

INDEPENDENCE DAY

- REMEMBER SACRIFICES AS WE CELEBRATE A PROUD NATION, A12
- MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC SALUTES AMERICA, B6
- HAVE A SIZZLING FOURTH WITH GREAT FOOD, B8

ALL-AREA GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

SPORTS, B2

First Serve Sunday

Ekklesia Church is leaving the confines of John Glenn High School where the church worships and taking to the parking lots of three businesses Sunday, July 1, as part of its First Serve Sunday.

People can visit the Texas Roadhouse at 36750 Ford Road, Buffalo Wild Wings at 6677 Wayne Road or Culver's at 6500 Newburgh between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. for a free car wash. No money will be accepted from "customers" as church members try to wash as many cars as possible in two hours. Following the car wash, residents are invited to a free barbecue with sports activities at 1 p.m. in Hines Park at Merriman and Hines Drive.

On May 6, Ekklesia launched its First Serve Sunday. On the first Sunday of every month, church members don't meet at John Glenn High School. Instead, they go into the community and serve — "with compassion" and "no strings attached."

For more information about Ekklesia, visit the website at www.ekklesiadetroit.com.

Rehab program

Low- to moderate-income homeowners in need of limited home repairs can take advantage of the Limited Repair Home Rehabilitation Program through the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The program provides grants or loans to repair all home items that are needed to meet local building codes. It also provides grants or loans for barrier-free home access.

Homeowners must meet federal income guidelines, adjusted by family size. The loan will be placed as a lien on the property, payable at the time the house is sold. The interest on the lien is dependent on family income.

The city also is accepting applications for the Emergency Repair Program, to fix or replace single items, such as a furnace or roof.

For more information, call Deborah Richardson at (734) 595-0288, Ext. 2630.

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STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland resident Kati Jacobi concentrates on building her dream catcher during a program offered at the William P. Faust Public Library. The library is scaling back its hours and programs and laying off employees to handle a decrease in revenue.

Library prepares for cuts in staff, hours

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

There will be a lot of changes at Westland's William P. Faust Public Library after Saturday, including reduced staffing and shorter hours.

Under the budget taking effect with the July 1 start of the fiscal year, 12 of 36 employees will be laid off including three full-time staff members — one department head, one children's associate and one librarian. The other nine are part-time positions.

As a result of the changes, the library will only be open five days a week. The library will be closed Sunday and Monday with hours reduced to 40 per week down from the current 69 hours a week. The new hours will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, noon to 9 p.m. Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

"These will be some big changes. We have a

schedule but we don't know how it will work out until we do it," said Library Board President Mark Neal. "It may need some adjusting."

Part of the budget and staff reductions means some library programs, such as the summer concert series, have been eliminated while others like summer reading and the Job Seekers workshop have been pared back.

Westland voters are being asked to approve a .99-mill increase that would provide \$1.3 million in additional funding annually. That is in addition to .87-mill currently levied for nearly \$1 million annually. With the budget cuts, the 2012-13 budget is \$983,000.

With a 5 percent decrease in revenues projected for 2013-14, Neal said the library would be looking at being open less

Please see CUTS, A2

Library tax request would offset years of declining revenue

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Westland voters are being asked to approve levying nearly one mill for 10 years to fund operations at the William P. Faust Public Library on Aug. 7 — a move that would offset years of reduced revenues and budget cuts.

"The important part of this is that the library has been cutting back for five years," said Library Board President Mark Neal. "We keep reducing the number of employees and expenditures. We're at the breaking point. We can't go any lower and not have something different than the library (as it exists)."

In particular, Neal said that budget cuts have impacted the library collection — books and other media.

"We have not been spending on the collection. We've reduced it more and more. That's the primary function of a library," said Neal. "We

Please see REQUEST, A2

DSO picks Wayne High for fall concert venue

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra will be coming to western Wayne County this fall for a special performance at Wayne-Westland's Wayne Memorial High School.

The performance is part of an initiative involving the orchestra and DTE Energy Foundation, and Wayne Memorial is one of five venues selected to host a free DTE Energy Foundation Presents the DSO in Your Community concert. Concerts also will be performed at Anchor Bay High School in St. Clair County, Clarkston High School in Oakland County, Mt. Clemens High School in Macomb County and Pioneer High School in Washtenaw County.

This is the second year that DTE Energy Foundation has sponsored free DSO community concerts. This first series of concerts in the 2012-13 season are focused on providing access to the DSO in remote metro Detroit communities. Eligibility for selection was based on a group of logis-

tical criteria along with strong evidence of community support.

Among those voicing support for the free concert was Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy who pointed out that the Wayne High educational community "continues to work in difficult times to strengthen the quality of life in the community and to enhance cultural awareness."

"Bringing the prestigious DSO to the City of Wayne would be a great teaching example of how continuous practice leads to excellence in performance by the orchestra, which in turn, recognizes and shares its achievements with our hard-working community," he said.

Feedback from the public helped influence the selection committee's decision. Each venue has been profiled on the DSO website since June 5. The website received nearly

Please see DSO, A2

Two couples face fraud charges in Internet scam

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Two Westland couples are facing fraud charges over an Internet scam involving stolen credit cards and packages sent to their homes for re-shipping.

And it appears there that despite their similarities, there is no connection between the two scams.

"We thought there was a potential tie-in, so I assigned both cases to the same detective. No definite tie-in could be established," said Westland Police Lt. Michael Harhold. "We get a lot of this (type of scam) over time but it's not common for it to be that close together."

In the first case, a Westland man came to the police department on May 29 to report someone had tried to purchase nearly \$1,400 in merchandise from a website, newegg.com, using his debit/credit card without authorization. He said his



Wilson



E. Murphy



M. Murphy

a home in the 31000 block of Parkwood.

The order was canceled and police obtained a search warrant for the home on Parkwood. When the man who responded to their knock failed to open the door, officers forced entry into the home.

wife noticed the pending transaction while checking their account online.

The officer was able to get more information from the website than the homeowner had obtained. Two Apple iPads had been ordered and were to be delivered to

A woman who lives at the home told police that she found an online job working for an unknown Indian male who ships packages to her. She then ships the packages on to other locations.

Officers seized an unopened FedEx package from Hong Kong with the Parkwood address but listing the name of none of the residents. Inside the package, police found an Apple iPad. The woman told police she was awaiting an invoice and shipping labels from the unknown man before forwarding the package.

While looking online for a job, the woman said she came across this man who would wire her money for accepting and forwarding the packages. The husband also accepted the packages. The couple said they made \$200-\$300 weekly.

Additionally, the woman told police that the unknown man had sent

Please see CHARGES, A2

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REQUEST

Continued from page A1

have to provide books and media. We're not spending on it."

The 2012-13 library budget is \$983,000 with funding from .87-mill, which is down from one mill due to the Headlee Amendment rollbacks. The .99-mill sought on Aug. 7 would be expected to generate \$1.3 million the first year.

Based on an average home valued at \$58,600, Neal said the additional millage would cost \$24.75 annually or about 48 cents a week.

The library draws an estimated 900 to 1,600 visitors daily, said Library Director Sheila Collins, but that number likely doubles when the summer reading programs get under way.

Beyond the services provided, Collins said a strong library also pro-

vides other benefits for the community.

"I was talking to someone who was looking for a house in another part of (metro) Detroit. The person works here (at the library) but the real estate agent didn't know that," said Collins. "The first thing the agent mentioned about the house was that the library was only two blocks away. The library is a way to build the city up. It's a key element for a city being viable and helps keep up property values."

With a poor economy, Neal said people rely more on the library using public computers for job searches when they can't afford a computer and Internet access at home.

"I was surprised the other day to see people waiting for the computers. People count on that to look for jobs," he said.

The whole idea behind the millage request was to restore cuts that had been made over the past



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

five years, including the reductions going into effect beginning July 1. Auditors Plante Moran did a study on the library and reported that the current one-mill maximum levy wouldn't provide enough money to restore the cuts, Neal said.

There are a couple of misinformation points Neal said he wanted to correct. The library is owned by the City of Westland but despite a proposal a couple of

years ago, Neal said the library was never charged rent and no money was taken from the library by the city.

The library does pay about \$200,000 in overhead to the city but receives a range of services, including snow removal, tree trimming, information technology and payroll.

"I don't know the end of the list," said Neal, who notes that a couple of years ago the library

Rida Ghazali and librarian Liz Waun work together at the dream catchers program.

wasn't using the city services to the full extent.

Due to the high demand for computer services, the library board had discussed the idea of an addition to provide a computer center. Due to the financial constraints, Neal said that idea isn't currently an option.

"This millage is strictly for operations, not capital improvements," he said.

The library currently has \$1.2 million in reserve funds but Neal said a large part of that money may have to be used to pay for repairs to the building which would result in energy savings.

"We had planned to pay for that over time but we may have trouble with the financing," said Neal. "The library is owned by the city, so the company wants the city to get involved in the agreement."

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DSO

Continued from page A1

5,000 notes from community members in support of their favorite venue, and immediately became the DSO's most frequently-viewed page with more than 9,000 visitors.

"We are thrilled with the public response to the DSO and DTE Energy Foundation's initiative to make classical music as accessible as possible," said selection committee member Mike Chriss, DTE Energy director-Corporate and Governmental Affairs. "We are grateful for the opportunity to remind the neighboring communities that Detroit's gems are available to them, too."

The concerts will be performed the week of Sept. 15, with the Wayne Memorial performance scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22.

All eligible nominees also will receive the opportunity to engage with the DSO during the 2012-13 season through other programming, such as chamber music performances, senior engagement concerts, school visits, hospital performances or library visits. More information will be available at www.dso.org/dtemusic throughout the season.

By Sue Mason

CUTS

Continued from page A1

than 40 hours per week without additional funding.

"We would have to go to a part-time library,

we wouldn't be able to have a full-time schedule," he said. "Everyone (employees) would be part time but the director. That means the staff would go somewhere else. They're all too educated and qualified to remain part time. It

would be sort of a death spiral for the library. That's why we're hoping the public supports the millage."

If the millage is approved, the taxes wouldn't be collected until February 2013 as part of the winter taxes.

"If the millage passes, the (Library) board would have a discussion on when to begin calling people back, but nothing would happen before the first of the year," said Neal.

"We'd put together a plan and present it to

council to get their feedback. It would be irresponsible of us to hire everyone back because money was coming eight months later. We have to be responsible."

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CHARGES

Continued from page A1

her a credit card in her name which she used to purchase a laptop computer, an Xbox and two iPads, which she sold. She said she also used the credit card to pay some personal bills before destroying it.

Emma Murphy, 36, and Mark Murphy, 43, are both facing fraud charges.

Mark Murphy was also cited for marijuana possession and held on two warrants.

The second case unfolded in a similar fashion June 11 as a Westland couple reported discovering \$550 in two separate charges on their bank account which hadn't been authorized. The purchases of two Intel computer CPUs were made from newegg.com.

The orders were shipped to an apartment

at the Landings, 6700 Lakeview, under the name of a person living there.

Officers subsequently executed a search warrant at the apartment which was occupied by a couple, along with their 16-month-old daughter.

The couple told police that they had accepted packages shipped under different names from various companies and forwarded the package. Both said they had gotten involved while looking

online for jobs.

Among newly delivered packages, the officers found a camera lens, a motorcycle helmet and an Apple modem, all in packages with different names. Many items were shipped to Russia.

Additionally, the officers confiscated a box containing 18 different credit cards which had 16 different names — none being the apartment residents.

Although the couple

reported being unemployed, officers noted they had new items including a plasma television, Xbox, iPhones and laptop computer.

The man told police they had been reshipping packages for about a month and had not yet been paid.

Joelle Bryson, 25, and Everett Wilson, 26, are charged with fraud and receiving/concealing stolen property. Wilson also was charged with marijuana possession, Bryson

with loitering where drugs are present. Bryson wasn't taken into custody so she could care for her young child.

"People shouldn't fall for this type of scam, these are not legitimate jobs," said Harhold. "Sometimes people who are unsophisticated may fall for it. They may be pressed for money. Others know it's a crime."

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kmart

dollar days

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Kayla Williams of Southfield is all smiles after winning the prom dress drawing at Eva's Bridal in Garden City.

PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Brittni Filiak and Hailey Hoyer, both Westland residents and Livonia Franklin High School, were among girls who showed up at Eva's wearing the prom dresses they had purchased there.

Prom dress purchase pays off in contest

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Going to the prom can be costly, but not for Kayla Williams. The Southfield resident was the winner of the annual prom dress drawing at Eva's Bridal in Garden City.

Young ladies who purchased their gowns at the store were invited back June 16 for a drawing with a grand prize of the cost of the winner's dress. For Williams, that translates into \$419 that she plans to use for college.

"I was surprised," she said. "I didn't scream, but my mom did. She came in after they called my name and she screamed. She was kind of over the top. She screamed for both of us."

Store owner Laura Van Vliet has been inviting customers back after the prom season for the drawing for 14 years.

The rules are simple. Contestants have to have purchased a dress from Eva's, either at her main store or the outlet store, and come back to the store for the drawing. Those who show up

are entered in the drawing and those who wear their dresses get an extra chance.

Van Vliet stresses that the contestants have to be present to win. Sometimes, the girls' mothers have come in, some wearing the dress, to get their daughters in the contest. In one instance, a father showed up, holding his daughter's dress, Van Vliet said.

"It's something I thought would be fun to do and be an incentive to buy," said Van Vliet said. "I sold about 300 prom dresses this year and 60 girls showed up, so the chances to win were better than the lottery."

The shops are both on Middlebelt, north of Ford Road and dresses entered

in the contest ranged in price from \$100 to \$450. Williams' dress was one of the more expensive ones Van Vliet sold during the busy spring season.

Williams, who graduated from Inkster High School, was searching for a store when Eva's popped up. Located about four miles down Middlebelt from the high school, she decided to stop in.

The dress she selected was new to the store, but as soon as Williams saw it, she knew it was the one for her.

"It was one of her new dresses, no one had tried it one. It was still in the bag," said Williams. "It was kind of a ball gown dress. It was all poofy, and I love poofy."

Williams plans to attend Saginaw Valley State University to study pre-

medicine. Her goal is to become an anesthesiologist. The money will go for housing and books, she said.

In addition to refunding the cost of a dress, Van Vliet also gave out certificates for discounts on future purchases.

The spring is busy for the store and this year, Eva's had a "really good season," said Van Vliet, who has owned Eva's

since 1995. She bought the store after working there for five years.

"Between prom and weddings in the spring, this is a big time for us, but we are doing a little more with Homecoming," she said. "Next year will be our 15th anniversary; we'll definitely do it again."

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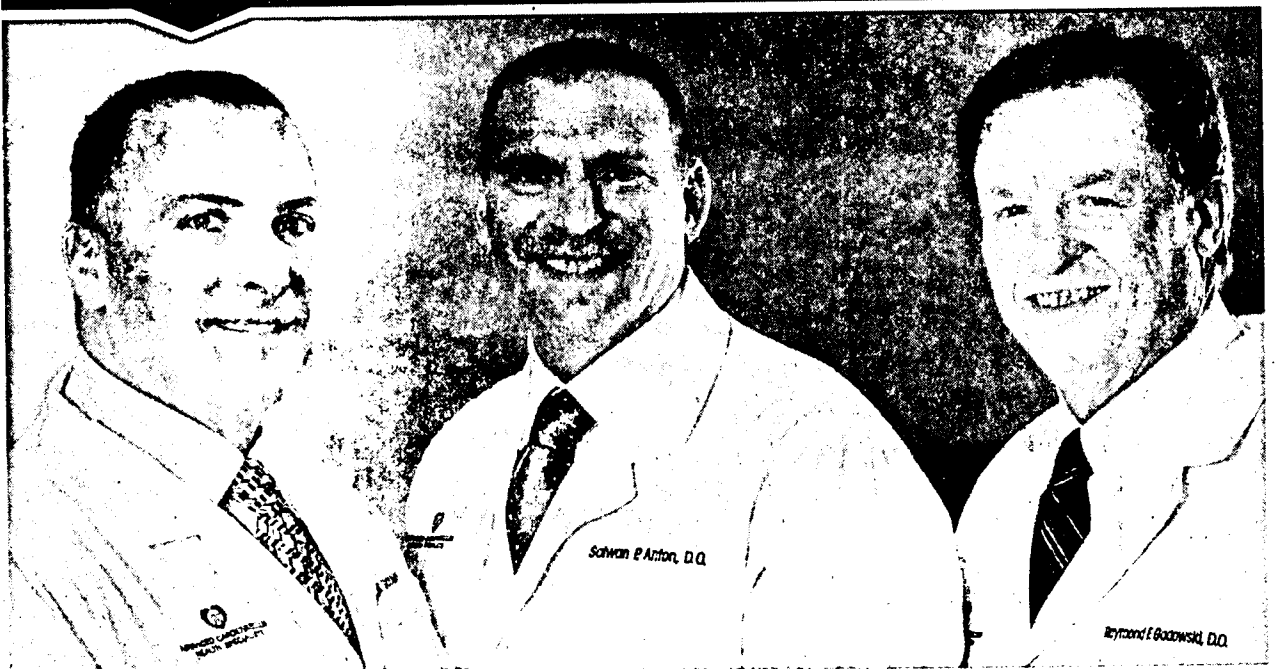
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Police investigate theft of restaurant equipment

Theft

Garden City police are investigating a theft at the Wendy's restaurant, 123 N. Inkster Road, which may have been committed by an employee.

A manager said that she returned from her vacation from May 28 to June 17 to find that shelving and a commercial size freezer were stolen from an outside storage unit secured by a padlock. Many employees have access to the unit.

The manager did some checking and found that a man fitting an employee's description sold the items to H and H Metal in Inkster for scrap. The business wouldn't answer questions unless there was a police investigation.

The police expected to

interview possible witnesses.

Retail fraud

A clerk at the 7-Eleven store at 29331 Warren Road believes that four people worked together to steal items about 2 p.m. June 18.

One customer entered through the store door while three others got out of the car. Three suspects stood at the end of three aisles in a way that the clerk couldn't see what was going on.

The first suspect again left on foot and went eastbound on Warren Road. Immediately after the three other suspects got back in their car and left.

The clerk later saw that the stolen items included eight cases of gum and a variety of Red Bull energy drinks and Five Hour Energy.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Thefts

A thief stole items from a car parked in the driveway of a home in the 29000 block of Hennepin sometime before June 15.

A bicycle was taken from the driveway. An air compressor was stolen from the unlocked garage and an iPod was removed from an unlocked Ford F150.

The owner said that the bicycle was later found on the side of a garage of a home located in the 29000 block of Block.

• A resident in the 6400 block of Deering reported June 23 that an iPod was taken from his unlocked 1998 Ford Explorer that was parked in his driveway.

• A resident in the 6800 block of Lathers reported

that someone searched through and stole several items from his 2005 Chevy Silverado.

The thief stole a GPS unit, a camera and console. Property damage.

Garden City police arrested a 26-year-old female from Detroit after she caused damage at Garden City Fuel, 32888 Warren Road, about 7:30 p.m. June 24.

The woman knocked over a store display after the clerk refused to wait on her because she had a bad "attitude."

The situation escalated. First, the clerk told her that she couldn't smoke inside of the store. She swore, went outside, stamped out her cigarette and came back in requesting gas. She slammed her money down and walked away, according to the clerk,

who told her to come back so that he could count her money in front of her.

After she swore again, he told her that he didn't have to serve her with that kind of attitude.

She became irate and knocked things off the counter before leaving the store, he said.

• Someone threw a cement block through the rear window of a 2000 Buick Regal June 23 and shattering it. The vehicle was parked in the 1500 block of North Venoy.

Break-in

A chiropractor with an office located at 29055 Ford Road said that someone broke into his building sometime before 10 a.m. June 24 by breaking a basement window. Some lights were broken but nothing was stolen.

The police also found pry marks on an outer door.

Fraud

A resident in the 32000 block of Maplewood reported June 20 that he was a victim of fraud.

He heard from Visa Fraud Prevention that someone fraudulently charged \$1,204 for beauty supply items to his account.

Noise violation

The police ticketed a resident in the 31000 block of Rush after a neighbor called the police about 11:45 p.m. because of what he called excessive noise and because he said that his wife couldn't sleep.

When the police officer arrived, he found a small group of people in a circle talking.

By Sue Buck

TV, computer among stolen reported items

Break-in

A 42-inch flat screen television, a laptop computer, a PlayStation 3 game and a watch valued at \$2,500 were reported stolen June 24 from a home in the 7600 block of Rivergate. The resident told police he had spent the previous day away and returned to find the

WESTLAND COP CALLS

front door open.

Larceny

An Ann Arbor Township man told police June 24 that he had advertised a cell phone for sale on craigslist. He was contacted by a man who

wanted to buy the phone and said they agreed to meet at McDonald's, 1677 S. Wayne Road.

At the restaurant, the man said he showed the phone to the other man, who grabbed the phone and ran outside. The suspect got into an older black Cadillac and drove away. The phone owner told police he tried to get

a license plate number from the vehicle, but it had a paper plate that he was unable to read.

Break-in

On June 24, a resident of the Landings Apartments, 6598 Lakeview, told police that while he had been out getting a tattoo someone had pried open the door to his apartment. Reported missing were a 32-inch flat screen television, six video games, a PlaySta-

tion 3 controller, three watches, a pinky ring and a folding knife.

Stolen vehicle

A resident in the 31000 block of Calhoun Court told police June 23 that someone had stolen his 2002 Pontiac Grand Prix from the driveway. He said the vehicle key was broken off in the ignition, making it easy to start.

The man told police he believed the car was locked but the rear pas-

senger side vent had been broken earlier.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident of the Landings Apartments, 6734 Lakeview, told police June 25 told police that someone had stolen a stereo and the air conditioning/heater panel from his 2001 Mitsubishi Diamante. The items were valued at \$1,000.

By LeAnne Rogers

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Police officials tell parents to be parents

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Whether the concern is substance abuse, curfew violations or online safety, Westland police Sgt. Dan Serrano summed up his advice to parents: "I tell my kids, 'I'm not your friend. I'll treat you like I'm your father. I'll look at your phone when I want to.'"

