

THURSDAY  
April 8, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric  
Newspapers

Volume 45  
Number 91

\$1.00

# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Food, B8



## AROUND TOWN

### Alumni game

Tickets are now on sale to see the Red Wing Alumni take on the Westland Wild Wings 7 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at Mike Modano Arena. All proceeds from the event will go towards restoration of Central City Park.

Mayor William Wild will join a team of city officials and residents to compete against members of the Detroit Red Wing Alumni Association.

Tickets for the game are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and children 3 and under are free. For ticket information, call (734) 722-7620.

### Essay contest

The Westland City Attorney's Office is holding their 14th annual Law Day Essay Contest. The topic this year is: Should one-way electronic communications by jurors be banned during a trial?

Entries will be judged on the basis of composition and originality. The contest is open to all ninth- through 12th-grade students who are Westland residents and enrolled at either Westland John Glenn or Wayne Memorial high schools in a civics or social studies class.

Entries should be typed, double spaced, with a minimum of two to maximum of three 8 1/2 by 11 pages. Include the contestant's name, home address, telephone number, school and name of their civics/social studies teacher.

At Glenn, entries should be submitted to Michele Anderson and Tracy Vaughan at Wayne by 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 14. Awards will be presented to the winner on Monday, May 3, at the Westland council meeting.

### Mothers, daughters: Send us your photos

Hometown Life Woman a monthly special section inside your *Westland Observer*, will celebrate "Mothers and Daughters" in the May edition.

E-mail a favorite photo of you and your mom, you and your daughter or the aunt, grandmom, stepmom or woman who was/is that special mom-like person in your life. Remember — favorite means old or new! E-mail your photo (jpg format please) to [woman@hometownlife.com](mailto:woman@hometownlife.com) and make sure you identify everyone in the photo. Tell us about the photo in a sentence or two and be sure to include a phone number or e-mail address where we can contact you for more information. Then look for your photo in the Thursday, May 6, edition of Hometown Life Woman.

## Downsizing city staff key to budget

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The largest expense for most organizations is personnel. As an organization, the City of Westland is no exception to that rule.

As the city deals with projected multi-million dollar deficits for the next two fiscal years, the largest savings may come from having fewer employees. In budgets proposed by Mayor William Wild for 2010-11 and 2011-12, Westland will have 60 fewer

employees through a combination of attrition, early retirements, and layoffs.

"That's the biggest thing in the budget — 60 less positions than we have now," Wild said. "The police department and fire department will require the most reorganization. In the police department, the reorganization will be from the top down. We will try to maintain our service levels on the street."

The police department will have 14 early retirements before the fiscal

year including Chief James Ridener. There will be 10 retirements at the fire department with two command positions, an assistant chief, and an emergency medical services coordinator eliminated. Reorganization will be needed at the fire department also, Wild said.

In the city's largest employee bargaining unit, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1602, there were 10 employee layoffs in February and the budget includes

15 additional layoffs. However, AFSCME members recently ratified an agreement that includes the opportunity for early retirements, and 25 workers are eligible.

"One of the key things with the budget is that we need to be very conservative. We'll submit an amended manpower budget that takes into account those vacancies," Wild said. "We have to see what the positions are and how many can be put back

Please see **BUDGET, A2**

## Volunteers keep Meals on Wheels rolling

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Nan Borders gets busy putting together meals for homebound senior citizens served by Meals on Wheels.

Every Tuesday and Thursday for three years, Earl Harrington has been helping put together food packages for delivery to area seniors through the Meals on Wheels program.

The food is prepared at a central kitchen and sent to the Friendship Center where volunteers pack it in individual portions. That means the volunteers don't have to cook — a good thing since Harrington, a Detroit Diesel retiree, makes no claims to being a cook.

"I never did food service work before. I just do what Barb tells me," said Harrington, referring to Barbara Rameur, nutrition site manager.

Wayne County operates the food program which delivers an average 95-101 meals to homebound seniors each weekday. Another 20-25 seniors participate in the congregate meal program offered each weekday at the Friendship Center. There are income guidelines for the program.



Carol Sparks is one of the volunteers who helps put together the food packages delivered through the Meals on Wheels program at the Friendship Center.

