

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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ENTRYWAY

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MPSC: 'External forces' played part in Franks explosion

Consumers Energy fined in natural gas blast that killed two furniture store employees

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Wayne city officials will most likely express to state lawmakers their disagreement with a Michigan Public Service Commission report that "external forces" played a part in a December 2010 natural gas explosion which leveled the W.C. Franks Furniture Store in Wayne, killing two employees

and severely injuring the owner.

"I think the report is one-sided, there's a lot of unanswered questions," said Wayne Mayor Al Haidous. "I'm not impressed with the report and I don't agree with it, but that doesn't make any difference in what happened. We can't bring those lives back."

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A Michigan Public Service Commission investigation has found that natural gas that caused the explosion Dec. 29, 2010, at the W.C. Franks Furniture store was able to get in through a sewer line. FILE PHOTO

Westland to gain 146 new homes

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland will soon be adding 146 new single-family homes on the site of the former Clyde Smith farm.

"When was the last time we had 146 homes in the \$180,000 to \$200,000 range built?" Westland Mayor William Wild said. "It's been six or seven years. These are new, quality homes. It's a nice shot in the arm for Westland and Livonia Public Schools. I think it bodes well for the economy."

The city council recently approved a revised site plan for what will be called the Clyde Smith Farms Village, a planned-unit development. It's located on the east side of Newburgh, south of Joy.

Plans were originally approved in 2008 for a development called Chestnut Village. That included 110 single-family homes with just over five acres of commercial development on the Newburgh frontage.

The new site plan from Home Renewal Realty eliminates the commercial development and increases the number of homes in the development.

Planned development

Like Chestnut Village, Clyde Smith Farms Village is a planned-unit development and a site condominium, not a platted subdivision.

Initially, the development will feature two styles of homes, both two stories. One will home will be 1,896 square feet, while the other will be 2,236 square feet. Both would have brick on all four sides to the top of the first floor.

"The lot sizes, depths and setbacks are the same as the planned-unit development," Westland Planning and Building Director Bruce Thompson said.

The main entrance to the development will be at an existing traffic light at the entrance to Fountain Valley Apartments on the west side of Newburgh.

"We're excited to be here. We couldn't be more excited to offer a new product in Westland," said David Moran of Home Renewal Realty.

Another style

In addition to the two models currently planned, Moran said there may be the addition of a 1,600-square-foot ranch or possibly a colonial-style home.

"We will do some focus study groups," Moran said.

The store and greenhouse that had been on the 36-acre Smith property were demolished in 2008 as were three homes, including an old farmhouse. The business was the oldest of its kind in Michigan, having opened in 1834. The Smith family used to sell produce at the old Western Market in Detroit.

An auction was held to sell equipment from the farm market. The Smith family also donated several antique farm tools to the Westland Historical Museum on Wayne Road, south of Marquette.

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The Sydenstricker family of Westland enjoy hot dogs and chips at the annual Community Gathering held at Corrado Park Thursday. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Crowds fill Corrado Park for Community Gathering

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

If the number of hot dogs served is the barometer of success, last week's Community Gathering at Corrado Park in Westland's north end was a huge success.

"We went through 700 hot dogs and I had to go out for 300 more," Deputy Mayor Jade Smith said. "We know how to throw a party."

This is the seventh year Mayor William Wild has hosted a Community Gathering, inviting families to a city park for the two F's - food and fun. Twin slides shared space with police and fire and the city's new public services vehicles in Corrado Park off Joy Road.

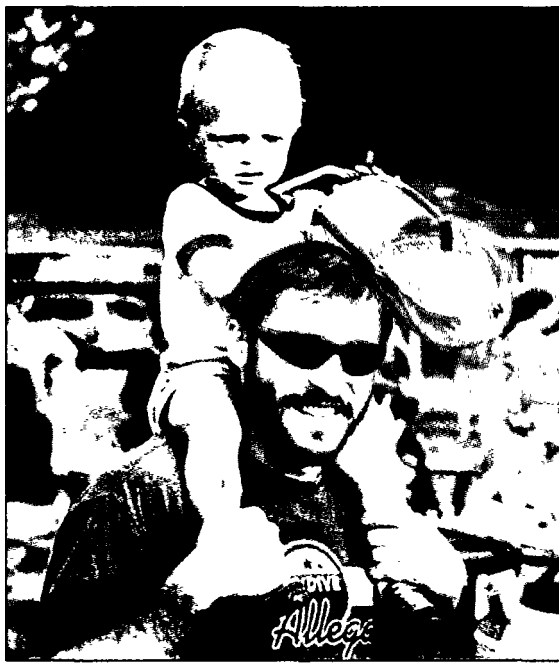
There also was a dunk

tank, DJ playing music, free giveaways and, of course, hot dogs at the event which was sponsored by ITC Holdings.

"The one thing that's neat is when you bring out the equipment, people just love it," said Mayor William Wild, who has been holding Community Gatherings for seven years. "They don't get to see that and it lets them get inside and check them out."

Wild started holding the gatherings when he took office in 2007. His first action as mayor was to put up the fence around a contaminated Central City Park, and he decided residents needed some place else to go. He used the gatherings to get them to see and use the other

See GATHERING, Page A2



Two-year-old Alexander Rurka takes in a view of the Community Gathering from the shoulders of his father, Steven Rurka of Westland.

Lighthouse Home Missions holding clothing giveaway

Parents in need of back-to-school clothing can find it next weekend at the Lighthouse Home Missions in Westland.

LHM is holding a back-to-school clothing giveaway from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 23-24, at the Full Gospel Temple, 34033 Palmer, between Wildwood and Venoy.

Clothing for children through adults will be avail-

able with the purchase of FGT bags for \$2. Buy a bag for \$2 and fill it to the top with clothes. Buy as many bags as you like for \$2 each. People who purchased bags at LHM's spring clothing giveaway can bring them back to use again.

"The clothing is free, the bags cost \$2," said Linda Miller, Lighthouse assistant director.

The two-day spring giveaway had people came from all over and hopes are to attract just as large of a crowd.

"We really had a lot of people come out in the spring," she said. "We bought five boxes of bags and have one box left. We went through at least 1,000 bags."

Founded by pastor Ruby Beneteau, Light Home Mission

is a community outreach that feeds and provides clothing to more than 10,000 people each year. It also operates a warming center January through March for the homeless.

For more information, call the mission at 734-326-3885 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

-By Sue Mason



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BLAST

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The explosion occurred shortly after 9 a.m. Dec. 29, 2010. The blast killed employees James Zell, 64, and Leslie Machniak, 54, both of Westland, and severely injured store owner Paul Franks of Plymouth Township, then 64.

In its report, the MPSC determined that the explosion occurred after natural gas found its way into the building through a sanitary sewer line and got into the building through a non-watertight sewer trap.

Outside forces

MPSC investigators also concluded that outside forces did damage to the two-inch steel main located in the alleyway behind 35018 Chestnut St. and identified several contributing factors:

- » The city of Wayne had installed an eight-inch sanitary sewer line parallel to and after construction of the affected gas main. Because of the close vicinity, the construction most likely exposed the gas main, according to the report.
- » A residential chain-link fence was installed after the construction of the affected gas main in multiple locations and exerted downward forces on the main.
- » The footings for a poured concrete wall built by the city encased the gas main. No sleeve or conduit was used, causing the concrete footing to prevent free movement of the pipe in the soil during the freeze and thaw cycle, according to the report.

Will pay fine

Consumers Energy has agreed to pay \$90,000 in fines in regard to Franks explosion, as well as a \$340,000 fine levied by the MPSC related to an explosion in Royal Oak in February that killed Daniel Malczynski, 58, and damaged 30 homes. The utility also

"We must do all we can to ensure mistakes of the past are not repeated."

BILL SCHUETTE
Michigan attorney general

Haidous bristled at the inference that the city did something wrong, pointing out that city records show the sewer is 70-75 years old and the wall was built 25 years ago to close off an alley. The gas line was installed in the 1940s, he said.

"If the pipe was damaged when the wall was put in, why did it take 25 years to show?" he said. "If that was the case, it would have shown up sooner."

The MPSC also found that Consumers Energy failed to follow regulations in their response before the explosion. If a "complete and thorough investigation" had been conducted by a Consumers employee responding to the first of two citizen calls about gas odors in the area, "immediate actions may have been taken to identify the source and extent of the leak and evacuate the area until conditions were made safe," the report stated.

reached an agreement to use \$1 million to create Natural Gas Incident Response Fund to help victims of natural gas disasters and to fund improved training and safety practices for utility workers and first responders in Michigan. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette pursued the settlement following the Royal Oak explosion.

"It's not good enough to just respond to victims after the fact. We must do all we can to ensure mistakes of the past are not repeated," said Schuette.

Consumers Energy officials, in a statement, said the utility "fully accepted" the MPSC's findings and the fines announced by both the regulator and Schuette.

"As we've said previously, these incidents failed to meet our standards, or the standards expected by our customers across Michigan," the statement said.

The furniture store, founded by William and Betty Franks in 1963, operated out of its warehouse in Wayne after the explosion for almost two years before closing for good in December 2012. In 2011, Franks and the families of Zell and Machniak reached a confidential settlement after suing Consumers Energy.

"The loss of life, in my opinion, was a big loss and \$90,000 or \$9 million can't replace that," Haidous said. "The commission should be more sensitive to everybody and be more professional and careful about how they affect people and the city."

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A four-legged hero

Ex-Marine recalls service of Staff Sgt. Reckless in Korean War

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

A local family is recalling a famous horse named Staff Sgt. Reckless who played a part in the Korean War.

The Charles Batherson family traveled to the Washington, D.C., area late last month to pay tribute to the horse which is now memorialized with a new statue in Quantico, Va. The family attended the dedication to Staff Sgt. Reckless monument, at the National Museum of the Marine Corp. in Quantico.


In addition to Batherson and his wife, Barbara, who live in Westland, daughter Amy Frazee, a Garden City resident, attended along with son, Chuck, and wife Anne from Greensboro, N.C., and daughter, Pat McKelvy, a Florida resident.

"Reckless joined the company in May 1953," said Batherson, a Marine veteran, of the military horse. "She was good."

Reckless, a chestnut-colored mare joined the U.S. Marine Corp. in October 1952 as a pack horse and was so heroic during the Korean War that the U.S. Marines promoted her to staff sergeant, an honor never before or since bestowed on an animal. She was not a mascot. She was an official military NCO.

60th anniversary

The dedication event this year was tied in to the 60th celebration of the end of the Korean War on Saturday, July



Charles Batherson, daughter Amy Frazee, and wife, Barbara Batherson, show off a photo of Reckless in the Marine Room at Batherson's Westland condo. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

a race horse at a race track, he said. She was about two years old when purchased.

The highlight of her nine-month military career came in late March 1953 during fighting around Vegas Hill when, in a single day, she made 51 solo trips to resupply multiple front line units. Amidst battle, the horse carried ammunition up a hill for 35 miles. On her return trip back, she brought back the wounded and dead.

She was injured twice in the course of duty.

'She was a Marine'

"Most horses are skittish," Barbara Batherson said. "No horse did what she did. She thought that she was a Marine."

Batherson recalled that Reckless preferred to hang out with the guys rather than stay in a corral. During the cold weather, she would go inside the tents and lie down near the stove. Reckless also was featured in *The Saturday Evening Post* and *Life Magazine*.

"She liked beer," Batherson said. "She did a lot of crazy things. She wasn't a horse, she was a Marine."

Reckless was retired and brought to the United States after the war, where she was officially promoted to staff sergeant in 1959. Reckless gave birth to four foals in America and died in May 1968.

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GATHERING

Continued from Page A1

city parks.

However, Corrado has become the featured site the past years.

"I feel bad to keep coming back to the same park, but we're able to draw from a large part of the city here, and it lends itself well to this type of an event."

Help from ITC

The city includes a small amount of funds in the budget for the gathering, but sponsorships like ITC Holdings help cover the cost. ITC owns the power lines in the city and provides money for community outreach.

Sandra and Hershell Pennington were at the gathering with daughters Autumn and Faith Champagne and Hershell's grandchildren, Elish and Emma Pennington. This was their first time at the event.

"It's really nice see the kids come out and have fun," said Sandy Pennington. "We brought the kids down for the free activities. They usually come with their mom and dad, but they're working."

Dan and Charissa Lisinski of Westland received a flier about the event and decided "to check it out." They brought their children Ian, Shane and Collin, and were joined by Corbin Dee of Redford and her children Marcus and



Tristin and Kaylin Sargent of Redford check out Officer Derek Trosper's police car. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Karen Wellning and Brianna Beesmer hand out chips and hot dogs to the hundreds who attended the the Community Gathering.

Emma.

The Lipinskis live just around the block from the park and arrived at the Community Gathering when started at 5:30 p.m. The family was waiting in line for hot dogs, but had already been on the water slide.

"We'll be here until it closes," said Dan Lisinski. "We'll let the kids run off some energy. It's good for them. The kids are having fun."

"It's a good idea," added Dee.

Families need not wait too long for another get-together. The city will be holding a free outdoor

movie night, "Park It" at Jaycee Park at Wildwood and Hunter streets on Thursday, Aug. 22.

Residents helped pick the movie, *Hotel Transylvania*, which will be shown outdoors under the stars at 8:15 p.m. But the fun begins at 6 p.m. with a bounce house, children's activities, free giveaways and music by the George Brothers Band.

Movie goers need to bring their own chairs and blankets. Concessions will be available to purchase.

Good to their word, the Lisinskis were headed home at the end of the event.

"It's a cool event, the water slide has been the best thing," he said.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On August 20, 2013, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1999	FORD	RANGER	RED	1FTYR10V0XPA27310
2004	CHRYSLER	TOWN & COUNTRY	GRAY	2C4GP54L94R534654
1999	FORD	TAURUS	BLACK	1FAFP53S1XG307751
1995	JEEP	CHEROKEE	GREEN	1J4GZ58Y6SC691503
1995	BUICK	RIVIERA	TAN	1G4GD2211S4701867
1993	GMC	YUKON	MAROON	1GKEK18K3PJ704083
1998	FORD	F-150	RED	1FTZK1723WNB42256
1996	CHEVROLET	CAPRICE	BLACK	1G1BL52P8TR126770
1994	GMC	VANDURA	BLUE	1GDEG25K3RF514336
2005	CHEVROLET	COBALT	SILVER	1G1AK52F657619304
2006	KAWASAKI	ZX1000D6F	BLACK	JKAZXCD196A014676
1996	HONDA	ACCORD	BLUE	1HGCDD563XTA296757
1997	DODGE	CARAVAN	BLUE	1B4GP44R4VB334129
2001	CADILLAC	CATERA	MAROON	W06VR54R71R001873
2000	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	WHITE	1G2WP12K4YF299385

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: August 15, 2013

In Wayne, budget cuts would mean diminishing returns

As Wayne looks for ways to deal with a projected revenue decrease of about \$1.7 million for 2014-15, budget cuts are a double-edged sword.

"We're nearly at the point of diminishing returns. We have pared our workforce to the bare minimum," Wayne Finance Director James Ghedotte said. "If we lay off staff, two things will happen. We will not be able to do what is legally required of us."

In the Finance Department, Ghedotte said any cuts would make it impossible for him to file the 15 legally required reports annually, includ-

ing the city budget.

"I have had four (part-time) payroll clerks this year. I contacted a payroll firm and contracting the position would cost \$10,000 more," he said.

The other impact will be loss of revenue and limited savings due to unemployment and other expenses. Asked for budget cutting alternatives, Ghedotte provided examples, adding he didn't recommend them.

Examples of cuts

By cutting six police patrol positions along with a lieutenant and a sergeant, the city would save \$1.1 million based on

the current fiscal year budget. But, Ghedotte projected \$800,000 in revenue would be lost from the reduced number of tickets that would be written. That calculation also didn't include unemployment costs and it was unclear whether federal COPS grant funds used to hire officers would have to be repaid.

Similarly, closing the recreation department would be a mixed proposition. The department has revenues of nearly \$1.7 million with \$2.3 million in expenditures. That is a \$649,000 shortfall. Under this scenario,

the city would no longer be able to levy a 1-mill dedicated parks millage would result in a \$380,000 loss of revenue. Additionally, nearly \$181,000 in revenue would be lost under a suggestion to move City Hall operations into the Community Center.

Again, Ghedotte noted the total savings projected at \$1.3 million would be further reduced by unemployment expenses and utility costs required to maintain the community center.

"I'm not recommending these — not at all. I'm just showing you what we pay for these items,"

Ghedotte said. "(Parks and Recreation Director) Nathan Adams has done a heck of a job closing this revenue gap over three years."

Balanced budget

During the current fiscal year, the \$17 million general fund budget is being balanced with one-time revenues and a transfer from fund balance.

The city's property tax base is 47 per cent residential. Ghedotte said residential property values are projected to decline again in 2014 by 7 percent — an overall number that will be re-

duced when commercial and industrial values are blended in.

In recent years, the value of a mill property tax in Wayne has dropped by 50 percent causing much of the city's financial problems. Council members have a meeting scheduled with city assessors Wayne County Assessing to discuss their concerns about property values. The meeting is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20 prior to the council meeting.

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Participant forms available for Santaland Parade

There may still be a lot of summer left, but there are a few folks in Garden City already thinking cold weather and Christmas — the Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade committee.

The group is hard at work on the 53rd annual parade, which will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 30. This year's theme is "Santa's Workshop" and participants are encouraged to incorporate the theme into their entry.

Participant entry forms can be found on the parade's website at www.santalandparade.com. Float entries should declare in advance on their entry form if they want to be judged for the non-cash award for first through third place.

The Garden City Downtown Development Authority is again the title sponsor. The DDA contributes \$7,000 toward the operation of the parade. Just over \$3,000 goes toward overtime for the police department to provide road closures, traffic control, security and protection for the parade. The rest is used for items such as parade balloons, barricades and marching bands.

'Incredible' support

The Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade Committee also pays for the parade through fundraising. The 53-year-old parade is completely self-funded between donations and sponsorships from businesses and individuals. Along with the commitment from the DDA, Rockstarz Karaoke Bar and Grill, last year's largest non-title sponsor, has already committed at least \$2,000 for 2013.

According to the committee, the business community has been "incredible" in its support of the parade. Last year, businesses contributed more than \$10,000. Along with the DDA and Rockstarz, Bethel Community Church contributed \$1,500 and Garden City Hospital came through

BE A PARADE PARTICIPANT

This year the Santaland Parade will have first-, second- and third-place non-cash awards for Best Float. Judging will be based on originality, relationship to the theme and overall presentation.

Floats will be judged prior to the start of the parade, so participants must have them in place by no later than 9 a.m. In order to be considered for the float competition, participants indicate on their entry form that they wish to be judged.

There will also be special award for the best overall entry of any kind in the parade.

The parade route will start at Garden City High School heading south down Middlebelt to Ford, turning left onto Ford, then left again on to Central with a big post parade event in the Garden City Town Center with Santa Claus.

An entry form must be filled out for the group or organization that is participating in the parade and returned no later than Nov. 6. Any entry application that is received after the listed deadline will be evaluated on its value to the parade and may be denied for any reason.

On the day of the parade, one person from each group should be designated to check in at the Garden City High School parking lot entrance on Maplewood. The parade will start lining up at 8 a.m. with participants in place by 9 a.m. Since the parade is televised on cable, the committee will need a final count and information by the Nov. 6 deadline.

Completed forms can be mailed to Pat Squires, 33623 Leona St., Garden City, MI 48135 or e-mailed to Csquires2sell@aol.com. For more information or questions, call Squires at 734-748-0514.

Information and entry forms can be found on the on the Parade website, at www.santalandparade.com. A confirmation will be sent out the week prior to the parade along with a map showing where groups will be staging. A complete set of parade rules will be included with the letter.

All entries of a commercial nature participating in the parade to promote their business will be required to pay a \$25 entry fee to help defray the cost of the parade. Also, all vehicles must be clean and decorated. No Santa costumes will be allowed. For safety reasons, candy and other items can't be thrown from vehicles or floats. Candy and other items can be handed out at the curb.

with another \$1,000. Last year, \$500 donations were made by The Santeiu Family, Gordon Chevrolet, Garden City Medical Center, John Fleming of Fleming Financial, Orin's Jewelers, Dr. Mark Barsamian, Inkorporate Graphics and RG & GR Harris Funeral Homes.

Businesses and individuals interested in being a parade sponsor can view the sponsorship package on the parade's website.

Social media

As social media becomes a bigger part of society, the Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade has set a YouTube channel featuring past parades and parade promos. The link is

www.youtube.com/santalandparade. A link to the channel also can be found on the Santaland Parade website, which includes 12 GCTV broadcasts of the parade.

Again this year, the DDA will be hosting the post-Santaland Parade event at the site of the farmers market immediately following the parade. It will feature entertainment, hot chocolate and an opportunity to meet with Santa.

The parade is part of the Garden City Community Coalition, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Garden City by promoting a lifestyle free from the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Livonia school board OKs contract with support staff

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

The Livonia school board has approved a three-year concessionary contract with its food service workers, bus drivers, custodians, and maintenance and warehouse employees.

The agreement, ending June 30, 2016, calls for no wage hike the first year, a 1-percent lump sum payment the second year and a wage-only reopener the third year. It continues the 10-percent pay cut negotiated for the term of the previous two-year contract. The 1-percent lump sum payment of base salary does not become part of the base pay for employees in the third year.

The agreement also calls for a change in health insurance to a MESSA Choices plan that saves the district an amount equivalent to approximately 1 percent per year of the cost for the AFSCME unit pay-

roll, according to Dana Whinnery, the district's director of human resources.

The new health insurance plan provides a significantly larger network of providers, greater choice, and broader coverage, Whinnery said. It also does not increase the employees' deductible. Previously, employees were covered by a HAP HMO plan.

The agreement was ratified Aug. 1 by Local 118 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, which represents 286 employees. The board unanimously approved it Aug. 5 in a 6-0 vote. Trustee Randy Roulier abstained to avoid a conflict of interest because he works for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, which he said has a relationship with MESSA.

Superintendent Randy Liepa said the contract was the last to be approved with the dis-

trict's major bargaining groups. All contained similar concessions.

"These have been very difficult times in regards to working on bargaining agreements," he said, thanking employees and negotiators for both sides. He said the district is proud to continue to employ its support staff, a reference to the privatization of nonteaching positions by some Michigan districts to save money. "That means a lot to us, and I think it means a lot to them a lot to them," he said.

On June 17, the board approved a three-year contract with its 961-member teachers union calling for no salary or step increases in the first year, no salary increase but half step increases and a 0.5-percent off-schedule payment in the second year and a salary opener in the third year.