"You have to be the parent," said Serrano. Joined by Lt. Michael Harhold and Officer Matt Bobby, Serrano spoke Monday at the Police-Teen Matters program hosted by Westland Youth Assistance at the Dorsey Center. The overall message focused on the importance of parental involvement and keeping track of their children's activities.

The program was aimed at providing parents and guardians with information about a range of topics involving teens and the law.

• Internet — "You should be able to control what your kids are doing and what their devices can do," said Harhold, noting smartphones provide the same Internet

access as computers.

Computers should be kept in a common room of the house with monitors positioned so they can be viewed by parents, not located in bedrooms, he said.

A big concern are chat rooms, Harhold said, which can be accessed also from some gaming devices like xBox which can be set up for Internet access. A particular concern are online chat rooms where predators prowl.

"Best is no access to chat rooms. I know that's hard. So if you allow it, have rules," said Harhold. "Kids like to be helpful. Impress upon them again and again to never tell anyone their address or the area where they live. They should never agree to meet anyone (they met online)."

When setting controls on the computer to restrict children's access was mentioned, some parents commented they wouldn't have any idea how to accomplish that.

"I'm taking my first college class online and I had to have my 13-year-old daughter set it up for me," said Bobby,

"Best is no access to chat rooms. I know that's hard. So if you allow it, have rules. Kids like to be helpful. Impress upon them again and again to never tell anyone their address or the area where they live. They should never agree to meet anyone (they met online)."

MICHAEL HARHOLD,
Westland lieutenant

who is assigned to Westland John Glenn High School during the school year. "I look at everyone online as a bad guy. You need to be overly cautious."

• Facebook — Another Internet concern is Facebook, particularly when it comes to middle school students, said Bobby.

"When we were young, we'd think of things we'd like to say to some guy or tell some girl off but we didn't do it," he said. "It's a lot easier on Facebook. We have so many fights and other things daily over things posted on Facebook."

Conversely, Bobby said the social media page can also be a helpful tool in tracking potential problems, thanks to posts from youngsters.

the house for coming home late or some other infraction.

Locally, curfews are 10 p.m. for 15-year-olds; midnight for 16-year-olds and no curfew for 17-year-olds.

"Kids will start fights with their parents because they know the law. I can tell you, your officers will say, 'No, it's what your parents say,'" said Harhold.

• Discipline — There are ways to discipline children without corporal punishment, Serrano said. If there is physical contact and police are called, officers have to decide what is reasonable — contact that leaves scratches or other marks would be considered unreasonable, he said.

"You don't want to get into a fight with your children. If the child hits you, it's domestic violence and we will take them to the youth home," Serrano said.

• Drugs — "If you find marijuana in your kid's room, it is not the first time they used it and it doesn't belong to their friend," said Bobby, adding those age 16 and younger would be issued a ticket referring them to Youth Assistance.

Parents who allow drinking or drug abuse by teens can be subject to contributing to the delinquency of minor charges.

"I've had parents say they smoked pot with their 12-year-old kid. They don't see a problem," said Bobby.

Similarly, parents can also be prosecuted for failing to get their children to school, he said. If the parents are making an effort to make sure their child is attending school but the youngster is still truant, Bobby said the child would be charged.

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July 20	Alexander Zonjic	Centre Village at Kroger Ford & Canton Center	
July 27	Demetrius "Krayon" Nabors	Lowe's Ford between Sheldon & Morton Taylor	
August 3	John E. Lawrence	Willow Creek Shopping Center Ford between Lilley & Haggerty	
August 10	Kimmie Horne	Super Bowl Ford between Canton Center & Sheldon	
August 17	Randy Scott	IKEA Ford & Haggerty	
August 24	Lin Rountree	Home Depot Ford & Lotz	

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Elite Pizzeria- 734-335-6716
- Hayden's Grill and Bar- 734-895-3388
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Beware of investment risks, diversify

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Last week, the Federal Reserve concluded a two-day meeting and one of the results was the statement that interest rates are going to remain low until at least 2014.

What that means is that U.S. treasuries, certificates of deposit (CDs) and fixed annuities similarly are going to have low rates of return for a period of time.

Ever since the financial crisis arrived, interest rates have been kept artificially low. The theory being is that low interest rates will help spur growth in the economy. And although that may be true, it is important to realize that it comes with a cost.

One group of people that are paying for the financial crisis is senior who typically will invest in CDs, U.S. treasuries and annuities for income purposes. Seniors have found that their income has been slashed over the last few years. The Federal Reserve's recent comment certainly doesn't give hope to those individuals who

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need income. The question is what are seniors to do?

In the search for income, some seniors have made some very expensive mistakes. In order to receive higher income, investors have sought out higher yielding investments. Unfortunately, with higher yielding investments come greater risks. Some senior have invested in foreign CDs thinking that they were as safe as federally insured CDs. Unfortunately, they found that they were not. Other seniors have invested in low-rated bonds — junk bonds — thinking they were safe but they were not. The problem is that people are so desperate to get higher rates of return on their money they're ignoring the risks that are associated with these types of investments.

Another strategy that some seniors are implementing is turning to dividend-paying stocks as, once again, a way to produce higher income. Dividend-paying stocks are a good investment and they make sense for an income investor, however, it should only be one piece of the puzzle. Just like growth investors need to be diversified, the same thing with income investors. Income investors cannot afford to put all their money in stocks because they're assuming too great of a risk. Income investors need fixed-income investments like high grade corporate and government bonds. Even though the yield is low on these investments, there is a different risk associated with them vs. dividend-paying stocks.

One of the reasons I'm constantly reminding people to keep their

costs under control is so they don't run into the trap where they feel desperate to produce higher returns. When that happens they get involved in low quality and questionable investments. There have been lots of stories recently of seniors who have taken substantial losses in their quest to receive higher yields. Don't fall for the slick sales talk; use common sense. If someone tells you you're going to get 7 or 8 percent without talking to you about the substantial increase in risk, you know you're dealing with the wrong person.

I would love to tell you of an investment that would substantially increase your yield without correspondingly increasing your risk but I can't. The reality is that low rates of return are going to be with us for at least another year and a half to two years. The bottom line in these challenging economic times you cannot afford to abandon common sense. With one-year CD rates below 1 percent and a 10-year U.S. treasury paying approximately 1.6 percent, you cannot get substantially higher returns without increasing your risk.

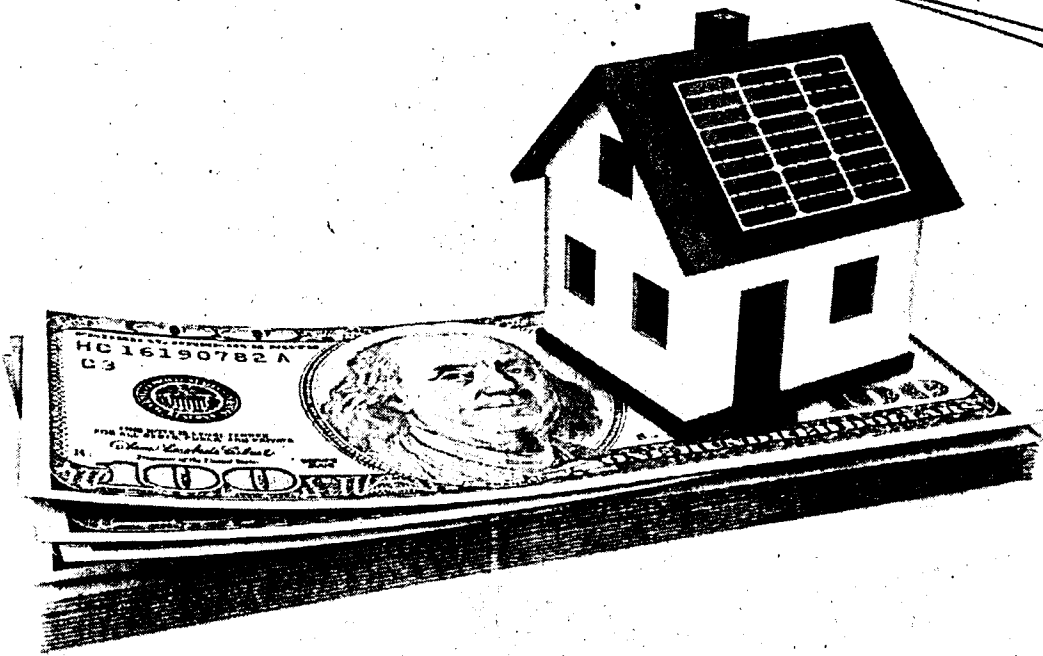
That doesn't mean that you can't have a portion of your portfolio in items such as high-yield bonds or emerging market debt, what it means is that you can't have the majority of your income portfolio in high-risk investments. Good luck!

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

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Art Van gives \$10,000 check to Seedlings

Art Van Furniture presented Seedlings Braille Books for Children with a \$10,000 check from its Art Van Charity Challenge on Friday.

"We are thrilled and feel so fortunate to be one of the 150 Michigan charities supported by Art Van's incredibly generous donations, and we were very proud to have come in

third in this year's online charity challenge," said Seedlings' Director Debra Bonde.

"Since every \$10 we receive makes a new braille book for a blind child, this grant of \$10,000 will soon be converted into 1,000 braille books. We can't wait to get started."

The check presentation

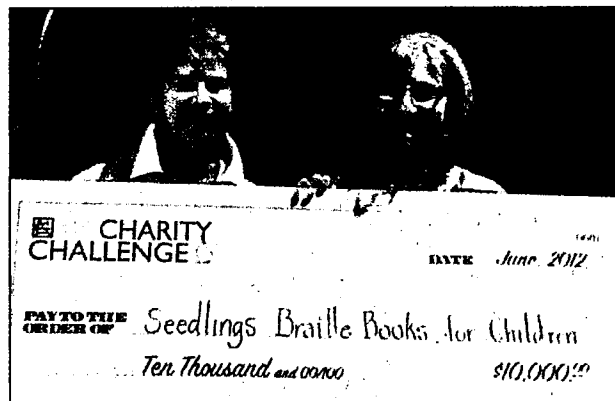
took place during Seedlings' Summer of Giving Program at Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar in Livonia. The food- and wine-tasting fund-raiser was attended by 50 Seedlings supporters and raised another \$2,300 for the charity.

Also featured during the fund-raiser was Seedlings' Adopt A Reader Program,

which brought in \$1,400.

Seedlings is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization based in Livonia dedicated to increasing the opportunity for literacy by providing high quality children's literature in braille.

For more information about Seedlings Braille Books for Children, visit www.seedlings.org.



Diane Karageozian from Art Van Furniture presents a check for \$10,000 to Seedlings' Director Debra Bonde.



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School board approves contract, appoints administrators

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia school board on Monday approved a contract for its day care and pre-school employees, appointed four new assistant principals and a human resources director and adopted a \$143.2 million general fund budget for the 2012-13 school year.

The two-year agreement with the 56 members of the Livonia Community Education Association — effective July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2014 — continues a pay freeze and makes minor language clarifications, such as the option of using available sick days for some snow days. Previously, members were not paid for snow days. They do not receive health care coverage, said Donna McDowell, the district's administrator of communications.

Superintendent Randy Liepa said the contract, ratified by the union June 13, "helps us continue to move forward."

The employees work throughout the district, including in before-care and after-care programs and at the Jackson Early Childhood Center.

Sarah-Jane Tait Aherne, an intervention special-



Leaders from both institutions joined together to celebrate the agreement during a special signing ceremony. Seated are Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, left, president of Schoolcraft, and Daniel Little, chancellor of UM-Dearborn.

ist for Wayne-Westland Community Schools, was appointed assistant principal at Cooper Upper Elementary; Lora L. Boka, an elementary program specialist who's worked for Livonia Public Schools since 1992, was promoted to assistant principal at Riley Upper Elementary; and Robert A. Witherspoon, who's worked as a literacy leader and fifth/sixth-grade teacher at Hull and Johnson Elementary schools for LPS since 2000, was promoted to assistant principal at Johnson Upper Elementary.

In addition, Peter Mazzoni, a teacher at Frost Middle School and a hockey coach at Churchill High School, was appointed assistant principal at Stevenson High School to replace Lou Fox, who retired.

Liepa said it's always bittersweet hiring new school administrators, "We're losing some outstanding people due to either retirement or moving on," he said. "Certainly these days it's not the easiest of jobs, but I have to tell you with the enthusiasm that people brought forward in

these interviews, it bodes very well for our future." The upper elementary appointments take effect Aug. 15, Mazzoni's on Aug. 8.

DeAnn Urso, principal at Kennedy Elementary, will be principal at Johnson, replacing Richard Steele, who is retiring. Danielle Daniels, principal at Randolph Elementary, will move over to Kennedy; Tammy Spangler-Timm, principal at Cooper Upper Elementary, will move over to Randolph.

Dana R. Whinnery, assistant city manager

for the city of Farmington Hills and the city's former director of human resources, was appointed director of human resources, effective July 23.

Whinnery has 26 years experience in humans resources and labor relations with Farmington Hills, where he bargained more than 50 contracts, Liepa said. "The respect that he has in the Farmington community is probably second to none. I just could not find anybody to say a negative thing about him."

Whinnery said he is

looking forward to his new position. "Likewise your reputation precedes you as well so I can't tell you how honored I am to be a part of the team," he told board members.

Whinnery replaces Dorothy Chomicz, who retired in August 2011. The position was temporarily filled part time during the 2011-12 school year by Chomicz and Michael Fenchel, another former administrator, McDowell said.

Students will see no cuts in programs or services under the \$143.2 million general fund spending plan the Livonia school board approved. That was administrators' goal, Liepa said.

The \$138.2 million in anticipated revenue will be augmented with the \$6.6 million in fund equity left over from the 2011-12 budget for a projected \$1.7 million in fund equity at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

The board also set tax rates the same as last year: 18 mills for non-homestead property, 6 mills for commercial personal property, 1.2 mills for all property for the sinking fund and 2.2 mills for all property for debt retirement.

ksmith@hometownlife.com
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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

FREE CAR WASH

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, July 1
Location: Texas Roadhouse at 36750 Ford Road, Westland; Buffalo Wild Wings at 6677 Wayne Road, Westland, and Culver's at 6500 Newburgh

Details: Stop by any of the three locations and get a free car wash, hosted by Eklesia Church. No money will be accepted from customers for any reason as church members try wash as many cars as possible in two hours. Following the car wash, a free barbecue with sports activities will be held in Hines Park at Merriman drive Hines Drive. The barbecue begins at 1 p.m.

Contact: For more information, visit www.Eklesia-Detroit.com.

MOM TO MOM SALE

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 28
Location: Willow Creek Preschool, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is holding a Mom 2 Mom sale and a open house. The preschool is currently enrolling for their Tot to Toddler class, 3-year class and 4-year class for the 2012-2013 school year. Contact: For more information, call (734) 326-0078 or visit the website at www.willowcreekpreschool.com

INDOOR MARKET

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, June 27-28

Location: Eton Senior Center, 4900 Pardee, Dearborn Heights

Details: Eton Senior Center is currently in search of people to take part in their indoor flea market. The cost to rent is \$15 for an eight-foot table. Table position will be based on first come basis. Vendors are welcome. Deadline for table rentals is Thursday, June 7. Proceeds will go towards the Eton Senior Center Building Fund. Contact: Call (313) 277-7765 for more information.

DOO WOP SHOW

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Friday, July 13

Location: Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall, 33550 Ford Road, Westland

Details: The WhatAbouts will present a Doo Wop Dinner Show at Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$27 per person. Dinner includes a tossed salad, rigatoni, roast beef with gravy, Italian sausage saute, green beans almonidine, red skinned mashed potatoes, bread and butter, coffee, tea and pop. A cash bar will be available.

Contact: For tickets, contact Kathy at (734) 216-9451 or at www.angelos1958.com.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29

Location: St. Mel's Church, 7506 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights

Details: St. Mel's Women's Club is looking for crafters for its craft fair. More than 50 eight-foot tables available. They cost \$25 each. A table with electricity is \$30. Helpers provided.

Contact: Call St. Mel's Church at (313) 274-0684 or send an e-mail to stmelcraftfair@yahoo.com for applications.

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13

Location: Perrinville Early Childhood Center, 28201 Lyndon, Livonia

Details: Crafters and vendors are wanted for the Perrinville Early Childhood Center fall craft show.

Contact: Tami at holidaycraftfair@yahoo.com or Brenda at wjob2010@yahoo.com.

Organizations

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.

Contact: Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or by e-mail at pibbotso@aol.com or Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

WESTLAND ROTARY

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

Location: Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland

Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meet-

ings, programs and events.

Contact: Jeff at (734) 261-5010

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

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

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Street at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS – SPOUSES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Street at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - WESTLAND

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

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Street at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

AMERICAN LEGION

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

Location: Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: American Legion Westland Post 251 meets at the VFW hall the first Tuesday of each month. The post welcomes all veterans male and female who have been honorably discharged.

Contact: Bill Acton at (734) 326-2607, Ron Nickels at (734) 455-3415 or visit the website at www.post251.org.

LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month

Location: Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland.

Details: The Westland Lions Club holds lunch and dinner meetings on Mondays.

Contact: For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

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

TOASTMASTERS

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

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

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

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 and have no alternative transportation.

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

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.earthangel-sontour.org or by e-mail to eangel1986@comcast.net

TOPS 869

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

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

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

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

TOPS M128

Time/date: 7 p.m. Mondays
Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland

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

CITIZENS FOR PEACE

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

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

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

Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

IN HARMONY

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays

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

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

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

rehearsal

VETERAN'S HAVEN

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

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

Contact: (734) 728-0527

SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER

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

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

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

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

GARDEN CITY KIWANIS

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

Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City

Details: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

GARDEN CITY ROTARY

Time/date: 12 noon Thursdays

Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City

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

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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

Contact: (734) 459-7744

ANNAPOLIS RETIREES

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

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

Details: All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.



Grand Master

Westland resident Mike Olivero (third from right) has been promoted to the rank of eighth degree black belt and has received the rank of grand master. Olivero received the promotion from Grand Master Saul M. Kim (fourth from left) of the World Traditional Tang Soo Do Federation. Kim was in Michigan to conduct the black belt testing and seminar, an event Olivero has hosted for about 30 years. Olivero has been in martial arts for 59 years and has studied Judo, Isshin Ryu and Hapkido. He has practiced Tang So Do (Korean karate) for 39 years. He also is a senior executive committee member of the federation and is president of the Michigan Academy of Martial Arts which offers classes at the Westland Senior Friendship Center and at Beech Recreation Center in Southfield.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Car wash

The Garden City Elite Cheer teams will be working at the car wash in the parking lot at Barbee and Bean Hair Design on Middlebelt between Warren Road and Ford 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 1 and July 8, as a fundraiser to pay for a trip to national competition and cheer camp fees.

The suggested donations is \$5 per car, and 100 percent of the money will be divided between the participating girls, to help offset the cost of competition.

Summer tutoring

Parents have until Friday, June 29, to sign their children up for a summer math and reading tutoring

program being offered by the Garden City Public Schools.

The tutoring for kindergartners through eighth-graders will be done by certified teachers the weeks of July 8-11, 15-18, 22-25, July 29-Aug. 1, Aug. 5-8, 12-15 and 19-22. Instruction will be in small groups - two-three children in the same grade level - and available between 9 a.m. and noon and 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. The cost will be \$12 for each 45-minute session and a minimum of two days per week per subject is required.

The tutoring will be done at the Lathers Early Childhood Center at 28351 Marquette. For

more information about registering, call Suzanne March at (734) 762-8490.

Flea Market

An outdoor flea market will be held the second and third Saturday of the month now through September in the field across Elmwood Street side of the Garden City Historical Museum on Merriam Road. Reserve a spot by calling Diane, the manager of the Garden City Craftique Mall, at (734) 765-7999.

Fall Kick-Off

Save the date - Saturday, Aug. 25. That's when Garden City High School will host a Community Fall Kick-off, showcasing its activi-

ties, clubs and sports in a spirited fun family atmosphere. Aspiring athletes will have a chance to meet the high school athletic teams and coaches and find out about the Student Council, Key Club, National Honor Society, DECA, PTSA, band and JROTC. The kick-off will be held 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the high school parking lot at 6400 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road.

East reunion

The Garden City East High School reunion of the classes of 1968 through 1973 will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Sept. 22, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, west of Inkster Road, Livonia.

Tickets cost \$60 per person and include appetizers, dinner buffet, open bar, DJ and dancing, pizza and coffee bar at 11 p.m. and memory book. Only 450 tickets will be sold. The deadline to purchase tickets is Aug. 25. People

who reserve tickets will receive a confirmation of payment within 10 days, which will serve as entry to the reunion.

The a link to the reunion information and reservation sheet can be found on the Garden City (East) High School reunion page on Facebook. Checks should be made payable to Class Reunion 68-73 GC East.

Graduates from 1968 and 1971 can send their reservations to Paf Lyon Kubert, 6907 Kings Mill Dr., Canton, MI 48187.

Graduates from 1972 and 1973 can send their checks to Sue Cook Tasselmyer, 11901 Algonquin Dr., Pinckney, MI 48169.

Graduates from 1969 and 1970 can save a spot through Debi Cassidy Haller, 2108 Copley Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Community Chat

Join your host Kerry Partin along with Kelly and her real estate tips

and tricks, Doppler Tom's weather, Derek with sports and much more every Thursday night at 9 p.m. This is an internet talk show recorded live where the residents and surrounding communities are welcome to participate. Share your events, promotions or comments with your fellow residents and the communities.

Listeners can call in live at (734)444-7444 and enter the call ID 82757, or go to the chat room at <http://talkshoe.com/tc/82757>.

Pet-a-Pet

Pet-A-Pet, Inc. is looking for enthusiastic, friendly pets and their owners to visit facilities one hour a month at the Garden City Hospital Rehab. Pets must be up to date with vaccinations, proof required. Visits are at 3:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

Call Mickie Hickey at (734) 522-0036 for more information or to sign up.

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A TAX ABATEMENT FOR ENRINITY SUPPLEMENTS INC. LOCATED AT 6480 COMMERCE DRIVE, CITY OF WESTLAND, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

The Westland City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 16, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall, 2nd Floor, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan to consider the adoption of a resolution approving Tax Abatement for the property located at 6480 Commerce Drive, Westland, Michigan, PID #027-02-0011-000 (the "Property"), pursuant and in accordance with P.A. 198, as amended.