Please see **MEALS, A2**

## Center staff offers census answers but getting few questions

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Working at the U.S. Census information table inside the Bailey Recreation Center is a lot being the Maytag repairman — pretty lonely work.

"This is my first time at the recreation center — the library is probably busier than this," said the Questionnaire Assistance Center worker, whose name can't be used under federal rules. "I've only had three people ask questions in three hours."

A Westland resident, the woman made sure to bring some reading material to keep busy while sitting

### SCHEDULE FOR CENSUS QUESTION CENTERS

The Questionnaire Assistance Centers will be open through April 18 on the following schedule:

• William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway — (734) 326-6123  
Saturdays — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tuesdays — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursdays — 3-8 p.m.  
• Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey — (734) 595-0288

at a table in the recreation center lobby.

"We do get a lot of questions. Some people forgot what they did with the

Mondays — 9 a.m. to noon  
Tuesdays — noon to 3 p.m.  
Wednesdays — 2-5 p.m.  
Thursdays — noon to 3 p.m.  
Fridays — 9 a.m. to noon  
• Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford — (734) 722-7620  
Mondays — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Wednesdays — 5-9 p.m.  
Sunday, April 18 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

forms and we give them a new one. They do have to take it to the mailbox themselves," she said. "It's pretty straightforward. Most people do a

pretty good job filling it out."

As part of the effort to get a complete count, the Questionnaire Assistance Centers have been set up at various times at the Bailey Center, the Westland Faust Library and the Dorsey Center. Westland had a Complete Count Committee aimed at making sure all Westland residents are counted by the census — the population numbers impact many things including federal and state funding allocations.

"It's good to know that someone is here so you can ask questions," said the woman, a retiree. "This is the highlight of my day."

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## Index

APARTMENTS ... C2  
AUTOMOTIVE ... C4  
CAREER BUILDER ... C3  
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... C2  
ENTERTAINMENT ... B5  
OPINION ... A6  
PUBLIC SAFETY ... A4  
REAL ESTATE ... C2  
SPORTS ... B1  
STRICTLY BUSINESS ... B4

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## Suspect arrested in assault on homeowner, 85

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A 53-year-old Westland man faces eight felony charges in connection with an assault and robbery of an 85-year-old Livonia woman in her home and an attempted home invasion of another Livonia home.

William Lee Roney was arraigned Sunday on charges of first-degree home invasion, unarmed robbery, assault with intent to rob while unarmed, larceny in a building, unlawful imprisonment and habitual offender fourth offense in connection with the home invasion and assault at the woman's home on Merriman. He was also arraigned on a second-degree attempted home invasion charge and habitual offender second offense on that charge in connection with an attempted break-in

on Richland.

Magistrate Vesta Svenson set bonds for Roney of \$250,000 cash for the Merriman home invasion charge and \$20,000 cash for the Richland attempted home invasion charge. Roney's preliminary examination was set for Tuesday, April 13, in 16th District Court.

Police believe the suspect knocked at the woman's door at about 4 p.m. March 31, asked her a question about having her lawn cut and subsequently forced his way into her home. The woman was pushed down and tied up while the suspect stole cash and jewelry, according to Livonia police.

The home invasion on Richland was an attempt to force open the rear door, police said. No entry was made and no property was stolen, police said. A barking dog may have scared off the suspect,

police said.

Based on descriptions from witnesses on Richland and the victim on Merriman, investigators believe both the home invasion and robbery on Merriman and attempted home invasion on Richland were committed by the same person.

Police Chief Robert Stevenson called the investigation "an excellent example" of cooperation between three agencies that resulted in the arrest.

Livonia Detective Dean Langley contacted the state Department of Parole and asked if officers there could check on recent parolees who matched the description of the suspect. Langley received information on the eventual suspect, who police said matched a fingerprint lifted at the crime scene.