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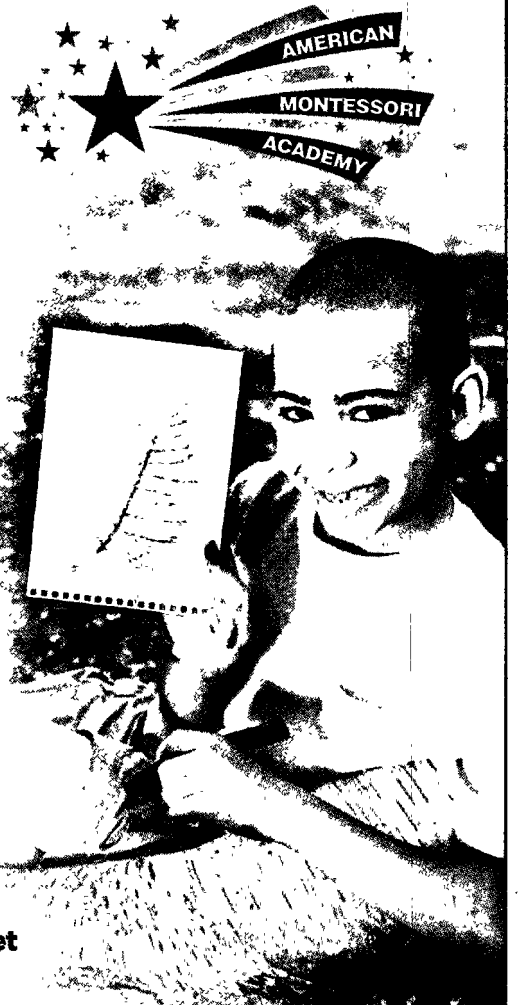
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Nature Shop

90-year-old dances through her busy life

By Beth Jachman
Staff Writer

Great Scot! She's a busy woman - and she's just turned 90 years old.

Flora Murray, a native of Dundee, Scotland, and a resident of Livonia, keeps busier than many people half her age.

And a big part of what she does is volunteer to help others, including more than 15 years working at Detroit's Metro Airport in Romulus as an Airport Ambassador. As an ambassador, she helps stranded, lost and confused passengers among many other duties.

"I love it," she said of her job. "I love the idea of helping people."

"She's a people person," said Fran Wood, customer service coordinator for the Wayne County Airport Authority. "Here at the airport you meet people from all over the world." Wood said Murray has been honored three years in a row with the President's Volunteer Services



Flora Murray of Livonia enjoys some fun at Cinco De Mayo at Detroit Metro Airport.

Award. Also, the Livonia City Council will be presenting a proclamation to Murray in honor of her 90th birthday at 7 p.m. Sept. 9 at a City Council meeting, according to Wood.

Murray works four or five hours one day a week in the North Terminal at Metro at a job that can often be hectic. "I like it when it's busy," she said. She began working for the Airport Ambassadors in April 1998.

Answer lady

Some of the questions she answers are how to find luggage, where the

ticket office is, how to get to the McNamara Terminal. On some occasions, she has even had to help people who arrive at Metro and actually have nowhere to go.

In some cases, passengers arrive with no transportation, hotel reservations or money.

Murray goes to work trying to find some way to help them. She finds them hotels. Sometimes she reconnects families who can't find each other in the airport.

She tells the story of a couple she helped who had a lot of luggage and the wife was in a wheelchair. The husband was very agitated and worried they would miss their flight. Murray eventually left her station and took the wife up the elevator to the gate herself, while the husband went on ahead. Then, wouldn't you know it, they came back from their trip on a day she was working, she said with a laugh.

Murray has lots of laughs when she relates

the experiences of her life. Like the time when she was in her 80s when she was asked to come up and dance on stage while vacationing in Cancun. "She likes to have fun," Wood said. In fact, she still takes a trip every year to Cancun with her daughter.

She can dance

Murray says she has always liked to dance and she ended up meeting her first husband at a dance club in Scotland. She became a war bride at the age of 21 after meeting a U.S. Merchant Marine who was in Scotland as part of his tour of duty. After they married, he brought her to his home state of Pennsylvania where they had a son. Eventually, things didn't work out and she ended up divorcing him.

She went back to Scotland with her young son, but decided to make a return trip to the States about three years later. As luck would have it, before leaving Scotland,

a friend asked her to take a letter to a friend who had been injured and was recovering in a New York hospital.

She thought about mailing it or just dropping it off at the hospital reception desk, but the nurse on duty urged her to visit William Murray, also a native of Scotland, who was hospitalized with extensive injuries after an elevator accident.

"That's how we met," Murray says of her second husband. After they met, her phone rang every day and cards came every day, she said. They ended up being married for 39 years, they lived in New York and had a daughter together. "It was meant to be," she said. "He was such a wonderful, wonderful person." He died in 1986.

Moves to Michigan

After his death, she moved to Plymouth in 1988 to be near her son who lives in Canton. Later she moved to Livonia

where she enjoys a busy, active life.

From the Senior Olympics where she has won eight gold medals in bocce ball and hopes to compete in this week to line dancing to being a member of Singles Over Sixty at the Livonia Senior Center, she hasn't let her age slow her down. She exercises at the senior center, walks in the mall every day and drinks eight glasses of water a day.

Murray also stays active with volunteer work. She volunteers at the senior center, the Livonia Police and Fire departments.

"I am also a volunteer with the Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia and an election inspector for the City of Livonia."

She said she loves helping others, like when she sees an older person struggling along at the airport and she tries to help.

"It might happen to me someday," she said.

Missing Canton man died of natural causes

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Matthew Morris, a 36-year-old Canton man whose body was found April 1 in a marshy area on Westland's far west side, died of natural causes and not foul play, a Wayne County Medical Examiner's report concluded.

"There was absolutely no sign of any foul play or trauma to the body," Mary Mazur, a Wayne County spokeswoman, said Tuesday.

Morris, who was missing for nearly three months after he disappeared from his Village Squire apartment near Ford and Lotz roads, died from heart failure.

"He died of heart disease, specifically from sudden death syn-



Morris

drome," Mazur said. "He had a vascular condition due to clogged arteries. He died of natural causes."

Friends of Morris, hoping he would be found alive, had circulated fliers with his picture after he had gone missing Jan. 13. His car had been found in the Emagine Theater parking lot in Canton, raising initial concerns he might have become a victim of foul play.

Friends also worried because Morris had left his apartment without

his diabetic supplies or his coat on a cold winter day.

Westland police notified Canton authorities on April 1 after a group of surveyors found Morris' body in a marshy area near an industrial building on the north side of Ford Road, east of the Canton Walmart store, Canton police Lt. Dave Schreiner has said.

Early on, Schreiner had said it didn't appear foul play was suspected, because "there was nothing found on the body to indicate foul play or trauma."

Dustin Brungardt, a friend of Morris, had called him "a good friend who is really going to be missed."

dclem@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238
Twitter: @CantonObserver



Senior athlete Mary Ellison, 90, of Dearborn, competed in swimming at the Wayne Community Center Tuesday morning.

Athletes show skills at Senior Olympics



Olympians play bridge during competition held at the Westland Friendship Center.

Residents throughout western Wayne County are putting their skills to the test during the ninth annual Senior Olympics.

The event for men and women age 50 and older kicked off Monday at Nankin Mills in Westland. Senior athletes enjoyed a healthy breakfast with Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. However, rainy weather prevented the traditional parade of athletes and the lighting of the Olympic torch.

This year Olympics are being hosted by the city of Belleville, Sumpter Township and Van Buren Township. Medals are being awarded for first, second and third place in each age category and gender for most events.

Athletes have competed in events like swimming at the Wayne Community Center, a baking contest at the Sumpter Senior Center, volleyball at Hillside Middle School in Northville, Trivia, party bridge and pinochle at the Westland Friendship Center and Bocce Ball at the Italian America Club of Livonia.

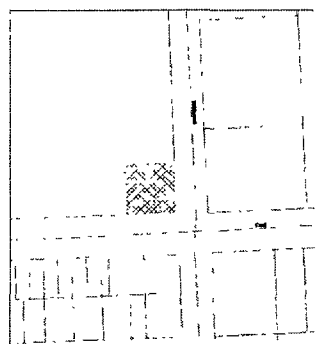
The competition ends Friday with the recognition of Olympic participants, medal winners, and sponsors at the Awards Banquet at Belleville High School.

Rain canceled the torch lighting and parade of athletes Monday morning, but the healthy breakfast with Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano went on as planned.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1678A, Public Hearing for Proposed Rezoning from CB-2, Shopping Center Commercial Business to CB-1, Low Intensity Commercial Business, Parcel #035-99-0016-000, Northwest Corner of Ford Road and Wildwood Avenue, John Abro.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 4, 2013.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: August 15, 2013

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CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 15 8/5/13

Presiding: President Pro-Tem Hammons
Present: Bryant, Hammons, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves
131: JGHS to hold Homecoming Parade 9/27/13.
- WWF MDA Boot Drive 8/22-24 Ford & Wayne Rds.
- Independent One "Turn the Town Teal" Campaign 8/30/13.
- Appr. Bid for purchase of new Type 3 Rescue Vehicle for FD to Mercy Sales Inc.; amt. \$140,480.
- Appr. contract to repave sidewalk @ Friendship Ctr. to K & B Asphalt Paving Co., amt. not to exceed \$16,805.
- Appr. 1 yr. contract ext. w/Canton Twp. for Water Distribution Operator Services.
- Appr. MHS Contract 7/1/13-6/30/14.
- Intro. Ord. 152-B to prohibit tree branches/roots on adjoining property.
- Intro. Ord. 101-G-8 to adopt by reference of the penalties provided in the Michigan Vehicle Code & prohibition of operation of a motor vehicle while intoxicated or visibly impaired.
- Adopted Prepared Resolution to participate in Michigan's Fire Insurance Withholding Program.
- Adopted Prepared Resolution RE. Bd. of Review alternate meeting dates.
- Adopted Prepared Resolution opposing any amendment that reduces HUD & CBDG Program funding to local communities.
- Adopted Senior Alliance AIP Resolution for fiscal yr. 2013.
- Adopted NSP acquisitions for 9 properties.
132: Appr. minutes of meeting held 7/15/13.
133: Adopted Prepared Resolution granting YLM USA Inc. application for Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate.
134: Approved Agreement with YLM USA Inc. Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate.
135: Appr. site plan for prop. Clyde Smith Farms PUD, PID #018-99-0014-000 & -0015-703, e. side of Newburgh, s. of Joy Rd. w/contingencies.
136: Conf. re-appt of A. Martin to BRA for 3 yr. term to exp. 4/5/16.
137: Appr. voucher list \$2,666,704.04.
Mtg. adj. at 8:15 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

Adam Hammons
Council President-Pro Tem

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk, CMC

Publish: August 15, 2013

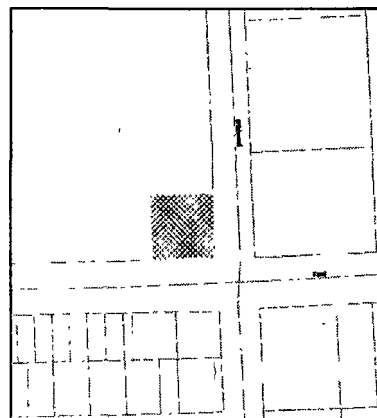
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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1678B, Public Hearing for Proposed Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Tim Horton's Restaurant with Drive-Thru, 34410 Ford Road, Parcel #035-99-0016-000, Northwest Corner of Ford Road and Wildwood Avenue, John Abro, and

Case #1678C, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Addition to Commercial Building, 34410 Ford Road, Parcel #035-99-0016-000, Northwest Corner of Ford Road and Wildwood Avenue, John Abro.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 4, 2013.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: August 15, 2013

AT150719 - 3x4.5

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 2400 block of Wilshire reported that overnight Aug. 5 someone stole a Samsung Galaxy tablet, \$20 in cash, a flashlight and a pair of sunglasses from a Pontiac Vibe.

The man told police his wife was the last person to drive the car and always locks the doors. He said he believes entry was by use of a slim jim as there was no damage to the vehicle.

Police were unable to see the car because the man's wife had taken it to work.

Break-in

A police office found the basement of a home in the 1200 block of Windham Aug. 6 was flooded after someone broke the water meter off at the spout.

Police were called by a neighbor who observed the back glass sliding door wall broken out. According to police, a brick had been used to break the glass.

The water department was contacted and water to the home was shut off at the street. The Department of Public Service also was contacted to have the rear of the home boarded up and secured. Police were unable to locate the owner.

Break-in

Power tools and supplies were reported stolen from a garage of a home in the 300 block of Bedford Drive between 10:20 Aug. 6 and 5:47 a.m. Aug. 7.

The man told police he left the home through the garage and found the garage door open. There were no sign of forced entry.

Stolen bike

A resident in the 34000 block of Birch-

wood reported that a women's three-speed bicycle was stolen from the east side of the home on Aug. 4. The resident made the report on Aug. 6. He told police he was unsure of the make and model of the bicycle which was brown.

Stolen license plate

A resident of 305 W. Tami Circle reported that the license plate was stolen from her car between 11 p.m. Aug. 7 and 6 a.m. Aug. 8.

Vandalism

The rear tires of a vehicle parked in the driveway of a home in the 500 block of Bedford Drive were reported slashed overnight Aug. 7.

The sidewalls had one-inch cuts in the sidewalls, indicating that they had been stabbed with an unknown sharp object. The man told police he had left the windows down in his car but nothing was tampered with or was missing.

Larceny

A resident told police Aug. 9 that someone stole her wallet, containing a debit card, her driver's license, Schoolcraft College ID and health insurance card, from her car while it was parked overnight in the driveway of a home in the 36000 block of Manila Avenue. She said the debit card was used in other cities.

» A Westland man reported that his prescription pills - Norco, ibuprofen, and Zantac - were stolen from his car while it was parked at Kmart, 165 S. Wayne Road, Aug. 6.

The man said he had parked his car, left it unlocked and went into the store for about a half hour. When he returned, he found the drugs missing.

WAYNE COP CALLS

Larceny

After purchasing a sandwich, an unknown suspect attempted to run out of the business with two cases of beer at a store in the 2900 block of Venoy Aug. 10.

The business clerk was able to chase the suspect and knock one case out of his hand. The suspect was able to get away with the other case. The case of beer was valued at \$19.35.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident reported her Chanel tote was removed from her vehicle by an unknown suspect on Aug. 10. Her vehicle was parked and left unlocked overnight in the driveway of a home in the 35000 block of Ash.

When she returned to the vehicle in the morning, the tote was missing. On Aug. 12, a neighbor reported finding a Chanel tote in her yard. It was identified as the victim's missing tote.

It was returned to the victim. The only item missing was an expired debit card.

Damage to property

An Amtrak maintenance worker reported two unknown suspects were seen cutting fiber optic cables from a hole next to the tracks on Aug. 10. When the worker yelled at the suspects to stop, they ran and fled the scene.

Assault

A female patron sustained injuries to her left eye and lower left arm when she tried to break up the fight between two unknown males in the parking lot at 35000 Van Born on Aug. 10.

The victim was unable to give any other information regarding the incident.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Huffing

A loss prevention officer at the Kmart store, 29600 Ford, reported about 2 p.m. Aug. 7 that he believed a 20-year-old Westland man was huffing - inhaling chemicals - in the men's restroom. The man had two cans of Maxell Duster and two cans of a Starbucks coffee drink with him.

The employee became suspicious because over the course of two weeks, about eight cans of the same type of Maxell Duster were found in the same bathroom stall that the man was in that day.

The man was arrested.

Retail fraud

Two women reportedly worked together in a 6 p.m. Aug. 8 retail fraud incident at the Aldi store at 30005 Ford, Garden City.

A store employee reportedly said a heavy-set woman about 65 years old, about 5 foot, 5 inches tall and with long black hair, exited the store without paying for merchandise and never near the cash registers to pay for the items.

The employee reportedly said she recognized the woman from previous retail fraud incidents.

When the employee asked the woman to stop so that her bag could be checked, the woman reportedly kept on walking to the door where the driver of a blue and white conversion van was waiting for her.

The driver was described as a woman about 60 years old with black hair.

The employee believes the woman stole six bottles of olive oil

valued at \$4 each.

After viewing store video, the police officer noted the suspect resembled a suspect from a Kmart retail fraud case.

» A store manager at the Speedway station at 28541 Ford called police about 9:15 p.m. Aug. 8 after about six men left the store without paying for a large amount of energy drinks valued at \$100.

She said the theft occurred while she was distracted by one of the men who interacted with her about lottery tickets.

Theft

A Garden City man reported July 27 that he believes someone stole his silver wedding ring from the bag he brought to Garden City Park on Cherry Hill, east of Merriman.

He said he brought the bag with him while taking his 1-year-old daughter to the park. He said he took his wedding ring off and zipped it up inside a bag pocket.

He added that he didn't see anybody near the baby park while he was at the park.

Vehicle theft

A Garden City man who resides in the 1700 block of Henry Ruff reported Aug. 11 that someone stole his Suzuki motorcycle which was parked and locked in his driveway.

The police found no evidence at the scene. The man has all the keys to the vehicle, and there is no financial lien on the motorcycle.

Theft

A resident in the 65000 block of Hawthorne became concerned Aug. 8 when an envelope arrived open

in the mail.

He said that the envelope contained promotional checks which could be used to debit his checking account at Citibank.

The resident said the envelope should have contained two sheets of three checks apiece but only contained one sheet of three checks.

Property damage

The Garden City police observed a 21-year-old Harper Woods man imprisoned in the jail, tearing apart one of the department's prisoner blankets Aug. 6. The blanket needed to be discarded.

» A resident in the 29000 block of Sheridan reported Aug. 8 that she found her bedroom window was broken. She observed a brick on the floor.

The brick was taken from a pile near her garage.

» The police received a call Aug. 9 from a resident in the 900 block of Helen that when her husband went out to his vehicle in the morning on the way to work and found their 2007 Chevy Trailblazer damaged.

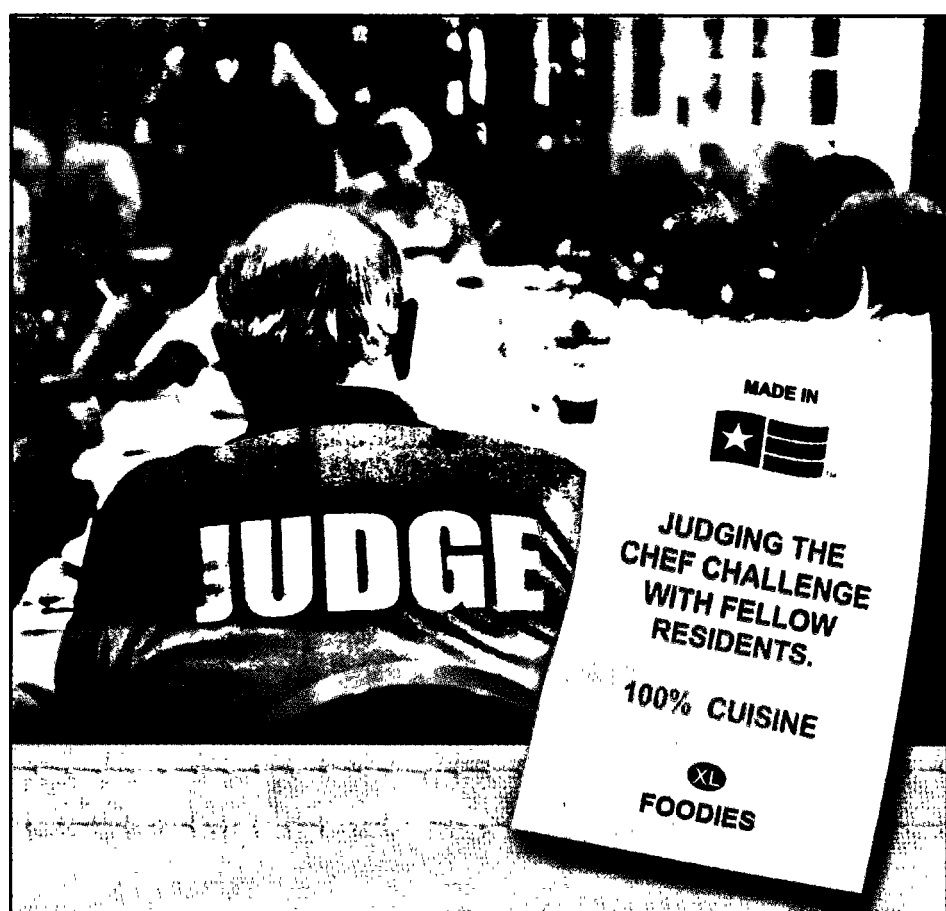
A window was shattered on the vehicle which was parked in front of their house.

The police could find no evidence at the scene. The police officer noted in his report that a similar incident occurred on Sheridan Street about three blocks away.

» A woman in the 28000 block of Sheridan reported about 8 a.m. Aug. 9 that someone broke a window on her 1995 Chevy Lumina with an unknown object.

The vehicle was parked in front of her home.

By Sue Buck



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The Rockets race to the end of the track after running up and down the bleachers at the football stadium. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rockets test their mettle with Gauntlet

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer



Deshawn Baker-Williams does the 10-yard tire flip. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The line of white jerseys stretched from end zone to end zone as more than 100 players waited for Tim Hardin to make the call.

Sweaty and tired after almost two hours of working out on the football field at John Glenn High School, they knew what was coming.

"I'm proud to say you are now officially John Glenn Rockets," said Hardin, head football coach at the Westland high school. "You will represent this program well. This is going to be a special year. I can feel the electricity in the air."

Players, members of the freshman, junior varsity and varsity squads, had to complete the Gauntlet, a 10-station, with three speed and agility tests and two carries to earn the designation, awarded before a crowd of parents and supporters.

This is the third year Hardin has staged an on-field demonstration of what his players have been doing over the summer. The first two years it was dubbed Friday Night Lights, with top players being recognized for their efforts.

But after attending a coach's clinic and hearing a speaker from the U.S. Marine Corps talk about the gauntlet recruits must pass at the end of boot camp, he decided to up the ante and make it a rite of passage for players.

"It's a physical fitness test every student has to pass to be a John Glenn football player," said Hardin.

All but a few players participated in the Gauntlet. Those who missed will have to do it at a makeup session "without the crowd and the music," said Hardin.

The players flipped tires weighing hundreds of pounds, used their strength to do power cleans and dead lifts with weights and swung dumbbells up and down.

Players turned cheerleaders, encouraging their teammates to finish the task.

"Come on, you're half done with the hardest thing there is," hollered quarterback Chris Schiffer. "Bang it, bang it. Let's go."

Center Bill Voss stopped at the weights to catch his breath before take on the power clean and dead lifts. The power clean was the hardest of the 10 stations, he said.

"It's the hardest on your arms and legs, it's two workouts in one," he said.

Red-faced at the end, Voss finished with time of 6:50, well off the pace set by John Begarowicz, who had a time of 3:19. The highest time was 10:15.

"For varsity, anything under six minutes is good," said Steve Waller, varsity offensive coach. "Mid fives is a good time. The times are faster for the younger kids because they have less weight."

Turning in a good time was Glenn's first female football player, junior Belinda Blessingame, who made it through the 10 stations in 4:51.

