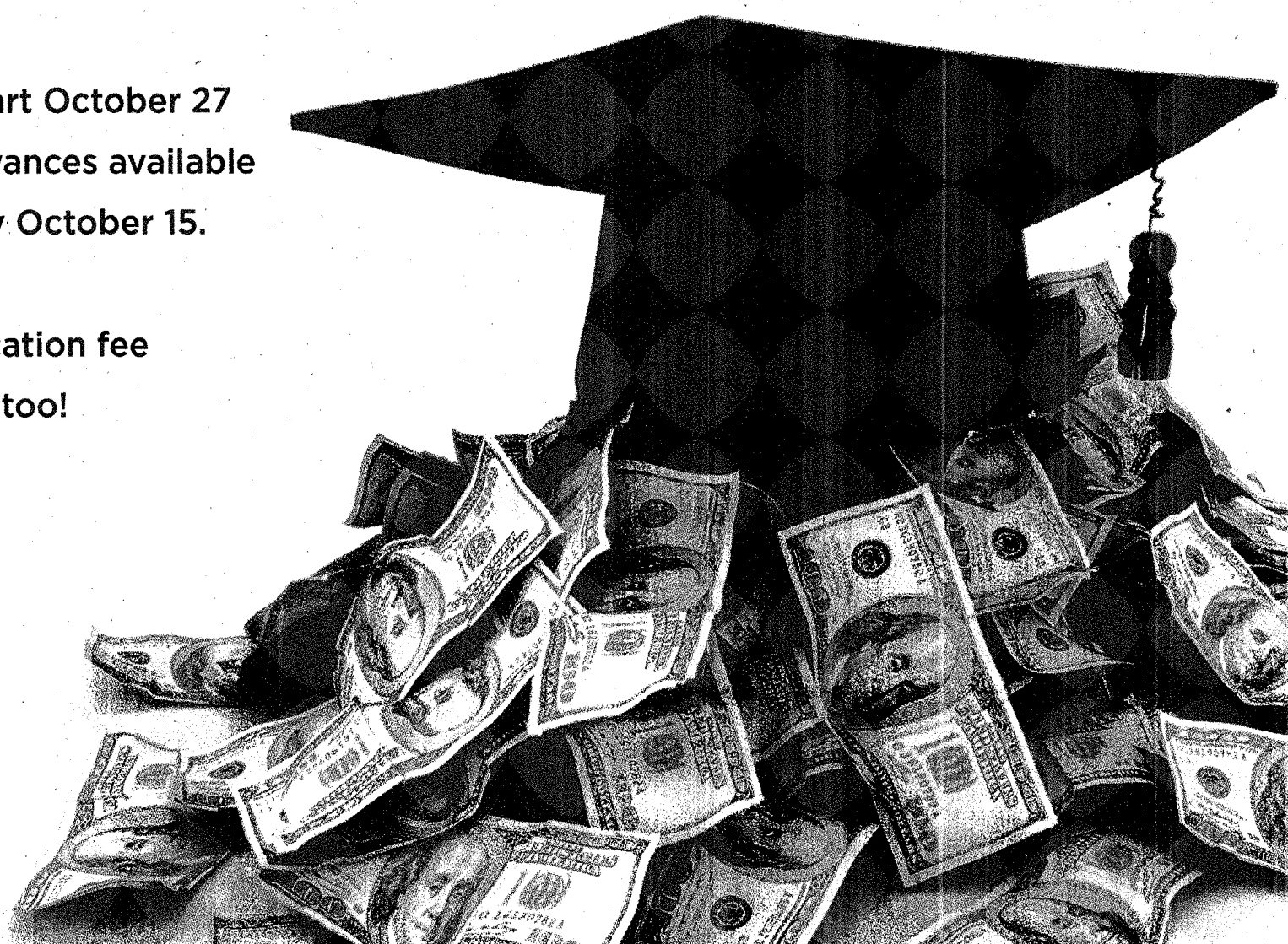
He and his family also look toward a future in racing. In this particular car he will probably race another three years, Audra said. After that he wants to move into a bigger car.

For Garrett, the future is simple. "I want to grow up and race NASCAR," he said.

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IS IT AN ACHE OR ARTHRITIS?

Everyone experiences an aching muscle or joint, but when should one make a decision that his ache needs medical attention? Several features of the ache help one make an assessment regarding to continue to live the discomfort or to decide to see a doctor to resolve it.

One feature is the persistence of the pain. One expects an aching ankle after a twist and fall, but if the pain lingers for days then one has reason to look for a serious injury.

Another important aspect of an ache is its intensity. If the discomfort turns to a pain then an appointment to see a doctor is in order.

Another important consideration is impairment. If the joint ache prevents one from undertaking his or her regular activity or disrupts usual activity, then the person has reason to have a physician evaluate and treat the problem.

On the other hand, if the ache lessens with activity a person can give time a chance to resolve the problem.

Night pain and radiation of pain are the other major considerations in an individual's decision to wait and see or seek medical attention now. Pain disturbing sleep or enlarging its area of involvement in the joint or limb means the problem is worsening; that change is serious enough to warrant medical evaluation.

This evaluation of aching is a guide line. Usually peoples' experience with their body gives them a standard of what is acceptable discomfort and what is not. If a pain in the arm or leg worries a person, that feeling is enough to make a doctor's appointment advisable.

OE08713910

Tell us why family dinners are important

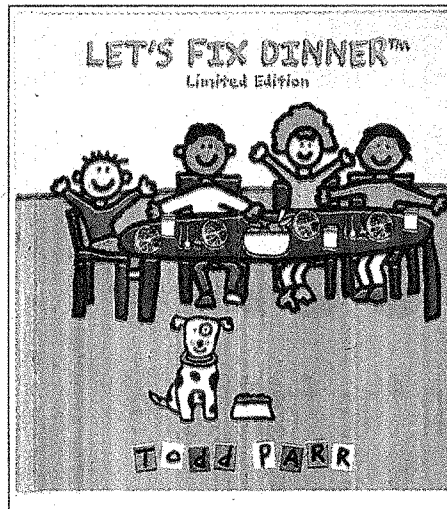
The *Observer* wants to hear about your family dinnertime and to encourage and challenge local families to eat together.

Share your family's experience and you could win a \$25 Kroger gift card (to help fix that dinner) and other prizes.

Send a photo of your family eating dinner and short essay (100 words or less) explaining why your family's meal-sharing is important or how/why you plan to start a new tradition of family dinnertime to: **Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com**. Attach the photo (jpg format only) and provide first and last names of everyone in the photo.

The *Observer* will award three prizes — one for a children's essay and family dinner photo, one for a teenager's essay and family photo and one for a couple's essay and family photo.