All maps, plats and a copy of the proposed Tax Abatement Plan are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the City of Westland Clerk's Office, Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan.

All aspects of the Tax Abatement Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing. All interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Tax Abatement Plan.

This communication serves as notice of the City's intent to consider approval of the Tax Abatement Plan for the Property.

Publish: June 28 & July 5, 2012

060760321 - 3-3.5

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Wednesday July 11, 2012
Holiday Inn, Southgate, MI
(I-75 & Northline)

Thursday July 12, 2012
Holiday Inn Livonia, MI
(Laurel Park at 6 Mile & I-275)

SESSIONS BEGIN AT 10 AM AND 2 PM EACH DAY

Speaker: John F. Robbins, MBA, CFP



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AROUND WESTLAND

Pension seminar

Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* are co-sponsoring a free educational seminar on the lump-sum buyouts offered to salaried retirees of General Motors and Ford Motor Co. at 9 a.m. Thursday, July 12, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

A continental breakfast will be served. Participants must pre-register.

For more information or to register, call (248) 932-5200 or email seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Wash and dine

Visit Texas Roadhouse at 36750 Ford Road, Buffalo Wild Wings at 6677 Wayne Road or Culver's at 6500 Newburgh between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday, July 1, and get a free car wash, hosted by Ekklesia Church.

No money will be accepted from customers for any reason as church members try wash as many cars as possible in two hours. Following the car wash, a free barbecue with sports activities will be held in Hines Park at Merriman drive Hines Drive. The barbecue begins at 1 p.m.

For more information, visit www.EkklesiaDetroit.com.

Mom to Mom sale

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is holding a Mom 2 Mom sale and an open house 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 28.

Willow Creek Preschool is located at 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland. The preschool is currently enrolling for their Tot to Toddler class, 3-year class and 4-year class for the 2012-2013 school year. For more

information, call (734) 326-0078 or visit the website at www.willowcreek-preschool.com

Book sale

There's bargains to be had at the summer book sale in the Friends Shop at the William P. Faust Public Library.

Stock up on hardcover fiction books only with the shop's buy two get one free. Hardcover books are \$1 each, so get three hardcover fictions for just \$2. Also on the sale are audio books on cassettes for 25 cents each.

The sale doesn't include hardcover biographies, nonfiction and large-print books.

Farmers Market

The Westland Farmer's Market has returned for the 2012 season to the Westland City Hall parking lot at 36601 Ford Road.

The market takes place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. very Tuesday through Oct. 23. The market is the ultimate site for farmers, growers and producers to sell their own products directly to the public.

Doo Wop Show

The WhatAbouts will do a Doo Wop Dinner Show Friday, July 13, at Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall, 33550 Ford, Westland.

Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$27 per person. Dinner includes a tossed salad, rigatoni, roast beef with gravy, Italian sausage sauce, green beans almondine, red skinned mashed potatoes, bread and butter, coffee, tea and pop. A cash bar will be available. Only 100 tickets will be sold. No tickets will be available at the door.

For tickets, contact Kathy at (734) 216-9451 or at www.angelos1958.com.

Trail Friends help turn no-man's land into recreation space

Water bottles and hamburger wrappers are tossed out the car window, the remains of exploded tires, propelled by the currents of 75 mph-plus traffic, make their way to the freeway embankment, and vines, weeds and long grass everywhere encroach on what should be a presentable public space.



Matt Jachman

Vast stretches of roadside no-man's land are one of the by-products of urban sprawl, and caring for such acreage, never a priority, is at the bottom of the list when state and local governments are faced with dwindling resources, growing needs and persistent antitax sentiment.

Anyway, who cares? Hurrying from one destination to the next, focused on the traffic ahead and (sometimes) the latest high-tech gadgets, background becomes a blur and ugliness breeds indifference — and then more ugliness.

The Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail care.

The Friends is a non-profit that maintains and advocates for the bicycling and pedestrian trail that roughly follows I-275 in Oakland and Wayne counties. Formed a few years back when a portion of the trail was widened and resurfaced by the Michigan Department of Transportation, the group includes cyclists and walkers who regularly use the trail,

and is hitting its stride — pun intended — with new plans for twice-a-month volunteer trail-grooming events.

In addition to keeping a large public space clean, the group is promoting the recreational and social use of what would otherwise be a wasteland of overgrown buffer zones and unsightly freeway sound barriers. (I would question why runners, walkers and cyclists should be relegated to the side of a noisy, soulless freeway, but maybe that's another column. And, anyway, the more scenic, and serene, Hines Park is not far off.)

I joined a dozen Friends on a recent evening as they trimmed grass and weeds, cut down vines and pruned low-hanging branches along the pathway between Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail. There were founding Friends members as well as newcomers who had heard about the cleanup and wanted to do their part.

"It beats sitting home doing nothing," said Jan Bates of Westland, who was on the trail for the first time. "And it's better for you."

Things started slowly as the volunteers with loppers, rakes, power trimmers and other tools began their work near Ann Arbor Road. But workers soon found a rhythm, and before long, trimmers were moving steadily northward, leaving others in their wake sweating over rakes and brooms.

Later, filled yard-waste bags were carted and carried to each end of the trail segment



Diane Bancroft of Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail gives instructions to cleanup volunteers before they headed out to work on the segment of the trail north of Ann Arbor Road.

for pickup by Plymouth Township crews; in about two hours, the distance to Ann Arbor Trail had nearly been covered. Cyclists, walkers and runners passed every so often, and two or three offered thanks or encouragement.

"It's a lot of work to keep a trail nice," said Diane Bancroft, the Friends president, a Canton resident who is often on the trail with her bike or her dog, Jake.

The Friends' efforts to cut back vegetation on the trail had previously been limited to periodic MDOT-sponsored highway cleanup days. Shorter but more frequent efforts, Bancroft and the Friends hope, will make the overall task a little easier; earlier in the spring, the group held several litter pickup events, collecting, Bancroft said, 55 bags of trash accumulated during the winter.

The group is responsi-

ble for some 34 miles of trail, she said, and has a core of about two dozen active members, though turnout at a given event is usually considerably less. But organizers were pleased with the volunteer response on this particular evening, and the Friends seemed to be in a position to gain a few new, well, friends.

In an era of so many economic and social challenges, when governments are pinched and many taxpayers pinched even more, it's good to see groups like the Friends investing their labor for the public good.

For information on when the next cleaning day is, visit www.facebook.com/#!/Friends.I275MetroTrail

Redford resident Matt Jachman is a reporter for the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at (313) 222-2405 or at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

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On hand for the award presentation were Amy Gil, Finance, IT coordinator (from left), Penny Rhein, president, Michael Robertson, home health aide and scholarship award recipient, and Angie Muscat, director of social work and service coordinator.

UHHS aide receives scholarship award

A home health aide at United Home Health Services has been awarded the 2012 Michigan Home Health Association/Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook Allied Health Scholarship Award.

Michael Robertson was presented with the \$2,000 award by Jill Roby-Snyder, MHHA President, at the annual Michigan Home Health Association Conference in Traverse City on May 24. The award encourages students to pursue health care disciplines and helps ensure an adequate supply of health care professionals to meet the future needs of the industry.

After receiving his education degree from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Robertson taught in an elementary school for three years but realized this was not what he was called to do. He became interested in rehabilitation and health care after he sustained a knee injury and had to go through a long and painful rehab process himself.

He decided to become a physical therapy assis-

tant. As a stepping stone to this goal, Robertson received his home health aide training from Washtenaw Community College and began his employment with United.

"As a home health aide I found my niche in the world, I have a natural ability to anticipate my clients'/patients' needs," he said. "I have gained the reputation for being able to work with clients who have difficult behavior issues due to their dementia. I have an attention to detail in my work that ensures my clients' safety and health. I also advocate for my clients to ensure their best interest."

He is currently attending Washtenaw Community College in its physical therapy assistant program. In order to continue his education and pursue his dream, Robertson and his wife had to make some financial sacrifices.

Because of his work ethic, determination, academic excellence and financial need, Robertson was nominated by his supervisor, Angie Muscat, for the scholarship. The award money will be used to continue his

physical therapy assistant education.

"I am so proud of Michael for being chosen for this award and pleased that he will receive the funds to help him pursue his dream," said Muscat, service coordinator and director of social work at UHHS. He represents United Home Health Services and the home health aide profession so well. We are honored to have Michael on our staff."

United Home Health Services is a not-for-profit, Medicare-certified home health agency that has been providing skilled nursing, therapy, home health aide, social work and registered dietitian services in the comfort of senior's homes for nearly 30 years. It also provides caregiver/companion services, including personal care, housekeeping, laundry, meal prep, grocery shopping, medication reminders/management, errands, transportation and an Alzheimer's/Dementia program.

For more information, please visit its website at www.uhhs.org or call (734) 981-8820.

Wireless Bluetooth: boom box reinvented

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

Remember when portable music was carrying a boom box over your head at the beach? I don't (I'm not that old). More than two decades later, we finally have a better option for portable music than lugging a stereo full of D batteries.

Wireless Bluetooth speakers are a terrific way to take music wherever you go — without the need for cords, packs of batteries or even a wi-fi signal. With Bluetooth-capable speakers, music lovers can stream music from any device — a desktop computer, tablet or smartphone.

As you can imagine, the electronic stores and big box retailers are full of portable speakers, stereos, iPod docks and more. You can cut through all of the confusing choices by figuring out what functions you want in a stereo or portable speaker.

If you simply want to dock your smartphone or MP3 player in your home, a docking system or even a stereo system and an RCA cable might be for you. But if you're looking for music on the patio, or on the go with your tablet, your best bet may be

to skip the plug and play speakers and go completely wireless.

Wireless units are available in all price ranges from about \$40 to \$60 for Logitech speakers up to \$399 for impressive Bose or Jambox devices.

Best devices

It's no surprise that the best devices on the market are the most expensive. The industry leader is the Jawbone Big Jambox device, which acts as a wireless speaker and speakerphone and can play for up to 15 hours of continuous music. The Jawbone Big Jambox also has a built-in lithium battery that can be recharged and played through a USB cable or wall outlet.

The 2.7-pound Big Jambox can connect via Bluetooth from devices up to 33 feet away. Jawbone also makes a smaller version that retails for \$199. It offers the same features and functionality, but with smaller speakers, less bass and lower top volumes.

For those who don't want to break the bank on one speaker, there are a variety of other options available. iSound offers a line of speakers called the Twist that has a similar 33-foot Bluetooth range, a lithium battery and speakerphone options. It retails for less than \$75. The one drawback of the Twist speaker is that it only plays for five hours, much less than the Jawbone Big Jambox. However, five-hour continuous play is standard with-

in the industry.

Now that you know about a few speakers at a variety of price ranges, you must decide how you will play your music. You can always play songs directly from your mobile device hard drive. So if your iTunes catalog is loaded up on your phone or tablet or even in the cloud, you can listen to any of your music at anytime.

Whenever you have a wireless signal, you can even stream music through apps such as Pandora, Grooveshark and Spotify Premium.

Portable speakers are also compatible with more than just music. A powerful unit like a Bose speaker can be used as a makeshift soundbar to complement a TV — although at that price, you could just buy a soundbar that plugs in.

The speakers can also be used to add some more surround sound for streaming movies through Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu or just YouTube videos.

If you are interested in a portable speaker to replace your iPod dock or even 1980s stereo, you can visit ABC Warehouse, which offers a variety of speakers compatible with all of your electronic devices.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnShOw.



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

Free seminar on pension buyouts

Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* are co-sponsoring a free educational seminar on the lump-sum buyouts

offered to salaried retirees of General Motors and Ford Motor Co. at 9 a.m. Thursday, July 12, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

A continental break-

fast will be served. Participants must pre-register.

For more information or to register, call (248) 932-5200 or email seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Perfect grade

Garden City Hospital was honored with an "A" Hospital Safety ScoreSM by The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit run by employers and other large purchasers of health benefits.

The Hospital Safety ScoreSM was calculated under the guidance of The Leapfrog Group's Blue Ribbon Expert Panel using publicly available data on patient injuries, medical and medication errors, and infections. U.S. hospitals were assigned an A, B, C, D, or F for their safety.

"We are proud of this recognition," said Gary Ley, CEO of Garden City Hospital. "We value the efforts and dedication of our staff and physicians to ensure each of our patients receives the safest, highest quality care."

"It's The Leapfrog Group's goal to give patients the information they need and deserve before even entering a hospital," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "We congratulate the hospitals that earned an 'A' and we look forward to the day when all hospitals in the U.S. will earn the highest scores for putting patient safety first."

To see Garden City Hospital's scores as they compare nationally and locally, visit www.hospitalsafety.com. Scores include a list of 26 weighted measures. These variables included the number of patients who develop severe pres-

sure sores, have surgical objects left inside their bodies or develop lung blockage after surgery. They also take into consideration the frequency with which the hospital employs best practices to prevent pneumonia, infections or other complications.

Eco-friendly addition

To better serve local business customers, Cartridge World - Canton has added printers to its eco-friendly product line of ink and toner printer cartridges.

The new printer product line is a natural addition for the ink and toner retailer, as the company expands its offerings for its business customers. The new printers, made by Hewlett Packard and Canon, are available at for sale and/or through a new printer loaner program.

"Cartridge World - Canton is always looking for ways to expand service to our customers, and printers are a perfect complement to the printer cartridges we already offer," said Dhara Patel of Cartridge World - Canton. "Our goal is to provide a one-stop shop for our customers' printing needs."

In addition to selling printers, many Cartridge World stores offer printer maintenance and recycling services, too. Cartridge World also makes it easy for local businesses and organizations to save up to 30-40 percent on printing

costs by selling 100-percent guaranteed, remanufactured ink and toner cartridges, and offering special promotions throughout the year. With the company's "Switch & Save" promotion, business customers qualify for a free loaner printer when they sign a 12-month service agreement and purchase printer cartridges exclusively from their local Cartridge World store.

For more information about Cartridge World's programs and 100-percent guaranteed, eco-friendly ink and toner printer cartridges, visit www.CartridgeWorld.com, visit Cartridge World - Canton at 5924 N Sheldon Road in Canton, or contact Dhara Patel at (734) 254-0544 or by e-mail at cartridge_refill@yahoo.com.

KNOW
THE
SCORE
CHECK OUT
THE NUMBERS
IN TODAY'S
SPORTS
SECTION

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR TIM HORTON'S LOCATED AT 7126 N. WAYNE ROAD, CITY OF WESTLAND, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

The Westland City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 16, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall, 2nd Floor, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan to consider the adoption of a resolution approving a Brownfield Redevelopment Plan for the property located at 7126 N. Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan, PID #034-99-0012-001 (the "Property"), pursuant to and in accordance with P.A. 381 of 1996, as amended.

A copy of the proposed Brownfield Redevelopment Plan is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the City of Westland Clerk's Office, Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan.

All aspects of the Brownfield Redevelopment Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing. All interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Brownfield Redevelopment Plan.

This communication serves as notice of the City's intent to consider approval of the Brownfield Redevelopment Plan for the Property.

Publish: June 28 & July 5, 2012.

OE06780322 - 3x4

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES. MTG. 12 06/18/12

- Presiding: President Pro-Tem Hammons
Present: Bryant, Johnson, Kadi, Kehr, Reeves
139: Appr.: minutes of regular meeting held 6/4/12.
- Appr. req. for PETCO Pet Adoption event 8/25/12.
- Appr. Salvation Army to "Ring the Bell" 7/14, 21 & 28 Wayne & Warren Rds.
- Appr. deadline to pay 2012 summer taxes to 8/31/12.
- Appr. of Excess workers Comp Agrmt. w/Willis of MI for City's self-insured program; amt. \$66,966.
- Adopted Prep. Res. for NSP acquisition for 32612.14.16.18 Manistee.
140: Set Public Hearing Date of 7/16/12 @ 6:30 p.m. for Tax Abatement for Enrinity Supplements, 6480 Commerce Dr.
141: Set Public Hearing Date of 7/16/12 @ 6:30 p.m. for Brownfield Plan for Tim Hortons, 7126 N. Wayne Rd.
142: Appr. LOU btwn. City & WFA Local 1279.
143: Appr. Spec. Land Use for prop. Adult Day Care Center, 35744 Ford Rd.
144: Appr. Site Plan for prop. residence for Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall, 6301 Venoy Rd.
145: Appr. Rezone from CB-2 to CB-1, PID #070-01-0031-001.
146: Appr. Site Plan for prop. addition & renovations to commercial building, 1615 S. Merriman.
148: Re-appt. H. Lebert to ZBA for 3 yr. term to exp. 6/21/15.
150: Re-appt. J. Underwood to ZBA for 3 yr. term to exp. 6/21/15.
152: Re-appt. A. Marszalek to ZBA to fill unexp. 3 yr. term to exp. 10/2/12
154: Conf. re-appt. W. Wild as Del. to CWCSA, term to exp. 6/30/13.
156: Conf. re-appt. K. Buford as Alt. Del. to CWCSA, term to exp. 6/30/13.
157: Appr. checklist: \$374,482.39 & Prepaid: \$744,255.99.
Mtg. adj. at 8:26 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

Adam Hammons
Council President-Pro Tem

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk, CMC

Publish: June 28, 2012

OE06780306 - 3x5

OUR VIEWS

Self-evident truth

Remember sacrifices as we celebrate a proud nation

As with many holidays born out of patriotic impulses, the true meaning of Independence Day can be easily lost amid the parades and the barbecues, among the sparklers and the games.

And it's easy to forget, because the brave sacrifices of our military men and women today come in faraway lands like Afghanistan and Iraq, that the very first sacrifices on the road to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness came right here on home soil.

Some 25,000 Americans perished, and another 25,000 were injured as the colonies fought — and died — for the right to determine their own destiny as a country, one of the truths leaders of the Second Continental Congress decided were self-evident.

Though it holds no legal authority, The Declaration of Independence, as Jefferson wrote in a letter years after penning it, the document was "intended to be an expression of the American mind, and to give to that expression the proper tone and spirit called for by the occasion."

Thus, Thomas Jefferson and the rest of the Founding Fathers laid the foundation for what has stood — for 236 years and counting — as the bedrock principle of our nation. Fifty-six men, representing colonies from north and south, signed it, each of them risking death as revolutionaries.

The leaders of the revolution — Hancock and Franklin, Washington and Jefferson — are household names. But let's not forget the 50,000 dead and wounded, whose names we've never known and never will. It was their deeds, and their sacrifices, that became synonymous with freedom.

As you line the streets for local parades, celebrate with fireworks, and grill burgers and hot dogs for the holiday picnic, remember them and honor their accomplishment.

The truth of their sacrifice, and the magnitude of its meaning, should be self-evident.

Play it safe with fireworks

A new state law removes the ban on most fireworks that shoot into the air so pyrotechnic-lovers no longer need to smuggle Roman candles, bottle rockets, sky lanterns or anything else from neighboring states. We urge consumers to use caution.

The wider variety of fireworks for sale in Michigan is expected to translate into \$8-\$10 million annually for the state, according to state Rep. Harold Haugh, D-Roseville, one of the bill's sponsors.

Under the state law, fireworks cannot be sold to anyone younger than 18. The law also prohibits using fireworks while under the influences of alcohol or drugs.

Consumer-grade fireworks may not be used on public, school or private property of another person unless permission is obtained to use fireworks at that location.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's most recent data, three Americans died and 8,600 were taken to the hospital with injuries as a result of fireworks in 2010. Children younger than 15 accounted for 40 percent of those injuries.

The Michigan Department of Community Health said there were three fireworks-related fatalities in the state in 2006-10, one in 2006 and two in 2007. Read and practice these tips courtesy of the state fire marshal.

- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities, including sparklers
- Light fireworks one at a time
- Keep a bucket of water or hose on hand
- Never stand over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse
- Never re-light "dud" fireworks that have not fully functioned
- Never point or throw fireworks at other people
- Only use fireworks on designated days
- Make it a safe July 4th holiday.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are your plans for the Fourth of July?

We asked this question at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.



"I'm going Up North, my grandpa has a place up there and Lake Huron is right by it."

Terra Vianueva
Westland



"Probably going Up North. I like going up there."

Rebecca Vianueva
Westland



"I'll be camping in the Smokey Mountains. I'm pretty excited. I've never been there."

Jenna Williams
Westland



"I'll be working at St. Mary's Hospital."

Katie Yax
Westland

LETTERS

A wonderful church

Thank you for your article on my church. Being a member of Ss. Simon and Jude Catholic Church is an experience that is hard to describe. The very first thing you notice is how happy people are to be there. The smiles and greetings are warm and genuine. Father Gerry encourages parishioners to share special occasions before Mass, and visitors are truly welcomed.

The church appeals to people of all ages, and there are ways for everyone to get involved in the parish and the community. Although my husband and I became members only a year ago, the warmth and friendship we experienced make us feel as if we have belonged for a very long time. Ss. Simon and Jude Church is so special in so many ways that it breaks my heart to even think of it being closed by the archdiocese because of the building debt.

I would encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about this amazing church to check out the website at www.stssimonandjude.com or visit us for weekend Mass.

Sandra Valovick
Westland

No on DIA millage

Regarding the DIA millage on the August ballot, I propose a hearty no vote. The issue I have with it is this: an authority appointed by Bob Ficano and the idiots on the Wayne County Commission. If you look at the sweetheart deals Ficano's other appointees have received, how can you expect anything different now? Bear in mind, if Turkia Mullin wins her case, she will receive a \$100,000 a year pension for LESS than eight years work, thanks to Ficano and the idiots. I don't want them to touch that money.

I suggest that all the voters in the tri-county area vote no, then in November the millage can be offered again, but stripping out any involvement by the Wayne County Executive (Ficano) and the idiots on the commission. The DIA can leave in the language for creating authorities in Oakland and Macomb counties. L. Brooks Patterson has always been very responsible with his county's money.

As for Wayne County, let them collect the taxes, subtract 1 percent for their effort, then transfer the rest directly to the DIA. That I would support.

Remember, spread the word. And the word is "no."