"She wants to play running back or linebacker," said Jim Waller, JV head coach. "She's a hard worker, she's been here for the 15 required times for the summer and here in the off season three days a week."

Blessingame said she's always wanted to play football although she's never played the game.

"I didn't know girls could play, so I came one day and asked," she said. "I was shocked when they said yes. My friends think it's cool, they've been very supportive."

Waller said Blessingame would show up for conditioning and "do her thing." As a result, she began setting the tempo for the workouts for the team.

"Her time is about average for the JV team, that means she's better than half of them," Waller said. "If they all work as hard as Belinda, we'll be fine."

The practice jerseys the players received at the end of the event were symbolic. They'll officially get them when they receive their uniforms.

Hardin congratulated his players, telling them they had done "an excellent job."

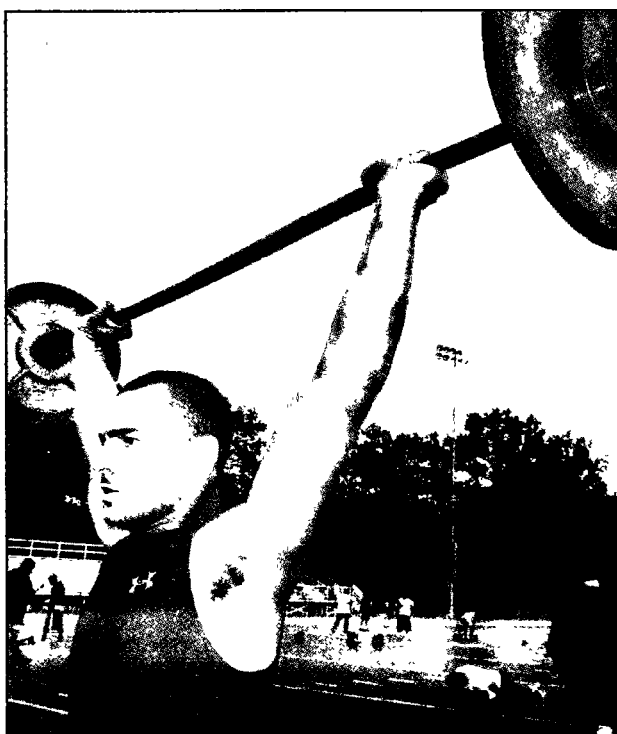
"It was a job well done for the first ever John Glenn Gauntlet," he said. "I told you that you were working toward a very special season and now you've made it through the Gauntlet."

"It's a physical fitness test every student has to pass to be a John Glenn football player."

TIM HARDIN
head coach



A crowd of parents, friends and John Glenn High School football supporters turned out to watch the Gauntlet. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Renardo Brown makes a good lift. He had to do 10 repetitions. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Anthony Williamson makes tossing weights in the air look easy. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

smason@hometownlife.com
313-222-6751
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wish You Were Here



Members of U16 Fighters96 Girls Fastpitch Team – Sam Dymon (back row, from left), Courtney Gabarino, Skylar Crenshaw, Jessica Sierak, Courtney VanRiper, Amanda McCaig, Savannah Leininger (front row, from left), Alex Storey, Brooke Gabarino, Colleen Mandrink, Janie Bush and Brittany McGrath – chose the opening ceremonies on the beach for the Triple Crown Summer National Fastpitch Tournament in Myrtle Beach, S.C., to pose with their *Observer* for Wish You Were Here photo. If you take a trip, be sure to take a picture with your *Observer* and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by email at smason@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at 313-223-3318. For more information, call 313-222-6751.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CRAFTERS NEEDED

Time/Date: Saturday, Oct. 13
Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: St. John's has table available for craft sales at its Fall Festival for craft sales for \$25. Anyone interested in renting a table can call the church at 734-721-5023 or Sharon Scott at 734-722-4651.

LADIES NIGHT

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23
Location: Designer Duds n Other Treasures, 815 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Stop by for an evening fellowship and shopping. Vendors include 31 Bags & Gifts, Premiere Designs, Clever Container, wine tasting with Wines for Humanity, Pure Romance and It Works. Cost is \$25 to reserve vendor space and must be made to guarantee a spot. Also bring a raffle item, small appetizer to share and beverage of choice. This is the last Ladies' Night Out event of the summer. Come celebrate Hawaiian style.
Contact: For more information, visit the Ladies' Night Out Vendor Sale on www.facebook.com.

CELIAC SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington
Details: Tri County Celiac Support Group is holding a general meeting. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 17
Location: McKinley Cooperative Preschool, inside St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Is your child ready for Kindergarten? We offer 2-, 3- and 4-year-old classes with affordable tuition and parent involvement. Register for fall classes at the open house and meet our wonderful teacher with over 25 years of experience!
Contact: Contact Erin Gibbons at 734-729-7222 or erin1600@gmail.com to schedule a personal visit, if you are unable to attend our open house or if you have questions.

PRESCHOOL SIGNUPS

Time/Date: Ongoing
Location: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool, 36660 Cherry Hill, in Westland
Details: Willow Creek Preschool is enrolling for the 2013-2014 school year. Willow Creek offers preschool classes for 4-year-olds, 3-year-olds and a tot to toddler class.
Contact: Call 734-326-0078 or visit www.willowcreekpreschool.com.

Location: Westland Free Methodist Preschool, 1421 S. Venoy, Westland
Details: The Westland Free Methodist Preschool is enrolling for the 2013-2014 preschool year. Enroll now and save half off the enrollment fee, a \$25 savings value. The preschool is a tuition-based Christian program that offers classes for 3-4-year-old children. It offers a theme-based curriculum taught by certified teachers and includes all the basic preschool academic skills as well as a low child-teacher ratio, indoor gym and outdoor playground.

Contact: For more information, to schedule a tour or enroll, call 734-728-3559, visit www.preschool.livesarechanging.com or email wfmpreschool@yahoo.com.

MOM TO MOM
Time/Date: noon to 4 p.m. Saturday Sept.
Location: McKinley Cooperative Preschool, inside St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Approximately 40 tables, with a big-item area. There will be concessions and a bake sale. Admission is \$1 per person and strollers are allowed.
Contact: A contract is available for those wanting to rent an 8-foot table for \$20. Visit www.mckinleypreschool.org/mom2mom. For more information, email Rebecca Lay at beccanew1027@yahoo.com.

TRIP TO NYC

Time/Date: Oct. 3-9
Locations: New York City
Details: The Garden City Public Schools Leisure Program is offering a trip to New York City in October. The price is \$699 per person and includes seven days, six nights, double occupancy and motor coach transportation. Also included are 10 meals — six breakfasts and four dinners — two guided tours of New York City. See Central Park, Rockefeller Center, Times Square, Wall Street, and much more.
Contact: For more information, call Cambridge Leisure Department at 734-762-8430, ext. 306.

BOWLING BENEFIT

Time/Date: 12:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5 (check in starts at noon)
Location: Town and Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: \$12 per bowler (any age welcome to bowl) includes two games of bowling, shoe rental and pizza and pop. Raffle tickets will be on sale for over 50 awesome local business prizes and baskets. Any registered bowler that is 5 years old or younger will be entered into a "kids raffle" for free.

Contact: Registration form available at mckinleypreschool.org/fundraising-information. They can be emailed to Rebecca Lay at beccanew1027@yahoo.com. Call her at 734-776-7741 for more information.

SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. second Monday of every month
Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland
Details: Do you have a loved one in jail or prison? Is your heart broken because of it? Then contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts who will provide a safe place to talk and share with others, a place where you can learn how to cope with all of the new and frightening experiences. Learn from others as they share ideas, resources and support. Donations appreciated.
Contact: For more information, contact Bonnie at 734-646-2237 or email prettymonarch@comcast.net.

WIDOWED MEN

Time/Date: 9 a.m. Thursdays
Location: Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed men to meet with other widowed men for breakfast at 9 a.m. at Steve's Family Restaurant on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Many topics are discussed including those that may be pertinent to your own situation. Also, ideas are presented to help you become involved in the activities of Widowed Friends.
Contact: For more information, call Dick at 313-534-0399.

BURROUGHS OLD TIMERS

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. on the last Friday of the month
Location: Plymouth Elks Club,

41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Any former employees of Burroughs/Unisys are welcome to join us to socialize or renew acquaintances. There is no cost to join or to attend. A cash bar and a fish buffet are available but not mandatory.
Contact: John Kusch 734-751-9765 or kuschjt@yahoo.com

FALL CRAFT SHOWS

ST. THEODORE
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12
Location: St. Theodore's Parish, 8200 Wayne Road, Westland
Details: St. Theodore's Confraternity of Christian Women is looking for crafters for its Fall Craft Show. We have 70 tables available at a cost of \$25 each. No vendors please.
Contact: Mary at 734-425-4421 vm#10

ST. MEL

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5
Location: St. Mel's Parish Gym, 7506 N. Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights
Details: Crafters are needed for St. Mel's Fall Craft Show. There are more than 50 tables available. Table cost is \$30, table with electricity is \$35.
Contact: For applications, call St. Mel's at 313-274-0684 or email stmelscraftfair@yahoo.com.

PERRINVILLE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12
Location: Perrinville Early Childhood Center, 28201 Lyndon, Livonia
Details: Crafters are being sought for the Perrinville Early Childhood Center's fourth annual Craft/Vendor Show.
Contact: Brenda at wjob2000@ameritech.net

FOR YOUR HEALTH

SAFE PLACE
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.
Details: A Safe Place is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.
Contact: Russ Weathers at 734-422-1995

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays
Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth
Detail: A structured weekday alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet

social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals
Contact: Laurie Krause at laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com and 734-956-2600

METRO FIBROMYALGIA

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month
Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City
Details: The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.
Contact: Lucy at 734-462-1768, www.MetroFibroGroup.com

MENOPAUSE & MORE

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month
Location: Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge.
Contact: 734-655-1100

COUNTERPOINT

Details: Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families.
Contact: 734-563-5005

TOUGHLOVE
Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays
Location: Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia.
Details: Support group, newcomers welcome.
Contact: 734-261-7880 or 248-380-7748

LIFECARE

Time/Date: 7-9:15 p.m. Thursday
Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth
Details: LifeCare is a care/support/recovery groups for everyone facing life's challenges.
Contact: Lillian Easterly-Smith at info.lifecarecc@gmail.com or 734-956-2109

EDUCATION

WILLOW CREEK
Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland
Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.

Contact: 734-326-0078

ST. DAMIAN

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland
Details: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.
Contact: 734-427-1680, www.stdamian.com.

YWCA PRESCHOOL

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs for children ages 2-5 at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.
Contact: 313-561-4110, Ext. 10

ST. MARY

Location: St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne
Details: St. Mary School offers pre-K 3 and 4 and kindergarten-eighth-grade and was recognized as a School of Distinction.
Contact: For more information, call 734-721-1240.

ORGANIZATIONS

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November
Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill
Contact: Pat Ibbotson at 734-331-9291 or by e-mail at pibbotso@aol.com or Jo Johnson 734-522-3918

WESTLAND ROTARY

Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland
Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meetings, programs and events.
Contact: Jeff at 734-261-5010

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.
Contact: Helen Streett at 734-629-5004.

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Duo-Gard partners with Westland on charging station

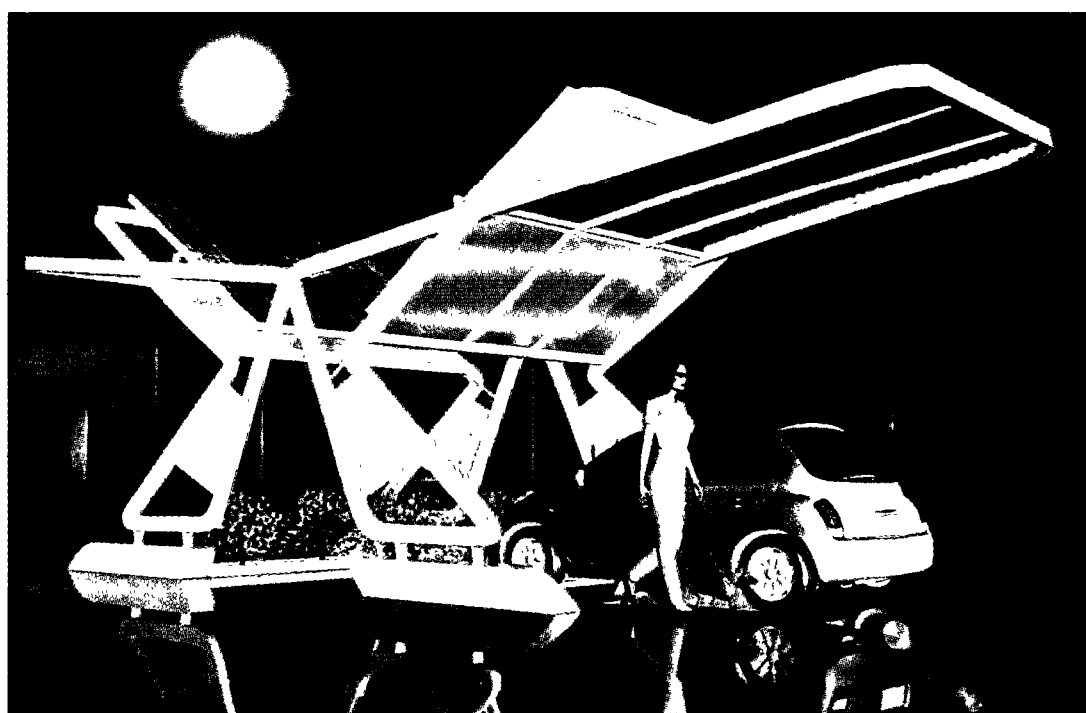
Westland is getting a new city hall and with it, a new electric car charging station.

The city has partnered with Duo-Gard Industries, which designs, engineers, fabricates and installs innovative and sustainable technologies for government facilities, to deploy an electric car charging station at the site of the new Westland City Hall.

Duo-Gard Industries, Inc., headquartered in Canton, will be install its prototype electric car charging station, with no fee to the city, at the city hall which will be located in the former Circuit City store on Warren Road just east of Central City Parkway. The design of this station was born from an international contest ran through the leading architectural and solar power magazines in the country.

"This project supports the city's broader sustainability goals of reducing its carbon footprint and leaving a cleaner city for our children," said Mayor William Wild, who is committed to promoting sustainable and cost-effective solutions to move the city forward as a green leader. "We are proud to move forward on this project with Duo-Gard."

Westland has been paving the way for these types of eco-friendly innovations with this electric car charging station being the second installed in the city. The first was inaugurated in January 2011 at the Westland Colonial Village Apartments. This was not only one of the first



Duo-Gard Industries will install the TWITT car charging station, designed by Greek architect Anestis Papaemanouil, at the new Westland City Hall.

charging stations in Michigan, but the first in the nation to be installed in an apartment complex.

First of its kind

This particular charging station will be the first of its kind, and will serve as a showpiece for future print and web-based advertising for the company. Installing the charging station at the Westland City Hall is a \$40,000-50,000 donation that Duo-Gard is contributing to Westland. The city will display the electric charging station at a prominent location in the front parking lot area.

"I am looking forward to working with the city on this project and in any way Duo-Gard Industries Inc. can help Westland reach their goal of becoming Michigan's 'Greenest City,'" said

Duo-Gard President David M. Miller, a Westland native and John Glenn High School alumnus.

Last October, Duo-Gard issued a challenge: Design a one-car solar charging station and canopy with emphasis on economy, aesthetics, modular flexibility and sustainability. Designers from Portugal, Nigeria, Spain, the United Kingdom and Greece, as well as the United States, charged up their creativity to enter the competition.

Greek architect Anestis Papaemanouil, head of iarch architectural firm, took the top honor with his TWITT concept, inspired by the form of birds sitting on a wire.

Papaemanouil who has his office in Xanthi, Thrace, Greece, said a fascination with the bal-

ance in nature, demonstrated by birds resting and flying, led to his concept of TWITT. His compact, steel-and-aluminum-framed structure features photovoltaic panels above a translucent canopy of multi-wall polycarbonate, which allows diffused daylight and enhances LED illumination at night.

Rotating panels

The PV panels rotate around a horizontal axis to achieve optimum slope and performance, regardless of the station's orientation. The structure's ballasts eliminate a need for anchoring and actually allow it to be mobile, as well as infinitely expandable. The power produced can be used above and beyond charging and lighting requirements, adding to the station's sustainability.

Honorable Mention went to William Cultrara, architectural designer/builder and owner of Cultrara Associates Inc.

in Victor, N.Y., for his station titled "The Franklin Grid," featuring a steel retro columns supporting translucent curved canopies, the concept integrates traditional components with a contemporary approach that results in streamlined elegance.

In addition to its installation at the new Westland City Hall, the winning design will be built and installed in the Philadelphia area for Greenbuild 2013. It will be marketed internationally by Duo-Gard, and the designer will receive three percent of the station's gross sales for five years.

"All the entries were impressive, and the decisions were not easy. We were looking for something with WOW impact, coupled with a high level of practicality," Miller said. "The winning designs integrated this, plus they're just plain cool. These designs will help us expand our markets and serve them well."

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Sponsorships available

Westland's All American Blues, Brews & Barbecue is back by popular demand for a third year, and has put out a call for sponsors.

The event is being staged by the Westland Downtown Development Authority in partnership with the Westland Chamber of Commerce. This year's event will be held 6-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, on the grounds of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, west of Wayne Road.

Blues, Brews & Barbecue will treat music-lovers to some of the Detroit Blues Society's most popular acts, amazing barbecue and a variety of Michigan's popular micro-brewed beers.

This year, blues fans will be treated to a special Friday night performance by Robert Penn. This "Motor City Blues Gentlemen" is one of the masters of blues and has had the honor of playing behind blues great B.B. King and other legendary performers like Aretha Franklin and Ray Charles.

Sponsorship opportunities range from \$500 to \$20,000 which includes the naming rights for the 2014 event. For more information on becoming a sponsor, call Terry Packer at 734-765-8671 or visit cityofwestland/bluesbrewsbqq.com.

eBus visits

Armed with the theme "Empowering Communities," the Fifth Third Bank Empowerment Mobile (aka the "eBus")

will be at the Wayne County Health Fair 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22, at the Wayne County Department of Human Services at 33030 Van Born, Wayne.

The eBus is a 40-foot self-contained resource center that has on-board computer workstations and full Internet connectivity. The purpose of eBus is to partner with community organizations, city and county government offices, and nonprofit agencies to bring information and resources about homeownership, financial literacy, and basic needs directly to the communities that have the greatest need.

This is the ninth year the eBus has visited southeastern Michigan. Last year, more than 1,800 residents came aboard the eBus and got free credit reports and hundreds, free health screenings, home energy audits and free weatherization products. This year a major focus at the bus will be on homeownership. Experts will be on hand to assist struggling homeowners applying for federal funding to help pay delinquent property taxes.

"We bring these resources directly to the people in an effort to help to improve their quality of life right where they are — in their neighborhoods. Fifth Third has long believed that in order to build a better tomorrow we must meet the community's needs today," said Byna Elliott, senior vice president of Community Development at Fifth Third Bank.



Teamwork is integral to success

Looking back at this busy and productive week, an important topic comes to mind: Communication.

Two great examples occurred that demonstrated what a big difference a few words at the right time can make.

The first was a positive example that happened after somebody delivered something to the wrong place. They called immediately and fessed up, even though they'd already taken steps to solve the problem and could have assumed I'd never find out. But moments later the client called me to ask about the delivery and I was deeply grateful to the deliverer for being upfront with me so I could explain to the client what happened.

The second example was the opposite situation. Somebody was working toward a deadline and it turned out they knew in advance they weren't going to make, but didn't mention that until the deadline passed. In that case, a few timely words at the point when the work went off schedule could have reset everyone's expectations and avoided a lot of grief.

In a world where teamwork is so integral to success, we all experience moments when a little bit of communication means the difference between a project's success or failure. This week's experiences reminded me to work on my own communication in an effort to exemplify the first example and avoid the second.

Communicate early and often, and have a sunny day!

Clarity P.S. "Communicate unto the other person that which you would want him to communicate unto you if your positions were reversed."

Aaron Goldman P.P.S.

I always enjoy hearing from you and I thank you for sharing Sunny Notes with others. You can help spread the sunshine by inviting others to subscribe to Sunny Notes at www.joinmysunnynotes.com.

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.

I was deeply grateful to the deliverer for being upfront with me so I could explain to the client what happened

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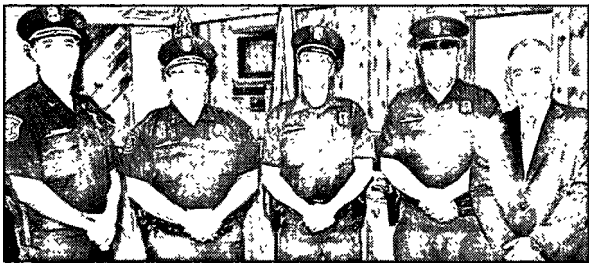
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Westland Police Chief Jeffrey Jedrusik (left) and Mayor William Wild congratulate Robert Wilke, Dan O'Connell and Brian Miller who were promoted to the rank of sergeant, lieutenant and deputy chief respectively on Monday.

3 Westland police officers promoted

Three Westland police officers received promotions during a swearing-in ceremony Monday. City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof officially swore in veteran policemen Robert Wilke, Dan O'Connell and Brian Miller.

Wilke was promoted from officer to sergeant. He's been with the Westland Police Department for 10 years and served as a field training officer. He also is a TASER instructor and member of the Wayne County Mobile Field Force Team, and has received numerous awards, including the Life Saving Award and POAM Officer of the Year.

O'Connell has moved up from sergeant to lieutenant. He's been with the police department for 21 years, serving as a field training officer. He's an experi-

enced evidence technician and has worked in the department's Special Investigation Unit, Detective Bureau and Support Services Bureau.

Miller has been promoted to be deputy chief, replacing Mike Match who retired last Friday. He's been with the WPD for 16 years as a field training officer supervisor and worked in the Detective Bureau, and was assigned to ICAC, the State Internet Crimes Unit. He also served as a lieutenant in Support Services.

"These experienced and skilled officers are the future of the Westland Police Department," Mayor William Wild said. "I know that they are up for the challenge that these leadership roles demand and will proudly serve and protect our All-American City."

Rain garden workshop tackles pollution

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

You might say the headwaters of the Rouge River and all its tributaries really begin on streets, parking lots, driveways and lawns. The water that flushes down storm drains after every rain event finds its way into local creeks and streams, and ultimately into the Rouge River and the Detroit further down stream. That storm water – laced with the fertilizers, car fluids, pet waste, and everything else it picks up – is the main source of pollution that impacts the Rouge watershed, which stretches from Wayne and Canton all the way up to Birmingham and Rochester.

