



**POWER
PLAY**
BAND ROCKS
AT LOCAL VENUES
ENTERTAINMENT, B6

**POTATOES — MORE
THAN FRENCH FRIES**
FOOD B3



**SPRING
SPORTS
PREVIEWS**
SECTION B

Office closings

Westland city offices including the 18th District Court and the Recycling Center, will be closed on Good Friday, March 29. The William P. Faust Public Library will be closed Saturday and Sunday, March 30-31, for the Easter holiday. It will reopen at 9 a.m. Monday, April 1.

Police and fire services, garbage and recycling pickup will not be affected.

Wayne City Hall is closed on Fridays normally and will not be open Good Friday. Wayne 29th District Court and the Wayne Public Library also will be closed but trash collection and emergency services will not be affected.

All divisions of the Wayne County Clerk's downtown and satellite offices will be observing a half day on Friday, March 29, due to the Easter holiday. The hours of operation will be 8 a.m. to noon.

Services affected by this include elections, court services, birth and death certificates, marriage licenses, assumed names, notary publics, and concealed weapons.

Also, the Vital Statistics Division and both satellite offices in Northville and Westland of the Wayne County Clerk's Office will be closed on Monday, April 1, due to a mandatory furlough day. Regular business hours will resume on Tuesday, April 2.

Easter events

The Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department presents the 34th annual Marshmallow Drop, sponsored by Crosspointe Church, at Attwood Park at 10 a.m. Friday.

There will be three drops — first for walking toddlers to age 4 and children with a disability, second for ages 5-7 and third for ages 8-10.

Attwood Park is next to the Wayne-Westland Community Center on Howe south of Annapolis. The event is free of charge to the Wayne and Westland communities.

Wayne County Parks invites family and friends to the 29th annual Marshmallow Drop on Friday at Nankin Mills in Westland at 11 a.m.

More than 20,000 marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter for children to collect and trade in for a prize. Children will be divided into age groups.

Nankin Mills is 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

INDEX

Business.....A8
Crossword Puzzle...B11
Entertainment.....B6
Food.....B8
Homes.....B10
Jobs.....B10
Obituaries.....B5
Opinion.....A10
Services.....B10
Sports.....B1
Wheels.....B12

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WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Wage reductions, employee concessions save W-W millions

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland school employees will see their wages cut and health care cost more under contract extensions approved by the school board Tuesday evening.

The board met in special session to approve the contracts, which covered the remaining one year of current agreements and three-year extensions, with all of its employee groups. The new contracts will save the district an estimated \$11-\$13 million over the three years and avoid a defi-

cit through 2014-15.

"The only way to address the deficit was through contracts," said James Larson-Shidler, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services. "We will be in a stable position through 2014-15 with passage of these contracts, and we will be able to identify other savings to get us through to 2016-17."

According to Larson-Shidler, a bulk of the savings will come in 2013-14, with a small amount spilling over to 2014-15.

Wayne-Westland joins more than 40 school districts around the state in ratifying contract

extensions in advance of the implementation of the state's right to work law today (March 28). The law, which applies to new contracts, prohibits employers or labor unions from making workers pay union dues or fees as a condition of their employment.

The contract extensions were for the Wayne-Westland Education Association, MEA Local 4, Wayne-Westland Educational Secretaries Association, Brotherhood of Specialized Skills (BOSS), Wayne-Westland Association of Paraprofessionals, Wayne-Westland Central Office Administra-

tors Association, Wayne-Westland Building Administrators Association and Wayne-Westland Education Association-Adult and Community Education (ACE). Members of the district's Cabinet — Superintendent Greg Baracy, Larson-Shidler and Paul Salah, deputy superintendent for instruction — also made similar concessions.

Wage reductions

All but two groups — the paraprofessionals and WWEA-ACE — agreed to 5 percent wage reduc-

Please see **CONTRACTS, A2**



Ryan Goodson (From left), teacher Kathie Ormond and Jada Enrici show off a mural of Westland second-graders at Edison Elementary created as part of their studies about their local community.

STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Edison students 'map out' Westland on school wall

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The city of Westland is more than a spot on a map. It's part of a mural created by second-grade students at Edison Elementary School.

The length of a classroom, the mural depicts the area around the school and includes such important sites as city hall, the library, police station and the park by the Bailey Recreation Center.

"The whole thing was to get through to them what makes up a community," said teacher Kathie Ormond. "We've been studying our local community and thought it would be cool to do a mural of some of the roads, homes and

buildings."

"We put in the important buildings, with the school in the middle," said fellow teacher Amy Kincaid. "We put in city hall, the post office and library."

The project was done the school's three second grades taught by Ormond, Kincaid and Michele Measel. It was sketched out by the teachers and parent volunteers worked with the students to paint it. It was hung in the hallway outside the three classrooms in mid-February, and students with parent volunteers painted it.

'Nicely' done

The mural is more than 10 feet long and took more than three days to paint by the 90 students.

"We did it during the morning, we sent them out a few at a time," said Ormond. "It came along nicely."

In working on the mural, Navi Washington realized "that there are a lot of apartments" in the vicinity of the school, located on Hunter at Wildwood. He helped paint some trees and tree bark near the roads depicted on the mural.

"Community means a lot to me," he said. "This was really the fun part of learning about it."

The teachers used curriculum and a book on the history of Westland to help students understand their community. They learned

Please see **MURAL, A2**

Youth Assistance Programs join to train mentors

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Area Youth Assistance Programs are looking for a few good men and women to be trained as youth mentors.

"We're looking for someone who is kind, sensitive and will be a positive role model," said Westland Youth Assistance Program Director Paul Motz. "It's a lot easier to be a mentor than to be a parent."

Westland is joining with the Wayne and Garden City Youth Assistance programs to host the required 15 hours of mentor training that is scheduled for Friday through Saturday, April 11-13. The training will be held at the Westland Youth Assistance Office.

"We need people who are good listeners — mentors aren't there to give answers," said Motz. "It's important for kids to develop relationships. One good relationship can turn into many good relationships."

One mentor recently mentioned that she still had relationship with the youngster she had mentored — now a 22-year-old, Motz said.

"The mentor went through some health issues, they have been connected the whole

Please see **MENTORS, A2**

Brighton woman charged with murder in fatal accident

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A Brighton woman has been charged with second-degree murder and two other felonies in the death of a Westland woman run over by a vehicle during an argument.

Shannon Marie Gruden, 30, was arraigned Tuesday afternoon in Westland 18th District Court, charging her with killing Amanda Hall, 25.

Along with second-degree murder, which carries a sentence



Gruden

felonies. A not guilty plea was entered for Gruden.

Police reported that Gruden and Hall were near Hall's home in the 32600 block of Manistee Court in Westland March 21. The two women were having a dis-

pute over a man with whom each has been involved, according to police.

There were a number of people present as the two argued. Gruden is charged with striking Hall with her vehicle and fleeing the scene.

A mother of four, Hall was taken to Oakwood Annapolis Hospital where she later died of her injuries.

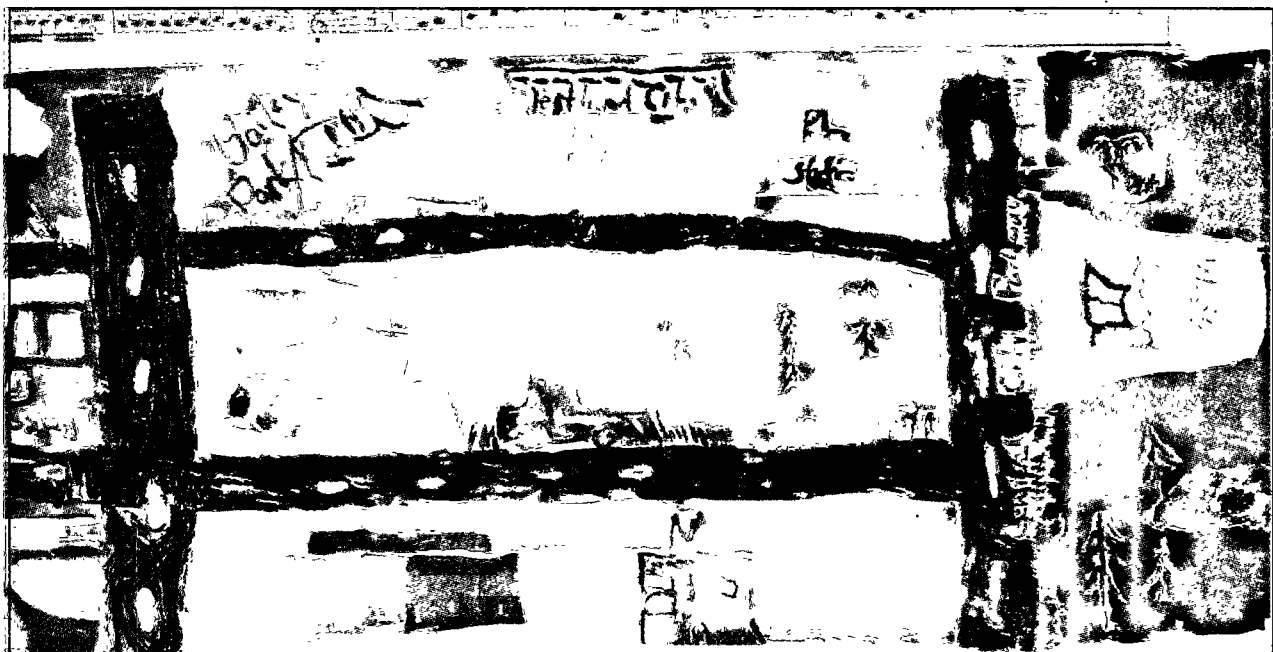
Gruden was arrested in Livingston County later on March 21. She was released while police gathered more information, then

taken into custody and arraigned Tuesday.

A preliminary exam for Gruden has been scheduled for Thursday, April 4, in 18th District Court. Gruden is being held in lieu of \$1 million cash/surety bond.

Funeral arrangements have not been announced for Hall. A fundraiser was held Monday in Wayne to help cover the funeral costs.

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STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The mural includes important places within the area of the school, places like the city hall, library, Central City Park and police station.

MURAL

Continued from page A1

about what makes up a community, including the local government — the mayor and council — what services are needed, why laws are important and what makes them all work. The mural helped put a face on what they learned.

For Navier, he now knows “that you can’t throw trash on the ground or leave your

stuff behind.”

“I remember the mayor’s name, Mayor Wild,” he said.

After studying about the local community, Jada Enrici created a poster of things that are important to do.

“I did for the project, I didn’t have to do it but I did,” said Jada. “I think it tells us what we have to do and not do in the community.”

Do’s and don’ts

Her list includes being helpful, not littering, liv-

ing, working and playing in the community, making friends and always being friendly and working to have a safe neighborhood. She also including driving safely on residential streets and not talking to strangers.

For Madison Sullivan, studying the local community and doing the mural fueled her interest places to go and things to see in the city.

“I like learning about all kinds of different places so you can do stuff and have fun in the communi-

ty,” she said.

Kincaid pointed out that it was hard for students to connect with the photographs in the book about Westland so activities are planned to help link their school to the surrounding community.

“We’re planning a field trip to Nankin Mills in May to learn more about the community and hope to walk to the library,” she said.

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CONTRACTS

Continued from page A1

tions over the term of agreement. According Kelly Bohl, senior executive director of human resources, the two unions were able to reach their targeted savings through other concessions. Those two unions will have their wages frozen through the end of the agreements.

The wage increased for 2013-14 was replaced with the 5 percent wage reduction and the salary scale and step increases frozen for the duration of the agreements for the WWEA, Local 4, BOSS, WWCOWA, WWBAA and Cabinet. The paraprofessionals and ACE unions agreed to eliminate the salary increases for 2013-2014 and a salary scale freeze for the life of the agreement.

Under the new agreements, the amount the district pays toward the cost of medical insurance will be capped at the limits prescribed by law (hard cap). All employees also will be moved to a higher deductible plan of \$1,250 for single person, \$2,500 for two people and full family, as of July 1, 2013.

Eliminated in all of the agreements was a cash payment in lieu of medical coverage and furlough days for 2013-14. Pay in lieu of vacation time for transportation employees will be eliminated at the end of the current school year. According to Bohl, because the drivers worked 10 months, they received they pay at the end of the school year and carried them through the summer months.

Conflicts of interest

All but the WWEA and Local 4 contracts were approved 6-0 with Trustee Charles “Trav” Griffin absent. Board President Carol Middel and Trustee Frederick Weaver abstained on the WWEA contract, and Weaver also

did the same for the Local 4 agreement because of a new state law which that requires board members to abstain from voting on financial issues or contracts when a conflict of interest exists.

Middel abstained because her husband is a scorekeeper for athletic events, a position included in the WWEA agreement. Weaver’s wife is a counselor at Wayne Memorial High School and his son “sometimes works in the district as a custodian.”

Griffin, had he been present, also would have had to abstain on the WWEA agreement because his daughter-in-law is a teacher in the district. In a statement read by Middel, he voiced his objection to new law and applauded “the union and board negotiating teams in what they did, this will save the district money.”

Board members expressed their appreciation for what the unions did for the district.

“You came to the bar and the sacrifices you made show your love for this district,” said board Treasurer Shawna Walker. “I appreciate it, the board appreciates it.”

“Everybody made contributions to keep this district viable,” said board Vice President Thomas Buckalew. “If we can’t do that we can’t service our children. The situation we’re in is not the fault of the administration, it’s not the fault of the employees. We done the right things, we’ve cut the things necessary to keep our programs viable.”

Baracy recognized the spirit of cooperation apparent in negotiations. “A heartfelt thank you to all of the employees who stepped up and supported this initiative,” he said. “Thank you for your contributions and for saving the programs for the children.”

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Clothing sale

The Lighthouse Home Missions and Full Gospel Temple are holding a spring clothing give-away 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 5-6, at the church, 34033 Palmer between Wildwood and Venoy, Westland.

Men’s, women’s and children’s clothing will be given away. Buy a bag for \$2 and fill it with clothes and shoes to the top. Buy

as many bags as you like for \$2 each.

Proceeds from the sale will go fund the work of the mission.

Garage sale

Ss. Simon and Jude Church is holding a garage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 5, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. There will be a \$2 Bag Sale at 3 p.m. All

large items go for \$2 at bag sale. For more information, contact Mae Bray at (734) 722-8209.

Spaghetti dinner

A spaghetti dinner will be held Sunday April 14, to benefit the Romanowski VFW Post 6896 pool team.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. A hungry plate will be available for \$8. The meal includes spaghetti with meat or marinara sauce, salad and bread and butter. Desserts will be available. There also will be a cash bar, raffles, music and much more.

The Romanowski Post is at 28945 Joy, east of Middlebelt in Westland. For more information, call (734) 525-9454 or (734) 261-0260.

Play date

Designer Duds n Infant Treasures is holding a “Play Date” 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at the store at 815 N. Wayne Road, north of Cherry Hill, Westland. Appointments are being taken to children’s fingerprints made into a one of a

kind piece of jewelry for Mother’s Day! Check out www.pixieprintz.com

For more information, call (734) 331-2519 or check out Designer Duds on Facebook.

Healthy Passport

The city of Westland will hold a Healthy Passport Run Wild 5K and Mayor’s Mile Saturday, April 20, at the Westland City Hall on Ford Road west of Wayne Road. Check-in will be at 7:30 a.m., with a shot gun start at 9 a.m.

The cost is \$20 and includes an event T-shirt and free for Buddy-Up participants. Register online at www.cityofwestland.com/healthy-passport.

Pancake Breakfast

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland is holding a pancake breakfast 8-10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at Applebee’s, 36475 Warren Road, Westland. The all you-can-eat-breakfast includes pancakes, meat, juice and coffee.

The cost is \$7. Tickets are available from members of United Methodist Women or at the door. For more information call Applebee’s at (734) 467-7215 or (734) 721-4801.

MENTORS

Continued from page A1

time,” he said.

Currently, the Westland Youth Assistance Program has about 20 mentors and about 12 youngsters waiting for a mentor.

“Life happens for mentors. They have grandkids, move or get new jobs,” Motz said.

Mentors must be at 21 years old, have a clean criminal history and be able to commit to one hour weekly or two hours every other week to meet with the youngster.

“The training focuses on communication — ver-

bal and nonverbal — and about the mentors’ role,” said Motz. “It’s very interactive training. They will learn a lot about themselves in the training. There is no commitment. We screen our people and interview folks to find out who will be a good fit.”

The training will be combined but volunteers should register through the Youth Assistance Program in which they plan to be a mentor. For Westland, call (734) 467-3156; Wayne, (734) 721-7004; and Garden City, (734) 793-1600, press 9.

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Suspects face trial in crime spree

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Two Detroit men are facing trial on charges arising from a suburban crime spree that authorities say included an armed robbery inside a Canton Family Dollar store and conspiracy to rob a Westland Cash Advance store.

Eric Anthony Reed, 21, and Raymond Maurice Whatley, 19, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if they are convicted of a robbery-related spree that police say began Jan. 29 in Taylor and ended when Westland Police captured the



Whatley



Reed

suspects Feb. 16.

According to Wayne County Circuit Court documents, Reed and Whatley are charged with armed robberies in Canton, Taylor and Allen Park and conspiracy to commit another offense in Westland. The two men are jailed with cash bonds totaling over \$500,000.

Reed and Whatley are facing trial after they vol-

untarily waived their preliminary examinations last Friday in Plymouth 35th District Court, which handled charges from the four communities.

Reed faces trial for additional counts of felony firearm and second-degree criminal sexual conduct out of Canton. Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said Reed was accused of fondling a female employee during a robbery that occurred just before 9 p.m. Feb. 6 inside the Family Dollar store on Joy Road near I-275.

"There was inappropriate contact between the suspect and a female in

the store," Schreiner said. Reed and Whatley are accused of seizing cell phones from Family Dollar workers and taking money from the store, Schreiner said.

Westland Police arrested the defendants Feb. 16 after two men arrived outside the Cash Advance store at 208 S. Merriman. The men had arrived before the store opened, police said, and a male employee refused to open the door for two men described as wearing hoods.

"The men left. The teller knew there had been robberies of cash stores, so he decided to go the

Chase Bank branch to make a deposit," Westland Police Sgt. Randy Thivierge has said. "While he was at the bank, he saw the suspects' vehicle at a Burger King drive-through."

The employee got a license plate number and called police as the suspects returned to the business. He again refused to let the suspects in with their hoods up.

Westland Police said the license plate didn't belong to the car driven by the suspects, who were stopped by police. "The driver didn't have a license and a gun was

found in the car," Thivierge said.

Once police had the pair in custody, they were identified as suspects in the Canton robbery.

"One of our dispatchers remembered an article in the Observer from Canton (about an armed robbery)," Westland Police Sgt. Dan Serrano said. "We printed out the photos. One of the suspects was wearing the same clothes he was arrested in."

Staff Writer LeAnne Rogers contributed to this story.

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Student leaving bus struck by car

A Westland student suffered non-life-threatening injuries Monday after being struck by a van as he exited a school bus.

The student, 17, was hit as the driver of a van tried to pass the bus on Schuman south of Cherry Hill about 2:15 p.m. The van then struck a tree on the west side of the road.

Both the student and the driver, a 33-year old man, were taken to the hospital suffering non-life-threatening injuries, according to police.

The driver was arrested and police reported alcohol was likely a factor in the accident.

Vehicle stolen from Garden City work site

Stolen vehicle

A man who had been working at a home in the 31000 block of Brown left a truck secured at the close of the work day and when he returned the morning of March 23, it was gone. The man who works for Elite Development Company had parked the work truck there over several months but never had a prior problem.

The worker, a Dearborn resident, couldn't provide the makes or the serial numbers for the numerous tools contained within the truck which were also stolen including hand tools, a portable generator, a drill, nail guns and hammers.

Attempted theft

A resident in the 6900 block of Fairfield reported March 21 that somebody attempted to steal his 2009 Dodge Journey. He found that someone tried to remove the ignition from the vehicle.

Although he told police

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

that he locked the vehicle, they found no signs of forced entry.

Retail fraud

A Garden City resident helped detain a shoplifter about 1 p.m. March 21 after he observed a police car in his neighborhood and then saw an unknown man in a yard.

Garden City police arrested a 43-year-old Garden City man after he reportedly stole items from the Kmart store at 29600 Ford. The suspect had stolen Lego toys valued at about \$152 and then exited the store without paying for them.

The suspect cut through the yards between Beechwood and Dawson. The citizen spotted him in a yard in the 29000 block of Dawson and detained him until the police arrived.

The suspect had concealed the 34 packages of

Lego toys in his coat and pockets.

Retail fraud

A shoplifter at the Kmart store at 29600 Ford first reportedly made a layaway payment and then stole some items from the store about 3 p.m. March 23.

The store's loss prevention officer reportedly observed a 52-year-old Garden City man concealing a package of hair dye in his pocket and also a can of Red Bull and cleaning cloths.

The man left his pickup parked in the fire lane in front of the store prior to entering the store. He was arrested when the police arrived.

Suspended license

Garden City police arrested the driver of a 2005 Dodge Magnum about 11:30 p.m. March 24 at Ford and Middlebelt

after they ran his license plate and found his driver's license was suspended. They also learned that the man had outstanding warrants out of Allen Park and Flint.

Suspended license

When police stopped a 61-year-old Westland driver at Ford and Henry Ruff, they reportedly found his driver's license was suspended and he had an outstanding warrant out of Westland. His passenger was transported to her residence because she was intoxicated.

Theft

A 17-year-old Garden City High School student

reported at 3 p.m. March that she found her driver's side door partially open. When she looked inside, her debit card and check registry were gone.

Although she said that she locked her car, the police found no signs of forced entry.

Never acquired a license

The police arrested a 36-year-old Inkster man about 6:30 p.m. March 24 at Cherry Hill and Inkster Road after they reportedly discovered he never acquired a driver's license. Police also said the man had no proof of insurance and an improper plate.

By Sue Buck



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Changing course

Rouge River has gone from open sewer to potential urban water trail

If you mention the Rouge River to someone from the Detroit area, the thought might conjure up images of industry, which only makes sense considering the river had been



Kurt Kuban

for years synonymous with Ford Motor Company's River Rouge Complex. Affectionately known as The Rouge,

the massive factory that became the world's largest in 1928 as it cranked out instant mobility for the masses still casts quite a shadow above the lower reaches of our modest little river.

And the Ford factory is not alone. The area between the Ford complex and Zug Island where the Rouge River ultimately runs its course and empties into the Detroit River is an industrial landscape straight from a post-apocalyptic, sci-fi movie. It is the very buckle of the Rust Belt — an area where the Rouge River famously caught fire in 1969. It is also the area where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers paved much of the river channel in a misguided effort to curb flooding back in the 1970s.

Not surprisingly, many people equated the Rouge River with the pollution that despoiled it. That's what happens when a watershed is located in the cradle of the automobile industry and is home to 1.5 million people.

And when you consider the stormwater and sanitary pollution that municipalities all over Wayne and Oakland counties flushed into the river every time there was a thunderstorm, you begin to see how the Rouge River ended up getting listed by the E.P.A. as a Great Lakes AOC - Area of Concern (www.epa.gov/greatlakes/aoc/rouge-river/index.html). The reality is, for years, much of this urban river system was pretty much off limits to people.

That dubious history, however, shrouds some very positive news about the River Rouge in recent years. There has been a combined effort between the federal government, local municipalities and especially a small army of dedicated volunteers who have fought for a generation to bring the river back from the brink. Beginning in the 1980s, millions of mostly federal but plenty of local dollars have been spent to curb pollution, especially the sanitary discharges that plagued the river for years (and still do in some places).

Just as encouraging, there has been a successful grassroots effort involved as well. Over the last 25 years, thousands of area residents have volunteered in the annual Rouge Rescue cleanup, led by the group Friends of the Rouge (www.therouge.org). Volunteers have removed a mountain of garbage — everything from cars and shopping carts to liquor bottles (and just about everything else imaginable).

And sure enough, the river is coming back to life, especially in communities that have implemented best practices. Water quality has improved, including dissolved oxygen levels. Fish and aquatic insects have made a comeback in portions of the river where they had disappeared years ago.

Most of the 48 Rouge communities have joined together to form the ARC, or Alliance of Rouge Communities (www.allianceofrougecommunities.com), which has allowed a pooling of resources to heal



KURT KUBAN

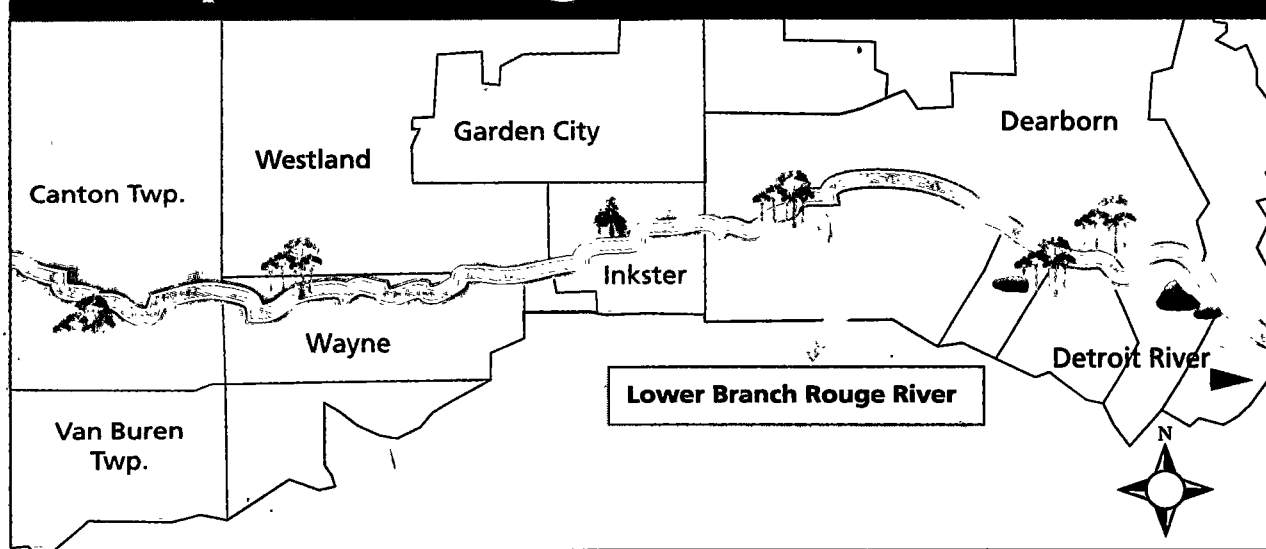
It wasn't that long ago that canoeing on the Rouge River seemed like a pipe dream. However, a number of communities — including Canton Township and Wayne, along with Wayne County Parks — hopes to get a federal grant to designate the Lower Rouge River an urban water trail that would provide 25 miles of canoeing/kayaking, including through this section of Wayne.



COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE

Most of the area along the proposed urban water trail is wooded and publicly owned.

Proposed Rouge River Water Trail



the watershed. For example, in the city of Wayne, ARC secured a federal grant and led the effort last fall to remove an obsolete dam dating back to the 1930s. With the dam removed, fish, including salmon and steelhead, can now move up from the Great Lakes all the way to the headwaters in Canton Township and Washtenaw County where they will be able to spawn with greater success.

Many Rouge communities are now realizing what a fantastic resource they have in their own backyards, and there is an ongoing effort to reconnect residents to the river. This movement is picking up momentum as the water quality continues to improve.

In recent years, for instance, volunteers have hacked away at logjams to open up the Lower Branch of the Rouge to canoeing, especially in the city of Wayne — home to a half dozen river miles. In addition to locals who do paddle the river on occasion, large group trips organized by Friends of the Rouge each fall have proven more and more popular. Last October, for example, a group of more than 50 people participated in the trip, which took them past the dam removal site for the first time.

I recently sat in on a meeting with numerous Rouge River stakeholders who agreed to partner up and pursue an "urban waterway" designation for the Lower Branch, which

begins in Washtenaw County and generally follows Michigan Avenue through Canton Township, Wayne, Westland, Inkster, and Dearborn before reaching the Detroit River. Despite the fact that there are a half million people living in these communities, the river flows through a wooded corridor that resembles northern Michigan in many places.

