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Man to stand trial in ax killing case

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A couple of hours before Danny Dart was killed with an ax outside his Wayne home, the step-grandson accused of killing him was highly agitated and searching kitchen drawers for knives.

That was the testimony Monday during the preliminary examination for Jesse Wayne Gunderson, 27, in Wayne 29th District Court. Gunderson is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Dart, 58, on Sept. 26, 2015.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Brian Surma cited

that search for knives as evidence of premeditation by Gunderson. Defense attorney Alexandria Taylor unsuccessfully argued that testimony about comments from Gunderson that "he had snapped" had eliminated the required element of premeditation and reduced the crime to manslaughter. A first-degree premeditated murder conviction carries a mandatory sentence of life without parole.

Married to the victim for 25 years, Mary Dart testified that Gunderson, her grandson, had arrived at the couple's home on Chamberlain about three weeks before the death.

A Ford Motor Company

retiree, Danny Dart had spent a lot of time with Gunderson during the visit, she said, talking on the porch, going fishing and to a baseball game for the younger man's birthday. But Gunderson had undergone a personality change, Mary



Gunderson

Dart said.

"Jesse had quit his job but he had his own money. I thought he just came for a visit — he a return ticket to California," she said. "I thought he was unhappy."

In the days before her hus-

band was killed, Mary Dart said her grandson became difficult to talk with, mumbling responses and going out walking for hours. A couple of hours before Danny Dart was killed, she said her grandson was agitated and searching the kitchen for her husband's knives.

"He (Gunderson) yelled at me and swore at me — he never spoke to me like that before," said Mary Dart. "My daughter said to leave him alone. He went out the door. I was ready to clobber him."

Danny Dart was in the backyard with a great-granddaughter, she said, but he told her things would be okay and that

she worried too much.

A short time later, Mary Dart said Gunderson came to her in the living room. "He was yelling at me, 'I killed the monster for you Nana. He's a pedophile,'" Mary Dart said, adding her grandson also alleged her husband had sexual contact with her dog and a dog belonging to a neighbor. "He was so sweaty and agitated. I stepped back. I said, 'What have you done?' He tried to stop me from going outside."

Going outside through a sliding door onto the deck, Mary Dart said she could see her husband's feet and legs.

See TRIAL, Page A2

GOTCHA-CHU!

Pokémon Go app has millions chasing online fun

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Keegan Kopp is doing a great job keeping up with the Pokémon Go craze — he's advanced to Level 7 — despite the fact he's a little handicapped by the fact he doesn't have a phone yet.

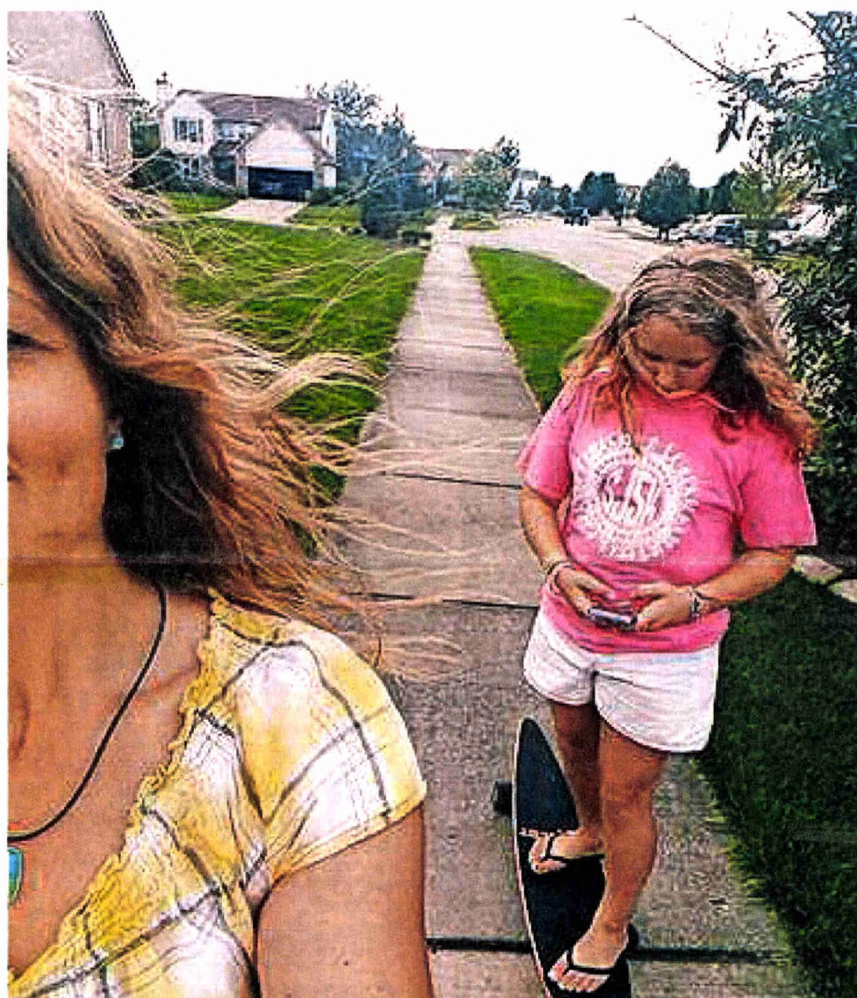
But counting on — and getting — kindness from his mom and a strong Internet connection to his iPod, 10-year-old Keegan and the rest of his family have joined the two-week-old phenomenon quite nicely, thank you.

"I have to have the Internet connection, so I can't get too far from the house unless I'm using my mom's phone," said Keegan, a student at Liberty Middle School in Canton. "(But) I like it, because it makes you go outside and get exercise while you're playing the game. It's more fun that way."

Keegan and a large part of his family — including cousins, his sister Virginia and his mom Jennifer Neumann — are among the tens of millions of people who've downloaded the app since Nintendo released it two weeks ago.

By the millions

An estimated 26 million people are using the app daily. According to USA Today, it was downloaded some 15 million times in its first week. In neighborhoods all over the area, kids can be seen strolling along streets, phones held in



Jennifer Neumann took this shot of daughter Virginia Kopp riding the longboard while out playing Pokémon Go, combining the gaming experience with exercise.

See POKEMON, Page A5

Wayne officers receive promotions

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A recent promotion has created an opportunity for two Wayne police officers to be promoted.

After nearly 14 years with the department, Finley Carter was recently promoted to lieutenant. He had served as a sergeant since September 2012.

"I have only worked road patrol my entire career. I have also been an FTO (Field Training Officer) and a FTO sergeant," said Carter, 36.

In addition, Carter is a firearms and Taser instructor for the department and was a part-time instructor at Schoolcraft College 2005-08.

A Ft. Myers, Florida native, Carter came to Michigan to take advantage of a full-ride four-year football scholarship at Central Michigan University.

"I take a lot of pride in being a Chippewa," said Carter, who played strong safety.

Carter later graduated from the Michigan Police Corps Academy at Ferris State University and was subsequently hired by the Wayne Police Department.

See OFFICERS, Page A2

Wayne, GC police chiefs to attend White House meeting

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Two area police chiefs have been invited to participate in a briefing on recommendations from President Barack Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag and Garden City Police Chief Robert Muery both received invitations to attend the briefing July 22 at the White House in Washington, D.C. The invitations came from the Community Oriented Police Services Division of



Muery

Maciag

the U.S. Department of Justice.

"I am honored to have been invited to participate in this valuable discussion and eager to exchange ideas with other police chiefs from around the

country," Maciag said. "I am pleased that the President of the United States has made a commitment to work with chiefs from across the country to finding solutions to enhance public safety and reduce tensions between officers and the communities we serve."

Muery had a similar reaction. "This is a very unique opportunity to be heard in Washington and I am looking forward to it," he said.

During this event, the chiefs will have an opportunity to hear an overview of

recommendations from the task force. The chiefs will also participate in discussions about enhancing public trust and confidence in the justice system and strengthening the trust among law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

"This centers around the report by President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and I plan to, among other things, point out that one of the greatest barriers to implementing many of the findings

See CHIEFS, Page A2



Newly promoted Wayne Police officers Lt. Finley Carter (left) and Sgt. Abraham Hughes.



PRICE: \$1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
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Volume 52 • Number 19

Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737 | Return Address: 29725 Hudson Dr., Novi MI 48377

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TRIAL

Continued from Page A1

When she went back into the house, she said, "I could feel him (her husband) all around me. I knew that he was gone."

Gunderson's mother Tracy Wheeler testified that she had arrived for a visit at her mother and Dart's home Sept. 24. She was upstairs using a blow dryer, Wheeler said, when she thought she heard something and turned off the dryer.

"I heard my mom (Mary Dart) screaming. I went downstairs. Jesse came in saying, 'I snapped. Oh my god, I snapped,'" Wheeler said. "I ran to the backyard — I didn't understand what Jesse was saying. I saw Dan's body. He appeared to be deceased."

After being challenged by Surma with her written statement to police, Wheeler said that Gunderson had admitted killing Dart and referring to him as a pedophile — an unsupported allegation.

Wayne Police Sgt. Abraham Hughes and Officer Stephan Perez each testified when they arrived at the

home, Gunderson told him that he had committed the murder that had been reported.

"He told me had hit someone with an ax. I asked if it was with the blade or the handle," Perez said. "He (Gunderson) said he had split someone's head open with the blade. I arrested him."

The Wayne County Medical Examiner autopsy report, stipulated to by the attorneys for the exam, found that Danny Dart had been struck five times with an ax, suffering three wounds to the head, one to the neck and one to the shoulder along with several abrasions.

In ordering that Gunderson be bound over for trial at Wayne Circuit Court as charged, Judge Laura Mack also continued an order that the defendant be housed at the Forensic Center. Gunderson was initially found incompetent to understand the proceedings and assist in his defense. Following treatment at the center, Gunderson was found to be competent.

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Mary McMullen-Wahl and husband Jeff Wahl take a break amongst the many beautiful flowers that surround them at their home on Beechwood in Garden City.

TOM BEAUDOIN

Garden walk participants get ideas for their yards

Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

About 80 people walked through eight Garden City yards during last weekend's garden walk.

The turnout was about average, but what the participants saw was far from ordinary.

"We were very pleased with all of the homes and gardens," said Pat McKarge, Garden City councilwoman and president of the Garden City Garden Club, which sponsored

the walk with Lucky Dog Luxury Day Care and Boarding.

"There was a variety of different styles and I think everyone walked away learning a little more about what they can do in their own gardens," she added.

The 22nd annual event gave plant lovers a wide variety of garden styles by homeowners who toiled away countless hours beautifying their yards.

"I really enjoyed meeting the homeowners, the different person-

alities and the different types of people who are gardeners," McKarge said.

The garden walk was moved from the third weekend in June to July, GCGC treasurer Stacy Karafotis said.

Walkers saw ponds, other water features, fairy gardens, memorial gardens, garden art, annuals, perennials, tropical flowers, vegetable and more.

McKarge said she was especially impressed by homeowners who incorporated vegetables

into their flower gardens.

"We had real small yards and real big yards and they were all beautiful," she said. "Whether you have a small yard or a big yard you can have a beautiful yard."

McKarge also said she "really liked" that many gardeners repurposed ordinary things, like fence posts, that became yard art.

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Community Office:

29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
hometownlife.com

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.00 Thursday & \$1.50 Sunday
\$8.25 E2 pay per month
\$52.00 six months
\$104.00 per year
\$91.00 six months mail delivery
\$182.00 per year mail delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737
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OFFICERS

Continued from Page A1

Coming from a family with a long line of military service, Carter said one brother recently retired and a second brother will soon retire from the military.

Being promoted from

patrolman to sergeant is Abraham Hughes, who coincidentally is on the same shift as Carter.

Hired in February 2002, Hughes said he spent the majority of his career on road patrol with 18 months in the Traffic Bureau. Growing up in Dearborn, Hughes graduated from the police academy at School-

craft College.

"When I was in the academy, Wayne came and did some recruiting," Hughes said. "I didn't know too much about Wayne. Everyone wanted a job, so I tested with Wayne."

Hughes, 35, is a fire-arms instructor with the department and Schoolcraft College, an FTO and

a evidence technician.

"I will stay on road patrol as a sergeant. I currently work for Lt. Carter," Hughes said. "He went to lieutenant on my shift - he had been my sergeant. I'm the sergeant now."

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CHIEFS

Continued from Page A1

is the lack of financial support from Washington for law enforcement," Muery said.

Getting officers into the profession through a national law enforcement

recruiting drive is a big concern, Maciag said.

"All of us are hurting and recruiting is a big issue," he said. Wayne has a particular issue due to having severe financial issues creating instability for staff.

Community trust and transparency by the law enforcement are also

huge issues, Maciag said, with hopes that an open dialogue can take place.

"It's absolutely great that they are reaching out to local law enforcement to see what the issues are and to try to solve them," said Maciag. "A lot of it is just money and needing more people."

A local business, which wished to remain anonymous, offered to pick up the costs for Maciag to attend the meeting. He's driving, so the tab will be about \$500.

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NO. 3011

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.03 OF ARTICLE XIII (P DISTRICT REGULATIONS) OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE"

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Section 13.03 of Article XIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 13.03 Limitation of the Use.

- Parking areas shall be used for parking of private passenger vehicles only.
- Parking may be with or without charge.
- No business involving the repair or services to vehicles permitted thereon or sale, or other storage, or display thereof, shall be conducted from or upon such premises.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Section 3. Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, June 20, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 23rd day of June, 2016.

Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney
Dated: June 23, 2016

Published: July 21, 2016

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Treasurer issues tax bill reminder

Livonia Treasurer Lynda L. Scheel is reminding all Livonia property owners that the summer tax bills were issued on July 1 and are due and payable without interest until Wednesday, Sept. 14.

On Thursday, Sept. 15, and the first of every



Scheel

Summer tax bills and winter tax bills are paya-

month thereafter, interest of 1 percent will be added to any unpaid summer tax bill.

ble to the Livonia Treasurer until Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Residents and business owners have until Friday, Aug. 19 to apply to have their summer taxes automatically withdrawn from their bank account.

Residents meeting the

required qualifications have until Wednesday, Sept. 14, to file the necessary paperwork with the City Treasurer's Office to defer payment of their summer tax bill.

Tax deferrals are granted, Scheel explained, to the principal residence homeowner

who is totally and permanently disabled, blind, paraplegic, quadriplegic, eligible serviceperson, eligible veteran, or eligible widow or widower, or 62 years of age or older, or the un-remarried surviving spouse of a person who was 62 years of age or older at the time of

death, and whose total household income in the prior tax year did not exceed \$40,000.

The application to defer summer taxes is available at the City's website at www.ci.livonia.mi.us or at the Treasurer's Office.



Don't let Fido drink from the garden hose unless it's labeled "drinking water safe."

Swap your PVC garden hose for a 'safe drinking' version

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Think twice before you fill the kiddie pool with water from the garden hose this weekend. Hold off on sprinkling the veggie plants.

And be careful your dog isn't drinking a chemical cocktail with each gulp from the nozzle.

"If you're able to pay a little more for a hose, then a polyurethane hose labeled drinking water safe is the way to go. That is going to be the safest," said Gillian Miller, Ph.D., staff scientist for the Ecology Center in Ann Arbor. "If you're not able to spend extra to get polyurethane, then it's a good bet to get a regular hose that is PVC (polyvinyl chloride), but labeled drinking water safe. We found a lot fewer contaminants in those hoses, not zero, but a lot less than those that were not drinking water safe."

"We tested a couple of polyurethane hoses that were not labeled drinking water safe and the hose part was great, but a couple of them had some what elevated lead in the fittings."

In a follow-up to its studies in 2011-13, the Ecology Center in Ann Arbor this year tested 32 garden hoses for hazardous metals, bromine, which is used in fire retardants, chlorine and a group of chemicals called phthalates that make plastic flexible, PVC plastic, tin and antimony. It released the study this week.

The hoses came from six major stores. Twenty-four were PVC and the rest were polyurethane and one was synthetic rubber.

Miller said the Center tested the composition of each hose and checked fittings for metals and bromine. Another test looked for chemicals leaching into water that was held for two days in seven different hoses. Samples sent to a certified lab were tested for lead, phthalates and BPA, a chemical found in some plastics.

PVC vs polyurethane

The Ecology Center found that PVC hoses contained elevated lead, bromine, antimony and phthalate levels, which were not found in polyurethane and rubber hoses. Some of the PVC hoses also contained recycled electronic waste.

"There is no reason for bromine to be in a garden hose. The only reason-

able explanation is that it's from brominated flame retardant, which is very common in electronic waste," Miller said.

BPA and lead leached into the water in some samples, although they were not found in a hose identified as drinking water safe.

The Ecology Center found a significant drop in the number of hose fittings with high lead levels over the past five years. Forty percent of fittings tested in 2011 contained lead. That number dropped to 15 percent in the current study.

"More of the fittings were aluminum rather than brass. We saw a big difference this year."

Making changes

Miller hopes the research will convince manufacturers and retailers to offer consumers safer garden hoses.

"The goal is to change the market. Sometimes it's strategic to push the manufacturers more and sometimes it's strategic to push the retailers more. Along the way as a secondary benefit we like to provide education for consumers, but ultimately there is no way to shop your way out of the problem, products that can be hazardous."

"People often contact us because they are frustrated. They can't figure out in some product category how to figure out if it's safe. That's why our goal really is to change the market."

Miller said the Ecology Center scientists "de-formulate" products to see what's in them.

Then they publicly disclose their findings, along with brand names. They often reach out to manufacturers and retailers to discuss the data.