Other prizes include a copy of *Let's Fix Dinner*, by award-winning author and illustrator Todd Parr (child's prize) and movie tickets to Emagine Theater.



Family Day — A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children™, is a national movement launched by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University in 2001 to remind parents that frequent family dinners make a difference.

Statistics show that eating dinner together every night keeps the doors of communication open. It's the perfect time and place to reconnect and to show your kids and/or your spouse that they are your priority.

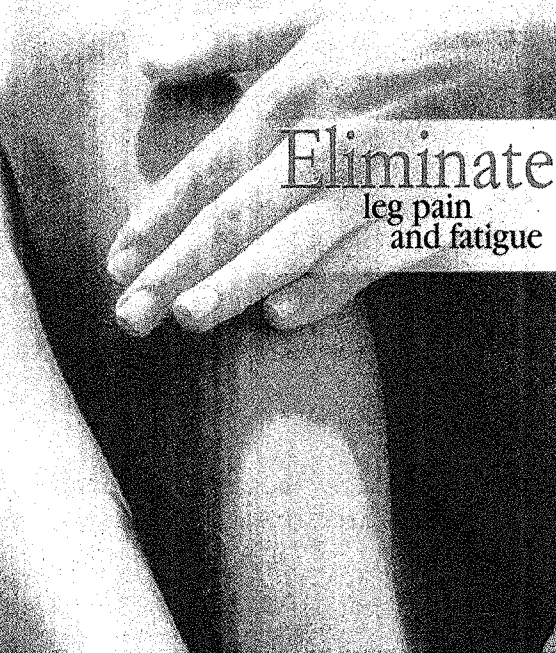
Plan a meal, talk, turn off the television and put down the cell phone and eat together.

More than a decade of research by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University CASA has consistently found that the more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs.

Family Day began as a grassroots initiative and has grown to become a nationwide celebration. In 2009 President Barack Obama, all the governors and more than 1,000 mayors and county executives proclaimed and supported Family Day.

For more information on Family Day, see www.casafamilyday.org. Sharon Dargay can be reached online at sdargay@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-8883.

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TOP DOCS+

Jeffrey H. Miller, MD
 Board Certified Interventional Radiologist
 Board Certified Phlebologist

Treat appliances like aging human: with TLC

I'm in the mood these days to write about the natural result of old age and health. I write this column the evening before I go into major surgery at St. Mary's Hospital.

Last week I had a long conversation with my family doctor and somehow we switched the subject to major home appliances. I told him that years ago my father always compared the automobile to an appliance. He would say, "When a car is new you can put the peddle to the metal and burn those tires every time you take off. A used vehicle with a ton of miles accumulated has to be treated with kindness and respect for old age." You need to treat an appliance the same way.

Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

You could say that I grew up always thinking this way about any mechanical product and so I asked my doctor what he could use for comparison to the human body. He agreed with my analogy and even added a new twist to it. He said, "A young body has a certain amount of reserve built into it which

diminishes with age and that is why it may be most important to live a healthy life style."

Now, I would like every person in America to think about their washers and dryers and dishwashers as products that are not as tough as they used to be. They do not have as much "reserve" as they once had and therefore they need extra tender love and care. I listen to my doctor and his words have saved my life, not once but twice. Maybe the advice from an old appliance doctor can save the life of one or more appliances in your home.

Washing Machine: Let us now start washing fewer clothes at one time. Don't fill the washer with so many items that you have a super heavy load in the tub. Tub size and load sizes are great methods of advertising a product but they can also be a real detriment to the longevity of a washer. Any washer repair technician will advise you to lessen the load size for increased wash ability and fewer repairs.

Clothes Dryer: The most dangerous of products in your home and the one that has the least amount of attention paid to it. It is important that this product is operating at peak efficiency without a whole bunch of squeak and rumble noises. The vent line needs to be cleaned and main-

tained on a regular basis. Plugged up vent lines are considered very dangerous and are responsible for many of the 42 house fires we have every day in this county. You might quicken the drying time for a load of clothes if you put the clothes in the washer through an extra spin cycle. Give it a try.

Dishwasher: The hotter the water, the cleaner the dishes. Run the water at the faucet just before you turn on the dishwasher. With soft water you use 2 level teaspoons of powder detergent and with regular city water you use 8 level teaspoons of detergent. Don't store the detergent under the kitchen sink because the humidity will destroy your soap. Use the breakfast drink Tang to give your dishwasher a good bath once a year.

Appliances cost a lot of money today and I don't see any reduction in prices in the future and as I have said many times. "They don't make them like they used to." If surgery is ever required on your appliances, keep in mind that it might have been prevented by an old doctors words of advice. Stay tuned.


Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twm1rr.com

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Costume your dog, attend an adoption event in area

The Humane Society of Huron Valley will receive all proceeds from the annual "Hottest Dog in the Coolest City" contest on Oct. 10.

The "coolest city," of course, is downtown Plymouth, which will host the 15th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff and the "hottest dog" is the best looking pooch in the Cookoff's "Hot & Spicy" and "Biker Dog" categories.

Register anytime between 10 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. at the fountain in Kellogg Park. The fee is \$5 per dog and judging will begin at 2 p.m. on the stage in the park.

Prizes will be awarded.

For more information call the Humane Society of Huron Valley at (734) 661-3000 or visit www.hshv.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

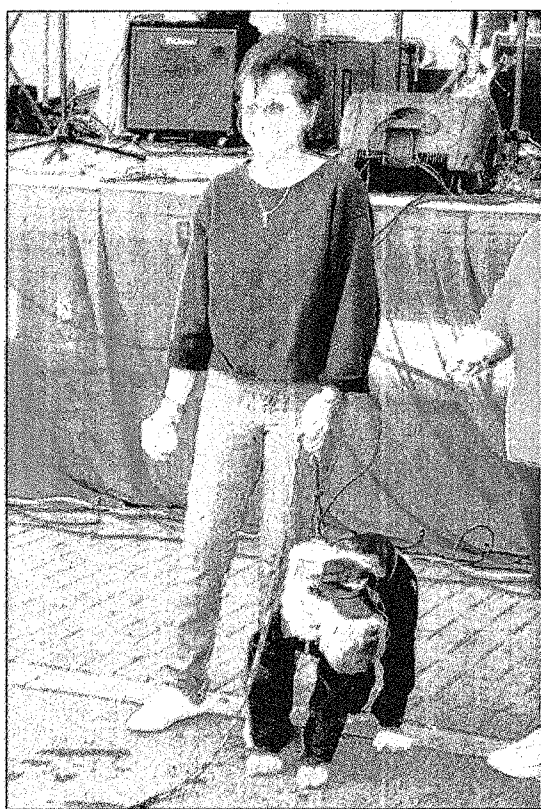
Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption will hold local adoption events at these sites:

- Livonia Pet Supplies "Plus," noon to 4 p.m., Oct. 2, 29493 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

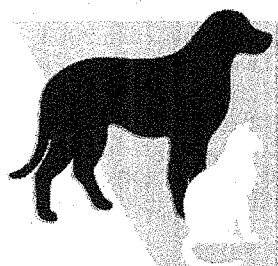
- Canton PetCo, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3 and 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, 43435 Ford Road, Canton.