Please see **ARREST, A2**

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# ARREST

FROM PAGE A1

The suspect was arrested at about 3:30 p.m. April 1 in Detroit by the Detroit Fugitive Apprehension Task Force, which includes officers from

Livonia Police, Detroit Police, Michigan State Police, Oakland County Sheriff Department and the U.S. Marshal Service. "They turned up their presence in an area of Detroit, and spotted him leaving a Burger King," Stevenson said the task force is of great assistance to the city

of Livonia. "It pays benefits to Livonia because it gives us another 10 to 15 officers to look for suspects in violent crimes like this," Stevenson said. Stevenson also credited Agent Brent Agnew and Supervisor Kirk McVittie of the state Department of Parole for their assistance in the arrest.

# Art contest focuses on police dog

Westland residents ages 12 and under are invited to draw a picture of the City of Westland Police Department's newest K-9, Ty, to be framed and displayed in the lobby of the Police Department.

Ty, a one-year-old Belgian Malinois from Von der haus Gill German Shepherds Inc., has begun his training with Officer Grant Allen as a full service dog, picking up where his predecessor, Drago, left off. "This contest provides a wonderful opportunity for Westland children to take part in a police program that saves lives and protects their neighborhood," said Mayor William Wild.

Young people are encouraged to be original and imaginative in their drawings. These original portraits can include Ty doing some of his favorite



Westland police officer Grant Allen poses with his new partner Ty.

invited to take a tour of the police department, meet the new canine and get a special congratulation from the chief of police.

- The contest rules are:
- Contestants can only submit one drawing (one entry per person).
- Contestants must live in Westland and be 12 years old or younger.
- The picture must be on paper no larger than 8.5-by-11-inches.
- The contestant's name, age, address, and phone number must be included on the submission.
- Mail or drop off the drawing at the Westland Police Department, 36701 Ford, Westland, MI 48185. For more information, call the police department at (734) 722-9600.

activities including working, running, playing fetch, etc.

The deadline for entries is 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, at the Westland Police Department. The winning picture will be chosen by Allen and members of the Westland Police Department. The contest winner will be notified and

# MEALS

FROM PAGE A1

"If there is a caretaker there (at lunch time), they could be eligible for a meal also. They do that to encourage them to eat with someone," said Ramseur, who has supervised the program at the Friendship Center for six years.

Currently, there are 39 Meals on Wheels volunteers, including drivers, but Ramseur said she could use a least seven or eight more helpers.

"They can volunteer once a week. It takes about an hour and a half to deliver the meals, maybe a little longer because of traffic or weather," said Ramseur. "Our volunteers are mainly retirees."

Ramseur is a retiree herself, she worked for Michigan Bell. "After I retired, I had a chance to care for my grandbabies taking them to basketball and other places," she said. "The last one was grown. My sister was the site manager in

Belleville and I helped her out."

A General Motors retiree, Martha Dessausure has been a Meals on Wheels volunteer for 10 years.

"I wanted to do something for somebody else. I saw a sign that said Meals on Wheels needed help," she said. "I do like it."

Before her death, Harrington said he used to bring his mother to the Friendship Center, then Senior Resources Director Barbara Marcum suggested he help with the food program.

Livonia residents Shirley and Jim Waddington volunteered for the Westland Meals on Wheels program after finding the Livonia program didn't need help.

"This program needed us. Barb (Ramseur) said, 'What time can you start?'" said Shirley Waddington, a BASF retiree. "We work at a soup kitchen. This was our first time with Meals on Wheels."

The couple has been volunteering with the program for just over a year and currently has 11 seniors on the route they do together.

"She doesn't trust me to go by myself," said Jim Waddington, laughing.

Another volunteer, Carol Sparks, said she came to Meals on Wheels after reading about it in the *Westland Observer*. Through her volunteer work, Sparks met her friend Carol Behr, another volunteer.

"We volunteer here for bingo, too, we're here all day. The thing that amazes me is that there are people who have a need and that need is addressed," said Behr. "It's like one big family here. Some of the seniors have no family and they would see no one except the drivers. It allows people to stay in their homes."

Retired from the *Detroit Legal News*, Nan Borders said she had called City Hall to ask about opportunities to volunteer and was referred to Meals on Wheels.

"They put me to work immediately. It's a happy place to be — Barb (Ramseur) keeps it a happy place," said Borders, a two-year volunteer. "I just wanted to help. We do the best we can. I volunteer at the Westland Library store. I enjoy that, too. I like books."

For more information about the Meals on Wheels program, call (734) 722-7628.