More than 1.5 million people in 47 different communities live in the Rouge watershed, making it one of the most urbanized river systems in the Midwest. That is why it is so important for homeowners and businesses to take steps to reduce this storm water pollution. A growing trend, and one of the most effective methods to do this is the construction of rain gardens. They are generally built in wet areas, so they can capture and naturally filter rain water through the ground rather than having it go into a storm drain. Most rain gardens also include native Mich-



A rain garden – with many native plants and flowers – was constructed earlier this year the Northville Township Fire Station on Six Mile. The rain garden lies in a naturally wet area and naturally filters rain water before it gets into local bodies of water. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

igan plants that also do a better job than turf grass at filtering storm water. Friends of the Rouge, an organization dedicated to restoring the river, is inviting home and business owners interested in installing a rain garden to a workshop on Aug. 20 at Northville Township Hall. The group will describe how rain gardens help protect water quality in local rivers and how people can create a rain garden

of their own.

According to Cyndi Ross, the river restoration program manager for Friends of the Rouge, retaining rain water where it falls helps reduce surges in stream flow during rainy weather, which reduces streambank erosion and sediment from washing into the stream. That preserves fish and other aquatic life.

"Rain gardens are a low cost, effective way to deal with one of the leading problems in the Rouge River today – the problem of too much rain water rushing from parking lots, roads and subdivisions through storm sewers directly to the river every time it rains," Ross said.

Ross said people will learn how to select the best spot for rain gardens, how to choose the appropriate size, and where to get native Michigan plants and what kind to install.

Ross said rain gardens are becoming more popular as people realize how much of an impact

storm water does have on the Rouge.

"The more rain gardens we can get on the ground in the watershed, the more we can reduce flooding and stream bank erosion," Ross said.

A good example of a successful rain garden is at Northville Township's fire station on Six Mile. The township built the rain garden as its Rouge Rescue project this year. It was built in an area that had poor drainage. Ross said the project "turned out really good" and is a good example for Northville residents because of the fact that Johnson Creek – one of the only streams in the watershed that is clean and cold enough for trout – runs through the community. However, she said anyone living in any watershed would benefit from the workshop.

For more information about the workshop or about rain gardens, visit the Friends of the Rouge website at www.therouge.org or <http://the-rouge.org/index.php?id=696099>.

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2013-28 August 6, 2013

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. MEMBERS PRESENT: Haidous, Damitio, Henley, Monit, Rhaesa, Hawley. MEMBER ABSENT: Dobrowolski. APPROVED: special meeting scheduled for August 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: August 15, 2013

AT150337 - 3x1.5

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2013-29 August 6, 2013

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 8:30 p.m. at Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. MEMBERS PRESENT: Haidous, Damitio, Henley, Monit, Rhaesa, Hawley. MEMBER ABSENT: Dobrowolski. Presentation of a resolution to American Jetway; APPROVED: minutes of the regular meeting of July 16 and special meetings of July 16 & 17; Special Event Permits for Wayneland Eagles & waive fees; bid to Best Asphalt for \$57,620.00; materials recovery permits at 35900 Clinton for Weiser & Keywell; second reading of amendments to Chapter 692.00-Fireworks; appointment of Cynthia Schofield, 35235 Elm to the DACC; appointment of Mary Anne Daily, 3033 Mildred to Commission on Aging; Danboise Mechanical for \$4,953.00 for a/c unit at City Hall; Rotary Christmas Parade road closures; contract with Figure Skating Booster Club; contract with Youth Hockey Association; resolution of support for the Senior Alliance 2014 Plan; resignation of the City Manager; commendation certificates for Police Department; resolution for Val Orr and consent calendar. TABLED: proposed Charter amendments for Sections 6.2, 6.3 & 5.2. Received and filed Comm. and Reports. Adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: August 15, 2013

AT150334 - 3x3

08-13-0285 Motion by Henley, seconded by Damitio and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt Ordinance 2013-07, an ordinance to amend the codified ordinances of the City of Wayne, as follows:

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE NO. 2013-07

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE THE CITY OF WAYNE ORDAINS:

- Section 1. THAT THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE BE AMENDED BY CHANGES TO CHAPTER 692, FIREWORKS
The full document is available at the City Clerk's Office.
- Section 2. That this Ordinance shall be published as required by law.
- Section 3. That this Ordinance shall become effective ten days after enactment and upon publication thereof.

Matthew Miller
City Clerk

Adopted: August 6, 2013
Effective: August 16, 2013

Publish: August 15, 2013

AT150337 - 3x3

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OUR VIEWS

50 years later, King's dream still unfulfilled

Later this month, the nation marks the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s *I Have a Dream* speech, a speech that is often credited with pressuring Congress into passage the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

On Aug. 28, 1963, Dr. King stood at a podium in front of the Lincoln Memorial and spoke about his dream.

The speech came at the end of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. More than 250,000 people stood before King and listened to his assessment of the status of blacks in America from the Emancipation Proclamation, issued in January 1863, to the push for civil rights 100 years later.

For King, the Emancipation Proclamation broke the shackles of slavery for millions of Negroes, but the freedom that decree supposedly brought had not materialized. One hundred years later, blacks still did not have their freedom. They remained "crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination."

His speech became known as the *I Have a Dream* speech and in the 50 years since he delivered it, it has become one of the most quoted and most read speeches of modern times. King eloquently painted a verbal picture of a life where color was absent, where all people were equal, and everyone shared in the American dream.

The civil rights movement of the 1960s succeeded in getting the federal government to do more to fight poverty and create opportunities for African Americans to get a college education. The racial equality that it brought to America was short-lived, and 50 years later, the gap between blacks and whites remains.

In his speech, King said that 100 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, "the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land."

Add on another 50 years.

As much as we would like to think that some of King's dream has come true, sadly, the color line remains. It may not be as obvious as in 1863 or even 1963, but it is still here. In a report in *Business Insider* in April 2013, two professors, John Logan and Brian Stults, identified the 21 most segregated cities in the country using 2010 U.S. Census data. The two men determined that "the average black person lives in a neighborhood that is 45 percent black. Without segregation, his neighborhood would be 13 percent black."

Of the 21 cities identified, more than half were north of the Missouri Compromise Line that divided the country prior to the Civil War. In the top 10, according to Logan and Stults, are the northern cities of Boston, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Newark and Milwaukee. The No. 1 spot went to Detroit, where they described the inner city as "almost exclusively black."

King's dream 50 years ago was aimed at African Americans who, 100 years after being freed from slavery, were fighting for those unalienable rights spoken about in the Constitution. It is a dream we all need to embrace. The color of a person's skin should not determine whether they are a have or a have not. Nor should it limit their ability to live in a nice neighborhood, have a good education and a decent job.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan told Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall. It happened two years later. In 2013, we need to commit to tearing down the color barrier that impedes our progress as a people and as a nation. We, too, need to tear down the wall that continues to divide us. We need to walk the walk and talk the talk to secure equal rights for every American. Only then can we preach equality to the world.

Now is the time that we all need go to that mountain top. "Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood." Securing equal rights is a challenge we must face now not later. We truly can't wait another 50 years.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to deliver his famous speech.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you ready to go back to school?

We asked this question at the Community Gathering at Corrado Park in Westland.



"Yes, because I miss school and I miss my friends."

Alexis Johnson
Westland



"Yes, because you learn math, social studies and reading comprehension, and I miss my friends."

Tanasia Scott
Westland



"Yes, because I want to learn more, get good grades and be ready for my future."

Jenna Bailey
Westland



"Yes. I miss the school and everybody and my friends."

Julia Hays
Westland

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Drastic measures

Your article, "Families check out new academy at open house" (*Observer*, Aug. 8), states the following: Jennifer Samborski, a Garden City mother, doesn't like the reconfiguration at Garden City Public Schools which separates schools into two grade levels in each building. "I want my kids all in one school," Samborski said. "I want my children to be together because we are a whole family."

This is exactly what the right wing legislature in Lansing was hoping for. Starve schools so that they have to take creative and drastic measures to survive, like reconfiguring their schools. This makes parents dissatisfied enough to seek other educational opportunities for their kids. And what do they do? They enroll their kids in the nearby, privately owned academy that is funded with tax dollars. ("Academy" sounds much fancier than "school.")

David Russo
Canton

'Great' story

I just wanted to say thanks for taking the time to come to the church and writing the article on the 200-mile prayer run. It was great! I definitely appreciate you not sugar coating anything I said and including the name of Jesus Christ! That is what it was and is all about! Thanks again.

God Bless you!

Josh Sprunger
youth minister
Warren Road Light and Life
Church
Westland

Immigration reform is pro-agriculture

Earlier this year, the U.S. Senate passed a commonsense immigration reform measure in

a strongly bipartisan fashion. This was an important step in the right direction - especially for producers, farm workers and rural communities.

The historic legislation passed by the Senate provides a pathway to earned citizenship for the 11 million people who are in our country today without authorization. They will have to go to the back of the line, pay fines and settle taxes they owe our nation.

It would modernize the system that we use to bring skilled workers into the United States. And it would put in place the toughest border security plan that America has ever seen - building on steps that have reduced illegal border crossings to their lowest level in decades.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office found that the Senate bill would reduce the deficit over the next 20 years by nearly \$850 billion, and the Social Security Administration estimates that this immigration bill would add nearly \$300 billion to the Social Security system in the next decade.

This bill is also important for rural America. Recently, the White House economic team released a new report highlighting the positive economic benefits that common-sense immigration reform would provide for agriculture and rural communities.

The report highlights research showing that without a stable workforce, America's record agricultural productivity will decline in coming years. In Michigan, for example, eliminating the immigrant labor force would cost more than \$151 million in short-term production losses.

The Senate bill addresses this concern by taking much-needed steps to ensure a stable agricultural work force, and a fair sys-

tem for U.S. producers and farm workers. In particular, it would give qualifying farm workers an expedited path to earned citizenship, as long as they continue to work in agriculture. A new temporary worker program would replace the current H-2A visa program over time, and allow farm workers a three-year visa to work year-round in any agricultural job.

This common-sense system wouldn't just prevent a decline in production - it would grow the economy. Research highlighted in the White House report projects that an expanded temporary worker program would increase both production and exports across our agriculture sector.

Under the Senate proposal, USDA would play a greater role in implementing farm labor programs and ensuring that farmers and ranchers have all the information they need. As Congress continues to work on this issue, Secretary Vilsack and all of us at USDA are committed to working with lawmakers to be sure they have any technical assistance they might need to finalize these proposals.

Immigration reform is very important for farmers, farm workers and communities across rural America. The majority of our agriculture work force is made up of immigrants, and their hard work has helped America's farmers and ranchers lead the world. To remain competitive and keep driving economic growth in rural America, we need rules that work. Rural America needs Congress to act as soon as possible to carry forward the work of the U.S. Senate and fix today's broken immigration system.

Christine White
state executive director
Michigan Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture

STAFF COLUMN

What I've learned from reality TV

A few weeks ago, PBS made a startling announcement: unlike the major networks, it posted an increase in viewers among the elusive 18-49 age group. That's right, the network most clearly associated with the excellent British drama series *Downton Abbey* is gaining viewers while the likes of ABC, CBS and NBC are wondering where they've gone.

One report linked the resurgence in interest in PBS to its highly touted, Emmy winning *Abbey* and Mitt Romney's call to end funding for Public TV which rallied support among the *Sesame Street* generation. The observation was that PBS has attracted viewers without "dumbing down" its programming. It is sticking to its tried-and-true formula of offering viewers quality programs, a novel idea, considering what's out there in TV land.

In 1961, Newton Minow, then chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and the man who coined the phrase, "vast wasteland," described TV as "... a procession of game shows, violence, audience participation shows, formula comedies about totally unbelievable families, blood and thunder, mayhem, violence, sadism, murder, western bad men, western good men, private eyes, gangsters, more violence and cartoons."

Today's reality

Hmm, sounds like TV today, but instead on a few channels,



Sue Mason

there's hundreds, and quantity doesn't necessarily translate into quality. We still have some formula comedies, totally unbelievable families and an assortment of the good guy-bad guy shows, but the biggest glut is in reality TV.

Back when Minow was around, reality TV was the nightly news. There was no 24/7 news. Weather was part of the news, not a channel unto itself, and sports was what was happening in your town.

But ever since CBS dropped the gauntlet with *Survivor*, its glorified do-anything-and-everything to win the \$1 million prize show, the networks have been in overdrive coming up with their own new - and not so improved - shows.

Just about every cable channel has reality TV shows to assault your senses. You can go from the heat of the kitchen to the murky swamps of Louisiana, hang out with a group of out-of-control teens, or be reassured that rooms filled with books don't make you a hoarder.

Lesson learned

I will admit I have watched some reality TV, and decided to compile a short list of things I have learned from my channel-surfing, like:

» There is a no good reason whatsoever to go into the wilds stark naked. Put on a fig leaf, for God's sake.

» The f-word really can be used as an adjective in talking about cooking.

» Les Gold needs to fire Seth and Ashley Gold or get them into therapy. They're giving sibling rivalry a bad name.

» Shipping containers and storage lockers are not the best place to shop, especially with a guy who says "Yup!"

» Having a case of toilet paper and 10 boxes of pasta in the pantry doesn't constitute being a prepper.

The sad part of all this is that we watch these shows. We get emotionally involved in the people who, if we met them on the street, we'd ignore them. And the more we watch these shows, the more the TV folks produce.

Network types should heed Mr. Minow's words. Television is a vast wasteland and will continue to be one until these shows have run their course. Unfortunately, reality TV will be replaced by other inane idea.

It took more than 10 years to get to this reality, I hope it doesn't take another 10 years to escape it. Until then, I'm sticking with PBS ... and some of Sheldon Cooper's (*The Big Bang Theory*) "Bazinga."

Sue Mason is editor of Wayne-Westland and Garden City Observers. Let her know what you think by sending her an email at smason@hometownlife.com.

OBSERVER

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More walking the dogs is set when Bark for Life returns to Canton.

Bark for Life takes doggie steps toward giving goal

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Bark for Life of Canton organizers remain hopeful they and their canine companions can reach their \$25,000 goal to help the fight against cancer.

"We're not giving up on our goal," said Canton resident Kathie McFry, whose golden retriever, Bo, has been a companion as she battles cancer. "We still have a lot of time."

As of Friday, Bark for Life's website listed the amount raised at \$11,632. The dog-friendly event happens from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, near the Heritage Park amphitheater in Canton.

In what is expected to boost fundraising efforts, an event dubbed The Yappy Hour is set for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, in a tent behind E.G. Nick's in Plymouth, organizer

Jill Andra Young said. "This is a mini-event to kind of raise awareness for Bark for Life as well as raise money for the American Cancer Society," said Young, owner of Jill Andra Young Photography.

Canine apparel

At least 12 vendors, such as Three Dog Bakery, Pawstive Pet Massage and Three Dogz LLC, which sells clothing aimed at pet owners, are expected at The Yappy Hour. Young said visitors can buy items such as dog coats and pet-owner jewelry.

Moreover, visitors may make direct donations, participate in a 50/50 raffle and try to win a prize by guessing the number of small doggie bones placed in jars.

"People are welcome to bring their dogs," Young said, "but they have to sign a waiver that they've had their

shots and are not aggressive."

For more information on The Yappy Hour, call Young at 734-455-7787. For more on Bark for Life, call McFry at 734-340-4269 or co-chair Janet Stafford at 734-645-3048.

McFry said eight "great" teams have formed for Bark for Life. It's not too late to get involved and much more information can be found at the event's website, www.relayforlife.org/barkcantonmi.

Doggie games

The third annual Bark for Life features a doggie costume contest, a musical sit game similar to musical chairs, a best trick competition, a walk around the park and canine games. It also includes a disc jockey, food and vendors such as a dog massage, canine costume-makers, groomers, trainers, a dog water-

therapy company — even a blessing of dogs by a deacon.

The event celebrates the companionship of dogs and their owners while raising money to fight cancer. It's like a canine-friendly Relay for Life event, though it's packed into four hours.

Jon LaFever, Canton Leisure Services recreation and facilities supervisor, has said Bark for Life has become a welcome addition to the community and "serves a niche" for cancer patients, their pets and their friends.

Bark for Life raised \$6,000 in its first year, a number that skyrocketed to \$18,000 last year. This year's goal has jumped to \$25,000.

Bark for Life registration costs range from \$20 for no dogs or one dog to \$30 for three.

dclem@hometownlife.com
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Seek professional advice on tax law issues

I was at a barbecue talking about the Tigers when the conversation turned to personal finance. One person at the party explained how he was forced to take an early retirement and had some cash flow issues. He is not 59½ so could not tap into his IRA. He was thinking about home equity loans or cash advances on charge cards to cover the shortfall.

As the discussion went on I chimed in and asked: Why not tap into your IRA? The person said he didn't want to pay a penalty. My next question was who told you that you couldn't tap into your IRA prior to 59½ without a penalty?

As the person said to me, "everyone knows that." My response was that is wrong. You can tap money prior to 59½ without penalty. Section 72(t) of the IRS code allows it.

It is not unusual when people don't know about our tax laws. Our tax laws are complex and there are many exceptions to the rules. Currently there are over 73,000 pages in U.S. tax law. That's not 73,000 pages written by a great author who wants you to understand what you're reading but 73,000 pages written by lawyers and politicians who don't care if you understand what you are reading.

In fact, if you go back over the last 10 years there has been at least one tax law change per day. Therefore, if you're not consistently reading



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

something on tax laws, you're out of date.

Complex laws

I bring up the complexities of tax laws because it is important to remind taxpayers to take advice from people who are dedicated to staying current about tax laws. So many times people take tax advice from family and friends who are clueless about tax laws. The advice is often wrong.

If you take tax advice from someone who doesn't stay current, it could cost you interest and penalties and other problems with the IRS. The last thing you and I want is the IRS on our case.

If you need tax advice take it from someone who's in the business — a CPA, an enrolled agent or someone with expertise.

There are resources on the Internet and some of them are very good but unfortunately others are not. If you take advice from the Internet only, use reliable sites and always confirm the answer on more than one site. Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Consumers Energy intends to keep our safety promise to Michigan. We want you to know our gas distribution system is solid and dependable, and that safety will always be our top priority.

A tragic gas explosion happened in Royal Oak earlier this year as a result of former employees disobeying procedural requirements and failing to meet our expectations for making safety a top priority. Because of the Royal Oak accident, Consumers Energy has been fined by the Michigan Public Service Commission. We accept responsibility, we accept the fine, and we will move forward.

Consumers Energy is sincerely sorry the Royal Oak accident happened. Our investigation showed some employees did not follow company gas operations policies and procedures. Those individuals no longer work for our company.

We are sorry we let you down and failed to meet your and our expectations. We have reinforced our training and policy education for all employees who work on our natural gas system. We have increased our annual investment to update our gas distribution system by over \$200 million, an investment designed to help protect public health and safety. And we are doing everything we can to avoid a tragic event of this nature from happening again in the future.

In addition, Consumers Energy will contribute \$1 million of its money to create a fund available to victims of natural gas incidents to assist in providing immediate everyday necessities, as well as provide funding for a safety study and safety training.

Consumers Energy has been in the energy business for more than 125 years and the integrity of our gas system makes us one of the top-performing companies in the country. We want to reassure our customers that Consumers Energy puts safety at the heart of everything we do. We know lives depend on it.

Our goal as part of our promise to Michigan is to keep you safe 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and provide safe, reliable gas service at affordable prices. We work every single day to achieve that goal. You deserve nothing less.

Consumers Energy

Count on Us

Watkins to lead county mental health agency

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

Northville resident and former state schools superintendent Tom Watkins has been named president, CEO and executive director of the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency, the public mental health system serving the county and its largest city. The agency currently provides services for about 72,000 people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, serious emotional disturbance and substance use disorders.

Watkins, who is currently the president of his own education consulting business TDW and Associates, brings much experience to the



Watkins

Department of Mental Health under Gov. Jim Blanchard. He also served as state superintendent of education under Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Watkins is looking forward to the job because he will be able to advocate for people who need a helping hand.

"This role captures my professional career, providing a voice for people who are often voiceless in our society," he said. "It puts me in the middle of the state's and nation's

health care reform and taps my administrative, leadership, and health care background and political skills in a way that can help people with mental illness, substance abuse and developmental disabilities. I cannot think of a higher calling in life."

The Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency is currently a Wayne County agency. However, on Oct. 1 it will be converted into an authority similar to the Wayne County Airport Authority. The authority will be run by a 12-member board. Six members will be appointed by the mayor of Detroit (or state-appointed emergency manager), and six will be appointed by the Wayne County

Board of Commissioners.

Watkins said salary negotiations are still taking place.

WCCMHA officials say Watkins was chosen because of his administrative experience and political background, but especially his reputation for helping people in need.

"I am looking forward to working with Mr. Watkins and the passion he brings for helping people overcome the obstacles they may face in life," said WCCMHA Board Chairman George Gaines in a news release.

James K. Haveman, director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, also praised the decision to hire Watkins.

"We are very pleased

with the selection of Tom Watkins to lead this new authority in Wayne County given his extensive background in health care," he said.

"The wealth of knowledge and experience that Tom brings will be valuable as he works to bring better services to residents in Wayne County and to ensure they are receiving the best quality of care possible."

Watkins has served the citizens of Michigan as deputy chief of staff in the governors office, state superintendent of schools and mental health director. He is a member of the Michigan's Economic Development Corporation International board of advisors, the University of Michigan Confucius Institute board

and has been recognized by the Chinese Association of Greater Detroit and the Detroit Chinese Business Association among others for his efforts to help build bridges with China. He is also a prolific freelance writer, and has been a regular columnist in this newspaper.

Watkins said he is excited to get started, and work with the new authority board to help people who are mentally ill and developmentally disabled.

"It does not matter what ZIP code you live in - mental illness and developmental disabilities impact all families directly or indirectly," he said.

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Rummage sale

The First Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland is holding a fall rummage sale Thursday, Sept. 19, through Saturday, Sept. 21.

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 \$5.

Homemade bake goods and refreshments will also be available for sale.

The church is at 3 Town Square in Wayne. For more information, call the church at 734-722-4801.

Woehlke Palooza

The Wayne-Westland Professional Fire Fighters Local 1279 and U.S. 12 will host Woehlke-Palooza Friday-Saturday, Aug. 23-24, at U.S. 12, 34824 Michigan Ave., Wayne.

The outdoor event will be held in the parking lot

of U.S. 12, rain or shine beginning at 5 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday. Activities include firefighter's games like a station cook-off, water ball, rolling water ball, combat challenge and corn-hole tournament. There will also be tactical demonstrations by firefighters.

Saturday will be Family Fun Day with kids' contests, including ice cream eating, Hula Hoop, musical chairs, clowns and face painting.

Live bands will start at 6 p.m. on Friday with Thrill Bellies, followed by Ty Stone and headlined by Lo Cash Cowboys.

Saturday's entertainment includes Social Bandits, Juke Box Heroes, Pistol Day Parade and ESC4P3 - The Journey Tribute Band.

Help celebrate the life of local hero Brian Woehlke, who lost his life in the line of duty serving our community.

GC Police using paint brush to battle blight

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Garden City police officers, concerned about some blight in the community, took a different approach to fight back.

"Police officers often discuss various issues within the community and seek solutions, sometimes very unique solutions," said Garden City Police Chief and Acting City Manager Robert Muery.