- Celebrity Pets, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 10 and Nov. 14, at Laurel Park Place, 37700 W. Six Mile, Livonia

The group also will hold a pasta dinner from 5-8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 30, at Trinity United Methodist Church 9077 Allen Road, in Allen Park. Cost is \$10 for adults



A well-dressed contestant walks with a human companion at last year's Hottest Dog Contest, held in conjunction with the annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in downtown Plymouth.



PET PROJECTS

and \$5 for kids. Children, 5 and under, eat for free.

For more information visit www.greyheart.org

WALKING FOR ANIMALS

The Michigan Humane Society's annual Mega March for animals is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 3, starting at Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit. Walkers collect donations from friend, family members and co-workers and then walk with hundreds of other supporters along a two-mile route downtown. Proceeds benefit the Michigan Humane Society. Simply show up that morning and register, or register online at www.michiganhumane.org.

CRAFT CORNER

Send information about your upcoming craft show to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com

WESTLAND

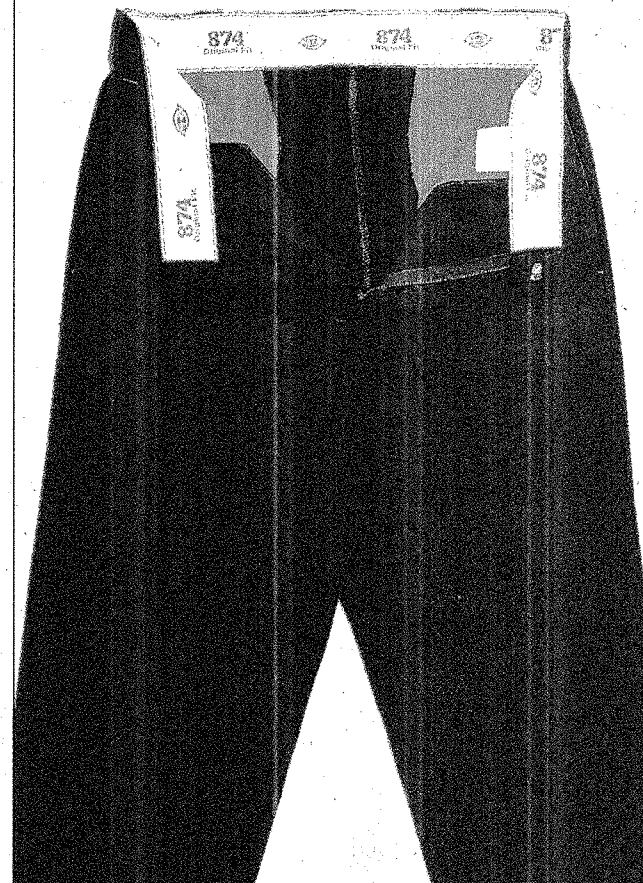
St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S Wayne Road, will offer handcrafted items by local artists, as well as products from Dove Chocolate Discoveries, Avon, PartyLite, Beijo Bags, Mary Kay, Longaberger, and Tastefully Simple to name just a few.

The show runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, at the church. (734) 721-5023.

PLYMOUTH

Delta Kappa Gamma presents its 26th annual craft show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 16, at West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Dee Winterhalter, a watercolor artist with works in private and corporate collections worldwide, will exhibit at the show for the first time. In addition to her watercolors, the show will feature jewelry, American Girl doll clothes, soaps, candles, seasonal decorations, clothing, accessories for dogs and much more.

Admission is \$2. For additional information call (734) 495-9327 or e-mail to jbstone716@comcast.net. All profits will support scholarships for Plymouth Canton Community Schools district students.



Dickies donation

For every pair of Dickie's brand Detroit 874 pants sold, the company will donate a pair to The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit to supply unemployed workers in southeast Michigan. The company donated 5,000 pairs and \$25,000 to The Salvation Army last week. Another 5,000 are available for sale and will be matched by a donation. They cost \$50 each and are available with free shipping at www.dickies.com.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

Job seekers get 'Jump Start' help from JVS

Individuals who have been laid off or lost a business in the past year are invited to "Jump Start Your Career," a free, 10-session program provided by JVS in Southfield beginning in October. It is offered at no charge and will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The program will motivate job seekers by helping them: identify their strengths, values, skills and life goals; explore viable career options; develop personal plans for success; define their personal brands; create winning résumés; improve job seeking and interviewing skills; learn financial tips for tough economic times; and cope with job search stress.

Job seekers must pre-register by contacting April Oikarinen at (248) 233-4234 or aoikarinen@jvsdet.org.

JVS is a nonprofit human service organization and a leading provider of career placement, counseling and training to unemployed workers, homemakers who need to re-enter the workforce, displaced upper level managers, people with disabilities who want to prove themselves as valuable workers and others seeking employment. From its five locations in Detroit, Roseville, Southfield, Warren and West Bloomfield, JVS serves over 18,000 people annually to help them realize their life's potential.

Learn about job hunting

Lisa Brown, a career counselor from Schoolcraft College, will offer a free workshop, 10 a.m. to noon, Oct. 13, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, just east of Farmington Road, next to Livonia City Hall.

Participants will learn the most effective methods of obtaining and securing employment. The discussion will include such topics as resumes, advanced job searching techniques, interviewing, and other career-related information.

Brown earned a master's in counseling from Oakland University. She is certified as a Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF), Job and Career Development Coach, as well as a practicing Licensed Counselor (Limited) in which she has focused on the art of job seeking and career development. For more information, call the Career and Transfer Center at Schoolcraft College at (734) 462-4421.