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# BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1

into the budget."

While the council will adopt a one-year budget, Wild has submitted proposed budgets for two years — fiscal years 2010-11 and 2011-12 years, when revenues are expected to continue to decline. During the current year, property values in the city dropped 16 percent and a similar decrease is projected for 2011-12. State shared revenue, the city's other major funding source, has also been decreasing along with

permit fees, interest income and residential user fees.

The proposed 2010-11 general budget is \$55 million — \$4 million less than the budget adopted for the current fiscal year which ends June 30.

By looking at the budget on a two-year basis, Wild said the city was able to address a projected \$3.5 million deficit for 2010-11 and a \$12 million shortfall in 2011-12. Now the city is projecting a \$1.4 million general fund balance in 2010-11, up from the \$800,000 in savings expected at the end of the current fiscal year, and \$500,000 in 2011-12.

A year ago, the city had a five-year financial projection prepared by auditors Plante Moran.

"Doing a two-year budget

was a big help — I wanted to use the Oakland County model of working with two-year budget," Wild said. "We could look farther ahead in making decisions than we had in the past."

Finance Director Steve Smith agreed.

"The two-year budget helped tremendously. We cut the \$3.5 million deficit a long time ago," he said. "If we didn't do a two-year budget, we'd be back in the same boat next year seeking cuts and concessions."

The Westland council has scheduled budget study sessions to review the proposed budget on 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, April 10 and April 17, at City Hall. The meetings are open to the public.

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### NOTICE

The Wayne Housing Commission has completed revisions to its 2010 Admissions and Continued Occupancy Plan (ACOP) and its Lease Agreement. The ACOP and Lease Agreement are available for review at the Wayne Housing Commission office located at 4001 S Wayne Rd., Wayne, MI 48184. The Commission's hours of operation are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. In addition a public hearing will be held, to give interested parties the opportunity to comment on the revisions of the ACOP and Lease Agreement on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the Wayne Housing Commission office.

Publish: April 4 and 8, 2010

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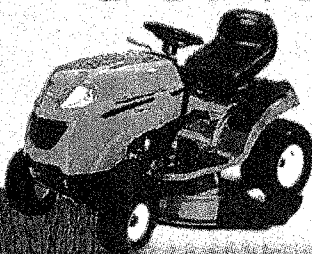
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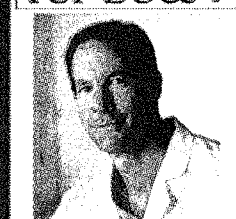
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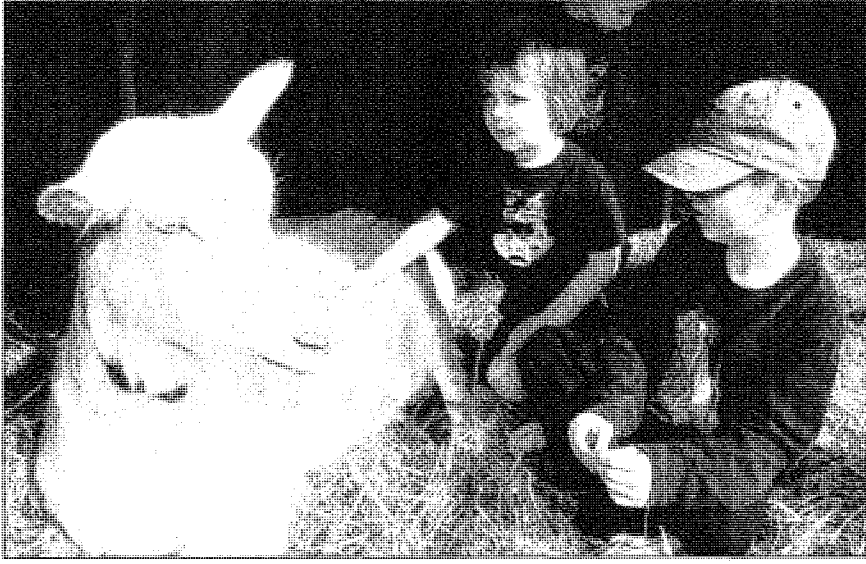
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Colin, the goat, enjoys the company of Nolan Davis, of Farmington Hills and Foster Roberts, of Farmington Hills, at Kensington Metropark's Farm Center.