An abandoned home in the 1500 block of Venoy has been a blighted eyesore for a few years.

"The home is now in the tax foreclosure process and nobody except the city is doing anything to preserve or maintain the building," Muery said. "The grass is mowed at the direction of the Department of Public Services when it becomes drastically overgrown. DPS has also been called upon to



Garden City Police Lt. Eric Zimmer and his daughter, Katie, paint plywood covering the garage door opening of a blighted home on Venoy. PHOTO BY GARDEN CITY POLICE.

board up doors and windows to keep intruders out."

There was evidence, reported recently by the neighbors and confirmed by the police, that a person or persons were entering the home at night. The police have been unable to apprehend anyone in the act, he said.

Drain on neighborhood

"This building has been a drain on other

area residents who work hard to keep their homes and their yards well-maintained," Muery said.

"Even the most beautiful home suffers a little when located next to a blighted building. The pride of ownership diminishes a little."

Prominently displayed on the front of the home was unfinished plywood placed to secure the garage door.

"This plywood, while serving its purpose, was

unsightly and screamed to passing motorists and neighborhood visitors that this building was abandoned," Muery said.

Police officers from Garden City came up with the idea of simply painting that plywood to make the home look just a little less neglected and blighted.

"They even insisted on putting up a fake garage door handle on the plywood to make it look more realistic," Muery said.

Last Friday, officers and some family members gathered at the location and had the paint applied in under an hour.

"To someone driving by, there is no longer a 16-foot by 8-foot plywood sign screaming 'This home is neglected,'" Muery said.

Lt. Eric Zimmer, Patrol Commander, and his daughter Katie, volunteered to be a part of this project.

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Ready to challenge the world

Local baseball players set for international event

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The term "travel baseball" will take on a whole new meaning for a handful of top-notch Observerland-area athletes beginning this week – with an emphasis on travel.

Beginning Thursday, four Garden City teenagers and one each from Canton and Bloomfield Hills will forge their baseball talents with six other players on the Detroit entry in the International Children's Games, which will be hosted by Windsor-Essex, Ontario.

Also represented in the four-

day sports festival will be baseball teams from Japan, Canada, Pakistan and Merion, Ind.

Rich in tradition, the first International Children's Games took place in Celje, Slovenia, in 1968. The ICG were founded by Yugoslavian professor Metod Klemenc, whose goal was to create an event that fostered a better understanding among children of different cultural backgrounds.

The Games, which are officially recognized by the International Olympics Committee, have attracted more than 35,200 participants representing 74 countries since their inception 45 years ago. They are believed to be the largest gathering of

See BASEBALL, Page B3



Observerland-area travel baseball players (from left) Troy Saruna, Alex Centofanti, Dakota Mahkmetass, Ryan Radwan and Tyler Kelly will be representing Detroit in this week's International Children's Games. ED WRIGHT

O&E men's golf signup

The O&E men's golf tournament, a 36-hole, two-day medal play event, will be Sunday, Sept. 1, at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 W. Seven Mile Road, and Monday, Sept. 2, at Whispering Willows Golf Course, 20500 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Tee times start at 8 a.m. both days.

The cost is \$95 for two days (power cart extra) with four different flights offered, including championship, first, senior (55-and-over) and junior (17-and-under).

You must have a current USGA Index to participate (maximum handicap of 20).

There will be \$2,500 in guaranteed prizes, including both low gross and net winners.

Entries, open to the first 120, will close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24.

To download a registration form, visit www.golf.livonia.com.

For pairings and starting times, call 248-476-4493 (Whispering Willows) or 248-471-3400 (Fox Creek).

Heroes on Hines races

Wayne County Parks will sponsor its first Heroes on Hines half-marathon and 5-kilometer races Saturday, Oct. 5 with proceeds going toward the creation and maintenance of the First Responders Memorial to be erected at Hines Drive and Haggerty.

The half-marathon starts at 8 a.m., followed by the 5K at 8:30 a.m. The event is sponsored by Running Fit and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The cost is \$49 (half-marathon) and \$29 (5K) if registered by Sept. 5. The cost is \$34 (5K) and \$59 (half) if registering Sept. 6 through Oct. 3.

For more information, visit www.heroesonhines.com.

Wrestling at VFW post

The Midwest Pro Wrestling Alliance will be taping four episodes of its Collision card for WMYD-TV (Channel 20) beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25, at the VFW Post No. 6896, 28945 Joy Road, Westland.

Doors open at 2 p.m. and the event is free. The card is scheduled to air Sunday, Oct. 6.

For more information, visit MPWA.wrestling.com.

Sox's Haeger is armed for the long haul

CC grad bounces back from Tommy John elbow surgery

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Charlie Haeger feels he has a lot of baseball left – even with his recent surgically repaired right arm.

And being a knuckleball pitcher, the shelf life is perhaps greater than a guy throwing 90 mph-plus with the less wear and tear on the arm.

Coming off Tommy John surgery performed in 2012 by famed sports surgeon Dr. James Andrews, the 29-year-old former Detroit Catholic Central High ace has moved back up the ladder to the Boston Red Sox Triple-A affiliate in Pawtucket after a Double-A stint in Portland, Maine.

Tommy John is known in medical practice as ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction. It's a surgical graft procedure in which the ulnar collateral ligament in the medial elbow is replaced with a tendon from elsewhere in the body.

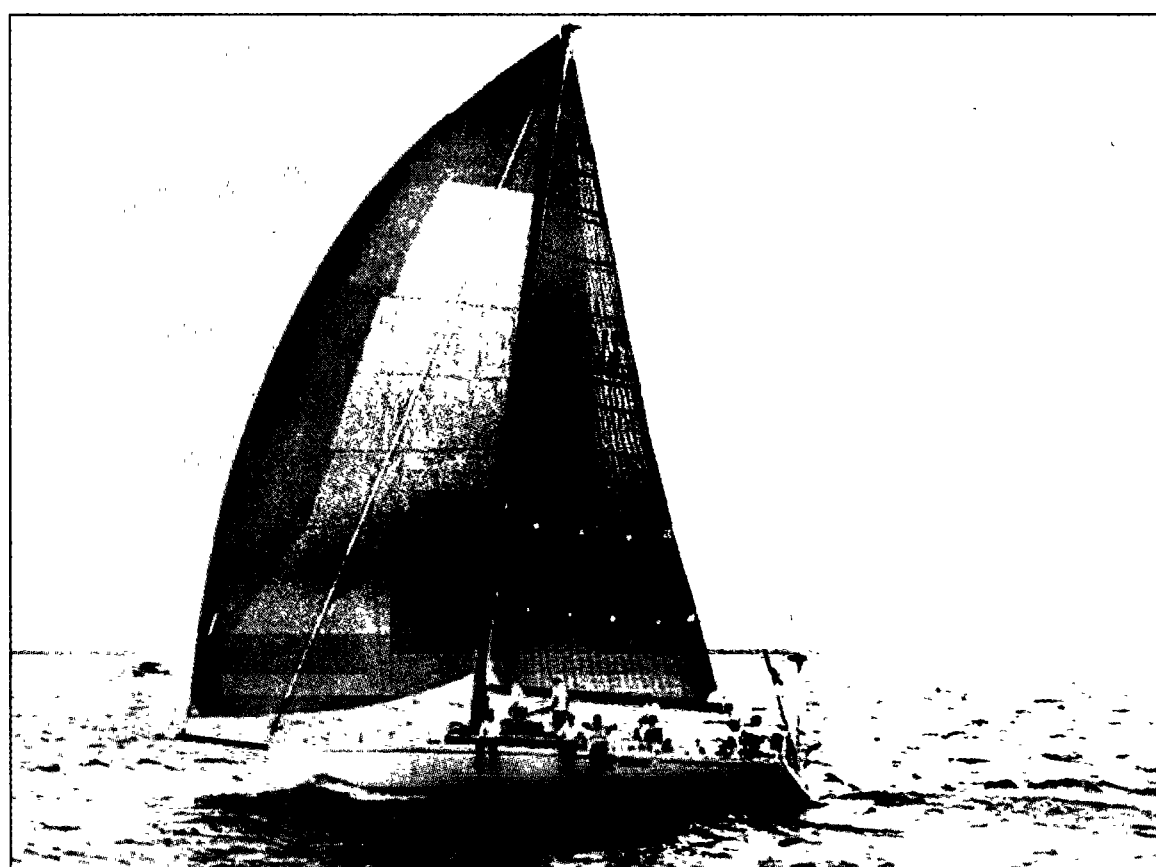
"The surgery was easy and the rehab was really easy," said the 29-year-old Haeger, who sat out the 2012 season. "Surprisingly, I never had any kind of setback, or any kind of soreness really during the rehab process. I was amazed and I was surprised. I thought I was going to get some sort of soreness. So when I started throwing, it just kind of came the way I've always thrown. It was no different arm slot or speed. I was throwing full bullpens after 9½ months."

The 6-foot-1, 210-pound Haeger, who was a 13th-round pick

See HAEGER, Page B3



Catholic Central grad Charlie Haeger, a knuckleballer, remains in the Red Sox farm system with Triple-A Pawtucket. BRITA MEN OUTZEN | BOSTON RED SOX



Vortices, owned by Chris Saxton of Plymouth, had the highest combined point total for the three races on lakes Michigan, Huron and Superior.

Summer of fun

Plymouth's Saxton wins Barthel Trophy as best at the Tri-Lakes Challenge

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

It's been a very busy, but fun, summer for Chris Saxton of Plymouth, whose hobby is competitive sailboat racing. Winning helped make it so.

Saxton and his boat, Vortices, recently captured the Barthel Trophy as the overall points winner in the Tri-Lakes Challenge, involving the three major races on the Great Lakes.

Their victory in the Trans Superior Sailboat Race Aug. 3-7 clinched first place for Saxton and the 10-man crew of the J145 Vortices.

The race is the longest on the Great Lakes, covering 330 nautical miles from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, to the western end of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn.

"It was our first time in that race, on that lake," Saxton said, adding a lot of people don't enter the race. "It's colder sailing. It certainly can be rougher. A lot of people just don't want to be out on Lake Superior."

"It was cold. We probably looked like a cross between sailors and snowmobilers. We had hats on and layers of clothing. You have to try to stay warm, because you spend the majority of time out in the



Members of the Vortices crew are (front row, from left) Jim Thompson, Chris Balliet and Marc Russell; (middle row, from left) Rob Linden, Scott Schauder, Todd Riley, David Skupien and Matt Dennis and (back row, from left) Chris Saxton and John Hayes. All are from the Grosse Pointes, with the exception of Balliet (Holland), Russell (Northville) Linden (Columbus, Ohio) Saxton (Plymouth) and Hayes (San Rafael, Calif.).

elements. We take it pretty seriously."

Vortices also finished second in its class (Shore Course, PHRF D Class) in the July 20-22 Port Huron to Mackinac Island race, and it was previously fourth in class in the Chicago to Mackinac race.

"We did both Macks and the Trans Superior and we had a nice finish in every race," Saxton said. "It was a really nice season for us. It was a good year on the water."

"After you've done two or three of those races, sooner or later, you do have to go to

work."

Saxton, who owns his own business, estimates the boat traveled 2,100 miles for the three events, nearly half of which involved moving the boat into position for the races.

He and Todd Riley, a member of the Vortices crew who is more like a co-captain, according to Saxton, won a double-handed race from Port Huron to Rogers City, while Vortices also placed second this summer in a race on Lake Erie.

"It's a great thing to have

See SAILING, Page B3

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

KLAA Soccer Classic

High school football isn't the only sport gearing up for another season.

Boys soccer will take center stage all day Saturday at Independence Park in Canton for a KLAA Soccer Clinic featuring varsity and junior varsity teams from six schools.

All of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams are competing, along with those from Brighton, Okemos and Grand Blanc. But according to the event schedule, Canton, Plymouth and Salem are not squaring off for any of the 50-minute, running-time scrimmages.

Games are slated for fields 3, 5 and 8, from 9 a.m. until the final contests begin at 2 p.m.

Salem teams (JV and varsity) will compete on Field 3 against Brighton (9 a.m., 10 a.m.), Okemos (11 a.m., noon) and Grand

Blanc (1 p.m., 2 p.m.). On Field 5 will be Canton JV and varsity teams, facing Grand Blanc (9 a.m., 10 a.m.), Brighton (11 a.m., noon) and Okemos (1 p.m., 2 p.m.). Plymouth will go to work on Field 8 against Okemos (9 a.m., 10 a.m.), Grand Blanc (11 a.m., noon) and Brighton (1 p.m., 2 p.m.).

Independence Park is located off Denton Road, south of Cherry Hill Road.

Need tennis coach

Wayne Memorial High School needs a boys varsity tennis coach for the 2013 fall season. Interested candidates should contact Greg Ambrose at 734-419-2214 or email ambroseg@wwcs.k12.mi.us.

Franklin girls tennis

Girls interested in playing high school tennis for Livonia Franklin during the 2013-14 school year are asked to contact coach Rick Clack at 734-

945-5762 or email him at clack@comcast.net.

Potential players are asked to leave their name and contact number in a voice message. There is off-season conditioning and off-season play during the summer and school year before the season.

Learn To Skate

Livonia Parks and Recreation will offer a seven-week Learn To Skate (Session I) on Mondays, Sept. 9 through Oct. 21, at Edgar Arena, 33841 Lyndon (one-half mile south of Five Mile, just west of Farmington Road).

Monday's class schedule includes: 5-5:25 p.m. (new, Snowplow Sam 1, 2 or 3; Basic 1 and intro to synchronized skating); 5:25-5:50 p.m. (Basic 1-8); 6-6:25 p.m. (new, Snowplow Sam 1, 2 or 3; Basic 1-3); 6:25-6:50 p.m. (hockey skills with no sticks or pucks used).

The fee is \$66 (Livonia residents) or \$69 (non-residents). All classes and time slots are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Free skate rental is available.

The registration deadline and early enrollment for last year's skaters is Wednesday, Aug. 21, at Livonia Community Rec-

reation Center, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia, MI 48154. (There will be a \$10 late fee beginning Aug. 22.) You can also fax to 734-466-2679.

Registration for new students or missed mail-in will be from 6:30-8 p.m. (residents) and 7-8 p.m. (non-residents) Wednesday, Sept. 4, at the LCRC.

Other learn to skate classes offered include Session 2, Oct. 28 to Dec. 16 (pre-registration deadline Oct. 16); and Session 3, Jan. 1 to March 3, 2014 (pre-registration deadline Jan. 1).

Ice show rehearsals will be held March 9-29 with show dates March 28-29. For more information, call 734-266-2412.

Rec soccer openings

The Michigan Hawks under-11 girls recreational soccer team needs a couple of players to complete its roster for the upcoming fall season.

The team plays in the WSSL and practices Monday nights (starting after Labor Day) at Jaycee Park in Livonia. The cost to play is \$75. Players should contact Doug Landefeld at either 660-473-6604 or dbra-dley1515@sbcglobal.net.

CYO soccer sign-up

The St. Edith athletic program is accepting registrations for its CYO fall soccer teams. Boys and girls entering grades 4-8 are eligible.

The program is open to those who attend St. Edith, St. Colette, St. Aidan and St. Kenneth parishes. For more information, contact Ron Wollenweber at stedithsoccer@gmail.com or visit www.stedithcyo.com.

Soccer officials

The United Federation of Officials is offering a soccer referee training class Monday, Aug. 19, at Cabrini High School, 15305 Wick, Allen Park.

The target audience for the class is high school juniors and seniors, who will then be part of the MHSAA's Officials Legacy Mentoring Program. It is also open for interested adults.

Class fee includes MHSAA registration fees. Those completing the course will be eligible for officiating high school, junior high and CYO games in the fall 2013 season.

For more information, contact Byron Beattie at 734-775-4134.

Train with Tami golf

PGA professional Tami Bealert will offer a series of new summer and fall classes including Get Golf Ready, Get Golf Ready 2, ladies clinics and golf lessons at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier Road, Superior Township.

The ladies clinics will be 7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Aug. 15 and 22. (Invite a friend, sister, mother or daughter and receive a \$10 Golfsmith coupon.) The cost is \$25 for each one-hour class. Returning 2013 customers will receive a \$5 Train With Tami coupon for more lessons.

Course management, private one-on-one or small group lessons are also available by appointment. Private one-hour family lessons are also offered. For an appointment and pricing, call 734-731-0238.

Juniors (16-and-under) can also play golf for free with a paying adult or guardian after 6 p.m. Monday through Friday or after 5 p.m. Saturdays or Sundays. (You must present certificate from www.HickoryCreekGolf.com to receive discount.)

Also, Try Tami's Tri is a 5-kilometer run-walk, 20k bike and golf scramble beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 29, at Hickory Creek.

For more information, visit www.TrainWithTami.com.

10U Blue Knights

The 10U Blue Knights will have tryouts for the 2014 summer baseball season at 9:30 a.m. Saturdays, Aug. 17 and 24, at Bedford Woods Park, 29500 Lathrup Boulevard, Southfield.

Eligible players must be 10 years of age prior to May 1, 2014.

Indoor training will begin in January and run through March. Outdoor practice will begin in April. Once the roster is set, there will be approximately four fall practices and possibly some scrimmages.

Contact coach Dennis Paryaski at dennisparaski@gmail.com for more information or to confirm your attendance.

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COLLEGE SOCCER PREVIEW

Larson likes what he sees so far in Ocelots

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Nine training sessions in, Schoolcraft College men's soccer coach Rick Larson has already gotten a pretty good gauge on his 2013 team.

"Solid level, excellent depth inside our roster and inside of our positions," said Larson, who has guided the Ocelots to seven straight Michigan Community College Athletic Association titles. "We have really good leadership in the right positions. We just don't have as talented of players as a Chris Long, Ardit

(Dushkaj), guys like that. But who knows what a year and some games is going to do for these guys in terms of their effectiveness inside the game?"

Key losses off last year's 15-3-1 NJCAA Region 12 runner-up team, which posted a No. 13 final national ranking, included Dushkaj (seven goals, 11 assists), a Livonia Clarenceville product who was named second-team NJCAA All-American; Long, a Livonia Stevenson grad now playing at Western Michigan; and goalkeeper Tom Duquette, who is redshirt-

ing at the University of Indianapolis.

Dushkaj was eligible to return for a second season, but did not meet NJCAA academic requirements, according to the eighth-year coach.

Among the returning starters entering their sophomore season for the Ocelots include defenders Tom Ashmore (Farmington High) and Mustapha Reyhouini (Dearborn Heights/Keystone National, Pa.) and forward Romario Georgis (Warren Cousino).

Other sophomore returnees include midfielder Mike Bojovic

(Northville); midfielder Derek Boatright (Redford/University of Detroit Jesuit); midfielder Anthony Abraham (White Lake Lakeland); forward Rob Ramirez (Caracas, Venezuela); and goalkeeper Ryan Tikey (Livonia Franklin).

Sean Simney (Novi), who played for the Ocelots in 2007, returns after a six-year hiatus to challenge Tikey for the starting keeper spot.

"We also have a transfer kid that we're not sure if he will become eligible or not," Larson said of his goalie situation. "So there's a couple

... you know how it goes in junior college sometimes."

Among the promising are three players from Canton High, including Daniel Ovesea, a freshman forward; Nathan Bergeson, a redshirt freshman forward; and Tyler Wittingham, a freshman defender.

Also in the mix, according to Larson, is sophomore midfielder Vincente Jaramillo-Preciado (Detroit Southwest), a transfer from the University of Detroit Mercy, and Leandro Dedndrea (Sterling Heights), a freshman

forward who will return later this week after a stint this summer with the Albanian Under-19 National Team.

Larson remains optimistic as the Ocelots open their season Friday, Aug. 23 at Muskegon Community College followed by a Saturday, Aug. 25, match at Lake Michigan CC.

"I think this team is more willing to do the things we ask them to do," Larson said. "And that's not slighting last year's team at all. I just really think there's a really good group of guys that are here."

SAILING

Continued from Page B1

these Great Lakes and it's a real privilege to be able to sail up them and enjoy what Michigan has to offer that you don't get anywhere else," Saxton said. "It's just beautiful."

"It was unusually cold on Lake Superior. The water temperature was 45 to 51, maybe a little warmer. You can have a pretty warm day on land and, if you're out on the water in the middle of the lake, it's not going to be much warmer than the water temperature."

To win the three-lake, overall title, it used to be boats had to sail the long course around Cove Island in the Port Huron to Mackinac race, Saxton said.

After much discussion about that in the sailing community, it was changed. Many other boats opted for the Shore Course this year, so Saxton and his team decided that was where they needed to be, too.

"The combined score on the three races is awarded against the overall," he said. "We felt we needed to do the Shore Course to be in the running for the best

score in all three."

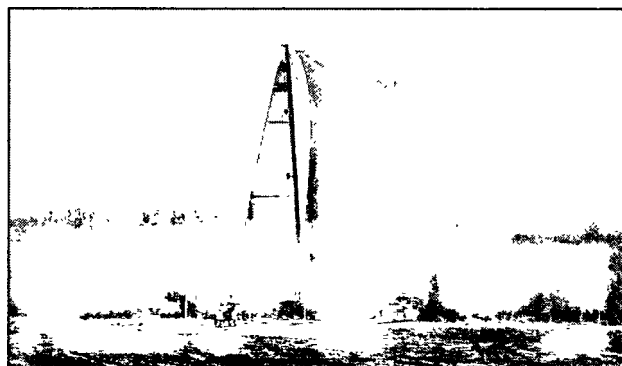
Vortices was the first to finish in the Performance Handicap Racing Factor D Class at 5:05 p.m. July 21 after nearly 27 hours, 16 minutes on Lake Huron, but it was overtaken based on corrected time by Karma Police, which finished at 6:18 p.m.

"We led them until the last 15 miles," Saxton said. "That boat on point of sail is extremely fast and we just couldn't hold them off. That's an example where we were in their air and they were able to trump us there."

"In the first part of the race, we were faster and had more water line. We were upwind and it was rougher, so we put a fair amount of time on them. But they had their conditions from Alpena in."

"We were still in first for probably half that distance, but they were eating away at that pretty fast. They averaged two to three knots faster for that whole stretch. That's a smaller boat, but very fast off the wind."

In sailboat racing, especially on the Great Lakes where the winds might shift direction and speed frequently, a lot can change in a hurry, according to Saxton. Furthermore, the handi-



Vortices, with its spinnaker catching the wind, nears the finish line in the Port Huron to Mackinac Island race July 21.

cap system is the great equalizer, he added.

Saxton's boats have caught up and overtaken others, just as Karma Police did. That was the case on Lake Superior, when Vortices passed several bigger boats in the right wind conditions.

"It's not one race; it's multiple races," he said. "All of a sudden, the air fills in behind you and everybody comes up to you. The fleet can get compressed in sailboat racing."

"It's part luck and part skill because, in the end, Mother Nature can trump all that. That's just the reality of it."