The shareholders in this effort — including Dearborn, Canton, Wayne, Wayne County and the Alliance of Rouge Communities — are collaborating to get a grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Urban Waters program. They want to designate the Lower Branch from Canton Township all the way

to the Detroit River as an 'Urban Water Trail'.

Riverside Kayak Connection and Heavner Canoe Rental are also on board with the effort. They are located on the opposite ends of the watershed. Riverside Kayak Connection is located in Wyandotte near the Detroit River, and Heavner is actually based in Milford in the Huron River watershed (though they do rent canoes on Newburgh Lake in the Rouge watershed). The owners of both establishments see the urban waterway concept as a great way to promote "getting outdoors" but they also recognize the potential to capitalize on people reconnecting with the river. Paddling sports have

always been very popular in Michigan. In a watershed of 1.5 million people, a few of them are bound to rent canoes or purchase kayaks.

This urban water trail is nearly 25 miles long, and would allow paddlers a day long journey from Canton to the Detroit River — through sections of peaceful woodlands and past historic structures like Henry Ford's incredible Fairlane Estate, the River Rouge Complex and even Zug Island. Once out in the Detroit River, people will be able to paddle in the shadows of passing freighters plying the waters of the Great Lakes.

Much work needs to be done to make this possible. The communities need to establish canoe launches along the route, not to mention bathroom facilities and parking. The stakeholders hope to get the grant to do this work. The fact that much of the land is already park land and in public hands makes these tasks much easier.

The biggest struggle will be to open up the logjams along the route — and keep them open. Friends of the Rouge led an expedition on this route two years ago, which I happened to be part of, and we encountered nearly 200 logjams of various sizes. It will take many volunteer hours, and hopefully some work by municipal crews to open up the entire route. With more and more people taking an interest in the Rouge, however, this is certainly possible.

The bottom line is canoeing on the Rouge River is no longer a pipe dream. I recently read an article published in the Detroit Free Press back in 1985 that all but declared the Rouge a dead river. Well, to steal a quote the great Mark Twain, the reports of the Rouge's demise were greatly exaggerated. Yes, people were responsible for nearly killing the river, but they are now leading the charge in its renaissance.

Changing perceptions isn't always easy — especially when you are talking about the Rouge River. But once people start seeing kayaks and canoes moving through their communities, chances are they won't be thinking about all that industry downstream.

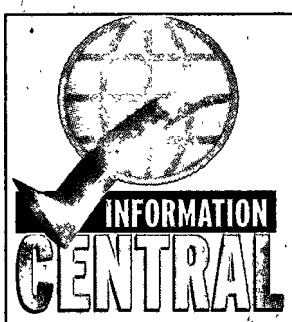
Kurt Kuban is community editor of the Northville Record and also covers environmental issues for O&E Media. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com.

Fred Rogers: Won't You Be My Neighbor Day

Wednesday, March 20, was the 85th anniversary of Fred Rogers' birth. Rogers was an American educator, Presbyterian minister, songwriter, author, television host and sweater enthusiast. He is best known for the PBS classic family television program, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, which he created and hosted from 1968 to 2001.

He passed away in 2003 at the age of 74, having made a lasting impact on generations of American children. For his contribution to the well-being of children and his work in demonstrating the importance of kindness, compassion, and learning, Rogers received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

He was recognized by Congressional resolutions in the U.S. House and Senate, he was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame, he won five Emmys, including a life-



time achievement award, and he received a Peabody Award, which recognizes distinguished public service in the radio and television industry. One of his signature cardigan sweaters now hangs in the Smithsonian Institution.

Won't You Be My Neighbor Day, celebrated on March 20, is a day that honors Fred Rogers' philosophy and legacy. The suggested celebration is simple: wear a sweater and do something neighborly that day. Through his television program and work as an author, Rogers encouraged children to consider their role

as members of a broader community and to treat others with understanding and generosity.

He emphasized imagination, the joy of learning new things, and the importance of strong moral character. Since the official Won't You Be My Neighbor Day has passed, we suggest being mindful this week of opportunities to wear sweaters and do something special to support your neighborhood.

The library has a variety of books, videos, and audio materials related to Rogers. For adults, check out the books *The World According to Mr. Rogers* or *The Mister Rogers Parenting Book*, both by Rogers himself, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood: Children, Television and Fred Rogers* by Mark Collins, or the DVD, *Fred Rogers: America's Favorite Neighbor*.

For children, we have DVDs of Mister Rogers specials and CDs of songs written and performed

by Mister Rogers, as well as books Rogers wrote to help children deal with topics such as adoption, moving, divorce, and when a pet dies.

If you'd like to learn more about Fred Rogers' life, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, or *Won't You Be My Neighbor Day*, visit the library's website at www.westlandlibrary.org, give us a call at (734) 326-6123, or stop by the reference desk.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

Writers Club: 7 p.m. March 28

Have you written sto-

ries or poems that you would like others to hear, but not critique, in a casual atmosphere? Looking to get back into writing but could some support and/or exercises? Join Cheryl Vatcher-Martin as she leads the Westland Library Writer's Club.

English as a Second Language (ESL): No classes will be held on March 29 or April 5 for spring holiday.

Friday Night Movie: 7 p.m. March 29

Friday Night Movies continue with *Les Misérables*, an adaptation of a beloved musical. "In 19th-century France, Jean Valjean agrees to care for factory worker Fantine's daughter, Cosette." Snacks and refreshments served. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Movie starts at 7 p.m. No sign-up required.

Rated PG-13.

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

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help. Drop in. No reservation needed.

Information Central was compiled by Marilyn Kwik, head of information services. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

Dog Scout troop donates canine masks

Julie Benson heard the statistics: Every year approximately 4,000 humans die in house fires and 40,000 family pets are killed, the leading cause of death from fire being asphyxiation.

When Benson, the leader to a local Dog Scout troop, heard this, she knew she wanted to do something with her troop members to take action and help save as many animals as possible.

So, with the help of troop 217 members Melissa Perez of Wayne, Michelle Neu of Taylor and Vickie Lomas of Walled Lake, Benson helped collect more than \$500 in returnable cans

and bottles in order to purchase six full canine oxygen mask kits.

"Pets are members of our families, they aren't just pets to the people of my Dog Scouts of America troop," said Benson, a Novi resident who leads Troop 217. "What better way to serve the community than to help pets, throughout the metro Detroit area, that may not have a chance of surviving without the aid of these masks."

The kits (which contain a large, medium, and small mask) will be distributed to Huron Valley Ambulance, who in turn will issue to EMS and local fire houses in Oak-

land, Wayne and Washtenaw counties.

Benson and fellow troop members will present the canine oxygen mask kits to Eric Fields 10 a.m. Saturday, April 6, at HVA's Plymouth station, located at 1270 Goldsmith in Plymouth.

Dog Scouts of America is a non-profit organization that promotes positive reinforcement training and responsible pet ownership.

For more information on Dog Scouts of America visit www.dogscouts.org. Anyone interested in joining the local troop can contact Benson at bensonjulie@earthlink.net.

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PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Viktor Berisaj is offering diners a taste of southern cooking at his new Country Grill Restaurant on Wayne Road in Westland.



It took Viktor Berisaj "as good six months" to remodel the inside of the former Coney Island restaurant. The interior features a fire place and bar as well as seating for 150.

Country Grill serves a taste of the South

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

When Viktor Berisaj opened the doors of the Country Grill Restaurant in Westland on Jan. 14, he expected his customer base to build slowly. That didn't happen.

"It was very crazy," said the Novi resident. "As soon as the doors opened it was jam packed. We couldn't keep up with food. I had two food trucks coming everyday six days a week."

"It's been a very huge success, very much so," he said.

Berisaj spent more than \$750,000 transforming a vacant restaurant on South Wayne Road. The exterior was completely redone and the inside was "pretty much demolished" to provide customers with a "high class din-

ing experience at affordable prices."

A gas log fireplace is the focal point of the dining room which seats 150 people. It also features dark wood accents on the ceiling, at the bar and hostess station. There are tablecloths on the tables and food is served on rectangular plates.

Berisaj is well-known in Westland for his popular Village Place Coney Island. It's popular with locals and has become known as the "Blue Roof" because of its distinctive blue roof. But Berisaj wasn't looking for a similar restaurant when he opened the Country Grill less than a mile south of the Coney Island. His plan was to open a different type restaurant with food not found in the area.

He hired chefs from down south who pre-

COUNTRY GRILL

Business Name and Address: Country Grill, 501 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Your name: Viktor Berisaj, owner
Your hometown: Novi
Business opened: January 2013
Number of employees: 45
Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Sunday
Your Business Specialty: Barbecue, Cajun/Creole and Southern food
Business phone & website: (734) 728-2500, www.facebook.com/CountryGrillWestland

pare southern foods. He's earned raves from Southerners who have tried it and "said it's good."

"There's nothing like it around here, it's a different concept," Berisaj said. "It was the right concept for this area."

The restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, and the menu features such things as four-five choices of soup daily, a Southern sampler for two with barbecued ribs, pulled pork and brisket, jambalaya, ribs and shrimp, fried okra and fried green beans, all made fresh. The restaurant doesn't have a freezer; the food is delivered fresh daily.

"It's all made from scratch," said Berisaj. "We've got a lot of employees. We have two chefs and a pastry chef. Everything is made from scratch everyday. My chef has worked all over for 35 years and has said he has never seen a place

like this."

The restaurant has a full liquor license, but currently serves only beer and wine. Berisaj is waiting for the weather to break to build a patio on the west side of the building to begin offering liquor. He wants to offer his customers the opportunity to sit outside on a nice day and enjoy a drink and nice dinner.

Berisaj has been in the restaurant business for 20 years. The first restaurant, which he operates with his brother, was Joseph's Coney Island in downtown Northville. He also had a restaurant in Farmington Hills before opening Village Place in Westland. He opened a second one in Redford, but that burned down several years ago. He still has three restaurants with Joseph's serving as

the base.

Currently, he's offering customers free coffee between 7-11 a.m. through the end of the month and will have a special Easter Brunch menu 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 31.

Berisaj also is listening to his customers, asking for their suggestions, what they'd like to see on the menu and what they like and don't like and then fine tuning the menu. He already putting a few new items on the men and taking a few off.

The success of the Country Grill has Berisaj thinking about the future.

"We'll possibly open another restaurant, we'll keep on expanding," he said.

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BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Public input

Marywood Nursing Care Center in Livonia has once again been recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of Michigan's best nursing homes for 2013.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continues to rate Marywood a 5-star facility.

"As a non-profit organization, our focus is always on the welfare of our residents. We are blessed with an outstanding staff who understand that their work is critical to providing high-quality care," Marywood Administrator John Mimnaugh said of the Felician-sponsored ministry.

In the rapidly changing landscape of health care today, Marywood is now examining how it can best respond in order to continue offering 5-star quality care. Guided by its board of directors an effort is under way to

solicit ideas, concerns and opinions from various Marywood stakeholders, including the local Livonia community and others living in Southeast Michigan. The input will assist the board in identifying strategic pathways for the next several years.

A brief on-line survey can easily be found on Marywood Nursing Care Center's website at www.marywoodnursingcare-center.org, just look for the Survey Monkey link.

Home sales up

An improving economy has given residential real estate sales in Westland one of its best years, according to recent reports. A Detroit News story reported included Westland among 12 cities in metro Detroit with large increases in home sales in 2012. Westland was ranked 6th with a 12.5 percent jump.

An improved economy

gave the city's residential sales business one of its best years since the economic downturn of 2007.

"The improving economy, lower interest rates, rising residential rents and the continuing safety and vibrancy of the city are driving our housing market," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "We expect to see the same progress in 2013."

Westland has long been known as one of Wayne County's premier destinations to work, live and play.

The thriving "Shop and Dine" district has grown by leaps and bounds, sparking investment from business owners and retailers across the state and nation. That, coupled with a diverse mix of affordable housing options and award-winning schools, Westland is becoming an irresistible draw for families.

Work seriously, but don't act serious at work

By Clarity Patton
Newhouse
Guest Columnist

If laughter is the best medicine, when is the last time you laughed out loud? You know - really laughed until your sides hurt!

Someone cut a horoscope out of the paper and gave it to me in honor of my birthday. It said: "The face of effective work is not always stern and serious. Through your chuckles and levity, you'll accomplish a significant feat." I loved it because I real-



Clarity Patton
Newhouse

A SUNNY NOTE

ly believe that taking work seriously doesn't have to mean acting serious at work. Quite the contrary! Humor and silliness help keep spirits up so lots of great work can get done. Certainly sensitivity to circumstances is important, but usually even awkward attempts at humor do more good than harm.

If you haven't laughed out loud lately, I'll recommend a recent movie that's likely to make you laugh and cry at the same time - *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. It's main character also said my favorite line of 2012, "Everything will be all right in the end. So if it is not all right, it is not yet the end."

Let the corny jokes begin - and have a sunny day!

Clarity

P.S. A man tells his doctor, "Doc, help me. I'm addicted to Twitter!" The doctor replies, "Sorry, I don't follow you ..."

Christine Schrum

Clarity Patton Newhouse is president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond. To reach her call (734) 855-4728 or find her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sunnynotes.

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W-W hires customer service consultant

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools will get help from a consulting firm to achieve its goal of creating a culture of customer service in the district.

The school board voted 4-3, with board President Carol Middel, Secretary John Goci and Trustee Sally Madison dissenting, to hire the firm of Rahmberg, Stover and Associates to provide customer training for the staff to address the district's current needs.

The school board earlier this month decide that it would participate in the customer service project it had set as a goal for Superintendent Greg Baracy. Considering the size of the district and number of employees, he

recommended that a consultant be hired to help.

At that workshop, Baracy equated changing the culture of the district to turning around a submarine. "It takes miles and miles," he had said.

The firm is no stranger to Wayne-Westland. Jeff Rahmberg has worked with district for some 30 years, most recently on the reconfiguration of its elementary program in 2009.

The contract, however came under fire by Goci for its inclusion in the consent calendar and not being a separate business item.

"I'd like to see an open discussion, we need to address this with the public so they know what we're doing," he said. "I'd like to be forthright and open. There's a lot of misconception and misinfor-

mation out there. I don't know how we can have a customer service piece when you never talk to the customer."

Goci also expressed concern that the firm was using three-year-old data, an issue shared by Madison.

Madison had initially expressed concern at the workshop about the cost of the two-year contract — \$65,000 — but at last week's board meeting said she was troubled that the firm planned to use three-year-old data. She also was concerned that Rahmberg hadn't been present at the meeting "to make a presentation."

"I did look hard at the data, and I didn't find it relevant," she said.

Baracy pointed that this is something that has been under discussion for

months.

"The only horse I have in this race is that we provide quality customer service training to all of our staff and utilize some expertise to do that," said Baracy. "We are not using three-year-old data, moving for we know we have to look at what going on now and it may disclose other areas of need."

Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin told his fellow trustees that had done his homework. He knows who Rahmberg is due to his association with Plan-te Moran.

"I have tremendous amount of respect for him," he said. "He will provide the kind of service that we in-house don't have the skills or staff to do."

Griffin added that he received tremendous recommendations from the

people he talked to about the firm.

"It's not a tremendous amount of money," he added. "I'm going to support this. I going to support giving them a chance to do what I've seen them do."

Board Vice President Thomas Buckalew agreed that changing the culture of the district isn't easy to do and that "it's hard to get people to change."

"We're going to train the administration and in their spare time they're going to teach their staff how to change culture. We need the thing that Rahmberg suggests, which is that we spend time with every teacher. We need to get started and Rahmberg is a better first step."

Trustee Frederick Weaver called the proj-

ect a tremendous undertaking and the question of doing it inhouse was "who was going to do what during what part of an 18-20-hour day."

"There's not enough time for a staff member to put in that kind of energy," he said.

Madison, however, said she still wasn't comfortable with the proposal.

"I've had more than enough data to go through, and I'm still not convinced or comfortable, no where in this does it does it have anything to do with including our community," said Madison. "I feel vitally important to include the community and they be a part of this process to continue it on."

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Westland Deputy Mayor Jade Smith (left), Westland Police Officer of the Year Bryan Jachym and Police Chief Jeffrey Jedrusik.

Jachym is Westland Police Officer of Year

Bryan Jachym has been named the 2012 Westland Police Officer of the Year.

A six-year veteran of the department, Jachym serves as a field training officer, a firearms instructor and police Explorer coordinator.

"Officer Jachym is a great police officer who has become a true leader. He is a highly motivated officer who pays great attention to detail," said Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik.

"He is the first to volunteer for any task needing to be taken care of and always responds to every high priority police run whether dispatched or not. The City of Westland is lucky to have him."

There was one particu-

lar incident which stands out in Jachym being honored, Jedrusik said.

On April 4, 2012, Jachym and his partner responded to Merriman and Michigan Avenue for a serious automobile accident. The vehicle involved was a Mustang which had flipped upside down and was on fire.

Jachym arrived at the scene and learned that the driver was trapped inside. Despite the fact that the vehicle was burning, Jachym ran to the vehicle, broke out the driver's side window, and pulled the driver to safety. The driver later told the Police Department that he thought that he was going to die and was thankful to Jachym for saving his life.

W-W, Wayne police set up Cop Shop in schools

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Elementary schools in Wayne will see an increased police presence after returning from Easter break.

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools and Wayne police have set up a plan for Cop Shops in the elementary schools — Hoover, Roosevelt-McGrath and Taft-Galloway. Rather than returning to the police station, Wayne patrol officers will stop in at the schools to write reports during their shifts. The officers will work on laptop computers in office space provided by the schools.

"It's a great idea. It's an opportunity for the officers to come and go during the day without being scheduled,"

said Wayne-Westland Schools Superintendent Greg Baracy. "It will increase the ability for students to see the officers and feel more comfortable. It will give parents more of a sense of security."

The idea of establishing Cop Shops was brought to the schools by Wayne Police Chief Jason Wright.

"I wish I could take credit for it but one of my officers, Lt. Daryl Rize, came in with it," said Wright. "I said yes immediately."

In the wake of the Sandy Hook school shootings, Rize had seen a television news story about a similar program established by a police department in another state.

Assigning an officer to work at a schools — like

the school liaison officers at Wayne Memorial High School, Franklin Middle School and Westland John Glenn High School — can be cost-prohibitive.

By having officers stop by during their regular shifts, working on laptops with secured wireless equipment in space provided at the school, there is no added cost to either the district or the city.

"We will spend \$2,000-\$3,000 for computer equipment. We'll use drug forfeiture money," said Wright. "It's a minor dollar amount in the over all picture."

In the past, Wayne police officers used a similar program in the community stopping to write reports at local stores. Officers had to be wary about who was

approaching them but also the older technology in use at the time could prove cumbersome.

Unlike the public report writing in stores or even patrol cars, Wright said the officers will have a secure office in the schools.

"The kids will see the officers more. It will be a different working environment," Wright said. "We won't disrupt the school and we will not send anyone to the school. It will be a report writing station."

Both Wright and Baracy are excited about the Cop Shop program, which is projected to be operating after school resumes April 8.

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Upgrades greet golfers at municipal course

However, chilly the weather has been lately, it's time to hit the links.

The Westland Municipal Golf Course officially opens for the season at 7 a.m. Monday, April 1.

Golfers hitting the links locally during the upcoming season, might notice a few changes when they get there.

Westland has made significant upgrades to the

facilities, including major changes to the clubhouse, remodeled bathrooms and several energy efficient upgrades.

"The outdated amenities were in dire need of a face-lift. I don't think our patrons will be disappointed when they see the improvements," said Westland Mayor William Wild.

This historic 9-hole golf

course presents the quintessential player-friendly golf experience. For a casual, relaxing round on a conventional course that won't strain your budget, the Westland Municipal Golf Course is as good as it gets, said Wild.

"We're ready for the start, and we're looking forward to it," added Wild.

The course, 500 S. Merriman Road, is open from 7:00 a.m. until dusk seven days a week. Resident and senior discounts will be available for Westland and Wayne residents.

For more information about tee times, rates or joining or starting a league, call (734) 721-6660 or visit online at www.cityofwestland.com/golfcourse.html.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 6 3/18/13

Presiding: President Godbout

Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehr, Reeves

36: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 3/4/13.

37: WFCL flower sale 3/29-31 & 5/10-12 at various locations in the city.

- Adopt Bud. Amendment 2013-11; Police Dept. \$37,000.00.

- Adopt Bud. Amendment 2013-12; Police Dept. \$10,204.00.

- Adopt Ord. 188-A-2, to amend Ch. 50, Art. IV, Fireworks, of the City Code by amending Sec. 50-101-102 defining fireworks, governing the use of fireworks and providing penalties for a violation.

- Adopt Ord. 29-W-39 to amend Ch. 46, Sec. 46-1 of the City Code to provide license, review & inspection fees for temporary structures.

- Intro Ord. 259 to amend Ch. 26 to adopt Art. VIII, Sec. 26-441-26445 to define yard sales, provide requirements for and require permits & permit fees for yard sales.

- Adopt Prepared Pledge Agreement Resolution for City Hall Project; amt. \$1,600,000.00.

- Adopted Prepared Installment Purchase Agreement for City Hall Project.

- Adopted Prepared Resolution for 1 NSP acquisition; 2204-06-08-10 Emerson.

- Adopted WWCS Partnership Agrmnt. Resolution for renovation of 2057 Alberta.

- Adopted WWCS Building Trades Program Agreement for renovation of 2057 Alberta.

38: Appr. req. for recess to go into closed study session re. labor negotiations & pending litigation.

39: Appr. tentative agrmnt. w/AFSCME Local 1602.

40: Appr. settlement Fowler v. City.

41: Appr. settlement Kodlowski v. City.

42: Appr. spec. land use for prop. Premier Pre-School Day Care Ctr., 2329 S. Venoy.

43: Appr. site plan for prop. building renovations & parking lot addition to Corkscrew Retail Shops, 37816 Ford Rd w/contingencies.

44: Appr. spec. land use for prop. Happy's Pizza & Pub, 920 S. Wayne Rd.

45: Appr. site plan for prop. Happy's Pizza & Pub, 920 S. Wayne Rd. w/contingencies.

46: Conf. re/appt. of M. Bianconi to EDC/TIFA for 4 yr. term to exp. 3/19/17.

47: Conf. re/appt. of B. Swope to EDC/TIFA for 4 yr. term to exp. 3/19/17.

48: Conf. re/appt. of M. Eisenstein to DDA for 4 yr. term to exp. 3/19/17.

49: Appr. checklist: \$4,154,226.26 & Prepaid: \$1,193,134.09.

Mtg. adj. at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President

Tina M. Stanke
Deputy City Clerk, CMC

Publish: March 28, 2013

AT7696140-3x4.5



CITY OF GARDEN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on a request to rezone the property located at 31506, 31492, and 31464 Cherry Hill Road from R-1, Single Family Residential to PD, Planned Development.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: March 28, 2013

AT7692239-3x4.5

ORDINANCE NO. 29-W-39

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 46, SECTION 46-1 OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE TO PROVIDE LICENSE, REVIEW AND INSPECTIONS FEES FOR TEMPORARY SALES FROM TEMPORARY STRUCTURES.

Section 1. That Chapter 46, Section 46-1 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to add paragraph (36a), to provide as follows:

"Temporary Sales from Temporary Structures (Section 4:13 of Zoning Ordinance 248)

(36a) License and review fee for Temporary Sales from Temporary Structures (retail stands, tents, canopies, or other membrane structures)\$445

Inspection fees for each day of sales in excess of three days\$98 per day

Section 2. That all other provisions of Chapters 46 of the Westland City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Repeal. All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

Section 5. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

Adopted: March 18, 2013
Effective: March 28, 2013

Publish: March 28, 2013

AT7696140-3x4.5

Gun charge stays, trial ordered in Verizon robbery

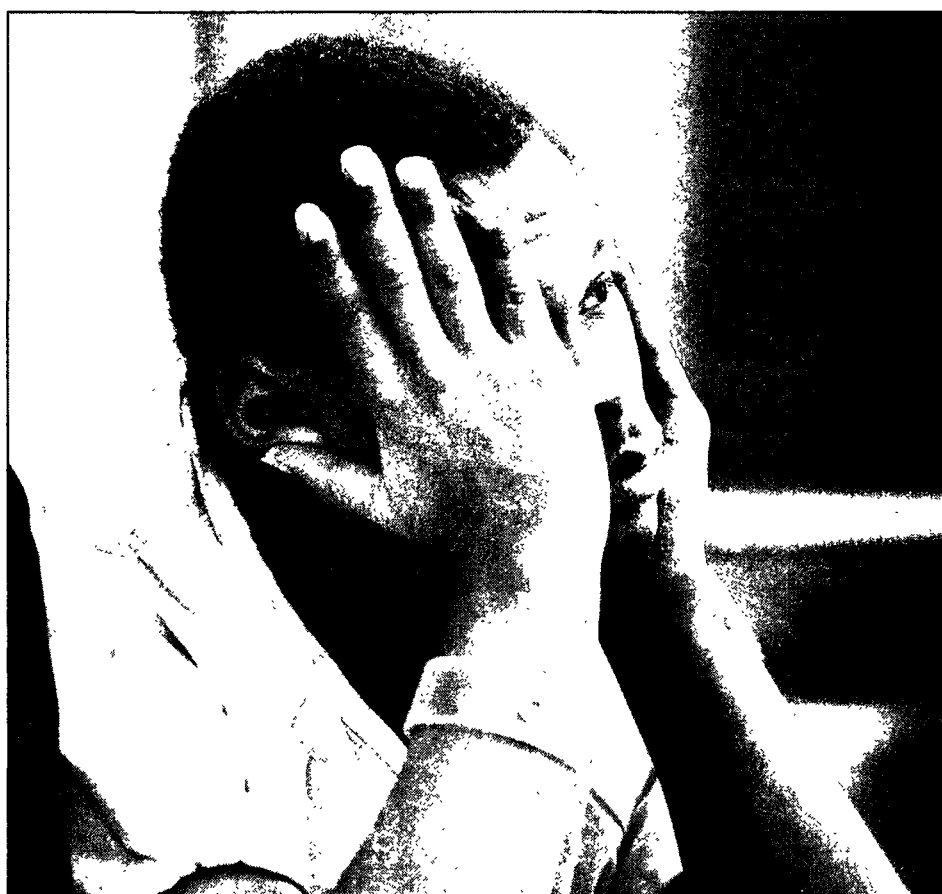
By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A 35th District Court judge has rejected an attempt by defendant Eric James-Lee Wilkins to fend off gun-related charges arising from allegations he was involved in a Canton Verizon store robbery, although Wilkins isn't accused of carrying the semiautomatic assault rifle used to blast open a sliding glass door an employee had locked.

Judge Ronald Lowe issued his decision Monday, refusing to dismiss a felony firearm charge, punishable by a mandatory two-year prison term, and a four-year felony of discharging a firearm into a building. Lowe's ruling mirrored a decision he made one week ago against defendant Dantez Lamar Boykin-Johnson.

Defense attorney Vincent Toussaint conceded in court there was "no question" Wilkins aided in the robbery. However, he argued Wilkins shouldn't face gun charges amid allegations the third defendant, Antonio Jerome Porter, fired the AR-15 weapon that got the three 18-year-old men inside to seize merchandise such as cell phones from the Verizon store on Ford Road east of Sheldon.

Lowe indicated the three teens are accused of setting out to commit



Eric James-Lee Wilkins listens to the proceedings during a hearing at 35th District Court in Plymouth. Wilkins is one of three teens charged in the robbery of a Canton Verizon store.

an armed robbery when the incident happened around 11 a.m. Feb. 25.

"It's kind of hard to do if you don't have a weapon," Lowe said.

Toussaint said he is likely to appeal Lowe's decision in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Lowe has now ruled that Wilkins, Boykin-Johnson and Porter all should stand trial on the gun charges and addi-

tional counts of armed robbery, breaking and entering a building with intent to commit a crime, first-degree retail fraud, receiving and concealing stolen property over \$1,000 and illegal entry without the building owner's permission.

Wilkins and Porter, both of Inkster, and Boykin-Johnson of Westland are now facing trial in Wayne County Circuit

Court after they all have waived their right to a preliminary examination in 35th District Court. Wilkins became the last to forgo his hearing Monday after Lowe ruled against him on the weapons charges.