"We have a history of engaging with retailers and manufacturers. Sometimes they will seek our advice."

She said the center was successful last year in convincing several retailers to replace vinyl flooring that contained potentially hazardous material, with safer alternatives.

"We are excited when we see improvement in a product area," she said. The Ecology Center suggests that consumers read labels on garden hoses and look for "drinking water safe" before buying.

Other tips on hoses:

» Buy a PVC-free hose, such as polyurethane or rubber, which are less likely to include potentially hazardous chemicals.

» Avoid hoses with the California Prop 65 warning that says "this product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects and other reproductive harm."

» Run your hose for five seconds before using it.

» Store your hose in the shade.

» Don't drink water from a garden hose unless you know that it is phthalate-free and drinking water safe.

Read the study at healthystuff.org.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Farmers Market

Wilson Barn hosts a Farmers Market Saturdays through Oct. 8 at 29350 W. Chicago in Livonia.

The market features local vendors, produce, crafts and baked goods and breads. There's a Kids Corner, make-and-take and arts and crafts projects from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 30 and Aug. 27. Free pony rides take place 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 6.

For more information or to become a vendor, call Karen at 734-261-3602 or visit wilsonbarn.com

Crafters wanted

Applications are being accepted for crafters and vendors for the St. John's Episcopal Church Fall Festival and Craft Show, Saturday, Sept. 24. Large indoor space; electricity available. Located at 555 S. Wayne Road with great traffic flow. For more information or to reserve space, call 734-721-5023 (Monday - Friday between 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). The Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Craft Show runs 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mom 2 Mom Sale

SS. Simon & Jude Church, 32500 Palmer in Westland, hosts its Mom 2 Mom sale 10 a.m. to noon (9-10 a.m. for early bird) on Saturday, Aug. 6.

Cost is \$15 per 8-foot table; racks and card tables are extra.

For more information, call Carolyn at 734-728-1559 or Sandy at 734-721-4867.

Westland market

The Westland Farmers & Artisans Market is up and running from 3-7 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 13 (closed June 16 and Aug. 4). It features a variety of food and craft vendors, special events and music. EBT is accepted.

The market is at 1901 N. Carlson, Central City Park, in Westland. For more information, call 734-326-7222 or email westlandchamber@yahoo.com.

Mini summer Olympics

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road in Livonia, hosts the mini-Olympics camp 6:30-8 p.m. July 25-28.

Each night will focus on learning and competing in a different sport that is featured in the Olympics. Monday will



SUBMITTED

Honored guest

Wayne County Commissioner Glenn Anderson is joined by his guest, Rev. Jonathan Combs (right) of First United Methodist Church of Garden City, who delivered the invocation at the commission's regular meeting June 23 at the Guardian Building in downtown Detroit. Combs also ministers at the Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church-Brightmoor Campus in Detroit.

be volleyball (with balloons, beach balls, volleyballs) over the net. Tuesday it's relays (hula hoops, batons, big balls, sack races; etc.). Wednesday it's field hockey. Thursday is water polo (noodles, balloons, sponges).

Cost is \$15 for each student (instruction; equipment; snacks). Register at christoursavior.org or call 734-522-6830 for more information.

Colbeck hours

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and district manager Penny Crider will hold office hours locally at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton, 6-7 p.m. Monday, July 25.

Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. No appointment is necessary. Colbeck represents the 7th Senate District, which encompasses the cities of Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne, as well as the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth.

For more information or to contact Colbeck, visit www.SenatorPatrickColbeck.com or call 517-373-5713.

Wayne farmers market

The Wayne Farmers Market is up and running from 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays through Oct. 26. It features a variety of food and craft vendors, special events and music. EBT is accepted.

The market is behind

city hall in Wayne. For more information, call 734-658-5296 or email towfmmanager@gmail.com

Rummage sale

Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road in Livonia, hosts its annual rummage sale July 25-27.

The sale takes place 5-7 p.m. Monday, July 25; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 26; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 27 (with a bag sale on cloth items and half-off sales the rest of the day).

Anyone wishing to donate items must do so by July 18. For more information, call 734-427-2290 or visit www.timothyilivonia.com.

RU Marching Band

The Redford Union Marching Band will be holding a fundraiser at Vicky's Ice Cream, 26145 W. Six Mile Road in Redford, from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11. Band members will be there playing their instruments along with attached units Color guard and Majorettes. All proceeds benefit RUHS Marching Band.

Trunk sale

The Livonia Historical Commission hosts a one-day trunk sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 23, in the Hill House Parking lot (enter off Victor Parkway) at Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh in Livonia.

A variety of items will be available. Admission is a donation. Plenty of free parking. All proceeds benefit Greenmead Historical Park.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

The City of Westland will hold its public accuracy test on the ES&S M-100 voting equipment for the August 2, 2016 State Primary Election on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 10:00 AM at Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the ballot results count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Richard LeBlanc
Westland City Clerk

Published: July 21, 2016

LO-00002870006 2x2

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF GARDEN CITY Wayne County, Michigan

To all residents and interested parties:
The following legal notices are available for review on our website.

The minutes (including approved ordinances) from regular and special Council meetings are available at:

www.gardencitymi.org/minutes

Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:

www.gardencitymi.org/purchasing

You may also access this information at City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours, or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.

Published: July 21, 2016

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Man found in backyard after ATM incident

Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

A resident of the 31000 block of James Street told police July 17 that he was in his garage smoking a cigarette when he heard a noise in his backyard and when he went to investigate he found a man sweating and out of breath.

The intruder, described as being between 6-foot-2 and 6-foot-3, also had one hand in his pocket, which led the resident to believe he had his hand on a gun. The interloper ran behind the resident's garage then south over the fence before the resident lost sight of him.

The resident said he heard the sound of a subject or subjects jumping fences. He also told police he heard a car door slam shut and he saw a white Dodge Journey in the roadway.

Meanwhile, a Garden City officer discovered an unknown person had just broken into the ATM at DFCU Credit Union on Merriman near the resident's home.

A canine tracker followed a scent across the credit union parking lot and ultimately took police to James Street. No

arrests were made.

Sneaky intruder?

A homeowner in the 6500 block of Golfview Drive reported his home was broken into while his family slept July 14.

He said he received a call from his wife, who said her purse was missing, about 9:30 a.m. the following morning. After further investigation the woman told her husband that a tablet and laptop were also gone.

The man said his wife was sleeping on the couch in the living room adjacent to the kitchen while he was in the bedroom the night before. He said the back door was unlocked.

The man also said his son was in the basement playing video games until 4 a.m. Neither the woman nor the son reported hearing anything unusual. The family dog also didn't bark through the night, the man told police.

Psychiatric help

A 60-year-old Inkster woman was arrested for disorderly conduct July 15 at Andrew's Liquor store in Garden City

and was later taken for psychiatric help after claiming President Obama wanted her to be free from jail.

Garden City police had been called a couple of times to the liquor store that evening regarding the woman.

The second time police were called out she was asked several times to back up and talk, but when she refused she was arrested, a police report said.

Earlier in the evening she was grabbing and throwing items in the store, a police report said. After police and the store owner escorted her out of the store she returned and began banging on the glass door, which caused patrons to leave.

After the woman was taken to the psychiatric facility she said she was bipolar and schizophrenic, a police report said.

He said, she said

Garden City police were called to the 31000 block of Bock Road on July 16 by a man who said his girlfriend physically abused him.

The 27-year-old man told police he had been assaulted by his 22-year-old girlfriend of

two months. She had been staying at his house the last three days.

The man said they had been arguing after he picked her up in Detroit and she refused to give him gas money. He said he went to bed, because he was feeling ill. He told police she came into his room and continued to yell and argue with him over needing to use his cell phone and needing to be driven to a location.

He said while he was in the living room she struck him with a cup and hit him in his left eye. Police observed an injury. The man told police she punched him in the back of his head two times and scratched him repeatedly on his neck.

He said she later tried to hit him with his alarm clock, but he was able to block the assault. The man said he packed her personal property and left it in front of the house. He said when he called for police assistance she ran away.

Police learned the woman was at her family's home on Barton and that she wasn't allowed inside. Officers found the woman two houses from that location. She told police she had been assaulted by her

boyfriend. Her left lower lip appeared to be cut and she had a red mark under left eye, a police report said.

The woman's father said he called police when she came to his home, because he has a court order prohibiting her from being at the residence.

She told police she was involved in an argument with her boyfriend. The woman said he put her in a head lock and threw her to the floor. She said when he threw her property out of the house she left and went to the Barton home to seek help from her father.

Police learned the woman had multiple warrants in Bloomfield Hills, Southgate, Plymouth and Westland.

The woman was arrested for domestic violence, violation of conditional bond release and outstanding warrants.

Wayne county prosecutors denied a domestic violence warrant against the woman, a Garden City police report said.

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734-432-5974
Twitter: @HeraldReporter

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny

Two twisted Evergreen trees and a hosta were reported stolen from the front of a home in the 39000 block of Huron Parkway on July 17. The homeowner told police landscaping was in place when she and her husband arrived home about midnight but were missing about 7 a.m.

The officer found a hole on either side of the garage where the trees had been planted, another hole where the hosta had been dug up.

A small hand shovel belonging to the homeowner was found nearby.

The trees and plant were valued at \$250.

Vandalism

A resident at Woodland Villa Apartments, 7700 Drew Circle, told police July 18 that someone had broken the rear passenger window on his vehicle and stolen the stereo. The center console and glove box had also been ransacked, the resident said, with some paper work missing.

Larceny

On July 14, a resident in the 31000 block of Arenac Court told police July 14 that he returned home from work and a neighbor told him someone had stolen a bicycle from his backyard. It was described as a pink women's mountain bike.

Fraud

» A Westland woman told police she was alerted by her bank July 14 that someone had made a \$45.58 charge on her account at Walmart located in Nashville, Tennessee. She said she had the card in her possession and didn't authorize the charge.

» On July 14, a Westland woman told police that her bank contacted her about 13 unauthorized debit card purchases in Detroit, Harper Woods and Clinton Township. No amount for the purchases were listed.

» A Dearborn Heights woman told police that on July 11 she used the ATM at Credit

Union One, 29450 Warren Road.

Checking her balance the following day, she said \$400 was missing. She said she had left her ATM card in the machine when she left. Her daughter was behind her at the time in a second vehicle, the woman said, but didn't use the ATM.

» On July 11, a Westland woman told police she had applied for a home loan and was told her credit rating was extremely low.

Because her rating should have been on the higher end, the woman said she checked her credit report and noticed several unauthorized purchases.

Vandalism

Police were called to the Western Wayne Skill Center, 8075 Ritz, July 13 after a maintenance person reported five windows broken on the second level of the building. He said those windows would need to be accessed using a ladder.

Larceny from a vehicle

Two CDs, a can of Axe body spray and a government-issued cell phone were reported stolen from a vehicle parked in the 1900 block of Ackely on July 13.

The owner said the items were in his vehicle when he parked the night before but one door doesn't lock.



SPECIAL EVENT

Sinatra Night

Waltonwood at Cherry Hill

Thursday, July 21st
4:15 p.m.

Join us for dinner with "Ol' Blue Eyes!"
You'll enjoy a homemade Italian dinner and live entertainment
by a Sinatra impersonator

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Patio Beach Party

Waltonwood at Carriage Park



Tuesday, July 26th
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Please join us for summer fun with friends, and
enjoy refreshments, games and music on our beautiful patio.
Community tours will also be offered.

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Slain Dallas officer brought home to rest

Scott Daniel
Staff Writer

Family members and hundreds of police officers from around the nation began filling St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Redford early Tuesday morning to honor former township resident Michael L. Krol, one of five Dallas officers slain July 7.

Funeral services began at 11 a.m. Krol, 40, was laid to rest Tuesday afternoon at Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery in Southfield. Visitation for Krol was held Monday evening at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Redford.

Funeral services for Krol were also held July 15 in Plano, Texas.

Detroit Police Department's Derrick Knox was one of numerous officers lining West Chicago Road welcoming the funeral procession Tuesday. He said he was proud to see the support for Krol.

"It's still a sad day," Knox said. "Some say it comes with the job, but I disagree. I don't think death should be included with any occupation. We're out here to protect lives and we try to protect ourselves. Situations like this come unexpected."

Krol was killed at a Black Lives Matter rally in Dallas by Micah Johnson, a U.S. Army veteran who authorities believe was upset over the death of two African-American men at the hands of police in Minnesota and Louisiana earlier this summer.

"It's almost like he's a hero, because he died doing what he loved to do and what was in his heart, which was to help and protect others," Knox said. "So that's what makes today kind of a celebration."

According to Krol's obituary, he graduated from East Long Meadow High School in Massachusetts in 1994. He later received his criminal justice degree from Wayne County Community College in Detroit.

Krol worked in jails for the Wayne County Sheriff's Office from 2002-07. After living in Redford in the early 2000s, he moved to Dallas in 2007 and graduated from the Dallas Police Academy in April 2008.

Krol went to work for the Dallas Police Department after graduation and served for nine years before his death.

"Mike was a big guy with a big heart," his family wrote in the obituary. "We are so proud of our 'gentle giant.'"

Krol is survived by his mother, Susan Ehlik; his father, Frank Joseph Krol Jr.; his sister, Heather Stacey (Brett); his brother, Joe Krol (Alexandria); his sister, Amie Schoen-



TOM BEAUDOIN

Police and sheriff deputies salute as the hearse arrives with slain Dallas Police Officer Michael Krol at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Redford.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Livonia Police Sgt. Andrew Domzalski gets a handshake from Tony Young of Redford at the funeral Mass for Dallas Police Officer Michael Krol.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Patriot Guard riders line up as they await the arrival of Dallas Police Officer Michael Krol.

baechler (Brian); and many loving family and friends.

Dozens of Redford residents stood near their homes Tuesday waiting for the funeral procession. Nicole Gregory brought her two sons, Gavin and Grant, to honor Krol.

"We wanted to show support to the people who protect us every day," Gregory said. "We wanted to let them know that

not all people are full of hate. I'm trying to show the boys that there is evil in the world, but also compassion at the same time."

As of Monday night, 96 entries were made in Krol's "guest book" on the Will Funeral Homes' website. Comments reflected an outpouring of support for his family from around the country.

"I didn't know Officer Krol personally, but I wanted his family to know that the citizens of Dallas are grieving with you," wrote Martha Palmer of Dallas. "Words cannot express how grateful we are for the sacrifice he and the other officers made to keep us safe."

Carla McKenna-Garnes of East Long Meadow wrote that her son and Krol were "great

friends" in high school.

"(He was) one of the guys in the group that just kind of did everything together," she wrote. "Playing basketball was one of those things. He was at our house many times. He was an extremely wonderful, sweet guy who always had a friendly smile on his face and a very easy-going natural pleasant presence about him."

POKEMON

Continued from Page A1

front of them as they try to capture the Pokémon that are the target of the game.

But it's not just kids. A surprising number of adults are also playing the game, frequently partnering with, or competing against, their children. Some say the app has been a boon to "family time."

"I'm having a lot of fun with this," said Neumann, an Ypsilanti resident who is choir director at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. "I was never into Pokémon before. I played Facebook games early on. (Pokémon Go) is a lot different. It gets you interacting with other people."

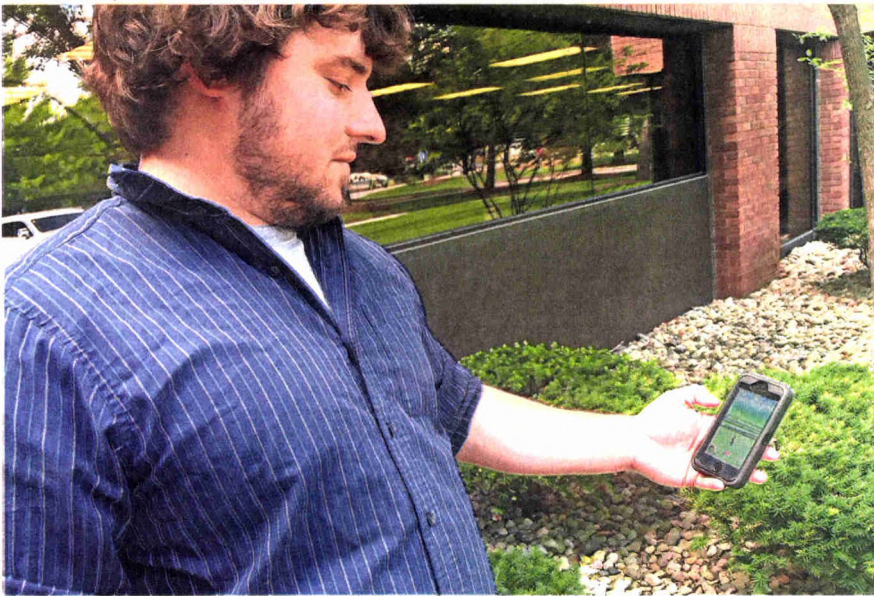
Comeback game

Pokémon Go is the latest extension of a game introduced in Japan in the mid-1990s. It started as a card game and was also an intensely popular game for hand-held devices like GameBoy and Nintendo 3DS.

Its popularity waned, but has been brought back full force with the app. Many users are reportedly spending more time with the Pokémon Go app than Facebook or Twitter.

The app's popularity may have a nostalgic feel to it. Kevin Johnson, who has a master's degree and is in his third year of the doctoral program in clinical psychology at the Michigan School of Professional Psychology in Farmington Hills, said he remembers playing the original game as a youngster.