Mark Czajka
Garden City

Cut spending, jobs

A recent employment report for May has prompted predictable reactions from Republicans and Gov. Romney, who called the report "devastating."

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. The Observer will not publish any political letters that raise new issues in the last edition before the election. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

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

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

First off, the legitimacy of any "shock and dismay" expressed must be questioned in light of the fact that, according to Republican Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and many other prominent Republicans, making Obama a one-term president has been their primary objective, not improving the economy or creating jobs. Behind the scenes, celebratory "high fives" are no doubt being exchanged.

The fact the employment picture seems to be trending downward is highly predictable. With any momentum from the stimulus bill all but gone, Republican obstruction preventing passage of Obama's American Jobs Act last year (two million jobs and 2 percent in GDP), House Republican intransigence preventing passage of a meaningful Transportation Bill (two million jobs) coupled with continued Republican-imposed state and local austerity idling over 600,000 teachers, cops, firefighters and municipal workers, why would there be any meaningful increase in employment numbers?

Speaker Boehner stated these numbers are obviously the result of "failed policies." What policies, Mr. Boehner? The ones that you haven't passed? Republican refusal to agree to spend on stimulative programs while promoting savage social spending cuts and the maintenance of huge tax cuts for the wealthy are indicative of what looms under Republican governance with Romney as president, specifically no job growth or worse yet losses.

Unwittingly, Republicans are proving the case against an austerity that they have already surreptitiously imposed on the federal level through obstruction and hostage taking and overtly on the state level by laying off large numbers of public employees.

Although weakening the economy may help to make the case to oust Obama,

shamefully it has done nothing to grow jobs and has revealed the consequences of even a weak dose of failed policy themes like shredding the social safety net, increasing tax cuts and reducing the government workforce, themes that will undoubtedly be ramped up with a Republican victory accelerating even greater job loss.

Romney's plan for job creation: Huge tax cuts, especially for the wealthy that have proven over the last 10 years to have little if any impact on job creation, repeal of regulations, a "red herring" and largely a wash since although regs can cut jobs, reg compliance is itself an industry that very often creates jobs and of course, more drastic cuts in the number of government employees, inferring somehow that eliminating the demand for goods and services that workers with these jobs exert would somehow cause private sector jobs to bloom.

Which one if any of these ideas serves to increase stunted consumer demand, the largest contributor to joblessness today according to most economists? None! And this guy claims to know how the economy works?

Mitch Smith
Canton

Other options

You might think that the presidential election for 2012 looks pretty bleak considering our two looming options — Obama and Romney — neither of which gives me much hope for the future.

So, let's look at some facts:

- The Democratic Party has been doing business as usual since 1828.

- The Republican Party has been doing business as usual since 1854.

How long are we going to continue to kick this can down the road?

I think it is about time to give somebody else a chance at the helm:

- The Libertarian Party was founded in 1971.

- Green Party of the United States was founded in 1991.

- The Constitution Party was founded in 1992.

There are also 36 minor parties and a multitude of regional parties that you may want to look at. I am not advocating for any particular party, I am just saying if you do not like who is running in the 2012 presidential election under the banner of Democrat or Republican, you have options.

To further understand your options please visit: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_political_parties_in_the_United_States so that you can at least make an informed decision in November.

Kenneth E. Reynolds
Farmington Hills



Submit a photo and brief description to tell Scoop how you and your family have fun on the 4th of July!

Mail to:

Scoop the Newshound
41304 Concept Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions:

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on July 27th. Winners to be announced in the August Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Boy or Girl _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

*Parent's Printed Name: _____

*Parent's Signature _____

Fill out the form and have your parent's fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

* Required for Birthday Club

Mail to:

Scoop the Newshound
41304 Concept Dr.
Plymouth, MI 48170

hometownlife.com
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sydney Spiridon	Garden City	July 1
Matthew lamoley	Beverly Hills	July 2
Isabelle Schwarz	Farmington Hills	July 13
Dalen Cobb	Westland	July 29

Share your talent!

Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about?

Share your talent with us. We may share your extraordinary talent in an upcoming Scoop's Hound Dog Highlight.



Visit Us on Facebook

facebook.com/ScoopTheNewshound

Coordinator/Contributing Writer:
Choya Jordan, Marketing Manager
Design/Layout:
Randall Masters, Graphic Artist

Interested in becoming a sponsor of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights or have general questions?
Email cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Follow Scoop on Facebook

hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
A GANNETT COMPANY

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

4th of July

Family Fun!



You could win Movie Passes admitting up to 4 people to Emagine Theatre and a Free Buddy's Cheese Pizzal

July 4th FUN!

Youth Name: _____

Youth Age: _____

Youth Community: _____

Parent's information to contact winning entry:
(Phone, email, home address)

Selected winners will have their name, age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

Scoop's Craft Corner

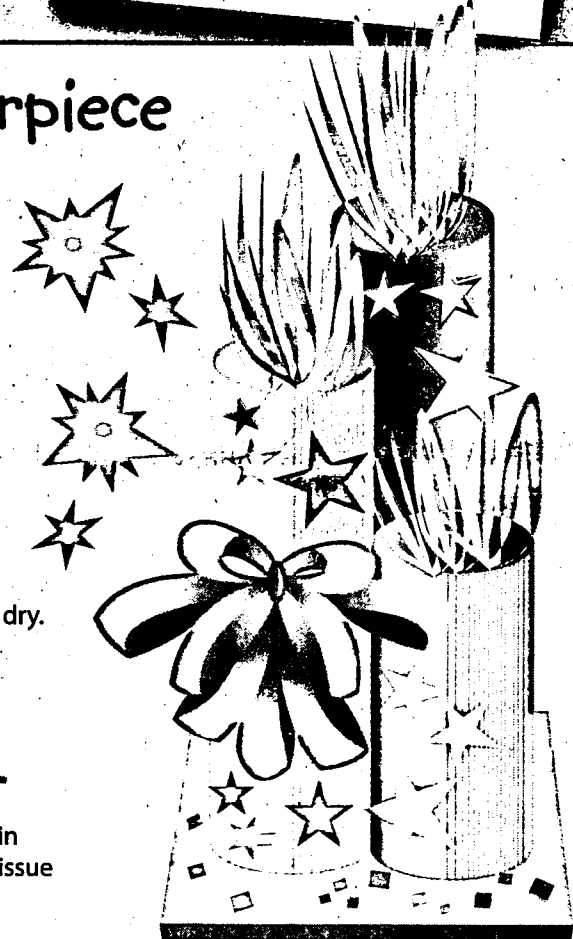
4th of July Holiday Centerpiece

Materials

3 - cardboard tissue rolls
Craft glue
Scissors
Paint - red - white - blue
Ribbon - red, white or blue or (combination)
Yellow and Orange gift tissue wrapping
Cardboard base - example - top of shoe box
Decorative trimmings - stars, glitter, confetti (optional)

Instructions

1. Cut the 3 tissue tubes into 3 different heights.
2. Paint one tube red, one white, and one blue.
3. Paint your cardboard base the color of your choice. Allow paint to dry. When tubes and base are dry, glue bottom of each tube to the cardboard base. Allow the glue to dry.
4. Add ribbon and decorative trimming (i.e. stars, glitter, confetti). Use your creativity.
5. For the look of flames, tuck in yellow and orange tissue wrapping in each tube. Take the scissors and snip into stripes. Fluff and style tissue paper to create flame fullness.



Earn Extra Money

Are you looking to do something fun this summer and get paid doing it. Here are a couple of ideas to make some cash during your summer break.

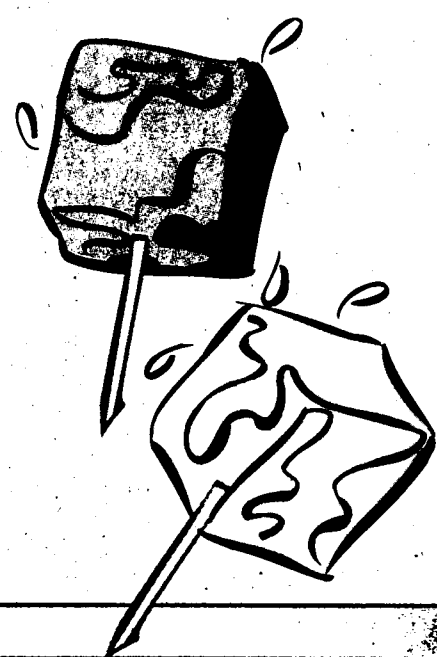
- 1. Have a Car Wash
- 2. Grow and Sell Sunflowers
- 3. Make and Sell Soap and Candles
- 4. Collect Pop Bottles from Friend and Family
- 5. Count and Roll Coins for a Portion of the Profit
- 6. Have a Bake Sale and Lemonade Stand
- 7. Sell your Unwanted Toys and Games
- 8. Become a Dog Walker
- 9. Do Extra Chorus for Your Parents



Freezer Pleasers!

Here is a fun and easy treat to kick off the summer. What you need is an ice cube tray, toothpicks, plastic wrap and your favorite beverage.

Just fill the ice cube tray with your selected beverage. Carefully wrap the plastic wrap around the filled ice cube tray. Now insert the toothpicks into the center of each ice cube compartment. Put this in the freezer for about 1 hour. ENJOY.



The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers

in partnership with the

Plymouth Downtown Merchants, The Wilcox Foundation

and
Traverse Pie Company
presents

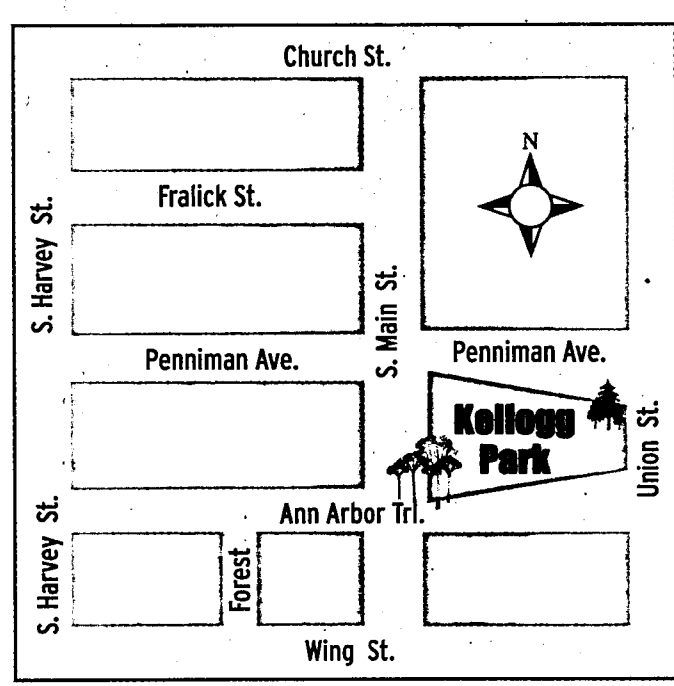
AN AMERICAN SALUTE

featuring
The Michigan Philharmonic,
conducted by Nan Washburn
7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 30
Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

This fun, family-friendly concert showcases popular American composers and will conclude with the traditional classic, Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

**Concert is FREE in Kellogg Park,
downtown Plymouth!**

Bring a blanket or lawn chair to beautiful downtown Plymouth and enjoy this not-to-be-missed concert in celebration of our nation's birthday.



SECTION B • (*)
THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2012
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

BRAD EMONS, EDITOR
bemons@hometownnlife.com
(313) 222-6851

Canton's Schmitt books London flight



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO
Canton swimmer Allison Schmitt is heading to her second Summer Olympic Games after winning the 400-meter freestyle at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials Tuesday night in Omaha.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Canton High grad Allison Schmitt punched her ticket to her second straight Summer Olympic Games by winning the 400-meter freestyle Tuesday night in the U.S. Olympic Swimming Team Trials held at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha, Neb.

The 22-year-old, who trains at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club under coach Bob Bowman, flirted with world record pace through the 200-meter mark and just missed Katie Hoff's American record of 4:02.20 with a clocking of 4:02.84.

Chloe Sutton of the Mission Viejo (Calif.) Nadas finished second and also earned a trip next month to London with a time of 4:04.18.

Kathleen Ledecky, a 15-year-old representing the Curl Burke Swim Club (Md.), just missed out of an Olympic Team berth in third with a clocking of 4:05.0.

Schmitt, who led wire-to-wire, recorded the third-fastest time in the 400 freestyle this year. Earlier in the day she recorded the top time in the prelim heats among 113 Trials qualifiers with a 4:05.60.

"I heard the crowd going at it about the 100 and 200, and I fell off (pace) a lit-

tle bit, but I'm still happy with that race," Schmitt told the *USA Swimming* website. "I've had a great year of training, and I'm just excited to see where I am right now."

The 2008 Canton High grad, a four-time NCAA champion, took a year off from swimming from the University of Georgia to train in Baltimore under Bowman, who is also Michael Phelps' coach.

"I definitely heard the crowd going, and just got excited, and hoping for that wall to come faster than it did," Schmitt told NBC Sports' Andrea Kremer after the race.

She captured a bronze medal in the 2008 Beijing

Olympic Games in the women's 4 x 200 freestyle relay and took ninth in her strongest event, the 200 freestyle.

In a meet earlier this month in Austin, Texas, Schmitt recorded the world's second fastest time (1:55.04) in the 200 freestyle where she is seeded first going into Wednesday's prelims followed by the finals scheduled for Thursday night.

Schmitt, a 2011 FINA World Championship gold medalist in the 800 freestyle relay and 2009 silver medalist in the 200 freestyle and 800 freestyle relay, is also a contender

Please see SCHMITT, B3

Grid All-Stars play at Alma

North Farmington tailback Kevin Miller and Garden City quarterback Tyler Steele will be representing the East squad in the 32nd annual Michigan High School Football Coaches Association All-Star Game beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday at Alma College's Bahlike Field.

The 6-foot-2, 205-pound Miller and the 6-2, 200-pound Steele are among 44 players on the East team, which will be coached by Macomb Dakota's Mike Giannone.

The game will be aired live on FoxSports Detroit with Matt Shepard doing the play-by-play and Rob Rubick the color commentary.

All Star game tickets are \$5 pre-sale, per ticket, and \$10 per ticket at the gate on game day. Tickets are also available through www.mhsfca.com.

Barrett wins Meijer crown

Canton's Robert Barrett placed first in the men's 25-29 shot put with a toss of 46 feet, 5 inches in Saturday's the Meijer State Games held East Kentwood High School.

Barrett was coming off a lifetime best throw of 47-7 the previous week in the 16-pound shot in an Dynamo Last Chance held June 16 in Mount Pleasant.

"I am very happy with the last two weeks of competition especially since I sprained my ankle two days ago and couldn't put all my weight on the my right ankle yesterday," said Barrett, a coach at Sports Performance.

Former Livonia Churchill and Kent State University Nia Henderson won the women's open shot put with a throw of 16.88 meters and was third in the women's invitational shot put with a toss of 15.64.

Former Churchill and Central Michigan University standout Craig Kietly took the men's 45 open javelin with a throw of 47.33 meters.

Hole-in-one

Redford's Jeremy Byrnes, 34, used an 8-iron, to ace the 161-yard No. 9 hole, June 21, at Glenhurst Golf Course on June 21.

Byrnes, who posted his second ace in 20 years, carded a 9-hole round of 41.

Ultimate Trial

Heptathlete Wade eyes U.S. track spot

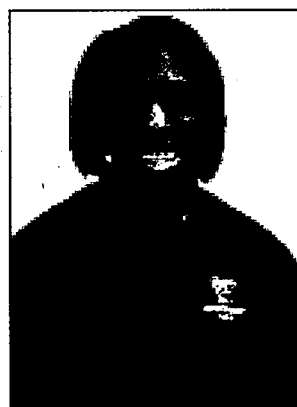
By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Just hours away from the most important competition of her track-and-field career, Bettie Wade is confident she's ready and prepared for it.

The former Farmington High School and University of Michigan athlete will participate in the U.S. Olympic Trials in the women's heptathlon Friday and Saturday in Eugene, Ore.

"I try not to think of it as the biggest meet of my life," the 25-year-old Wade said. "I try to think of it as just another track meet. But this one is definitely going to be very special, and I'm very excited for it."

This will be Wade's second attempt to make the Olympic team. She



Bettie Wade

competed in the 2008 Trials and finished ninth with a score of 5,723 points.

To make the team and the trip to London for the July 27 through Aug. 12 Games, Wade needs to hit the Olympic heptathlon standard of 6,150 and finish in the top three.

She has yet to hit that

mark, but she's very close. Wade scored a personal best of 6,143 at the end of March to win the Jim Click Combined Events heptathlon in Arizona.

"I was seven points off that day," Wade said. "From where I was and the shape I was in three months ago, I'm light years ahead of that."

"If I stay focused, stay relaxed and have fun, I know my training will put me over the Olympic standard. My next goal is to get in the top three."

Wade, who hasn't competed since May 5, said her training has been going amazingly well in recent weeks.

"I've worked really hard on the track," she said. "I'm further along

Please see WADE, B4



Former Big Ten champion Bettie Wade's goal is to make the U.S. Olympic team in the heptathlon.

Livonia's Barber goes to Capitals

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Riley Barber grew up a Pittsburgh Penguins fan and is not afraid to admit that Sidney Crosby is his favorite player — even after living in the Livonia the past five years.

The 18-year-old Barber, however, will have to quickly switch allegiances after going in the sixth-round (167th overall) to the Washington Capitals on Saturday during the second day of the National Hockey League Draft.

Ironically, the NHL Draft was held in Pittsburgh where Barber grew up before moving to Livonia as a seventh-grader.

"It was awesome, pretty surreal seeing your name up there with an NHL team next to it," said Barber, who spent the past season with the Ann Arbor-based U.S. Under-18 National Development Team. "I've had a lot of family watching it at my house and it was really cool."



Barber

Barber entered the NHL Draft ranked No. 86 among North American skaters.

"Actually I thought I was going to go higher," said Barber, a 6-foot, 194-pound right winger. "I was projected pretty high, like third round or so. Things didn't work out as high as I wanted to, but I landed in a good spot. It really doesn't matter where you go, it's what you do next."

That next move is to play for Miami of Ohio where he becomes the 56th RedHawk in program history to be drafted in the NHL and the second by Washington. Miami will now have five NHL draft picks on its 2012-13 roster.

"I just visited Miami and just fell in love with it," said Barber, who also entertained offers from Michigan and Michigan State. "As soon as I visited Miami, it was dead-on and that's where I wanted to go."

Barber, who spent his initial youth in suburban Pittsburgh, grew up in a hockey family.

His father, Don, a native of Victoria, British Columbia, played four seasons

Please see BARBER, B4



TOM SORENSEN | PHOTO

Livonia's Riley Barber, a member of the USA Hockey Under-18 National team this past season, was selected in the sixth round Saturday by the NHL's Washington Capitals.

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All-area team boasts elite talent

FIRST TEAM

Alexis Smith, GK, Franklin: The senior, a four-year starter, led the Patriots to their first-ever district title while allowing just three goals and saving four consecutive shots in a shootout win over Garden City in the final.

The all-district and all-Kensington Lakes Activities Association selection is headed in the fall to play for Schoolcraft College.

"Alexis is a complete player," coach Dean Kowalski said. "She was able to challenge her teammates throughout the season to help prepare them for the play-off run. Alexis always competes at a high level and always gives her team a chance to win."

Catherine Garber, D, Ladywood: The junior center back earned Division 2 third-team all-state honors and first-team all-Catholic League for a team that finished 21-3-2 and allowed just 17 goals all season.

"Catherine is the heart and soul of our back line," coach Ken Shingledecker said. "She is a three-year starter and is a major reason we were able to cut our goals-against back this year. So many times this year there would be that moment when you thought the other team was going to have a dangerous chance and Catherine would step up huge with a big tackle. I'm excited to see her grow into a leadership role heading into her senior year."

Robyn Mack, D, Canton: The senior demonstrated that basketball isn't the only sport she is superb in, providing leadership and skill in the back while helping the Chiefs on offense when necessary.

Despite playing with a wrist injury much of the season, she had a big impact on Canton's march to the Division 1 state semifinals.

Her penalty kick goal in the district final against Northville evened the contest. She scored Canton's lone marker in the 2-1 semifinal loss to Troy.

"Robyn is one of the best defenders in the state and can stop almost anyone," Reddy said. "She is a defender but is also a great offensive player with speed and a great shot."

"She is a dominant force up top in the air and can make her way to the goal."

Mack, a third-year starter and co-captain, tallied eight goals and five assists. For her efforts, she was named to first-team all-state as well as the all-conference, district and region squads.

She will attend Grand Valley State University, but probably only play women's soccer.

Paige Brennan, MF, Ladywood: The senior captain earned first-team all-state and all-Catholic League honors for the third straight year.

The Dream Team selection finished this season with three goals and 27 assists for the Catholic League and district championships.

"Paige had a tremendous season for us," Shingledecker said. "She located herself a little deeper in our midfield and concentrated more on defending and getting everyone involved. It translated into us scoring 27 more goals than last year and giving up six less."

"Paige is completing the most accomplished career that anyone has ever had at Ladywood. She led us to a state final last year, and to the school's first-ever Catholic League championship this year. It will be hard to think about Ladywood soccer without Paige running our midfield, but she has left the program in a great spot moving forward."

Sami Roumayah, MF, N. Farmington: The senior midfielder was a four-year standout for the Raiders and will play NCAA Division I soccer at Eastern Illinois University. Roumayah, who made the coaches all-state third team, scored seven goals and had 10 assists for the Raiders, who were 10-7-2 and public-school city champs for the fourth year in a row.

"Sami is the most complete offensive player I've had the pleasure of coaching at NFHS," coach Tim Russell said. "For four years, she was the key cog in our offense, and she only got better as the years passed."

"In the last couple years, she added some key components to her game. She became a much better defender, helping to clog the field for our opponents. Her passing and field vision went off the charts. Not only could she see her teammates' runs to open space, but she enhanced her ability to get the ball to those spaces with finely textured passes."

"And, finally, she became a much more physical player. Whereas, people were able to push her around a little bit more her sophomore year, this season, she did most of the pushing. On top of all of that, she was a terrific team leader."