In court Monday, Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Eric Sterbis argued that all three defendants should face the same charges because they all



Eric James-Lee Wilkins stands before Judge Ron Lowe with his attorney, Vincent Toussaint.

hatched the robbery plan. Moreover, he indicated a video shows Wilkins tried to force his way into the Verizon store before the locked door inside a vestibule was shot open.

"Wilkins can be seen attempting to kick out the door unsuccessfully," Sterbis said.

Porter then fired the shot that allowed the men to seize electronics such as phones, Sterbis said.

Statements in court Monday indicated Boykin-Johnson drove the car to the scene. Canton police say the three men fled the store, led police on a car chase and ran on foot before they were captured hiding in a storm cellar of a home on Willard Drive, near Oakview and Saltz.

In his ruling, Lowe said Wilkins, like the other defendants, had numerous opportunities to back out of the robbery. Porter, Wilkins and Boykin-Johnson have remained jailed with \$1 million cash bonds.

The three also are accused of a break-in on Feb. 25 of the Verizon store at 37950 Ann Arbor Road in Livonia. A window was smashed, then five cell phones, two tablets and \$400 cash were taken from the store. The men are charged with breaking and entering a building with intent and with larceny in a building.

dclcm@hometownlife.com
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Twitter: @CantonObserver

Catalytic converters reported stolen from cars

Larceny from a vehicle

Ten catalytic converters valued at \$15,000 were reported stolen from pickup trucks, RVs and motor homes parked at Westland Truck and Car Wash, 28735 Joy, between March 21-23.

Break-in

On March 19, a resident in the 2400 block of Ackley told police someone entered the home through a bedroom window between 4:30-7 a.m. The resident said his girlfriend's son, 9, was awakened by someone in his room. The boy saw someone at the bedroom door but assumed it was the resident checking on him.

The resident reported a 47-inch flat screen television, an Xbox 360 with controllers and a Playstation 3 with controllers, valued at \$1,150, missing. He said the bedroom window was open and screen popped out.

Vandalism

A resident in the 2100

WESTLAND COP CALLS

block of Ackley told police March 20 that someone slashed two tires and smashed the rear window of her 2005 Dodge Neon while it was parked in the driveway.

Break-in

On March 20, a resident in the 200 block of Dawson Court told police he was gone for just under 90 minutes. When he returned home, he said he noticed the rear sliding door was open slightly. He said the dining room table was moved, two chairs and trash can were tipped over and a coffee mug was broken on the kitchen floor.

There was no sign of forced entry and nothing was reported missing.

Stolen vehicle

A resident in the 32000 block of Birchwood told police March 24 that someone stole his 2004 Ford F250 pickup truck overnight. He said he had both sets of keys.

Vandalism

On March 24, a resident in the 2300 block of Deerfield Court told police he heard a noise about 12:30 a.m. and looked out to see a group of subjects fleeing. When he went outside, he said he found four tires punctured on his 1998 Ford Taurus.

Break-in

Nothing was reported missing after a break-in was reported March 22 at a home in the 31000 block of Bay Court. The owner said he had been living elsewhere but left some belongings at the home. When he arrived March 22 he found the rear door had been kicked in.

Attempted larceny

An employee at 7-Eleven, 8791 N. Wayne Road, told police that about 2:15 a.m. March 24 a man entered the store and went straight to a charity collection box. The man grabbed the box and attempted to take it before realizing it was attached to the counter. He then dropped the box and fled. The employee said there was about \$20 in coins in the box.

Vehicle recovered

Police were called to the 32000 block of Birchwood on March 24 about a suspicious vehicle parked on the street. It turned out the 1996 Chrysler Town and Country van had been reported stolen in Detroit.

Larceny from a vehicle

A Westland woman told police March 12 that someone had stolen her purse from her unlocked car while it was parked in the 100 block of Waterbury Court. She said it contained \$150 in cash and a credit card.

Hit and run

On March 13, a Mio man told police that he stopped at a stop sign on westbound Fairchild at Wayne Road when his GMC Envoy was struck by a southbound vehicle. The other driver, in an unknown silver vehicle, didn't stop.

The officer noted a large amount of front end damage to the vehicle.

Larceny from a vehicle

An oxygen tank valued at \$500 was reported stolen from a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of Kaley March 13. The owner told police she was positive the car door had been locked when she left it on March 11. When she returned, she said the driver's door was slightly open. The woman noted her GPS unit and some cash hadn't been taken.

Larceny from a vehicle

The catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle parked at the Scotsdale Apartments, 37848 Dale, on March 15. The owner,

a Livonia resident, was visiting at the time.

Larceny

A resident in the 7200 block Cavell told police he was working in his detached garage about 1 a.m. March 16 when the power went out. Thinking he had blown a fuse, the owner said he went to check the electric box.

Once he went outside, the resident said he saw a man in a gray hoodie removing the electric meter from the south side of his home. The suspect fled toward Warren Road.

Stolen vehicles

On March 17, a resident in the 1200 block of Edwin told police he arrived home from vacation to find someone had stolen his 2007 Chevrolet Trailblazer. He said he had left March 8 leaving the vehicle parked in the driveway and the keys inside the home.

A resident of the Parkcrest Apartments, 7100 Parkcrest, told police March 17 that she had just purchased a 2006 Chevrolet Malibu from a man in Detroit. She said she had been unable to transfer the title because a clearance letter was needed.

The resident told police that she had placed an old license plate she had on the vehicle. She later heard the car start and looked out to see an empty parking spot.

A 2002 F150 Ford Crew Cab pickup truck

was reported stolen March 16 from a home in the 300 block of South Hanlon. The owner said the vehicle wasn't locked due to an electrical problem. Several hand tools were reported to have been in the truck.

Vandalism

A resident of an apartment in the 1300 block of Fairwood told police March 17 that someone smashed the driver's side window of his 1993 Ford Ranger pickup truck. A large rock was found on the driver's seat. Nothing was reported missing.

Larceny from a vehicle

On March 14, a resident in the 400 block of Apple reported the passenger window smashed and the windshield were cracked on a 2004 Honda Civic CRV. She said her son noticed the damage when he came home around 1 a.m. but didn't inform his mother before leaving for work at 4:30 a.m.

The resident said two gift boxes of body spray valued at \$40 were missing from the car.

License plate missing

A resident in the 400 block of Pecan told police that someone had stolen the license plate from her 2008 Kia Sedona while it was parked on the street overnight.

By LeAnne Rogers

TOP NOTCH MARINE SERVICE

The following boat and trailer of Kelsey Anne Grace, will be sold at 9am on 4/5/13 at Top Notch Marine Service 32400 Ford Rd Garden City, Mi. 48135 >>>> 1989 Bay liner boat and trailer. Hull ID: BL1H05CXK889

Top Notch Marine Service
Phone : 734-721-7152
E-Mail : TopNotchMarineService@gmail.com

Publish: March 21 & 28, 2013

AT0706017 2x2

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN FOR THE MAY 7, 2013 LIVONIA SCHOOL BOARD BOND ELECTION

Please take Notice that a Special Election in the City of Westland for those residents living in the Livonia School District will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013.

The last day on which persons may register in order to be eligible to vote at the City of Westland Special Election to be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013, is, Monday, April 8, 2013. Persons registering after 4:00 in the evening on Monday, April 8, 2013 are not eligible to vote at the Special Election.

You may register at the Westland City Clerk's office or at any Secretary of State Office.

EILEEN DeHART, CMC
Westland City Clerk

Publish: March 28, 2013

AT0706032 - 3x3



CITY OF GARDEN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following proposed zoning text amendments:

- Amend § 154.352 Permitted Uses and Structures in the CBD District to add a new permitted use as follows:
(u) Doggy day care establishments.
- Amend § 154.286 Permitted Uses and Structures in the C-2, Community Business District, to make laundries and dry cleaning establishments with coin-operated machines or with processing limited to goods brought to the establishment by the individual retail customer, provided that no goods are processed from any other location a permitted use and no longer a special land use in said district.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: March 28, 2013

AT020596209_3x4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jo-Ellan Dimitrius discusses the O.J. Simpson trial at Livonia Town Hall.

Consultant studied juror behavior at Simpson, Rodney King trials

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Jo-Ellan Dimitrius was retained by the O.J. Simpson defense team as a jury consultant.

The hiring of Dimitrius thrust her into the national scene as someone who could decipher messages sent by jurors, judges and attorneys through body language and facial expressions.

"It was a fascinating ride, and something I will never forget," Dimitrius said about the trial. "Some of the fun things were what you didn't see on TV."

Dimitrius, a trial consultant, talked about the Simpson trial with the audience at St. Mary Cultural Center at the Livonia Town Hall lecture series.

The television cameras were off when Mark Fuhrman left the stand during a court break. Prosecutor Marcia Clark threw her arms around him, giving him a hug, as if to tell him "attaboy, good job," Dimitrius said. "But nobody ever saw that," Dimitrius said, except the jury. "Everyone who did said it was absolutely disgusting. That's Lawyering 101. You don't do that."

High-profile cases

Dimitrius has worked as a trial consultant in several high profile cases, including Simpson, Rodney King and Robert Blake. She has also appeared on news shows and networks discussing the behavior of witnesses, jurors, lawyers and judges.

The Rodney King case was the first one in which she worked with a law enforcement agency, the Los Angeles Police Department. The department retained her services as a consultant after they learned of her work with a couple who ran a preschool in California who were accused of several counts of child molestation, but jurors acquitted Peggy Buckley of all charges and Ray Buckley of most charges. Dimitrius had been hired by the defense team, and prosecutors and defense teams noticed her work.

She was hired by the defense team in the Simpson case. Several deputies were hired to watch the jurors in that case. The deputies would report to the judge and attorneys on the jurors' behavior away from the courtroom.

"There were wars over the TV remote in which they were throwing it at each other," Dimitrius said. "There was only one TV to watch." There was another juror who put his stocking feet on the table, and an earphone on his ear," she said. "But the earphone wasn't hooked up to anything."

She knew Judge Lance Ito, whom she described as a friend. She walked into his office after he was named the judge to hear Simpson's case to congratulate him. He quipped, "I don't know if that should be congratulations or condolences."

Soon prosecutors lent more credence to consulting. Dimitrius was hired by the prosecution in the Rodney King case. One juror had filled out a questionnaire indicating that her husband said the officers "should be hung by their toes."

"There is no way she is going to acquit," Dimitrius said, remembering what she told the prosecutors. The woman's husband was authoritarian, Dimitrius said, and she would follow her husband's opinions. Dimitrius found out later from the juror's deliberations that she was right.

Risky business

After that trial and the riots began after the officers' acquittals, Dimitrius was told to leave town, so she went to Palm Springs with her children. "You did your job, but we have to send you away for a while," Dimitrius said she was told.

In the federal case when the officers were tried on charges that King's civil rights were violated, the prosecutor focused on the moments after King was on the ground. "That's when his civil rights were violated," Dimitrius said. "The prosecutor was absolutely right." Two of the four officers were found guilty at that trial.

Dimitrius highlighted some of her book, *Reading People*. "It is about a skill set we all have, but we are all so busy."

The characteristics are personal appearance, open or closed body language, a loud or soft voice, communication style (changing the subject), actions (how people treat others) and environment.

Dimitrius looks at the way people stand and sit. "I'm looking for that open body position, that says 'I am willing to hear what you have to say.'"

Voice tone and how people answer questions is critical, too. "How many of you have asked a question to avoid a question?" she asked.

Reading people is important especially in the age of the Internet. When an email message makes you wonder about the sender's well-being, you should pick up the phone and call. "You can get a better sense of their angst in their voice," Dimitrius said.

She encouraged the audience to "follow your heart" in living life.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591
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Check us out on the
Web every day at
hometownlife.com

ORDINANCE NO. 188-A-2

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 50, ARTICLE IV, FIREWORKS, OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 50-101 THROUGH 102 DEFINING FIREWORKS, GOVERNING THE USE OF FIREWORKS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR A VIOLATION

THE CITY OF WESTLAND ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 50, Article IV, Fireworks Division 1, Sections 50-101 through 102, of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

ARTICLE IV. FIREWORKS

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Sec. 50-101. - Sale or use of fireworks

(a) Definitions as used in sections 50-101:

- (1) *Act* means the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, MCL 28.451 et seq., as that statute may be amended from time to time, which is hereby adopted by reference as part of the ordinance from which this section derives.
- (2) *Agricultural and wildlife fireworks* means fireworks devices distributed to farmers, ranchers, and growers through a wildlife management program administered by the United States Department of the Interior or the department of natural resources of this state.
- (3) *Articles pyrotechnic* means pyrotechnic devices for professional use that are similar to consumer fireworks in chemical composition and construction but not intended for consumer use, that meet the weight limits for consumer fireworks but are not labeled as such, and that are classified as UN0431 or UN0432 under 49 CFR 172.101.
- (4) *Consumer fireworks* means fireworks devices that are designed to produce visible effects by combustion, that are required to comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations promulgated by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission under 16 CFR parts 1500 and 1507, and that are listed in APA standard 87-1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, or 3.5. Consumer fireworks does not include low-impact fireworks.
- (5) *Display fireworks* means large fireworks devices that are explosive materials intended for use in fireworks displays and designed to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, as provided in 27 CFR 555.11, 49 CFR 172, and APA standard 87-1, 4.1.
- (6) *Fireworks* or fireworks means any composition or device, except for a starting pistol, a flare gun, or a flare, designed for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation. Fireworks consist of consumer fireworks, low-impact fireworks, articles pyrotechnic, display fireworks, and special effects.
- (7) *Low-impact fireworks* means ground and handheld sparkling devices as that phrase is defined under APA standard 87-1, 3.1, 3.1.1 to 3.1.1.8, and 3.5.
- (8) *Novelties* means that term as defined under APA standard 87-1, 3.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, and 3.2.5 and all of the following:
 - (i) Toy plastic or paper caps for toy pistols in sheets, strips, rolls, or individual caps containing not more than .25 of a grain of explosive content per cap, in packages labeled to indicate the maximum explosive content per cap.
 - (ii) Toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes, toy trick noisemakers, and toy guns in which toy caps as described in subparagraph (1) are used, that are constructed so that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for the explosion, and that are not designed to break apart or be separated so as to form a missile by the explosion.
 - (iii) Flitter sparklers in paper tubes not exceeding one-eighth-inch in diameter.
 - (iv) Toy snakes not containing mercury, if packed in cardboard boxes with not more than 12 pieces per box for retail sale and if the manufacturer's name and the quantity contained in each box are printed on the box; and toy smoke devices.
- (9) *Special effects* means a combination of chemical elements or chemical compounds capable of burning independently of the oxygen of the atmosphere and designed and intended to produce an audible, visual, mechanical, or thermal effect as an integral part of a motion picture, radio, television, theatrical, or opera production or live entertainment.

(Ord. No. 188-A-2, 3-18-13)

Editor's note —

Ord. No. 188-A-2, adopted March 18, 2013, amended section 50-101 in its entirety to read as herein set out. Formerly, section 50-101 pertained to sale or use of fireworks prohibited, and derived from the Code of 1963, § 9.102(6).

Sec. 50-102. - Use of consumer fireworks prohibited.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to ignite, discharge or use consumer fireworks, as such term is defined in section 50-101 except for the use of consumer fireworks on the day preceding, the day of, or the day after the following national holidays:
 - (1) New Year's Day, January 1
 - (2) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the third Monday in January
 - (3) Washington's Birthday, the third Monday in February
 - (4) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May
 - (5) Independence Day, July 4
 - (6) Labor Day, the first Monday in September
 - (7) Columbus Day, the second Monday in October
 - (8) Veterans Day, November 11
 - (9) Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November
 - (10) Christmas Day, December 25
- (b) A person shall not ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property, or the property of another person without that organization's or person's express permission to use those fireworks on those premises. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a person that violates this subsection is responsible for a civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.
- (c) Consumer fireworks shall not be ignited, discharged or used by a person under the influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance or a combination of both.
- (d) Low-impact fireworks shall not be ignited, discharged or used by a person under the influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance or a combination of both.
- (e) Unmanned free-floating devices. Any unmanned free-floating device (sky lantern) which requires fire underneath to propel it and is not moored to the ground while aloft, have an uncontrolled and unpredictable flight path and descent area so as to pose a potential fire risk and are therefore prohibited.
- (f) Novelties. This section does not apply to novelties.
- (g) Unless otherwise provided in this section, if a person knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly violates this section, the person is guilty of a crime as follows:
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.
 - (2) If the violation causes damage to the property of another person, a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

(Ord. No. 188-A-2, 3-18-13)

State law reference—Fireworks, MCL 28.451 et seq.

Sec. 50-102a. - Display and articles pyrotechnic fireworks.

- (a) Pursuant to MCL 28.451 et seq., (the "Act") the city may grant a permit, upon application in writing on forms provided by the department of licensing and regulatory affairs, for the use of the following:
 - (1) Agricultural or wildlife fireworks (as defined in the Act);
 - (2) Articles pyrotechnic;
 - (3) Display fireworks; or
 - (4) Special effects manufactured for outdoor pest control.
- (b) Such a permit granted by the city shall be subject to payment of a fee to the city, and shall be for either public or private displays within the city by the city, fair associations, amusement parks, or other organizations or individuals approved by the city, as long as the applicable conditions and requirements of the Act are complied with.
- (c) Before a permit for display fireworks or articles pyrotechnic firework ignition is granted, the person, firm, or corporation applying for the permit shall furnish proof of financial responsibility by a bond or insurance in an amount, character, and form deemed necessary by the city to satisfy claims for damages to property or personal injuries arising out of an act or omission on the part of the person, firm, or corporation or an agent or employee of the person, firm, or corporation, and to protect the public.
- (d) The city shall not approve or otherwise grant a permit for display fireworks or pyrotechnic fireworks ignition to a nonresident person, firm, or corporation until the person, firm, or corporation has appointed in writing a resident member of the bar of this state or a resident agent to be the legal representative upon whom all process in an action or proceeding against the person, firm, or corporation may be served.
- (e) Pursuant to the Act, the city shall rule on the competency and qualification of articles pyrotechnic and display fireworks operators as required under NFPA 1123, as the operator has furnished in his or her application form, and on the time, place, and safety aspects of the display of articles pyrotechnic or display fireworks before granting permits.

(Ord. No. 188-A-2, 3-18-13)

State law reference — Fireworks, MCL 28.451 et seq.

Section 2. That all other provisions of Chapter 50 of the Westland City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Repeal. All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

Section 5. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

Adopted: March 18, 2013
Effective: March 28, 2013

Publish: March 28, 2013

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OUR VIEWS

Past practice

Filling two jobs is nothing new for GC city manager

It doesn't come as a surprise that the Garden City Council selected Robert Muery as the new city manager. Some members of the council were less than subtle in dropping hints months ago about his applying for the position.

What does come as a surprise is that he will continue to serve as the chief of police.

The idea of serving a dual position was Muery's idea. He proposed it during the interview process earlier this month. At the time, he said his "goal" in seeking a combined position was "stability," and he suggested he be paid \$30,000-\$40,000 more to handle the city manager's responsibilities.

Muery is a well-spoken, hard worker who has shouldered the responsibility of the two positions for more than six months. He has done an admirable job, publicly earning the praise of one council member who complimented him on responding to his inquiries in a timely fashion.

Muery was candid in his interview with council, saying that he has a lot on his plate and sometimes his organizational skills fall short, preventing him from finishing reports to the council on time. But in a city as downsized as Garden City, too much on a plate is a fact of life and a late report isn't necessarily the end of the world.

But some question his serving in a dual role, saying it violates the Incompatible Public Offices Act of 1978. The act defines "incompatible offices" as those held by a public official which, when the official is performing the duties of any of the public offices held by the official, results in among other things, subordination of one public office to another, supervision of one public office by another or a breach of duty of public office.

However, a 2009 opinion by then Attorney General Mike Cox states that the Supreme Court found "the act requires an actual breach of public duty to support a finding that incompatibility is present" and "that a breach of duty arises when a public official holding dual offices cannot protect, advance, or promote the interest of both offices simultaneously."

We are surprised that incompatibility would crop up now, considering a city manager holding other positions has been a practice in the city dating back to at least the late David Kocsis who worked for an extended period of time as the city manager and police chief. David Harvey also wore more hats than hooks on a hat rack during his tenure as city manager. He also served as the human resources director and building official, to name a few.

City services have dwindled, and so have managerial responsibilities. The Parks and Recreation Department is now basically the arena operation; the Library Board oversees the library; city services like dispatching are now handled by Wayne. Negotiations are ongoing involving the Wayne-Westland and Garden City fire departments. There were many good candidates for the position, and it appears the majority of the council opted to go with a known quantity in Robert Muery. He has proven capable of doing the job. He has found solutions to problems the council wants solved, and comes across as a quick learner.

Could the council have done better? Maybe, but Muery fits at this time. A majority of the council wasn't happy with former manager Darwin McClarey. With Muery, a majority of the council appears confident in what he has done and what he can do.

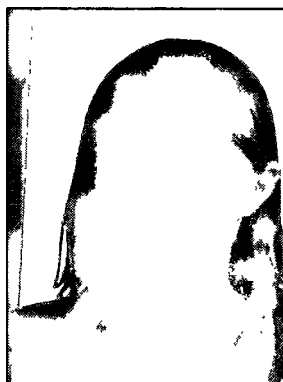
Muery could be the dose of stability the city needs right now. He is well-liked and has a hands-on management style. He doesn't wait for problems to come to him, he goes out and sees what they are.

Six months is a long time to find out if you like a job. Muery had that, and based on his experience, it appears he can handle the double duty. If he didn't believe he could do, he wouldn't have asked for it.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What does the bunny put in your Easter basket?

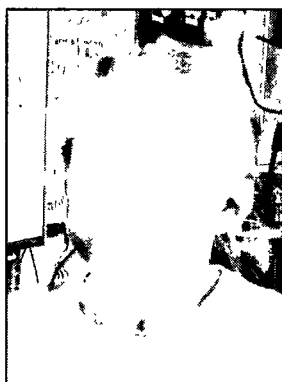
We asked this question at Edison Elementary School in Westland.



"I get eggs, lots of candy, gum and candy that looks like grass."
Madison Sullivan
Canton



"My basket has toy cars, grass, eggs and candy and the bunny puts it by the living room."
Navier Washington
Westland



"The Easter Bunny normally leaves my basket somewhere in my room or near the kitchen. Sometimes I get shoes, clothes and video games and some leotards because I'm a gymnast."
Emma Steward
Westland



"The Easter Bunny puts my basket on my TV stand. He leaves a little bit of candy and clothes and shoes."
Jada Enrici
Westland

LETTERS

Can't hold both jobs

When the Garden City mayor and Council voted to employ Robert Muery as city manager while also serving as police chief, they knowingly and willfully violated Michigan state law, and unfortunately Robert Muery also violated that same law by accepting.

MCL 15.181(2): "A public officer or employee is prohibited from holding 2 or more incompatible offices at the same time." Incompatible offices means offices held by a public official which, when the official is performing the duties of any of the public offices held by the official results in any of the following:

- One office is subordinate to another or one office supervises another.
- A municipality with a population of less than 25,000 may by council action authorize an officer or employee to perform other additional services for the unit of government.

Currently the population of Garden City is greater than 25,000.

There is not a person I like or respect more than Bob, and I have no doubt he would make a fine city manager but he can't hold both jobs. It would be like our superintendent of schools also serving as the principal of Garden City High School.

As a friend, Bob, I ask you to resign one position or the other, and comply with the state laws that you took an oath to uphold and defend.

Mary Jane Schildberg
Garden City

PTSA supports bond

On Tuesday, May 7, 2013, voters in the Livonia Public Schools district will be asked to approve a \$195 million bond issue to fund critical improvements and upgrades to the aging facilities.

The Livonia Parent Teacher Student Association Council supports the proposed school bond issue to

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. Submit letters by the following formats:

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

upgrade facilities, and strongly encourages its member units and local PTAPSTA members to support it as well.

The bond issue will allow for necessary renovations and improvements to the aging buildings as well as technology upgrades throughout the schools. Failure to approve the school bond issue would only delay the renovations and improvements, making them more costly in the future.

The LPTSAC is privileged to be an integral part of the Livonia Public Schools district community and recognizes that the school environment affects the ability of children to learn. We believe current times mandate the need to attract young families into our school district, by renovating our facilities to meet current architectural and technological standards.

LPTSAC also feels that attracting and retaining exceptional teachers is fundamental to the superior education historically provided by Livonia Public Schools. Approving the proposed school bond issue is essential toward providing an exemplary and meaningful education experience for every child in Livonia's public schools.

We ask all Livonia Public Schools district voters to approve the millage renewals in the November election.

Liz Jarvis
president,
Livonia Parent Teacher Student
Association Council

Guns not the problem

With the feverish barrage of more gun control legislation, Democrats and in particular the president himself seem to be foaming at the mouth in a big hurry to take away the rights of the law-abiding citizens of this country, at the same time, hypocritically freeing convicted felons who were arrested, tried and convicted of breaking existing gun laws.

Case in point, on March 1, President Barack Obama pardoned Larry Wayne Thornton of Forsyth, Ga. Because you won't hear about this in the so-called "mainstream media," you should know that Thornton was sentenced to four years of probation for "possession of an unregistered firearm" and "possession of a firearm without a serial number." He is one of 17 people pardoned by the same president who champions more gun control law on the law-abiding while freeing the guilty.

In 2010, out of more than 76,000 firearms purchases supposedly denied by the federal instant check system, only 62 were referred for prosecution and only 44 were actually prosecuted. We don't need more legislation and restrictions. We need a president and a Justice Department who not only enforces current law, but does not circumvent the law by freeing their pals from prison.

Guns in the hands of the law-abiding are not the problem, releasing felons from prison early and not pursuing people who fail background checks at the point of purchase is the problem.

Frank Finch
Canton

OUR VIEWS

Rich traditions mark Easter and Passover observances

The rich traditions of faith and family come together this week with special significance as Christians and Jews around the world celebrate Easter and Passover. They are celebrations filled with the foundation stories that are recounted ritually each year.

For Christians, Easter is about the redemption of people through the sacrifice of Christ and the eternal life given to those who believe in him. Holy Week retells and commemorates Christ's last days on Earth and his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Jews, Passover recounts the remembrance of deliverance and redemption from 400 years of slavery in Egypt and

the exodus to the Promised Land. It lasts for eight days and commemorates the sparing of Hebrew families when God punished Egypt by killing the firstborn in every family.

Easter is a celebration of resurrection and redemption. Passover celebrates deliverance and liberation. The stories are thousands of years old, but their messages transcend time. Even today people from Libya, Afghanistan and Somalia seek to be saved and to be delivered from oppression.

What would we say or what would do if these two historic events took place today? What would we post on Facebook about them? Would we like,

would we comment, would we share? What would we tweet? Who would get our Instagram?

In this day of being connected 24/7, it is not technology but the words of people we don't know, from a different time and a different place who continue to offer us hope of freedom, renewal, redemption and resurrection.

It is our faith that guides us, and it is that faith that is being renewed this week. Whether you worship Easter Sunday at a church or are concluding Passover with your family at home, know that those around you are also sharing in the hope and the renewal that faith offers.

OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

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Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

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Director of
Advertising

if found talking on their phones while driving under the new law.

Level 1 licensees have completed at least six hours of driving time, have been observed driving for at least four hours and can only drive with a parent or licensed adult.

Level 2 licensees have had their learner's permits for at least six months. They can only drive unsupervised before 10 p.m. and after 5 a.m. unless driving to or from work.

The law allows police to cite those teen drivers solely for talking on their phones, but in most cases, citations will happen in conjunction with other moving violations.

Exceptions to the cell-phone ban will be made for young drivers report-

Kelsey's for Kelsey Kelleher, a 17-year-old Sault Ste. Marie girl who died in a cellphone-related, distracted-driving crash in 2010.

Police officials said the cellphone ban will result in fewer teens talking on their phones while driving.

Past driver-safety laws, including Michigan's seat-belt requirement and texting ban, have resulted in more drivers wearing seat belts and fewer drivers texting while driving, they said.