"I can remember sitting in the playground, trading Pokémon cards I'd snuck to school because my mom wouldn't let me bring them," said Johnson, who's dissertation is on video games and their effect on aggression. "For me, and from what I've been reading, (the



TRACEY BIRKENHAUER

Corey Brewer, keeping an eye out for lurking Pokémon, said he's been a fan of the game since he was 7 or 8 years old.

app) brings about those nostalgic feelings."

Escape mechanism

Johnson said the app may also be providing an "escape mechanism" from the seemingly constant crush of negative news about violence or political campaigns.

People tried of turning on their TV and seeing that kind of negativity may be using Pokémon Go as a means to get away from it for a bit.

"People are looking for an escape," he said. "I think the timing of this game — and I don't think it was intentional — is a big factor (in its success)."

According to Sensor Tower, the average iPhone user is spending some 33 minutes in the Pokémon Go app, whereas they only spent 28 minutes in

the Facebook app, 18 minutes in the Snapchat app, 17 minutes in the Twitter app and 15 minutes in the Instagram app.

Work break

And it's not just being played during recreational times such as lunch hours or after work. Employers are sometimes encouraging the game play as a way to take a break from work.

While he doesn't play himself, Rich Miller, owner of AM Data Service, an IT company headquartered in Livonia, said he's fine with the fact that a couple of his employees take breaks during the workday to chase Pokémon.

"They work hard," Miller said of his employees. "When people work as hard as they do, I don't mind them playing."

One of those employees who

works hard is Corey Brewer, a developer for the company. Brewer said he's been a Pokémon fan since the game first came out, when he was 7 or 8 years old.

He's got it on his 3DS for when he's sitting in an airport or on a plane.

"When it first came out, I was about the right age to get involved," said Brewer, who's 27 now. "(Pokémon Go) is kind of a throwback to the game when you first experienced it."

"It gets people moving," he added. "You can't play it sitting at your desk. You have to get up and move."

Unexpected results

That part has also brought residents out into their neighborhoods and — surprise! — talking to each other. Neumann

said she's talked to neighbors she may not otherwise had an opportunity to see.

"It's actually brought adults out in my subdivision," Neumann said. "We meet up and have conversations with each other we might never have had otherwise."

The app has caused unexpected complications in the lives of its players, too. A Milford man wandered into the police department parking lot because it was designated a "Pokémon gym" on his app. Unfortunately — for him, anyway — police discovered he had an outstanding warrant and promptly arrested him.

A cemetery in Westland was encouraging Pokémon Go players to come in and play, raising the ire of family members visiting the graves of their loved ones.

There have also been media reports of accidents, traffic being stopped and a variety of other nuisances being caused by the app.

Game play

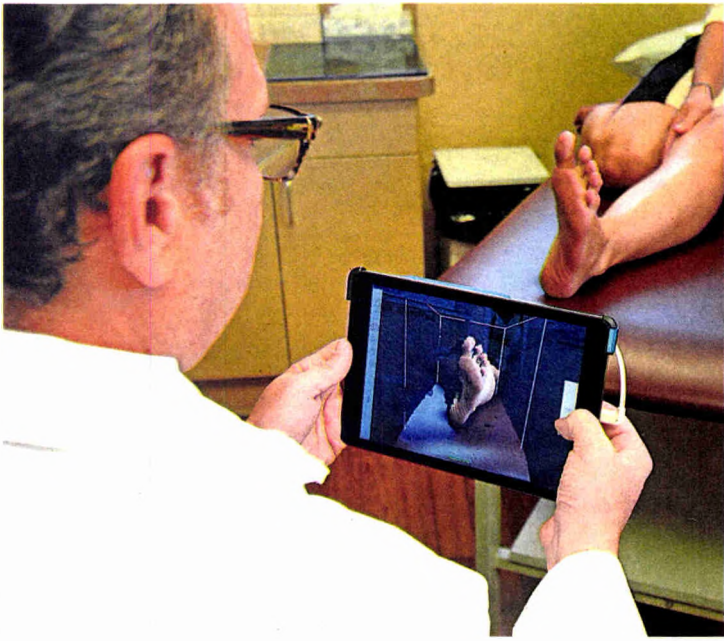
But the players are having fun with it. Virginia Kopp (Kegan's sister and Neumann's daughter) was battling with her cousin recently and was miffed when her cousin outdueled her for control of her Pokémon gym.

"When my cousin took over my gym, I got mad," she said with a laugh. "When I see a gym (now), I try to get it first, before my cousin can get it."

Neumann plays the game with her kids and her niece (her older brother is playing, too). While she says she's "not a gamer," she definitely sees the app's attraction.

"I like to be outside in the first place and this gives you the incentive," Neumann said. "Plus, it's a game, and who doesn't like playing games?"

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



Dr. Jeffrey B. Klein uses the iPad-powered three-dimensional scanner.

Local doctor using 3D iPad scanner

Dr. Jeffrey B. Klein is the first physician in Michigan, and possibly even the Midwest, to use the IPAD powered three-dimensional scanner.

Why is this a big deal? This innovative technology replaces archaic methods of obtaining a mold for a custom-made biomechanical orthotic and replaces it with a quick and precise approach to obtain measurements for a perfect orthotic insert.

Old methods such as using plaster or foam impressions are messy and often take a long time to put into production. That means a longer wait for patients. Using this scanner reduces the wait time for patients to

get their inserts and increases precision of the biomechanical custom-made orthotics/devices with very impressive accuracy within 0.2 mm.

Klein said studies show that 80 percent of all back and knee pain is related to poor foot function and structure.

"All this is easily controlled with use of a customized three-dimensional scan," Klein said, adding he's "happy to be the first in Michigan to employ this technology in helping his patients in their walk through life. This iPad scanner is quite impressive to see."

Studies show that the foot functions best in a neutral sub-talar joint

position and this new device most accurately captures this position, thus helping the biomechanical function of the foundation of your body—your feet, thereby riding the population (old and young) of pedal abnormalities which cause an array of biomechanical faults leading to foot and ankle pain.

Custom made biomechanical orthotics are used to treat many different conditions, including but not limited to, heel pain, plantar fasciitis, flat feet, high arch feet, bunions, hammertoes, in-toeing, out-toeing, ankle, knee and back pain relating to poor foot function to mention a few. Studies show that this is 65 percent of today's population.

Klein has practiced podiatric medicine and surgery since opening his doors in 1987, and has a background of launching advanced procedures. He was first in Michigan to perform the new technology shock-wave therapy utilizing the Ossatron and is also involved in cutting-edge wound care, using dermal substitutes from donated placenta membranes and also advanced bunion surgery as well as arthroscopic techniques for foot and ankle surgery.

Livonia chamber event focuses on other cultures

A groundbreaking business program is coming to Livonia in September to foster better local business relationships with companies led by people from foreign cultures.

Connecting Cultures to Business is a Livonia Chamber of Commerce luncheon set for 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at the Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center. The program features a panel discussion with leaders of local business groups supporting Asian Pacific, German, Chaldean and Hispanic communities.

The program is sponsored by NYX Inc., Schoolcraft College, and Fausone Bohn LLP.

"Experts tell us that communities that do the best job of welcoming foreign investment will have the best opportunities for future economic development," said Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. "This is a step in better positioning Livonia and our neighbors to welcome opportunities here for foreign-based companies."

The panel includes Van Nguyen, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce; Reinhard Lemke, an international business attorney who represents Am-Cham Germany; Martin Manna, the president of the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce, and Camillo Suero, president of the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The panel moderator will be Roop Raj, TV reporter for WJBK-TV (Channel 2).

Each panelist will describe the reach of their respective culture across metro Detroit, discuss challenges for



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Chamber President Dan West (in the chamber's new home with Laura Tahmouch) said experts believe communities that do the best job of welcoming foreign investment will have the best opportunities for future economic development.

minority-owned businesses, share ideas on how local policy makers can better recruit and nurture business relationships with foreign companies, and provide advice to improve their networking skills with people of other cultures.

Nguyen said it is important for local leaders to proactively improve their business relationships with people of cultures.

"What does that mean for the corporate, entrepreneur and the overall population? It creates better leadership, better company boards, a more creative and more productive workforce, and it adds to the bottom line," she said. "As an ethnic chamber executive, it is my duty to educate the public on how to do business with minorities and the benefits in doing so."

Lemke added local companies need to build relationships with foreign companies by connecting with the leader-

ship personally. There is a heightened emphasis now, he said, as more European companies look to open operations in the U.S. and Michigan.

"It is important to tell small- and mid-size businesses that unless you are able to communicate with other cultures, you cannot create a business case for your product to them," he said. "You can't compete on price alone. You want to relay how you can service prospective customers, and you can only do that when you are able to connect with them on a professional level."

Seats for the Connecting Cultures to Business Luncheon are \$30 for Livonia Chamber members, and \$40 for guests. For more information or to reserve seats, contact Laura Tahmouch, the chamber's director of marketing and events, at Tahmouch@livonia.org or 734-427-2122.

Straight Farmhouse keeps Garden City history

The most often heard comment from visitors to the Straight Farmhouse, home to the Garden City Historical Museum, is "I've passed by this place a hundred times but didn't know what it was." And once they stop in for a tour of the museum, their next comment is "I've got to come back and look at everything again."

So for those of you passing by that big white farmhouse at 6221 Merriman, here's a little history. The Straight Farmhouse was built in 1866 by Daniel Straight on approximately 105 acres of land. Through the years, Daniel and his wife Marcia deeded 55-plus acres to their son, Oscar, in a Warranty Deed for \$3,000.

After Daniel's death in 1877, smaller parcels had been sold off, with the remaining property inherited by Oscar and his sister Louisa P. Osband. For many years, Oscar, his wife Mary and their two sons Marshall and Ralph, lived in the home. Ralph died at the age of 14, four months after his father Oscar, on Feb. 18, 1887.

The Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum bought the property in 2004, named it "The Straight Farmhouse" and established the Lathers General Store and the Grande Parlour Banquet Room, a rental facility to support the operation.



Mark Hammar
GUEST COLUMNIST

In October 2006, it also became the home of the Garden City Historical Museum — a museum devoted entirely to the history of Garden City. The Garden City Historical Commission provides the services of its president, Jack Kerstetter, as historian, along with Bill Brooks, to conduct public tours and maintain the many archives that are the property of the city of Garden City. Museum hours are Wednesday and Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. and there is no charge for tours, although donations are greatly appreciated.

At the time of purchase by the Friends, the original Board of Directors decided they were going to need a sustainable revenue stream to operate and maintain the 1866 Straight Farmhouse. They soon began converting office space at the south end of the building, added onto the farmhouse in the 1970s, into a banquet facility, complete with a food/beverage serving room and full kitchen. This vision by the founders has become the main source of income for the Friends with banquet

rentals totaling in excess of \$20,000 annually. Other forms of support to the Friends include the sale of memorial brick pavers, the Major Donor Wall at the entrance to the Straight Farmhouse which include donations ranging from \$500 to \$5,000, merchandise purchased from the Lathers General Store, membership dues, Support Plan payments, memorial donations and various fundraisers, including "Afternoon Teas" and the Straight Farmhouse Summer Flea Markets every second and third Saturday during the months of June, July, August and September.

To list the volume of archives that are maintained by museum staff would take too long. There are high school and elementary yearbooks and class photos to peruse, special exhibits recognizing public service and military service, exhibits devoted to early businesses in Garden City, and research rooms that have been archived and cataloged by volunteers.

So whether you are a lifelong resident of Garden City or just a history buff, a trip through the Garden City Historical Museum is an event like no other. For more information, visit www.sfhonline.org, call 734-838-0650 or email straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com.

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE ELECTION NOTICE TO THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF WAYNE, COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

Absent voter ballots for the City of Wayne Primary Election of Tuesday, August 2, 2016, are available through the Wayne City Clerk's Office, at Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, Michigan for those persons who are physically unable to attend the polls or are 60 years of age or older. The voter, before the issuance of a ballot, must complete an application for a ballot.

The last day to apply for a ballot by mail is Saturday, July 30, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. Persons qualified to vote absentee may vote in person in the Wayne City Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 1, 2016.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Published: July 21, 2016

LO-000229549 2x3

NO. 3005

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 240 OF TITLE 10, CHAPTER 21 (TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS) OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Section 240 of Title 10, Chapter 21 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.21.240 Impounded vehicle - Redemption conditions and costs. A. Before the owner or person in charge of such impounded vehicle is permitted to remove the same from the custody of the police department, he or she shall furnish evidence of his or her identity and ownership, he or she shall sign a receipt, and he or she shall pay a fee to cover costs of removal, in amounts not to exceed the following:

1. Ninety-five dollars (\$95.00) for towing cars and small trucks from surface locations;
 2. One hundred fifteen dollars (\$115.00) for towing cars and small trucks from freeways;
 3. One hundred forty-five dollars (\$145.00) per hour (one-hour minimum) for towing medium trucks;
 4. Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per hour (one-hour minimum) for towing large trucks (including semi-trailers and trailers, cement trucks, etc.).
- B. In addition to the foregoing, amounts not to exceed the following may also be charged:
1. A storage fee of not to exceed twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each day or fraction of a day said vehicle is stored in the vehicle pound after noon on the day following the day the vehicle is impounded;
 2. A fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00) for removal of a license plate;
 3. A fee for extra labor (if required) not to exceed sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per hour.
- C. No person or entity shall be contracted or authorized to tow or store impounded vehicles whose charges for any of the foregoing services exceed the rates set forth in Subsections A and B of this section.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Section 3. Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, June 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 7th day of June, 2016.

Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney

Dated: June 7, 2016

Published: July 21, 2016

LO-000280846 3x7



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Corbin Hedrick, 9, blasts some summer watery fun July 6 during a visit to Kensington Metropark's Splash 'n' Blast water park. It was a good day to keep cool with temperatures in the lower 90s by mid-afternoon.

Keeping cool at Kensington

Josh Sebring was all smiles after sliding down the water slide at Kensington Metropark's Splash 'n' Blast last Wednesday.

"I'm going to go again," he exclaimed, running back over to the stairs for another slide down.

The 10-year-old's mom, Sue Sebring, said coming to Kent Lake was a perfect way to cool off a bit on a day when temperatures rose past 90 degrees.

Kensington, the biggest of the Huron-Clinton metroparks, stretches across nearly 5,000 acres in west Oakland County, is centered by Kent Lake, part of the Huron River. Along the eastern shore is Martindale Beach, where the popular Splash 'n' Blast can be found.

It features a pair of 250-foot twisted water slides, as well as the spray ground with palm trees, serpents and cannons that spray water.

Kensington requires water slide users to be at least 42-inches tall. The spray area is open to all ages. There is an admission fee to the water park, and the beach area itself is free. A vehicle entry pass is required, as well, to enter the metropark.

Splash 'n' Blast is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily through Labor Day. And with forecast calling for continued hot weather, the park likely will continue to be one way people look to beat the heat.



SUBMITTED
New Westland Police Officer Michael Aldini (center) at his swearing-in, flanked by family members.

Westland swears in new police officer

The newest addition to the Westland Police Department was sworn in Monday at city hall before family and friends.

Michael Aldini grew up in the Plymouth-Canton area and graduated from Canton High School in 2006. He completed his undergraduate degree at Grand Valley State University.

Graduating from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy in November 2011, Aldini joined the Monroe Police Department in January 2012. He served as a Monroe officer until resigning to accept a position with Westland Police.

**CITY OF WAYNE
PUBLIC NOTICE**

There will be an official Public Accuracy Test of the Election Management and Tabulation computer system to be used by the City of Wayne for the Primary Election, August 2, 2016. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law. The test will be held at the Building and Engineering Department, 4001 South Wayne Road on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Published: July 21, 2016

**FREE AARP
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PROGRAM**

July 27 & 28, 1-5PM

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cruise for a cause

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Livonia is the new location for the “Cruise-in for a Cause” classic car show. The cruise will be held from 5-8 p.m. Mondays on July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

The cruise will include a 50/50 raffle with proceeds going to support Blessings in a Backpack of Livonia. There will be a disc jockey specializing in '50s and '60s music. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is at 39020 Five Mile in Livonia, just east of I-275 next to the Italian American Club.

**CITY OF LIVONIA
ELECTION NOTICE**

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA,
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, at which time, candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties for the following offices will be voted upon in the City of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan:

Representative in Congress 11th District
Representative in State Legislature 19th District
Wayne County – Prosecuting Attorney
Wayne County – Sheriff
Wayne County – Clerk
Wayne County - Treasurer
Wayne County – Register of Deeds
County Commissioner – 8th District
County Commissioner – 9th District
Precinct Delegate
Judge of Circuit Court – 3rd Circuit – Non-Incumbent Position

Plus the following proposals:

Wayne County Proposal – Proposition P – Parks Millage Continuation

To continue the millage authorized in 2010, shall Wayne County levy this millage at the estimated 2015 rollback rate of .2459 (about 25 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for five more years (2016 through 2020) to continue to improve and operate several parks and related facilities, including Hines Park, Elizabeth Park, Chandler Park, and improvements to municipal parks in the 43 communities as provided in an implementing ordinance through an annual allocation by commission district of the greater of \$50,000.00 or 15% of the total funds generated from that district, on the condition that, for any year for which this continued levy would be imposed, Wayne County must budget from other sources an amount equal to its 1995-1996 fiscal year appropriation for parks? This renewal is projected to generate \$9,865,514 in 2016.