Mackenzie Williams, MF, Mercy: The senior midfielder made the all-area team for the second year in a row after scoring six goals and assisting on nine others. Williams was a four-year starter and was instrumental in the Marlins having their best season in recent memory. She also plays for the Michigan Rush club team. "Mackenzie has been special since day one," Babler said. "From the time she got here, it took a half hour to find out she was bypassing other freshmen and jayvees in tryouts. She said, 'You're not watching me very much.' I said: 'You're right; we're not paying attention, because we know where we're putting you. We're putting you on varsity.'"

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SOCCER FIRST TEAM

Alexis Smith, GK, Liv. Franklin, Sr. Catherine Garber, Def., Ladywood, Jr. Robyn Mack, Def., Canton, Sr. Paige Brennan, MF, Ladywood, Sr. Sami Roumayah, MF, N. Farmington, Sr. Mackenzie Williams, MF, Mercy, Sr. Melissa Kucukarslan, MF, Farm., Sr. Katelynn Krause, MF, Salem, Sr. Megan Trapp, MF, Canton, Sr. Dayna Stevens, MF, Liv. Stevenson, Sr. Rachel Blackney, MF, Liv. Churchill, Sr. Stephanie Dillon, MF, Plymouth, Jr. Madi Lewis, F, Plymouth, Jr. Allyson Krause, F, Canton, Sr. Kelly Capoccia, F, Ladywood, Sr. Mackenzie Higgins, F, Mercy, Jr. Justice Dean, F, Garden City, Sr. Shannon Melvin, F, Garden City, Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Danielle Schendel, GK, Canton, Sr. Kylie Robb, GK, Plymouth, Soph. Kasey Bunio, GK, Garden City, Jr. Taylor Lambouris, Def., N. Farm., Fr. Rachel Winters, Def., Canton, Soph. Amy Lindberg, MF, Farm. Harrison, Jr. Kelsey Parrinello, MF, Churchill, Soph. Taylor Babcock, MF, Mercy, Fr. Emily Lundh, MF, Salem, Sr. Zoe Foster, MF, Plymouth, Jr. Akanksha Vaishnav, MF, N. Farm., Sr. Angela Mancini, F, Redford Union, Sr. Maria Garcia, F, Thurston, Soph. Nicole Zuckerman, Def., Stevenson, So. Sydney Climie, F, Westland Glenn, Jr. Ashley Murphy, F, Liv. Clarenceville, Jr. Dominique Sarnecky, F, Ladywood, Jr. Irena Dedivani, F, Farmington, Soph. Sam Wiemer, F, Luth. Westland, Sr. Abby LeMerise, F, Ply. Christian, Fr.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jeannine Reddy, Canton

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Rachel Tomassi, Alexis Tzafarglou, Erin Emmanuel; **Franklin:** Emily McCullen, Michelle Tuyo, Natalie Desautel, Jessica Maurer; **Stevenson:** Olivia Kitz, Alexi Kliza, Emily Chrzasz, Abby Urso; **John Glenn:** Olivia Cabillo, Raven Buck, Cecilia Said; **Wayne Memorial:** Amber Parrish, Crystal Fletcher, Emma Karson; **Clarenceville:** Lindsey Fosth, Summer Reddick; **Ladywood:** DeYana Walker, Sara Even, Emily Huddleston, Liz Danger, Marissa Ozog, Shelby Walsh; **Lutheran Westland:** Angela Morrison, Jessica Drife, Michelle Greening; **Canton:** Gabby Epelman, Natalie Schmidt, Alexandra Bryden, Gabby Malec, Kaly Berinti; **Plymouth:** Alyssa Dillon, Alyssa Burris, Emily Burkman, Megan Peplinski, Maria Farmer, Stephanie Sheridan; **Salem:** Olivia Kaye, Nancy Krutty, Kylie Knight, Emma Tardiff, Katie Binsfeld, Claire Huddas; **Plymouth Christian:** Emily Gerulis, Jenna Abraham, Rachel Zandee, Lauren Paulson, Martha Mullett; **Mercy:** Kirsten Padalis, Katie Coerd, Elaina Weber, Sue Panetta, Allie Gorcyca, Monica Mackie; **Farmington:** Lauren McCann, Arielle Lochrie; **Harrison:** Catherine Barkach, Alexandra Schwartz; **North Farmington:** Jessie Trimmer, Amanda Lumley, Claire Reno; **Garden City:** Rachel Hahn, Bailey Terrell, Lindsay Yankasky, Maria Carver; **Redford Union:** Nikki Busuito, Jordan Chapoton, Lindsey Gehlhausen, Ashley Sandellin; **Redford Thurston:** Rachel Pebbles, Joey Lynne Litwa, Michelle Ramos, Krystle Rehn, Gabrielle Van Well.

"You could tell she was outclassing everybody. Her footwork has always been phenomenal. She's a natural midfielder. The thing she had to work on was learning it's okay to shoot. If you're 30 yards out and got the corner, let it go. If she plays somewhere in college, they'll do well getting her."

"I thought she was one of the better midfielders in the Catholic League. She was a good leader for us and, with the other captains, expanded the off-season program at Mercy."

Melissa Kucukarslan, MF, Farmington: The senior midfielder is another four-year, varsity standout who served as the primary catalyst for the Farmington offense. Kucukarslan scored 13 goals and had 11 assists in leading the Falcons to a 10-5-4 season and runner-up finish in the OAA Blue Division. She is a member of the Michigan Rush club team and will be a preferred walk-on at Michigan next season.

"Melissa is one of those very special players who combines good soccer skills and good people skills," coach Matt Gasp- arotto said. "She knows how to talk to teammates; she knows how to talk to coaches. She's just a very special player and is very deserving of this honor. She is one of the best players in our league. I enjoyed coaching her for four years, and I hope she can go on and continue to play at Michigan."

Katelynn Krause, MF, Salem: The senior co-captain was everything coach Joe Nora could have expected for his team and then some.

And Krause collected a lot of hardware to go with the praise.

She was named this year's Salem High School Female Athlete of the Year, made the all-conference and all-district teams and earned an all-state honorable mention selection.

In addition, with her 4.0 grade point average, she won an all-state academic award from the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association.

"Katelynn is a player without fear," Nora said. "She runs forever, wins about every ball in the air, and has been a great team leader."

"A player like Katelynn doesn't come along very often. She plays with every ounce of her heart and uses her positive team-first attitude to inspire everyone around her."

The four-year starter will be playing women's soccer at Grand Valley State University.



Alexis Smith Franklin



Catherine Garber Ladywood



Robyn Mack Canton



Paige Brennan Ladywood



Sami Roumayah N. Farmington



Mackenzie Williams Mercy



Melissa Kucukarslan Farmington



Katelynn Krause Salem



Megan Trapp Canton



Dayna Stevens Ladywood



Rachel Blackney Churchill



Stephanie Dillon Plymouth



Madi Lewis Plymouth



Allyson Krause Canton



Kelly Capoccia Ladywood



Justice Dean Garden City



Shannon Melvin Garden City



Jeannine Reddy Canton coach

Megan Trapp, MF, Canton: One of the KLAA's top, physical players, the senior's fourth year on the varsity was outstanding.

Trapp, a co-captain, scored 11 goals, added 11 assists and always wreaked havoc in the box at the end of corner kicks.

Those leaping headers resulted in key goals in the district final against Northville and regional semifinal against Dearborn.

"Megan is a very strong, dominating player who is can beat anyone in the air," Reddy said. "She helped the team by playing in the center midfield and offense this year."

"She has a great shot and can take anyone on if her heart desires. She is a smart teammate who has a desire to win."

Slated to play women's soccer at Eastern Michigan University, Trapp was rewarded for her season with selection as a third-team all-state along with being picked to the conference, district and regional teams.

Dayna Stevens, MF, Stevenson: The four-year varsity performer earned all-KLAA, all-district and honorable mention all-state honors in 2012 after scoring 10 goals and added three assists.

Headed for Saginaw Valley State, Stevens also earned all-conference honors as a juniors and was named team MVP this season.

"Dayna was a two-year captain and a great leader on the soccer field," coach Chris Grodzicki said. "Her drive and confidence on game day made her a tough mark for opposing defenses. From the wide midfield position, Dayna was a threat with either foot every time she was within 35 yards of the goal. When she got the ball in the box, there was no better player with possession playing back-to-goal."

Rachel Blackney, MF, Churchill: The senior was a three-year varsity performer who served as captain her senior year.

She finished her career with 10 goals and 14 assists and will play next season at Schoolcraft College.

"Rachel is the fittest girl that I have ever coached," coach Dave Hebestreit said. "She spent a lot of time in the off season each year preparing herself for high school. She was the physical, spiritual, and emotional leader of this year's team, someone the players looked to for guidance and support, both on the field and off. I could always trust her to support team goals before individual goals and even when she was playing out of position and I spoke to her about it she stopped me and said, 'Hebes,' I will do it for my team.' She is caring, selfless, and a tenacious competitor."

Stephanie Dillon, MF, Plymouth: As a sophomore, Dillon garnered all-state honorable mention status and she followed that up with a very impressive junior season for the Wildcats.

Dillon scored 11 goals and chipped in with nine assists while excelling in the midfield — whether supporting the back line or sparking the offense.

"Stephanie was our most consistent player this year," Neschich said. "She took charge and control of the midfield."

"Her ability to create and attack as well as balance the field and defend was outstanding."

Her strong and confident play on the pitch earned her selection to the all-state third team. Other accolades included being named to the all-KLAA, all-district and all-regional squads.

Madi Lewis, F, Plymouth: All it takes is one step for Lewis to be off and running into the opposing team's offensive zone.

More often than not, the junior made something happen, scoring 24 goals and adding 25 assists for a Plymouth High record.

Her offense was instrumental in the Wildcats winning the KLAA South Division, going 14-3-3 overall and 9-0-1 in the South.

To cap it all off, she won the Gatorade Player of the Year Award for Michigan girls soccer and was a first-team all-stater. She also earned selection to the all-KLAA, all-district and all-regional squads.

"Madi is a one-of-a-kind player," coach Jeff Neschich said. "Her pace of play really separates her from other players."

"Her decision making in the attacking one-third is at another level. Her work rate in the games as well as at the practice field marks her as one of the most determined players around."

Allyson Krause, F, Canton: The three-year varsity player was a catalyst for the Chiefs, scoring 25 goals and contributing 10 assists to a team that went 17-3-3.

Canton's first regional championship in a decade had a lot to do with Krause's tough-to-defend style of play.

Krause found a way to save her best for top opponents. For example, she scored a highlight-reel goal against Saline in the regional final — the only goal in Canton's 1-0 victory.

"Ally has tremendous speed, skills and can run her way through a team," coach Jeannine Reddy said. "She mentally understands the game better than anyone I have ever coached."

"She helped our team get to the final four this season with her great skills and love for the game."

The co-captain earned selection to the all-KLAA, district and region teams and was a first-team, all-state pick.

Kelly Capoccia, F, Ladywood: The first-team all-state and all-Catholic League pick ended her senior year with 24 goals and 11 assists.

Capoccia, a four-year varsity player and school's all-time leading scorer, also served as team captain.

"Kelly got herself into great shape before the season and that helped propel her into one of the top players in Division 2," Shingledecker said. "Kelly scored two of the biggest goals of the season in the second half of the Catholic League semifinals against Notre Dame Prep to lead us to a 2-1 win. Without those clutch goals, we would have never even had a chance to win the Catholic League championship. She will always be known for her leadership and high work rate. Those two traits have helped set the tone of what we want Ladywood Soccer to be known for."

Mackenzie Higgins, F, Mercy: The junior forward scored 12 goals and had four assists for the Marlins, who were 14-5-4 and won a Division 1 district championship. A three-year starter and all-state honorable mention, Higgins uses her exceptional speed to press the attack and pressure opposing defenses. She also plays for the Michigan Hawks club team.

"Mackenzie is one of the best true forwards we've had at Mercy since I've been here," coach Butch Babler said. "It didn't matter who we played — Ladywood or Marian — other teams had to account for her. In the district meeting, all I had to say was 'No. 14' — 'Oh, yeah!'"

"Mackenzie has a great scoring mentality. She's learning as she gets older when to give the ball up. She knows when to really explode and put on the speed and when to back off a little. She's going to be a real good asset for us next year. More and more, she's learning what it takes to lead a team."

Justice Dean, F, Garden City: After missing her entire junior season with a knee injury, Dean returned with a vengeance this season, registering 28 goals and 16 assists while leading the Cougars to an outstanding 17-2 campaign. A stellar two-sport athlete, Dean has earned a scholarship to play basketball at Madonna University. She earned honorable mention all-state accolades in addition to first-team all-WWAC, all-district and all-region honors.

"Justice's skill set is impressive in so many different ways," said Garden City coach Jason Dean. "She scores goals in different ways and sometimes goes under the radar. She is great with her ball facing away from the goal and possessing while having a defender on her back. She has the ability to face a defender up and penetrate by them. She wins the ball out of the air on all of our set pieces. She is composed when finishing the ball and has a tremendous ability of ignoring the pressure."

Glen Gators top Breakers in swim dual

SCHMITT

Continued from page B1

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

On a laid-back summer evening, there was drama and excitement in the Farmington Glen Aquatic Club pool when the Gators met rival Beechview in a rare dual competition Monday.

The up-and-coming Gators pulled out a 291-284 victory over the three-time defending Farmington city champions in a Northwest Suburban Swim League meet.

The teams were tied at 164 during the individual events, but Glen had pulled ahead at the end, 255-248, with only the six relays remaining.

"That's where we came out, because they won three and we won three," Beechview coach Driska McCullough said of the seven-point difference. "I thought we could get the fourth relay, but we didn't and I knew we were done then."

"(The Gators) had some really good swimmers. I'm glad for them on their 50th (anniversary of the club)." The teams split the 40-and-under mixed relays with eight points awarded to the winning relay and four for the runner-up.

The Gators boosted their lead to 283-268 and clinched the team victory by winning the 52-and-under girls and boys medley relays. The Breakers won both 66-and-under freestyle races to make the final tally closer.

"Going into the relays, I was pretty confident on two of our younger relays, and we just had to make sure we



ARLEEN DUARTE

Members of the Farmington Glen team were in a celebratory mood after their win over rival Beechview. Pictured (from left) are assistant coach Molly Tyler, Bella Feenstra, Abbey Rush, Brody Jamieson, Jenna Hazeltine and Charlie Jones.

won one other along the line," Glen coach Drew Hansz said.

"It was nice; it's exciting for the kids. A large percentage of our team is the younger children. We're predominantly a 12-and-under team."

It was the first time in four years the teams had met in a dual meet. Scheduling is based on team finishes at the previous year's NSSL meet, and the Breakers have consistently placed higher than the Gators, who are beginning to catch up.

"It was fun swimming a team we haven't swum in a while," Hansz said. "I used to coach there before I came over here, and I know Driska very well. She's a great coach and has been in the community forever. I'm just excited that we had a great night like this."

"These dual meets are to see what kids can do. I was never that worried about winning or losing it. As it turns out, it's nice that we won; it makes everyone happier."

McCullough said the Gators performed as expected. Their strong

showing was not a surprise to her.

"No, they've been doing really well," she said. "Drew has been working them really hard; they have a lot of new swimmers. It's been good for them."

McCullough, who coaches the Farmington High School girls and is an assistant coach for the Harrison-Farmington unified boys team, has coached many of the swimmers on both sides. That added to the rivalry and the level of competition.

"(Beechview's main rival) used to be Kendallwood, but now it's the Glen," McCullough said. "The kids had fun today. Whoever won it was going to be a great meet."

"Hopefully, we'll get the Glen at the city meet (Saturday at Kendallwood). If they take it, they take it, but we're going to give it our best."

Hansz, who also coaches the year-round Great Lakes Aquatics Akitas, has helped to build up the Glen program from 80 swimmers a couple years ago to 180.

YOUTH SWIMMING WINNERS

FARM. GLEN GATORS 291
BEECHVIEW BREAKERS 284
June 25 at Glen Aquatic
GIRLS WINNERS

Ashley Turak (B), 11-12 50 back, 42.02; Julia Borri (B), 13-14 100 IM, 1:21.32; Marina Borri (B), 15-18 50 breast, 37.51; Madeline Greaves (G), 8-U 25 back, 22.36; Emma Inch (G), 9-10 50 fly, 39.91; Analiese Schneemann (G), 11-12 50 free, 35.14; Emily Brunett (B), 13-14 50 fly, 31.34; Olivia Rath (B), 15-18 50 back, 33.51; Ella D'Errico (B), 8-U 25 free, 21.64; Julia Zink (B), 9-10 50 breast, 48.63; McKenna Greaves (G), 11-12 100 IM, 1:24.59; Julia Borri (B), 13-14 50 breast, 40.98; Miranda Doecker (B), 15-18 100 free, 1:05.76; Ella D'Errico (B), 8-U 25 fly, 29.31; Danielle Mykanen (B), 9-10 50 back, 44.15; Ashley Turak (B), 11-12 50 fly, 43.16; Madison Ruffin (B), 13-14 50 back, 35.38; Marina Borri (B), 15-18 100 IM, 1:15.89; Madeline Greaves (G), 8-U 25 breast, 22.29; Lia Munson (G), 9-10 50 free, 36.70; McKenna Greaves (G), 11-12 50 breast, 43.18; Emily Brunett (B), 13-14 50 free, 29.61; Miranda Shelly (B), 15-18 50 fly, 31.97.

BOYS WINNERS

Seth Fleming (G), 11-12 50 back, 35.99; Charlie Zink (B), 13-14 100 IM, 1:14.50; David Olson (B), 15-18 breast, 36.49; Jared Visser (G), 8-U 25 back, 23.47; Andrew Ludden (B), 9-10 50 fly, 51.14; Charlie Jones (G), 11-12 50 free, 34.08; David Ratze (B), 13-14 50 fly, 36.01; Grant Borregard (B), 15-18 50 back, 29.78; Jared Visser (G), 8-U 25 free, 19.87; Matt Lane (G), 9-10 50 breast, 50.45; Seth Fleming (G), 11-12 100 IM, 1:21.04; Charlie Zink (B), 13-14 50 breast, 38.43; Eric Gensheimer (G), 15-18 100 free, 56.79; Danny Groechel (G), 8-U 25 fly, 26.49; Trevor Jones (G), 9-10 50 back, 44.43; Tanner Neill (G), 11-12 50 fly, 39.71; Trevor Franklin (G), 13-14 50 back, 35.64; Grant Borregard (B), 15-18 100 IM, 1:04.34; Bo Hahn (G), 8-U 25 breast, 28.57; Trevor Jones (G), 9-10 50 free, 37.94; Tanner Neill (G), 11-12 50 breast, 45.76; Trevor Franklin (G), 13-14 50 free, 29.04; Eric Gensheimer (G), 15-18 50 fly, 27.27.

RELAY WINNERS

40-and-under mixed 200 freestyle, Glenn (Lia Munson, Bella Feenstra, Charlie Jones, Madeline Greaves), 2:26.02; 40-and-under mixed 200 medley, Beechview (Meghan Roshak, Kellie Flynn, Alyson Podwoiski, Michelle Ledermann), 2:34.72; 52-and-under girls 200 medley, Glenn (Sydney Balk, Bev Kowalski, Analiese Schneemann, Jacqueline Welayda), 2:22.82; 52-and-under boys 200 medley, Glen (Seth Fleming, Riley Balk, Nur Duarte, Tanner Neill), 2:22.82; 66-and-under girls 200 freestyle, Beechview (Marina Borri, Mikayla Doecker, Miranda Shelly, Olivia Rath), 2:03.26; 66-and-under boys 200 freestyle, Beechview (Peter Romero, David Olson, Grant Borregard, Tyler Roshak), 1:44.51.

"A lot of these (Glen) kids have come over and taken that jump from just summer recreational swimming, and it's a whole different animal," Hansz said.

"It's never easy but the kids who come every day — vast improvement! It becomes fun because they begin to see the results, how much faster and stronger they are moving through the water."

While the dual-meet win provided a feel-good moment for the Gators, they have to maintain a long-term outlook, according to Hansz.

"It's one step and we're getting better as we go," he said. "If you put too much emphasis on wins and losses, kids start to look at the wrong side of why this sport is so special."

"It's a journey. You can't just say, 'I won first place in the NSSL meet and I'm done; I can't get any better than this.' Kids do start thinking like that if you place too much emphasis on wins and losses, what color the ribbons are."

"If you keep kids enjoying themselves, having fun doing hard work, it will just naturally build, and this team has grown."

in the 100 freestyle, which will be held Friday (prelims) and Saturday (finals) in Omaha.

Tucker shines

Miranda Tucker, 15, of the Plymouth-Canton Crusiers made a strong showing in Thursday's preliminary heat in the 100 breaststroke with a 31st place finish in 1:10.45, bettering her 106th seedling time of 1:11.75.

Tucker, from Plymouth Township, is home schooled and will be entering her 10th-grade year.

Coached by Josh and Alexandra Morgan, Tucker will appear in the U.S. Olympic Team Trials again on Friday where she is seeded 93rd in the 200 breaststroke with an entry time of 2:35.0.

Arakelian update

Livonia Stevenson High incoming junior Nick Arakelian, 16, finished 59th overall Monday in the 400 individual medley in the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Omaha.

Arakelian, a member of Kingfish Aquatic Club in Waterford, was clocked in 4:29.23, well off his 51st seedling time of 4:26.25.

He will swim again Friday in the 200 IM where he is seeded 103rd (2:06.12).

Meanwhile, sister Caroline Arakelian, 17, a recent Stevenson grad, swims Wednesday in the 200 IM where she is seeded 85th (2:18.68).

The Queens (N.C.) University signee, also a member of Kingfish and coached by Brad Brockway, has also qualified for Saturday's prelims of the 200 backstroke where she is ranked 55th overall (2:15.73).

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ALL-AREA

Continued from page B2

Shannon Melvin, F. Garden City: Melvin teamed up with Dean to give the Cougars a potent one-two punch, scoring 20 goals to go along with seven assists. Her talent caught the eye of the Marygrove College coaching staff, who offered her a scholarship to play at the next level beginning in the fall. Melvin earned honorable mention all-state honors in addition to first team all-WWAC, all district and all region accolades. "Shannon has so much opportunity when she has a ball at her feet," said Dean. "She can run past players, she has an arsenal of moves, and knows when to lay the ball back to another player when she cannot attack. Her natural left

foot gives her the opportunity to deceptively create chances when it looks like no chances could be made out of the play. Her knowledge of the game makes her even more effective in the clutch situations."