By the same token, the teen cell phone ban should be a success, Hamburg Township Police Chief Rick Duffany said.

"I can't see how this new law wouldn't reduce accidents and distracted driving. We definitely see some difference in behavior of drivers when these sorts of things do get

the ban will the dangers of distracted driving, County Sheriff Bob Bezotte said.

"It's kind of an education process, if you will, along the way. It's teaching when you get the driver's license it's a freedom we all look forward to, but with it comes a lot of responsibility," he said.

"The more we can do to educate these young kids until they get some years under their belts as far as driving, especially under the winter conditions in Michigan, I think the better off we all will be," Bezotte added.

Former State Reps. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and Robert Constan, D-Dearborn Heights, Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, and State Sens Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, and Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton. State Rep. Eileen Kowall, R-White Lake, was among lawmakers who voted for it.

Some lawmakers said the measure doesn't fully address the problem because it only bans cell-phone use for one group of drivers.

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Blood Drive

On Monday, April 15, the William P. Faust Public Library will sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford, Westland.

To make an appointment log onto www.red-crossblood.org and enter Sponsor code: wplccp or call 800-RED-CROSS. Everyone who comes to donate will be entered into a drawing for a free iPad mini. Anyone over age 17 (age 16 with a permission slip) can donate blood.

Captain's coming

Children's book hero Captain Underpants will be the focus of a Captain Underpants Gross-Out-a-Rama at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at the Wayne Public Library,

3737 S. Wayne Road between East and West Michigan Avenue, Wayne.

Children and their favorite adult Captain Underpants fan are invited to our celebration of the popular books. They will play games, eat gross snacks, make toilet-rific crafts, and every child will get a free *Captain Underpants* book to keep.

This event is sponsored by Target. Registration for the program begins two weeks before the event. It can be done in person or by calling the library at (734) 721-7832.

Rummage sale

The First Methodist Church Of Wayne-Westland is holding a spring rummage sale Thursday-Saturday, April 25-27. Thursday and Friday hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday hours are 9 a.m.

to noon. Saturday is also bag day - a grocery bag is \$2 and a plastic lawn bag is \$5.

Home made bake goods and refreshments will also be available for sale.

The church is at 3 Town Square, across from the Wayne Post Office. For more information, call the church at (734) 722-4801.

Ripple Effect

The Wayne Ripple Effect, a volunteer downtown revitalization group, meets at 6 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, in downtown Wayne. Anyone interested in volunteering or getting involved is welcome.

For more information visit www.downtownwayne.org or email Sherrie at waynerippleeffect@gmail.com.

Tomorrow could be awesome

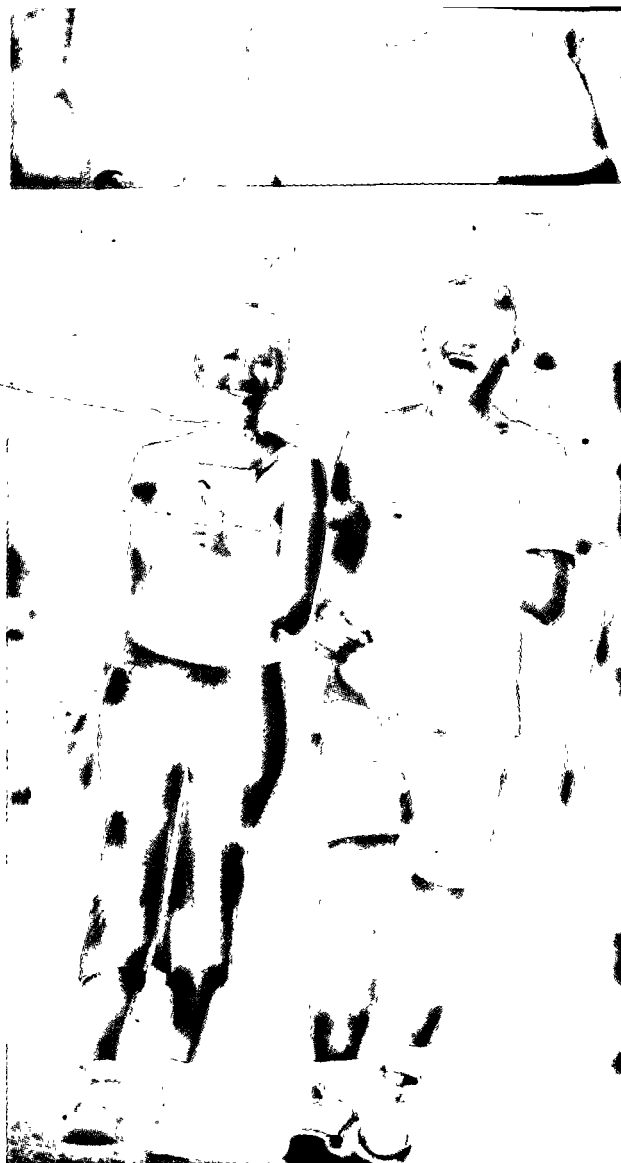
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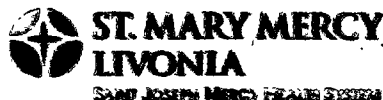


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SPORTS

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Stevenson has that contending look

See capsule outlook of area teams on Page B4.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Is there an encore in 2013 for the Livonia Stevenson baseball team?

The Spartans tend to think so after going 28-12 and reaching the Division 1 state quarterfinals before losing to Saline, 5-1, in 2012.

Ninth-year coach Rick Berryman believes many of the pieces are in place as the Spartans return 11 seniors led by infielder Travis Harvey, a first-team All-Observer and All-State selection who hit eight homers and knocked in 55 runs while

BASEBALL PREVIEW

batting .373.

First-team All-Observer catcher Mike Vomastek (.398, 34 RBI) also returns, while the Spartans' pitching staff will be led by Mike Kanitra, who finished 7-1 with a 2.00 earned run average.

But Berryman remains cautiously optimistic as the Spartans will try and unseat perennial area power Northville in the KLAA's Central Division.

"To quote Jim Leyland," the Stevenson coach said. "We look good on paper, now we have to play the games."

Meanwhile, Livonia Franklin (14-18) could be on the upswing in the



Harvey



Vomastek

KLAA's South Division.

The Patriots will rely on a trio of seniors including pitcher-infielder Tom Gorman, a first-team All-Observer selection who hit .451 with 26 RBI.

The Indiana Tech signee is joined by Madonna University signee Alex DeYonker, a crafty left-handed pitcher and outfielder (.379), along with Henry Ford Community College signee Kevin Nisun, a senior outfield-

er (.409).

"Goals were set very early in the winter with this group and they have been working very hard to reach those goals this upcoming season," Franklin seventh-year coach Matt Fournier said. "I think this team has a lot of pieces that I can use in many ways that I was not able to the past couple seasons."

And don't count out Livonia Churchill (21-11) despite losing some key performers to graduation.

The Chargers will be led by second-team All-Area catcher Dan Cameron, a senior who hit .342 last season.

"As always, our seniors will have to lead us on-

and-off of the field,"

Churchill 10th-year coach Ron Targosz said. "We had another very successful off season and hopefully that will carry us into the regular season."

Two other KLAA South Division teams, Wayne Memorial (14-18) and Westland John Glenn (7-20) hope to play spoiler roles.

Wayne captured a Division 1 district crown last year, but lost second-team All-Area players Jacob Lefler and Tyler McCurry to graduation.

The Zebras will be led by senior pitcher Chris Briggs, sophomore infielder Tyler Harnos

Please see **BASEBALL, B4**

Barber is top CCHA rookie

Miami University freshman right winner Riley Barber (Livonia) becomes the first Red-Hawk to ever win Central Collegiate Hockey Association Rookie of the Year honor.

Barber was also the first freshman to earn first-team All-CCHA honors since 2003-04 and was the lone unanimous selection to the CCHA All-Rookie Team.

The Washington Capitals prospect leads Miami and the entire CCHA with 38 points in 37 games, while his 15 goals and 23 assists are both tops on the team.

His 23 assists are third in the league and tops among all rookies nationally, as are his 38 points, while his 15 goals tie for sixth in the league and rank first among freshmen in the CCHA.

Barber was named CCHA Gongshow® Rookie of the Week four times.

He recorded a team-high 12 multi-point games on the season, including a two-goal game and four multi-assist contests, while tallying three game-winning goals and four power play goals.

He also carries a +15 rating.

The CCHA regular season champion and No. 5-ranked RedHawks (24-11-5) open NCAA Midwest Regional play 5 p.m. Saturday at the Huntington Center in Toledo where they will face Minnesota State.

MU's Collura earns salute

The Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Monday that Madonna University sophomore Chelsea Collura (River-view Gabriel Richard) was named WHAC Women's Golfer of the Week for the period of March 18-24.

Collura led MU at the Perry Park Spring Fling with rounds of 89 and 82 for a 171 total in the 36-hole event.

As a team, MU finished 20th in a field that consisted of 22 NCAA Division II teams and fellow NAIA member Marian.

The Crusaders return to the course on April 1-2, taking part in the Cumberlands Invite in London, Ky.

Goad WHAC's lead golfer

Madonna University's Dave Goad (Allen Park) was selected as the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Men's Golfer of the Week for the period of March 18-24.

The award is the second for Goad this season as the senior was also honored on Sept. 3, during the fall campaign.

Goad helped MU to a second-place finish at the Capital University (Ohio) Purple and White Invite by shooting rounds of 84 and an even-par 72 in cold and windy conditions over the two-day event. Goad's round of 72 was the lowest round on day two and was one of just two rounds at or under par for the entire event.

The Crusaders return to the course on April 5-6, taking part in the USF Spring Invite in Fort Wayne, Ind.



JOHN KEMSKI

Fever pitch

Stevenson's Sari Rakowicz (9) and Dearborn's Amanda Greathouse (11) contest for the 50-50 ball during Tuesday's non-conference match. Stevenson earned a 5-0 season-opening win. For more on area girls soccer, see page B7?

Softball teams set to take aim

See capsule outlook of area teams on Page B2.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The 2012 girls softball season was nothing short of remarkable for one area team — Livonia Ladywood.

The Blazers finished 40-2 and captured their first-ever MHSAA state championship when they defeated Saginaw Swan Valley, 4-0, for the coveted Division 2 title.

Topping the season in 2013 will be a daunting task for the Blazers, especially after losing four-year pitcher Briana Combs (Cleveland State), Miss Softball and the Michigan Gatorade Player of the Year, along with catcher Allysa Kashat (Davenport University) and second



Bias



Giacobbi

baseman Carli San Milan (University of Findlay).

But back-up pitcher Lauren Hayes, the hero in last year's state final after Combs went down with a leg injury, will toe the slab full-time this season with the help of returning infielders Celeste Fidge, Haley Lawrence and Andria Gietl.

And sixth-year Ladywood coach Scott Combs has not backed off from putting together another challenging schedule.

"We have scheduled

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**

Ex-Glenn track coach starts new chapter

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

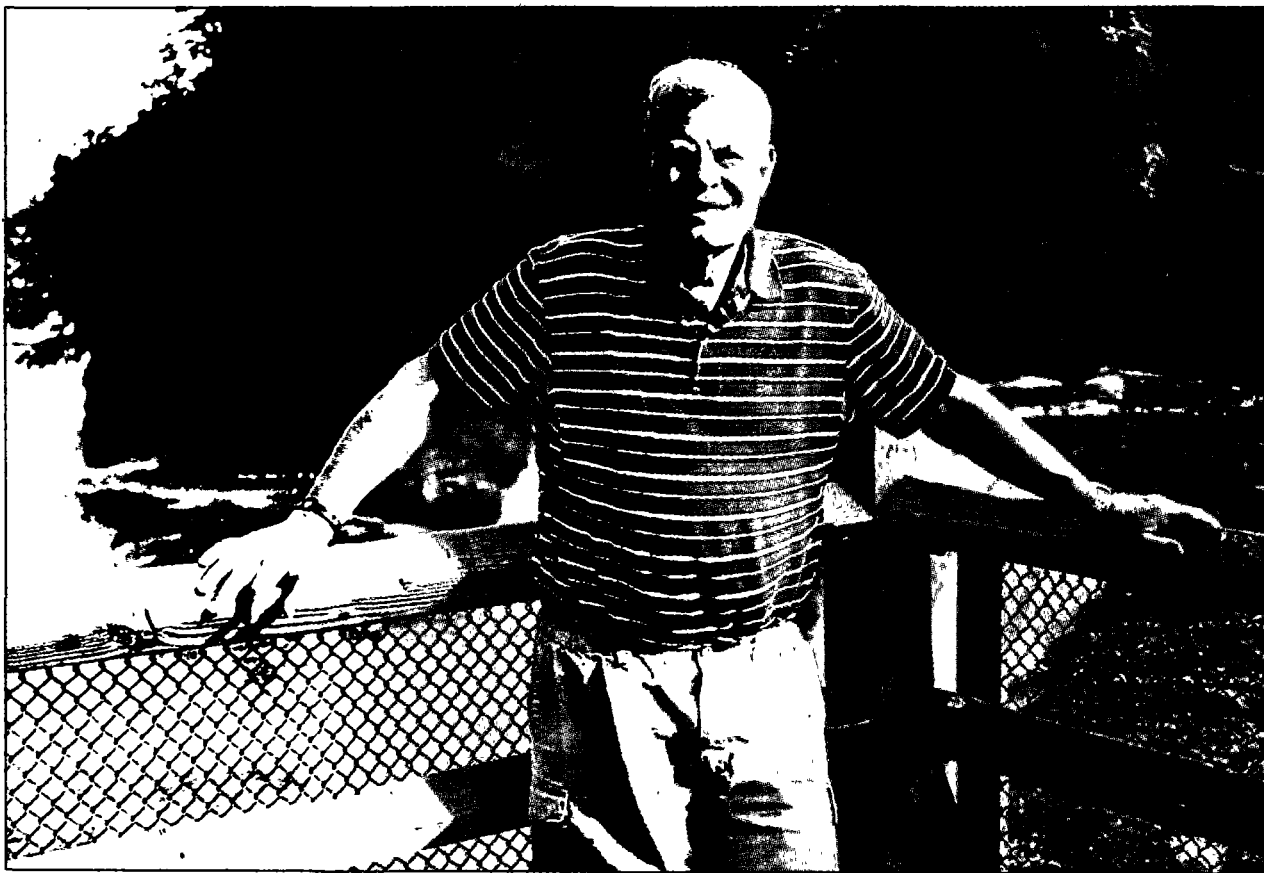
After resigning last fall following 26 years of coaching boys track and field and cross country teams at Westland John Glenn High, Jess Shough admitted he suffered through coaching withdrawal.

The 68-year-old Shough, who spent 22 seasons as head coach and another four as an assistant with the Rockets, thought he'd stay connected to the sport he loves in a different way.

"That was my intent ... was to do track officiating," Shough said. "I didn't get started because I wasn't getting any contacts. I got registered and put contacts out, but didn't get anything because around here pretty much all the officiating assignments are locked up at this time of year already."

So Shough went to Plan B and started Monday as an assistant coach at KLAA South Division rival Canton.

"I stayed around the house not doing anything ... then I was just feeling, 'I want to coach,'" Shough said. "I went back and got a contact with (athletic director) Sue Heinzman and she said they were looking for an assistant. I had been a great friend for many years



Jess Shough didn't stay retired very long after coaching boys track 26 seasons at John Glenn. He is now an assistant at Canton.

"Everybody looks at me and says, 'What's he doing over here?' It's been an adjustment, but up to this point it's been very natural."

JESS SHOUGH

with (head coach) Bob Richardson and coached against him, so I thought it would be a natural fit and it happened."

Shough retired from teaching in 2010 from the Wayne-Westland Community Schools following 44 years (including 20 with

the Cherry Hill Schools), but stayed on coaching at Glenn where he compiled a 104-84 dual-meet record.

And after Shough ended his brief hiatus, he became reacquainted with track.

"It's been an adjust-

ment," Shough said.

"Everybody looks at me and says, 'What's he doing over here?' It's been an adjustment, but up to this point it's been very natural. The coaching staff has really been receptive and the kids have been really receptive."

Shough started coaching at Glenn in 1986 and served as an assistant under Richard Gordon before taking the head coaching reins in 1991.

In 1995, he guided the Rockets to Western Lakes Activities Association and

WLAA Lakes Division titles. But his best season came in 1997 when Glenn captured the WLAA, division and regional crowns.

When Glenn moved into the Kensington Lakes Activities Association in 2009, Shough's top finish with the Rockets was fourth in the Kensington Conference meet in 2010.

In the past few years wins had become harder to come by for the Rockets in the KLAA.

"The biggest thing

Please see **SHOUGH, B3**

SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

every tough Division 1 team and pitcher that we can find," Combs said. "By tournament time our underclassmen will know our system and strongly contribute."

Next-door neighbors Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (20-5) and Lutheran High Westland (16-16) will now butt heads in the Blue Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

Huron Valley, which captured the MIAC Red and Division 4 district titles last season, virtually returns its entire starting lineup led by sophomore pitcher Julie St. John, the MIAC MVP and second-team All-Observer selection.

Lutheran Westland also returns its top two pitchers in sophomore Emily Hahn and junior Lindsey Ermert.

Livonia Clarenceville (14-14) will also be moving to the Western Wayne Athletic Conference this spring after languishing the past few years as an independent.

"Our program is very excited about entering the WWAC this season," 15th-year Clarenceville coach Joe DeCaire said. "It is going to be challenging, but our girls will be motivated to make a good impression and will compete the entire season."

Both Livonia Churchill (22-8) and Livonia Franklin (21-13) could seriously challenge in the KLAA's South Division.

Churchill is led by first-team All-Observer catcher Casey Bias, a senior who has signed with Ferris State, along with Madonna University signee Nicky Salloum, a senior shortstop.

"After losing in the districts the way we did last year to Can-

ton in extra innings, this team is determined to leave a mark and make a statement," third-year Churchill coach Steve Gentilia said.

Franklin also has a veteran cast led by sophomore center fielder Becky Giacobbi, a first-team All-Observer selection, along with senior shortstop Katelynn Devers, a second-team All-Area pick.

Coach Linda Jimenez, now in her 18th season, needs a strong performance on the mound.

"The question mark will be the pitching," Jimenez said. "Mallori (McCullough) and Courtney (Garbarino) will give it their best shot."

Westland John Glenn (10-20), another KLAA South member, reached the district final last year under first-year coach Patrick McGrath before losing to Belleville.

The Rockets will be led by senior catcher Danielle Saunders.

Rival Wayne Memorial (1-21) brought up the rear in the KLAA South last season and second-year coach Larry Lankton is determined to put the Zebras back on the radar screen with a young team led by freshman center fielder Ri'onna Clements.

Livonia Stevenson (17-17) is under new management as former Eastern Michigan player and ex-Canton High standout Lauren Delapaz takes over for Rob Witherspoon, who resigned after 10 seasons to take an administrative position.

Pitchers Morgan Copperstone, a senior, and Erika Randall, a junior, will lead the way as the Spartans try and replace graduated infielders Ashley Avery (first-team All-Area) and Molly Knoph (second-team All-Area).

bemons@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6851

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Head coach: Steve Gentilia, third year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 22-8.

Titles won last year: Madonna University White Division Tournament championships.

Notable losses to graduation: Missy Sidor, Rachel Jason, Abby Jewell, Jordan Lindsey, Jackie Tolles.

Leading returnees: Casey Bias, Sr. C (first-team All-Area; 403, 8 HRs, 38 RBI); Nicky Salloum, Sr. SS (second-team All-Area; 453, 6 HRs, 42 RBI); Katie Shereda, Jr. P-Inf.; Julia Cavagnini, Jr. OF-Inf.; Julia Twigg, Jr. OF; Lauren St. Pierre, Soph. Inf.

Promising newcomers: Lauren St. Pierre, Soph. Inf.; Rachel Mattison, Soph. Inf.-P; Mellanie Richardson, Fr. P-Inf.

Gentilia's 2013 season outlook: "Although we are young at some positions, we are extremely experienced in the key positions with Casey Bias at catcher (signed with Ferris State) and Nicky Salloum (signed with Madonna University) at shortstop. With their experience and leadership, this team is already poised to make some noise and surprise some teams this season."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Linda Jimenez, 18th year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 21-13.

Titles won last year: Public Schools of Livonia Invitational champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Tiffany Lamble, Nicole Williamson.

Leading returnees: Becky Giacobbi, Soph. CF (first-team All-Area; 438, 25 runs); Katelynn Devers, Sr. SS (second-team All-Area; 395); Afton DeWyse, Sr. OF; Mackenzie Lukas, Sr. OF (434, 46 RBI); Maggie Leins, Sr. Inf.; Caitlin Milican, Sr. C; Dana Gresock, Jr. Inf.; Colleen Mandrink, Jr. Inf.; Courtney Garbarino, Jr. P; Ashley McDowell, Jr. OF; Megan Chapman, Soph. C; Morgan Larkin, Soph. OF (382); Lauren Michael, Soph. Inf.; Morgan Larkin, Soph. Inf.-OF (382); Lauren Michael, Soph. Inf.

Promising newcomers: Mallori McCullough, Jr. P; Sarah Cramton, Soph. Inf.

Jimenez's 2013 season outlook: "I always say that a team is as good as its seniors. We have an experienced senior class. Four of the five seniors have

been on varsity since their freshmen year. They are all leaders on field and in the classroom. Last year we had an outstanding freshman class with Giacobbi and Larkin leading the way. A newcomer, Sarah Cramton, was a sweet addition. She is very athletic."

LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Lauren Delapaz, first year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (Central Division).

Last year's overall record: 17-17.

Notable losses to graduation: Ashley Avery (first-team All-Area); Molly Knoph (second-team All-Area); Julia Potvin, Sarah King, Jacqueline Johnson.

Leading returnees: Morgan Copperstone, Sr. P-Inf.; Allie Koesterling, Sr. Inf.; Becca Koesterling, Sr. OF; Emily Snitchler, Sr. Inf.; Kristen Suzio, Sr. OF; Madie Omietanski, Jr. C-utility; Erika Randall, Jr. P-Inf.

Promising newcomers: Courtney Carter, Jr. P-utility; Megan Coliton, Sr. OF; Alex Knorp, Jr. utility; Kaitlyn Lipinski, Jr. C-Inf.; Cassidy Lipinski, Soph. Inf.; Natalie Moore, Soph. Inf.; Natalie Reilly, Jr. P-Inf.; Rachel Wilkinson, Jr. OF.

Delapaz's 2013 season outlook: "We are excited to start the season. Our team has been working very hard and has high expectations for the upcoming season. We have great leadership and presence on the mound with two returning varsity pitchers (Copperstone and Randall). We have two junior catchers (Kaitlyn Lipinski and Omietanski) who are coming into their own to be leaders behind the plate. Every day at practice the girls surprise us with their fielding abilities. Everyone at the plate has shown great promise and we will strive to be an aggressive offensive team."

WESTLAND GLENN

Head coach: Patrick McGrath, second year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 10-20.

Notable losses to graduation: Nicole Quaine, Katelyn Barker, Arika Agnew, Taylor Bonarek, Leila May.

Leading returnees: Danielle Saunders, Sr. C (369, 26 RBI); Cassandra Huren, Sr. CF; Brittany McGrath, Jr. 3B; Alexis Lester, Jr. P; Katlin Keast, Jr. C; Sam Duprie, Jr. OF.

Promising newcomers: Julia Michalowski, Fr. C-Inf.; Heather Gains, Soph. 2B; Julia Huren, Fr. 1B.

McGrath's 2013 season outlook: "Our team is a mix of veterans and rookies that have a positive attitude and are working hard together. We will through some growing pains, but I expect to be hitting on all cylinders come time for districts."

WAYNE MEMORIAL

Head coach: Larry Lankton, second year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 1-21.

Notable losses to graduation: Shelby Hooper, Alicia Nielson, Kayley Porta, Jessica Fisher.

Leading returnees: Me-

GIRLS SOFTBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK

gan McCurry, Soph. 1B; Ashley McGeorge, Soph. P-SS; Valerie Green, Jr. C-2B-3B.

Promising newcomers: Ri'onna Clements, Fr. CF; Sharon Carpenter, Fr. OF; Jade Walls, Fr. P; Rachel Lefler, Soph. C; Emily Phipps, Jr. LF; Taylor Festerman, Jr. 3B.

Lankton's 2013 season outlook: "We have an extremely young and inexperienced team. We'll have three freshman starters, along with three sophomore starters, but the girls are putting in a lot of work. We have a hard-working group here. The pitching is inexperienced. We'll be rotating between Walls, our starter, and McGeorge. The defense looks promising. I think our outfield will be O.K. Our infield will be O.K. We may be struggling offensively with our inexperience, but we have some nice bats. I think we're deeper hitting-wise, but the top of our lineup isn't as good as last year because of our inexperience."

Livonia Ladywood Head coach: Scott Combs, sixth year.

League affiliation: Catholic League (Central Division).

Last year's overall record: 40-2.

Titles won last year: Division 2 state, regional, district, Catholic A-B Division, Central Division, Wisconsin Invitational champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Briana Combs (first-team All-Area); Carli San Millan (first-team All-Area); Allyssa Kashat (first-team All-Area); Nicole Payne, Kristin Eisterhold, Brittany DeCamillo, Michelle Nelson.

Leading returnees: Celeste Fidge, Sr. 3B (second-team All-Area); Andria Gietl, Sr. 1B (second-team All-Area); Lauren Hayes, Jr. P; Haley Lawrence, Jr. SS; Anna Lewis, Soph. C.

Promising newcomers: Erica Selakowski, Fr. Inf.; Mary Kate Warner, Fr. C; Rosalyn Price, Fr. P; Rachel Hendrickson, Fr. OF; Alivia Craig, Fr. OF.

Combs' 2013 season outlook: "We won't have as many 1-0 wins as the last four years - we had over 25. We will pitch as a committee. And our hitting lineup, eventually, can be as good or better than our best teams. We have 10 returning letter winners, including all starters at the corner infield spots, along with at least two others who I expect to be there this year. We expect to challenge for the Catholic League and state titles every year and this year no different."

Livonia Clarenceville Head coach: Joe DeCaire, 15th year.

League affiliation: Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Blue Division).

Last year's overall record: 14-14.

Notable losses to graduation: Angela McAlpine, Rachel Grefke, Lauren Katz, Nicole Grates.

Leading returnees: Jodi Ankiel, Sr. OF; Jaki Bateman, Sr. P-Inf.; Justine Bateman, Sr. OF; Mikala Kieling, Jr. Inf.-OF; Nicole Kurdziel, Jr. C; Erica Katz, Jr. Inf.; Emily Schwartz, Soph., P-Inf.; Ariel Osborne,

Soph., Inf.-OF; Mia Sampson, Soph., Inf.-OF; Lindsey Cairns, Soph. OF; Morgan Cairns, Soph., OF.

Promising newcomers: Logan Sade, Jr. Inf.-P; Nicole Scott, Fr. Inf.-OF; Sarah Kirschweg, Fr. Inf.-OF; Hailey Ray, Fr., Inf.-OF; Sarah Meili, Fr. Inf.-OF; Kylee Hammond, Fr. Inf.-OF; Ciara Miller, Fr., Inf.-OF; Elizabeth Martinez, Fresh., Inf.-OF.

DeCaire's 2013 season outlook: "The players have been dedicated to the off season conditioning program and are eager to get the season started. Our coaching staff set a goal to go back to teaching the fundamentals and to put the most competitive players on the field. We have a balance of experienced players with a few first- and second-year players that will have every opportunity to play every day. Our success will be dependent upon our pitching. Defense will be interesting in that a few positions will be new to some of our players. We are young, which means you never know."

Lutheran Westland Head coach: Paul Gusé, eighth year.

League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).

Last year's overall record: 16-16.

Notable losses to graduation: Marissa Hahn (second-team All-Area); Hannah Conley, Erika Killian.

Leading returnees: Sam Roberts, Sr. 1B; Shannon Abbott, Sr. 2B; Aldreanna Fikes, Sr. C; Lindsey Ermert, Jr. P (6-4, 4.54 ERA); Emily Hahn, Soph. P (10-11, 110 Ks, 131 IP);

Promising newcomers: To be determined.