Yes
No

Wayne County Proposal – Zoological Authority Renewal Millage

The Wayne County Zoological Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 49 of 2008 and formed to allow for continuing zoological services for the students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax on real and personal property to provide revenue to an accredited zoological institution for this purpose. Accordingly, as a renewal of the previously approved millage authorization which expires with the 2017 tax levy, to continue providing zoological services to benefit the residents of the County, shall the 0.1 mill (10 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all of the taxable property located within the County continue to be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2018 through 2027? It is estimated that if approved and levied, this millage would generate approximately \$3,940,066.55 in 2018. Shall this proposal be adopted?

Yes
No

City of Livonia – Cultural and Senior Services Millage Renewal

To maintain cultural and senior services including the Livonia Senior Center and Greenmead Historical Village, shall the Livonia City Charter be amended for authority to renew the levy and collect annually commencing December 1, 2016 for a ten year period, a tax not exceeding 0.25 mill providing revenues only for staff, maintenance, and support costs? Estimated revenue from 0.25 mill would be approximately \$982,000 when first levied in December 2016. (Approval would not increase the current tax rate.)

Yes
No

City of Livonia – Public Safety Millage Renewal

For only public safety services and support costs, shall the Livonia City Charter be amended to renew the levy and collect annually commencing December 1, 2016 for ten year period, a tax not exceeding 1.7 mills providing revenues only for police and fire personnel and support costs? Estimated revenue from 1.7 of 1 mill would be approximately \$6,675,000 when levied on December 1, 2016 (Approval will not increase the current tax rate.)

Yes
No

THE VOTING PLACES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Precinct	Location	Address
1A	Clarenceville JHS	20210 Middlebelt Road
1B	Clarenceville JHS	20210 Middlebelt Road
2A	Clarenceville HS	20155 Middlebelt Road
3A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
3B	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
4A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
7A	Taylor School	36611 Curtis Road
8A	Taylor School	36611 Curtis Road
8B	Taylor School	36611 Curtis Road
9A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
10A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
11A	Coolidge School	30500 Curtis Avenue
12A	Coolidge School	30500 Curtis Avenue
13A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
14A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
15A	Buchanan School	16400 Hubbard Road
16A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
16B	Buchanan School	16400 Hubbard Road
17A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
17B	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
18A	Taylor School	36611 Curtis Road
19A	Frost School	14041 Stark Road
19B	Frost School	14041 Stark Road
20A	Frost School	14041 Stark Road
21A	Frost School	14041 Stark Road
22A	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
22B	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
23A	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
23B	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
24A	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
24B	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
25A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
31A	Rosedale School	36651 Ann Arbor Trail
31B	Rosedale School	36651 Ann Arbor Trail
32A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
33A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
34A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
34B	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
34C	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
35A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
35B	Cleveland School	28030 Cathedral Avenue
35C	Cleveland School	28030 Cathedral Avenue
36A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
36B	Cleveland School	28030 Cathedral Avenue

RELATIVE TO THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF POLLS

The polls of said election will be open at seven (7:00) o'clock A.M. and remain open until eight (8:00) o'clock P.M. Eastern time of said day of election.

VOTER INSTRUCTIONS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

To comply with the voting accessibility requirements, the voting instructions will be provided on a CD. Any voters who request the voting instructions in an “**alternative format**” in advance of the election will be supplied with a copy of the CD. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in an “**alternative format**” should be made by contacting the clerk in advance of the election no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Election. In an instance where a voter contacts his or her local clerk in advance of the election to request that the voter instructions be available in an “**alternative format**” in the polls, the clerk will arrange to have a cassette player available in the polling place.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR CITY OF LIVONIA RESIDENTS

Voter's may obtain an absentee ballot by submitting an application to the Livonia City Clerk's office. Applications may be printed from the City of Livonia website (www.ci.livonia.mi.us), you can call the Clerks office at 734-466-2121 and leave your name and address to have an application sent to you, or you can pick up an application at the City Clerk's office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI, 48154. The last day we can mail an absentee ballot is Saturday, July 30, 2016. Voted Absentee Ballots must be returned to the Livonia City Clerk's office by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2016.

**SUSAN M. NASH
LIVONIA CITY CLERK**

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964
Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, Eric R. Sabree, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of June 6, 2016 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

**WAYNE COUNTY
Wayne County, Michigan**

Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Year Increases Expires
County of Wayne	November 3, 2009	1 mill	2019
Wayne County Jail	August 7, 2012	1 mill	2021
Clarenceville School District	August, 2015	18 mills	2025 (non-homestead only)
	May, 2006	4.5 mills	2016
	May, 2005	1.210 mills	2016
Livonia Public School District	August 5, 2014	18 mills	2020 (non-homestead only)
	August 2014	1.12 mills	2019

Date: June 06, 2016

Signed: ERIC R. SABREE
Wayne County Treasurer

Livonia Observer
Publish: Thursday, July 21, 2016

OUR VIEW

AAA touts motorcycle safety; we agree

A tragedy was averted a while back at the intersection of Hines Drive and Haggerty Road. A motorist turned left to go north on Haggerty into the path of an oncoming motorcyclist with the right of way.

The skilled motorcyclist was able to "jump the curb" and lay his motorcycle down on the nearby grass. His arms were scraped up, but he walked away OK.

Drivers should expect to see more motorcyclists on Michigan roadways as the weather heats up. With that in mind, AAA is sounding a statewide alert for motorcycle safety.

According to preliminary data from the Governors Highway Safety Association's Motorcyclist Traffic Fatalities by State, here are **Five Fatal Facts**:

1. Michigan motorcycle fatalities rose from 112 to 138 between 2014 and 2015.

2. Michigan ranks 10th highest in the nation for number of motorcycle fatalities.

3. Michigan ranks 14th highest in the nation for year-over-year percent of increase in motorcycle fatalities (23 percent).

4. In Michigan, motorcyclist crashes involve the presence of alcohol and/or drugs more often than crashes of any other vehicle type.

5. Motorcyclists accounted for 14 percent of motor vehicle fatalities in the state, while only accounting for about 3 percent of registered vehicles.

The estimated economic cost to society of each motorcycle fatality is \$1.48 million, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Economic costs include lost productivity, medical, legal, court, emergency services and insurance costs, property damage and workplace losses.

"While helmet laws are a controversial issue," said Susan Hiltz, AAA Michigan Public Affairs director, "AAA strongly supports helmet laws. Bottom line, helmets save lives."

Helmets have been proven to be 37-percent effective in preventing motorcycle fatalities in a crash, according to NHTSA. In other words, for every 100 motorcycle riders killed in crashes while not wearing a helmet, 37 of them could have been saved had all 100 worn helmets.

AAA recommends the following safety tip for motorists:

» Respect motorcycle riders. Motorcycles are vehicles, too, and have the same privileges as a car. Give them ample room.

» Look and listen. Even if a motorcycle is loud,

don't expect to hear it. Actively look for motorcycles in traffic.

» Leave room. Leave plenty of room between your vehicle and the motorcyclists. Uneven terrain, wet roads and heavy traffic often require a motorcycle rider to react and maneuver differently than automobiles.

» Be aware. Take extra caution when making a left-hand turn. Most automobile-vs.-motorcycle crashes occur during left-hand turns.

For motorcyclists:

» Wear safety gear. Helmets that meet a high protection standard, eye wear, closed-toe footwear and protective clothing reduce risk of injury or death in a crash. The only thing between a biker and the ground is protective gear.

» Be visible. Keep headlights, marker and tail-lights on at dusk and dark or rainy weather. Wear bright clothing or put reflective strips on your bike to be more visible to other motorists. Avoid being in the blind spots of cars and trucks by following three to four seconds behind the vehicle in front of you.

» Use sound judgment. Avoid weaving between lanes while riding. Be sure to use your signals and stick to the speed limit.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Main Street interferes

The Main Street organization was supposed to bring help and assistance to the City of Wayne. Instead it is now interfering in our internal politics.

Members and supporters of the Wayne Main Street Organization have expressed, quite clearly on social media, at public meetings and other locations that they are against Proposition 'S.'

It is odd that a group that is supposed to be community-minded and acting in the best interests of the citizens of Wayne and our businesses should have within their ranks loud activists pushing back against adequate emergency medical service, fire protection and police.

From what I understand, \$50,000 a year is peeled off from the budget of the Downtown Development Authority and handed over to the Main Street organization.

None of the Main Street members seem to question

this allocation of funds. From what I have seen they certainly haven't given any good reason for it or example of what all that money has brought us.

If I am not mistaken this has taken place over the last three years. What worthy items did we get for \$150,000?

Main Street should be helping us. We shouldn't be carrying them.

The priorities for this city are up to you.

Do you want adequate emergency medical service, fire and police to be at the top of the list or do you want to pay for people who live outside of Wayne to have empty commercial real estate remodeled?

That's the way it is now. What do you want?

Alfred Brock
Wayne

There's plenty, if you look

Gerald Maxey wrote an opinion, "It won't be enough," and with his usual liberal slant, told us that "he spent \$40 million of my money" and "\$7 million of my money" and came up with "zilch" on Hillary Clinton.

If you put down your liberal Kool-Aid long enough, let me try to give you your money's worth. From an attorney friend:

"Corney is not a stupid guy. He may have been directed to 'take the fall' with his Hillary announcement (we know that Loretta didn't want this thrown on her desk to preside over, even though the FBI has no authority to make decisions whether or not to prosecute crimes; they only investigate and Justice Dept decides that).

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Online: Due to space limitations, not all letters submitted can be published in our print edition. However, all letters will be published online each week at www.hometownlife.com.

However, he decided to do something out of the ordinary — lay out and disclose all of his evidence. He knew what he was doing and he knew that it would create a "firestorm" of controversy. He also knew that it would cause Congress to call for an investigation so, now, he will not just be able to go and answer their questions; he made himself available almost instantly, full well knowing that they will want to dig even deeper, hear about more evidence and have an open-ended Q&A for the entire day if they want to.

The public and media will now get to know everything that could have been presented in court if there was a prosecution. This hearing could be extremely eye-opening. Like I said, Corney isn't a stupid guy and he might have just outsmarted Lynch and Obama when they told him to "kill this case." A grand jury might have taken six months or longer to accomplish, if playing "according to Hoyle." Now nothing will be secret.

Gary Heist
Farmington Hills

OBSERVER

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK


Brad Kadrich,
Community editor

Jani Hayden,
Advertising director



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Barbecue contest all about having fun

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Season your grill. Prep the meat by trimming fat, marinating or rubbing with spices.

Invite friends and family to lend a hand and don't take your barbecuing too seriously.

Follow that advice and you're set for a tasty, good time competing in the "backyard" grilling category at Westland Area Jaycees second annual All American BBQ Throwdown, Friday-Saturday, Aug. 5-6 at Thomas H. Brown Central City Park, located on Ford Road, between Newburgh and Wayne Road, in Westland.

The Throwdown — which will take place during Westland's Blues, Brews, and BBQ festival — will offer two levels of barbecue competition this year. The Kansas City Barbecue Society (KCBS) portion of the event is new and likely to draw serious pitmasters from across Michigan and beyond to vie for champion titles and \$500-\$1,500 in prizes as they barbecue chicken, ribs, brisket and pork. Registration is \$200 and due Aug. 1. The Backyard Series will award \$50-\$100 and costs \$30 to enter. Register by Aug. 4.

"There are very strict rules at KCBS. Everything has to be cooked on site. Everything has to be prepped on site. It's like a barbecue camp for a weekend," said Sarah Austin, Westland Area Jaycees president.

"The backyard event allows any method of cooking — gas, wood pellets, charcoal. It's more laid back and less competitive. The backyard barbecue is very relaxed."

Social outing

That's why Brian Markonni of Garden City

enjoyed competing last year with his son, Blake. He'll expand the team to include two sons this year.

"I could never compete with the Kansas City Barbecue guys. They take it too seriously," said Markonni, who uses a grill that has both propane and charcoal capability. "It's something we do for fun. Everyone on the amateur side, we're talking and having a good time. You don't need a lot. You can come out with your hibachi grill, sit back, laugh, and enjoy."

He grills at home and prefers the smoky flavor of charcoal barbecue to other cooking methods.

"I love doing ribs a lot. I love it when everything falls off the bone."

Markonni recommends removing skin, some fat, marinating the ribs and barbecuing slowly to ensure the meat is fall-off-the-bone tender.

"Give yourself enough time, cook at a slow even heat and make sure if you're going to do a competition, get an idea of what you're doing and try it a week or two in advance."

Sweet ribs

Markonni likes to wing it with a little improvisation at the grill. He adjusts spices as he cooks, tasting along the way. He flavored his ribs with cinnamon, apple and Jack Daniels Tennessee Fire, a blending of cinnamon liqueur and whiskey, at Throwdown last year.

"I wanted to think outside the box. It turned out more like a candy taste than barbecue — like ribs for Christmas. It was really good. We'll try something different this year. I'm thinking Asian."

Markonni hopes to incorporate a smoker into his barbecuing

someday, but has a lot of questions about the method and equipment. He plans to ask around at Throwdown for recommendations and cooking tips.

James Hart, former Westland Area Jaycees president, suggests seasoning a new smoker before using it in competition. It's a lesson he learned when he brought a new smoker and a grill to Throwdown last year.

"Cook on it a few times before you cook on it competitively," he said. "I had never smoked anything before."

Great steak

He'll return to Throwdown's Backyard Series next month with his 2015 team. His father, Richard, and his son, also named Richard, handled the team's barbecue pork, chicken and ribs last year, while Hart took a "big old porterhouse" steak from raw to medium rare. The pork and ribs went into the smoker and the chicken and steak cooked on a gas grill. The Backyard Series allows contestants to substitute steak for brisket.

"When it comes to my steak there is a family marinade I use. It has proved to be very successful. It's not uncommon for friends to say, we'll bring a steak and you cook it. My wife can't even go to a steakhouse anymore. I'll give you one ingredient in it and that is teriyaki."

His advice for barbecuing steak includes trimming unnecessary fat, marinating meat, and a medium cook or less.

"If you make a good steak, it doesn't need sauce," he added.

For more about the All American BBQ Throwdown, visit westlandarea-jaycees.org.

sdargay@hometownlife.com



James Hart, former Westland Area Jaycees president, tends to the barbecue during the organization's inaugural All American BBQ Throwdown last year.

CITY OF WESTLAND STATE PRIMARY ELECTION August 2, 2016

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND, County of Wayne: Notice is hereby given that a State Primary Election will be held in the City of Westland on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 from 7:00 AM until 8:00 PM at which time will be on the ballot candidates for the following offices:

13th District Representative in Congress
11th District Representative in State
16th District Representative in State
County Prosecutor
County Sheriff
County Clerk
County Treasurer
County Register of Deeds
Judge of Circuit Court – 3rd Circuit
County Commissioner – 11th District
County Commissioner – 12th District
Delegates to County Conventions

Wayne County Proposals

Proposition P
PARKS MILLAGE CONTINUATION

To continue the millage authorized in 2010, shall Wayne County levy this millage at the estimated 2015 rollback rate of .2459 for five more years (2016 through 2020) to continue to improve and operate several parks and related facilities, including Hines Park, Elizabeth Park, Chandler Park and improvements to municipal parks in the 43 communities.

WAYNE COUNTY ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY RENEWAL MILLAGE

The Wayne County Zoological Authority was formed to allow for continuing services for the students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. As a renewal of the previously approved millage authorization which expires with the 2017 tax levy, shall the 0.1 mill (10 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all of the taxable property located within the County continue to be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2018 through 2027?

A sample of the ballot containing the full text of ballot proposals may be obtained at the City of Westland City Clerk's Office, at <http://www.cityofwestland.com/departments/city-clerk> or at Michigan.gov/vote

The places of voting for the State Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 will be as follows:

Precincts

1, 13, 18 & 19
2, 11, 23 & 32
3 & 7
4 & 8
5, 24 & 29
6, 9 & 10
12, 25, 30, 31 & 35
14
15
16
17 & 37
20
21 & 42
22
26 & 33
27 & 36
28
30 & 31
34 & 38
39
40 & 41

Locations

Schweitzer School, 2601 Treadwell
Elliott School, 30800 Bennington
Stottlemeyer School, 34801 Marquette
Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road
Edison School, 34505 Hunter
Adams Middle School, 33475 Palmer
Cooper School, 28550 Ann Arbor Trail
Marshall Middle School, 35100 Bayview
Greenwood Villa, 7600 Nankin Ct
Holliday Park Club House, 34850 Fountain Blvd.
P. D. Graham School, 1255 S. John Hix
Wildwood School, 500 N. Wildwood
Hellenic Cultural Center at St. Constantine Church, 36375 Joy
Westland Meadows Club House, 30600 Van Born
Hamilton School, 1031 Schuman
Western Wayne Skill Center, 8075 Ritz
Church of Christ – Annapolis Park, 30355 Annapolis
Hayes School, 30600 Louise
Dyer Social Service Center, Senior Wing – 36745 Marquette
Landings Apartment Club House, 7000 Lakeview
Hellenic Cultural Center at St. Constantine Church, 36375 Joy

The polls for said election will be open at 7:00 AM and will remain open until 8:00 PM on said day of election. Every qualified elector present and in line at the hour prescribed for the closing thereof shall be allowed to vote. Voting sites are ADA compliant.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR CITY OF WESTLAND RESIDENTS

Absent voter ballots are available through the Westland City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan. The voter, before the issuance of a ballot, must complete an application for ballot. Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office or may be filled out and printed from the following website: <http://www.cityofwestland.com/departments/city-clerk>

The last day to apply for a ballot by mail is Saturday, July 30, 2016 at 2:00 PM. Persons qualified to vote absentee may vote in person in the City Clerk's Office until 4:00 PM on Monday, August 1, 2016. Absent Voter Ballots must be returned to the City of Westland City Clerk's Office by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, August 2, 2016.