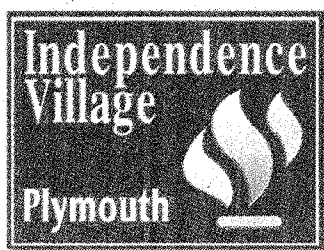
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VIRGINIA ALATALO

Devoted wife of Paul Alatalo (deceased) and mother of Bruce and Russ, died peacefully at St. Mary's Hospital at 2:30 AM on Monday, September 20, 2010. Born in Detroit on June 14, 1924, daughter of Thomas and Sophie Thornton. Virginia worked for Army Intelligence after high school where she met Paul Alatalo, an aide to General Armstrong in Guam. After the war, they got married and moved to Dearborn, Michigan where Paul got a job with Ford Motor Company. After the birth of two sons and losing a daughter at birth, the couple moved to Livonia. When her husband died while at work at Ford's in 1961, Virginia got a job as a school secretary in Livonia. There she provided efficiency, loving care, and devotion for 32 years to students and staff at Hayes and Buchanan Elementary Schools. She also raised two sons single-handedly while enduring cancer, heart bypasses, and numerous other ailments that would challenge the best of us, which she was. Students and staff speak of her to this day with admiration, warmth and affection. Virginia was a devoted member of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Dearborn Heights for almost 50 years. She served as an elder and greeter and was always available for a hug and words of encouragement to congregational members enduring so many of life's hardships. Virginia's courage and always-positive attitude served as a sterling example to everyone she encountered. Virginia is survived by her sons Russ (Donna) and Bruce (Anne) Alatalo; and her two grandchildren Katherine and David Alatalo. A memorial service for Virginia will be held at St. Andrews on Sunday, October 17th at 4 PM. Memories and refreshments will be provided after the service. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that any memorial contributions in Virginia's name be made to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Dearborn Heights or St. Mary's Mercy Hospital Development Fund in Livonia, Michigan.

PATRICK D. FLYNN

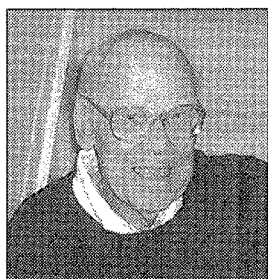
Age 78, September 18, 2010. Beloved husband of Elizabeth. Dear father of Irene (Edward) Punch, Neil (Julie), Siobhan (Matthew) Strickland and the late Maureen. Father-in-law of Mark. Grandfather of Rory, Shane, Alanna, Daragh and Fiona. Arrangements by the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home. Memorials suggested to the American Heart Association.
www.santeiufuneralhome.com

WILMA LEE LIVERMORE

Age 89, of South Lyon, MI, born February 20, 1921 in Birmingham TN & passed away September 16, 2010. Dearest mother of Bill Shunk (Sherry), Sandra Wright (Barry) & Cindy Livermore (John Campean). Survived by grandchildren, Teresa Messina (Tim), Billy Shunk (Sharon), Barry Wright (Loni), Kim Chambers, Ray Whyde & Kristen LaPlante (Steve). Loving "GG", great-grandmother to Logan, Emilia, Annie, Julien, Kelsey, Jordan, Kyle, Monica, Felicia, Heather & Elaine. She is also survived by siblings Roger Smith (Jackie), Bea Hill & Vella Mae Sparkman. She was preceded in death by siblings Ruben Smith & Zell Gutohrein & spouses Howard Shunk & Arthur Livermore. She loved life & will be missed by family & friends. Wilma was a favorite aunt to many special nieces & nephews. A memorial celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010 at 3pm at Colonial Acres Phase V Clubhouse located at 25861 Jamestown Court in South Lyon, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her honor are suggested to the VFW Post 7575 Branch, Attention Commander Mike Green at 33011 Ford Road, Garden City, MI 48135

JOAN MARIE MARSH

Age 74, September 19, 2010. Cherished mother Lynne Faulkner, Loren (Brian) Graham, and Leigh (Pat) Prouty. Beloved grandmother of David, Carolyn, Patrick and Matthew. Beloved niece of Julie Homak. Joan takes with her fond memories of her friends, neighbors, and former coworkers. Please share a message with the family at www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



JOHN ALDEN McAULIFFE

Died September 16, 2010 at the grand old age of 90 years. John was born and raised in Swampscott, Massachusetts, the youngest child of Joseph and Mary McAuliffe. He graduated with a degree in Biochemistry from Harvard University 1941. Inducted into the U.S. Army for 3 1/2 years in 1942, he served in the military police then studied the Japanese language for 1 year at University of Chicago preparing for potential future US intelligence in Japan. There he met Jean Wallace, his beautiful wife of 62 years and they married in 1945. He proudly received an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1947. Hired by Ford Motor Co. "Whiz Kid" Ed Lundy, John worked at Ford as a financial analyst, where he developed many lifelong friendships. Following his entrepreneurial spirit, he left Ford in 1951 to join in multiple business ventures which utilized his financial expertise. Desiring to be completely on his own, in 1960 he established John McAuliffe Ford in Pontiac, Michigan. After 15 years, he sold the dealership and became a self-employed financial consultant for a leasing company. He happily retired in 1985. For John, "heaven on earth" was Tree Tops, the cottage built by his father-in-law on Walloon Lake. This was a place filled with idyllic moments shared with his family and closest friends. Former member of: Dearborn Country Club, Oakland Hills Country Club, Walloon Lake Country Club and an Honorary member of the Birmingham Athletic Club where he was past president. At these facilities, he pursued his lifelong passions of golf, tennis and squash. He loved to compete, which included bridge with his Supper Club friends and cribbage with his family. A lifelong athlete, he also enjoyed skiing, swimming, and water skiing at beloved Walloon Lake. Up until the end, crossword puzzles were an integral part of his daily routine. Adored husband of the late Jean McAuliffe, cherished father of Jim (Sherry), Jay (Bel), Jerry (Kathy), Jeff (Kristi), and Jane (Bruce) Peterson. Loving grandfather of Kyle, Jessica, Ben, Lucas, Cassie, Mirami, Molly, Brendan, and Schuyler. Great-grandfather of Audrey and Ava Buckman and step grandfather of Mark and Tracey Chedister, Amy Buckman, Andrea and Amanda Tinsley. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile), Friday, 5-8p.m. Rosary and family celebration service 7p.m. Memorial Mass Saturday, 11a.m. at St. Hugo of the Hills Church, 2215 Opdyke Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Family suggests memorial tributes to Walloon Lake Trust and Conservancy, P.O. Box 621, Petoskey, MI 49770. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JOAN MARIE EIGHINGER

Of Ypsilanti, Michigan passed away September 15, 2010. Joan, 78, was born to Howard Eighinger and Edna Marie (Parrott) Eighinger September 9, 1932 in Independence, Missouri. She graduated from William Chrisman High School in Independence and the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. After moving to Ypsilanti, Joan attended the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor for her graduate studies. She spent more than thirty years teaching in the Livonia public schools where she was awarded the "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" for her contributions to the Livonia school system and her dedication to the education of her students. Joan was a thoughtful, gracious, and caring person who brightened the lives of her friends and acquaintances. She will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved her. A grave side service will be held Monday Sept. 20 at 11:00am at Greenton Cemetery in Odessa, Missouri. Joan will lie, in rest, next to her parents who donated the land for the development of Greenton Cemetery. Joan is survived by her dear Aunt Maxine Harden and several cousins. In lieu of flowers please make donations to: The Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