In the Chicago to Mackinac race, "We were 12 miles ahead of a boat much like us. We sat in (still) air for an hour and

a half and they sailed right up to us. You can park somewhere and everybody catches up. You lose the handicap and are in tough shape."

Saxton, 54, has been part of racing crews from the time he "was a kid," but he got serious about racing his own boat in 2004 and bought Vortices in 2010.

He's also taken the boat out East to compete in the Newport (R.I.) Bermuda Race on the Atlantic Ocean. Vortices was third in its class last year. Saxton plans to go back in 2014 instead of doing the Port Huron to Mackinac.

"Typically, all sailors have it on their bucket lists," he said, adding the ocean systems are more consistent.

"On the Great Lakes, if you're not in a strong system, every piece of real estate, shoreline, daytime and night-time heating and cooling, all provide their own type of circumstance. It's much harder racing when it comes to staying fast and getting up the lake."

"In the ocean, the wind blows a lot more consistently and you can plan around it. Whereas, on the Great Lakes, there's so much influence over the course. Between that and the handicap system, you have boats winning races that are not particularly rocket fast."

Saxton added the weather for all three of the races on the Great Lakes was quite reasonable, however. The winds ranged from five to 20 knots, which constitutes pretty good sailing, he said.

"We had a fair amount of racing upwind, which takes a little longer and is a little rougher, but I can't say any of the conditions were bad," Saxton said. "They were pretty good sailing days and there were no big thunderstorms. Those things can cause some grief."

"Anytime you're sailing in the lakes and you're offshore, it re-

quires you paying attention. I don't think of it as being hazardous, but paying attention, needing the right safety equipment and being out there with the right crew."

Vortices has a good one, led by Riley, who has sailed regularly with Saxton for eight years. The crew has a combined Bayview Mackinac experience of approximately 150 races.

"Typically, watches are three hours off and six hours on," Saxton said. "Some guys have been on other boats that have done extensive ocean racing. We have a very, very experienced crew. They're probably all better at it than me."

"They're great racers. There can be some challenges, having 10 people on a boat for 250 miles, but we just don't have those issues. It was a nice trip up the lake. That's the way I'd put it."

OTHER AREA BOATS: Other Observers and sailors who participated in the Port Huron to Mackinac Island race were (with their boats and results) — Tim Clayton, Farmington Hills, Unplugged, second, PHRF C Class; Jim Weyand, Livonia, Chico 2, fifth, PHRF D Class; Paul Lee, Farmington Hills, Genesis, third, PHRF F Class; Charles Blaty, Farmington Hills, Days End, sixth, PHRF H Class; Darrell Cope, Plymouth, Limerick, third, Cruising B Class; John Gabriel, Farmington Hills, Phoenix, fourth, Cruising B Class; Art Poppert, Farmington Hills, Kismet, sixth, Cruising C Class. All sailed the Shore Course except Clayton, who followed the longer Cover Island Course.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page B1

young people taking part in sport in the world, according to the ICG's website.

"More than anything, I'm looking forward to playing against teams from other countries," said Dakota Mahkime-tass, a sophomore-to-be at Garden City High School. "I know the other teams will be pretty good, but I think we'll be able to compete with them. Our team is really coming together."

Mahkime-tass will be joined on the roster by fellow GCHS students Alex Centofanti, Tyler Kelly and Kyle Wladyskiak, all of whom were teammates on the Michigan Strategy travel baseball team this past summer.

Canton resident Ryan Radwan, who will be a sophomore at Dearborn Divine Child, and Bloomfield Hills resident Troy Saruna also received special invitations to compete on the team, which will also include players from Southfield, Dearborn Heights and Dearborn.

Wladyskiak will be pulling double duty this week, as he is also a member of the Garden City High School varsity football team.

"The thing I'm looking forward to the most is playing against Japan, because they always have great baseball teams," Radwan said. "Winning is important, but I think the overall experience will be the coolest thing about this tournament."

The Detroit team was assembled and will be coached by Craig Cotter, an assistant baseball coach at Divine Child and

owner of the Batter's Box in Dearborn Heights.

"The International Children's Games are held in an Olympics-type setting — baseball is just one of several sports offered — so it will be a great experience for the boys and the coaches," Cotter said. "With the site being so close this year, it worked out well for us. Another coach whose team trains here is involved in bringing athletic events to Detroit and he asked me if I'd be interested in putting a team together."

"We invited players from the Michigan Strat-

egy travel team and the Michigan Bulls and there are a few who I coached at Divine Child. The nice thing about it is that every player already knew at least three other players, so even though we didn't come together for the first time until Aug. 1, there's already a lot of chemistry. We knew what each kid could do individually, but you never know how they're going to blend as a team. So far, it's been outstanding."

The squad has already proven it should be a tough out once the first pitch is thrown Thursday in Windsor. In a pair of

scrimmages, Cotter's contingent upended a team of older players, 20-5, before tying a high-end 17U team, 6-6.

"It's been really cool to see how well they're meshing so quickly," Cotter said. "Our biggest strengths are going to be our team speed and our chemistry."

The team will play round-robin games Thursday and Friday. The semifinals are set for Saturday, with the medal games slated for Sunday morning.

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HAEGER

Continued from Page B1

straight out of CC by the Chicago White Sox, has had a taste of the majors, including stints with the White Sox (2006), San Diego (2008) and the L.A. Dodgers (2010).

Haeger has appearing in 34 major league games, including 83 innings pitched in 10 starts while sporting a 2-7 record.

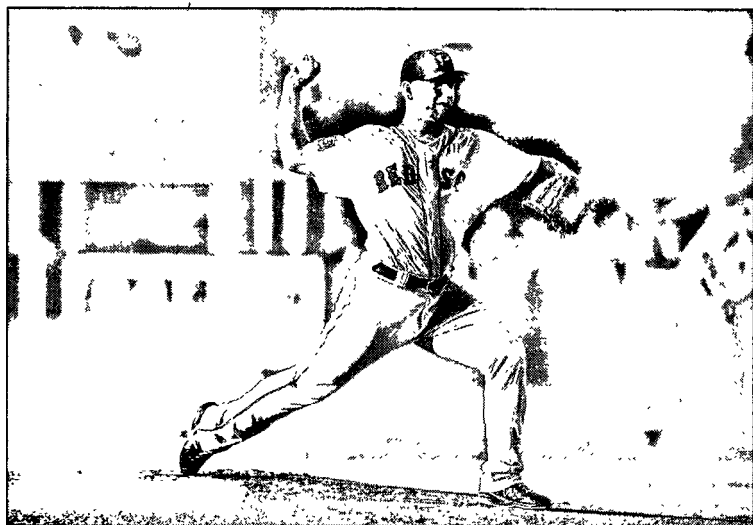
Double move

After being signed in the off-season by the Red Sox, Haeger began 2013 in Pawtucket, but was sent back to Double-A Portland, where he went 4-4 with a 3.99 ERA, including 70 innings pitched with 56 strikeouts and 43 walks.

And in the midst of a four-day All-Star break in early July, Haeger unexpectedly was on the move again.

He was playing golf near Manistee (at Arcadia Bluffs) with his brother Greg, the longtime Madonna University baseball coach, when he was summoned back to Pawtucket to make an emergency start in a game at Lehigh Valley (Pa.).

"We were on hole 15 or something and I got a call saying, 'You're pitching tomorrow,'" Haeger said. "That's just part of the gig. I had to take a 6 a.m. flight and a couple of hour layover in Philadelphia and I didn't get in until 1:30 (a.m.). I had about two hours sleep and had to pitch that night."



Charlie Haeger has bounced back from Tommy John surgery to play for the Triple-A Pawtucket Red Sox. JILLIAN SOUZA

In nine Triple-A starts this season in Pawtucket, Haeger is 3-3 with a 5.29 E.R.A. In 51 innings, he has 40 strikeouts and 31 walks.

But the Plymouth native remains upbeat, despite the ups and downs.

"I've been happy with the way my body has been responding to throwing every five days," Haeger said. "After Tommy John, and with rehab, you really can't lift or work out because the rehab routine is a little different."

"All in all this year, I think it's been OK. It's been a good first year back as far as being physically in shape and not having any problems with my arm. I guess I'm pleased, but obviously, like any pitcher, you want better results no matter

who you are."

Golf a passion

On Monday, Haeger took advantage of a rare off-day to play golf with some of his teammates in Newport, R.I.

"I really enjoy it (golf)," Haeger said. "It takes my mind off baseball. It's a good outlet to get away and still be able to use those competitive juices when I'm out there. It's fun."

"The last couple of off seasons, I've been down in Tampa. It's easier to play golf down there in the winter than it is in Michigan."

After he finishes the 2013 season, Haeger will become an unrestricted free agent. He will weigh his options and is considering playing winter ball in the Dominican League,

which runs from mid-October through the end of December.

"With most of the free agents, they don't try to regulate what they do in the off-season, especially myself," Haeger said.

"They kind of leave it up to me. My agent called me today. You can make decent money. As of right now, I'm going to play. We'll see."

And Haeger said he wouldn't mind remaining property of Boston.

"If they offer me a good contract for next year, I'd like to stay," he said. "It's a good organization. They've done some great things this year. They have some really talented players in their minor leagues and, obviously, the big league team is doing very well. I'd like to stay here if offered."

"It's been good and hopefully I have four or five more starts left, try and have five more good ones and get that earned-run average down a little lower and hopefully get a job next year. We'll see."

Other examples

Haeger, who throws the knuckler 85 percent of the time, hopes he can mirror some of the success enjoyed later in life by another famous Boston knuckler, Tim Wakefield, who recently retired after spending 17 years with the Red Sox while winning 200 games. Wakefield now is a part-time announcer with the club.

"I haven't talked to him

much," Haeger said. "We talked in spring training a little bit. Occasionally I'll get a message from him through someone else, one of our pitching coaches or pitching coordinator. I'd like to play some golf or get together with him."

When he was with the Dodgers, Haeger was able to tap into another famous knuckler in Charlie Hough.

"He helped me out a ton," Haeger said. "He has so much knowledge on the pitch. He's done it 25 years in the big leagues and that's impressive in itself. I've been doing it for a long time now, so at least I feel I have a small portion of it figured out."

Although the fraternity of knucklers is small, Haeger knows he still has a lot of time remaining.

At age 37, the Mets' R.A. Dickey (now with Toronto) started the All-Star Game and captured the coveted 2012 Cy Young Award with a 20-win season.

"I'm hoping I fit that bill," Haeger said. "I'm hoping I can get my big break. I feel like the ball is coming out of my hands pretty well right now. I want to finish this season strong and we'll go from there. Obviously, getting back to the big leagues and being able to stick ... I don't think I would have had the surgery if I didn't think I could still do it."

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COLLEGE SOCCER PREVIEW

Zathey gives MU men's soccer a makeover

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

First-year coach Mark Zathey's outlook on the 2013 Madonna University men's soccer continues to evolve each and every day.

Practice has already begun, but the roster is far from set with the season opener just around the corner on Friday, Aug. 23 at home against Cleary College.

"It's been a bit of a storm that way as far as figuring out personnel and where they're going to fit," said Zathey, a Livonia native who was named MU's new coach last March after Eric Scott (22-24-7 three-year record) resigned to take the Albion College women's job.

"We're working on the personnel, going to a shape and figuring out a system where every one is going to play."

If there's one thing that's a for cause of concern, it's that the Crusaders can certainly use some scoring.

According to Zathey, one of the team's leading returning goal scorers, Doug Beason (nine goals, three assists), could not meet eligibility require-



Boudreau



Zathey

ments heading into his senior year.

The Crusaders also lost first-team All-WHAC pick Joe Carver, who tallied nine goals, to graduation, along with honorable mention All-WHAC selection Dan Laird (Farmington Harrison), who added with 27 points (six goals, nine assists).

Also lost to graduation was Cayle Lackten from last year's 7-9-2 squad, which finished 3-5-2 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Freshman Amadou Cisse (Willow Run), a native of Guinea, may have to pick up the slack immediately at forward.

"He's young, he's only 17," Zathey said. "He's an attacking player, real raw, good pace and good on the ball, but we're just looking for experience in terms of him moving off the ball, composure in front of the goalie, that type of stuff."

Senior midfielder-



Livonia native Brandon Hess, a senior midfielder from Detroit Catholic Central, returns for the Madonna University men's soccer team in 2013. TIM BUSCH | MU SPORTS INFORMATION

forward Brandon Hess, an All-WHAC Academic pick, has been nursing a sore groin in training camp, but could help jump-start the offense.

"We looking at him as an outside back or wide-mid," Zathey said. "He's got great pace, very fit."

Other leading returnees include junior left-back Ryan Williams (Auburn Hills Avondale), who started all 18 games and finished with two goals and three assists; senior left-back Derek Rosiek (Madison Heights

Bishop Foley), who started 16 games; junior defender Nick Peper (Northville), who started 17 games; sophomore midfielder Matteo Barsalona (Stoney Creek, Ontario), who logged all 18 games; and junior center-back Nicholi LaRocca (Clinton Township Chippewa Valley), who appeared in 17 games.

Also in the mix will be sophomore midfielder Colin Wilden (Rochester Stoney Creek); senior midfielder Jake Hodge (Canton/Schoolcraft Col-

lege); sophomore forward Mohammad Alwardi (Dearborn/Al Amal Indian School in Kuwait); and senior forward Gavin Kelly (Schoolcraft College).

Also returning from an injury, which kept him out all last season, is senior red shirt defender Franco Giorgi (Windsor, Ontario).

Meanwhile, the goalkeeping spot is up for grabs between sophomore John Boudreau (Livonia Stevenson), who started 11 games with one

shutout and a 1.25 goals against average, along with Matt Smolinski (Troy), a Vardar Academy member, and 24-year-old German Marcel Schmid.

"He (Boudreau) be in the mix, but Matt and Marcel are very, very good," Zathey said.

Zathey, who will be assisted this season by former Spring Arbor University head coach Eric Rudland, said he hopes to clear a few more players before the start of the season, including one possible addition from Kenya.

"There's a lot of different ways we can play based on depth of the roster right now," said Zathey, who was the MU women's coach (2001-05). "We're just trying to get all this eligibility stuff done until we get a little more of a black-and-white picture as far as who's in and who's not."

"I think our goalkeeping will be sound. We seem pretty strong on the backline. We got a lot of depth in the midfield. And who is going to be coming in scoring – essentially – is the question mark. That's where I'm hoping a Kenyan can come in and help us."

Swish! Kids sharpen their skills at basketball camp

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

There's one telltale sign that Dominique Washington looks for to make sure his latest youth basketball camp hit the mark.

"When you come to camp, you come as an individual," Washington said. "By week's end, you start becoming a better teammate. That's when you start to see more passing going on, not as much 'Hey, I'm open' stuff that little kids do."

There were more than 30 youngsters between ages 7-14 on tap last week at High Velocity Sports in Canton for five mornings of drills and delight.

Instructors included Washington — head boys basketball coach at Plymouth Christian Academy — and former professional players Troy Coleman and Darien Bryum.

All are part of the Triple Threat Training staff, which is based out of High Velocity.

Of course, there has to be some fun-filled moments along with the instruction to make the week worthwhile for campers such as 13-year-old Julia Arapoff of Plymouth.

"I really liked it," Arapoff said. "It was lots of fun and you learned a lot."

Arapoff, who attends and plays girls basketball at West Middle School, sprinted up and down the floor during Friday's late-morning scrimmage trying to get away from the defense of Canton's Davia Smith.

That matchup could be a precursor to the coming season since Smith, also 13, plays at Discovery Middle School.

They were playing in one of three simultaneous cross-court scrimmages going on, loosely divided into age groups.

There were some tweaks to the lineups as coaches got a better bead on who could do what.

In fact, Novi's Allan Watatani was so good in his original group that Washington said he had to "graduate" him.

"He moved up (to the older age group) during the week," Washington noted. "He just dominated the kids over there so we moved him up and he's pretty much dominated the kids over here, too."

The basics count

Scrimmages followed all-important daily lessons learned in various stations from defense to layups.



Basketball camp instructors (standing, from left) Troy Coleman and Dominique Washington talk to youngsters about what they learned from that morning's stations at High Velocity Sports in Canton. ALL PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



Plymouth's Julia Arapoff, 13, participates in drills during Friday's High Velocity youth basketball camp.



Bryce Henderson, 13, of Canton, puts everything he can into this running drill on the final day of basketball camp.

"We make sure that when they scrimmage they can put it all together," Washington said. Arapoff said she liked the stations, too. Which was her favorite?

"Probably the dribbling, because everyone needs to know how to dribble well," she said, smiling. "That's how you play basketball."

After the last day of scrimmages, instructors doled out participation certificates and various prizes to those who nailed activities during the week.

"It's teaching the fundamentals to these kids," Washington said. "A lot of these kids are first-time basketball players. So our goal is to get them to like the sport."

"It may not be what I do with my high school team. But again, it's getting the kids' interest by making sure they're having fun, getting on top of learning the fundamentals, things they're going to need to learn if they're going to pursue the game further down the line."

With the camp officially having concluded, 13-year-old Bryce Henderson of Canton walked by and slapped hands with the coach.

It was a non-verbal "Thanks, coach, see you next time."

Yes, Washington's camp is on target indeed.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

True blue: George decides to stay with Madonna baseball

He can't fit Plymouth High School position into busy schedule

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

As much as Mike George enjoyed his brief stint as interim baseball coach at Plymouth High School, it wasn't enough to tug enough at his heartstrings.

In fact, the Livonia resident and business owner — who started Madonna University's baseball program from scratch in the late 1980s — can almost look out his front



George

window and see MU's pristine Ilitch Ballpark.

"I still have a lot of Madonna blue in me," said George Friday, after deciding not to officially apply for the still-vacant Wildcats post. "I really would have been spreading myself too thin."

Friday was the deadline for coaching hopefuls to turn in their applications.

George continues as a "full-time volunteer assistant" on the coaching staff of veteran Madonna head coach Greg Haeger. He left the Crusaders in 1996 to go into the restaurant business and returned to assist Haeger in 2002.

The owner of Coach's Corner and George Murphy's at the Creek thought long and hard all summer about an invitation from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools co-athletic director Tom Wil-

lette to come back for the 2014 season.

Had he taken the Plymouth job, that would have meant either leaving Haeger's staff or not being with the high school team for a good chunk of April and May due to his duties with MU.

"That was it in a nutshell," said George, about not being able to do both coaching jobs.

"There's a two-week overlap" when Madonna would have been going to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference playoffs, possibly followed by the NAIA regionals.

"It would be really hard to ask kids to buy in (to his program) if I'd up and be gone for two weeks or more. I thought the best thing would be not to do it."

George, however, praised the Plymouth players who welcomed him and another MU assistant coach (Stu Rose) to lead the Wildcats following the resignation of head coach Bryan Boyd.

"It's unfortunate they (players) got caught up in a divorce," George noted.

"They were awesome, the way they welcomed us into the dugout. They bought in to what we were trying to do the last couple weeks there."

"It speaks volumes to how good those kids are."

And although he won't be back in the Plymouth dugout next spring, George said he is optimistic the Wildcats will be a team to be reckoned with next season.

"It was a great opportunity," he added. "They have a program that I think has a huge upside to it. But the best thing for those kids is to have a full-time coach."

Miracle League still needs 'buddies' for fall season

Saturday marks the opening of another season of the Miracle League of Plymouth, but the organization is still looking for "buddies" to step up to the plate.

There also is a need for umpires and game day helpers for the seven-weekend MLP fall season, which runs through Saturday, Oct. 5 at the Bilkie Family Field (357 Theodore St., behind Central Middle School).

Buddies are volunteers who are always there for the Miracle League players — children with special needs who have the opportunity to play baseball thanks to the program and those who give their time to it.

According to the MLP

website, each buddy is assigned to a player and helps him or her in every situation pertaining to the game. That entails: accompanying a player around the field and in the dugout; pushing a wheelchair or running along side of a player from base to base; assisting with positioning to play the field safely.

Most importantly, according to the website: "A buddy is a friend: A buddy makes an effort to get to know their player as an individual and who they are as a person."

For more information on volunteering: send an email to: info@miracleleagueplymouth.org; or contact Debra Madonna at debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org.

YOUTH SPORTS TRYOUTS

9U Bulldogs

Tryouts for the 9-and-under 2014 Michigan Bulldogs will be from 3-5 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 17 and from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18 at Livonia's Bicentennial Park (field No. 2), located at Seven Mile and Wayne roads.

For more information, visit www.michiganbulldogsbaseball.com; or email michiganbulldogsbaseball@gmail.com.

RU boys soccer

Redford Union High School boys soccer tryouts will be

5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Aug. 15-16, at MacGowan Elementary School.

Players should bring water, shin guards, cleats and running shoes.

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

Livonia church gives backpacks to needy families

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia will give away 300 backpacks to the public from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 17.

"Our congregation is recognizing the need to reach out to people in our community in Jesus' name and trying to fit where people's basic needs are. We want to be able to help children and we thought this was one of the best ways to do that," said Linda Hollman, outreach director. "Our parameters are if you are needy, you're welcome."

Hollman encourages parents to bring their children to the event to select a backpack in their favorite color. Each backpack is stuffed with school supplies, including scissors, notebooks, pens, pencils, an eraser, a pencil sharpener, folders, a pencil box, and a bookmark.

The congregation also made beaded bracelets for each backpack recipient. The beads represent Christian concepts such as sin, baptism, and eternal life.

Hollman said parents and their children should enter the church complex through the gym entrance.

In addition to the 300 backpack giveaway on Saturday, the church also plans to distribute 50 backpacks to Detroit-area congregations and will send 150 backpacks overseas.

"We are doing this because of our love for Jesus and we want to let his light shine through us," Hollman said.

For more information, visit christoursavior.org or call 734-522-6830.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:
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Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper • Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper



ADAMS, FRANCES JEAN

Age 86 of Plymouth, passed away on August 11, 2013. Loving wife of the late John A. Adams Sr. Beloved mother of Jeff (Colleen Gurczynski) Adams and Pamela (Jim) Mason. Preceded in death by daughter Sandra Adams Bessert and by son John A. Adams Jr. Proud grandmother of 5. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Funeral service Thursday, 10:00am at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main St., Plymouth. Visitation Wednesday from 4:00pm-8:00pm. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Calvary Baptist Church 43065 Joy Rd, Canton or the Arthritis Foundation.