VOTER INSTRUCTIONS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

To comply with the voting accessibility requirements, the voting instructions will be provided on a CD and in Braille. Any voters who request the voting instructions in an "alternative format" in advance of the election will be supplied with a copy of the CD. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in an "alternative format" should be made by contacting the clerk in advance of the election no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Election. In an instance where a voter contacts his or her local clerk in advance of the election to request that the voter instructions be available in an "alternative format" in the polls, the clerk will arrange to have a CD player available in the polling place.

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, ERIC R. SABREE, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of June 6, 2016 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

WAYNE COUNTY Wayne County, Michigan

Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increases Effective
County of Wayne	November 3, 2009	1 mill	2019
Wayne County Jail	August 7, 2012	1 mill	2021
Wayne County Community College	November 6, 2008 November 6, 2012	1.25 mills 1 mill	2020 2022
Garden City Public Schools	August 2012 November 2014	18 mills 2 mills	2018 (non-homestead only) 2020
Inkster School District	November 2015	18 mills	2035 (non-homestead only)
Livonia Public School District	August 5, 2014 August 2014	18 mills 1.12 mills	2020 (non-homestead only) 2019
Romulus School District	May 2011 August 2012 November 2008	18 mills 5.1314 mills .75 mills	2021 (non-homestead only) 2017 (homestead only) 2018
Taylor School District	November 2012	18 mills	2018 (non-homestead only)
Wayne – Westland Community Schools	May 2010 February 2012	18 mills .9922	2025 (non-homestead only) 2022
Schoolcraft College	March 1986	1.7881 mills	None
City of Westland	PA164-1877 Operating-1966 PA359 1925 PA345 Police/Fire PA298-Rubbish August 2012-Library	0.9477 mills 6.4834 mills 0.0312 mills 8.0 mills 2.43 mills 0.99	N/A N/A N/A N/A 2021

Date: June 6, 2016

Signed: ERIC R. SABREE
Wayne County Treasurer

Richard LeBlanc
Westland City Clerk

Man vs. the Mississippi

Wayne Peal
Michigan.com

For years, Mike Malott spent his time navigating through political headwinds as a newspaper editor and Lansing-based political reporter.

This summer, he'll spend his time floating down the Mississippi River in a kayak.

It's a long way from his days as editor of the Livingston Daily, Malott said. Still, it's a challenge he's more than ready to meet.

"This is the first time I've ever had enough time to do something like this," Malott said.

An early retirement package from Gannett Co. Inc., parent company of the Livingston Daily, gave him the time. His family helped provide the inspiration.

The project came about after a family meeting in Malott's Hartland Township living room. A whitewater rafting excursion was one suggestion; a hike along the Appalachian National Scenic Trail was another.

"We kicked around a few ideas, but the Mississippi was the one that really clicked," he said.

Malott has been kayaking for about three years, but acknowledged that he isn't an Olympic-style expert.

"The thing about the Mississippi, though, is that it doesn't have a whole lot of whitewater. In that sense, it's somewhat of an easy river to navigate," he said.

He won't be traveling alone on his planned 2,350-mile journey. He'll be accompanied by Dave Randolph of Clinton, Illinois, a new friend and experienced kayaker he met via the Internet.

"They say you shouldn't go alone, so I was looking for someone just as crazy as I was," Malott said.

With an expected departure date of Aug. 1, the two plan to make their way from the riv-



Former Livingston Daily managing editor Mike Malott, now sporting a beard he's grown since retirement, prepares for a kayak ride down the Mississippi River this summer.

er's headwaters in northern Minnesota, all the way to the Gulf of Mexico, passing the major port cities of St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans as their two-month journey unfolds.

From Mark Twain to Creedence Clearwater Revival, the big river has inspired generations of American writers and musicians. It's also inspired generations of explorers and adventurers.

Malott and Randolph are among nearly 30 kayakers taking an extended trip down the river this year, according to statistics compiled on the Mississippi River Paddlers Facebook page. More than 50 took the journey last year.

Yet the Mississippi is home to more than just the picturesque paddle-wheel riverboats beloved by tourists. It remains one of the most heavily traversed commercial waterways in the world, an aquatic north-south superhighway that cuts the United States in two.

The river's big barges don't scare Malott a bit.

"We'll be staying pretty close to the banks and out of their way," he said.

Fundraiser

The two men aren't doing it just for themselves. Both hope to use the trip to raise money for a pair of charitable organizations.

They are raising money for Key Development

Center of Brighton and the Hope Center of Lexington, Kentucky, in memory of substance abuse counselor Colin Crumm, who died last year after overcoming his own longtime battle against alcohol addiction.

"Although we have few details, Colin is credited with talking about a dozen men — hardcore, live-in-the-woods alcoholics — into starting rehabilitation in order to restart their lives," Malott said. "I consider that heroic."

Donors can pledge per mile or make a single donation by visiting the trip's blog site, silveroutsider.com.

Getting ready

The adventurous spirit isn't the only thing that's new about the veteran newspaperman.

Since leaving the Livingston Daily, the once clean-shaven Malott has grown a full beard. ("Everyone likes it — except for my mom," he noted.)

He's also taken time to sharpen his water skills.

His long, blue kayak came secondhand.

"I didn't see the need to buy a brand-new one," Malott said. "It's going to take a beating anyway."

However, the kayak has an ample hold, big enough to store all the supplies Malott says are necessary for the trip.

"I'll be packing pretty much what I bring when I'm backpacking," he said.



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Bistro
Steaks**

\$8.99 lb
Save \$3.00

**Fresh
All Natural
Sirloin
Pork Chops**

\$2.49 lb
Save \$1.00

**Fresh
All Natural
Lamb
Shanks**

\$5.99 lb
Save \$2.00

**Fresh
All Natural
Boneless
Pork Chops**

\$3.49 lb
Save \$1.50

**Premium Fresh
All Natural
Boneless Skinless
Chicken Breast**

\$2.49 lb
Save \$1.50

**Premium Fresh
All Natural
Ground
Turkey**

\$5.99 lb
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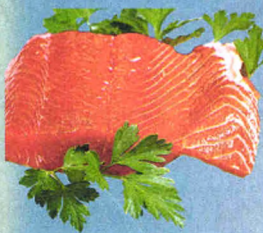
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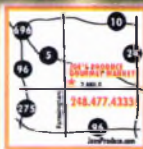
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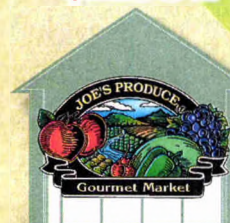
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NEW LOOK AT USA HOCKEY ARENA

SAFE, STURDY AND SLICK

Installation of new boards, glass brings Plymouth arena into 21st century

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Look out, hockey fans sitting in the front row this season at USA Hockey Arena. That first heavy hit into the Plymouth arena's brand new glass-boards combo likely will catapult large beverages off the ledge and into their laps.

"When people hit it, you can see it move," said Paul Fassbender of the arena's maintenance department, pointing out the ready-to-flex boards and acrylic glass that last month were installed at the building's smaller rink — where the U.S. National Team Development Program's two teams compete. "The people in the front row, the first couple times, they'll get some entertainment," Fassbender said with a knowing nod, explaining that a beverage cup won't stay put when the crunching body checks arrive. Earlier this month, Fassbender and co-workers were busy putting the new boards up

at the former Compuware Arena's bigger, Olympic-sized rink. The new ice will be made this week, after which glass panes will be slipped atop those boards. Fassbender is no stranger to hockey rinks. He coaches Saline High School's varsity team and previously guided teams at Plymouth and Ann Arbor Pioneer. **Heavy duty** These days, he is all in on helping USA Hockey maintain a state-of-the-art ice plant, complete with safety features that

See RINK, Page B2



TIM SMITH

Newly installed boards and glass, including this curved piece at the bench, will help prevent concussions at USA Hockey Arena. Here, players try out the new-look facility on the NHL-sized rink.

MOTOR SPORTS

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Racing with a freshly healed collarbone that was still looming in his life's rear-view mirror, Livonia resident Derek Raupp accelerated his long-time and long-shot dream of becoming a professional dirt bike competitor earlier this summer when he qualified for the National Motocross Championships set for early next month in Hurricane Mills, Tenn.

Raupp's chances of advancing to the national championship — which accepts just 1,482 of a possible 22,000 hopefuls — appeared grim in the wake of a late-May spill that left his arm in a sling.

But the action-loving dirt-biker healed as swiftly as he races and placed third at an ATV/MCAMA regional event held June 24-26 in Millington.

"I had to finish in the top six at the regional, and I placed third," said Raupp, a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and current student at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. "I surprised myself a little with how quick I was able to come back."

Unlike most other kinds of motor sports that are run on smooth, predictable surfaces, the courses for motocross cover acres of hilly, dirt tracks that demand off-the-charts, exceptional maneuvering skills and the durability to withstand bone-jarring rides.

"I'm definitely sore once a race is over," Raupp said. "You bounce around quite a bit on the hills and the races last



SUBMITTED

Livonia resident Derek Raupp navigates a sharp curve during a recent motocross race.

See RAUPP, Page B2

Waza athletes fare well

Waza Track Club had an impressive showing earlier this month during a Michigan AAU regional qualifier in track and field at Detroit Renaissance High School.

All 17 of the Waza athletes who participated set personal records and qualified for the Junior Olympics July 30-Aug. 6 at Turner Stadium in Houston, Texas.

Lindsey Struts had the best single performance, establishing personal records in the 100-meter hurdles, shot put, 200 dash, javelin throw, 800 run and triple jump.

She matched her PR in the high jump and qualified for the national meet in the heptathlon, triple jump and high jump.

The other Waza athletes and the events in which they qualified are — Bella Haynes: 800, 1,500 and 3,000 runs; Luke Montgomery: 800 and 3,000; Mahi Khandelwal: 800; Rylee Lukes: 800 and 1,500; regional champion in the 1,500; Dash Dobar: 800, 1,500 and javelin; Allison Deep: 100, 200 and 400; Bo Anderson: 1,500, 3,000 and javelin; regional champion in the javelin; Miranda Meyers: 1,500 and 3,000; Drew Harris: 400; Amrita Shivaraman: 800; Aishwarya Shivaraman: 800 and long jump; Mason Montgomery: 800 and 1,500; Joey Deep: long jump; Malcolm Cleaver: long jump; Brendan McCoy: 3,000; Kyle Samluk: 3,000.



SUBMITTED

The Waza Track Club members are (front row, from left) Allison Deep, Mason Montgomery, Judah Montgomery, Drew Harris, Malcolm Cleaver, (middle row) Luke Montgomery, Mahi Khandelwal, Aishwarya Shivaraman, Bella Haynes, Amrita Shivaraman, Madeline Chau, Miranda Meyers, (back row) coach Cathy Momeyer, Lindsey Strutz, Melanie McDowell, Kendall Skore, Brendan McCoy, Bo Anderson, Dash Donar, Garrett Nagelhout, Josh Momeyer, Joey Deep and head coach Doug McDowell.

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COLLEGIATE SUMMER BASEBALL

Rams easily weather Hurricanes' storm

Local wooden-bat team clicking on all cylinders

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Michigan Rams handed the Hurricanes like they were nothing more than a brief summer shower during a three-game Livonia Collegiate Baseball League set played Sunday and Monday.

After emphatically sweeping all three contests by a combined score of 47-15, the Rams' record stood at a rock-solid 23-7-1. The Hurricanes slipped to 15-14-3.

Fueled by Alex Peczynski's three-hit effort, the Rams captured Monday's contest,

11-3, at Bicentennial Park in Livonia. Peczynski stroked a double, knocked in two runs and scored a pair.

Other hitting mainstays for the winners were Tyler Lowe (2-for-3, two RBI), Anthony DiPonio (2-for-3, RBI, three runs), Nolan Page (2-for-4, RBI, run), Jack Ferguson (2-for-3, two RBI) and Kevin O'Malley (2-for-4, two RBI).

Jake Rogers picked up the win after limiting the Hurricanes to four hits, three walks and three runs over the first four frames. Zack Schmidtke was perfect in relief, retiring all nine batters he faced, five via strike outs.

Adam Willinger suffered the loss after surrendering nine runs in just over three innings.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Michigan Ram player Zack Schmidtke looks for a sign during a game earlier this summer.

The Rams scored in every inning except the second. They did the most damage in the third when they plated

four. Jake Makowski cranked a round-tripper for the Hurricanes.

On Sunday in a twin-bill played at Ford Field, the Rams swept the Hurricanes, 16-2 and 20-10.

Ferguson was the winning pitcher in game one. He scattered seven hits and four walks in a complete-game masterpiece.

Zack Zsolchak was the losing pitcher.

Tyler Lowe was a beast at the dish for the winners, going 4-for-5 with four RBI and two runs scored. Also swinging big sticks for the Rams were Nolan Page (3-for-3, double, four runs), Craig Wilson (2-for-4, two RBI, two runs), Patrick Downing (2-for-3, two RBI, run) and Danny Kerr, who swatted a two-

run home run.

Brian Harris contributed two hits and two runs to the Hurricanes' cause.

The Rams exploded for 16 hits in Sunday's nightcap with relief pitcher DiPonio the chief beneficiary as he earned the win with two-and-a-third innings of shut-out ball. DiPonio struck out five of the seven Hurricane batters he retired.

Justin Chandler took the loss after getting roughed up for five runs in just one-and-a-third inning.

Ferguson blasted a home run among his two hits. He finished the game with five RBI, as did Page, who also rocked a tater. Wilson was 3-for-5 and Trace Woodworth scored a run.

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RAUPP

Continued from Page B1

anywhere from five to 20 laps, so it takes a toll on your body. It's pretty grueling, but I love it. I love the freedom I feel when I'm racing."

Riding a motor bike that cost in the neighborhood of \$6,000, Raupp reaches speeds of close to 50 miles per hour on the straightaways.

He said sudden spills are part of the sport, but major injuries are rare.

"When I broke my collarbone (in May), I lost control of the bike coming out of a turn," he said. "At the time, it looked like the timing was really bad with regionals coming up in three or four weeks, but I was lucky enough to recover pretty fast."

The passion for racing motor bikes is in Raupp's DNA. His father, Kurt, got his son involved in the sport after excelling in the adrenaline-producing activity years earlier.

"I've been riding for about 10 years now," the 21-year-old said. "I started getting more serious about it and competing probably five or six years ago."

"I played hockey in the Livonia leagues throughout high school, but motocross has always been my favorite thing to do."

Raupp said the closest practice course to his Livonia home is in Milan.

Raupp is studying unmanned aerial systems at Northwestern Michigan College.

The event next month,



SUBMITTED
Despite recovering from a recent broken collarbone, Derek Raupp qualified for the national-level race in the sport of motocross.

which will be held at the Loretta Lynn Ranch, is like amateur motocross's Super Bowl. Raupp will be competing in the ultra-competitive 250C modified class.

"The Amateur National at Loretta Lynn's is the event every motocross racer in the country wants to compete in," event director Tim Cotter said. "A win at Loretta's gives a racer instant national notoriety and can serve as a springboard to a lucrative professional motocross career."

Most of America's top professional motocross racers, including James Stewart, Ricky Carmichael, Travis Pastrana and Ryan Dungey, have won AMA Amateur National titles at Loretta Lynn's.

Raupp will make the journey to Tennessee along with his dad, mechanic Blake Richards, and good friend Bobby Schiffman.

Racers compete in three 15-20 minute races over the course of the week per class, sometimes in scorching temperatures. Proper training and preparation are paramount, Cotter added.

The race action will be broadcast live daily at www.RacerTV.com for a total of 40 hours of live coverage. In addition, two highlight shows featuring the event will air on NBC Sports.

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SUBMITTED
Stevenson was awarded the title of Grand Champs for the second consecutive year at the annual pom camp held in Grand Rapids.

HIGH SCHOOL POM

Stevenson earns highest award at Davenport camp

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Members of the Livonia Stevenson pom team were happy campers as they returned from Davenport University last week.

Led by "Smile, Sparkle, Shine" award-winner Katie Orlich, Stevenson was awarded the title of Grand Champs for the second consecutive year at the annual pom camp held in Grand Rapids.

Orlich's award is the highest honor a senior can receive. She was chosen to receive the award out of approximately 400 participants at the camp.

Orlich is the lone senior on the squad, which includes nine incoming freshmen, six sophomores and three juniors.

The squad is coached by Kelly Sikorski and Shaylyn Sikorski.



Katie Orlich earned the "Smile, Sparkle, Shine" award.

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RINK

Continued from Page B1

are intended to cut down on concussions and other serious injuries.

Fassbender pointed to a spec sheet for Part 2 of the current project. There are 119 pieces of glass to be installed, weighing a total of 27,764 pounds.

"We've been fortunate because we got to do it two times in a month, month and a half," he said. "This one went so much faster than over there."

The arena upgrades are part of a growing trend, led by the National Hockey League, to reduce concussions and other major injuries suffered when players hurtle at a high speed into the boards and glass.

"We upgraded for all the safety that the NHLs been pushing, for concussions," Fassbender said. "So we revamped, pulled out the old boards that were 20, 22 years old, heavy, steel boards, and we went with these aluminum frames."

"They have the flex points in them, flex glass. Boards will give more. You'll actually see the movement of the boards when people get hit into them. It's supposed to help with shoulder injuries, concussions and be a little softer of a feel when kids are sliding into them or getting hit into them."

Safety first

The need to ensure safety is a big priority with USA Hockey, too.