COACH OF THE YEAR Jeannine Reddy, Canton: The regular season did not garner a KLAA South Division crown, but the Chiefs made up for that with a long, successful postseason run to cap off the year for Reddy.

Canton finished with a 17-3-3 record, capturing the D1 district with a 3-2 upset win over No. 1-ranked Northville thanks to a free-kick goal by sophomore Gabby Epelman.

The Chiefs went on to win their first regional title in a decade before falling 2-1 to Troy in a hard-fought semifinal. Reddy, in her second

year with Canton's varsity after a stint coaching the JV, helped calm the waters whenever the players were nervous to start contests.

Her steady demeanor on the sidelines helped steer the team toward success more often than not.

"We had some great wins and the most memorable and exciting was beating Northville and Plymouth in districts," Reddy said. "I knew we had a great team but I don't know if they realized how much potential they had and how good they were."

"We proved to everyone that we were one of the best in the state this season. Making the state semis is a huge accomplishment and the team should be very proud of themselves. I look forward to the 2013 season and what it has ahead for us."

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WADE

Continued from page B1

than where I thought I would be at this time. My coach (Cliff Rovelto) and I are very excited to see everything come together and to see what I do this weekend."

Wade was not so optimistic about her prospects a year ago. She had some so-so results by her standards in 2011, and she even considered giving up on her Olympic dream.

"A lot of the times and scores I put up were significantly less than anything I've done," Wade said. "After the season ended, I didn't know if I wanted to do this 2012 season."

"My family was so incredibly supportive. They helped me realize everything is a process and some times you're going to be down. You have to keep pushing and believe in yourself. God has a bigger plan for me, so I had to push through it and see what can happen."

"I don't think I would've worked as hard as I have if last season hadn't happened. Hopefully, everything is going to fall into place this week."

Serious training

Wade rededicated herself to the sport and her goal, and the results have raised her stock among the experts in track and field. One website lists her as one of the favorites to make the U.S. team.

"I do not look at rankings," Wade said. "I don't look at what people are saying at all. I'm confident in my training and

confident in myself. At the end of Saturday night, I hope to be in the top three and make the team."

Wade has been training at Kansas State University in Rovelto's post-NCAA program. She had been a full-time assistant with the KSU women's team, but she decided she couldn't do that and train for the Olympics, too.

"My main focus needed to be on full-time training," Wade said. "Last year was very, very busy, trying to balance a 40-hour job while trying to train at an elite level. Some people can do it; I learned I cannot."

"I've been able to focus on my training this year, not just go through the motions. I'm doing all the right things with my body and mind to have great performances and, hopefully, great competitions."

Getting better

Wade still owns the Farmington High record in the high jump, and the long jump is one of her best events, too. She has made advances on the track and with the shot put.

"My speed has increased significantly this year, and that has helped with the (100-meter) hurdles," Wade said. "I think the hurdles will be one of my strong events this week."

"My speed is probably the biggest (improvement). The shot put is coming around. In the last month, I've had the best shot put practices of my life, so I'm eager to see what's going to happen."

Wade credits a don't-hold-back attitude for her recent gains.

"The reason I think I'm improving so much is I don't try to be cautious any more," she said. "When I get out of the blocks, I'm either going to go down or run the race of my life. But it's not going to be anything in between. I haven't gone down yet, so I keep on doing it."

Wade's personal records in the seven events that comprise the heptathlon are 13.41 seconds in the hurdles, 24.42, 200 dash; 46 feet, shot put; 6-0.75, high jump; 20-11, long jump; 40-44 meters, javelin; 2:16.87, 800 run.

"The 800 is the event I have to break through a mental barrier the most," she said. "I'm not used to continuing to run when I hurt, so my coach says to just gut it out."

Ultimate goal

In other meets this year, Wade won the high jump at the Nebraska Invitational and the 60-meter hurdles at the Iowa State Cyclone Classic and the Manhattan KSU Open. She also was third in the USA Indoor Combined Championships.

The crowning achievement for Wade, who holds a degree in financial mathematics from U-M, would be an Olympic berth on the U.S. team.

"Ever since I resumed training last October, I made sure every day leading up to the Trials I accomplished something and gave it my all," Wade said. "I've done that and I feel prepared, and I'm excited to see what's going to happen."

"I'm just hoping to have the meet of my life that will put me in the top three."

Wilson leads Whaler NHL draft trio

Plymouth Whalers right wing Tom Wilson was selected by the Washington Capitals in the first round (16th overall) of the 2012 National Hockey League Entry Draft held Friday in Pittsburgh.

On Saturday, the Colorado Avalanche selected Whalers center Mitchell Heard in the second round (41st overall), while right wing Cody Payne went to the Boston Bruins in the fifth round (145th overall).

Wilson, 18, was ranked 15th overall among North American skaters by NHL Central Scouting.

He collected 27 points (nine goals, 18 assists) and 141 penalty minutes in 49 games with Plymouth of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) and added 13 points (seven goals, six assists) in 13 OHL playoff games.

The Toronto native was voted as the "Best Body Checker" in the OHL's 2012 Western Conference Coaches Poll and was a runner-up for the "Hardest Worker" category.

The 6-foot-4, 203-pound forward won a gold medal with Team Canada at the 2011 Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament, posting three goals in five games. He also captured gold with Team Ontario at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge, recording one assist and six penalty minutes in four games.

Heard was Colorado's first pick of the 2012 draft and taken 41st overall in the second round. The 20-year-old averaged a point-per-game during the 2011-12 OHL season, collecting 57 (29 goals, 28 assists) with 111 penalty minutes in 57 games for the Whalers.

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound center finished third on the team in goals, was sixth in points and ranked second in PIM.

Heard, who was a teammate of 2011 Avalanche draft pick Garrett Meurs, also finished second on Plymouth in power-play

goals with 10.

The Bowmanville, Ontario native added 11 points (four goals, seven assists) in 13 playoff games.

Payne, a 6-2, 201-pound forward from Weston, Fla., recorded two goals in 10 games with the Oshawa Generals of the OHL in 2011-12 before being traded to the Whalers.

With Plymouth, he tallied three goals and 11 assists in 50 games, and skated in nine OHL playoff games, recording an assist.

The 18-year-old played a full season with the Oshawa Generals in 2010-11, where he tallied 13 points and a career-high of plus-7. He scored one goal in the 2011 OHL Playoffs against the Kingston Frontenacs.

In the 2009-10 season, Payne played for the Mississauga Reps in the Greater Toronto Hockey League, where he netted 39 goals and tallied 26 assists.

Winter Festival awaits prep icers at Comerica

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Yes, the Red Wings and Maple Leafs will be playing at the Big House next New Year's Day.

But for the Canton and Plymouth varsity boys hockey teams, nothing will be bigger than participating in one of four outdoor prep contests in mid-December at Comerica Park in Detroit.

Coaches for both teams were thrilled about getting in on the highly anticipated Winter Festival — which will also feature a game including the Plymouth Whalers of the OHL.

Final details are still to be firmed up, but the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and KLAASouth Division puck rivals will square off against each other either Dec. 18 or 19.

"It will be an amazing experience for all the players and coaches involved, and the fact that it is a rivalry game only adds to the excitement," Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento noted. "Both schools are

thrilled to have the opportunity, and we are working together to make it an event that will be remembered for years to come."

Concurring was Chiefs head coach Jeremy Majszak.

Had to try

"As soon as we heard about this event we knew Canton had to get involved and what a better opponent than our rink-sharing neighbor Plymouth," Majszak said. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Majszak said more than 100 teams applied to make the cut for the four games.

That two relatively fledgling programs (13 years or less) will get to take the Comerica ice is something both coaches vow they won't take lightly.

They said it's going to be a big deal for the teams — undoubtedly making it more attractive for players to tryout for the teams this fall — and hope the community feels the same way.

"We're very excited about this and are work-

ing very hard to make this a community event," Majszak said. "We are hoping this really helps out high school hockey in the area (by) putting it on a such a grand stage."

"We're now in our 13th season and these programs have come a long way — being ranked top 10 in the state, winning division and conference titles."

Vento said each school will receive 500 tickets as part of the entry fee. "We are asking if we can get more, if not, they will be for sale at Comerica on the day of the game."

He urged community members, students from both high schools and alumni to "be a part of what should be a memorable event."

Added Majszak, "What's more fun than tailgating outside of Comerica grilling and preparing for a great high school hockey rivalry?"

Final details of the Canton-Plymouth event will be announced to the public as soon as available.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

BARBER

Continued from page B1

at Bowling Green and was also selected in the sixth round (120th overall) of the 1983 Draft by the Edmonton Oilers.

Don Barber played a total of 115 NHL games and parts of six seasons with four different teams including the Minnesota North Stars, Winnipeg Jets, Quebec Nordiques and San Jose Sharks (scoring 25 goals and adding 32 assists).

Riley got his start locally playing for Little Caesars while living with Tomei family in Livonia as a seventh-grader.

The next three seasons he played in the Compuware youth program where he showed great promise.

"I basically moved up here for better hockey," said Riley, who attended both Holmes Middle School and Stevenson High. "My whole family, my mom, my dad and two brothers, moved up here ninth grade and now we call it home."

During his junior year of high school, Riley was the No. 1 overall pick in the 2010 USHL Future's Draft and played for the Dubuque (Iowa) Fighting Saints in 2010-11, helping lead them to the Clark Cup title for winning the

USHL Playoffs, as he scored a pair of goals in 11 games.

In his lone season with Dubuque, Barber played in 57 regular-season games, totaling 28 points on 14 goals and assists each. He also represented Team USA in international play as well.

Barber then earned a roster spot with the prestigious U-18 National Development team in Ann Arbor, which also spawned Livonia native and NHL All-Star Ryan Kelser (now with the Vancouver Canucks).

Barber recorded 35 points (20 goals, 15 assists) in 56 games while earning a gold medal this past April in the U-18 World Junior Championships in the Czech Republic after compiling one goal and two assists in six games (capped by a 7-0 victory over Sweden in the finals).

"I've been fortunate to be on the last two years on two winning teams," said Barber, who recently graduated from Ann Arbor Pioneer High School. "I've been real lucky the past two years, but this year was fun. I got to play with kids my own age instead of some who were older guys. We were all the same age. It was pretty cool, especially winning the World Championship. They put a lot of pressure on us to

win it. We've won it four years in a row and it was a pretty big milestone. We played an unbelievable tournament. We gave up less than one goal a game the whole tournament. We were pretty good defensively. It was a blast."

Known for his speed, Barber's skills can translate on about any level.

"Last year, my role (in Dubuque) was to get ice time because I was the youngest kid on the team, and one of the youngest in the league being a rookie," he said. "Last year, it was more just trying to do whatever to get on the ice. This year I took over more of a scoring role, more power play and a scoring role, you could say."

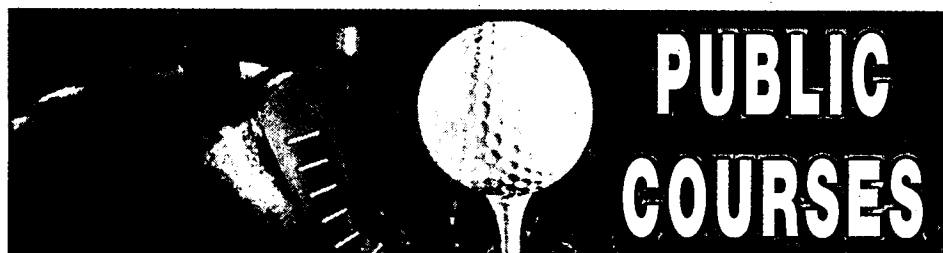
With two Miami of Ohio recruits opting to go to the Ontario Hockey League and forfeiting their college eligibility, Barber should get plenty of opportunities to thrive with the RedHawks, one of the nation's top NCAA programs.

And eventually he may get the chance to line up against his favorite player in Crosby.

"What you do after the Draft is really what matters now," he said. "I'm not really worried about where I went. The next step is huge."

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Youngsters involved in Summer Jam, the Vacation Bible School at Livonia Church of Christ, show off the Compassion International booth.

Summer Bible school students help others

Chickens or mosquito nets?
Seeds, soccer balls or drought supplies?

Youngsters involved in Livonia Church of Christ's annual Vacation Bible School got a chance to decide last week where their church will donate funds for mission projects.

"In years past, we have had a program where kids could earn tickets

and redeem at our 'store' for fun prizes during VBS," Dave Blanchard, youth minister, wrote in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "This year, we wanted to do something that would benefit others."

Children who attended the "Summer Jam" Vacation Bible School last week placed their tickets into their choice of five cans, each representing a specific fundraising ini-

tiative from Compassion International.

The church plans to donate to those initiatives based on the amount of tickets each canister received. Mosquito nets, for example, each cost \$10. Chickens cost \$16 and soccer balls are \$16.

"Each of these things is donated, by way of Compassion, to kids in impoverished countries. Part of our Summer Jam pro-

gram includes education about children in impoverished areas, as a means of helping our kids develop a better understanding of their place in, and responsibility to the world around us," Blanchard wrote.

"The kids seem to love this program."

He said youngsters didn't miss the "goodie" store and were excited to help others.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Photos must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

June

DANCE

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, June 30

Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east of Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: Presented by Bethany singles group; admission \$13

Contact: Loretta from Bethany East at (586) 264-0282

DEDICATION

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, July 1

Location: St. Genevieve-St. Maurice parish, 29015 Jamison, east of Middlebelt, south of Five Mile, in Livonia

Details: Archdiocese of Detroit Bishop Francis Reiss will dedicate the new parish of St. Genevieve-St. Maurice at the first Mass of the combined parishes

Contact: (734) 427-5220

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Thursday, June 28

Location: Our Lady of Victory Parish, 133 Orchard Drive, Northville

Details: The "Grieving with Great Hope" workshop offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include the Rev. Denis B. Theroux, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call

the parish office.

Contact: The church at (248) 349-2621, www.olvnorthville.org

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 28-30

Location: In the thrift store at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Details: All items, except those marked firm, priced over \$1 are 50 percent off the price marked; bake sale

Contact: (313) 534-7730

SUMMER RETREAT

Time/Date: 8:30-11 a.m. June 27, July 11 and Aug. 1

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia

Details: The retreat is aimed at moms and will begin with Mass at each session, followed by a continental breakfast and a program. The theme for the series this year is "Whole and Holy: The total Catholic Woman." Participants may sign up for 1, 2 or all 3 classes to fit busy schedules. A children's ministry is available at \$2 per child per meeting. The first session will highlight the mind and will use the teachings of Pope John Paul II to illustrate the connection between faith and reason. The second session will focus on body and will include a spa morning. The last session will discuss spirit, looking to St. Teresa of Avila and St. Francis de Sales for ways to integrate women's daily lives with a heart for holiness. The series is open to all and registration is required

Contact: (734) 261-1455 Ext. 207 or www.livoniastmichael.org

July

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. July 19
Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church & School, 3003 Hannan, Wayne
Details: Spoke Folk Christian music concert; free will donation
Contact: (734) 728-3315

FREE LUNCH

Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m., July 14

Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21200 Southfield Road, (northbound Southfield service drive), north of Eight Mile, in Southfield

Details: This is a free luncheon and all are welcome
Contact: (248) 569-2972

MOVIE NIGHT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 18

Location: Bixman Hall at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: "The Way" will be screen. A brief discussion will follow the film. Admission is free and refreshments will be served

Coming up: See "Monsignor Quixote" at Summer Movie Night, 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 25 at the church

Contact: RSVP at (734) 425-5950

THEOLOGY DISCUSSION

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 11

Location: First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, at 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills

Details: "Wine, Cheese and Theology" brings folks together for conversation over light refreshments. It is led by First Presbyterian's Transitional Associate pastor, the Rev. Jim Faile. Discussion topic is forgiveness

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CRAIG, JERRY N.

Of Waterford, MI, June 21, 2012, age 49. Simple Funerals 248-227-1954
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DEKROUB, JOSEPH CASSEM

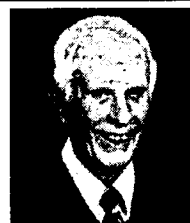
Passed away June 17th surrounded by his large, loving family. Born June 25th 1918 in Highland Park, Michigan, Joe graduated from Plymouth high school in 1936 and received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Texas Chiropractic College in 1938. He served in the United States Air Force during WWII, as a pilot trainer. After the war he worked for Ford Motor Company until 1976 when he retired and resumed his chiropractic practice. A generous and devoted family man, Joe was also a terrific dancer, an enthusiastic golfer and an avid hunter and fisherman. Preceded in death by his parents Cassem Solomon DeKroub and Agnes Mandry DeKroub, sister Dorothy Sala, and first wife, Francis Dunn, he is survived by his wife Sheila DeKroub, daughters Paula Marie (Smith), Michele Ann (Monson), Linda June (Darwish), Lori Ann (Karides), and son Joseph Cassem DeKroub, Jr., as well as nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. Donations to Henry Ford Hospice would be gratefully accepted. Services will be private.

MARTIN, Bernard T.
Of Macomb, MI, June 19, 2012, age 81. Arrangements by Simple Funerals 586-777-0555
SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com



DiDOMENICO, PATRICIA "PATSY"

Age 81, June 24, 2012. Loving wife of Chick DiDomenico. Beloved mother of Mary Medley, Joseph (Lisa) DiDomenico, Geraldann "Keke" (Phil) Lester and Robert "Sundance" (Jennifer) DiDomenico. Dear grandmother of Lauren, Joey, Joshua, Alyssa, Jon, Zachary, Solair and Morla. Sister of Dayton Kennedy. Services were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home and burial was at Parkview Memorial. Memorials may be made to the American Kidney Foundation or to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.



WEBSTER, GERALD W.

Passed away Friday June 22nd in Novi, Michigan at the age of 92. Beloved husband of the late Ethel for 61 years. Dear father of Linda (Tim) Smith & Brian (Cathy) Webster. Loving grandfather of Ryan, Christopher, Michael, Kyle, Blake, Hailey, Rachel & Sarah and greatgrandfather of Willa. Longtime Redford Resident, President of Redford Union High School class of 1938 and a WWII Army Veteran. Visitation Sunday, July 1st 1:00 pm until Funeral Service at 4:00 pm. Interment Monday, July 2nd at Oakland Hills Cemetery.

WESTBERG, Charles R.

Of Rochester, MI, 2012; Age 80. Arrangements by Simple Funerals, 248-227-1954
SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com



WILLIAMS, SHIRLEY M.

Age 82, June 26, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Carl. Dear mother of Michael (Gail) and Deborah (Thomas) Dubois. Grandmother of Robert (Andrea), Aimee (Thomas) Lawrence, Lauren and Anne Dubois. Great grandmother of Colin & Guy. Visitation Thursday 2-8pm. Funeral service Friday 11:30am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Family suggests memorials to Civitan of Plymouth, Farmington Community Library or Odyssey Hospice. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

In memory of



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Nan Washburn directs the Michigan Philharmonic.

Michigan Philharmonic salutes America

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The Michigan Philharmonic will return to Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth this Saturday — and this time musicians hope to finish what they start.

The symphony's Kellogg Park debut was cut short last year because of lightning and the thunderstorm that followed.

"We got through only four songs before police came through," said Beth Stewart, Philharmonic executive director, in an interview earlier this month. "The park was packed. It was shoulder to shoulder. We're hoping for that kind of crowd again."

Tony Bruscato, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) operations director, hopes Mother Nature cooperates for the concert. "An American Salute" will include patriotic music and will start at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 30.

"This is something Beth and I talked about last year and said wouldn't that be a great concert to have," Bruscato said. "It's not

unlike the experience people have when they go to Greenfield Village. You can hear one of the best orchestras around and listen to great music for the holiday."

Bruscato said visitors may bring blankets, chairs and picnic coolers.

"The nice thing about the park is even when it's full it's not like being on top of each other," he said. "It's a fun place to be. A lot of places have a downtown. Very few have a Kellogg Park in the middle."

The Michigan Philharmonic concert is free and sponsored in part by the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers in partnership with the Plymouth DDA, The Wilcox Foundation, Grand Traverse Pie Company and Atsalis Dental Excellence.

Scoop the Newshound will make an appearance on behalf of Grand Traverse Pie Company and the Observer & Eccentric. He'll give coupons to guests for pizza, movie tickets and discounted pie slices.

For more information about the Michigan Philharmonic and its upcoming concerts, visit www.michiganphil.org.

Canton summer jazz series returns along Ford Road

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Penny Wells will kick off eight weeks of jazz along Ford Road in Canton next week.

The singer-songwriter and Detroit native is a crowd favorite at the Canton Color Tour Jazz Series, the summer music program that turns retail parking lots into performance spaces every July and August.

The series' seventh season will start Friday, July 6, at Kohl's in the New Towne Plaza, located in the "purple block," at Ford and Sheldon, and then move to other retail locations that are identified by different "color blocks" along Ford Road the following weeks. All concerts are free and run from 7-9 p.m.

"It's a great way to end the work week and transition into the weekend," said Kathleen Salla, Downtown Development Authority director. "It's our little niche. No one else in our immediate vicinity does jazz. People who love jazz follow our concerts."

"It's relaxing. I think the people who come enjoy it. We have people who get up and dance. That makes it fun."

Salla said the concert series began after participants at a discussion on promoting the arts in Canton suggested using parking lots along Ford Road as performance venues. The DDA, Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Leisure Services initially worked with a radio station to produce the events. Three years ago the organizations took on the task together.

Salla said the concerts help acquaint audience members with the businesses along Ford Road, and familiarizes them with the retail area's color-coding system.