Gusé's 2013 season outlook: "The loss of three 4-year starters will be tough to overcome. We have big holes to fill on the left side of the infield, but our pitching should be good."

Huron Valley Lutheran Head coach: Eric Ruth, 16th year.

League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).

Last year's overall record: 20-5.

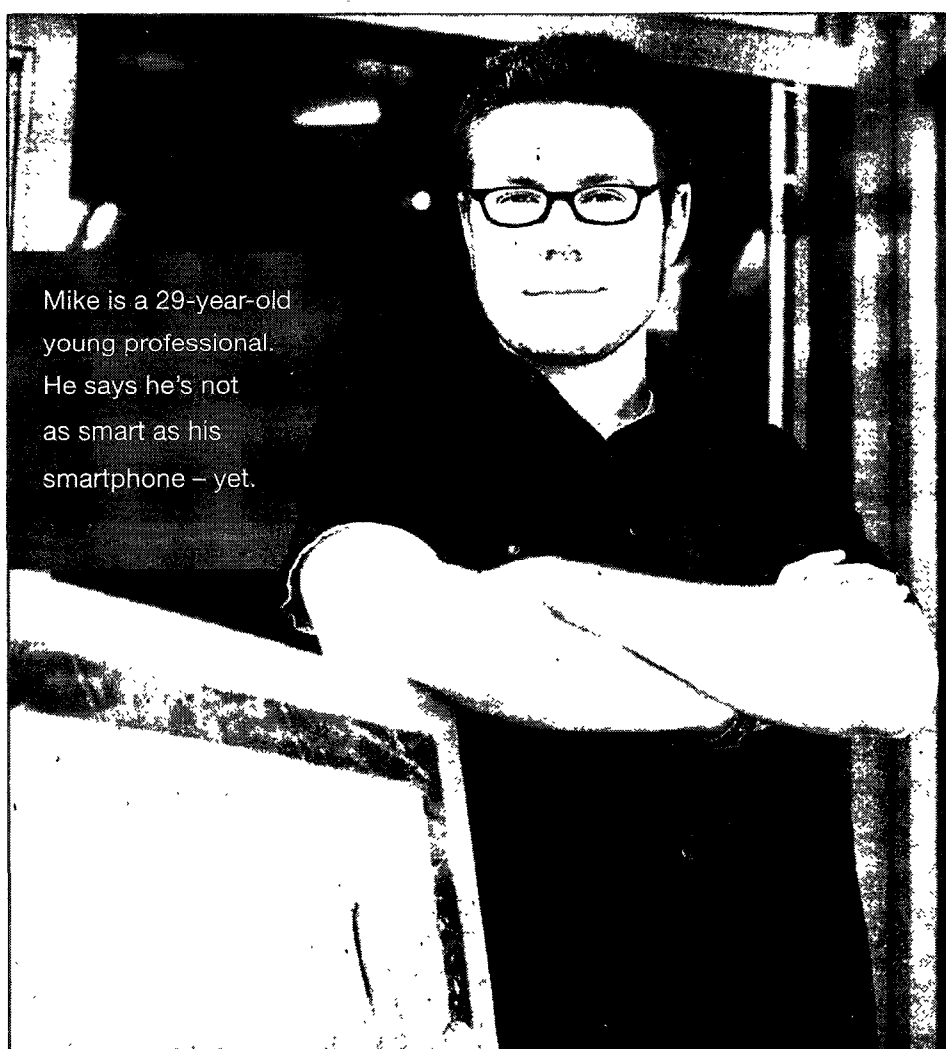
Titles won last year: MIAC Red Division and Division 4 district champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Meghan Kubinski.

Leading returnees: Julie St. John, Soph. P (second-team All-Area; MIAC MVP); Ashley Hower, Jr. 1B; Bethany Schaffer, Soph. 2B; Brooke Kuehn, Jr. SS; Jessie Strauch, Soph. 3B (first-team All-MIAC); Lauren Jones, Jr. OF (first-team All-MIAC); Dayna Schroeder, Jr. OF (first-team All-MIAC); Anne St. John, Soph. OF (first-team All-MIAC); Sarah Setian, Jr. OF.

Promising newcomer: Madison Ott, Fr. C.

Ruth's 2013 season outlook: "We return a great deal of experience from last year's squad. We are in the (MIAC) Blue Division this year, which means we have to come ready to compete every day. We look to grow as a team and improve as we take on a different schedule this year."



Mike is a 29-year-old young professional. He says he's not as smart as his smartphone - yet.

Do you know what Mike likes?

(We do.)

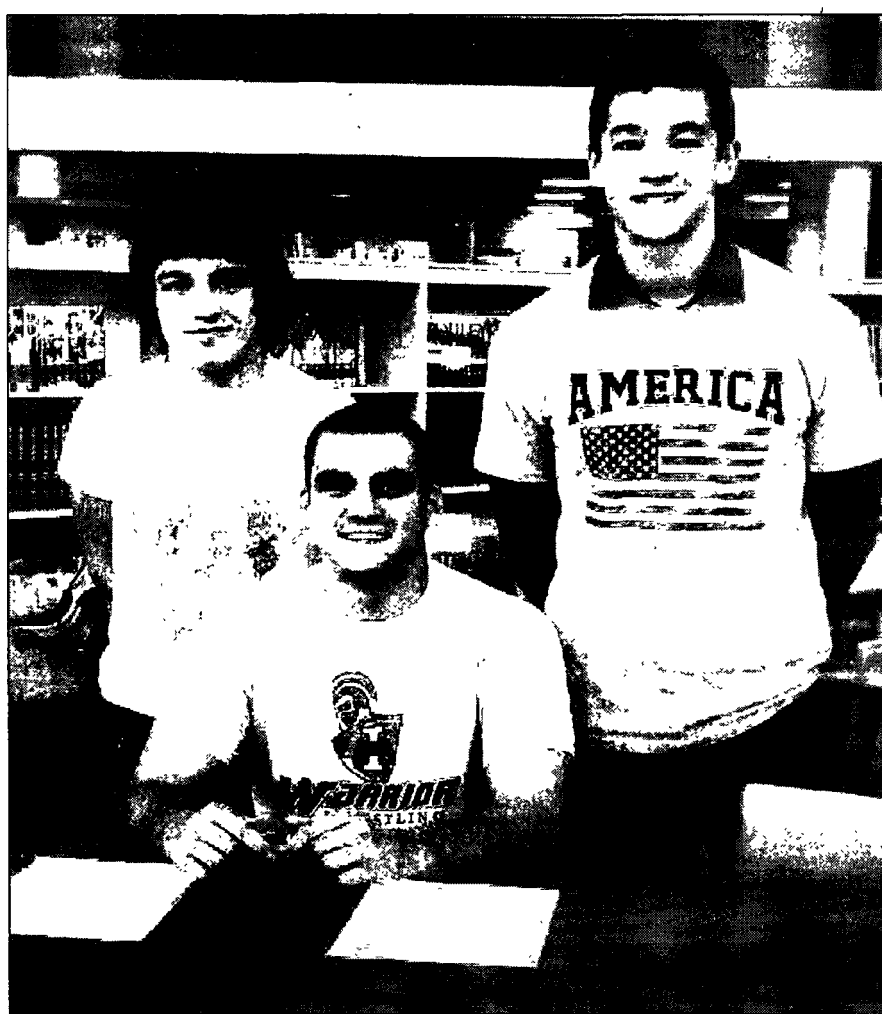
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GARY STEELE

Grappler signs

Livonia Franklin senior wrestler Allen Steele (middle), flanked by teammates Danny Martinez (left) and Jordan Atienza (right), recently signed an NAIA letter-of-intent with Indiana Tech. Steele is two-time Observerland, KLAA and regional champion. He also won the Wayne County and district tournaments this year en route to a sixth-place finish at the Division 1 state finals at 189 pounds. He is the first Franklin wrestling scholarship recipient under 13th-year coach Dave Chiola. Steele plans to study criminal justice and follow in the footsteps of his father Gary, a Detroit Police officer.

Girls bowlers on target in the clutch

FIRST TEAM

Caitlyn Webb, Jr., Plymouth: A second individual regional championship in two years provided plenty of evidence that Webb is one of the elite girls bowlers in Observerland. Webb tallied a 1,194 total — including a 276 game — to win the Division 1 individual regional at Super Bowl in Canton, thus qualifying for the D1 individual state finals for the third year in a row.

In Muskegon, Webb's total of 1,175 for six games in the qualifying block enabled her to finish 14th and make it to the Round of 16. There, she came up short 391-378 to Heather Baur of Davison. She also was named to the All-KLAA team.

And the best Webb has to offer could be in her senior season, if her career trajectory of improving each year is any indication. "I am looking forward to next season and can't wait to see what she will accomplish," coach Tammy Thompson said. "She is an extremely talented bowler. As a coach it is very rewarding when your bowler does well. I am so proud of her."

Rae'ven Turner, Sr., North Farmington: In her third varsity season, Turner averaged 197.6 in 70 match games with 64 games over 165. She started the season by winning the OAA singles championship. In match play, she defeated all three opponents with games of 233, 257 and 236 without a single open frame.

Turner was the medalist at the Farmington Early-Bird tournament with a 625 series. She was third overall and made the Ladywood Holiday all-tournament team.

Turner, who averaged 196.64 in 33 league games, was 12th in the Oakland County tourney and sixth at the Mercy Invite. Another notable score was the 269 she bowled in a dual match with Royal Oak. Turner also bowled four of the team's top-10, all-time best games and six of the top-10, all-time series.

"Rae'ven has just completed her third season as our anchor bowler and her first season as captain," coach Mike Horner said. "We are so fortunate to have her returning for one more year. She is a tireless worker and has watched her average climb from 165 to 175 and this year to 197. This season marked her second trip to the state finals. With her willingness to work and her dedication to the team, she is poised to have an outstanding senior season."

Kristin Larkins, Sr., Salem: The Rocks' team co-captain capped off an outstanding four-year varsity career, averaging 183 in the KLAA (good for all-conference) and rolling a high game of 267.

At the D1 regionals, Larkins finished fifth with a total score of 1,080 to qualify for the state finals a third consecutive year.

She reached the Round of 16 at the D1 individual finals in Muskegon, where she lost 399-371 to eventual state champion Barbara Lawson of Grand Ledge.

Larkins placed fifth in the qualifying block, rolling a 244 game along the way. "She was our anchor bowler and handled this tough position with such ease," coach Kathie Hahn said. "She carried herself with such grace and professionalism on the lanes and off. We wish her only the best in her future."

Maria Walawender, Sr., Mercy: Walawender was in the starting lineup for four years and was the Mercy team captain the past two seasons. She averaged 182 in the Catholic League and made the all-Catholic team for the third year in a row. Walawender won the Oakland County championship with an outstanding 673 series that included games of 202, 247 and 224.

In the biggest events of the year — Oakland County Catholic League, regional and state tournaments, Walawender averaged 189. At the regional, she packed four strikes in a row into the last six games to move up from 18th to 10th place and qualify for the state finals.

"Coaches Mike and Vicky Kowalski are very proud of Maria's accomplishments, and we thank her for being an outstanding anchor bowler in leading Mercy to a 10-0 record in the Catholic League," Vicky Kowalski said.

Olivia Cabildo, Soph., Westland Glenn: The sophomore posted a 181 average en route to all-KLAA honors and a third-place finish at the regional.



Caitlyn Webb
Plymouth



Rae'ven Turner
N. Farmington



Kristin Larkins
Salem



Maria Walawender
Mercy



Olivia Cabildo
John Glenn



Caylin Doran
Farmington-Harr.



Julia Huren
John Glenn



Caity Lenard
John Glenn



Sabine Hutter
Ladywood



Bridget Maul
Salem



Lorissa Willet
Wayne



Kira Leach
Wayne

Cabildo wound up 35th at the Division 1 singles finals, while also earning all-tournament honors at the Ladywood Holiday Invitational.

She also posted the high game and second high series at the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Tournament.

"Olivia came back this year with a lot of experience," Glenn coach Ralph Cabildo said. "She is mentally tough when it comes down to pressure moments and knows how to handle those moments. Her biggest strength is being a team player and trying to pick up the team when things are not going well."

Caylin Doran, Jr., Farmington-Harrison: Doran, who made the all-area second team last year, had the Oakland Activities Association's highest average (199) during the past season and is a two-time, All-OAA selection.

A three-year varsity letter winner, Doran improved her season average by six pins to 193. She also bowled 21 games of 200 or better with a high game of 264 and best series of 477. Doran was voted the team MVP by her teammates and coaches for the second year in a row.

"At her current pace, Caylin will end up being the most decorated girl bowler in Farmington-Harrison program history," coach Dennis Hermah said. "She has bowled anchor for us the last two seasons, and she has clinched many matches with her heroics in the 10th frame. We are definitely excited to have Caylin back to lead our girls program next season as well."

SECOND TEAM

Julia Huren, Fr., Westland Glenn: The freshman posted a team-best 194 average while earning All-KLAA honors.

Huren posted both high series and high games at the Ladywood Holiday Invitational. She also rolled second high series and second high game at the Wayne County Tourney.

"Having freshman on the team with a 194 average was a big surprise," Cabildo said. "After the experience she has had this year, I expect Julia to come back next year even stronger."

2012-13 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS BOWLING FIRST TEAM

Caitlyn Webb, Jr., Plymouth
Rae'ven Turner, Jr., North Farmington
Kristin Larkins, Sr., Salem
Maria Walawender, Sr., Mercy
Olivia Cabildo, Soph., Westland Glenn
Caylin Doran, Jr., Farmington-Harrison

SECOND TEAM

Julia Huren, Fr., Westland Glenn
Caity Lenard, Sr., Westland Glenn
Sabine Hutter, Jr., Liv. Ladywood
Bridget Maul, Sr., Salem
Lorissa Willet, Sr., Wayne
Kira Leach, Sr., Wayne

THIRD TEAM

Christina O'Harris, Fr., Wayne
Charlotte Zimmer, Sr., Canton
Brianna Bailey, Jr., Canton
Ella Kearney, Jr., Farmington-Harrison
Erin Breen, Sr., North Farmington
Emily Fraser, Sr., Plymouth
Veronica Estogoy, Jr., Liv. Ladywood

COACH OF THE YEAR

Ralph Cabildo, Westland Glenn

HONORABLE MENTION

Farmington-Harrison: Dana Iles, Melissa Waun; Plymouth: Megan Blank; Canton: Jessica Holowicki, Beth Stark; Salem: Rachel Lopez; Mercy: Ashlei Brooks, Hayley Cadell, Arianna Watson; John Glenn: Emily Dietz, Yvette Ayers; Ladywood: Shelby Fielding; North Farmington: Elizabeth Bartram, Hannah Long.

ceed," Hahn said.

Lorissa Willet, Sr., Wayne: The senior finished fifth in Region 6 with a six-game total of 1,067 and ended up 56th in the state singles qualifying block with a 974.

Willet averaged 168 for the season, including a high series of 428 and a high game of 247.

"Lorissa comes from a family of bowlers," Wayne coach Diane St. Louis said. "Her parents and brother have been big supporters and have attended all of her division matches and tournaments."

Willet plans to bowl at Schoolcraft College and major in culinary arts with hopes of transferring to the University of Florida.

Kira Leach, Sr., Wayne: The senior placed eighth in Region 6 with a 1,039 total including a high game of 214.

Leach also took 31st in the state singles qualifying block with a total of 1,119 including a 214 high game.

She averaged 165 for the season with a high series of 413 and a high game of 221.

"Kira will graduate 36th in her class and will be attending Alma College where she'll study elementary education," St. Louis said. "She will also continue to bowl as a member of the Alma College team."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Ralph Cabildo, Westland Glenn: The first-year coach guided the Rockets to a perfect 15-0 season along with KLAA Central Division and Division 1 regional titles.

The Lady Rockets took fifth in the qualifying block at the Division 1 state finals before being eliminated by eventual state champion Davison in the match play quarterfinals.

Glenn also captured the Valentine's Invitational at Novi Bowl and earned seconds at the Ladywood, P-C-S and Wayne County tournaments.

"The thing I tried to do, if anything, was really getting the girls to become a team," said Cabildo, who also served as a volunteer assistant coach the previous year. "We had talent last year also, but the big thing is the girls becoming a team. That is where our success came from. The mental part of the game is what I stress more than anything."

The 53-year-old Cabildo also is entering his third season as the Glenn varsity girls soccer coach. He also owns RC & DJ Video Productions in Westland.



Ralph Cabildo
Coach of Year

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Collins Memorial

The first Nick Collins Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing will be Saturday, May 11 at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 Seven Mile Road, Livonia.

A four-year member of both the Stevenson High golf and football programs, Collins died tragically last summer of Bacterial Meningitis after returning home following his freshman year at Central Michigan University.

The cost is \$75 per person (includes lunch, 18 holes and cart). Lunch only is \$20, while hole sponsorships are available for \$100.

Registration begins at 7 a.m. followed by a shotgun start (four-person scramble) at 8 a.m. A general raffle and lunch follows at 12:30 p.m.

The registration deadline is April 27. To obtain a flyer, visit www.golflivonia.com or www.livoniapublicschools.org.

For more information, email Jim Omietskanski at james_omietanski@att.net; or call (734) 542-0776.

Soccer camps

The Michigan Wolves/Hawks Soccer Club will stage a spring break boys and girls soccer camp from 9-11 a.m. (ages 6-14) and noon-2 p.m. (ages 9-16), Monday through Thursday, April 1-4, the Jaycee Park, located at 19800 Mayfield Street, Livonia.

The cost of the four-day camp is \$75 (includes T-shirt).

The Wolves/Hawks Academy for boys and girls ages 4-9 will be from 6:15-7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, April 8 through May 22, at Jaycee Park.

For information, visit michiganwolveshawks.com; or email dbradley1515@sbcglobal.net.

Foul shot contest

The third annual Sons of American Legion Post 32-Livonia Youth Free Throw championship will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Saturday, April 6, at Memorial Church of Christ gymnasium, 35475 Five Mile Road (between Levan and

Farmington roads).

First place and runner-up trophies will be awarded, along with door prizes, for the following age groups: 6-and-under, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12.

The cost is \$5 per participant (payable at registration) will all proceeds going to Blum's Landing, a Michigan bed and breakfast for returning wounded veterans.

Former Grand Valley State and University of Michigan basketball player Jerret Smith will also be making an appearance.

For more information, call Charles Wagner at (248) 420-8472.

Pom pom clinic

The Livonia Stevenson varsity pom pon squad will stage a clinic for grades three through high school from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at the high school fieldhouse.

Included in the \$25 cost is a light snack, CD and T-shirt. (You must be registered by Friday, April 5.)

For more information, email Kelly

Sikorski at kelsikorski@sbcglobal.net.

Steelheaders

Captains Dave Engel and Bill Bale of Best Chance Too Charters will be the featured speakers for the Metro West Steelheaders meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 2 at the Livonia Senior Citizens Center, 15218 Farmington Road.

Learn about Lake Michigan charter boat fishing for king and coho salmon, steelhead, lake and brown trout. All meetings are open to the public.

For more information, call Jim Robertson at (734) 383-2790.

Football coaches

Livonia Franklin is seeking two assistant football coaches for the 2013 season.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate knowledge and proven ability to train and teach the fundamentals with prior high school coaching experience.

For more information, e-mail Franklin varsity coach Chris Kelbert at ckelbert@livoniapublicschools.org.

SHOUGH

Continued from page B1

we've had the last three years is lack of depth," said Shough, who was replaced by Jason Dixon. "We've had some great athletes and state qualifiers. I've coached four of the Midwest Meet of Champions selections. We've had good success in terms of individuals, but that lack of depth was making a difference in terms of being competitive in the (KLAA South) division."

Shough graduated from Adrian High School and played four years of both basketball and baseball at Eastern Michigan University where he earned a B.S. degree in physical education.

His first coaching job was as an assistant at Garden City East under

Clayton Kelly.

Shough then took the head girls track position at Cherry Hill.

"I got hooked on the fact that track was the sport that I really could see myself coaching it," said Shough, who also holds a master's degree in educational administration from EMU. "It was something that I was actually looking for in coaching. I got hooked and I've been coaching it ever since."

Shough has begun a new phase in his life and he's glad he accepted the Canton position.

"I love coaching," Shough said. "That's just it. I found track and field was a sport that there's so much to learn.

Every year I try and learn something more and now I have a new chapter to continue in."

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THE WEEK AHEAD

COLLEGE BASEBALL
(all double-headers)
Saturday, March 30
Rochester at Madonna, 1 p.m.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
(all double-headers)
Friday, March 29
MU at Bluffton (Ohio), 1 p.m.

VOICES & VIEWS:
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This notice is to inform our Bright House Networks customers of upcoming changes to their cable programming lineup.

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Effective May 1, 2013, Speed Channel will no longer be available in analog format on channel 34, however the digital format remains on channel 88. Customers who do not have a digital set-top box may contact Bright House Networks to obtain a digital set-top box or similar device to view this programming.

For more information on Bright House Networks programming, please call 1-877-885-8318 or visit our website at brighthouse.com

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Stevenson's Carlin O'Malley (3) leaps into the air to avoid the contact with the Dearborn goalkeeper during Tuesday's non-conference encounter.

Power surge

Spartans zap Dearborn in opener, 5-0

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

With electricians and DTE citing possible hole in the transformer, Livonia Stevenson's stadium scoreboard was out and the lights could only be partially lit.

So that meant the Spartans' season opener had to be switched Tuesday to Dearborn High and they were completely plugged in rolling to a 5-0 triumph over the Pioneers.

Stevenson jumped out to a 4-0 halftime lead with Carlin O'Malley scoring at the 3-minute mark when she dribbled through the backline and slotted a ball to the far post off a pass from Emily Mulcahy.

In the 32nd minute, Allie Corp picked off a pass, dribbled through three Dearborn players and slammed the ball into the back of the net for a 2-0 lead.

Just three minutes later, junior forward Kate-lyn Foster scored on a volley off a throw-in from

Maddy Caves.

And Sari Rakowicz gave the Spartans a four-goal cushion a minute before the half when she placed shot inside the far post off a Caves through-ball.

Mulcahy completed the scoring with a second-half header into the near post off a corner kick from Foster.

Stevenson goalkeepers Rylee Jayson and Emily Kubeshesky made three and one save, respectively, to combine on the shut-out.

The loss drops Dearborn to 0-2.

LADYWOOD 5, FOLEY 0: Emily Huddleston's hat trick propelled Livonia Ladywood (2-0, 1-0) to a Catholic League victory Tuesday night at Madison Heights Bishop Foley (0-1, 0-1).

Huddleston scored in the first (unassisted), 39th (from Conner Huggins) and 52nd (from Jenna Urso) minutes for the victorious Blazers.

The Blazers used three goalkeepers with Sara Even, Whitney Bauriedl and Katie Miller combining for two saves.

Ladywood, which led 4-0 at halftime, also got a first-half goal Marissa Ozog (unassisted) and Shelby Walsh (from Ani Ramon).

"Emily was fantastic tonight," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledacker said. "All three of her goals came from over 25 yards out. It was a nice game for us. Everyone got in and played well."

NORTHVILLE 2, CHURCHILL 0: On Monday, goals in each half by Emily Bush and Kelly McHugh carried the host Mustangs (1-0) to a victory over Livonia Churchill (0-2) in matchup of KLAAS Kensington Conference teams.

Churchill goalkeeper Alexis Tzafaroglou helped keep it close by making a diving catch on a Northville penalty kick in the first half.

The Chargers also got strong play from junior Kelsey Parinello in the midfield and from freshman Lauren Wynns up front.

First-year coach Reid Friedrichs also singled out junior Kathleen Rubenson and senior Rachel Tomassi.

GLENN 1, HARRISON 1: Goalkeeper Jenna Redden stopped in a penalty kick in the first half as Westland John Glenn (0-0-1) earned a season-opening draw Monday at Farmington Harrison (0-0-1).

Glenn's Sydney Climie scored at the 24-minute mark from Lori Thompson, but Jessica Khoury countered for the Hawks with a goal in the 35th minute.

The Rockets outshot Harrison, 8-6.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Ron Targosz, 10th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 21-11.
Notable losses to graduation: Connor Dwyer (first-team All-Area); Brent Ochodnicki (second-team All-Area); Alex Taskos, Derek Jakubowski, Jake Otto, Mike Rybinski, Ryan Baker, Tyler Keeter, James Targus.
Leading returnees: Dan Cameron, Sr. C (second-team All-Area, .342); Blake Burnette, Sr. 1B-P; John Szymanski, Sr. P-Inf.; Riley Brown, Sr. OF; Cameron Valentine, Sr. C; Chris Lewan, Sr. Inf.-P; Nick Misiak, Jr. 1B-P-OF.
Promising newcomers: Logan Facione, Jr. OF; Zach Glidden, Jr. Inf.-P; Austin Hovermale, Jr. 1B-P; Mark Leja, Jr. OF-C; Josh Shepard, Jr. OF; Andrew Summers, Jr. Inf.-P; Matt Vincentini, Jr. P-Inf.; Jon Hovermale, Jr. OF-Inf.-P.
Targosz's 2013 season outlook: "We have some very talented players, but some of them lack varsity game experience. If we are able to put that aside, then I think that we can be very successful. I think that it is very important for us to get off to a good start in order to build some confidence, especially for our younger players. We are looking forward to getting the season underway."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Matt Fournier, seventh year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 14-18.
Notable losses to graduation: Joe Barczuk (second-team All-Area); Joel Trudell, Kyle Curtis, Justin Forrestall.
Leading returnees: Josh Gorman, Sr. P-Inf.-OF (first-team All-Area, .451, 26 RBI); Alex DeYonker, Sr. P-OF (.379); Kevin Nisun, Sr. OF (.409); Kyle Madden, Sr. Inf.-P; Garrett Fetner, Sr. Inf.-C; Mike Haist, Sr. OF-P; Mason Wypych, Sr. Inf.; Kyle Andrew, Sr. OF; Adam Carver, Jr. OF-P; Daniel Johnson, Jr. C.
Promising newcomers: Travis Barnes, Sr. Inf.-P; Kyle Riley, Jr. Inf.; Cory Luke, Sr. P; Nick Mardeusz, Jr. P-Inf.; C.J. Garrick, Jr. Inf.; Jesse McCall, Sr. Utility-P; Ryan Pace, Jr. C; Tyler Camp, Soph. OF.
Fournier's 2013 season outlook: "We return many of our core pieces from last year's team including all three starting outfielders and four-fifths of our starting infield. On the mound, both our number one (DeYonker) and our number two (Gorman) return with battles going on for the remaining innings. The new kids coming up from the JV are catching on quick and there is great competition going on for playing time, not just for starting spots, but for those role spots as well. This is the deepest outfield group I have had and our infield is coming along. This group is a lot of fun to be around. I'm anxious to see what we can do."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Rick Berryman, ninth year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 28-12.
Titles won last year: Livonia City, Division 1 district and regional champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Chris McDonald (first-team All-Area); Nick Lagerstrom (second-team All-Area); Justin Small, Pete Michalak.
Leading returnees: Travis Harvey, Sr. IF (first-team All-Area, All-State; .373, 8 HRs,

55 RBI); Mike Vomastek, Sr. C (first-team All-Area; .398, 34 RBI); Mike Kanitra, Sr. P-1B (7-1, 2.00 ERA, .309); Jake Semak, Sr. P-Inf. (5-3, 3.17 ERA; .301); Josh DeYonker, Sr. OF (.363); Mike Barill, Sr. Inf.; Matt Hunt, Sr. 1B; Austin Stevens, Sr. OF; Brandon Jurczynski, Sr. OF; Cody Coleman, Sr. OF-P; Jason Rakowicz, Sr. P.
Promising newcomers: Tim Burdt, Jr. P; Mitch Deacon, Jr. OF-P; Sean McCann, Jr. Inf.; Kyle Giamapola, Jr. C; Billy Bonanno, Jr. Inf.-P; Rodney Bies, Jr. C-P-Inf.; Nick Marcon, Fr. P-Inf.; Jake Ivey, Jr. 1B.
Berryman's 2013 season outlook: "This season looks very promising. There are 11 returning seniors from last year's team that reached the quarterfinals in the state playoffs. This year's team features pitching depth, with four pitchers throwing in the 80s (MPH). The defense is very solid in both the infield and outfield. The hitting appears to be very good with a batting order that should be strong one through nine. The order features a combination of power, speed and good contact hitters."