"Safety is a top priority for us at USA Hockey Arena for whoever is on the ice," said Mike Henry, arena manager. "The fact that both rinks are now compatible for sled-hock-



TIM SMITH
Paul Fassbender is in the home stretch of finishing off the Olympic-size rink at USA Hockey Arena.

ey is an added advantage and is within USA Hockey's mandate to grow the game at all levels."

Sections of white-covered boards near player benches can be swapped out for clear sections to accommodate sled hockey. Essentially, players can ramp on and off the ice without fear of hitting the kick plate that runs around the ice perimeter.

At the NHL-sized rink where the U.S. NTDP Under-17 and Under-18 teams play, Fassbender pointed at another important new feature — a flexible sheet of curved glass, where doors open from the ice to the players' bench.

The innovative feature hopefully will prevent near-tragedies such as one in 2011, when Montreal player Max Pacioretty slammed into the turnbuckle, breaking his neck and suffering a severe concussion.

"They're spring-loaded," Fassbender said. "So when you hit that, the whole glass moves, plus it's acrylic, so it's softer. That's one of the great features of this whole system."

"When a kid's getting into the boards here, you're not

going to have something that takes their head off."

Ice time

Fassbender said putting the ice in is routine stuff by comparison, something that is done every summer.

"We start by doing a couple coats of clear (ice) to get one-sixth of an inch on top of the concrete," he said. "And then we'll go three coats of white (paint) on top. ... We have a big boom that has 15 sprayers on the back. And you walk it, you literally walk the ice, in a pattern. It's like spray-painting a deck."

"We do three coats of the white paint to give it the solid white look."

There is a method to the madness of laying down various lines, dots and circles that USA Hockey Arena fans can see from their seats, too.

"We use red and blue yarn, stretch it across where the red lines and blue lines are," Fassbender said. "We freeze those in and then we have someone come through and paint them by hand with a four-inch brush."

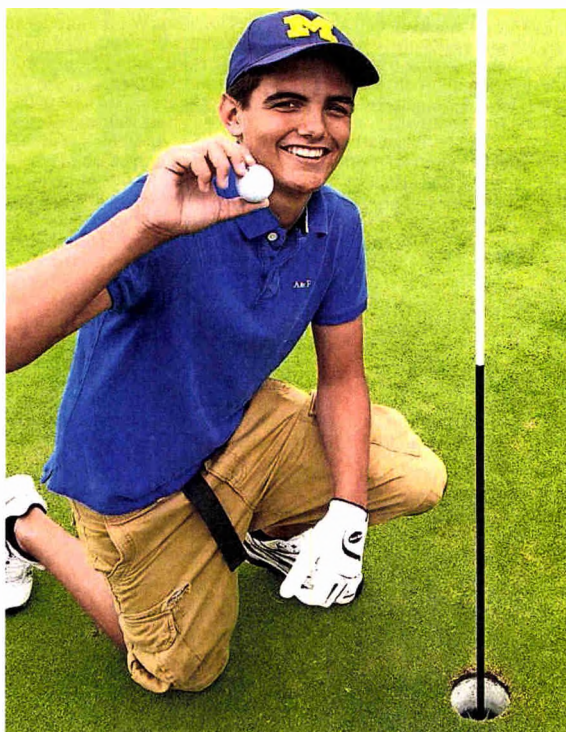
To cap it all off, several more coats of clear ice are put in until the surface is about 1½ inches thick.

"We have an ice dam, which is the first inch and a half, and then there's a seam where the boards sit on top," Fassbender said. "That's where it gives it that flex point, so we want to avoid any ice buildup getting underneath in that seam."

"Ice, as it builds up, will expand. Then it will push the boards up, so we have to make sure we maintain our inch and a half depth."

That's good, because the new boards at USA Hockey Arena will be rocking enough already during 2016-17.

Oh, Henry!



Fourteen-year-old Henry Shymanski holds the priceless ball that he knocked in the hole for his first career hole-in-one on June 23 at Livonia's Idyl Wyld Golf Course. Shymanski's memorable shot came on the 12th hole, a 125-yard par three. Shymanski's shot was witnessed by his golf league playing partners Paul Clark, Kyle Robertson and Justin Mitchell as well as Idyl Wyld professional Jason Rammler, who happened to be observing the foursome's tee shots.

Area's track athletes rise to great heights

FIRST TEAM

Gabrielle Carter, shot put, Churchill: Carter capped a brilliant high school throwing career with KLAA and Division 1 regional titles in both the discus and shot put. She set personal records with a 133 feet, 4 inch disc throw and a 38-5 effort in the shot put. Carter was a senior captain and four-year varsity stand-out who qualified for the D1 state meet the past two seasons.



Carter

"Gabby had to overcome a concussion during the season that had her out for nearly three weeks," Churchill coach Patrick Daugherty noted. "She was able to recover in time to win the shot put and discus at the conference meet. Gabby followed that performance up with another double-winning performance at regionals. She is a hard-working, persistent, and great athlete with a great attitude. She will do great things in her future throwing career."

Micayla Martin, discus, Farmington: Martin finished ninth in the Division 1 state meet with her best throw of the season at 119-5.



Martin

She is a league champion, regional runner-up and fourth-place finisher in the Oakland County meet. "Micayla had an excellent sophomore season," throws coach Kim Adams said. "She finished one place out of being all-state, which showed how well she handled her nerves in such a huge venue."

"Micayla is a hard-working and focused competitor. In just two years of throwing, she has grown tremendously and has set high goals for herself. I love working with Micayla and look forward to helping her reach those goals!"

Morgan Murphy, high jump, Farmington: Murphy was a Division 1 regional champion and the state runner-up in the high jump. She jumped 5-4 at the state meet and had a season best of 5-5.



Murphy

Murphy is the OAA Blue Division champion in this event and was third in the Oakland County meet. "Morgan made some nice adjustments during season that allowed her to start making those higher heights," jumps coach Charles Bridges said. "I think 5-6 and 5-7 are right around the corner for her."

"Morgan is a very diligent worker. She's very good at picking up the technique in the event. She has been a pleasure to work with the last three years, and I look forward to her senior year."

Mia Flynn, long jump, Mercy: Flynn won a regional championship with a school-record long jump of 17 feet, 3 inches. That also was the best by an Observerland athlete this year.



Flynn

The multi-talented sophomore is the Catholic League champion in the long jump and was the Observerland runner-up.

Flynn also excels in the 100 hurdles, winning the league title for the second year in a row and the Observerland Invite. She was fifth in that event at the regional.

"She had a real consistent year," coach Gary Servais said. "After the league meet, she had some injury trouble. I think that limited her at the state meet."

"For the long jump, she's the best one we've had. We're looking forward to bigger and better things in the next two years. If we can keep her healthy for a whole season, it will be interesting."

Olivia Rytarsyk, pole vault, Churchill: Rytarsyk enjoyed the most decorated season of all the athletes on the talent-rich Churchill girls track-and-field contingent, winning five dual meets, the April Showers Relays, the Brighton Bulldog Invitational, Churchill Field Event Invite and the Livonia City Meet. She was also the KLAA Conference champion, regional gold medalist and placed fifth at the Division 1 state meet, which earned the senior all-state accolades.



Rytarsyk

Rytarsyk put an exclamation point on her stellar campaign by placing seventh with a vault of 11 feet, 6 inches at the Midwest Meet of Champions in Ohio. Her 11-9 effort at the regional meet broke her own school record.

"Olivia started preparing for this season from the very moment last season ended," said Daugherty. "It definitely wasn't easy and she'll probably tell you that more than once her coach was driving her nuts. Through it all she kept a great attitude while trusting the process and continuing to work hard. "It all paid off in a big way as

her season was filled with both team and personal success. Olivia was a huge point scorer for the team by finishing first at almost every meet we went to and along the way she added another eight inches to her school record. Olivia has been a huge part of this team for four years and will be greatly missed and not just for her athletic performance. Olivia has been showing the way to success for our younger vaulters and often leads and contributes in ways that few notice. Olivia's career at Churchill may have come to an end, but she will continue her vaulting career at Siena Heights next year."

Erin Bradley, 100 hurdles, Plymouth: The junior transfer student made an immediate impact in her first year with the Wildcats, setting new school and Park records in the hurdles (14.98 at the Golden Triangle Invitational).

Bradley also was part of the 800-meter relay team that earned all-state honors.

"Erin was a transfer student to Plymouth this year and I can tell you we were blessed to have her," coach Ricky Styes said. "... Impressively, she battled injuries this year and was able to accomplish what she did."

She finished first in the 100 hurdles at the Kensington Conference meet (15.07) and her time of 15:11 at the Division 1 regionals was good for second place and a spot at the state meet. At Hudsonville, she took 13th with a time of 16:54.

Takia Bradley, 300 hurdles, Churchill: A newcomer to track and field, Bradley flourished, finishing second on her team in points while setting a personal record of 16.02 seconds in 100-meter hurdles at the KLAA conference meet and a school record of 46.06 at the regional championship in the 300 hurdles as she placed second and qualified for the Division 1 state meet. Takia was also a big part of our school record-setting 800 and 1,600 relay teams that both placed fifth at the state meet.

"Takia has been a joy to coach and is one of our hardest workers," raved Daugherty. "We look forward to a great senior season for Takia."

Anavia Battle, 100 dash, Wayne: Battle was a sprinting force for the Zebras this past spring as she set school records in the 100 and 200 dashes and anchored school-best efforts in the 800 and 1,600 relays. She lowered her personal-best times to 11.9 seconds in the 100 and 23.92 in the 200 and earned all-state honors in both events.

"Anavia really started to come into her own this season," emphasized Wayne coach Jamal Johnson.

"She helped Wayne have the most successful season ever, including the most dual meet wins in program history. She's a great teammate and she loves excelling in track."

Akili Echols, 100 dash, Farmington: Echols was all-state in this event, finishing seventh in the Division 1 meet with a time of 12.56. The junior and three-year varsity stand-out was 11th in the 200 prelims at 25.89.

She set school records and finished third in both events at the regional, running 12.20 and 24.97. A hip flexor in early June was a setback and slowed her down at the state meet.

Echols also anchored the sprint relay teams and helped the Falcons finish eighth in the 400 meters at the state meet in 49.39.

"Akili had a wonderful season," Bridges said, citing her school records and all-state effort. "She is a tremendously hard-working girl and a quiet, effective leader. Akili does things the right way and has been outstanding now for three years."

Ryen Draper, 200 dash, Plymouth: Fast, consistent and versatile, Draper had an outstanding junior season for the Wildcats.

Her season culminated with an eighth-place finish at the D1 state meet (25.46), earning her all-state honors.

She also made her mark at the Kensington Conference meet (third, 25.34) and regional meet (second, with her season's best time of 24.95).

"Ryen was one of the most versatile sprinters in our area," Styes said. "She was all state in the 200 and finished ninth in the 400 (57.38). She is a very talented runner that played a major role in our team's success this year."

Chanel Gardner, 400 run, Churchill: Garden graduated from

Churchill in June as the most prolific sprinter in school history. A four-year varsity stand-out, the senior captain qualified for the Division 1 state meet all four years — even though she had never competed in track until her freshman year. Gardner set Churchill records in the 200 (24.89) and 400 (55.11), and was part of the 800 and 1600 relay school record-setting relay teams.

Gardner capped her career by winning the regional championship in the 400 and placing fourth in the 400 at the state meet, where she was also a part of the Chargers' 800 and 1,600 relay teams that both placed fifth.

"As great of a sprinter as Chanel is on the track, she is an even better person off of it," said Daugherty. "Her attitude and work ethic are truly amazing and should be emulated by all student athletes. She's heading off to Oakland University to run track and field and work her way to becoming a physical therapist. There are not enough great words to describe what Chanel meant to our program, to our school and to me as a coach."

Gabrielle Swider, 800 run, Churchill: Swider dominated the 800 run event this past spring as she placed first in all of the dual meets she competed in in addition to taking gold in the Livonia City Meet, KLAA Conference meet and the D1 regional meet. She placed seventh at the state meet (earning all-state honors) with a time of 2:14.46. Swider posted a personal-best time of 2:13.89 at the Larry Steeb Meet of Champions, where she placed second.

Only a sophomore, Swider became the youngest three-time all-stater in Churchill's history.

"Gabby is a great competitor, an outstanding 800-meter runner and a great student-athlete as she earned academic all-state as well," said Daugherty. "Our entire coaching staff is looking forward to what Gabby will do for the school and the sport in the years to come."

Abby Inch, 1,600 run, Farmington: Inch set numerous freshman school records — one being her time of 5:10.48 in this event. She was second at Observerland, fourth in the OAA Blue and seventh in Oakland County.

She is the OAA Blue and regional runner-up in the 3,200 and was 16th in that event at the state meet with a lifetime best of 11:05.53. Inch is the city champion in the 1,600 and 3,200.

"Abby's freshman season was like no other in Farmington history," coach Jeremy Auer said. "Abby loves to compete, and competition brings the best out of her."

"Throwing her in the fire as a freshman was no big deal, because the fire inside her burns even hotter. She will never settle, always aims to improve and will do what is necessary to make sure that occurs."

"We are excited to see what the next few years hold for her. Michigan has lots of talented girls right now, but Abby's upside as a long-distance runner might be the brightest in the state."

Maddy Trevisan, 3,200 run, Farmington: Trevisan ended her prep career at the D1 state championship in this event with a time of 10:35.85, which was just a tenth off her best.

She is the OAA Blue and regional champion in the 1,600 and 3,200. She also won the 1,600 at the Observerland Invite and Oakland County meet. Trevisan will continue her running career at the University of Michigan.

"The state meet served as a culmination to one of the greatest careers in Farmington history," Auer said. "After a near-miss in cross country, finishing third, she executed her strategy perfectly and captured the state title."

"What makes Maddy so special is not her physical gifts. It's her mental game. Clearly, she is talented, but her drive, focus and determination is like none I've ever seen."

"She owns up to her faults and is willing to put herself through torture to improve. She said: 'I don't care what it takes; I'm winning,' and she went out and did it."

RELAY TEAMS

Canton, 400: The 400-meter relay team comprised of senior Jessica Krone and freshmen Jada Sabir, Donae Adams and Jade Sabir only ran at one speed for the Chiefs during the 2015 season — very, very fast.

The quartet enjoyed an impressive late-season run, finishing fifth at the D1 state meet with an all-state time of 48.92.

They also competed in Hudsonville in the 1,600-meter relay, placing 11th with a mark of 4:03.08.

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Adams



Gendjar



George



Jada Sabir



Jade Sabir



Krone



Lombardo



Moultrie

Coach Alan Jones pointed to the immediate contributions of frosh twins Jada and Jade Sabir as well as those of ninth-grader Adams for putting a spark into the season.

"Jada scored the most points on the team with her lightning take off," Jones said. "She is an awesome sprinter and also has high aspirations for a track athlete."

About Jade, he noted that she "is a tremendous athlete as her preparation for a race is a thorough process. She has high hopes as a track athlete."

Meanwhile, Adams "has goals and dreams set on the Olympics some day."

The veteran of the tandem, Krone, "brought experience and work ethic to the team. Her hard work has earned her a spot on Oakland University track team, where she plans to keep running and pursue a medical career," Jones added.

Churchill, 800: The Chargers' quartet of Swider, Imani Moultrie, Bradley and Gardner placed fifth at the D1 state meet with a school-record time of 1:41.72. It was also a regional runner-up and second-place finisher at the KLAA conference meet.

"Early on during the season we were going to use Takia, Imani and Chanel in the 400 relay, but we decided to switch things up at the Livonia City Meet and change our 400 relay team and add Gabby Swider to the 800 relay team, and we saw our time drop by nearly five seconds," Daugherty revealed.

"From that point on the group got better and better and forced us to really focus on the 800 relay."

"Breaking 1:42 twice was the team highlight. It is a great group of girls and earned everything they got this year."

Churchill, 1,600: The foursome of Gardner, Swider, Bradley and Imani Moultrie placed fifth in the state meet with a school-record time of 3:55.72, in addition to being crowned regional champions and KLAA runners-up.

"Again we were not initially focused on this relay team early on in the season," admitted Daugherty. "We knew they all were talented, but they had the 800 relay already and individual events to focus on."

"But at the Canton dual meet we decided to see how good they were. They ran 4:00.54 and we knew we had a special group to compete against the best in the state. We asked a lot from Chanel, Gabby, Takia and Imani. Basically asking all four girls to do four events at the KLAA conference meet and regionals. But they are all extremely competitive and tough. The performed at their best when it mattered the most, dropping four seconds off their previous best and taking fifth at the state meet and setting a new school record."

Churchill, 3,200: The contingent of Gendjar, Caroline George, Alexis Lombardo and Swider placed 11th at the state meet with a clocking of 9:36.81. The foursome won a regional championship after placing second at the KLAA conference meet.

"This group is very close and a pleasure to work with," said Daugherty. "They ran their two fastest times at regionals and states. They won every race until conferences where they ran a season best and came in second to Northville."

"They had a great season in practice and it showed all season long. They often have the hardest practices on the team and they never complain. Great group of girls. We are looking forward to see Alexis excel at Indiana Tech next year and are excited about Caroline, Megan and Gabby returning for next year."