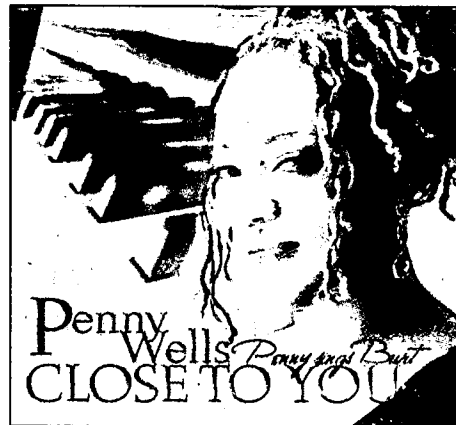
She estimates the summer series draws between 500-1,000 jazz lovers weekly.

"Because we have big parking lots, people come early in their SUVs and tailgate at the concerts," Salla added.

Concert-goers can bring their own food or buy from area merchants. Several local eateries offer carry out specials each week and Jimmy Johns will deliver directly to a patron's concert seat.

"We encourage people to bring chairs," Salla said. "We do have about 50 chairs set up ahead of time."

In addition to Wells, these other per-



Penny Wells performs 7 p.m. Friday, July 6 at the Canton Color Tour Jazz Series.

formers will jazz up Ford Road this summer:

July 13 — Nate Harasim, Sam's Club in the orange block, Ford and Lotz. Harasim, a keyboard artist, will make his first appearance at Canton Color Tour Jazz Series.

July 20 — Flutist Alexander Zonjic, Centre Village at Kroger, in the yellow block, Ford and Canton Center.

July 27 — Demetrius "Krayon" Nabors, Lowe's in the green block, Ford between Sheldon and Morton Taylor. The jazz keyboard artist will make his first appearance at the Canton series.

Aug. 3 — Jazz guitarist John E. Lawrence, Willow Creek Shopping Center, in the blue block, Ford between Lilley and Haggerty.

Aug. 10 — Kimmie Horne, Super Bowl in the purple block, Ford between Canton Center and Sheldon. Horne is a regular at the Canton Color Tour Jazz Series.

Aug. 17 — Randy Scott, professional musician, record producer and composer, will be at IKEA located in the blue block, Ford and Haggerty.

Aug. 24 — Lin Rountree, known for his performance of "soul jazz," will make his first appearance at the series. He'll be at Home Depot, located in the orange block, Ford and Lotz.

For more information, visit shopcanton.org.

Concerts are held indoors at the Super Bowl, 45100 Ford Road during rain.

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- Sunday, August 5
- Sunday, September 2

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Art

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission

Exhibits: Patti Smith: Camera Solo, shows performer Patti Smith's photographs, through Sept. 2; Five Spanish Masterpieces features works by Picasso, Goya, Velazquez, El Greco and Dali, through Aug. 19; Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints by the two artists, July 11-Jan. 6, 2013.

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: Exhibit runs through July
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: "Behind the Lens 6" includes more than 100 photos taken by Pioneer Middle School 8th graders during a trip to New York City

Contact: (734) 416-4267

Comedy

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., Wednesday, July 4

Location: The Power Center, E. Huron at Fletcher in downtown Ann Arbor

Details: Song parodies and sketches by political satirists, The Capitol Steps. Tickets are \$30-\$50

Contact: (734) 764-2538 or A2SF.org

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Mike Merryfield, through June 30; Matt McLowery, July 5-7; Nate Fridson, July 11-14; Mike Dambra, July 18-21; Dwayne Gill, July 25-28

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Bobby Tesel, June 28-30; Michael McDaniel, July 5-7; Kevin McCaffrey, July 12-14; Mike Baldwin, July 19-21; Andy Woodhull, July 26-28; Shen Wang, Aug. 2-4; James Ervin Berry, Aug. 9-11

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

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

Dance

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, June 24

Location: Power Center, E. Huron at Fletcher in downtown Ann Arbor

Details: Pilobolus performs styles ranging from playful to intense to gravity-defying. Tickets \$30-\$50; kids, \$10

Coming up: Circa performs a fusion of acrobatics, aerial stunts, tumbling and contemporary dance, 8 p.m. July 6-7 at the Power Center; tickets \$25-\$45 for adults, \$10 for children

Contact: (734) 764-2538 or



Music in Motown

Vocalist Jill Jack is among the entertainers, including jazz ensemble Straight Ahead, who will perform Saturday, June 30, at In Seventh Heaven — Magic and Music in Motown at the Roostertail in Detroit. The fundraiser benefits For The Seventh Generation, a Wayne County organization that matches foster children with donations of goods and services. The event will begin at 7 p.m. and will include a raffle featuring sheet music and other items signed by Motown legend Abdul "Duke" Fakir of the Four Tops. Kelly Ramsey Photography, Kid Rock and Park West Galleries also donated items. Tickets are \$100 and available at www.fortheseventhgeneration.org.

A2SF.org

FAIRLANE BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

Time/Date: 7:30-10:30 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Lyskawa V.F.W. Hall, 6840 Waverly, east of Telegraph, south of Warren in Dearborn Heights

Details: Singles and couples dance to live bands on a hardwood dance floor. Admission is \$7 for members and \$8 for nonmembers. Free refreshments

Contact: Jean Orleans at (734) 516-0500

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Thursday, July 5

Location: Michigan Theater, located on E. Liberty, just west of S. State, in downtown Ann Arbor

Details: "Cintematic Titanic" features the original cast and creators of "Mystery Science Theater 3000" riffing on some of the cheesiest movies ever made; \$25 general admission

Contact: (734) 764-2538 or A2SF.org

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 and movies start at dusk; open nightly through Sept. 2

Location: 14900 Beck, Plymouth

Details: Listen to the film

through a battery-operated FM radio or your car radio. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$6 for ages 4-12 and free for age 3 and under. Students with ID pay \$7 Sunday-Thursdays

Contact: (734) 453-8300

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 29-30 and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 1

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Three Stooges," \$3

Coming up: "The Lucky One," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 6-7 and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 8; "Bernie," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 13-14 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 15

Summer Cinema: All

and 7 p.m. "The Incredible Shrinking Woman," Thursday, June 28; "Harry & The Hendersons," Thursday, July 5; "Shrek," Thursday, July 12; "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius," Thursday, July 19; "The Rookie," Thursday, July 26; "Raiders of the Lost Ark," Thursday, Aug. 2; "Batteries Not Included," Thursday, Aug. 16; "Wallace & Gromit The Curse of the Were-Rabbit," Thursday, Aug. 23; and "Muppets from Space," Thursday, Aug. 30. Tickets cost \$3

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. June 29 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. June 30

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Casablanca," tickets \$4

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Coming up: "The Wizard of Oz," 8 p.m. July 13 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 14, \$4; "Cool Hand Luke," 8 p.m. July 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 21, \$4; Abbott & Costello double feature, "Buck Privates," and "Abbott & Costello meet the Killer," 8 p.m. Aug. 10 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 11, \$5; "North by Northwest," 8 p.m. Aug. 24 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 25

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free.

Exhibits: "Moving to His Own Beat - Fela: The Man, the Movement, the Music," celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, through June 17; "The Chris Webber Collection: Exceptional People During Extraordinary Times, 1755-Present," includes rare artifacts collected by Detroit native Chris Webber, through September; "Witness: The Art of Jerry Pinkney," through Sept. 9

Contact: (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; new exhibit opens June 28 and runs through Nov. 7

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Inaugural Gowns of the First Ladies" is the new exhibit, featuring 14 reproduction inaugural gowns. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

Contact: (734) 455-8940

Music

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows



Michael on Fire performs Saturday, June 30 at Trinity House Theater in Livonia.

start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines, June 29; Michael on Fire, June 30; The 77's Unplugged, July 7; Malcolm Holcombe, July 13; Zak Morgan and Duke Otherwise Family Show, July 14; Kelsey Rottiers and the Rising Tide, July 20; Dave Carter Tribute featuring Potter's Field, Aug. 3; Beth Wood, Aug. 17. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

Contact: (734) 464-6302

THE ARK

Time/Date: The BoDeans & Michael McDermott, June 28; The Pines, June 29; The RFD Boys & Friends, June 30; Becca Stevens, July 1; Victor Wooten, July 2; Bill Frisell explores the music of John Lennon, July 3; Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams, July 5; Detour, July 6; Janiva Magness, July 7; Diana Lawrence & Phoebe Hunt, July 8; Adrian Legg, July 9; Johnny Clegg, July 10; James Vincent McMorrow, July 11; Edwin McCain, July 12; Sister Sparrow & the Dirty Birds, July 13; The Good Lovelies, July 14; Corey Harris & The Rasta-Blues Experience, July 15

Location: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

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HAVE A Sizzling, Sparkling 4th

On July 4th, the perfect party calls for friends, food, fireworks and plenty of red, white and blue.

"It's an easy party to pull off," says Nancy Siler, vice president of consumer affairs at Wilton. "Our celebration experts have created a patriotic-themed spread of sweet and savory treats to provide star-spangled fun for everyone."

Start the festivities off with a bang using festive tableware and decorations like 4th of July party pics — a simple way to add spark to any celebration. Play up the Independence Day theme throughout — from beverage to dessert.

"Serve an easy-to-eat meal dressed up with holiday colors," says Siler. "All Star Sliders on Cornbread Buns are a delicious spin on the classic burger. The cornbread buns are baked using the Wilton Star Whoopie Pie Pan to add a festive twist to the traditional bun. Patriot's Peanut Butter Popcorn — a yummy mix of popcorn, peanut butter and colored candies — is an ideal salty-sweet treat. Packed in star-studded gift bags, this easy-to-make goodie is a party favorite and a perfect take-home for guests."

Cool down when the temperature rises with refreshing, fruity Red and Blue Raspberry Lemonade. Have a blast decking out the glasses with stripes, stars and swirls using edible blue Sparkle Gel.

What's more fun than the fireworks finale? Dessert! Guests will ooh and aah over Banana Split Surprise Cake — a decadent dessert with a surprise strawberry ice cream center. It's a new take on cake and ice cream, great for serving a crowd.

Visit www.wilton.com for more celebration ideas.

All Star Sliders on Cornbread Buns

Makes 12 buns and 12 sliders

Cornbread Buns

- ¾ cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup yellow cornmeal
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ¾ cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray Star Whoopie Pie Pan with vegetable cooking spray.

In medium bowl, combine flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder, salt and pepper. Add sour cream, oil and eggs, stirring just until smooth. Fill cavities ¾ full, spreading batter to edges of star.

Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until center of bun springs back when touched. Cool in pan 5 minutes; remove to cooling grid. Repeat with remaining batter.

Sliders

- ¾ pound ground chuck
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- ½ small yellow onion, minced (about ½ cup)
- ½ cup shredded pepper-jack cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon chili powder
- 5 to 6 dashes hot sauce, or to taste

Preheat grill or broiler to medium high heat. In large bowl, combine all ingredients until well incorporated. Form into twelve 2-½-inch patties. Cook 2 to 3 minutes per side.

Serve with star buns and your favorite condiments.

Patriot's Peanut Butter Popcorn

Makes about 8 cups

- 1 bag (3.2 ounces) butter flavored microwave popcorn
- ½ cup peanut butter
- ¼ cup, firmly-packed brown sugar
- 1 bottle (3 ounces) Patriotic Nonpareils or other patriotic sprinkles
- 1 package (12 ounces) Red Candy Melts Candy

Make popcorn according to package directions. In large bowl, microwave peanut butter and brown sugar for 1 minute; stir to combine. Add popcorn and stir until well coated. Sprinkle liberally with non-



Patriot's Peanut Butter Popcorn (left), All Star Sliders on Cornbread Buns, Red and Blue Raspberry Lemonade.

pareils, stirring to distribute. Spread onto parchment-lined sheet pan.

Melt Candy Melts Candy according to package directions. Drizzle over popcorn. Let set at least 10 minutes before serving.

Red and Blue Raspberry Lemonade

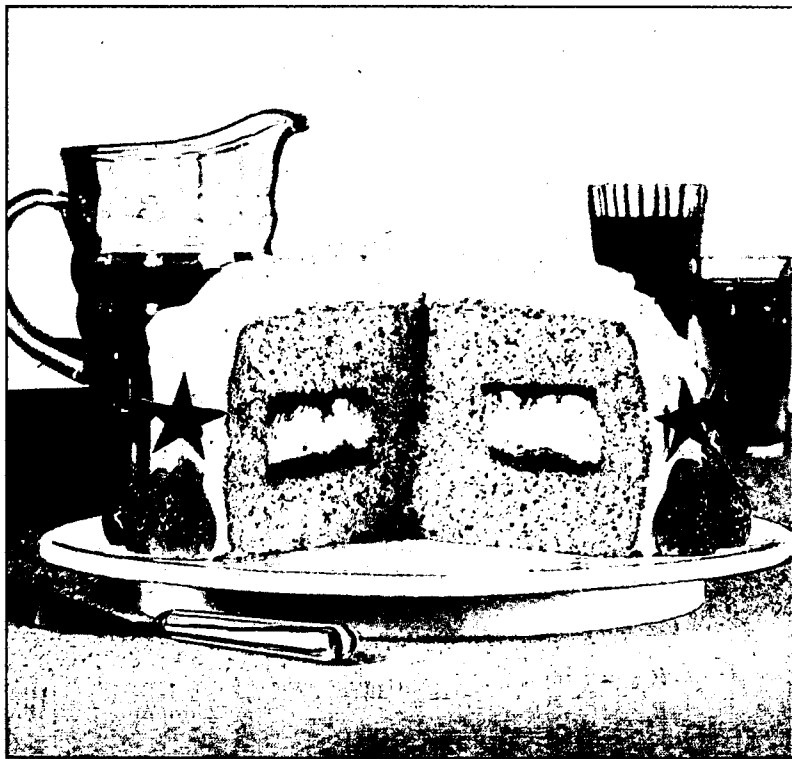
Makes about 8 servings

- 1 ½ cups (about 6 ounces) fresh raspberries, divided
- 1 can (12 ounces) frozen lemonade concentrate
- Water
- Blue Sparkle Gel

Place one raspberry in each cavity of the Star Ice Cube Silicone Mold. Cover with water; freeze several hours to set.

Reserve remaining raspberries.

In large pitcher, mix lemonade according to package instructions. In food processor or blender, pulse remaining raspberries until smooth; strain through sieve to remove seeds. Stir raspberry puree into lemonade. Serve with raspberry ice cubes in glasses decorated with Blue Sparkle Gel.



Banana Split Surprise Cake

Banana Split Surprise Cake

Makes 8 to 10 servings

- 2 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 1 ¾ cups granulated sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 ripe bananas, mashed (about 1 ¼ cups)
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup (about 8 ounces) hot fudge sauce
- 1 pint (about 2 cups) strawberry ice cream, softened
- 1 box (10 ounces) Vanilla Whipped Icing Mix
- Fresh strawberries, halved
- Star Pics

Preheat oven 350°F. Spray Fancy Fill pans from set with vegetable cooking spray.

In medium bowl, combine flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt; set aside. In large bowl, beat butter

and sugar with electric mixer until light and fluffy. Add eggs, vanilla and mashed banana; mix well. Add flour mixture alternately with sour cream; blend thoroughly but do not overmix. Pour into prepared pans.

Bake 33 to 38 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes in pan on rack; remove from pan and cool completely.

Divide fudge sauce and spread evenly into cavities of cake; freeze 10 minutes. At same time, remove strawberry ice cream to soften. Fill cake cavities with ice cream. Assemble cake by inverting top layer onto bottom layer.

Prepare icing mix according to package directions. Ice top and sides of cake; freeze at least 2 hours or until ready to serve. Garnish with strawberries and star pics.

Courtesy of Family Features

Local building initiative puts Michiganders back to work

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) announced that on Tuesday, June 5, in New Hudson, the groundbreaking ceremony was held for the first home being constructed for the Made in America/Built in Michigan initiative. The home is being built by Rick Elkow of Elkow Homes, a building company based in Wixom, and member of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA).

Several other BIA members are also involved in the program, including Todd Hallett, AIA, of TK Design & Architecture in Howell, who designed the home and DTE Energy's Builder-Developer Liaison, Robert Veresan, AIA, who is working toward making the home net-zero in terms of energy consumption and emissions. The group was joined by Lyon Township officials, including Supervisor Lannie Young and Treasurer Patty Carcone, along with other guests from within the residential construction industry. Community residents, from the Twin Pines neighborhood where this home will be built, also joined the festivities.

Michael Stoskopf, BIA's CEO, and one of three originators of the program, remarked, "This groundbreaking marks a 'Back to the Future' moment as Rick and his team help bring new home construction back to its roots as a local and state-focused endeavor. By committing to use American-made materials and supplies — with a particular emphasis on Michigan-made products — means that jobs will be created and sustained here, thus strengthening our economy."

Supervisor Young echoed these sentiments, adding, "This is a terrific day for BIA, Elkow Homes and Lyon Township!"

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Indus-



Cutting the ribbon to launch the Made in America/Built in Michigan initiative in Howell are, Michael Stoskopf (left), CEO of BIA; Rick Elkow, Elkow Homes; Todd Hallett, AIA, TK Design & Architecture; Patricia Carcone, Lyon Township treasurer; and Lannie Young, Lyon Township supervisor.

Supervisor Young echoed these sentiments, adding, 'This is a terrific day for BIA, Elkow Homes and Lyon Township!'

try Association of SE Michigan (BIA) and Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) are trade associations representing nearly 600 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.



Builder Rick Elkow officially breaks ground to begin construction for the first home in the Made in America/Built in Michigan initiative in Howell.

Equal standard usually avoids litigation

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: I have a situation where we had valet parking services for some of our residents, but then we decided to cut out the service. One of our residents, who is an African American over the age of 40, is threatening to sue the association alleging that the new parking system violates the Fair Housing Act by discriminating against him on the basis of race and age. What do you think we should do?

A: It is unlawful to discriminate against any buyer or renter because of race, age or disability as it violates the Federal Fair Housing Act, among other statutes. It is also unlawful to refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services

when such accommodation is necessary for a person with a disability to have an equal opportunity to enjoy a dwelling.

Robert Meisner

When, however, the parking or other regulations

apply equally to all residents, the decision to rescind valet parking services affects African American residents exactly the same way in which it affects Caucasian residents, it is proper, and a federal court recently made such a ruling. Nor would depriving residents of valet parking lead to segregated housing or place a burden on African Americans seeking fair housing. However, some sort of accommodation may have to be made if the person is disabled, but you should check with your community association attorney with respect to that matter.

Q: Does the board have a right to reject the resignation of a board member?

A: I do not think that for the resignation to be effective it is dependent upon the board accepting it unless there is such a provision in the bylaws. Once the director resigns, it is effective at the time of the resignation, if it is done in accordance with the requirements of the association bylaws to the extent that there is any procedure for same. Of course this depends on the specific state statute and governing documents. For example, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th Edition requires acceptance of someone asking to be excused from a duty or position. In fact, there is language that the duties of the office must not be abandoned until the resignation has been accepted and becomes effective. However, most new nonprofit statutes provide that a resignation is effective upon communication to the board president or other officers. It is the communication of resignation that fulfills the requirement. Again, you should discuss this matter with your legal counsel.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com.

This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 20-23, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
50153 Grant St	\$266,000
50185 Grant St	\$246,000
48299 Greenwich Ln	\$222,000
44280 Harsdale Dr	\$150,000
47934 Pavillon Rd	\$327,000
47611 Royal Pointe Dr	\$285,000
42350 Saratoga Cir	\$128,000
4527 Shoreview Dr	\$202,000
4218 Timberline Dr	\$205,000
8303 Trafford Ct	\$85,000

47121 Yarmouth Dr	\$315,000
GARDEN CITY	
33269 Alvin St	\$86,000
784 Arcola St	\$34,000
6555 Henry Ruff Rd	\$75,000
29851 John Hawk St	\$20,000
29009 Krauter St	\$35,000
32660 Marquette St	\$70,000
31783 Rosslyn Ave	\$21,000
29655 Winter Ct	\$34,000
LIVONIA	
15537 Deering St	\$55,000
18261 Deering St	\$33,000
37956 Donald St	\$135,000
16725 Fairfield St	\$220,000
11722 Farmington Rd	\$75,000
15114 Golfview Dr	\$175,000
14055 Golfview St	\$142,000
29814 Grandon St	\$44,000
8993 Melvin St	\$98,000

33412 Myrna St	\$115,000
8862 Oporto St	\$84,000
33796 Trillium Ct	\$211,000
NORTHVILLE	
390 First St	\$94,000
16967 Abby Cir	\$350,000
438 Eaton Dr	\$190,000
47609 Pine Creek Ct	\$465,000
41633 Sunnydale Ln	\$230,000
39516 Village Run Dr	\$225,000
47010 W Main St	\$650,000
PLYMOUTH	
46964 Burning Tree Ln	\$224,000
1654 Cassidy Place Dr	\$128,000
46718 Darwood Ct	\$415,000
821 Deer Ct	\$100,000
940 Fairground St	\$170,000
9059 Quail Run Dr N	\$366,000
14295 Shadywood Dr	\$132,000
45620 Trillium Ct E	\$262,000

REDFORD	
19424 Dalby	\$40,000
9911 Farley	\$36,000
18530 Fox	\$21,000
17244 Inkster Rd	\$17,000
24307 Lyndon	\$41,000
14393 Mercedes	\$40,000
17745 Norborne	\$27,000
WESTLAND	
753 Ethan Dr	\$156,000
32081 Hazelwood St	\$29,000
420 Lansdowne Dr	\$146,000
32639 Mackenzie Dr	\$79,000
29854 Malvern St	\$66,000
38595 Monmouth St	\$76,000
7430 N Farmington Rd	\$131,000
7809 Rivergate Dr	\$55,000
32132 Sandra Ln	\$87,000
1138 Sharon St	\$35,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 5-9, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
15753 Buckingham Ave	\$189,000
BIRMINGHAM	
359 Ferndale Ave	\$211,000
463 Golf View Blvd	\$233,000
1936 Haynes St	\$345,000
724 Hidden Ravines Dr	\$360,000
1798 Pembroke Rd	\$147,000
588 Pierce St	\$1,650,000
1759 Washington Blvd	\$235,000
1978 Webster St	\$475,000
2092 Yorkshire Rd	\$200,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	

4091 Willoway Place Dr	\$230,000
2658 Brady Dr	\$175,000
4248 Lakeridge Ct	\$325,000
4240 Wabek Lake Dr S	\$205,000
3431 Westchester Rd	\$300,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
6508 Cathedral Dr	\$225,000
1594 Dell Rose Dr	\$204,000
560 Fox Pointe Ct	\$505,000
1290 Greenglen Ct	\$164,000
739 Hawthorne Dr	\$377,000
6330 Hills Dr	\$355,000
3753 Lane Lake Rd	\$560,000
5430 Longmeadow Rd	\$1,250,000
1742 S Hill Blvd	\$133,000
43344 Woodward Ave	\$625,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
3636 Sandbar Dr	\$165,000
4709 Winewood Ln	\$168,000
FARMINGTON	
34225 Conroy Ct	\$180,000
23206 Hawthorne St	\$45,000

35523 Heritage Ln	\$120,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
27343 Arden Park Cir	\$100,000
27502 Bridle Hills Dr	\$174,000
22303 Cass St	\$175,000
24474 Cote Dnel Dr	\$153,000
28092 Golf Pointe Blvd	\$210,000
29805 Hemlock Ave	\$104,000
35106 Red Pine Dr	\$160,000
FRANKLIN	
31420 Lucerne Dr	\$305,000
MILFORD	
309 W Washington St	\$67,000
NOVI	
45191 Bartlett Dr	\$341,000
50793 Calvert Isle Dr	\$526,000
28346 Carlton Way Dr	\$132,000
28514 Carlton Way Dr	\$142,000
23166 Heatherwoode	\$94,000
23655 N Rockledge	\$52,000
24966 Portsmouth Ave	\$211,000
41801 Primrose Dr	\$110,000

SOUTH LYON	
58689 Castle Ct	\$40,000
58734 Castle Ct	\$40,000
57837 International Dr	\$60,000
59591 Mary Ln	\$50,000
61131 Saddlecreek Dr	\$271,000
61150 Saddlecreek Dr	\$294,000
61181 Saddlecreek Dr	\$320,000
26373 Shumans Way	\$50,000
SOUTHFIELD	
19815 Butternut Ln	\$125,000
17627 Cornell Rd	\$35,000
16911 Crescent Dr	\$103,000
29760 Red Leaf Dr	\$93,000
29422 Rock Creek Dr	\$71,000
24371 Tamarack Cir	\$46,000
WHITE LAKE	
1869 Crystal Ln	\$164,000
9512 Marina Dr	\$55,000
8111 Vanden Dr	\$88,000
8079 Wildwood Ln	\$218,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

Michael Jeffreys will speak Thursday, July 14. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland 5:30

p.m./ 9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, John R just north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members; \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Career Seminar

Learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee Thursday, July 19, 2012 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or mworkman@kw.com.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayde Koehler, (313) 277-4168.