ROBERT D. MOWERS

July 11, 1924 - Sept. 10, 2010

Bob Mowers, 86, of Venice, FL, formerly of Brighton & Franklin, MI. Memorial was Sept. 18 at Venice Presbyterian Church. Burial in Nov. at Sarasota National Cemetery. Condolences visit: heraldtribune.com/obituaries



JACQUELINE NOEL MULARONI

79 of Bingham Farms/Franklin passed away September 16, 2010. Jacque is survived by her loving husband of 53 years E. Clarence (Bud), her four children Lisa (Rick) Kaminski, Grace (Glen) Esche, David (Maria) Mularoni, and Matthew (Judy) Mularoni, and grandchildren: Kristin, Andrew, Alexander, Timothy, Elizabeth, Dominic, Mitchell, Jonathan, Grace, Jacqueline and Douglas, her sister Joan Eastin and a large family. Jacque made a huge impact on her extended family, her friends, and her community. She contributed to many causes, from serving Christmas morning meals at soup kitchens to organizing fund-raising galas. Jacque began her volunteer work with Christ Child in the 1960s. Her philanthropy grew to include Capuchins - Father Solanus Guild, Juvenile Diabetes Association, Salvation Army, Vista Maria and Red Cross, as well as activities in the arts with Michigan Opera Theater. Jacque always said she was one of Father Solanus' miracles. No flowers please, donations to the Father Solanus Guild, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit, Michigan 48207 or the charity of your choice. A private service to be scheduled. Online condolences: www.obrienullivanfuneralhome.com



MICHAEL G. NASSAR, DDS

Age 49, of West Bloomfield, owner of Comprehensive Dental Center, PC, in Waterford, died suddenly September 21, 2010. Dr. Nassar is survived by his beloved wife of 2 years, Robyn; his cherished mother, Mary; siblings, Nancy (Edward) Wolf, Lin (John) Armitage, and Dr. Larry (Stefanie); his mother and father-in-law, Billie and John Diehl; sister-in-law, Kimberly (Ken) Leedom; brother-in-law, Chris (Jenn) Diehl; numerous nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and the entire U of M Wolverine Family. Sadly, he was preceded in death by his father, Fred in 2000, and his brother, Fred (Val) in 2006. Visitation Saturday and Sunday 2-9 PM at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Prayers and Story Telling Sunday 7 PM. Funeral Mass Monday, September 27th, 10:00 AM (in state 9:30 AM) at St. Fabian Catholic Church, 32200 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Interment Glen Eden, Livonia. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes are suggested to American Heart Assn., americanheart.org, heeney-sundquist.com

JOSEPH NEWTON

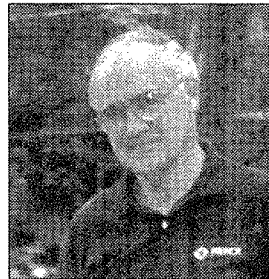
Passed away Sept. 22, 2010, at the age of 89. Beloved husband of Jean. Father of Betty (Ronald) Beiser, Robert (Jaquie), Richard, and Nancy (Richard) Piechowski. Dear grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of seven. Joseph served honorably in WWII and was a Past Master of the Metropolitan Lodge. Please share a memory with the family at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

ANTOINETTE 'TONI' SETON

of Livonia, passed away September 20, 2010. Age 58. Beloved wife of Richard. Dear step-mom of Jason Seton. Loving daughter of Fay and the late John Miga. Dear sister-in-law of Dolores (the late Eddie), Jeanette (Paul) and Gene (Pat). Cousin of Zdzislaw (Grazyna). Also survived by many loving friends. She will be dearly missed especially by those fortunate enough to have dined at her table. Visitation Thursday 1-9p.m. with a Rosary at 7 p.m. at the Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. 11470 Thirteen Mile Road (west of Hoover) Warren. Instate Friday 9:30 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass 10:00a.m. at St. Louis Catholic Church 2500 Twelve Mile Road (east of Dequindre) Warren. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Donations to Rose Cancer Center at Beaumont Hospital are preferred. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at www.wasikfuneralhome.com

ROSEMARY WALKER

Age 86, of Westland, September 19, 2010. Rosemary was preceded in death by her beloved husband James and her precious son Dale. Loving mother of Eugene (Michelle) and Pam (Fred) Krueger. Dear grandmother of Ryan, Kary, Katie, Beckie and Kory. Also survived by 6 great-grandchildren and many other loving family and friends. Arrangements by the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be directed to Grace Moravian Church, Westland or Angela Hospice. Please sign the online guestbook at www.rggharris.com



FREDERICK "Fred" W. YORK

Age 83 of Delaware, passed away early Tuesday morning at Cherith Care Center at Willow Brook in Delaware, Ohio. He was born April 10, 1927 in Farmingdale, Maine to George and Rena Dillingham York. A World War II Navy veteran, Fred's vast work experience included ship building laborer, railroad clerk, and mason helper. He obtained a BA degree from the University of Maine at Orono in 1952 with the help of the G.I. Bill. His professional life led him to retire in Farmington Hills, Michigan as a Regional Underwriting Manager for Employers Insurance of Wausau after almost 30 years with the company. His personal life was filled with the love of the outdoors, especially the coast of Maine. Year after year he spent hours on the shoreline scavenging for lobster buoys, sand dollars and starfish with his children and grandchildren. During his summer vacations, he built a cottage in Maine with his wife of nearly 60 years, Frances, and his brother, Ellsworth. He and his wife lovingly shared the cottage with their children, grandchildren, extended family, and many dear friends. He was a member of the Farmington, Michigan First United Methodist Church. He is survived by his son Greg (Regina) York of Delaware, OH; his daughter Linda Cook of South Lyon, MI; ten grandchildren Joshua and Trisha Cook, Maria, Katie, Gregory, Tina, Tommy, Susie, Bethy, and Johanna York; a very special "niece" Mary Beth Hennes Becker of New York; his brother Ellsworth of Somerville, ME; his three sisters Marvis Minoty of Randolph, ME, Irene Lovejoy of Massachusetts, and Pearl Moody of Gardiner, ME. He was preceded in death by his beloved daughter, Maureen, at age 11, a sister, Muriel White, and his devoted wife, Frances, this past May. Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the Farmington First United Methodist Church. Rodman Neepner Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed and memories shared by visiting: www.RodmanNeepner.com

In Memory Of



In Loving Memory Of DONNA I. SOMERVILLE

April 28, 1948 - Sept. 23, 2008

It has been 2 years since God called you home and not a day goes by that you are not in our thoughts and prayers. We are all very fortunate to have such great memories and miss you very much. Love Bobby, Rob, Michael, Johnathon and your surviving sister Judy Perkins of Dunwoody, Georgia

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.