OBSERVERLAND GIRLS BEST TIMES

SHOT PUT

Gabrielle Carter (Churchill) 37-8/1
Ti Vanhorn (Harrison) 34-8/1
Darletta Robinson-Oden (Wayne) 34-8
Deja Adams (Farmington) 33-6
Kynora Parker (Salem) 32-11/1
Elise Wehmer (Plymouth) 32-4
Kelly Solak (Ladywood) 32-3/1
Bennie Booker (Mercy) 32-1/1
Natalia Lewandowski (Salem) 31-11
Melissa Fular (Churchill) 31-10/1

DISCUS

Gabrielle Carter (Churchill) 133-4
Micayla Martin (Farmington) 119-5
Ayo-ola Sobowale (Harrison) 115-5
Ashley Robbin (Churchill) 108-10
April Sello (Mercy) 107-8
Alexis Browning (Franklin) 106-1
Rachel Lepper (Salem) 105-6
Kynora Parker (Salem) 104-4
Ashley Micheaux (Wayne) 101-3
Danielle Hague (Churchill) 99-11

HIGH JUMP

Morgan Murphy (Farmington) 5-5
Katherine Harris (Plymouth) 5-2
Arianna Altman (Mercy) 5-2
Julie Worch (Franklin) 5-1
Gabby Chouinard (Plymouth) 5-1
Ryan Sparks (Canton) 5-0
Jillian Betts (Plymouth) 5-0
Loren Carter (Mercy) 4-9
Danielle McDonald (Mercy) 4-9
Kaitlin Moscati (Salem) 4-8
Breanna Thompson (Franklin) 4-8
Haley Scott (Wayne) 4-8
Hailey MacDonald (Canton) 4-8
Renee Farmer (Luth. Westland) 4-8
Aalanah Ordinec (Salem) 4-8

LONG JUMP

Mia Flynn (Mercy) 17-3
Bailey Brown (Plymouth) 17-2
Imani Moultrie (Churchill) 16-8/1
Ally Hill (Ladywood) 16-5
Mikaela Hille (Franklin) 16-4
Shamya Butler (Canton) 16-0
Raven Tatum (N. Farmington) 15-9
Diane Senkowski (Stevenson) 15-7/1
Ashlyn Tapp (Salem) 15-7/1
Ana White (Plymouth) 15-5/1

POLE VAULT

Olivia Rytarsyk (Churchill) 11-9
Emily Caragay (Plymouth) 11-0
Kelly Shiosbree (N. Farmington) 10-6
Natie Yurgil (Churchill) 10-3
Alexann Zahara (Churchill) 10-0
Cate Visscher (Churchill) 10-0
Shannon Burke (Stevenson) 10-0
Emily Welch (Plymouth) 10-0
Natalie Janke (Plymouth) 10-0
Sommer Pappas (Stevenson) 9-6

100-METER HURDLES

Erin Bradley (Plymouth) 14.98
Haven Essien (Salem) 15.07
Mia Flynn (Mercy) 15.90
Chanel Khan (Wayne) 15.96
Takia Bradley (Churchill) 16.02
Dana Cook (Harrison) 16.45
Chasadie Searcy (N. Farmington) 17.22
Nadine Salamey (Churchill) 17.22
Mariah Loving (N. Farmington) 17.28
Brianna Essien (Salem) 17.34

300 HURDLES

RELIGION CALENDAR

Email event information for this calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

JULY COMMONGROUND

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, July 22
Location: Connection Church, 3855 S. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Women and girls, 12 and over, from more than 30 churches will gather for worship to live music and an after party with appetizers, a coffee and cocoa bar and giveaways. The outreach focus for the event is Grace's Table, an organization that works with teen mothers and their children. Lisa Anderson, founder, will be the guest speaker. CommonGround will collect diapers, sizes 2, 6,

refill packages of moist wipes, \$10 Meijer gas cards and \$10 Starbucks gift cards, for donation to Grace's Table

Contact: 734-397-1777

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. Saturday, July 30

Location: Church of the Holy Spirit, 3700 Harvey Lake Road, Highland

Details: The Paradise Band, Elvis Lives and The Soulmen perform in an outdoor concert. \$15 advance tickets; \$20 at the door
Contact: 248-887-5364; holyspiritconcert.ezevent.com

FILM

Time/Date: 6:45 p.m. Friday, July 29

Location: Prince of Peace Lu-

theran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills

Details: See the movie, "Field of Dreams" and have a dinner of ballpark food

Contact: 248-553-3380

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, July 23

Location: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverne, Redford

Details: Free Christian music festival with Wise 4 Salvation, 11 a.m.; REIGN, noon; Reggie Williams, 1 p.m.; Redemption Road, 2 p.m.; Krymsyn Grayce, 3 p.m.; Second Day Story, 4 p.m.; The Well House Band, 5 p.m.; and Veracity, 6 p.m. Crafters and vendors will be on site from 11

a.m. to 4 p.m. Gift drawings will be held at 3 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket

Contact: 313-937-2424; hosannatabor.org

OLYMPICS

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. July 25-28

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: A mini-Olympics camp aimed at boys and girls, ages 5-12, will include volleyball, relays, field hockey and water games. \$15 per student includes instruction, equipment and snacks

Contact: christoursavior.org; 734-522-6830

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Monday, July 25, and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, July 26-27

Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia

Details: Admission to Monday sale is \$2; bag sale on cloth items and half-off all other items on Wednesday

Contact: 734-427-2290

SCHOOL TOUR

Time/Date: 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., July 27

Location: St. Michael Catholic School, 11311 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: The tour, led by students and teachers, is for prospective new students and their families

Contact: 734-261-1455, xt. 225; livoniastmichael.org

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-noon, July 25-29

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills

Details: "Barnyard Roundup" is open to children in preschool (potty-trained) through fifth grade. There is a fee with family discount available

Contact: mrsilzparrott@yahoo.com or 248-553-3380

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, through Aug. 21

Location: Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse grounds, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads, Canton

Details: St. Michael Lutheran Church holds outdoor services with childcare provided

Contact: 734-459-3333, connectingwithGod.org

AUGUST

GRIEFSHARE

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21-Nov. 6

Location: New Life Church, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Grief support group provides help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. Cost is \$20 and includes workbook.

Contact: 248-766-5977

PICNIC

Time/Date: 12:30-2 p.m. Aug. 7, immediately following Worship in the Park

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, at Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse grounds, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads, Canton

Details: Hot dogs, cookies, chips and water will be provided and a praise band will perform

Contact: 734-459-3333

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Aug. 1-5

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: "Surf Shack - Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love," is the theme for the program, which is for youngsters in preschool through sixth grade. Preschoolers must be potty trained. Includes songs, crafts, games, science, Bible stories, snacks and more. Cost is \$10 per child with a \$25 maximum per family

Contact: Judy Cook at 248-442-8822; judy@emmanuel-livonia.org

YOUTH SOCCER

Time/Date: 1:30-3 p.m., Aug. 15-19

Location: Crossroads Church/Trinity Church Grounds, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Soccer camp for boys

and girls ages 5 and up, any skill level. \$25 per student; non-refundable. Includes water bottle, instruction, snacks. Register at www.crossroad-snow.org

Contact: info@crossroad-snow.org, or Pastor Steve at 248-890-5718

ONGOING

CLASSES/STUDY

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: "Drop In & Learn," which runs year-round, features lectures on DVD on Jewish history, culture, philosophy, and related topics, followed by brief informal discussion. No charge, no reservations required

Contact: Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931; nancylelen879@att.net

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

Faith Community Wesleyan

Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford Township

Details: An informal and ongoing study of the Orthodox faith and life. RSVP to Subdeacon Joshua Genig at joshua.genig@gmail.com or 630-936-6386

Contact: facebook.com/stinno-centredford

EXERCISE

Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month

Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.

Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbosm.com

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service. Pet blessings are available after the service.

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

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St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

RECYCLING

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Sunday of the month

Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth

Details: Recycle your cellphones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month.

Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwow.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

Contact: 313-534-0399

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Connection Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday

Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

Contact: www.metrofibro-group.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Passages

Obituaries. Memories & Remembrances

View Online

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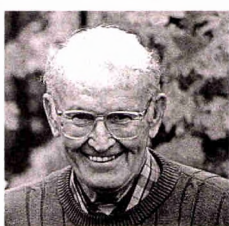
Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers
Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

BLANCHARD



JEANETTE ELIZABETH (FLEIG) Age 94 of Beverly Hills, Michigan, formerly of Toledo, Ohio, passed away on July 17, 2016 in her home. She was born on November 27, 1921 in Toledo, Ohio, to Louis John and Nellie (Gray) Fleig. She graduated from St. Charles Borromeo Grade School and Notre Dame Academy, Class of 1939. Jeanette was an Administrative Assistant with the IRS where she met her future husband, Walter Blanchard; they married in 1949. Walter preceded her in death in 1998. Jeanette love to play bridge and travel. Jeanette is survived by her son John Blanchard; daughter Carolyn (David Gray) Blanchard. She is also survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services will be held at St. Charles Borromeo Church Today, July 21 at 10:00 a.m. where the family will greet guests starting at 9:30 a.m. Interment services will follow in Calvary Cemetery. Please view and sign the on-line guest registry at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

BRODERICK



JOHN RUSSELL Age 91, born September 11, 1924, died July 15, 2016 surrounded by his children and grandchildren. Born in Detroit, the son of Martin (Bernie) Broderick and Mary Ellen O'Grady. He was preceded in death by his brother, Bernard (Jake) Broderick and is survived by his brother, Thomas Broderick of Northville. A 1942 graduate of St. Cecilia's High in Northwest Detroit. Served in the U.S. Army from 1943-1945 and saw action in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. After the war, John enrolled at the University of Detroit and earned a civil engineering degree in 1953. While a student there, John met Aiden Mary Trudell of Wayne, Michigan. John and Aiden were married on June 22, 1948 and moved to Plymouth where they raised seven children, Deborah Russo (Patrick), Michael Broderick (deceased), (Mary Lou), Timothy Broderick (Susan), Bridget Blisky, John Broderick, (Denise Michlewicz, deceased), Rebecca Doherty (Robert), and Matthew Broderick (Sara Tobin); and 22 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Aiden Broderick passed in 1992. A civil engineer at Ford Motor Company from 1960 to 1995 John worked on the design and construction of manufacturing and assembly plants. He married Mary Jane Bevelheimer in 1995 who died in 2014. John personified the character, courage and selflessness of his generation of heroes who fought and won the most devastating war in the history of humankind. He was also very much in the mold of that same generation of men and women who then spent the remainder of their lives rebuilding the world for future generations. Visitation from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 21 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with a scripture service from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m., 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI. Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, July 22 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth at 10:30 a.m.

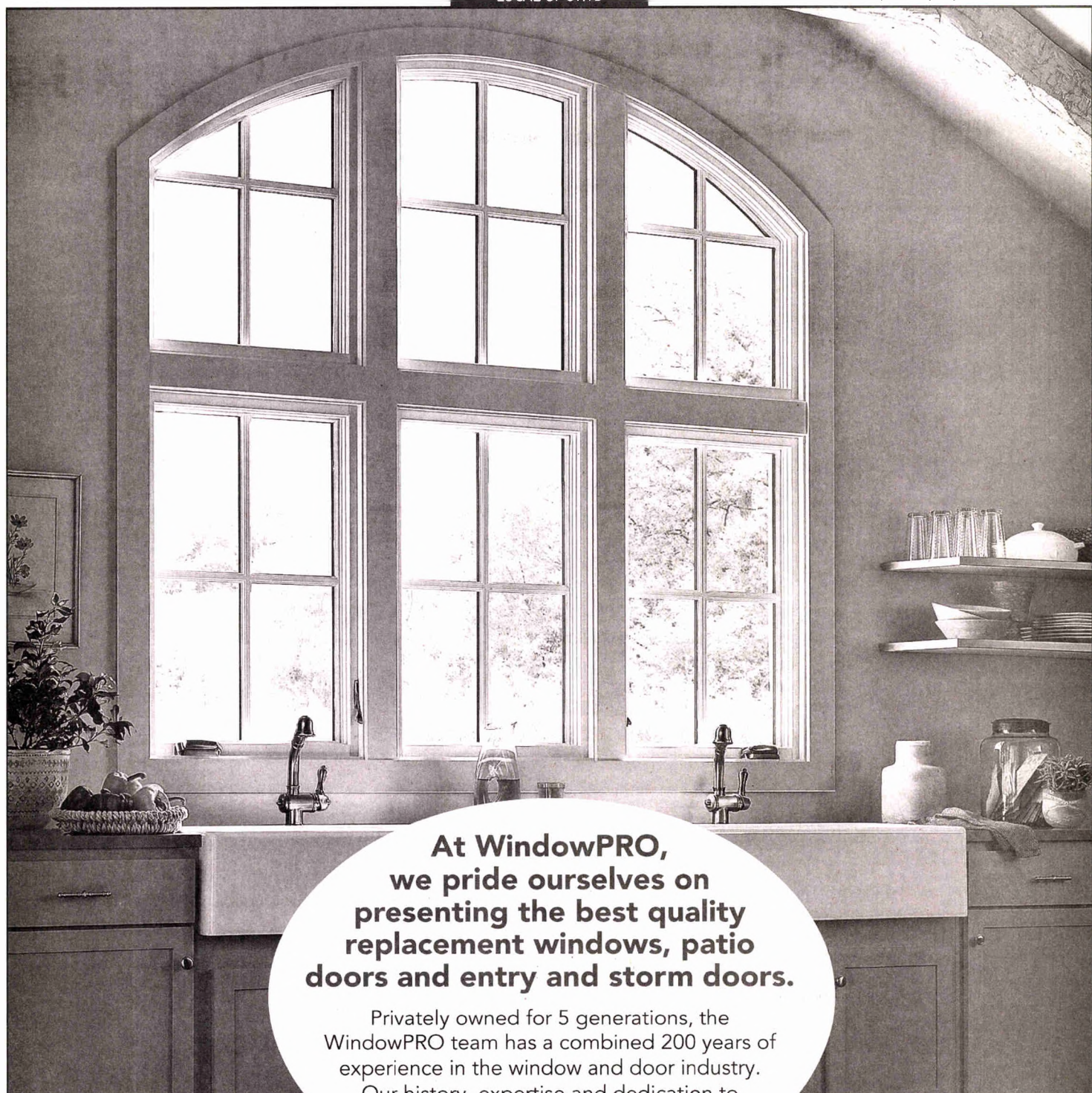
KRALOWSKI

SOPHIE Age 91, of Livonia, Michigan passed away on Saturday, July 16, 2016. Sophie was born in Detroit on July 29, 1924. Sophie was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene Kralowski. She is survived by her four children, Larry, Denise, Lori, and Mark (Brenda); her grandchildren, Lauren (Jake), Sarah (James), and Colton; her great grandchildren, Hayden, Connor, and Aubrey. A family service will be held at a later date. She will be remembered and in our hearts forever.



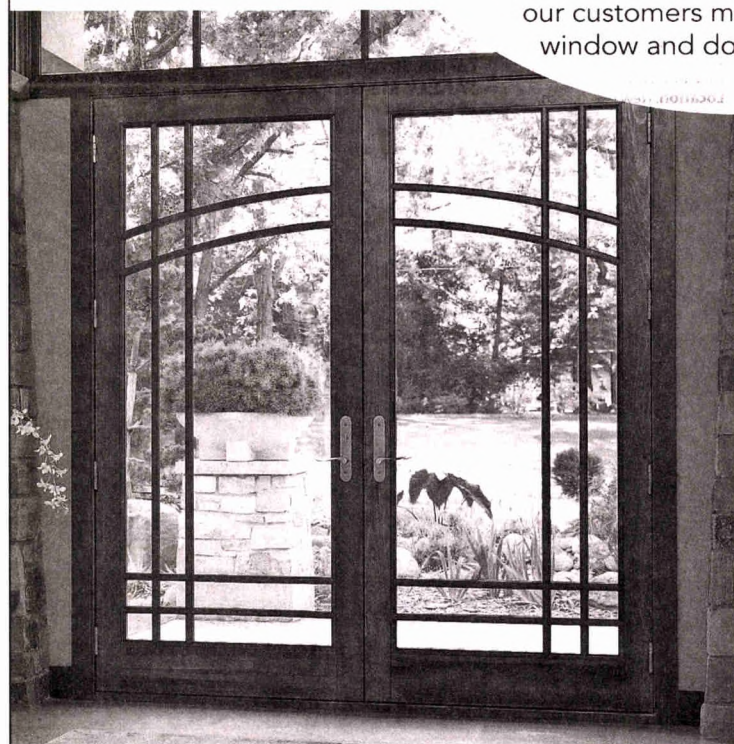
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It's easy to forget that, while you're playing home inspector, the space currently belongs to someone else.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

House shopping? Remember your etiquette during open houses

With home buying season in full swing, potential home buyers are flooding into homes they saw on realtor.com and in person with the help of a Realtor. It's an exciting time, full of possibility and hope, but it is easy to forget that, while you're playing home inspector, the space currently belongs to someone else.

Still, buyers need to get a full picture of what they're buying. So, where do you draw the line; what is permitted and what should you restrain yourself from doing? The National Association of Realtors consumer site HouseLogic has buyers covered with house tour etiquette tips. When it comes to checking out closets and storage, for example, feel free to peek (you'll need to know this, after all), but try not to disturb anything.

As for snapping photos, feel free to take what you need to make a decision, but think twice before posting — remember that someone still lives there, and they may not want their personal valuables displayed for the world to see (especially if you've already identified where the house is located).

It's a marathon house-hunting day. As you check out listing No. 5's brand new windows, it suddenly hits you: "Oh man, I have to go to the bathroom."

Should you, or shouldn't you? Navigating do's and don'ts can be totally awkward, so we asked the pros everything most buyers secretly want to know. Stacey Freed of HouseLogic shares her knowledge.

Well, can I use the bathroom?

If you've got to go, you've got to go — but don't just wander off and take care of business. It might not work in every house. Literally.