WESTLAND GLENN
Head coach: Lawrence Scheffer, first year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 7-20.
Notable losses to graduation: Zach Quinn, Danny Croft.
Leading returnees: Daniel Ammons, Sr. 3B-2B (second-team All-Area; .398); Jacob Fox, Sr. 1B-P; Brandon Martin, Sr. 2B-C-P; Chase Bovia, Sr. SS; Brandon Smeltzer, Jr. P-OF-Inf.; Brendon Wetmore, Soph. P-OF; Jeff Kennedy, Sr. P-1B; Kyle Hunter, Sr. P-OF.
Promising newcomers: Christopher Scheffer, Jr. P-OF; Ryan Wheeler, Jr. P-Inf.; Jeff Tromans, Jr. SS-2B; Clark Boston, Jr. P-1B; Austin Wilson, Jr. OF; Austin Hampton, Jr. 2B-OF.
Scheffer's 2013 season outlook: "My goals this year are to organize and bring back a baseball program to John Glenn. I have worked with the assistant coaches and E.J. Roach, our head JV coach, to institute practices and workouts with our players. I can't say in the first season that we are going to come out and win, but I can say that we have a solid team of players who are going to work hard. We have some good pitching this year and are bats are warm. We will see what happens. The best I can do now is give our players all the support and instruction they need to compete in our league. The rest is up to them when they take the field April 2."

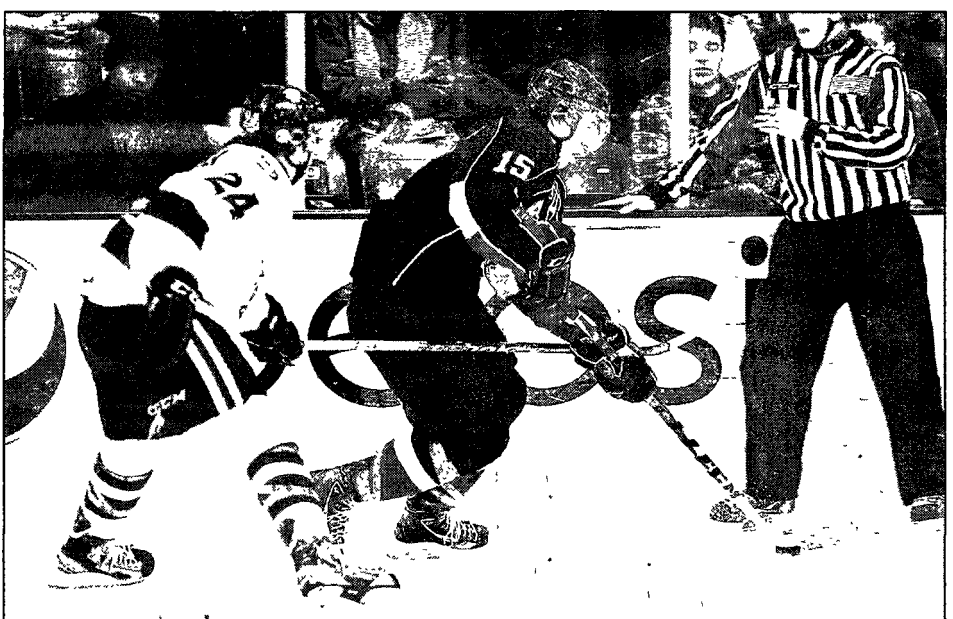
WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Chris Bailey, third year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 14-18.
Titles won last year: Division 1 district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Jacob Lefler (second-team All-Area); Tyler McCurry (second-team All-Area); Tom Briggs, Zach Lankton, Jordan Lowry.
Leading returnees: Chris Briggs, Sr. P; Tyler Harnos, Soph. SS-2B; Kody Wojewski, Jr. 3B; Joey Chapman, Sr. OF; Matt Hartford, Sr. 1B.
Promising newcomers: Jacob Griffith, Fr. OF; Jimmy Herdon, Soph. C; Beau Smith, Soph. OF-3B.
Bailey's 2013 season outlook: "I think we have a lot of promise on this team. We have an excellent returning starting pitcher in Chris Briggs, a very dependable and excellent middle infielder in Tyler Harnos, and a steady third baseman in Kody Wojewski. We have great leadership, and everyone has really bought in to the team-first mentality. We are a little

younger this year, but I'm really looking forward to seeing this group play."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: John Rogatski, first year.
League affiliation: Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 10-16.
Notable losses to graduation: Ben Gehan (second-team All-Area); Damien Sanchez.
Leading returnees: Tyler Weed, Sr. P-C-1B-CF; Kyle Kisanidi, Sr. P-C; Zach Devoni, Jr. P-3B; Michael Weiss, Sr. SS-2B; Elijah Bean, Soph. OF; Ron Topolewski, Soph. OF; Chris Kanagy, Jr. P; Shane Brant, Jr. P; Evan Gregg, Jr. P.
Promising newcomers: Ryan Menifee, Fr. RHP-SS-2B; Mitchell Kubiak, Fr. SS-2B-OF.
Rogatski's 2013 season outlook: "There will be several challenges for the players and coaching staff with a new system, strategy and level of expectation that will be implemented. As with any team, pitching will be paramount in the team's success with five of seven staff spots secured with two remaining bullpen spots open. The offense will include above-average speed with occasional power expected from the core players."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND
Head coach: Kevin Wade, ninth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 9-15.
Titles won last year: Division 4 district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Taurrek Fikes (second-team All-Area).
Leading returnees: Nick Andrzejewski, Sr. CF; Mark Mika, Jr. C; Nick Flanery, Jr. Inf. (.528, 35 RBI); P.J. Gusé, Jr. Inf.-P; Nate Abbott, Soph. OF-P; Travis Fry, Soph. 3B-P; Cleveland Tarp, Soph. Inf.-P.
Promising newcomers: Alex Glinn, Jr. OF; David Whitaker, Jr. OF; Jacob Baval, Soph. OF; Marco Gogola, Soph. OF; Noah Huffman, Soph. OF-P; Brandon Ruelle, Soph. Inf.-P; Jordan Williams, Fr. Inf.-P; Kevin Brewer, Fr. OF-P.
Wade's 2013 season outlook: "It will be interesting to see how we progress as the season goes along. We also are in a new division of the conference and are going to have to learn all the new teams. I expect (Westland) Huron Valley Lutheran and Plymouth Christian to be the top two with the rest of us battling for third. I'm happy with how parts of our lineup look on paper. We have some guys who can hit very well and hopefully that helps us and keeps us in games as our young pitching staff learns and grows throughout the season."

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Matt Schaeewe, 11th year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 12-5.
Notable losses to graduation: None.
Leading returnees: Alex Harris, Sr. P-SS; Ryan Schaffer, Jr. P-SS.
Promising newcomer: Jordan Runstadler, Fr. CF.
Schaeewe's 2013 season outlook: "We only lost two starters, who were outfielders from last year's team. And with the injuries we had, there were a number of other players who got experience. Our infield should be strong, returning all our starters. Our two top pitchers (Schaffer and Harris) are back. And with some promising young pitchers, the staff should be strong. Overall I'm very excited about the upcoming season and the kids are looking for good things."



Mitchell Heard (No. 15) of the Plymouth Whalers, shown from earlier this season, is one of many players making offensive contributions in the team's first-round OHL series against Sarnia.

Plymouth Whalers just 1 win from 1st-round sweep

The Plymouth Whalers are within reach of a sweep of their first-round OHL Western Conference playoff series against Sarnia, following Monday's 5-2 victory in Game 3.

Plymouth jumped out to a 2-0 lead at the RBC Centre in Sarnia before the contest was four minutes old with Rickard Rakell and Ryan Hartman finding the range against Sting goalie JP Anderson.

After Sarnia got on the board at 5:57, when Nickolas Latta scored an unassisted goal against Plymouth netminder Alex Nedeljkovic, the Whalers regained a two-goal edge before the period ended.

Making it 3-1 at 10:49 of the first was Stefan Noesen, on a play set up

by Cody Payne and Vince Trocheck (three assists). Hartman's second of the game, from Trocheck and Tom Wilson, opened up a 4-1 lead with 13:05 to play in the middle stanza.

Both teams scored in the third, with Rakell garnering his second marker of the contest at 16:49. Assisting were Noesen and Sebastian Uvira.

Nedeljkovic won for the third straight game against Sarnia, making 19 saves. Anderson stopped 39 of 44 shots directed his way.

The Whalers will have a chance to sweep the series 7 p.m. Wednesday in Sarnia. But if the Sting stave off elimination, the teams will reconvene 7 p.m. Friday at Compuware Arena for Game 5.

Plymouth opened the best-of-7 series with Friday's 11-2 rout at Compuware. On Saturday, the Whalers hung on for a 3-2 home victory before just under 3,000 fans.

Zach Lorentz and Mitchell Heard each had a goal and an assist with Wilson scoring the other goal for Plymouth.

The contest was 1-1 after 20 minutes before Lorentz and Wilson each scored in the second stanza to make it a 3-1 contest entering the third. A power-play goal by Sarnia's Reid Boucher closed the gap to a goal and Sarnia kept pressing, outshooting the Whalers 13-7 in the frame.

Nedeljkovic held the fort, however, and Sarnia could not send the game to overtime.

BASEBALL

Continued from page B1

and junior third baseman Kody Wojewski.

"Defense will be key for us this season, seeing how we lost a lot of firepower on offense from last year's team," third-year Wayne coach Chris Bailey said.

Glenn will have a new coach, but a familiar face in the dugout as Lawrence Scheffer takes over for Dan Danic.

Scheffer, who played his college baseball at the University of Detroit, is a Glenn alum with strong roots.

The Rockets will be led by senior third baseman and second baseman Daniel Ammons, who batted .398 last second en route to second-team All-Observer honors.

"After going 17-44 the last two years, these kids want to win," Scheffer said. "I believe that they are excited at the chang-

es that are being made in the baseball department and they will work hard to make the changes they need to make themselves out on the field."

Livonia Clarenceville (10-16) also has a new coach (John Rogatski) and a new league affiliation (Western Wayne Athletic Conference).

The Trojans will certainly miss second-team All-Area pick Ben Gehan along with Damien Sanchez, both lost to graduation.

"With entry into the WWAC, we'll find ourselves playing new schools and have to plan according for division and nonconference games," said Rogatski, who was an assistant last year at Stevenson.

Meanwhile, Lutheran High Westland (9-15), coming off a Division 4 district title, will be reunited with next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (12-5) in the Red Division of the Michigan Independent

Athletic Conference.

Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade, entering his ninth season, should have his team contending after moving over from the MIAC's Blue Division.

The Warriors return senior center fielder Nick Andrzejewski, along with junior catcher Mark Mika and junior infielder Nick Flanery, the latter whom hit .528 with 35 RBI.

"We are going to be very young, so our biggest challenge will be getting those guys up to varsity speed," Wade said.

HVL's 11th-year coach Matt Schaeewe returns his entire outfield and seven of nine starters led by senior shortstop-pitcher Alex Harris and junior pitcher-shortstop Ryan Schaffer.

"Our offense remains strong if we can be more patient and cut down on our strikeouts," Schaeewe said.

Egg hunt benefits kids in foster care

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Youngsters will hunt for Easter eggs on Good Friday at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia, but will give away the goodies connected with their search.

"Basically, I wanted to turn an egg hunt upside down. We tried to give the traditional egg hunt a twist," said Rachel Benton, director of Family and Children's Ministry for the church. "This is something new we're trying out this year. We wanted to offer something for the community ... to celebrate Easter in a meaningful way."

Children will collect plastic eggs and then trade them in for a chance to create a "birthday kit" for a child in foster care at the United Methodist Children's Home in Redford. They'll choose a cake mix, frosting, party supplies, balloons and other components of a birthday celebration. They'll also decorate a gift bag to contain the items.

The church will donate 100 birthday kits to the foster care facility. Benton said the activity helps young participants learn how to give to others.

The egg hunt is one of several events planned during the Easter Fair that will run 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., March 29, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne Road and Newburgh.



Children who egg hunt on Good Friday at Newburg United Methodist Church, will get a chance to build birthday kits for youngsters in foster care. Kits will contain cake mix, frosting and birthday party supplies.

Lunch will be served and children who participate in six activities will receive a small prize and candy.

"We'll have a couple of crafts, cookie decorating, games like bean bag toss," Benton said. "We have an interactive Bible story that will run through the entire event. It starts with Jesus on Palm Sunday and ends with the Resurrection. We tell the story in engaging and age-appropriate ways."

Youngsters will get a chance to participate in the story by waving palms, tasting "Last Supper" bread, and visiting Jesus' tomb.

"It's our hope that they really feel engaged."

The fair is aimed at families with infants, toddlers and elementary-aged youngsters and is

open to the community. Benton said the church's pastor chose Good Friday for the fair because families — including those planning to attend Wayne County's annual Marshmallow Drop at nearby Nankin Mill in Westland — might be more likely to drive by and drop in.

"It's unconventional, but we thought we'd give it a try. We want people to come and enjoy their time together. Easter is about God's love and the gift of life. Our hope is that by offering this event, families will be able to experience the components of that narrative."

The church will hold its Good Friday service at 7 p.m.

For more information call (734) 422-0149 or visit www.newburgumc.org.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



GRAHAM, EWING "DALE"

March 23, 2013; age 86 of Westland. Beloved husband of the late Gloria. Dear father of Sandra (Donald) Holzhausen, Dwayne (Tammy), and Cynthia (Danny) Costantino. Brother of Wayne. Grandfather of ten and great grandfather of many. Funeral services from The Uht Funeral Home, Westland, Wednesday 10am. Visitation at the funeral home Tuesday 2-9pm. Burial to take place at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia, Michigan. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.



RAWLINS, MICHAEL B.

Of Monroe, Michigan, hometown of Garden City, Michigan. Born February 23, 1983 died unexpectedly Saturday March 23, 2013 one month after his 30th birthday. He was a beloved husband to Kellie and stepfather to Angel, Willie and Destiny. He is also survived by his parents Paul and Debra Rawlins, brother Robert (Holly) and sister Lisa (Tom). He was an amazing Uncle to Allison, Ryan, Keegan and Lil Robert. You will forever be in our hearts and prayers. Visitation was Wednesday and will be Thursday, March 28, 2013 12pm until time of service Thursday 2pm at The Ridge Chapel-Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, 2272 West Jefferson, Trenton. Memorial contributions to honor Michael's life may be made payable to DFCU Financial. To share a memory visit www.martenson.com



LeVINE, DR. SEYMOUR EARL

Age 82, of Livonia, Michigan, died March 22, 2013. Dr. Levine was a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force and an educator in Livonia Public Schools. Beloved husband for 58 years of Maxine LeVine. Cherished father of Jan (Cindy) LeVine, Monica LeVine, Robin Motisi and Peter (fiance Carolyn Davis) LeVine. Proud grandfather of Anthony Motisi and Talia Motisi. Loving brother of Ronald (Doralee) LeVine. Dear brother-in-law of Susan Goldberg and the late Dr. Bertram Goldberg. Also survived by Cindy's children, Dr. Carrie (Major Derek Oliver) Preston and Casey Preston, and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

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Where a family's faith finds comfort

OLESNABE, JOSEPH

Joseph Olesnabe, age 92, of Lexington, formerly Birmingham died Sunday March 24. He is survived by his wife Jeannette (Charlier); 5 sons John (Margaret), Joseph (Sue), Mark (Judy), Paul, and Jim (Terri), and daughters Margery (Tom) Vogel, and Mary Ann (John) Cary. Services were held at 11 AM Wednesday March 27 at St. Denis Catholic Church, Lexington.

Read full obituary at www.pomeroyfuneralhomes.com



PAWLAK, ROSEMARY A.

Age 76, March 26, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Alfred Sr. Dear mother of Renee (Paul) Fershee, Toniann (Kim) Taylor, Michael (Kim) and the late Alfred Jr. Mother-in-law of Diane Pawlak. Grandmother of Daniel, Cory, Avery, Benjamin, Connor, Joey and the late Erika. Sister of Joanna McKay. Visitation Friday 3-9 pm with an evening Rosary. Funeral service Saturday 10am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 N. Inkster Rd., Garden City (Btwn Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). www.santeiufuneralhome.com

Santeiu Funeral Home



RIMER, MARVIN DANIEL

Age 85, March 24, 2013. Marvin was the loving husband of the late Eleanor Rimer (McPhail) for 46 years and the late Dorothy Rimer (Thomas) for 11 years, the dear father of Kenneth (Jan), Daniel (Helene) and Ted and beloved son of the late John and Martha Rimer. He is also survived by his loving grandchildren: Jessica, Kyle, Erin, Sara, Emily and Kelsey, as well as his brother John. Marvin was predeceased by his sister Dolores Sinclair and brothers; Russell and Donald (Tiny) and step brother Roger and brother in law James McPhail. Marvin was a Marine veteran. He was a union carpenter for 65 years. Marvin loved being a Sunday School Teacher at Redford Baptist Church for over 50 years. He was a huge Constantine Falcons fan. A memorial visitation will take place on Tues. March 26, 2013 from 5-9pm. A memorial service will be on Wed. March 27, 2013 with Pastor Danny Langley officiating. Both services will take place at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile (East of Newburgh), Livonia, Michigan 48152. Interment will take place at Parkview Cemetery in Livonia. In lieu of flowers, Marvin's family asks that donations be made to Cross Point Meadows Church, Constantine Track/football or I Am My Brothers Keeper Church of Detroit. A guest book can be signed at www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

March

BETHANY

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

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

Details: Bethany, an organization serving Catholics and other Christians, offers a singles dance. Tickets are \$13. Beer, wine, pop, snacks and coffee are included

Contact: (586) 264-0284

CAMP ENROLLMENT

Time/Date: Now through May 31

Location: Consuming Fire Christian Center, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland

Details: The Center is enrolling kids and teens, age 5-15, for its six-week Bible/Home-work Enrichment Camp that will run July 8-Aug. 16. Full day sessions are \$700 and a half-day is \$480. Families get a \$25 discount for added siblings for the full day rate; \$10 discount for the half-day rate. A non-refundable \$100 registration fee at the time of enrollment secures a place at camp. All tuition must be paid in full by May 31. Cost includes the registration fee, snacks, materials for class, tutoring in most subjects and assessment testing

Contact: Melanie Staten or Sylvia Brown at (734) 266-2293

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or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Power Play

Local band plays classic rock with high energy, experience

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Mike Smith knows exactly what sets his group, Power Play, apart from other cover bands — showmanship and experience.

"We do more than just stand there and play," said Smith, a Livonia resident. "We do what would be like a 70s rock show, where there is a lot of movement. I play guitar behind my back and we go out and interact with the audience."

"People want to see something that is kind of exciting instead of just a pretty girl in an evening gown and a bunch of overweight, bald guys standing behind her playing. Our band has a younger vibe, even though we're older guys."

Smith began playing guitar at age 9 and has performed with numerous bands over the years. Dave Tatro on bass and Mario Resto on drums, both of Livonia, played together with Resto's brother, Luis, throughout the U.S. and Canada before Smith recruited them for Power Play two years ago. Resto, who plays drums and sings,



Mike Smith, founder of Power Play, rocks out.

composed and produced two CDs and has written music for television, radio and Web projects. April Hudson, vocals, sang with various local bands before joining Power Play a little over a year ago. Smith founded the band five years ago, but didn't find the right mix of performers until Tatro, Resto and Hudson came along.

"It went through different combinations," he said. "The last couple of years we've tried to get the group estab-

lished solidly, with some solid booking, a solid following. We're starting to pick up steam."

Playing at Spree

With his wife, Tama, in charge of booking for the band, Power Play has picked up regular gigs at T.C. Gators in Canton and Bayside Sports Grill in Walled Lake. The group's spring-summer schedule also includes weddings, country club appearances, a senior all-night party at North-



ville High School, Lake-a-Palooza at Grass Lake and a coveted spot in the music line-up on the main stage at Livonia Spree. The band will play the evening of the annual festival's fireworks display.

"Everything is clicking and hopefully it will continue," said Tama, who also assists with managing her husband's carpentry business. "We're really excited about Spree. I'm always looking for new opportunities, but the band sells itself once they play somewhere and people see them."

She said the band plays mostly classic rock, but includes some current sounds. The set list is an eclectic mix of music by Cee Lo Green, Adele, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Maroon 5, AC/DC, Rolling Stones, Pink, Foo Fighters, Ozzy Osbourne and Dave Mathews, among many others.

"The musicians have been around and are a cut above the rest. They've been in the business a long time. That's what makes them special."

Performing nightly
Tama and Mike Smith



Weekdays, April Hudson works with heavy machinery outdoors at Schoolcraft College. On weekends she sings with Power Play.



Mario Resto of Livonia sings and plays drums with Power Play.



Dave Tatro of Livonia plays bass and sings.

met while working at Jamie's on 7, a popular spot for live music in Livonia several years ago. She was a waitress and he played with a house band called Undercover.

"We played over 3,000 nights — 300 nights a year for 10 years. That was 1982-92," Mike Smith recalled. "Those were very formative years for me. We used to have national acts come in from time to time and we got a chance to play as a warm-up for them. When you're playing night after night, that's where you really develop your chops. You learn to work a live audience and read the room. A lot of bands make a set list and never vary from it. But we'll change on the fly. That's something that comes with experience."

After Smith left Jamie's, he focused on family — the couple have three sons — recording in his home studio and working in his carpentry business.

"I just got back into the live (performances) about five years ago. I had kind of dropped out of it," he said. An acquaintance from his years at Jamie's invited him to play with a band. He did, but it didn't take long before he assembled his own group.

"We all get along. I love playing with these guys," said Hudson, whose day job entails snow removal, mowing and other grounds maintenance at Schoolcraft College. She looks forward to their appearance at Livonia Spree because it will introduce the band to "a whole new group of people."

"I'm super excited," she said.

You don't have to wait for Livonia Spree to see Power Play. Catch their act at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at Bayside Sports Grill, 142 E. Walled Lake Drive, in Walled Lake. They also will perform at 9 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at T.C. Gators 42775 Ford Road, Canton.

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Concert raises funds to feed the hungry

Tom Birchler of Livonia will take the stage at Marian High School in Bloomfield Hills, along with his brothers, Dave, Keith, Jim and John, for the family's "Jammin' to End Famine" concert on April 26.

The concert was inspired by the brothers' father, Don Birchler, who reached out to help others when needed. Proceeds from the concert will pay for food that will be packaged by volunteers at a Kids Against Hunger event in June at Marian.

"All of the Birchlers had our first experiences performing on this very stage back in our high school days," Tom Birchler wrote in a press release. "I remember winning the Marian/Rice talent show there and getting seriously bitten by the performing bug."

The sixth annual concert will start with a pre-concert reception and sweet table in the school auditorium lobby from 7-8 p.m. Music will start at 8 p.m. Marian High School is located at 7225 Lahser.

Performers will include The Paisley Fogg, a 1960s-style rock band, featur-

ing David, Keith and Tom Birchler; The Grunyons, a jazz a Cappella group with John Birchler; and Moose Wampler & the Overdays, a 1950s party rock group, featuring Jim Birchler.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. They are available at the door or in advance by e-mailing Tom Birchler at tbirchler@mi.rr.com or by calling (248) 722-1830.

Kids Against Hunger works with churches and local nonprofits to package its specially formulated soy casserole for delivery in the US and 40 other countries to feed starving children and their families. Since 2004, volunteers have packaged more than 10 million meals in Michigan. They've been distributed to disaster victims, starving people worldwide and to food shelters in the Great Lakes states. Since 2008, Jammin' to End Famine has raised funds for more than 75,000 of those meals.

For more about Kids Against Hunger, visit www.kidsagainsthungercoalition.com. For more about Jammin' to End Famine, visit www.thepaisleyfogg.com/shows.



The Stray Birds will perform April 12 at Trinity Theatre in Livonia.



The Farmington Hills-based Chamber Music Society of Detroit will present Gryphon in concert April 6 at the Seligman Center in Beverly Hills.

Arts Crafts

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Exhibit runs through April 12

Location: In the Costick Center lobby, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Works by Farmington Hills resident, Bob Aikins

Contact: Aikins at www.AikinsAviationArt.com; (248) 473-1800 for Costick Center

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

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

Exhibits: Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Neshat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, April 7-July 7; printmaking by Ellsworth Kelly, May 24-Sept. 8

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

GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through March 26

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Works by the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild

Contact: (734) 394-5308

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday

and during public events, through April

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "Spaces & Places," is the PCA's 4th annual open juried exhibit

Contact: (734) 416-4278

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 29-30

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Hop," a 2001 animated film, \$3

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 5 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 6

Location: 17350 Lahser, Detroit

Details: Three Stooges Festival, featuring the films "Women Haters," "Movie Maniacs," "Disorder in the Court," "False Alarms," "Mutts to You," and "Three Missing Links," tickets are \$5

Contact: (313) 537-2560; www.redfordtheatre.com

Music

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic, 6:15-6:45 p.m.; performances, 7 p.m., the third Saturday of the month.

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Includes open mic performances along with a featured act. Admission is \$5. Individual and family annual memberships also

are available

Contact: Scott Ludwig at BFSpresident@aol.com or call (734) 453-0869

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 6

Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, at Lahser, on the campus of Detroit Country Day, Beverly Hills

Details: Gryphon Trio will perform music by Haydn, Chan Ka Nin, Christos Hatzis and Mendelssohn. Tickets range from \$30-\$60

Contact: www.ChamberMusicDetroit.org or (248) 855-6070

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month — except December

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to pymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Tim Grimm, April 5; Bill Bynum and Company with Robert Stark, April 6; Empty Chair Night with Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Bill Edwards, April 7; The Stray Birds with Red Tail Ring, April 12; Antione Dufour, April 13; Derek Webb, April 14; Barzin, April 19; Blue Water Ramblers, April 20. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

Contact: (734) 464-6302

Something different

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free

Special program: Frog-Watch training classes for 2013 will be held 1-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28, and 1-4:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7, at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center. The "citizen science" program teaches volunteers how to identify frogs and toads by their breeding calls and gather and record data that supports a national network. For more information or to register, e-mail Rebecca Johnson, associate curator of amphibians, at rjohnson@dzo.org

Bunnyville: The event, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, March 30, will feature treats, games, crafts, live entertainment, animal enrichment, photos with the Easter Bunny, and an egg hunt. Visitors who donate a canned or other non-perishable food item for donation to Gleaners Community Food Bank, will receive a reduced admission price of \$8.

Contact: (248) 541-5717

MARSHMALLOW DROP

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Friday, March 29

Location: Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland

Details: More than 20,000 marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter to thousands of children below, who scramble to collect these goodies and trade them in to receive a prize. Children will be divided into age groups, to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to fully participate.

Contact: (734) 261-1990

Historical

GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Time/Date: April 27-28, May 4-5 and 11-12

Location: 20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn

Details: Tickets are on sale now for "Day Out with Thomas: The Go Go Thomas Tour 2013," which gives youngsters a chance to climb aboard Thomas the Tank Engine and take a 25-minute ride. The event includes Thomas-related activities, such as storytelling and arts & crafts. Train rides depart every 30 minutes, from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets are \$11.75 for members, 1 and older and includes free admission to Greenfield Village. Ticket prices for non-members are \$11.75 for children, 1-4; \$27.75 for youth, 5-12; \$33.75 for adults, 13-61; and \$32.75 for seniors, 62 and up

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday, through June 9

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: New "Made in America" exhibit highlights America's contributions to industry, with a special

emphasis on Michigan-made products. Visitors will find iconic American-made products throughout the Museum's "Main Street," including a 1931 Ford Model A pick-up truck belonging to Margaret Dunning, the Museum's major benefactor. Other notable items include eight pedal cars from the collection of Greg Gladki of Westland. Many more items from the Museum's collections are scattered throughout the exhibit, giving visitors a full sense of American ingenuity. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

Contact: (734) 455-8940

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Tickets: \$15 and seating is limited

Where: Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville, MI 48167

Info: Call the Box Office at 248.347.0003 or tippingpointtheatre.com

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Smashed Potato Bar

Yield: 4 servings

2 pounds potatoes, washed and quartered
½ cup milk, warmed
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
½ cup plain yogurt or light sour cream
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Place potatoes into a soup pot and add water until they are completely covered. Lightly salt water and place over medium high heat. Cook potatoes for 15 to 25 minutes until they are soft, but not falling apart. Carefully drain the water and return them to the pot they were cooked in.