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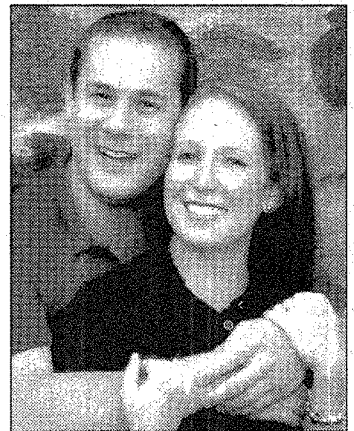
MILESTONES

OCTOBER WEDDING

Haley Gibson and Nic Gordon announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Jerry and Lou Gibson of Plymouth. Her fiancé's parents are Mike and Anne Marie Gordon of Manchester.

An October 2010 wedding is planned in Traverse City.



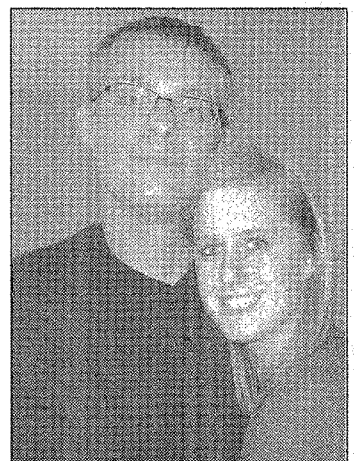
Gibson-Gordon

PERKINS-LAPPETITO

Jennifer Perkins and James Lappetito announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Dave and Kathy Perkins of Livonia, graduated in 2005 from Livonia Stevenson High School. She studied marketing at Michigan State University, and graduated in 2009. She is in a management position at Target in Virginia.

Her fiancé, son of John and Barbara Lappetito of Livonia, graduated in 2004 from Livonia Stevenson High School. He studied turf management at Michigan State University, and graduated in 2008. He is a golf course superintendent in Virginia.



Perkins-Lappetito

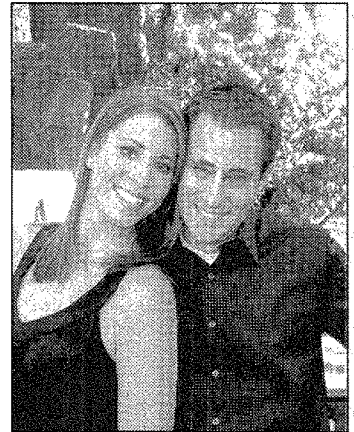
An October 2010 wedding planned in Livonia.

LUKAS-MORACA

Rebecca Ann Lukas and Matthew John Moraca announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of James Lukas of Novi and Kathy Fox of Farmington, graduated in 2002 from Farmington High School. She earned a B.S. degree in 2007 from Michigan State University in interdisciplinary health studies. She is employed as a bartender.

Her fiancé, son of Steve and Marlene Moraca of Canton, graduated in 2001 from Catholic Central High School. He earned a B.A. degree in 2006 from Michigan State University in hospitality busi-



Lukas-Moraca

ness. He is employed as a hotel manager.

An October 2010 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

A 65-year love story began when two teenagers met at their church youth camp and fell in love. After five years of dating they made wedding plans.

Alton Bennett and Mae (Root) Bennett were married Sept. 7, 1950, in the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Hastings.

A celebration honoring the Farmington couple as they marked their 60th wedding anniversary was held on July 3 with family and friends gathering for lunch at Ward Evangelical Church in Northville.

Joining them in the gathering were the Rev. Raymond Bennett, Alton's brother, and his wife Marie (Root) Bennett, Mae's twin sister, who also were married in 1950.

The children of the families planned the event.

Their children are Deborah Butler of Alpena and Jonathan (Beth) Bennett of Alpharetta, Ga. The grandchildren are Joseph (Kali) Smith of Alpena; Lista (Kyle) Cleland of Bay City and Kristi, Michael and Lauren Bennett of Alpharetta, Ga. They have three great-grandchildren.

Alton graduated from Hasting High School and is a graduate of Houghton College, Houghton, N.Y., University of Michigan and Wayne State University. Alton spent 28 years as a middle school principal in Farmington Public Schools. He enjoyed serving on the Farmington City Council, including two terms as mayor. He continues on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

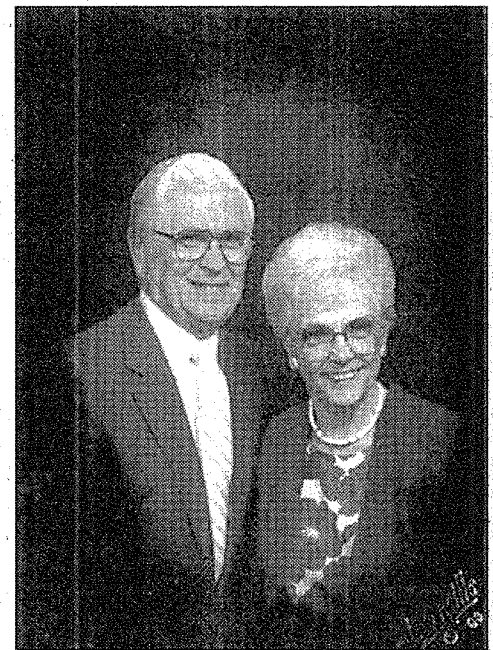
Mae graduated from Middleville High School. After their children were in school all day, she went to Schoolcraft College and graduated as a licensed practical nurse. She took medication training at Sinai Hospital and continued working there for several years and many years in Farmington Family Physicians office. She retired in 1997.

Upon retirement, the Bennetts enjoyed traveling to all 50 states and 15 countries around the world.

Alton and Mae have been active members of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church for 44 years, where Alton has been an elder, deacon, teacher and served on several committees. Mae has been a deacon, receptionist, served on committees and enjoys her Circle Bible Study.

At home, they keep busy with friends and family. Alton gardens, plays golf and cross stitches gifts for grandchildren. Mae enjoys reading, knitting, cooking and spoiling the grandchildren.

Life for them is their "faith" in God and his blessings, "hope for their friends, family and community and the "love" they share and enjoy as the years go by.



Alton and Mae Bennett of Farmington Hills

HEALTH

Sunday, September 26, 2010

hometownlife.com

Cancer screenings stress early detection

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dr. Cindy Sandona, an osteopathic physician, has some no-nonsense advice when it comes to cancer.

"Early detection," said Sandona, a Commerce Township resident affiliated with Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills and the Detroit Medical Center. "Mammography is still our best option, along with breast self-exam."