"Ask permission," says Pat Vredevoogd Combs, past president of the National Association of Realtors, who works and lives in Grand Rapids, Mich. Vacant houses, especially in winter, may have the water shut off, so there's no

We're pretty sure ordering house hunters to forgo coffee qualifies as 'cruel and unusual punishment' ... if you're carrying a drink, be careful - unless you're prepared to go mano a mano with the floor.

way to flush. That's something you really want to know before you go.

And if you're at a busy open house, being in the loo for more than a minute means other potential buyers can't check out the facilities — and may not want to after you've, um, done your business.

To be safe, schedule in a few pit stops at restaurants or gas stations along the way, suggests Vredevoogd Combs.

Is it OK to bring in my coffee?

We're pretty sure ordering house hunters to forgo coffee qualifies as "cruel and unusual punishment" in some states. But if you're carrying a drink, be careful — unless you're prepared to go mano a mano with the floor.

"So many first-time home buyers are millennials, and I almost never see them without a cup of Starbucks in their hand," Vredevoogd Combs says. "I had one guy spill his coffee on white carpeting and we had to get down on our hands and knees to clean it up."

Food, on the other hand, is *no bueno*, unless the seller has left out cookies. By all means, take one, but eat it in the kitchen. Preferably over a napkin.

Can I peek in the closet?

"Absolutely," says Tg Glazer, 2016 president of the New Jersey Association of Realtors. "Buying a home is probably the biggest purchase you're ever going to make, and you need to check out ev-

erything."

Basically, look all you want, but don't rifle around. You're shopping for closet space, not a new wardrobe.

How about a quick selfie with this awesome, lemon-colored range?

With smartphones being practically an appendage for many buyers, snapping pics to share with friends and family is so easy. But hold your trigger finger, especially if you're planning to share the images online.

Whether you can take photos and videos "seems to be a regional custom," Vredevoogd Combs says. "In some cases, sellers have valuable things and don't even want their homes promoted online. Ask permission first."

Can I plop down on that chaise lounge?

Vredevoogd Combs says she's not a fan. "Feeling comfortable enough to want to sit on the furniture might be a good intent to buy, but it isn't your furniture and you're not buying it." Plus, that cozy looking couch or comfy bed might be staged — air beds or cardboard boxes wearing fancy clothes — so you might take a spill.

If you need to sit, for health reasons or that sprained ankle from your last marathon, just ask. That's not unreasonable.

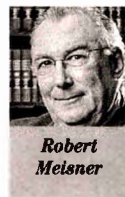
The bottom line is the old-fashioned Golden Rule: Do unto others' homes as you'd have them do unto yours.

"Be on your best behavior," says Vredevoogd Combs. Pretend the seller is there — and sometimes they are, even if you can't see them. They might be waiting next door at a neighbor's house and wander back at any minute. So it's also a good idea to keep comments to yourself. You wouldn't want them to overhear how much you love the master suite — that could mess up your negotiating power if you decide to buy.

Snyder signs bill to eliminate requirement related to tax dispute

Q: We lost our assessment protest at the local level and at the tax tribunal. Are we going to have to pay the tax assessment before we can appeal?

A: As of now, taxpayers can now appeal their tax disputes to a Michigan court on a pre-deprivation basis. On June 16, 2015, Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law a bill eliminating the requirement that taxpayers pay all taxes, penalties and interest before they can have their tax appeals heard by a court by guaranteeing that they have their day in court before being required to pay the disputed tax assessments. This is obviously a benefit to those who feel aggrieved by the tax tribunal and/or their taxing authority, which concern is growing every tax season.



Robert Melsner

Q: We do not allow pets at the condominium, but if there is one so-called emotional animal. We want a deposit for it. Do you think it is a good idea?

A: No, I think it will probably be determined to violate the Federal Fair Housing Act as an attempt to limit people with disabilities and/or who need emotional support animals to be able to have their pet, assuming that you do not otherwise allow pets. I think that there are administrative standards against such conduct. I would get a legal opinion from your attorney to confirm this position.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit rbmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Benefit Estate Sale

Hall & Hunter Realtors will hold its 13th annual Estate Sale of Antiques, Collectibles and Treasures to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Hall & Hunter Realtors, 442 S. Old Woodward Ave. in Birmingham. All year long, Hall & Hunter Realtors collect antiques, gently used furniture and collectibles. Since Hall & Hunter started this tradition 11 years ago, the firm has donated \$250,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. Sponsored by: Changing Places Moving Company, Devon Title Agency, Stefek's Auctioneers & Appraisers, Bank of Birmingham. For more information, visit HollandHunter.com or call 248-644-3500.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-Eleven, near Trenton Road.

For more information, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Walbridge senior VP tapped for 'Women Who Lead' class

Walbridge Senior Vice President and board member Terry Merritt has been selected by WJR News/Talk 760 to its 2016 class of "Women Who Lead."

The program, initiated six years ago, celebrates women throughout the Great Lakes region who are making a difference in the community. Senior Producer Ann Thomas recently interviewed Merritt and the podcast is available on WJR's website here.

"Terry is an integral part of Walbridge and her contributions to our company's executive team, growth and culture have been hallmarks of her success," said John Rakolta Jr.,

chairman and CEO of Walbridge. "We are proud to join WJR in congratulating Terry on being honored as one of the 'Women Who Lead' and her incredible contributions to our industry and our region."

Merritt has been with Walbridge for 35 years and supports numerous programs that improve the lives of women in the state of Michigan. She is chair of the Haven Foundation and serves on the Board of Directors for Inforum, Michigan Women's Foundation, Wayne State University - HIGH Program and Women United for United Way of SE Michigan.

Merritt has been awarded

Inforum's Inner Circle Women of Achievement Honoree, Crain's Detroit Business 2002 Most Influential Women, CORP Magazine's 2002 95 Most Powerful Women in Michigan, the Athena Award from the Oakland County Chamber of Commerce and the State of Michigan Dept. of Civil Rights, Michigan Women's Commission.

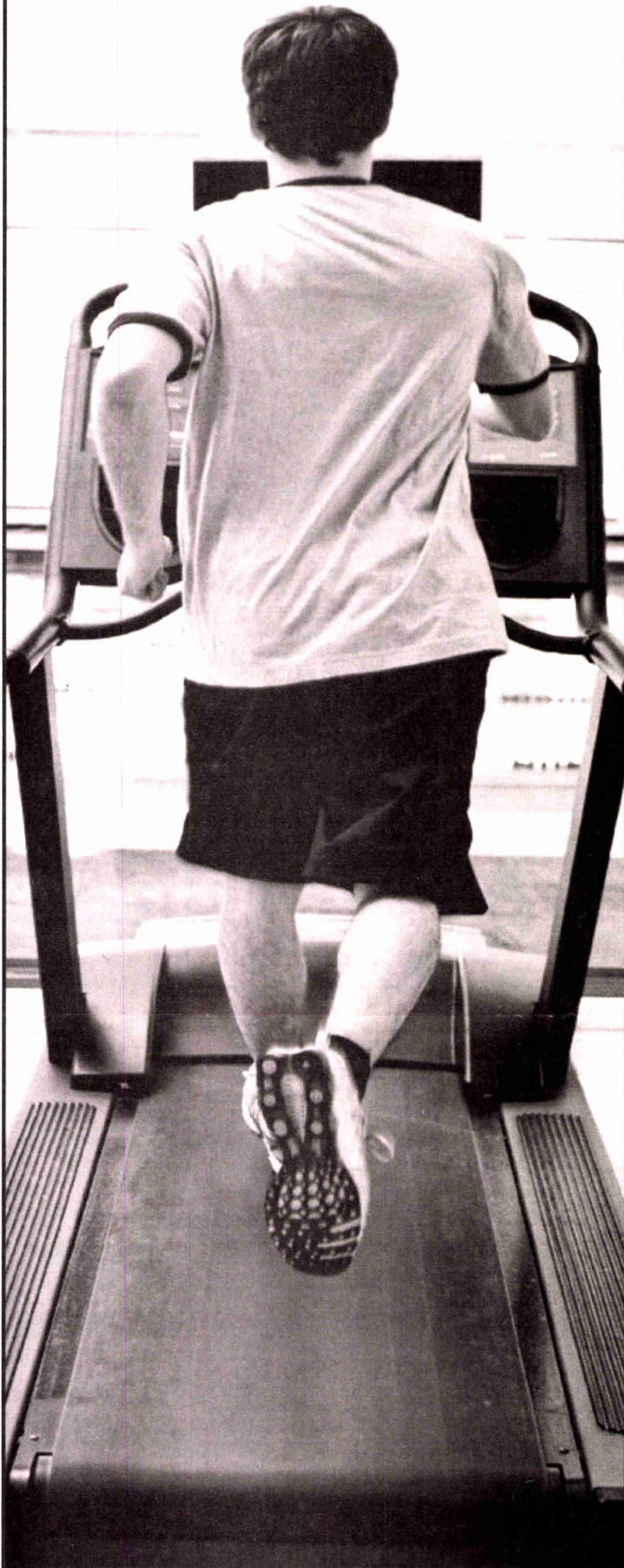
Merritt and the other "Women Who Lead" will be honored this fall during a special broadcast by WJR's Paul W. Smith.

Founded in 1916 and headquartered in Detroit, Walbridge is celebrating 100 years of Built for Good and is one of the largest, privately-

held construction firms in America with 2014 revenue of \$1.52 billion, 1,000 employees and 15 offices in the United States and international offices in Mexico, South America and the Middle East.

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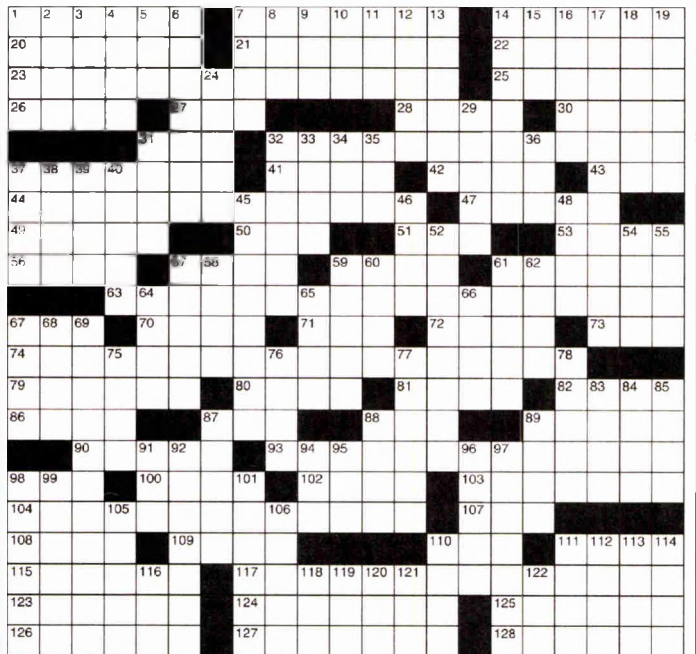
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Greek letters after rho
7 French country house
14 Classic game consoles
20 Vain type
21 Loud warning gizmo
22 With 71-Across, pre-larkies time
23 Valuable desert plants?
25 Graf of tennis
26 "Leave it in"
27 PC-to-PC hookup
28 Shuttle org.
30 Chalk out
31 Pine cousin
32 Test of one's holiness?
37 Most gross
41 Twistable cookie
42 Legal title
43 Dollar or euro dms.
44 Really bad-mouth a physician?
- 47 Good (at)
49 Tool in a wood shop
50 Walk- (tiny parts)
51 Iowa's tree
53 Slim, slithering fishes
56 Voting "no"
57 Really small
59 Tennis
61 Jet boat
63 Rehearse with great enthusiasm in Britain?
67 Poker prize
70 401(k)
71 See
72 22-Across
73 Sun's org.
74 Scandal over legal agreements in Tehran?
79 Tea varieties
80 Trial pledge
81 Huck's craft
82 Acclaim
86 Give out
87 James Bond, e.g.
88 Mom's skill, for short
89 Suit material
- 90 Far Eastern mercenary
93 Oil-anointing rite in old Russia?
98 Chillax
100 Without, in Paris
102 Bank holding
103 Ballet garb
104 Draw out
105 Let's or Brie?
107 "Uh-uh," rural-style
108 Elisabeth of
109 Boxing wallop
110 Kit — bar
111 Re
115 Ones giving
116 19 is lousy
117 That bee just ingested
123 Warning current
124 Hastened
125 Cornell's city
126 Abate
127 May's gem
128 Enthusiastic about
- 3 Ex-veep Al
4 Pol Romney
5 Bai wood
6 Fashionable
7 "Elf" actor
8 Big name in fruit drinks
9 Actor Carney
10 Fri, predecessor
11 Goddess of the dawn
12 Lack life
13 Not voiced
14 Evaluated
15 Little bird
16 First Hebrew letter
17 Outwardly shown by
18 Actually
19 Is lousy
24 — blanché
29 Surf and turf's "turf"
31 Big bash
32 Woody Allen's wife
33 Curved lines
34 Post-laxes
35 Talk lovingly
36 F preceders
37 Mallorca, por ejemplo
38 Tribal bunch
39 Actor
40 "Golcha," lo a jazz cat
45 "Keep it up"
46 Pictorial
48 Highest point
52 Excavation
54 Lisa of pop music
55 Sammy of the diamond
57 Poi plants
58 Confident cry
59 Roost
60 Floride, par exemple
61 Toned to, as a dial
62 Hollywood's Morales
64 Basmati, e.g.
65 Usher in
66 The Tao of Pooh author
67 Organ part
68 Provo's neighbor
69 Alternating
75 Curt denial
76 Light shafts
77 Dahl of film
78 Butler
83 "Er tu," e.g.
- 84 Monster-film lab assistant
85 — lease
87 Christmas Eve visitor
88 Bonds
89 Garbage-hauling boat
91 Covert org.
92 "Bad" singer
94 Bullring call
95 Contend
96 Lower arm bones
97 Clean freak
98 Artery, e.g.
99 Breathe out
101 Reaper's tool
105 Former TV host Philbin
106 Boring
110 NBA's
111 Jason
112 Dull pain
113 Dull pain
114 Algerian city
116 Compass dir.
118 Before
119 Fumble
120 Vardalos of the screen
121 Playa — Rey Gable
122 Summer, to Yves
- DOWN**
- 1 Stitches up
2 "— it!" (sandy cry)



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

			8	3	6		7	
		3						5
	7				4			
5						8		9
9				1				4
1		2						7
			5				2	
7						4		
	4		3	8	1			

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	6	7	1	8	5	9	4	2
8	9	4	2	9	6	8	1	7
8	2	1	7	4	9	5	6	3
7	9	8	6	4	7	2	3	1
4	8	2	9	1	9	7	8	6
6	1	8	5	2	7	4	9	9
1	8	5	4	9	2	6	7	9
9	4	9	6	7	1	5	2	8
2	7	6	9	5	8	1	9	4

IRRIGATION WORD SEARCH

WORDS

M B T C S B N M E O Y W Z V H L I M A O
O D Y E O F O L E T Z A W W Y F T E C Y
T C L N A N K O I M F T G A D B N N I C
Z S U V E C T V S E P E G P R S O O B H
L N Z I I M A R G T C R E T A G Z H U K
N O O R P R I S O P E U F P U A Z P S V
A L T O G V H T N L T R B B L B L I U E
I L S N B C L T P L P Z I I K E S N N
V A P M U O V V R E A E N I C E Y A S G
G G I E Y K A E G C R U R C S D L F B I
N P G N W C S S P R I N K L E R B G E S
I I O T U S Y G D K I T E V L A V A F E
L L T U U V S U Y R P E A Y A I I T L D
P S M R W E L L Y E M R B M S D O N D L
U G E L P U M P W C T C M Y O O P L F E
O B A C K F L O W U O A T Y F T L A L E
C V S G F E V G Y D K E A O S B U I O G
B U S H I N G A P E E A V F V H L R A W U
T P I R D M V N M R E A F O D C G P H A
I T N E N I L N I A M K S O A K I N G G

ACRE
AUTOMATIC
BACKFLOW
BALL
BOOSTER
BUSHING
CONTROLLER
COUPLER
CUBIC
DESIGN
DRIP
EMITTER
ENVIRONMENT
FLOW
FOOT
GALLONS
GATE
GAUGE
GRAVITY
HYDRAULICS
MAINLINE
NOZZLE
PRESSURE
PUMP
PVC
REDUCER
SIPHON
SLIP
SOAKING
SPIGOT
SPRINKLER
TRICKLE
VACUUM
VALVE
WATER
WELL

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Crossword Answers

SIGMAS	CHATEAU	ATARI
EGOIST	AIRHORN	SILENT
WORTHY	CACTUSES	STEFFI
STET	LAN	NASA
PLAN	PIR	SANCTITY
CHECK	ICKLEST	OREO
DEED	SLAM	EDICT
LA	THE	DOCTOR
AD	LATHE	ONS
OAK	ANT	TINY
PETRO	SE	ADDOO
PRACTISE	THE	SKIES
POT	IRAS	ERA
IOTA	NBA	IRAN
CONTRACT	AF	FAIR
PEKOE	OATH	RAFT
HAIL	EMIT	SPY
TLC	SERGE	NINJA
SOVIET	FUNCTION	VEG
SANS	LIEN	LEOTARD
EXTRACT	CHEESE	NAW
SHUE	KAYO	KAT
ASTO	SARGES	THE
END	IS	NECTAR
ELNINO	HURRIED	WITH
HA	LESSEN	EMERALD
KEEN	ON	

Word Search Answers