BLACKWELL, DOROTHY LOU

Died from complications due to congestive heart failure on May 3, 2013 at Friendship Village in Kalamazoo. She was born on Feb. 22, 1922 in Burr Oak, Michigan, to Joseph and Eunice (Hanson) Cowles. Surviving are her three children, Susan Ramsey and Judith Myers of Kalamazoo and Robert Blackwell of Greer, SC, her grandchildren Elizabeth (Matt) Bird of Manhattan, Benjamin Ramsey of Chicago, Katharine (Chris) Okula of Los Angeles, Jessie Myers of Sacramento, and Andrea, Catherine, Rachel, Caroline and Samuel Blackwell of Greer, as well as her great-granddaughter Lily Bird of Manhattan, as well as many nieces and nephews of various degrees. Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband of twenty-one years Lester Robert, by her parents, sisters Helen and Thelma and brothers Elmer and Paul. One of two girls to graduate from Burr Oak High School in her year, Dorothy went to Detroit to live with her sister Helen and met Bob roller skating. They became engaged while he was in India during WWII, and lived in Detroit during the first years of their marriage, moving to Livonia in 1962. Left a young widow by her husband's death from pancreatic cancer, Dorothy resolutely worked her way from retail positions to working at Stevenson High School to her ultimate position as an aide at Livonia's Sandburg Library, putting three children through college in the process. She moved to California to live with her daughter Judy in 1998, and for years maintained her interest in reading, gardening, knitting and, always, crossword puzzles. When she fell and broke a hip in 2012 she returned to Kalamazoo, where, after various trials, she passed away the morning of May 3. She will be missed by us all. Memorial donations in Dorothy's honor may be made to The Burr Oak Township Library, Burr Oak, Michigan. A memorial service will be held at the Burr Oak United Methodist Church at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 24, with the interment following.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

BROWN, EMILY (NEE HALICKI)

Age 105, August 11, 2013. Dear friend of Tom Koikos. Preceded in death by her husband, Robert M.; siblings, Arthur, Evelyn and Leonard Halicki, Esther Barak and Eleanor Goddard. Arrangements by the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home 734-422-6720.



HOFFMEYER, GLENN 'PETE'

87 departed to meet God and his loved ones on August 7th 2013. He was surrounded by his lovely bride Marge of 66 years, and his loving family. An awesome dad to John (Joyce), Ron (Linda), Karin (Randy), Bryan, Pat (Kim) and Mike (Mary). Dearest son of the late Arthur and Ella, loving brother to the late Jerry, Les, Whitey, and survived by his sister Lorraine. He was a wonderful, loving papa to 21 grand children and 24 great grand children. Pete attended Clarenceville Schools, was a WWII Veteran and was retired from Ford Motor Co. Pete loved spending time with his family fishing, golfing and bowling, he also enjoyed spending time up in Escanaba and winters at their Palm Harbor Florida home. He will be remembered as a kind, respectful, caring person and had touched many lives and they are better off for having had the privilege of knowing him.



NICHOLS, DEWEY D.

73, of Farmington Hills, died August 12, 2013. Dewey is the beloved father of Chris, Matt and James; loving grandfather of Sam; and brother of Don, Denver, Danny, Neal and Lloyd Nichols and Sharon Sloan. Sadly he was preceded in death by siblings, Monteen Thompson, Charlie and Clyde Nichols. Funeral Service Friday, August 16, 12P.M. at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btwn. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington 248-474-5200. Visitation Thursday 2-9 pm. Private interment Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Memorial gifts suggested to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, jdrf.org.

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COLE, ROGER JACK

August 12, 2013; Age 77. Beloved husband of Margaret. Dear father of Nancy (Scott) Arlen, Leslie (Jim) Willoughby and Kelly (Brian) Zahn. Brother of Howard (Linda) Cole, also survived by eight grandchildren. Memorial visitation Saturday at 11 a.m. From the Chapel of L.J. Griffin Funeral Home 42600 Ford Rd. (W. of Lilley) until time of the Memorial Service at 12:30. Memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated.

Share a memorial tribute with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

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HAINLEY, MAGGIE J.

August 9, 2013, age 85 of Westland. Loving mother of Thomas, Joseph (Jennifer) and Kimberly. Proud grandmother of six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Dear sister of Margie Hinkle. Funeral Services were held at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road, Westland. Memorial contributions may be made to Michigan Humane Society.

To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

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Website: www.spip.org
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For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

LOCAL BAND MIXES POWER POP, COUNTRY TWANG IN NEW CD

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Jeremy Porter has always played an acoustic set for his gigs at the Plymouth Coffee Bean.

But this Friday the hometown singer/songwriter will turn up the juice.

"For the first time we'll do an electric set. We'll tone it back. We won't blow the windows out of the place. We're going to do a restrained version. Usually we're a pretty rowdy, fast band, but it wouldn't be appropriate to do there. It's not that kind of room. We're not going to scare anyone away. It will be at an appropriate volume," Porter said.

The concert starts at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman, in downtown Plymouth; (734) 454-0178. Emily Rose opens the show, followed by Jeremy Porter & The Tucos.

"The Coffee Bean is a cool place. It's all ages, it's an earlier show, there's no alcohol and it's an artist-friendly environment. We don't play



Jeremy Porter & The Tucos perform Friday, Aug. 16, at the Plymouth Coffee Bean.

around Detroit often. We haven't played this part of the state since May. It's always been a tough market for us. We do better outside of Detroit, but we still like to play here."

The band's all-acoustic concert at the Plymouth Coffee Bean in May 2012 yielded a CD of five songs recorded in concert, *Live and Acoustic at the Plymouth Coffee Bean*.

Since releasing their new CD, *Partner in Crime*, earlier this year, Porter, bass player Jason Bowes of Livonia and drummer Gabriel Doman of Dearborn, have performed mostly at bars, nightclubs, as well as at a few theaters and summer festivals in and out of Michigan.

"This band has more of that country feel to it mixed in with the power

pop stuff," Porter described their music. "I've always been a fan of country music, Americana and alternative country."

But it was a Christmas song that brought the trio together in late 2011. Porter, who has played with local bands such as Slug Bug, the Offramps and Budrych, over the years, went solo in 2010. After releasing the solo



Jeremy Porter & The Tucos released "Partner in Crime" a mix of pop rock and country twang.

acoustic CD, *Party of One*, he toured nationwide, but began to miss the camaraderie of playing with other musicians.

When Suburban Sprawl Music invited him to participate in its annual compilation of Christmas music, he asked Doman and Bowes to record with him.

Road trips

"I knew I wanted to do it with a band. For me, it was an excuse to get down into the studio in the fall and come up with something and it was a great catalyst to get a band together."

The band recorded a holiday tune for Suburban Sprawl's website

and "three weeks later we were playing our first show," Porter said.

"It was clear we were all on the same page musically. We were having fun. We got off to a good start. I knew I wanted to travel more with this band, so we did road trips."

Porter, who is married and works in web development for an automotive supplier, tours on weekends or takes brief week-day trips.

The band spent most of last year in the studio working on *Partner in Crime*, but has toured extensively since then, promoting the CD.

"We're going to Canada next month and we have shows booked in October and November. I'd love to do something overseas at some point, but we have no concrete plans in place."

Look for a new single, *Plan B*, to be released by the group in September. Like *Partner in Crime*, it will be on the Detroit-based New Fortune Records label.

Visit the band's website at www.thetucos.com for information.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ARTS, CRAFTS 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. Sun-

days; storytelling, performances; free with admission

Exhibits: Printmaking by Ellsworth Kelly, through Sept. 8

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

GALLERY @ VT

Time/Dates: Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances and by appointment. Upcoming

exhibit runs through Aug. 28

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

Details: The Canton Historical Society shows photos and artifacts

Contact: www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org; 734-394-5300

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Dates: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Aug. 30

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Collaboration and Continuum: The Carnival Photographs of Bill Rauhauser and Carlos Diaz," curated by Mary McNichols, Ph.D.

Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

DANCE

STARS OF RUSSIAN BALLET

Time/Dates: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17

Location: Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit

Details: Dancers from American Ballet Theatre, Berlin Ballet, Het Nationale Ballet, Mariinsky Theatre (Kirov Ballet), National Ballet of Ukraine, San Francisco Ballet and other companies perform classical dances and cutting-edge works. Tickets range from \$58-\$82.

Contact: michiganopera.org; ticketmaster.com

FILM

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Dates: Gates open at 7:30 p.m., with movies starting around 9:20 p.m., daily, through Sept. 1

Location: 14900 Beck between Five Mile and M-14, Plymouth Township

Details: Cost is \$10 for adults; \$8 for children, 4-12; kids 3 and under are admitted free of charge. Students with proper ID are admitted for \$8 Sunday through Thursday. Patrons listen to the movies on the FM band of their car radio

PENN THEATRE

Time/Dates: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 16-17, and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Unfinished Song," admission, \$3

Coming up: "Man of Steel," 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 24-25; "Monsters University," 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30, and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 31-Sept. 1; "The Internship," 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 6-7, and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8

Summer Matinee: "The Sound of Music," Aug. 15; "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," Aug. 22; "The Muppet Movie," Aug. 29. Movies run at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Dates: 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24

Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: "Jaws," with Richard Dreyfuss and Roy Scheider, \$5

Contact: 313-537-2560



Night Ranger closes out the free music series on the Detroit Riverfront, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16.

HISTORICAL PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Dates: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: The current exhibit, B4TV, highlights leisure activities that families and individuals engaged in before television. The exhibit runs through Nov. 10. Admission \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17

Contact: www.plymouth-history.org; 734-455-8940

MUSIC

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Dates: 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 email to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Dates: 7:30-10 p.m. every Monday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic for music and poetry

Friday and Saturday featured artist: Jeremy Porter & The Tucos, Friday, Aug. 16; Mike Galbraith and Mike Anton, Saturday, Aug. 24; Sentimental Value, Saturday, Aug. 31. Featured performer concerts start at 8 p.m.

Contact: 734-454-0178

ROCKIN ON THE RIVERFRONT

Time/Dates: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16

Location: GM Plaza on the Detroit riverfront

Details: Night Ranger wraps up this free concert series

Contact: www.facebook.com/RockinontheRiverfront

STARS IN THE PARK

Time/Dates: 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 15

Location: Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10

Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: FCB Big Band performs jazz and swing standards. Rainout site is the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Contact: 248-473-1848

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Dates: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Empty Chair Night, Sept. 8; Singers Sing Seger Songs Tribute with John D. Lamb, Dave Edwards, Al Jacquez, Charlie Springer and Bob Monteleone, Sept. 13; The Yellow Room Gang featuring Mustard's Retreat, Annie Capps, Matt Watroba and Kitty Donohoe, Sept. 14; Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, Sept. 20; The Boogie Woogie Kid Matthew Ball, Sept. 21. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

Contact: 734-464-6302

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Dates: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Sisters Rebecca Timmons and Sarah Faix will appear in a cabaret concert with Rebecca Biber. Admission is a suggested donation of \$5.

Contact: www.canton-mi.org/village-theater; 734-394-5300

SOMETHING DIFFERENT CARNIVAL

Time/Dates: 5-11 p.m., Thursday-Friday, Aug. 15-16, noon-11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17 and noon-9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18

Location: Founders Park, located on Eight Mile, two miles east of I-275, in Farmington Hills

Details: Family Fun Fest Carnival will have everything from thrill rides to kiddie rides, midway games to food. Admission and parking are free. Ride tickets cost \$1 each or an all-day wristband for unlimited rides is available for \$18. Discount coupons for the wristbands, for \$14 on Thursday or Friday and \$16 on Saturday or Sunday, are available at more

See GET OUT, Page B7

Labor Day
Weekend!

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Actress from Northville stars in MTV's 'Awkward,' keeps local connections

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Northville native Jillian Rose Reed enjoys playing Tamara in the MTV high school hit *Awkward*.

"I love playing Tamara," the 21-year-old Los Angeles area resident said in a recent phone interview. "She's very different from me and she's also similar. She's been so much fun to play."

Reed is the daughter of Lisa Reed-Tucker and Robert Tucker. She was born in Hollywood, Fla., and moved with her family to Northville.

"I grew up at the Marquis Theatre doing all the plays," she was about 12 when they moved to California and she came back to Northville for the early part of high school at Northville High.

"I wanted to have the experience," said Reed, whose family has a vacation-type home still in Northville.

Her acting began at age 7 with playing Charlotte in *Charlotte's Web*, following dance lessons at a younger age. By 12, Reed had been in some 27 musicals or plays in Michigan.

She also did commercial work, including for the Ford Motor Co. Reed graduated from Options for Youth Charter School in the L.A. area.

Her mom owned Michael's Angel Attic in downtown Northville, selling the business when they relocated.

'No other option'

"As a career, there was really no other option for me," said Reed, who loves TV and film work and didn't want to try New York City. "I chose L.A. to kind of broaden my horizons."

In Michigan, she was

more the big fish in the little pond. "It's so completely different," she said of L.A. "There's a lot to learn and a lot of rejection. I stuck to it and I really applied myself."

Her family is very helpful. "I am so lucky. My family is so supportive." Her mom points out other moms drive kids to soccer and she did that kind of thing in California for acting.

Reed's TV work began with an appearance around age 14 on Nickelodeon's *Zoey 101*.

"They actually cut my lines out," recalled Reed, who'd told many people she knew to watch. "I had to get used to that. Scripts change daily."

Awkward has some risqué moments, and Reed will sometimes tell her parents to watch on their own. "They understand it's TV and we're teenagers," she said of her "fun-loving family."

Awkward is filmed at a real high school and its creator visits her old school each year, talking to students for research. "It was really easy for her to write those scripts," Reed said.

Reed's family includes brothers, Matthew, 29, and Robbie Tucker, 12, with Robbie an actor. Matthew is in Michigan and got married recently.

"And I'm the girl in the middle," she said.

Matthew was diagnosed at age 18 with Type 1 diabetes. His family got a lot of help from the American Diabetes Association and now does charitable work for its Los Angeles chapter.

"It's a really great feeling for me to be able to give back," Jillian Rose Reed said.

Awkward is on many Best of 2011 TV Lists, including *Variety*, *USA Today*, *Huffington Post*,

The New York Times and *Time*. It'll resume its third season in October with 10 episodes and was just renewed for a fourth season.

Reed recently wrapped up production on an MTV film *My Super Psycho Sweet 16: Part 3* as best friend Sienna. She's been on Showtime's *Weeds* as Shane's friend Simone.

She keeps up with Michigan friends through social media: "I feel like social media is so great in that way. Everyone has been really supportive of me."

Local mentor

At the Marquis in downtown Northville, owner Inge Zayti, who recently died, and her daughter were a big help to Reed.

"She lived a very ful-

filled life," Reed said of the late Zayti. "She provided me with a second home and a family." Reed fell in love with acting at the Marquis.

Reed was recently back here for Plymouth's Art in the Park, a family tradition. "We can't really have Christmas without snow," she said of their yuletide visits.

She may be able to get back to Michigan sooner for cider mills, fall leaves, "everything about Michigan that's so wonderful. We'll see, maybe I'll make it back sooner than Christmas."

Leaving friends and school was a challenge when she was younger. "I found that I fell in love with L.A. fast," said Reed, who will stay there to pursue her career.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



Jillian Rose Reed, a Northville native, plays Tamara on MTV's *Awkward*. VINCENT SANDOVAL PHOTOGRAPHY

GET OUT

Continued from Page B6

than 200 merchants in Farmington Hills or at the Costick Center. Pre-sale discounted carnival tickets are also available at www.elliottsamusements.com.

Contact: www.fhgove.com or call the carnival hotline at 248-755-0433

CAR CRUISE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25

Location: Hines Drive from Outer Drive to Ann Arbor Trail

Details: Wayne County Parks Cruisin' Hines draws approximately 40,000 classic cars and hot rods. Hines Drive is closed to regular traffic during the Cruise. Cruisers must enter Hines Drive from Merriman. All spectators can enter at Merriman, Telegraph or the Warrendale picnic area in Dearborn Heights. Food concessions will be available at spectator areas

Contact: Wayne County Parks, 734-261-1990; www.cruisininhines.com or www.waynecounty.com

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Wednesday during the summer

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$12 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$9 for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking

Zoomance: Designed for the 21-and-older crowd, Summer Zoomance allows grown-ups to relive their fond memories of the Detroit Zoo while creating new ones during a twilight stroll among the animal habitats. The event will feature complimentary carousel rides, tram tours, animal enrichment and zookeeper talks. Blues guitarist and vocalist Laith Al-Saadi will perform, and food and adult beverages will be available for purchase. The event runs 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22, rain or shine. Admission is \$12 in advance and \$14 after Aug. 16. Parking is free for Detroit Zoological Society members and \$5 for nonmembers. Buy advance tickets online at www.detroitzoo.org.

Contact: 248-541-5717

MARSHMALLOW FLY AND FRY

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20

Location: Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Families can cook hot dogs and s'mores over the campfire, then watch more than 1,000 marshmallows fall from the sky. Also, enjoy the splash pad, play on the bouncer, check out the fire trucks, and more. Hot dogs, s'mores, and drinks will be available for a nominal fee. After dinner, kids line up and retrieve marshmallows dropped from the Fire Department ladder truck and then exchange them for goodies. Free admission. Sponsored by the City of Farmington Hills Department of Special Services, the Fire Department, LOC Federal Credit Union, and Busch's Fresh Food Market

Contact: 248-473-1800

THEATER FARMINGTON HILLS YOUTH PLAYERS

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8

Location: The Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Auditions for "Tarzan The Stage Musical," which will be performed Nov. 15, 17 and 22-24 with two casts performing on different dates. Actors cast in the show pay a registration fee and must attend a mandatory parent meeting from 7-8:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 23 at the Costick Center. Participants may drop in at any time during the audition hours. Auditions are open to both residents and non-residents. No prior preparation is necessary. Participants should bring a recent school photo with them to the auditions. All other materials will be supplied. Some preliminary materials will be available for review beginning Aug. 23 at WWW.fhgov.com/YouthTheatre.

Contact: The Cultural Arts Division at 248-473-1859

HENRY FORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23-24 and Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 29-31

Location: MacKenzie Fine Arts Auditorium, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn

Details: The college's Humanities and Social Science Division and Theatre Arts Department will present Eric Bogosian's "Drinking in America." Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$12 for faculty, students and seniors. Buy them online at theatre.hfcc.edu

Contact: 313-845-6478

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to learn more about advertising in Out on the Town!

GATHER AROUND THE GRILL

Nothing brings family and friends together like great food. Take time to gather everyone around the grill, share some fun and make memories this summer.

One person who knows a lot about feeding a crowd is TV personality and celebrity chef Aaron McCargo Jr., a winner of The Next Food Network Star and host of the Food Network's *Big Daddy's House*. Growing up with five siblings and raising three children of his own has taught McCargo about the importance of gathering people together for mealtime.

"Making meals for family and friends is easy, especially when there's a grill involved," McCargo said, "and grilling season is the perfect time to catch up over ketchup."

McCargo has teamed up with grilling staple, Heinz Ketchup, to develop tips and recipes for the ultimate cookout, including:

» Grill summer fruit such as mango, watermelon and pineapple, with a little salt, pepper and oil. Once off the grill, drizzle with fresh citrus juices, such as lemon or blood orange with a little extra virgin olive oil as an untraditional alternative to fruit salad.

» Keep hot and cold dishes temperature regulated and discard dishes sitting out for three hours or more.

» Wait until the last few minutes of grilling to slather on BBQ sauce, or else sugar will burn.

» Use tongs to turn food on the grill. Don't stick a fork in anything but your mouth.

» Soak wooden skewers in water for 30 minutes to prevent scorching; for metal, cover with oil to prevent sticking.

» If you forgot to brush your grill off after the last BBQ event, heat the grill to 450-500 degrees Fahrenheit with the lid closed. Open grill and

brush vigorously with wired grill brush for easy grill cleanup, then season with oil and start grilling.

» Be careful to check the date on your propane tanks before firing up the grill since tanks do expire. You can find the expiration date on the metal collar around the top of the tank. And be sure to always keep a backup when hosting a crowd.

» Place sweet potatoes, corn and onions directly on the coals and turn often for a roasted inside.

» Use apple juice to baste your BBQ. It adds flavor and gives meats a shiny glaze.

» When using wood to smoke, soak chips for three hours so they release the smoky flavor minus bitterness.

For more of Aaron McCargo Jr.'s recipes, tips and tricks for grilling season, visit www.facebook.com/HeinzKetchup.



TASTY EASY BEEF BRISKET

Servings: 1-2

¼ cup ketchup
¼ cup maple syrup
2 tablespoons diced shallots
1 tablespoon kosher salt
1 tablespoon black pepper
2 tablespoons smoked paprika
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
2 pounds beef brisket

For marinade, put all ingredients, except for beef brisket, in a storage container and shake well until mixed. Reserve ¼ cup of marinade. Pierce brisket with fork on both sides to allow marinade to penetrate meat. Place brisket in a bag with the marinade and make sure meat is well coated. Marinate brisket for 1-3 hours. Preheat grill to 350, or a medium high heat and preheat oven to 350. Grill brisket for 6-8 minutes each side. Wrap brisket in foil and bake in oven for 1 ½ hours. Remove brisket and brush with reserved marinade. Let rest for 3-5 minutes before slicing.



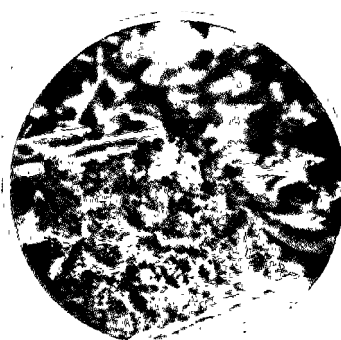
HONEY-GARLIC SCALLOP KABOBS

24 large sea scallops (about 2 pounds)
12 slices bacon
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon pepper
¼ cup ketchup
¼ cup honey
¼ cup soy sauce
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 ½ teaspoon minced garlic
12 skewers

Preheat grill to medium-high and grease lightly.

Cook bacon in a frying pan until beginning to crisp. Blot on paper towels. Pat scallops dry and season with salt and pepper.

Wrap each scallop with a half slice of bacon; thread 2 scallops onto each skewer. Stir ketchup with honey, soy sauce, lemon juice and garlic. Brush half of the sauce mixture over the scallops. Grill kabobs for 3 to 5 minutes per side or until cooked through. Baste with remaining sauce during cooking.



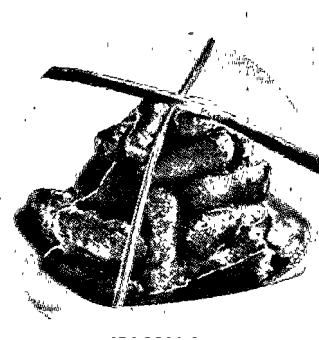
GRILLED PHILLY CHEESESTEAK

2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
1 cup shredded American sharp cheese
1 pound chipped steak meat chopped and cooked
1 cup diced sautéed onions
½ cup ketchup
2 tablespoons chopped dehydrated onions
½ teaspoon dried oregano
¼ teaspoon dried basil
½ teaspoon black pepper
4 pieces store-bought naan bread
2 tablespoons canola oil

Mix both cheeses and set aside.

Mix meat and onions and set aside. Mix ketchup, dehydrated onions, oregano, basil, and black pepper and set aside.

Lightly brush naan bread with oil and grill lightly on one side. Spoon equal amounts of ketchup mixture on crunchy side of naan, then spread equal amounts of cheese mixture then equal amounts of meat mixture. Place pizza oil side down on grill on low heat and cooked with lid closed for 2-4 minutes or until cheese is melted and bottom becomes slightly crispy. Remove, cut in desired pieces and serve.