Kids can: Use a potato masher to achieve desired texture, being careful not to work the potatoes too much. They also can add milk, butter and yogurt to mashed potatoes. Stir ingredients to combine. Taste mashed potatoes and season them with salt and pepper. Add any extra flavorings or toppings and serve warm.

Chef Justin's tips: Use a combination of purple, yellow and red potatoes to make multi-colored mashed potatoes. Leave the skin on the potatoes for extra nutrients. Don't over-mash the potatoes; overworking can cause them to become gummy.

Potato Bar toppings:

- Low fat yogurt or low fat sour cream
- Chives/scallions
- Cheese
- Bacon bits
- Fresh herbs
- Sun-dried tomatoes
- Lemon

Potato and Green Bean Salad

Yield: 10 servings

½ pound green beans, washed, ends trimmed and cut into thirds
2 pounds potatoes, washed, peeled and diced large
½ cup low-fat mayonnaise
2 lemons, juiced
¼ cup olive oil
3 bell peppers, seeded and diced small
1 cup fresh parsley, chopped fine
1 red onion, diced small
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Kids can: Snap the ends off the beans and break them into thirds.

Fill medium-sized mixing bowl halfway with ice and water; set aside.

Fill large-sized stock pot ¾ full with lightly salted water. Bring to rolling boil over medium-high heat. Add green beans to boiling water and let cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Using a hand strainer, remove green beans from boiling water and place into the ice water to stop them from cooking. After the green beans have cooled down, remove them from the ice water and set aside.

Carefully add cut potatoes to same boiling water greens beans were cooked in. Cook potatoes in boiling water for around 15 minutes, depending on size. Once tender, drain and rinse with cold water.

Kids can: In large mixing bowl, combine mayonnaise, lemon juice and olive oil. Stir the mayonnaise mixture to combine. Add all of the rest of the ingredients to the bowl and lightly stir to combine all flavors. Taste and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Keep potato salad cold in the refrigerator and stir before serving on favorite greens.



Mashed Potato Bar



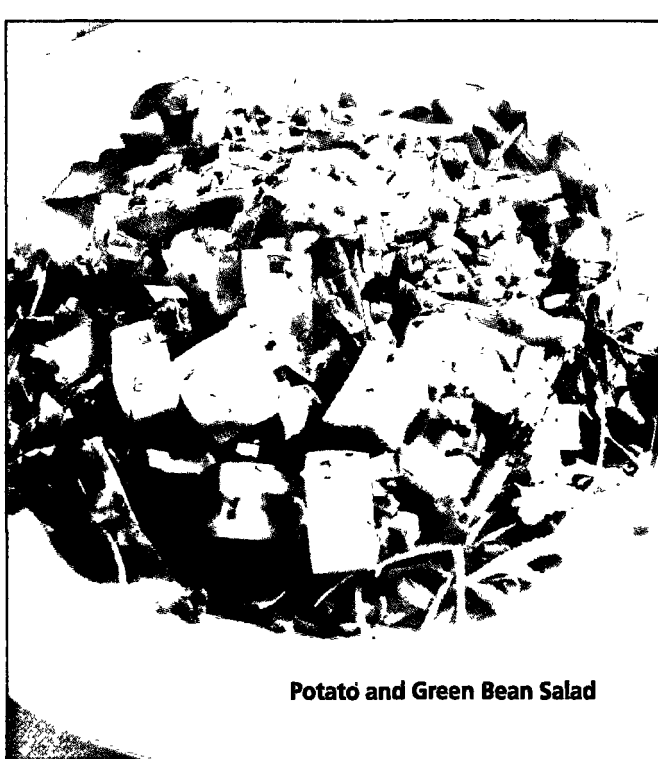
Chef Justin Timineri

French fries are one of a kid's favorite things to eat. But there's a whole lot more that can be made from delicious, nutritious potatoes.

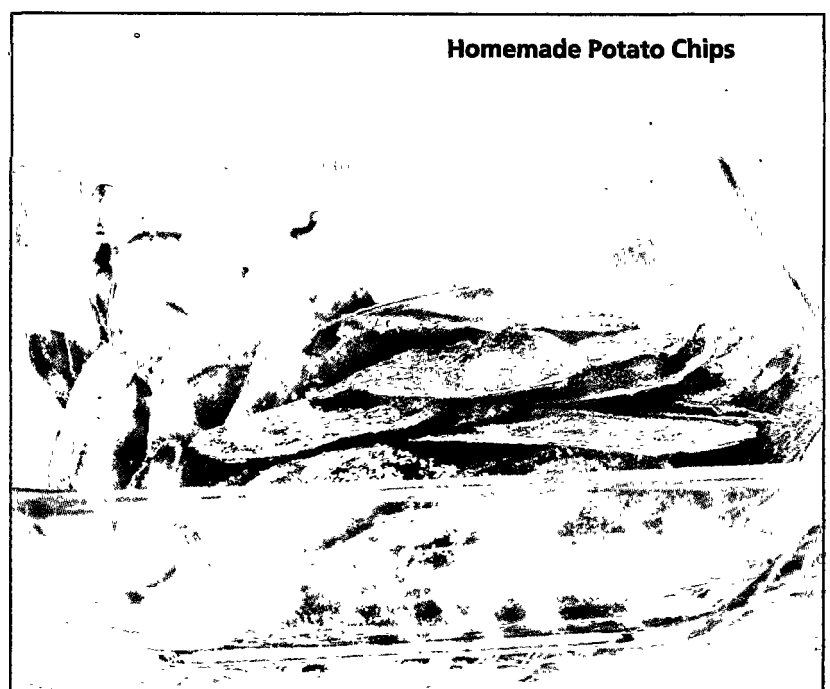
"There are so many different kinds of potatoes that can be flavored in just about any way you like," said Chef Justin Timineri, executive chef and culinary ambassador, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. "Get the kids into the kitchen with you and experiment with making potato dishes the whole family will enjoy."

Potatoes are a good source of potassium (for your muscles and growth), vitamin B6 (to help fight illness and help your nerves function), and fiber (for digestion). Most of the nutrients are right under the skin — leave the skin on whenever possible.

You can find more recipes that will have the kids saying, "Pass the potatoes, please!" at <http://bit.ly/flpotato>.



Potato and Green Bean Salad



Homemade Potato Chips

Roasted Campfire Pockets

Yield: 4 servings

20 fingerling potatoes, sliced thin
1 large onion, sliced
2 bell peppers, sliced
2 cups mushrooms, sliced
2 tablespoons fresh herbs, chopped fine (basil, oregano, thyme, rosemary)
2 tablespoons olive oil
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts

Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat, or an oven at 375°F. In medium sized mixing bowl combine potatoes, onion, bell peppers, mushrooms, herbs and olive oil. Stir ingredients to combine and season lightly with salt and pepper.

Make 4 12-by-12-inch squares of aluminum foil and lay them out to be stuffed. Place a chicken breast in the middle of each foil square, and lightly season with salt and pepper. Evenly distribute vegetable mixture on top of each chicken breast. Fold each packet so that a tight seal is formed and all the food is contained.

Grill packets, or bake them in the oven, for 20 to 30 minutes until internal temperature of chicken reaches 165°F. Remove packets from heat and let cool slightly. Open packets carefully as hot steam may rush out.

Kids Can: Help slice veggies and stuff their pockets with their favorites.

Homemade Potato Chips

Yield: 4 servings

4 medium fingerling potatoes, unpeeled (mixed colors)
1 tablespoon olive oil
Pan release spray
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
Additional seasonings (see below)
Special equipment needed: French mandolin

Preheat oven to 425°F.

Rinse and dry potatoes.

Slice potatoes as thin as possible with a mandolin.

Place sliced potatoes in medium sized mixing bowl and rinse several times with warm water. Lightly squeeze and dry potatoes.

Kids can: Place sliced potatoes back in a dry mixing bowl and add olive oil. Toss potatoes to make sure they are evenly coated with the oil, using a little more oil if needed.

Lightly spray a cookie sheet with pan release spray. Lay sliced potatoes in a single layer on cookie sheet. Place cookie sheet in oven and bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown and crispy.

Remove cookie sheet from oven and let cool slightly. Use a thin spatula to remove potato chips from cookie sheet into a mixing bowl.

Kids can: While they are still warm, season chips with their choice of seasoning, a favorite dried spice mix such as Greek, Cajun or barbecue.

— Family Features



Roasted Campfire Pockets

In-law suites, storage space among abode buyers' top picks

Purchasing a home is an important life decision, and many factors can influence the home choices buyers make.

The National Association of Realtors 2013 Profile of Buyers' Home Feature Preferences examines the features buyers prefer when it comes to purchasing a home, as well as the differences in preferences when it comes to factors such as region, demographics and household composition. The survey captures buyers who purchased a home between 2010 and 2012.

"Deciding where to live comes with a lot of options, but buyers quickly realize that some features are more important than others when it comes to choosing the right house for them," said NAR President Gary Thomas, broker-owner of Evergreen Realty, in Villa Park, Calif. "Buyers need to have a clear idea of what features are important to them and know where they are willing to compromise; in this respect, Realtors can bring buyers home. Realtors visit hundreds of homes with buyers each year, and have a unique understanding of what buyers value in their local markets."

Geography and demography strongly influence what buyers value in a home. The typical recently purchased home was 1,860 square feet and was built in 1996. Repeat buyers, buyers of new homes, married couples and families with children typically purchased larger homes. First-time buyers and single women tended to buy older homes. The typical buyer purchased a home with three bedrooms and two full bathrooms. Slightly over half of the homes purchased were on a single level.

Southerners tend to buy newer homes; they were more likely to want a home less than five years old and in a wooded lot with trees when compared to other regions. Not surprisingly, buyers in the South also placed a higher importance on central air conditioning.

While more than three-fourths — 78 percent — of all buyers purchased a home with a garage, garages were more popular among new-home buyers, Mid-

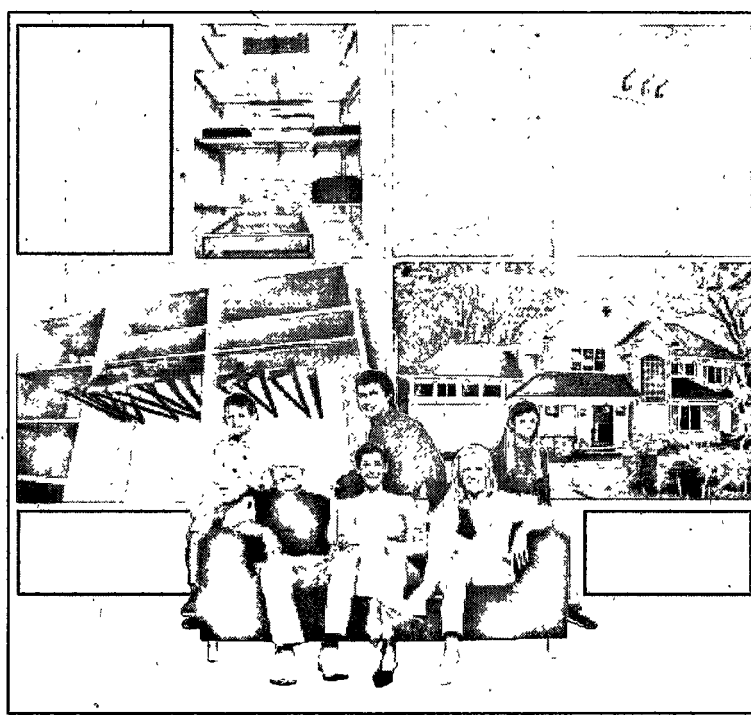
westerners, and suburbanites. Forty-one percent of homes purchased had a basement, but this feature was more popular among buyers in the Midwest and Northeast. Northeastern buyers also value hardwood floors more than people in other regions. Southerners typically bought the largest home at 2,000 square feet. Those in the Northeast followed closely behind with a typical home purchase of 1,850 square feet.

Among buyers 55 and older, 42 percent considered finding a single-level home very important, compared to just 11 percent of buyers under age 35. Single women also placed higher importance on single-level homes, while single men wanted finished basements. Both single men and married couples placed higher importance on new kitchen appliances.

Among all 33 home features in the survey, central air conditioning was the most important to the most buyers; 65 percent of buyers considered this feature very important. The next most important feature was a walk-in closet in the master bedroom; 39 percent of buyers considered this feature very important. Closely behind was having a home that was cable, satellite TV, and/or Internet ready, as well as an en-suite master bathroom.

When it came to actually buying a home, among buyers who considered central AC and cable, satellite TV, and/or Internet ready very or somewhat important, 94 percent bought a home with these features. The next most common feature was an eat-in kitchen; 89 percent of buyers who thought this was important purchased a home with an eat-in kitchen.

Buyers value some features so much that they are willing to spend more money to have them. Sixty-nine percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with central AC would be willing to pay \$2,520 more for a home with this feature. Sixty-nine percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with new kitchen appliances would be willing to pay \$1,840 more for a home with this feature. A walk-in closet in the master bedroom was the third most common feature on



which buyers would spend more. Sixty percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with a walk-in closet would be willing to pay \$1,350 more for a home with this feature.

The features on which buyers placed the highest dollar value were waterfront properties and homes that were less than five years old. Thirty-two percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$5,420 more for a home on the waterfront, and 40 percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$5,020 more for a home that was less than five years old.

The rooms that buyers were willing to pay the most for were a basement and an in-law suite. Thirty-three percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$3,200 more for a home with a basement, and 20 percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$2,920 more for a home with an in-law suite.

When it came to rooms that buyers want in a home, 55 percent of buyers thought it was very important to have a living room, although buyers in the Northeast placed more importance on a home with a dining room. Buyers aged 55 and older placed more importance on a bedroom on the main level of the house. Buyers aged 35 to 54 placed more importance on a laundry room, while those with children placed more importance on a family room.

The two most common rooms buyers were willing to spend more for were a laundry room and a den/study/home office/library. Sixty-three percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with a laundry room would be willing to pay \$1,590 more for a home with this room. Forty-four percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with a den/study/home office/library would

be willing to pay \$1,920 more for a home with this room.

Although 97 percent of recent buyers were satisfied with their home purchase, there are always features buyers would like that they don't have, said NAR Vice President of Research Paul Bishop. "Most satisfied homeowners still said they would like more or larger closets and storage space. In addition, nearly half of recent buyers would prefer a larger kitchen, and two out of five would prefer a larger home overall."

Within three months of a home purchase, 53 percent of buyers undertook a home improvement project. The typical buyer spent \$4,550 on various projects. Remodeling the kitchen was the most common home improvement project; 47 percent of buyers undertook a project in the kitchen. Bathrooms were a close second at 44 percent. Forty-one percent of buyers who made home improvements added or replaced lighting, and 37 percent added or replaced appliances soon after becoming a homeowner.

In October 2012, a sample of households that had purchased any type of residence real estate during 2010 to 2012 and still owned the property was surveyed. The survey sample was drawn from a representative panel of U.S. households monitored and maintained by an established survey research firm. A total of 2,005 qualified households responded to the survey. Households were sampled to meet age and income quotas representative of all home buyers drawn from the 2011 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers.

The 2013 Profile of Buyers' Home Feature Preferences can be ordered by calling (800) 874-6500, or online at www.realtor.org/producers/nar/research. The study costs \$14.95 for NAR members and \$49.95 for nonmembers.

Co-op has legal status

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Does the co-op have a right to decide who is buying the cooperative shares unlike a condominium?

A: So long as the co-op is not violating any laws such as human rights violations, they have the right to determine who will be shareholders with them. Remember that Barbra Streisand and Richard Nixon were denied co-op membership in New York



Robert Meisner

because the co-op was concerned about the paparazzi that would be hanging around trying to take pictures. Of

course, the co-op board must exercise sound business judgment and must weigh the fact that the shareholder that is trying to sell will be upset if they nix the sale. On the other hand, the co-op might have a right of first refusal as well.

Q: I am wondering if we, as a homeowner, have an obligation to disclose that there was a murder/suicide in the home which we have purchased, assuming we want to sell it. I know that it is of concern to some prospective purchasers. What do you think?

A: While each case has to be decided on its facts, and depending upon the individual state's law, in a recent case out of the Pennsylvania Superior Court, the court basically said that the fact that a murder once occurred in a house falls into the category of homeowner-buyer concerns best left to the term caveat emptor, i.e., let the buyer beware. The decision went beyond considering whether a combined murder/suicide should be disclosed, essentially holding no psychological defects need to be disclosed because they are not considered under state law. It has also been argued that this court's opinion could apply to such diverse circumstances as a past rape on the property, a sex offender living next door, or even a high crime rate in the neighborhood. In any event, caution being the better part of valor, you may want to consider discussing it with your lawyer before issuing a disclosure statement.

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*, \$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 COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 26-30, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

2443 Amber Dr	\$180,000
7483 Briargate Ct	\$391,000
6869 Bridgemont Dr	\$235,000
39714 Cheviot Rd	\$127,000
2353 Cleveland Way	\$195,000
7379 Corbett Dr	\$180,000
4090 Elizabeth Ave	\$113,000
7429 Emerson Dr	\$197,000
47385 Fairlawn Ct	\$206,000
40210 Finley Dr	\$164,000
44188 Harsdale Dr	\$157,000
411 Innsbrook Dr	\$323,000
1203 Knightsbridge Rd	\$150,000
1475 N Morton Taylor Rd	\$259,000
8228 Newbury Ct S	\$560,000
7224 Peachtree Ct	\$192,000
378 Pleasant Ridge Dr	\$291,000
2006 S Lilley Rd	\$255,000
43930 Saltz Rd	\$75,000
302 Selkirk St	\$132,000

378 Sylvan Dr	\$415,000
6820 Tiffany Cir	\$258,000
46903 Torrey Hills Ct	\$257,000
46919 Torrey Hills Ct	\$321,000
46989 Torrey Hills Ct	\$258,000
822 Torrey Hills Dr	\$260,000
46836 Wareham	\$380,000

GARDEN CITY

32711 Alvin St	\$66,000
2049 Deering St	\$16,000
31454 Dover St	\$105,000
28642 Elmwood St	\$63,000
29105 Hennepin St	\$30,000
31904 Hennepin St	\$140,000
6161 Lathers St	\$28,000
32750 Maplewood St	\$42,000
28509 Marquette St	\$35,000
33746 Marquette St	\$125,000
6736 Schaller St	\$110,000

LIVONIA

20005 Angling St	\$159,000
28713 Bayberry Park Dr	\$130,000
8968 Beatrice St	\$59,000
14012 Blackburn St	\$184,000
32904 Bobrich Ct	\$170,000
11861 Cavell St	\$120,000
16266 Fairway St	\$220,000
17900 Fairway St	\$174,000
14308 Farmington Rd	\$128,000
16926 Farmington Rd	\$110,000

15645 Fitzgerald St	\$124,000
29033 Grandon St	\$95,000
18760 Hillcrest St	\$104,000
16353 Levan Rd	\$190,000
8954 Melvin St	\$72,000
9735 Newburgh Rd	\$125,000
36657 Pinetree St	\$123,000
14663 Richfield St	\$123,000
30919 Robert Dr	\$110,000
14119 S Livonia Cres	\$156,000
20018 Southampton Dr	\$275,000
10289 Wayne Rd	\$37,000
10333 Wayne Rd	\$110,000
18411 Westmore St	\$135,000

NORTHVILLE

41999 Baintree Cir	\$242,000
19421 Cardene Ct	\$134,000
40683 Coachwood Cir	\$437,000
300 E Cady St	\$225,000
605 Grace St	\$475,000
19410 Malvern Ct	\$110,000
15972 Morningside	\$146,000
39626 Muirfield Ln	\$255,000
19520 Northridge Dr	\$74,000
18020 Stonebrook Dr	\$516,000

PLYMOUTH

12257 Chandler Dr	\$443,000
48071 Colony Farms Cir	\$158,000
8889 Corinne St	\$90,000
776 Deer Ct	\$123,000

44727 Erik Pass	\$200,000
1100 Fairground St	\$185,000
9420 Hillcrest Dr	\$300,000
656 Jener Pl	\$405,000
575 Kellogg St	\$245,000
575 N Evergreen St	\$166,000
11798 Parkview Dr	\$193,000
43025 River Bend Dr	\$160,000
986 Roosevelt St	\$240,000
10064 Wolfriver Dr	\$130,000

REDFORD

26027 Cathedral	\$60,000
14125 Centralia	\$77,000
13520 Dixie	\$41,000
9094 Fenton	\$50,000
11740 Nathaline	\$38,000
20411 Norborne	\$25,000
13930 Royal Grand	\$74,000
9301 Virgil	\$27,000

WESTLAND

34129 Arrowhead St	\$67,000
30615 Burlington St	\$60,000
34031 Caseville Ct	\$12,000
6794 Chirrewa St	\$90,000
7512 Culpepper Ct	\$55,000
36563 Hively St	\$60,000
443 N Sybald St	\$82,000
8410 Rickie Ln	\$80,000
34416 Shellye Ct	\$135,000
33013 Woodworth Ct	\$50,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 5-9, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

32285 Auburn Dr	\$172,000
18378 Bedford St	\$310,000
32955 Bell Vine Trl	\$280,000
31436 Fairfax Ave	\$139,000
31571 Mayfair Ln	\$248,000

BIRMINGHAM

815 Chapin Ave	\$475,000
1356 Greenlawn St	\$270,000
1027 Quantan Rd	\$525,000
1495 Shipman Blvd	\$1,130,000
1190 Wakefield St	\$417,000
884 Woodlea St	\$425,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

4518 Brightmore Rd	\$540,000
199 Barrington Rd	\$190,000
3741 Thornbrier Way	\$370,000
1245 Whitmore Rd	\$145,000
2493 Wildbrook Run	\$269,000

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP

6117 Birchcrest Ln	\$381,000
3252 Edgemere St	\$186,000
1912 Hampshire Ct	\$295,000
4051 Heatherwood Dr	\$250,000
5958 Lochmore Dr	\$210,000

FARMINGTON

23091 Lake Way	\$55,000
22736 Power Rd	\$80,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

30646 Charleston Ct	\$121,000
30823 Country Ridge Cir	\$230,000
38456 Darbyshire	\$122,000
28900 Drake Rd	\$159,000
30055 Kimberly Ct	\$230,000
29511 Mullane Dr	\$160,000
21437 Riverwalk Ct	\$240,000
21770 Ruth St	\$49,000
21785 S Brandon St	\$90,000

29747 Sierra Point Cir	\$125,000
29970 Southbrook St	\$171,000
30901 Woodstream Dr	\$189,000
Lathrup Village	
18720 Roseland Blvd	\$94,000
28901 Southfield Rd	\$160,000

MILFORD

30782 Artesian Dr	\$200,000
1220 Old Milford Farms	\$295,000
312 Riverbend St	\$257,000
178 Turnberry Ct	\$226,000
4239 Windmill Farms	\$465,000

NOVI

45615 Bristol Cir	\$232,000
43120 Emerson Way	\$267,000
21810 Greendale Dr	\$300,000
44521 Gwinnett Loop	\$180,000
44543 Gwinnett Loop	\$171,000
27552 Harrington Way	\$45,000
27568 Harrington Way	\$45,000
41617 Monterey Dr	\$180,000
22854 Penton Rise Ct	\$290,000
41782 Primrose Dr	\$123,000
27468 Sloan St	\$235,000

25317 Sutton Ct	\$50,000
39847 Village Wood Ln	\$42,000
24874 White Plains Dr	\$319,000
28194 Wolcott Dr	\$87,000

SOUTH LYON

25800 Belladonna	\$218,000
1021 Fountain View Cir	\$84,000
24351 Glenwood Dr	\$40,000
61130 Saddlecreek Dr	\$313,000
61155 Serene Ct	\$195,000
22950 Valerie St	\$140,000
24790 Valleywood Dr	\$328,000

SOUTHFIELD

23311 Cornerstone Village Dr	\$57,000
29295 Murray Crescent Dr	\$125,000
20291 Rodeo Ct	\$70,000
19776 W Nine Mile Rd	\$40,000

WHITE LAKE

620 Farnsworth Rd	\$86,000
8498 Huron River Dr	\$104,000
668 Red Bank Dr	\$270,000

HOMES

apartments.com
HomeFinder.com

LIVONIA - Open House Sat. 3/23 1-4pm. Meticulously maintained home in private sub. 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, 2153 sq. ft. \$254,000. View listings: www.foxrealty.com Listing ID: 23933631 rmf@foxrealty.com

Duplexes & Townhouses

WESTLAND: HOLLIDAY PARK CO-OP
2 story townhouse, 3 bedroom, 1 and 1.5 bath, hardwood floors. Close to amenities. Membership required; \$41,000. \$288 monthly. Call: 734-425-3090 ext. 309

Manufactured Homes

MONTHLY PAYMENT \$617*

FULLY REFURBISHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1350 S.F. HOME ALL NEW APPLIANCES INCL. WASHER/ DRYER CENTRAL AIR. MEDALLION HOMES AT NORTHVILLE CROSSING. 888-685-0265

*Monthly payment of \$617 based on sales price of \$32,995, + sales tax, title fees, & estimated closing costs. Includes discounted site rent of \$299 per month for 36 months. Annual site rent increases apply. Market site rent to year 4. Assesses a 10% down payment, a loan term of 240 months, 10.00% interest per annum (APR of 10.75%). Payment does not include insurance escrow so payment may be greater. Subject to credit approval & background screening. Not valid with any other offer. Offer expires 3/31/13. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #308444

\$599/Month*
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home For Sale
• All Appliances
• Shed • Central Air
Academy/Westpoint Canton, MI

888-650-5659
www.academywestpoint.com

Own this home for only \$599 per month. Includes site rent \$15,171.42. Includes tax, title, 10% APR, 10% down, 6 yr. • Expires 3/28/13. Financing arranged through Sun Home Services. NMLS #308444. AT2329109

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NORTHVILLE \$1090 per month*

for a BRAND NEW 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2138 S.F. home with all appliances including washer/dryer, plus central air w/ shed.

*Monthly payment of \$1090 based on sales price of \$69,495, plus sales tax, title fees, & estimated closing costs. Includes discounted site rent of \$299 per month for 36 months. Annual site rent increases apply. Market site rent to year 4. Assesses a 10% down payment, a loan term of 240 months, 10.00% interest per annum (APR of 10.75%). Payment does not include insurance escrow so payment may be greater. Subject to credit approval & background screening. Not valid with any other offer. Offer expires 3/31/13. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #308444

Medallion Homes 888-685-0265

RENTALS

apartments.com
HomeFinder.com

Apartment For Rent

DETROIT: 7 Mile & Telegraph area. 1 bdrm Cozy Upper. \$400/mo. + Sec. Dep. & Ref. Super clean. (313) 657-8125

FARMINGTON AREA
Adult community, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$540/mo. (734) 584-8402

FARMINGTON HILLS
ARNDT APTS.
\$100 sec. dep. if qualified
• FREE HEAT 1 bdrms from \$500. 9 Mile/Middlebelt
248-478-7489

WESTLAND Hickory Woods Apts.
\$224 MOVE IN!
1st Month's Rent 1/2 Off
(for qualified applicants)
1 Bdrm-\$605
2 Bdrm-\$650
FREE GAS & WATER
(734) 729-6520
*Short term leases available.