HOMES

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Homes

FARMINGTON HILLS
Beautiful ranch, large lot, 3+ bedrooms, 2.5 baths, eat in kitchen, living and family rooms, baseboard heat, all appliances, \$154,900 (will negotiate). Call: 248-444-1646

BY OWNER

PLYMOUTH TWP.
Open Sun. 12-4
Trailwood Sub, 4 bdrm colonial, many updates, new fridge & dishwasher, cul-de-sac, lg 2-tier deck, newer windows, furnace & insulation. Side entry garage, seller motivated, \$275,000. 734-748-6449

BY OWNER

Westland
Co-op Townhouse
3 bdrms, 1.5 baths, full bsmt, wonderful community w/ large pool & clubhouse. Livonia schools. \$33,000. Available immediately! 734-536-6669

Open Houses

By Owner

LIVONIA
9050 Hanlon, 48150
Open house Sun 1-4pm.
Move-in ready 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 1266 sq ft. ranch offers 2 car gar., kit w/new granite counters & birch cabinets. Updated baths. New plumbing, electrical & furnace. \$129,900. Call Don 734-762-9276

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SALE 1/3 & 4 B.R.
Manufactured homes w/up to 2100 sq ft of living are available. NOW AT HUGE DISCOUNTS!
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• 1 BDRM-\$550
• 2 BDRM-\$650
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Call JONI TODAY 734-414-9760

Commercial/Retail For Sale

CANTON: 3000 SF retail space on Michigan Ave between Hagerty & Lilley. \$14/sf. #3101955. Bela Sipos. 734-669-5813, 734-669-4100. Reinhardt Commercial

Northern Property

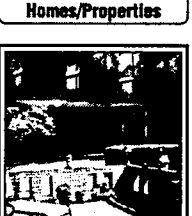
BY OWNER

LIVE AND WORK UP NORTH ST. IGNACE
Retired owner selling 11,000 sq. ft. retail building with view of marina and Mackinac Island. Also, lakefront residential lots on Straights of Mackinac and view of Mackinac bridge. Call David: 906-643-9268

Resort & Vacation Property

HAAS LAKE PARK:
In New Hudson.
Enjoy fishing, swimming, campfires, sun porch, oversized deck, sleeps 6 or more. Less than 10 miles from South Lyon. Asking \$9000, any reasonable offer considered. Call Sherri: 734-546-7247. Roni: 734-545-7249. www.haaslakepark.com

Florida Homes/Properties



PRESTIGIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME

2700 sq. ft. 3 bdrms, 2 baths, lg study w/built-in bookcases, lg living room with fireplace has Rosewood Wall, high ceiling with indirect lighting, huge kitchen area with 47 cupboards & 27 drawers, dining room, 2.5 carport, paved circle drive, finished detached building with a complete dark room, has water & electricity, could be mother-in-law suite with additional plumbing. Has to be the prettiest yard in Marianna. Hardwood Trees, Dogwoods, Pine, Palm, Azaleas, etc. Inground sprinklers on 1.65 acres. 45 miles to Dothan, ALA, Orto Bainbridge, GA and 75 miles to Panama City, FLA. You'll feel your living in a state park. 1 block from Chickapola College, 3 blks to the hospital. Yet in a woods in the middle of town that deer come to visit. Call or see your offers to Ron & Estlin Smith, 4331 4th Ave, Marianna, FL 32446. 850-482-7969

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1 bdrm, appliances & carpet, \$550 includes heat. PLYMOUTH: 1 bdrm, \$575. Year Lease. 734-455-0391

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GARDEN CITY:

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LIVONIA: HEAT/WATER INCL

Spacious 1 bdrm, wood floors, balcony. \$735/mo. 734-516-0541

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PLYMOUTH 2 bdrm,

950 sq. ft., all appl., washer/dryer, C/A, balcony, fireplace, carport, private entrance. Rent incl. utilities & condo fee. Mo to mo lease, pets okay. \$875/mo. (313) 531-4363

Duplexes

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Farmington Hills: 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1000 sq. ft., updated kitchen w/appl. Lg. backyard. \$890/mo. 248-342-8314

Homes For Rent

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29031 Elmwood.
3 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, shed, fenced, C/A. \$795/mo. Showing Wed, Sat & Sun at 7:15pm. 313-920-5966

GARDEN CITY: Clean 2 bdrm, fully finished upstairs, c/a, 1 car. \$825/mo. + \$825 Sec. 1 yr. lease. 734-591-9329

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WESTLAND:

Available Now! 3 bdrm duplexes, new carpet & paint, very clean, fenced. \$675-\$700. 313-418-9905

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WESTLAND:

Pretty 2 bdrm ranch, Appliances included, 1.5 car garage, No pets, Immed. occ. \$595/mo + sec. Agent: (734) 522-2429

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• 3 bdrm, 2 full baths
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Beautiful 3 Bed/2 Baths homes with all appliances
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BY OWNER

LIVE AND WORK UP NORTH ST. IGNACE
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	30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 459-0782	3.5	0	2.75	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions (800) 593-1912	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A
AFI Financial (877) 234-0600	3.5	0	2.75	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A
BRINKS Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.375	0.25	2.75	0	J/A/N/F
Client Services by Gold Star (800) 991-9922	3.375	1	2.75	0.625	J/A/N/F
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	4	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	3.875	0	3.25	0	J/A/N/F
Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.5	0	2.8	0	J/A/N/F
Group One Mortgage (248) 282-1602	3.875	0	3.125	0	J/A/N/F
Mortgages by Gold Star (888) 293-3477	3.25	1.5	2.625	1.125	J/A/N/F

Above Information available as of 6/22/12 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

Key to "Other" column - J= Jumbo, A= Arm, V= VA, F= FHA & NR= Not Reported.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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New & previous gardens, \$35 & up. Troy Built equip. 32 yrs. exp. Call Ray: 248-477-2188

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Thorough preparation, father and son company for over 20 years. (248) 225-7165

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Tree Service

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Clean-ups, landscaping, grading, sodding, hydro-seeding, retaining walls, ins. work, brick walks & patios. Drainage & lawn irrigation systems, low foundations built up. Weekly lawn maintenance. Haul away unwanted items. Comm. Res. 35 yrs exp. Lic & Ins. Free Est. www.laureeservices.com 248-489-5955, 248-521-8818

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Large volume Wholesale Distributor in Redford looking for highly motivated Outside Sales Associate, to grow and maintain Installer and Fleet accounts. Automotive experience required. Benefits available. Send resume to: P.O. Box 39742, Redford, MI 48239

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Good pay. Southfield. Sid: 248-860-4499, 248-352-7377

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Full & part time positions available in Livonia and Westland. \$7.40/hr. 313-559-5959

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Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. (734) 722-4580 x9

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Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#

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This is a full-time position offering daily challenges in a high volume department for our newspapers. The primary role of this position is to act as a liaison between advertising staff and the printer/packaging center to ensure the scheduling, distribution and delivery of Inserts/circulars for the 13 O&E and Hometown publications. The position of Pre-print Specialist will be responsible for receiving, processing and scheduling electronic orders, verifying the accuracy of orders including billing and circulation amounts, working with advertising staff and finance to resolve rates and billing issues, and preparing reports.

BUY & SELL

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May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved & preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude Worker of Miracles pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day, by the 9th day your prayer will be answered. Publication must be promised. J.A.

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Largest outdoor market in SE Michigan. Come shop/sell July 7 & 8! 586-254-3495

Estate Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale 313-937-1993
Jo's Art Gallery, 19376 Livernols Ave. Detroit 48221. Last week at the Gallery Special Pricing Inventory Liquidation Sale, June 28-30, 10am-7pm. More info go to estatesales.com SEE YOU THERE!!!

MULTI FAMILY ESTATE SALE
Fri & Sat 9-4pm. Furniture, clothing, toys, housewares, electronics. 3565 Valley View Lane, West Bloomfield.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE ESTATE SALE- LIVONIA
Fine Art, Antiques, collectibles, rare books, many other quality items! June 29th, 9-5pm & June 30th, 9-4pm. 37824 North Laurel Park Dr., W of Newburgh & N of 7 Mile. No early sales and all sales are final.

NOVI ESTATE SALE
7/5-7/7, 8-5pm. Everything must go! Furniture, kitchenware, seasonal items, TV, tools, old cameras & much more! Cash only. 45152 Byrne Ct., near 9 Mile & Taft

AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CLOTHES, hand made, most \$3-\$10. See to appreciate. Westland: 734-595-2928

Household Goods

CHINA CABINET lg. lighted, mahogany w/beveled glass. Purchased from Gormans. Asking \$500. 734-753-3111

COMPUTER DESK - 60" Sauder Desk Top w/upper shelves, keyboard tray & lower storage. \$125. 734-771-4863

DESK- Hon Executive Desk, 3' x 6', laminated walnut finish. Very good cond. 3 drawers incl one filing drawer. Disassembled. \$150/negotiable. Call Al 248-737-0343

hometownlife.com

English Pine Flip-Top Table & 4 Chairs. Arhaus Collection. Originally \$2000. Mint cond. \$750. 248-626-4632

Appliances

STOVE: GE Electric stove, flat top, 31" wide, black & white. \$70. Call: 313-585-0789

Exercise/Fitness Equipment

TREADMILL: Variable speeds, great cond., like new, rarely used. Best Offer. Call: (734) 981-1452

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

LAWN MOWER: TORO 20" Cordless Electric Mower, used 1 season, now using lawn service. \$200 w/attachments, price neg. Call: 248-557-7857

LAWN TRACTOR, Montgomery Ward, with bagging attachment, 12 hp, 42", needs work. \$200. 734-422-0391

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CATS: Adorable cats to a good home. Good with children. Call: 248-573-5211

CATS: Fixed rescues & 2 male, 9 wk old kittens, must stay together, need loving homes. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

CATS: Fixed rescues & 2 male, 9 wk old kittens, must stay together, need loving homes. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

KITTENS:

5-6 wks. old. Need loving home. Call: 248-660-6604

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SHIH TZU PUPS, AKC
Vet checked, shots, solid black females, highly socialized. (734) 699-9525

Pets Wanted

SHIH TZU/ BICHON PUPPIES
5 lovable females; \$300/males \$250. For more information call 248-443-5675 or 313 622-9553.

GARAGE SALES

hometownlife.com

Garage/Moving Sales

BIRMINGHAM NEIGHBORHOOD SALE
14 Mile to Lincoln Woodward to Pierce June 28, 29 & 30, 9am-4pm. Baby boy clothes/accessories, elliptical, gas grill, dishes, etc.

CANTON 49290 Geddes. Fri. & Sat., June 29 & 30, 10am-4pm. Baby boy clothes/accessories, elliptical, gas grill, dishes, etc.

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON Moving Sale! 2395 Lexington Circle South. Thurs., June 28 thru Sat., June 30, 9am-4pm.

CANTON- Howie's Angels Rummage Sale, Thurs June 28-Sat, June 30th, 9-6pm. 1843 Morrison Blvd., S of Ford, E of Morton Taylor. Antiques, collectibles, furniture, clothes, toys & more!

FARMINGTON HILLS 21033 Rensselaer St. Thurs. & Fri., 10am-4pm. Washer, dryer, stove, dining room table & chairs, lawn mower, snow blower, lots of household misc!

FARMINGTON HILLS: June 28 & 29, 8-4. Lots of office supplies, furniture & machinery. 25796 Westmoreland Dr. Btwn. Orchard Lake & Middlebelt, 2 houses W. off of 11 Mile Rd.

FARMINGTON HILLS: Timbercrest Subdivision Garage Sale. 12 Mile & Middlebelt. Fri. June 29, Sat. June 30, Sun. July 1, 8am-3pm. Gently used household goods at great prices.

GARDEN CITY: 6105 Deering, N/Ford, S/Warren, btwn Middlebelt & Inkster. June 28-30, 9-5. Furniture, household items, tools & lots of misc.

LIVONIA 16595 Fairway, off 6 Mile, between Levan & Wayne. Thurs-Sat, June 28, 29, 30, 9am-5pm.

LIVONIA ESTATE SALE
June 29th & 30th - 15232 Melrose St, Livonia, MI. EVERYTHING MUST GO!

LIVONIA ESTATE SALE
Thurs-Sat., 10am-5pm 35550 Schoolcraft (btwn Farmington & Levan). Furniture, household items, collectibles (Plates, Avon), crystal, porcelain, much more!

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA- Estate & Garage Sale! Furniture, washer/dryer, treadmill, & more! 6/28-7/1; 10-6pm. 16747 Stanmoor, off 6 btwn Middlebelt & Inkster.

LIVONIA: Extended Family Garage Sale. Variety of household items. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. 9-4. 11775 Boston Post. Plymouth/Stark Rd.

LIVONIA: June 27, 28 & 29 Wed-Fri. 9-5. Sat., June 30 9-12. Materials from retired teacher, albums, 45s, misc. things. 36139 Roycroft. Btwn 5 & 6 Mile, off Levan.

MISC. ITEMS Sofa (Brown) IKEA, Baker's rack, 2 bar stools, Must sell! YOU MOVE!! \$225 for all or best offer! CASH only, NO checks! Canton area. 734-981-2090

NEW HUDSON- 59579 Sterling. Fri. 29 - Sat. 30. 9-5. Something for everyone & it all must go!

NEW HUDSON- Fri-Sat, 6/29-6/30, 9-4pm. 60309 Lamplighter Dr. Collectibles, household, horse/show, clothing, etc.

NORTHVILLE GIGANTIC ESTATE/GARAGE SALE
526 Orchard Drive, btwn W. 7 Mile & W. Main. Furniture, dishes, glass, foosball table, household items. June 28 & 29th, 9am-5pm & June 30th, 8am-12.

NORTHVILLE YARD SALE: Furniture, antiques, collectibles, raccoons, dishes, tons more! June 28-30, 9-5. 633 Novi St. S of Baseline.

NOVI- 24368 Hampton Hill, 10 Mile btwn Meadowbrook & Novi Rd. June 28-June 30th, 9-6pm. Moving & Downsizing! Household misc, TV, clothing, end tables & much, much more!

PLYMOUTH 6/28-6/29 (Thurs & Fri), 9am-4pm, 6/30 (Sat), 9am-noon. 46107 Litchfield Dr. (Ann Arbor Rd & McClumpha). Furniture, household & children's items.

PLYMOUTH HUGE SALE - HIGH END - Furniture, piano, dishes. June 28 & 29, 9am-4pm & June 30, 9am-1pm. 12464 Howland Park Dr.

PLYMOUTH- Huge garage sale! 4895 Michol, on the corner of Haggerty & Micol; 1 blk S of Ann Arbor Trl. Furniture, designer clothing (S-XL), lots of household misc., water color paintings. Fri & Sat 10-4pm. Sun noon-4pm

REDFORD- 26235 Elba, SW of 5 Mile & Beech Daily. Thurs-Sat, 9-5pm & Sun noon-4pm. Kid's clothing, toys, house goods & more!

Royal Oak: Multi-Family Garage Sale 1917 Roseland Ave. Friday, June 29, 9am-3pm. Antiques, furniture, toys, household goods, kids' clothing

SOUTH LYON: Moving Sale. Thurs. & Fri. 8-1. 9763 Dickerson Ct. Treasures, everything under the sun. No early birds.

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Shopping plaza
- 5 Cuts timber
- 9 Montana and Flutie
- 12 Mumble
- 13 Discharge
- 14 Afternoon break
- 15 — monster
- 16 Buffalo habitat
- 18 Bronte governess
- 20 Grove
- 21 A mummy may have one
- 23 Genres
- 25 Ancient city
- 26 Horne of jazz
- 28 Hieroglyphics bird
- 32 Fish or voice
- 35 Gridiron div.
- 36 Fewer than one
- 37 Movie lioness
- 38 Remnant
- 40 Pharaoh's god

- 41 Entry permit
- 43 Lazybones
- 46 Went to the polls
- 49 Gaelic pop star
- 50 Worked with stone
- 53 Med. staffers
- 56 Unburdened
- 57 Foot part
- 58 Three oceans touch it
- 59 Tofu base
- 60 Castor, to Pollux
- 61 Right after

DOWN

- 1 Food additive
- 2 Muhammad
- 3 Crown wearer
- 4 Food holders
- 5 Horse's gait
- 6 Not their
- 7 Cookie-selling org.
- 8 Pilot's control
- 9 Handy swab (hyph.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACT	PAPA	FIGS
RAH	OXEN	EROS
FRAGMENT	ESPN	
SPIRAL	WED	
EDS	EASELS	
MELEE	BRR	VOL
ELAN	COP	DECO
RHO	HEY	AERIE
VISION	PRE	
MET	ERMINE	
ZETA	RECESSED	
AGOG	ALAS	LAG
GONE	LINT	APE

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
		18		19				20		
21	22				23	24				
25				26	27			28	29	30
32		33	34		35			36		
37					38			39		40
			41	42			43	44	45	
46	47	48				49				
50					51	52			54	55
56				57				58		
59				60				61		

Want more puzzles?
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at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Word Search — Golden Years

B T N G N M J W T M S G I F Z
T N E R A P D N A R G E H M O
E E A N U Q U H A H G W E Y S
C L V T O O R E M W R P L F T
N X N I C I Y E H A R Y D L E
A H Q S T H T B T E I T E E O
T M I F O C R A S I I G R V P
S D S Y W I A C X W R H L A O
I X U S T H R S H A S E Y R R
S C D T W I X Y N D L C D T O
S T L H P N E D L O G E S V S
A E E T A G I N G J S O R E I
A Z I E M B S E N I O R S B S
N O R Z F Q B S L T J I K T C
N F U Y R G P Z J P G E X K E

Active Aging Assistance

Brittle Discount Elderly

Golden Grandparent Osteoporosis

Prescription Relaxation Retired

Seniors Travel Years

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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GMC ACADIA 2010
SL, Black, 44K, CERT \$21,245
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GMC YUKON DENALI 2009
White, loaded, AWD, 44K, \$38,395
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Audi

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Century 2002 CUSTOM
One owner, V-6, good on gas, No rust, air, exc cond. \$4,800/best offer. 248-477-7443

Century 2003
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White, leather, very nice \$15,995
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Buick

RENEVOUS 2005
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Cadillac

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Silver, Loaded, 95K Ext \$27,455
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ESCALADE EXT 2007
Silver, Like New! \$27,995
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Honda

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Mercury

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Nissan

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Black, chrome wheels, 2K. Hard to find! \$22,995
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G8 2009
12C8522A, V8, Navigation, Leather, 22,000 miles. \$24,988
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Pontiac

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Saturn

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SILVERADO - #27239, CRUZE - #2C4796D, EQUINOX - #2T7460D, MALIBU - #2C4707, MALIBU - #2C4484, TRAVERSE - #277487 are 24 month, 10,000 mile per year lease offers with \$ Tier credit and 800 credit score. Camaro #2C4713D is 36 month, 10,000 mile per year lease offer with approved credit (A Tier). Total due at inception: Silverado: 1st payment \$174, down payment \$999, total due \$1,173. Cruze: 1st payment \$99, down payment \$1,199, total due \$1,298. Equinox: 1st payment \$195, down payment \$999, total due \$1,194. Malibu: 1st payment \$149, down payment \$999, total due \$1,148 or less. Traverse: 1st payment \$91, down payment \$999, total due \$1,090. Malibu LT: 1st payment \$199, down payment \$2,195, 2.9 APR with approved credit. Others at similar savings with approved credit. All offers are plus tax, title, lic, and documentary fees. Not incentives. Stock sale only. Subject to availability. Offers subject to change due to print deadlines. Offers end July 2, 2012.