ON THE GRILL JAVA MINI COCKTAIL FRANKS

14 ounce package mini smoked sausage (or smoked beef sausage cut into ½ pieces)
1 cup ketchup
1 tablespoon instant coffee
1 teaspoon cayenne
1 teaspoon black pepper
¼ cup brown sugar
¼ teaspoon cinnamon

Mix all ingredients except the franks in a small grill safe dish. Add franks then wrap dish with aluminum foil and cook on grill for 20-30 minutes or until bubbly hot.

Realtors extend market savvy to buyers, sellers

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Mary Vellardita bought her Westland condominium in May 2010, working with Realtor Noel Derr-Johnson of Century 21 Dynamic of Westland.

"I'd never consider buying a home without going through a licensed Realtor," said Vellardita, co-owner of C&M Printing and Imaging in Westland. Derr-Johnson was helpful in pinpointing properties, as well as giving advice on any issues with condo construction.

"It was just very helpful," said Vellardita, who had met her Realtor through Westland Rotary and the Westland Chamber of Commerce, and knew of her professional reputation.

"Find someone you enjoy working with," added Vellardita, noting your Realtor's personality should be a good fit with yours.

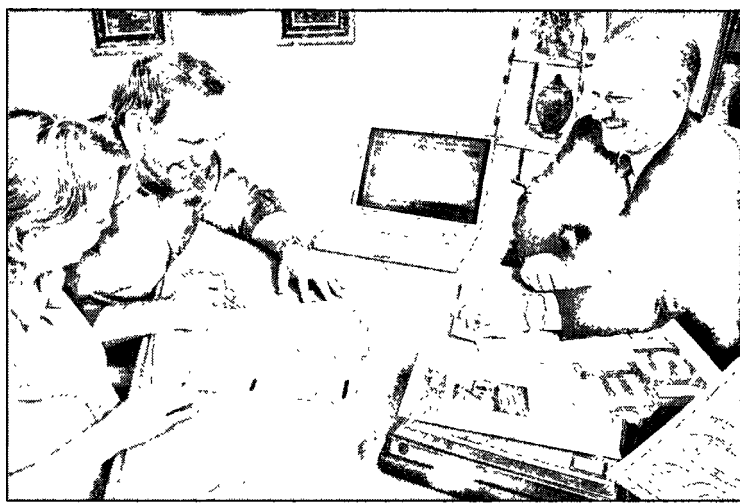
Buyers of all ages gain many benefits from working with a real estate professional, according to a recent survey by the National Association of Realtors. Among the age groups, younger buyers are more likely to want an agent's help understanding the home-buying process, presumably because many are buying a home for the first time. Younger buyers were most often referred to their agent by a friend, neighbor or relative whereas older buyers were increasingly likely to work with the same agent they previously used to buy or sell a home.

When it comes to choosing an agent, reputation was important to buyers of all ages; however, younger buyers more often cited an agent's honesty and trustworthiness as the most important factor compared to older buyers who most often cited the agent's knowledge of the neighborhood — perhaps because older buyers tend to move further distances and may have less familiarity with area.

The trends were noted in the recent NAR Home Buyer and Seller Generational Trends evaluation of generational differences of recent homebuyers and sellers.

The median down payment for Millennials was 5 percent, considerably less than older generations of buyers whose down payment ranged from 8 percent for Gen X buyers to 22 percent for Silent Generation (older) buyers. Younger buyers who financed their home purchase most often relied on savings for their down payment whereas older buyers were more likely use proceeds from the sale of a primary residence.

"An interesting finding is that Older Boomers and Silent Generation buyers found the mortgage application and approval process more difficult than expected compared to younger buyers,"



Buyers of all ages gain many benefits from working with a real estate professional, according to a recent survey by the National Association of Realtors.

said Paul Bishop, NAR vice president of research. "This underscores the ongoing challenges that many credit worthy home buyers face with today's tight credit standards."

The largest group of recent home sellers was from Generation X, comprising 30 percent of recent sales, followed by Younger Boomers (21 percent), Older Boomers (21 percent) and the Silent Generation (19 percent). As the age of sellers increased, the share of married and unmarried couples declined and the percentage of single female homebuyers increased, from 4 percent among Millennials to more than 17 percent among Boomer and Silent Generation sellers, perhaps due to death or divorce.

Like buyers, older sellers tend to move greater distances, and are more likely than younger generations to move out of the state or region. While younger buyers typically moved to larger, higher priced homes, the data shows a clear trend of downsizing to smaller, less expensive homes among the Older Boomer and Silent Generations.

Typically the older the seller the longer the tenure in the home, while Millennials had been in their previous home for a median of five years, Gen X-ers stayed eight years, Younger Boomers owned their home for 11 years, Older Boomers stayed for 13 years, and the Silent Generation kept their previous home for 15 years.

The reasons for selling a home also varied among the generations. Younger buyers were more likely to move to accommodate job relocation or desired to upgrade to a larger home. In comparison, older buyers were often looking for a smaller home due to retirement and because upkeep was too difficult due to health or financial limitations, or to be closer to family or friends.

When it comes to negotiating, older sellers are often more willing to reduce their home's asking price but are less

likely to offer buyer incentives such as home warranty policies or assistance with closing costs.

Of sellers working with real estate agents, the study found that older generations of buyers are more likely to use full-service brokerages in which agents provide a broad range of services. While more than two-thirds of Millennials used full-service brokerages, they were more likely than other generations to choose limited service, which includes discount brokerage, or minimal service, such as simply listing the home on a multiple listing service, presumably because they have less equity in their home.

Sellers of all ages typically found a real estate agent through a referral or friend; however, younger sellers were more likely to use the same real estate broker or agent for their home purchase, 59 percent of Millennials used the same agent compared to 42 percent of Older Boomer sellers.

Younger sellers typically want their selling agents help with selling the home within a specific time frame and pricing the home competitively, whereas older buyers are looking for their agent's help with marketing the home and finding a buyer.

NAR mailed an eight-page questionnaire in July 2012 to a national sample of 93,502 home buyers and sellers who purchased their homes between July 2011 and June 2012, according to county records and using the Tailored Survey Design Method. It generated 8,501 usable responses; the adjusted response rate was 9.1 percent. All information is characteristic of the 12-month period ending in June 2012 with the exception of income data, which are for 2011. Because of rounding and omissions for space, percentage distributions for some findings may not add up to 100 percent.

The NAR website contributed to this report.

Check out documents to determine your rights

Q: I live in a beautiful subdivision of detached condos but in a recent notice of the upcoming meeting, we were informed that the board has decided that because a few of the exterior light fixtures on some of our neighbors' homes are peeling; they want to replace all the fixtures at each homeowner's expense. A vote will be taken on the matter at the annual meeting. What do you think?

A: It all depends upon your documents. Presumably, the board can make this modification if the documents so allow and pass the costs onto the individual co-owners. On the other hand, it depends upon whether the documents require a vote of the co-owners and sometimes associations request a vote even if it is not required by the documents which may or may not be a good idea. Get your neighbors together and retain an attorney to check your rights.

Q: I heard Sicily, and in particular, Palermo, is a great place to retire. Is it affordable in terms of residential housing?

A: As with many big cities, living near the center of Palermo with its parks and boulevards can be very costly. However the recession and economic downturn in Europe has also affected pricing in Palermo and its suburbs. Real estate offices abound with the showcasing of homes frequently on the Internet. If you are looking for a home near a gorgeous beach town, look up Chefalu which looks like a French Riviera enclave, and is around 75 miles from Palermo and an hour by train or bus.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



Robert Meisner

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 8-12, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS					
31115 Pickwick Ln	\$365,000				
BIRMINGHAM					
659 Ann St	\$970,000				
848 E Lincoln St	\$180,000				
1570 Northlawn Blvd	\$478,000				
825 Norwich St	\$197,000				
1700 Pembroke Rd	\$156,000				
1171 Ruffner Ave	\$355,000				
1668 S Eton St	\$215,000				
1051 Woodlea St	\$314,000				
BLOOMFIELD HILLS					
4304 Antique Ln	\$280,000				
1411 Kensington Rd	\$485,000				
2830 Thedford Rd	\$390,000				
1745 Tiverton Rd Unit 24	\$150,000				

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 29 through May 3, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON		47573 Torrington Dr N	\$390,000	33134 Scone St	\$180,000	18498 Fox	\$33,000
43554 Amber Ct	\$160,000	1293 W Crystal Cir	\$187,000	14055 Sunbury St	\$18,000	19560 Olympia	\$49,000
47125 Ashley Ct	\$310,000	2012 Woodmont Ct	\$155,000	19632 Sussex Ave	\$237,000	9356 Sarasota	\$70,000
1373 Colonade Ct	\$425,000	GARDEN CITY		36301 Vargo St	\$136,000	19485 Seminole	\$24,000
3915 Cornerstone Dr	\$116,000	31751 Cambridge St	\$107,000	NORTHVILLE		11744 Tecumseh	\$78,000
46490 Creekside Ct	\$228,000	7006 Helen St	\$63,000	18999 Bella Vista Ct	\$322,000	9344 Winston	\$55,000
3455 Empire State Dr	\$248,000	31412 Hennepin St	\$45,000	17048 Boulder Dr	\$374,000	15962 Winston	\$43,000
43603 Emrick Dr	\$129,000	31763 Hennepin St	\$77,000	44415 Broadmoor Blvd	\$385,000	20572 Woodworth	\$26,000
50601 Federal Blvd	\$78,000	6635 Inkster Rd	\$38,000	15574 Dorchester Ct	\$577,000	12819 Wormer	\$29,000
50715 Federal Blvd	\$77,000	LIVONIA		16694 Dover Dr	\$145,000	WESTLAND	
50829 Federal Blvd	\$77,000	38651 Eight Mile Rd	\$252,000	17201 Lake View Cir	\$300,000	8721 August Ave	\$112,000
50981 Federal Blvd	\$78,000	20118 Angling St	\$35,000	16328 Mulberry Way	\$329,000	230 Carson Dr	\$90,000
51095 Federal Blvd	\$77,000	14901 Arcola St	\$147,000	39473 Springwater Dr	\$166,000	7370 Central St	\$15,000
4350 Forest Bridge Dr	\$200,000	11035 Arden St	\$167,000	17940 W Northville Trl	\$400,000	30605 Cooley Blvd	\$114,000
48377 Gyde Rd	\$540,000	11025 Berwick St	\$105,000	40067 Woodside Dr S	\$418,000	238 Fischer Dr	\$128,000
7006 Harvard Ln	\$40,000	13956 Cardwell St	\$98,000	PLYMOUTH		1731 Leslie St	\$65,000
4464 Hunters Cir E	\$77,000	9333 Eastwind Dr	\$143,000	12937 Andover Dr	\$297,000	451 N Harvey St	\$68,000
1069 Kings Ct	\$186,000	15158 Fairfield St	\$30,000	41427 Crabtree Ln	\$225,000	37600 N Rhead Cir	\$93,000
354 Kings Way	\$140,000	11126 Garden St	\$120,000	41218 Greenbriar Ln	\$190,000	37155 Norene St	\$110,000
44890 Lemont Rd	\$221,000	31290 Grandon St	\$150,000	41507 Greenbriar Ln	\$179,000	205 S Norma St	\$85,000
42420 Majestic Ct	\$187,000	15551 Ingram St	\$199,000	11511 Hillcrest Dr	\$310,000	1167 Shoemaker Dr	\$28,000
249 N Corrine Blvd	\$170,000	19714 Ingram St	\$127,000	44725 Lynn Dr	\$80,000	8425 Terri Dr	\$96,000
3942 Norwich Dr	\$180,000	16815 Inkster Rd	\$72,000	40669 Newport Dr	\$64,000		
		35912 Leon St	\$124,000	51391 Northview	\$265,000		

JOBS

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Help Wanted - General

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Day Shift

AWTEC (AW Transmission Engineering, Inc.), located in PLYMOUTH, is an award winning, industry leading automotive supplier, with a commitment to quality and equipment standards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry.

We are currently searching for an experienced Maintenance Technician for our facility. Responsibilities include performing start up and preventative maintenance on equipment, troubleshooting & repairing equipment, dismantling machines and replacing parts such as motors and pumps. Replacing fuses, junction boxes and performing basic electrical repairs. Fabricating and welding machine guards, conveyors and other items. Repairing and maintaining pneumatic and hydraulic systems. Repairing and maintaining heating and cooling systems. Assisting with new equipment installation and set-up. General building maintenance as necessary. The selected candidate must have good attendance, work ethic, attention to detail and a willingness to learn is mandatory. Applicants must also be a team player and have reliable transportation.

High school diploma and some prior manufacturing experience are preferred.

We offer competitive compensation and benefits that include:

- Starting wage depends upon skill level;
- 90 day evaluation;
- 100% company paid health/dental/optical;
- Vacation/holiday/sick pay;
- Tuition reimbursement;
- 401k with company match

Interested candidates should send their resume, cover letter, and salary expectations to:

AWTEC-HR
14920 Kael St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
Fax: 734-454-1091
E-mail: hrresumes@awtec.com

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Day Shift

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High school diploma and some prior manufacturing experience are preferred.

We offer competitive compensation and benefits that include:

- Starting wage depends upon skill level;
- 90 day evaluation;
- 100% company paid health/dental/optical;
- Vacation/holiday/sick pay;
- Tuition reimbursement;
- 401k with company match

Interested candidates should send their resume, cover letter, and salary expectations to:

AWTEC-HR
14920 Kael St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
Fax: 734-454-1091
E-mail: hrresumes@awtec.com

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Day Shift

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Help Wanted - Medical

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST
30-35 hrs/week. We are looking for a friendly, reliable person w/ some computer knowledge. Starting at \$10/hr. Please send resume to: vision@sony.com@hotmail.com

Ophthalmic Tech with Experience
Great benefits. Competitive wages. Fax resume: (248) 290-2780. Info@oakland.com

Food - Beverage

ALL STAFF: Bode's Corned Beef. Breakfast, lunch and dinner. Days & weekends. Plymouth: 734-644-1884

CASHIER
PT & FT
Std: 248-737-2414
248-660-4498

•COOKS •WAITSTAFF •BARTENDER Exp. a must. Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

GROCERY
Hiring for ALL POSITIONS

For our Plymouth and Northville stores and our new South Lyon location.

Apply online at: www.hilliers.com/employment

JOE'S PRODUCE GOURMET MARKET OPENINGS!!

Is currently taking applications for enterprising:

- Deli Counter Help
- Pastry - Closing Help
- Meat Counter
- Cashiers

Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED
Days, Part-Time, \$8-\$12/hr. Call between 8-5pm. (734) 394-0864

Housekeeping Help Needed
3-4 days a week. 8 hrs/day. White Lake area. Contact Lori or Joanna at: 248-478-4378. Resume to: lori.rohn@taronsoninsuranceagency.com

Position Wanted

IF YOU NEED YOUR HOME CLEANED CALL ME. Farmington, Bloomfield, Birmingham areas. 231-557-4015

Attorney & Legal Counsel

DIVORCE \$75.00
www.CSRdivorce.com
CS&R 734-425-1074

KENNY CHESNEY
(2) Tickets Aug. 17, Sect. 129, Row 8, Seats 9 & 10, \$150 for the pair. 734-620-4462

Part-Time/Seasonal Help
•Concessions •Food Prep
•Cooks •Cashiers
•Maintenance/Janitorial
•Parking Attendants
Apply Mon-Fri. 8-5 at: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River, Novi

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

Administrative Assistant
Immediate Opening Receptionist/Admin. Asst. to support Accounting & Sales Departments. Organization, communication, clerical, light bookkeeping skills needed. Full-time, great benefits. Email your resume and wage history to: cgjhr@compellinggraphics.com

DEVELOPER VA CLAIMS

Northville law firm has a full-time position available for person with excellent administrative, organizational and computer skills. Attention to detail in reviewing medical records for disability claims development & good communication skills a must. Military experience preferred. Knowledge of legal or medical helpful. Please email resume and writing sample to: psugars@fb-firm.com

SECRETARY
Full-time position available for Northville veterans appeal practice firm. Must possess excellent oral & written communication, computer and internet skills. Military experience preferred. Please email resume to: psugars@fb-firm.com

Help Wanted - Dental

BILLING/INSURANCE COORDINATOR
Our Canton dental office is seeking a skilled billing and insurance coordinator. Computer proficiency a must. 32 hrs weekly. Ask for Theresa: 734-459-1850

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Local Dental Lab willing to train dental assistant with in office lab experience for a full time Dental Laboratory position. Please fax your resume to: 734-427-8331 or email to: fairlandental@sbcglobal.net

Help Wanted - Medical

EXP. SURGERY SCHEDULER
Busy Office
Farmington Hills area. Fax resume to: 248.471.8904

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON - MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE/YARD SALE
Aug 15-17, Thurs-Sat, 9-30-3:30. 46744 Maldstone Rd. Clothing, housewares, furniture, toys, and more. Great deals! (734) 634-5628

CANTON - MULTI-FAMILY SALE! 45415 BRUNSWICK AUG. 15-17, 8am-4pm Tools, BBQ, bikes, starwars collect and much more!

FARMINGTON HILLS: BIG SALE! Aug. 15-17, Thurs-Sat. 9-5. 37863 Baywood Dr. 9/Holistic. Furniture, name brand clothes & shoes, jewelry, household items, toys & more.

GARDEN CITY: Aug. 17-18, 10-4pm. 883 Schuman, off Marquette, btwn Venoy & Wildwood Rd. Household, tools & misc.

Garden City Presbyterian Church Annual Hummage Sale, 1841 Middlebelt Rd. Aug. 15-17, Thur. & Fri. 9-4. Sat. 9-2. Food will be served.

LIVONIA - 8/15-8/17, 9-4pm. 15504 Liverpool, N of 5 Mile, E of Newburgh. Furniture, household, books, clothes, jewelry, toys & more!

Livonia - Aug 15-17, 9-4pm 18320 Norwich 48152 Btwn 7 Mile and Curtis Dishes, toys, paperbacks, collectibles and more!

LIVONIA: Garage Sale! Aug. 15-17, 9-5pm. Household, misc, jewelry, microwave, books. 31146 Richland, E/ Merriman, N/W. Chicago.

LIVONIA - Garage Sale for Charity. Sat., Aug 17th, 9-5pm. 9891 E Clements Cir. btwn Middlebelt & Inlet off Grandview. All proceeds will benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research. Tax Donation forms avail.

LIVONIA GARAGE SALE
Offering low prices on clothing, toys, home goods, and more! Thursday 8/15 - Saturday 8/17 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. 14112 Hix St., Livonia. All proceeds will benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research. Tax Donation forms avail.

LIVONIA - Huge 4 Family Garage Sale. Tools, Clothes, Household, Electronics, Computer Stuff, Bikes & More. 8/15-8/18 9-6 11161 Garden.

LIVONIA/MULTI-FAMILY
Aug. 15-17, 9am - 3:15pm. 35165 Banbury, E off Wayne, S of 7 Mile. Paintball gun & Equip. MAC makeup, gaming chairs, bikes, home decor, misc

LIVONIA - Multi family sale. 16214 Hampton Ct. off of Wayne & Curtis Rd. 8/15-8/17, 9-5pm. Household items, furniture, clothing, crafts & more! New items added daily!

MILFORD
2 FAMILY MOVING SALE
Furn., Household, Golf, Baby Fri & Sat 8/16 & 8/17 9-4 606 Abbey Ln off Milford Rd

MILFORD - Huge Sale: Home & Yard. Goods, Holiday decor, Recreation items, Furniture Fri thru Sun; Aug 16th-18th, 9am-4pm 1675 Ring O'Kerry, Milford MI

NEW HUDSON - On Walnut Dr. In Pineridge Club off South Hill btwn Grand River & Pontiac Trl. Thurs & Fri 9-5pm. Furniture, household items & more!

NORTHVILLE
HUGE 3 Family Garage Sale Thurs-Sat, 9-4pm. Kids' clothes, toys, bikes, sports items, cradle, toy chest, cradle, household items, fabric, DVDs, VCR tapes, books & more. 46055 Bloomcrest Dr., Northville. (248) 596-0969

NOVI: Annual Yard Sale. Oaks Orchard Condos. 40000 10 Mile Rd. Btwn Haggerty & Meadowbrook Sat. Aug. 17, 8-4pm. Rain Day Aug. 18

PLYMOUTH: Hugel Toys, trains, girls clothes, Christmas, scrapbooking, printer, apps, Thurs-Sat. 8/15-17, 9-2. 5322 Maplelea, Beck/Ann Arbor.

PLYMOUTH: MOVING! 1980's toys, GI Joe figures, vehicle, He-Man figures, many more toys & collectibles. Furniture, solid oak table & 4 chairs, counter chairs, china cabinet with glass, oak coffee & end tables, oak shelf unit. Ames style modern leather chair & ottoman. Aug. 16 & 17, 10am-5pm. 46430 Meadow Ct. Call: 734-358-5763

REDFORD - Multi-Family Garage Sale. 8/15-8/17 9:00 - 5:00. 9197 Seminole (Inlet & Joy Road)

South Lyon-Garage Sale
Friday, Aug. 16, 9-4. Furniture, household items, Christmas. 12749 Woodbine Dr.

Household Goods

DESIGNER SELLING: Thomsville Tightback Sofa, very good cond, upholstery & slip cover in cream velour, \$650. Clothing, housewares, furniture, toys, and more. Great deals! (734) 634-5628

DINETTE SET - Amish, oak. 42" round w/2 extra leaves. 4 chairs, Like new! Downsizing. Livonia: 330-861-8448

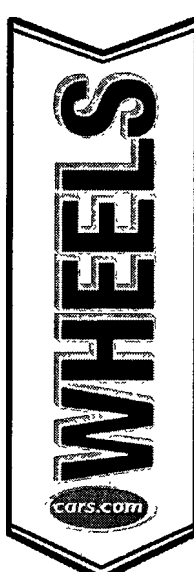
LIFT RECLINER - motorized, large, 8 mos. old, \$1000 new. Excellent condition \$700. 734-354-9427

LOFT BED - Like new Loft Bed w/couch. Full mattress w/pad, ladder, guard rails. Couch cover is red; can change cover. \$200/best. (248) 719-1365

LOVESEAT, leather, burgundy. Antique china cupboard. White dishes for china painting. China oil paints. Klin. 588-871-0659

LOVESEAT RECLINER, 3 pc. SECTIONAL, beige, very nice condition. \$250 each or best offer. 248-437-6538

POOL TABLE: Dark wood, like



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Trucks for Sale

FORD F-150 2012
Super crew, 4x4, Chrome package, 9,000 miles.
Ford Certified! 1.0%
NORTH BROS.
888-714-9714

FORD RANGER 2007
Super Cab, 4x4, matching cap. Fully inspected & warranted!
NORTH BROS.
888-714-9714

GMC TERRAIN SLT-2 2011
Leather, chrome, full power, only 26,000 miles. \$23,998
NORTH BROS.
888-714-9714

Mini-Vans

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