She works as a surgeon with breast cancer patients, and will be among physicians and others presenting an upcoming program of free cancer screenings. Sandona is director of Breast Health in the Botsford Hospital Cancer Center.

The Botsford Hospital Cancer Center will host a free cancer screening and educational event, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2. Advance registration is required.

Screenings offered will include mammograms for breast cancer, prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test for prostate cancer, stool guaiac test and digital rectal exam for colorectal cancer, oral screenings with the ViziLite Plus System for head and neck cancers, and skin checks for skin cancer. Preliminary familial counseling will be available for people interested in learning about family medical history and cancer. There also will be free screenings for lymphedema — a condition that impacts many cancer survivors.

All screenings will be free and will follow the American Cancer Society's guidelines. Advance registration for the screenings is required. To register, call the Botsford Cancer Center at (248) 471-8120.

Educational presentations with nationally recognized physicians include:

• 9:15 a.m. — Breast Cancer: Risk Factors, Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment, Cindy Sandona, D.O.

• 10 a.m. — Sun Safety and Skin Cancer Prevention, Francisca Kartono, D.O.

• 10:45 a.m. — Human papillomavirus (HPV) and Cancer, Judith Joslin-Page, D.O.

• 11:30 a.m. — Cancer Screening - Knowledge is Power, Savitha Balaraman, M.D.

• 12:15 p.m. — New Innovations in the Diagnosis of Lung Cancer, Phil Kaplan, D.O.

• 1 p.m. — The Value of PSA Screening and Prostate Cancer, Jeffrey Schock, D.O.

TREATMENT OPTIONS

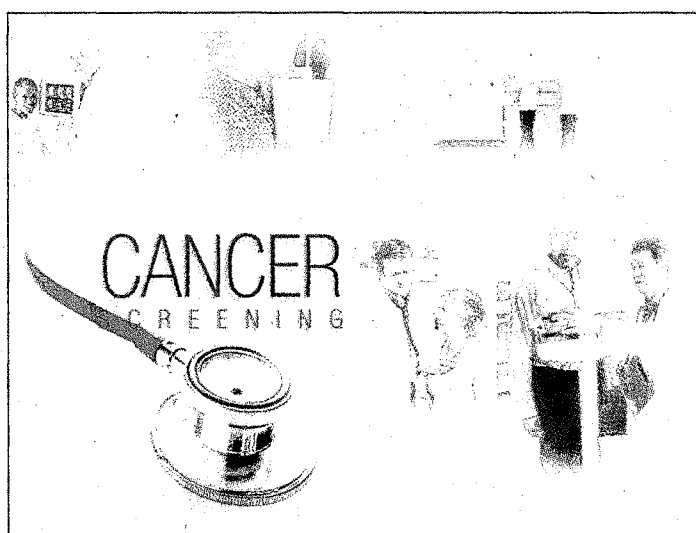
Sandona will lecture on screening modalities, including self-exams for breasts and new surgical options. She emphasized in a recent interview that surgeries are becoming less drastic. "We're going to get some information out about that," Sandona said.

She'll offer breast exams Oct. 2, and recommends a baseline mammogram for women at age 35 followed by a yearly mammogram at 40 and beyond.

Sandona noted the recent flap over age guidelines with breast cancer. "It all depends on your family history," she said of younger women with concerns. "If you're a high-risk person, we start at an earlier age."

She said free exams, such as those offered at the Botsford event, help individuals without insurance or with limited coverage.

"I think with what's going



on in southeastern Michigan we have to," Sandona said of health providers and hospitals stepping up with care. "That's always a concern when we're not doing what we need to do for the population."

Aside from finances, fear keeps some patients away from the doctor's office. "The fear of the unknown," she said.

"Cancer is very, very treatable if found at an early stage."

The disease doesn't discriminate by age. "Colorectal, we're seeing it earlier," she said, noting some 30-year-olds have been diagnosed with colorectal cancer. That makes tests like the digital rectal and fecal occult especially important.

Sandona gets all appropriate cancer tests. "I have a family history of breast cancer," said the doctor, who has had mammograms since age 35.

She'll also talk about the accelerated breast irradiation program. Patients getting radiation for breast cancer can now get it for only part of the breast, where it's needed. There's also improved genetic testing for high-risk families.

"They're working on it every day," Sandona said of cancer research.

SURVIVOR, AUTHOR

At 12:45 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, cancer survivor John Ricco of Farmington Hills will speak on "The Ride of Your Life: Fighting Cancer with Attitude."

Ricco was a few days shy of his 53rd birthday when diagnosed with multiple myeloma in June 2000. He's now a 10-year cancer survivor who wrote *The Ride of Your Life: Fighting Cancer with Attitude* as a tool kit for other cancer patients.

"Every month there are a couple of events I'm doing," said Ricco, who speaks to numerous groups and does charitable walks. "Mainly I'm trying to help people out with tips and information."

When diagnosed, John Ricco had a goal of walking daughter Christina down the aisle at her 2005 wedding. He met that goal and now hopes to walk daughters Carrie and Cathy down the aisle at their weddings, he said in a recent *Observer* interview.

Ricco and his family recently participated in a fund-raising walk for Gilda's Club Metro Detroit in Royal Oak. Gilda's Club is among the organizations, along with the American Cancer Society, that will have information at the Botsford event.

The Botsford Cancer Center is located at 27900 Grand River Avenue in Farmington Hills.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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Comment online at hometownlife.com

KNOW YOUR CANCER RISK FACTORS

Different cancers have different risk factors. Having a risk factor, or even several, does not mean that you will get the disease.

Some factors are linked to cancer-causing factors in the environment. Still others are related personal behaviors, such as smoking, drinking, and diet. Some factors influence risk more than others, and your risk for cancer can change over time. Here's a sampling of factors:

Breast Cancer

• Being female. Women are more likely than men to develop breast cancer.

• Increasing age. Women older than 60 have a greater risk.

• A personal history of breast cancer. If you've had breast cancer in one breast, you have an increased risk.

• A family history of breast cancer. If you have a mother, sister or daughter with breast cancer, you have a greater chance of being diagnosed with breast cancer.

• Inherited genes that increase cancer risk. Certain gene mutations that increase the risk of breast cancer can be passed from parents to children. The most common gene mutations are referred to as BRCA1 and BRCA2.

• Radiation exposure. If you received radiation treatments to your chest as a child or young adult, you're more likely to develop breast cancer later in life.

• Obesity.

• Beginning your period before age 12.

• Beginning menopause after age 55.

• Having your first child after age 35.

• Postmenopausal hormone therapy. Women who take hormone therapy medications that combine estrogen and progesterone to treat the signs and symptoms of menopause have an increased risk.