REDFORD
1/2 Off 1st Month's Rent
Large 1 & 2 bdrms.
Tons of closet space
\$300 Deposit!
*restrictions apply
734-721-6699 EHO
www.cormorantco.com

WESTLAND: Livonia Schools 1 bdrm apt, immediate occupancy. \$520/mo + up. Paul & Assoc. (734) 778-9800

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www.hometownlife.com

Manufactured Homes

WESTLAND/ NORWAYNE - 3 bdrms, \$600/mo plus 1 mo sec. Very clean, blinds, nice kit., no pets. References req'd. 734-729-8526

Homes For Rent

FREE RENT UNTIL MAY 1st 2013!
\$398 MOVES YOU IN!
3 & 4 bedrooms/2 bath Homes
Homes starting at 1,456 sq ft up to 1,550 sq ft
3 bedroom homes starting as low as \$999/month and 4 bedroom homes starting as low as \$1,199/month
South Lynn Schools
Large clubhouse, swimming pool, large playground, homes equipped with shed, all appliances, CA plus full size W/D
Apply online today at www.northville.com
Or call Sun Homes at (888) 488-5861
Office hours M-F 9a-5p Sat 10a-2p
Offer expires 03/28/2013 EHO
*some restrictions apply

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm duplex, fenced, very clean, carpeted, \$650/mo. 313-418-8959

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm duplex. Vero/Palmer. Newer windows, kitchen & carpet, \$625 plus security. (248) 344-2822

WESTLAND: Ford Rd. area. Brick ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, air, bsmt. Carpeted. No pets. Special \$675. 734-591-9163

FARMINGTON HILLS OWN OR LEASE \$575/MO OR LESS
• Site Rent Included
• 2/3 bdrm, 2 full baths
All Appl. • We Finance
• New & Pre-owned avail.
little valley
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www.lvhomes.net

Office Retail Space

HAMBURG: 4000 sq.ft. Prime frontage on M36. Open floor plan w/additional offices or storage. 2 bathrooms. \$1500/mo. 248-486-0354

Commercial - Industrial

SOUTH LYON: 2500 sq.ft. incl wireless internet, heat & electric. High ceilings, plenty of power. \$1500. 248-486-0354

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TILE ~ STONE
Installed \$1.50 sq. ft. up
Kitchen, bath. 248-667-1739

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Beautiful 3 Bed/2 Baths homes with all appliances Starting at \$729
Call us today!
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*Offer valid on select homes only.
Expires 3/28/13 WAC
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COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs well-comed! Lic/ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark 313-363-6738

Electrical

FAMILY ELECTRICAL
City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Hauling - Clean Up

Housecleaning

QUALITY CLEANING SVC.
20 yrs. exp. Insured. Commercial & Residential. Call Peggy: 734-751-2330

Moving & Storage

A1 A+ Movers A+ Service
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Residential repainting, work myself since 1987. Free estimates. (248) 225-7165

PAINTING BY ROBERT
• Wallpaper Removal • Int. • Ext. • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Staining. 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

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• Leaks • Roof Repairs • Flashings • Valley's • Hail • Wind Damage • Ins Claims Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Lic/Ins. Call: (248) 348-4321

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JOBS

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Help Wanted - General

ACCOUNTING:
Contractor in Livonia looking for part-time help. Accounting department support. Computer experience. Accounting/Construction industry software. clunich@clunich.com

AUTO SALES
Gordon Chevrolet is looking for an exp'd. Auto Salesperson for our Used Car Dept. sales team. Health insurance, 401K, competitive pay plan & a great working environment. This is a great opportunity for the right person. We will respect your privacy. Call Al Denomme for a confidential interview. (734) 458-5242

BOOKKEEPER
Experienced in all phases of computerized accounting. Word and excel exp a must! Competitive salary & benefit package. Send resume & salary requirements to: sj11972@yahoo.com

CLERICAL/PAYROLL
Quickbooks & Excel experience preferred. Farmington area. Call: (248) 478-4120

Customer Service Representative
GARDNER WHITE
has immediate opportunities for friendly, service-focused individuals for part time/seasonal Customer Service Representatives. Successful candidates will have previous experience in handling customer inquiries, customer care calls, handling cash and credit transactions, problem solving, and working in a fast-paced, team environment. Candidates must be able to work a flexible schedule, including evenings, weekends and holidays. Apply in person to any of our locations, apply on-line at www.gardner-white.com or email laura@gardner-white.com

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. (734) 722-4580 x9

DRIVERS - OTR
PICK-UP TRUCK DRIVER
To deliver auto parts, mileage & benefits. Call Wiles Enterprises: 734-572-8600

PARALEGAL
Downtown Detroit Defense trial law firm seeking an experienced Paralegal (3-4 yrs exp) with superb computer and organizational skills. Must be reliable and effective in multi-tasking and communicating. Please forward resumes to: rhampton@dwadest-clark.com or fax to (313) 256-8913

Independent Contractors Needed

Twice a week
Thursday mornings & Saturday afternoons

Western Wayne County Area
Deliver The Observer Newspapers to homes in Western Wayne County.

Must have vehicle, valid driver's license & insurance.

Please call 734-582-8690
for more information

Need to rent that house or apartment?

Place an ad with the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies

and have it rented in no time.

800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General

INSTALLERS SIDING, GUTTERS & WINDOWS
Large contracting company looking for Hard Working Dependable Individuals, experience preferred. Must have a valid driver's license in good standing & dependable transportation. Must pass pre-employment drug screen.
Apply at: 47220 Carter Drive, Wixom, MI 48393 No Phone Calls.

Joe's Produce GOURMET MARKET OPENINGS!!
is currently taking applications for enterprising:
• CASHIERS - Part Time
• DELI COUNTER HELP
• BAKERY COUNTER HELP
• CULINARY PREP COOKS
• PERISHABLE FOODS RECEIVER
• DISHWASHERS
Must be able to work any shift. Please apply in person at 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia

LABORER - Hard Work
Underground repairs and back truck work. Exp req'd. CDL preferred. Full time, seasonal. Call 734-553-8848
Email: bruce@mmaint.com

LEASING CONSULTANT
For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, a real go-getter. Training provided. Full-time with Sat's. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. Fax resume: 734-729-8840 E.O.E.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
Wildwood Apartments Westland. Qualified candidate must have previous supervisory experience, valid driver's license & pass background check. Exc. benefit package, inc. 401K. Apply in person at: 5895 N. Wildwood. Tuesday, April 2nd ONLY b/w the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. EOE

MARKETING & ADMISSIONS
For Assisted Living Facility. Experienced only need apply. Email resume to: rosareake@aol.com

METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET
Accepting applications for the following positions:
• Grocery Manager
• Cafe Manager
• General Manager (with produce background)
• Closing Produce Manager
Please email resume to: lironlamarket@yahoo.com

SALES SUPERVISOR
Looking for outgoing, competitive Sales Supervisor who is well organized and has excellent communication skills, to oversee our evening door-to-door team. Part time \$12/hr Mon, Tues., Weds., Thurs. 3:30-6pm & Sat. 8:30am-2:30pm. Call/email to join our team today! 248-477-4880
wolfe@eradications.com

Reach even more potential employees with an Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!

For details call 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General

PARTS MANAGER
Manage busy parts department taking calls locally & nationwide from municipal & contractor customers. Significant walk in & will call traffic. Support shop operation & other branches. Reports to Director Corp Operations.
AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
• Ensuring all calls & walk in customers are serviced.
• Manage all outstanding quotes & sales documents
• Collaborate with purchasing and other departments.
• Promote part sales
• Manage direct reports
• Shipping & receiving supv.
• Maintain stock levels & showroom appearance.
BACKGROUND:
• A degree in an applicable subject or min 10 yrs exp. 3 in supervisor role in a heavy equipment / truck dealership
• Computer literate
Send resume and salary expectations to hr@dohenyssupplies.com and reference: Parts Mgr001

PROPERTY MANAGER
Full-Time, for metro Detroit area apartment community. Apartment community management exp. required. Please fax resume: (248) 473-5480

RESIDENT MANAGER
Needed for senior citizen property in Farmington Hills. Previous management exp a must. Tax credit knowledge a plus. Resume: Manager, 5454 Gateway Center #B - Flint, MI 48507

SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Must have min. 5 yrs. HVAC sales exp. American Discount Htg. (248) 478-4100

Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weeklies Classifieds
Just a quick call away... 1-800-579-SELL

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Help Wanted - General

VET ASSISTANT CAT CLINIC
FULL-TIME
Experience required. Must adore cats! Apply in person at: 38437 Grand River Farmington Hills

Help Wanted - General
Office Clerical

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
Must have a good attitude & solid work ethic. 3 yrs. exp. Must be capable of maintaining records timely & accurately. *Data entry *Verify proper postings *Review monthly statements from vendors *Prepare bi-weekly check runs *Maintain vendor insurance *IT network & software support as needed *Other duties and projects as they arise. Resume & salary requirements: empad@gmail.com

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ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Northville/Novi

We're looking for customer-centric, energetic, aggressive account executives who can follow a solutions-based strategy of sales with clients, have a proven ability to close sales and can think big to take their place in our Northville/Novi territory, as part of our Advertising team with Observer & Eccentric Media.

- College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales.
- Proven sales track record.
- Have impeccable communication skills.
- Outstanding computer skills.
- Digital sales experience a plus.

We offer base + commission and benefits in a work environment that is stimulating and fast-paced along with opportunities for career growth with Gannett Co. Inc.

Email resumes to Iverson@hometownlife.com
Attn: Sales EEOC

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hometownlife.com
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TOOL AND DIE MACHINISTS

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at the premier machining facility

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Day Shift
CNC Lathe & CNC Mill
Wire & Conventional EDM
Surface ID & OD Grinding & Finishing

A minimum of 5-7 years experience is required for all positions and must do own set-ups and control adjustments. We offer competitive wages and a full benefit package.

Apply in person between 8AM-4:30 PM at:
Die-Namic Inc.
7565 Haggerty Rd.
Belleville MI 48111
Or fax resume to: 734-710-3223
or email to: sthompson@die-namic.com
EOE - M/F/D/V

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR		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	3.625	0	2.75	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	2.75	0	J/A
Client Services by Gold Star	(800) 991-9922	3.5	0	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	3.875	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	3.625	0	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3.25	1.875	2.375	1.875	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	3.75	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star	(888) 293-3477	3.125	3.125	2.625	0.25	J/A/V/F
Sierra Pacific Mortgage	(313) 215-1766	3.375	0.75	2.5	0.75	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 3/22/13 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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and have it rented in no time.

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TO PLACE YOUR AD 1-800-579-7355

MICHIGAN AD NETWORK SOLUTIONS CLASSIFIED

ADOPTION:
ADOPT: A LIFE FILLED WITH LOVE, LAUGHTER & security awaits your newborn. Medical/Legal expenses paid! Please call Brian & Jennifer 888-262-0237

EDUCATION / TRAINING:
ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE FROM HOME. "Medical, Business, Criminal Justice, Hospitality. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHV certified. Call 877-895-1828 www.CenturaOnline.com

AIRLINE CAREERS:
Become an Aviation Maintenance Tech. FAA approved training. Financial aid if qualified-Housing available. Job placement assistance. AC0901 CALL AIM 877-891-2281

MEDICAL BILLING TRAINEES NEEDED!
Train to become a Medical Office Assistant. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Online training gets you job ready ASAP HS Diploma/GED & PC/Internet needed! 1-877-253-6495

FOR SALE:
SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3997.00-MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.Norwood-Sawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

HELP WANTED
GORDON TRUCKING

available. Job placement assistance. AC0901 CALL AIM 877-891-2281

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available. Job placement assistance. AC0901 CALL AIM 877-891-2281

MEDICAL BILLING TRAINEES NEEDED!
Train to become a Medical Office Assistant. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Online training gets you job ready ASAP HS Diploma/GED & PC/Internet needed! 1-877-253-6495

FOR SALE:
SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3997.00-MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.Norwood-Sawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

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FOR SALE:
SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3997.00

JOBS

Administrative Assistant
Small Livonia office seeks self directed multi tasker. Must have professional telephone presence, MS office & basic computer skills.
Fax resume: 734-425-0809

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM (NOVI)
An intellectual property law firm located in Novi, MI is looking for an Administrative Assistant. Duties include proof-reading, electronic filing, preparing forms and word processing. Candidate must be a team player, able to work flexible hours and be proficient with Adobe Acrobat and MS Office. Knowledge of web-based docketing systems is preferred. Please submit resume and salary requirements to: careers@quinnlavigne.com

SECRETARIAL
FULL-TIME AP/AR. Manual Bookkeeping. Must have office exp. MUST APPLY IN PERSON: Brose Electrical 37400 W. 7 Mile, Livonia (734) 484-2211

Help Wanted - Dental

Dental Front Office Business Staff
Fast paced practice seeks qualified individual to join our front desk team of patient coordinators. Requires a minimum of 2 yrs. dental exp. Extensive knowledge of dental insurance and processing, patient billing, ADA codes and Dentrix is required. Superior attention to detail and ability to provide excellent customer service a must. If you would like to join a quality team, please send cover letter & resume to: moreinfo@preferredentalgroup.com

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Full-Time, includes Sat's. Must have dental/computer knowledge. Farmington Hills. Ask for Karen: 248-851-1034

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL HYGIENIST
Experienced in all phases of hygiene. Part-time with full-time benefits. Bring in your resume and fill out an application Thurs., April 4th b/w 10 & 12pm or Tues., April 9th b/w 2 & 5pm. 41895 11 Mile Rd. Suite 101, Novi 48375

DENTAL INSURANCE SPECIALIST

Southfield/Birmingham specialty practice is looking for individual with intelligence, initiative and dental insurance experience for full-time position. Excellent salary, benefits and work environment.

Call: (248) 357-3100

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
\$40,000-\$50,000/YR.

Excellent opportunity for intelligent, well-groomed, experienced individual in high quality specialty practice.

Call: (248) 357-3100

Help Wanted - Medical

HOSPITALIST
wanted to provide medical care to patients at Royal Oak, MI hospital. Send resume to Amanda Werthmann, HR, William Beaumont Hospitals, 16500 W. 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48076. An Equal Opportunity Employer

Medical Assistant/LPN
Full-time needed for a busy family medicine office. 2 yrs. exp. necessary. Please send resume to: Western Wayne Physicians 37650 Professional Center Dr., Suite 1000, Livonia, MI 48154 or fax: 734-482-5960

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Medical Office seeks exp'd Receptionist. Must have strong computer & medical insurance knowledge. Full-time with exc. pay & benefits. Ann Arbor area.

Email or Fax Resume to: a2dorm@aol.com (734) 996-8767

MEDICAL BILLER
For a growing medical billing co. At least 5 yrs. exp. needed. Email: Bma1234@comcast.net

MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER
For a busy ophthalmology practice. Exp. necessary. Billing knowledge helpful. Full time, salary position with Medical/Dental, 401K, PTO. Email resume to: physicianscare@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - Medical

OPTICAL HELP: PART-TIME
Sales Optician for practice in Farmington. Email resume: jlvargovick@gmail.com

RN
For Assisted Living Facility. Part time. Experience required. Email resume to: Rosearake@aol.com

X-RAY TECH - Registered

Part time. Farmington Hills area. Please fax resume to: 248-474-5618 or call 586-504-6681

Food - Beverage

• Bartenders
• Wait Staff • Cooks
Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

WAITERS WANTED
All 3 restaurants, experience a must. Open availability. Ask for Aaron, Frank or Ryan. Compa's On the Park (734) 416-0100

Attorney & Legal Counsel

DIVORCE \$75.00
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hometownlife.com

Absolutely Free

FREE PINE FIRE WOOD
Trunk sections. Approx 25pcs, approx 16" long. Must be split. (734) 513-7856

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA Moving Sale-15395
Fairlane, 5 Mile/ Farmington. Dining room set, pool table, women's clothes, misc furniture. Fri/Sat, 3-29/30, 9-4pm.

REDFORD Estate Sale 60 Years - Everything Goes!
17690 Norborne, Redford Twp. Fri., March 29-Sun., April 6, 9:30-4:30pm - 313-538-1706

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

Household Goods

Custom Solid Oak Table 6 chairs, 1 leaf, \$600. Yamaha Upright Piano, w/bench mahogany, with light, metronome, \$2400. Both original owner & like new. 248-888-8529

HOME OFFICE CORNER DESK UNIT with hutch. Excellent condition. \$450. 248-513-4466

Musical Instruments

Castlone Keyboard- many rhythms and volume choices, \$175. Peavey Mixer-AMP state of the art, \$500. Moving, must sell by March 30th. 734-459-1112

Wanted to Buy

Cash or consignment for old items to fine antiques. Collections, sets, odd items, any size or quantity to full estates. Fair, honest, courteous, discrete old gentleman. I drive to you. Richard. (248) 755-0362 richard.preston48@yahoo.com

Looking to Buy Metro-Det mfg/ dist. co. \$100,000 SDE min. Unprofitable OK. Professional, experienced. Independent. Discrete engineer w/ MBA. 10% down, monthly payments. Richard: (248) 795-0362 richard.preston48@yahoo.com

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Successful Deer Hunter Patches. Call Bill: (734) 690-1047

PETS
hometownlife.com

Cats

CATS (2) Very loving, fixed, 1.5 yrs. Must stay together. No young children. 248-738-4901, 248-214-8898

Dogs

Cane Corso Puppy
16 wks. old girl, blue brindle, all shots/deworming, w/caps. Must see! 734-799-6339

LABS & LABRADOODLES
Avail. Hunting/therapy lines. Call: 248-636-5133

Found - Pets

FOUND SHIH TZU - Female black & white Shih Tzu. Redford/Livonia area. 313-533-7981

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday

PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Lomond and Ness
- 6 Bahl
- 11 Familiarize with new material
- 13 Peace talks city
- 14 "That Girl" girl
- 15 Eurasian mountains
- 17 Went first
- 18 Current rage
- 19 Full range
- 20 Previous to
- 21 Sunflower supporter
- 23 Taro-root paste
- 24 Colony members
- 25 Hurlers' stats
- 27 Winds around
- 29 Noon on a sundial
- 31 Watchdog's warning
- 32 Puts up

- 35 Forum garb
- 38 Big rackets
- 39 Goddess of dawn
- 41 Seasonal libations
- 43 Wapiti
- 44 Got along
- 46 Slangy pal
- 47 Cotton gin name
- 48 Riverbank dweller
- 49 Maude
- 50 Little finger
- 52 Kitchen implement
- 54 Swamp grass
- 55 Lawn invaders

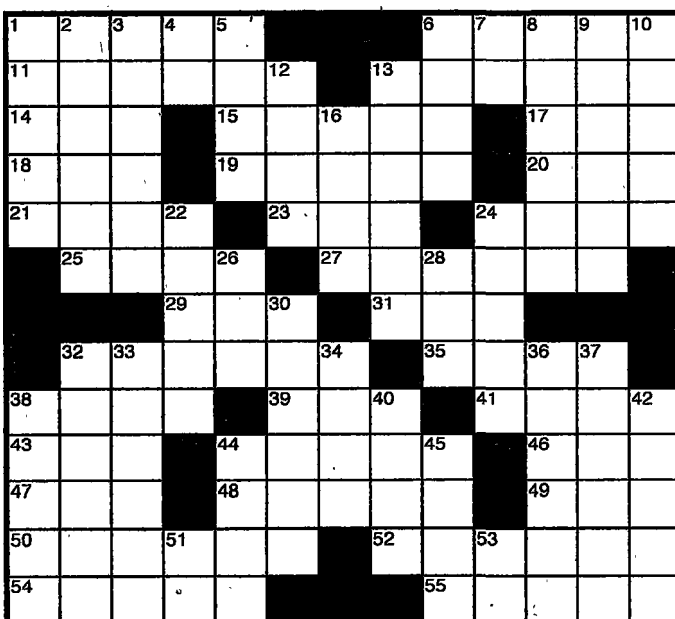
DOWN

- 1 Idles away time
- 2 Elaborately decorated
- 3 Hot coal
- 4 That gentleman
- 5 Comfy

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	R	O	D	P	E	N	D	S	I	B
I	O	T	A	L	O	D	E	U	K	E
C	I	T	I	Z	E	N	G	I	B	E
		N	E	D	D	R	O	P		
S	P	A	T	E		G	R	A	N	O
T	I	N	Y		S	A	I	D		E
A	T		S	H	O	V	E		N	P
K	O	I		T	I	L	E		P	A
E	N	T	R	E	E	S		B	O	S
		O	A	T	S		U	R	E	
H	E	X	E	S		P	R	A	T	T
A	S	I		O	M	E	N		R	E
Y	O	N		N	U	T	S		Y	E

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Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books
at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

7				5	8				
2			1	4					
5								1	8
			8	2			3	4	7
									5
4	3	9	7			2	6		
		5		7					
	1	6		3	9	4			2
	7		6	4				5	3

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!

MUSICAL WORD SEARCH

WORDS

N F B B R W E A P E S B R E H F P R A H
W P R W V E R A N S O E S L R E C S F B
O V A C E L L O N D I E N A N E I R
G X S V P C B G G R S L N O D P O E F G
B L S N O M H O O S G C H R T X I B E T
A E U R O N U C A N H P U N L D D O D S
M X G R I T E B A H O M E I L R R N V E
E A T L T R E I O X N M D O B O O E M E
N C O H A E R R A S U D A E A H C O I L
R I L Y I T N S T R A R B X C C C P F G
V S W A H H W R T S C B U N C I A D S U
T M Y F R P P S F M I W T Y V P P N B
E E M G T I N Y E A N V H P I A N O V A
P E P U E I N X V R O N O I L L L F I L
M D O I P T U E V I M I F L S C T C O F
U N P T P U U P T M R T V G O T U U L I
R X V A A G N L L B A P R C T C L C A D
T C P R W W A D F A H S L A B Y C E E D
O F E S T A M B O R I N E P U O S I H L
M V B N T F R E L A C I S U M N D B P E

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

8	9	8	1	7	9	2	1	6
2	7	4	6	3	9	1	8	
9	6	1	2	7	8	9	7	6
1	9	2	9	8	7	6	8	7
9	8	6	7	1	3	2	2	9
7	7	3	9	6	2	8	9	1
8	1	7	3	2	6	7	9	9
6	3	9	7	9	7	1	8	2
7	2	9	8	9	1	3	6	7

Sudoku

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

N	F	B	B	R	W	E	A	P	E	S	B	R	E	H	F	P	R	A	H
W	P	R	W	V	E	R	A	N	S	O	E	S	L	R	E	C	S	F	B
O	V	A	C	E	L	L	O	N	D	I	E	N	A	N	E	I	R		
G	X	S	V	P	C	B	G	G	R	S	L	N	O	D	P	O	E	F	G
B	L	S	N	O	M	H	O	O	S	G	C	H	R	T	X	I	B	E	T
A	E	U	R	O	N	U	C	A	N	H	P	U	N	L	D	D	O	D	S
M	X	G	R	I	T	E	B	A	H	O	M	E	I	L	R	R	N	V	E
E	A	T	L	T	R	E	I	O	X	N	M	D	O	B	O	O	E	M	E
N	C	O	H	A	E	R	R	A	S	U	D	A	E	A	H	C	O	I	L
R	I	L	Y	I	T	N	S	T	R	A	R	B	X	C	C	C	P	F	G
V	S	W	A	H	H	W	R	T	S	C	B	U	N	C	I	A	D	S	U
T	M	Y	F	R	P	P	S	F	M	I	W	T	Y	V	P	P	N	B	
E	E	M	G	T	I	N	Y	E	A	N	V	H	P	I	A	N	O	V	A
P	E	P	U	E	I	N	X	V	R	O	N	O	I	L	L	L	F	I	L
M	D	O	I	P	T	U	E	V	I	M	I	F	L	S	C	T	C	O	F
U	N	P	T	P	U	U	P	T	M	R	T	V	G	O	T	U	U	L	I
R	X	V	A	A	G	N	L	L	B	A	P	R	C	T	C	L	C	A	D
T	C	P	R	W	W	A	D	F	A	H	S	L	A	B	Y	C	E	E	D
O	F	E	S	T	A	M	B	O	R	I	N	E	P	U	O	S	I	H	L
M	V	B	N	T	F	R	E	L	A	C	I	S	U	M	N	D	B	P	E

Word Search

It's All At Your Fingertips
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Apartment!
Garage Sales!
A Top Notch Service Directory!

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Auto Misc.

WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS
AVIS FORD
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CHEVROLET AVALANCHE 2008
Bleach White, LTZ, 4WD, and loaded! Fun to drive!
Only \$24,381
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Lou LaRiche

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Forest Green, LS, 4WD and Z71
Ready for some fun!
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4x4, Quad/Cab, 130C151A
Dealer
734-261-6200

FORD F-150 2003
S/Crew, King Ranch, 4x4, fully inspected, \$13,488. 13T1098A
Dealer
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FORD F350 C/Cab 2008
Diesel, King Ranch, showroom new! STX#1316110A
Dealer
888-714-9714

FORD T-150 2008
S/Crew, 4x4, Certified 1.9%
\$22,988. 13T1268A
NORTH BROS. FORD
888-714-9714

Mini-Vans

Chrysler Town & Country 2010
13T5064A. Slow & Go, full pwr, alloys, 30K one owner miles! \$18,988.
Dealer
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Chrysler Town & Country 2010
Midnight Blue, Touring Ed, and power optional! Soccer Season Ready! Reduced to \$17,881
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Lou LaRiche

MAZDA 5 2008 TOURING
Galaxy grey mica, moonroof, compass/auto dim mirror, wheel locks, 5 spd auto, 6 passenger seating capacity, 2nd & 3rd row seats fold flat. \$2,500 ml. Exc cond inside/out. 1 owner. \$11,400. 248-514-5187

PONTIAC MONTANA VAN 2002
Runs great! \$5,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports Utility
BUICK ENCLAVE 2008
Brown, \$17,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500
BUICK LACROSSE CXL 2009
Gray, 47K, \$15,995.
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Blizzard White, long bed, and ABS! Hard working truck!
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LT, auto, a/c, full pwr., 76,000 miles, \$10,988. 13T19227A
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AWD, chrome, Certified. 1.9%. ST# 13T1248A, \$22,988
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888-714-9714

FORD ESCAPE XLT 2008
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\$17,988. P21600
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888-714-9714

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AWD, Moon, Nav, Chromed. Pristine! \$14,988.
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AWD, SLT, \$20,495
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BUICK, GMC
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GMC ACADIA 2010
SLT-2, Black, \$25,495
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC ACADIA SLT 2009
Silver, 53K, \$22,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC ACADIA SLT 2010
White, 28K, \$26,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC ENVY 2008
Gray Horizon, SLT, and sunroof!
Ready for the winter elements!
Reduced to \$13,981!
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Silver Shine, SLT, leather, and remote start! Room for 7!
Reduced to \$10,981!
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Polar White, SLT, Eco, and remote start! Enjoy the ride!
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73K, Very Nice! \$19,495
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

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White, 36K, \$23,495
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

PONTIAC AZTEK 2003
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

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Blue, \$6,595
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13,000 miles, Black, leather, \$30,795
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Blue Haze, LT with RS pkg & alloy! Solid Performance!
Only \$23,881!
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Dealer
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White Hot, LS, and auto! Won't be around long! Only \$10,881!
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Recent repairs. Excellent cond. \$2,995. 734-420-2376

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Auto, air, full power, super clean, super cheap!
13T60478, \$8,988
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Reduced to \$18,981!
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Lou LaRiche

FORD FIESTA SES 2011
Gray, very nice, great gas saver. \$14,995.
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

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Auto, a/c full pwr., alloys
\$9,988. 13C8491A
Dealer
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FORD FUSION 2011
Tuxedo Black, SE, and flex fuel! Impress the neighborhood!
Only \$15,881!
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Ford
FORD TAURUS SHO 2011
Moon, Navigation, loaded, Certified 1.9% \$29,888 13C8185A
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Silver Flare, reverse cam, and htd. seats! Dependability meets versatility! Reduced to \$26,481!
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Phantom Black, GLS, and power optional! Quick to impress!
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Sateen Silver, Laredo, and 4WD! Off road fun! Only \$14,881!
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Lou LaRiche

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Jeep
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Jeep
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\$17,988. 13T3140A
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68K, Must See! \$8,985
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City 19, hwy 25, 228,000 miles. Red 4 door, auto, 2.5L V-6, new tires, air, excel. transportation. Mobile 1 Oil, hwy miles, 3rd car, no longer needed, retired, \$2000/best offer. SOLD SOLD SOLD

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V6, front wheel drive, keyless, cloth int. Fully loaded. 65,000 mi. \$8,000. 734-558-2543, 734-454-9223

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