• Drinking alcohol.

Skin Cancer

• Fair skin. Having less pigment (melanin) in your skin provides less protection from damaging UV radiation. If you have blond or red hair and light-colored eyes, and you freckle or sunburn easily, you're more likely to develop skin cancer than a person with darker skin.

• A history of sunburns. Every time you get sunburned, you damage your skin cells and increase your risk.

• Excessive sun exposure. Anyone who

spends considerable time in the sun may develop skin cancer, especially if the skin isn't protected by sunscreen or clothing. Tanning, including exposure to tanning beds, also puts you at risk.

• Moles. People who have many moles or abnormal moles are at increased risk.

• A family history of skin cancer.

• A personal history of skin cancer. If you developed skin cancer once, you're at risk of developing it again.

• A weakened immune system.

• Increasing age. The risk of developing skin cancer increases with age, primarily because many skin cancers develop slowly. The damage that occurs during childhood or adolescence may not become apparent until middle age.

Prostate Cancer

• Older age. Prostate cancer is most common in men over 65.

• African American men have a greater risk.

• Family history of prostate cancer.

• Obesity. Obese men diagnosed with prostate cancer are more likely to have advanced disease that's more difficult to treat.

Colorectal Cancer

• Older age. About 90 percent of people diagnosed with colon cancer are older than 50.

• African Americans have a greater risk.

• A personal history of colorectal cancer or polyps.

• Inflammatory intestinal conditions such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease can increase your risk.

• Genetic syndromes such as familial adenomatous polyposis or hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (Lynch syndrome).

• Family history of colon cancer and colon polyps.

• Low-fiber, high-fat diet.

• Lack of regular physical activity.

• Diabetes.

• Obesity.

• Tobacco use.

• Excessive alcohol use.

Oral Cancer

• Tobacco use.

• Excessive alcohol use.

• Poor dental hygiene.

• Human papillomavirus (HPV).

• Diet lacking fruits and vegetables.

• Exposure to asbestos.

Senior Fall Health & Living

Friday,
October 15, 2010
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Oakland Community College
Orchard Ridge Campus,
27055 Orchard Lake Rd.
Building H
Farmington Hills, MI

Prizes!

Overnight stay and dinner
at the Townsend Hotel

Refreshments

Curb-side Trolley Service

Health Screening

Free Parking

Free Admission

Entertainment

Estate Planning

9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
by Jack Bolling

Long Term Insurance

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
by Richmond Financial

Guided Imagery and Aromatherapy

12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
by Wings of Healing

Social Security Programs, Services and Updates

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
by Social Security Administration

Scams Targeting Senior Citizens

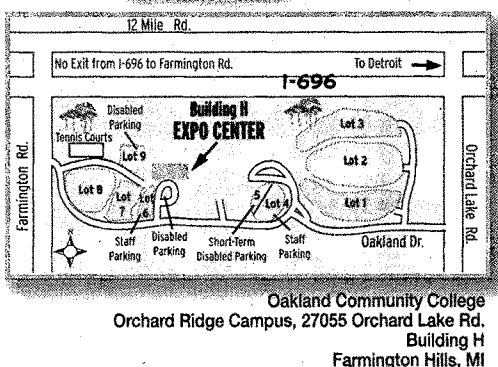
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
by Better Business Bureau

Emergency Preparedness

Small group 15 min. presentation
on the half hr. 9:30; 10:30;
11:30; 12:30 at booth # 48



Entertainer
Del Grebe
(Female Vocalist)
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.



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Roger Fox, nationally
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Respiratory Therapist, joins
Four Seasons' pulmonary
team

Meet Roger Fox, a nationally Registered and Licensed Respiratory Therapist with hospital-based and sub acute experience since 1996. Roger gained sub acute and Intensive Care Unit experience at Harper Hospital before joining the staff of IPC (Inpatient Consultants). Today he is director of respiratory therapy services for IPC in Michigan and serves as a consultant for Four Seasons.

IPC is a leading national physician group practice focused on the delivery of hospital medicine with comprehensive training, information technology and management support systems necessary to promote the highest quality of care for patients. Under the supervision of Four Seasons' staff pulmonologist, Roger educates staff on medication changes and the latest techniques and information.

"It's something we're able to provide," said Pat Lyden, Four Seasons' Administrator and RN. "It's not traditional. You typically find people with respiratory therapy credentials in a hospital. Four Seasons is on the cutting edge."

Recent renovations of the facility included the installation of in-wall oxygen and suction in patient rooms.

"A lot of nursing homes don't offer in-wall," said Roger Fox. "We're able to treat trach(eostomy) and in-house dialysis patients. We take some pretty special patients. We're able to provide decannulation (removal of the tube). We have people come with trachs and get them out. It's a luxury not offered everywhere."

Roger Fox works with physicians and members of the health care team at Four Seasons to care for patients with a range of breathing disorders including congestive heart failure, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and exacerbation of COPD, emphysema, pneumonia, pulmonary fibrosis, and tracheostomy.

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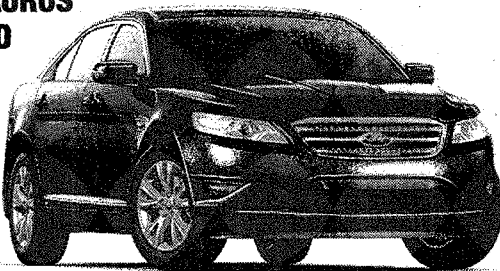


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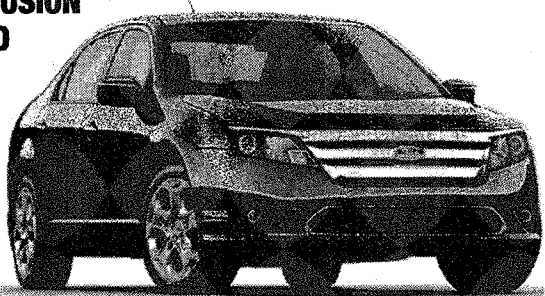
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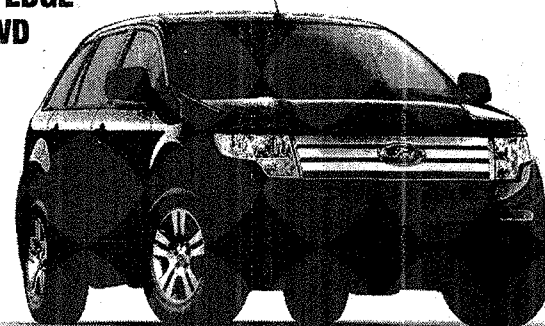
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- 17" Painted Aluminum Wheels

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