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Multiple miracles

## Kensington Farm Center is maternity ward this spring

BY STACY JENKINS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Three sets of twins; two sets of triplets and a set of quadruplets — all born in recent days. No, it's not the birthing center at a major metropolitan hospital; it's the non-stop miracles of spring time at the Farm Center at Kensington Metropark in Milford.

"It's been a busy couple of weeks," said Chris Williams, who works at the Farm Center and often helps the mother animals, like the ewes and sows, deliver their babies — not a typical job for a born and reared city kid. "It's a lot of on-the-job training. I try to help out."

Farm employee Carol Fink said the mothers know what to do, but the staffers are there, just in case there's trouble.

"We like to be there, first because it's watching a miracle and, second, to make sure there are no complications," Fink said.

So far, so good. Twin lambs were born Thursday to Ms. Ewe, joining others in the straw-filled maternity ward: Possum the sow, with her four pink, fuzzy piglets; mother ewe Lucy with her triplet "girls" who were born March 18; mother ewe Isabella and her newborn lamb; and

mother ewe Gloria, who safely delivered triplet lambs.

Out in the farm yard, Rosebud, a young goat, is expecting any day now.

It's a magical time at the farm, said Fink, of West Bloomfield, who helps run programs and helps care for the animals.

"It's the rebirth of life, and spring; of optimism, and hope that good times are ahead," she said.

Thursday's near 80-degree day brought visitors out to the farm, from all around metro Detroit.

"We came out to enjoy the park and to see all of the baby animals," said Nancy Smith, of Farmington Hills. Smith is the boys' nanny. "I think it's a great learning experience for them to see all of the animals and to get that exposure."

Brian Melonio, of Redford, spent the beautiful day with daughter, Julianna, 3.

"I'm working nights this week, so I thought I'd keep her out of daycare today and come out for some fresh air," he said. "She's been bugging me all week to come and see the chickens and the horses."

David and Jenny Timblin, of West Bloomfield, brought their twin granddaughters, Annalia and Matilde, 1 year old, of Ferndale, to the Farm Center in their comfy double stroller.

"I heard there were babies here," Jenny Timblin said. "It's a nice day and they love the outdoors."

Another grandparent, Jerry O'Hara, of Milford, pushed a stroller through the Farm Center, with his 14-month-old grandson Markus O'Hara, of Brighton. He's retired from a Ford Motor Co. plant in Livonia, after 35 years.

"This is a great place," he said. "I come out here and I just chill out."

There are special programs happening for children and families throughout the spring and summer months. The Kensington Farm Learning Center Springtime Festival will be Saturday, April 24, and Sunday, April 25. The event features Rosco the Clown, horse harness demonstration, horsedrawn hayrides, wool spinning, the Kid's Cottage, a border collie demonstration, sheep shearing demonstration, a rock climbing wall, a honey bee talk, a dog agility demonstration, old-fashioned candle dipping, antique tractor plowing and an apple butter demonstration. The events go from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

# Crow helps Westland author tell his story

Ever heard of a crow telling a story? Sounds impossible?

Well, nothing is improbable in this world and strange things do occur. In William Underwood's *To the Right of the Rising Light*, published by AuthorHouse, an old crow atop a light pole tells stories to his nonhuman friends. And from him comes this collection of short, exciting, and fascinating narratives about the experiences of other non-humans present around him, or somewhere near in the past.

In this collection, the crow storyteller is named Corvus. An excerpt of the book reads, "The old bird was a story teller for the non-humans in the region. That seemed to account for the many-feath-

ered and furry visitors that were often near him. His stories were about non-humans. They were stories about what he had observed in his northern home. There were stories about the non-humans in his new home. He also had stories passed to him from other story telling crows he had known in his youth."

In his economical manner and style, the Westland resident has penned a book of unorthodox perceptions of life and natural order. The author uses his strong command of language and metaphor and has an inventive narrative.

Underwood was an elementary school teacher and a wrestling coach for many years in Melvindale.

Several of his summers were spent backpacking on the Appalachian Trail. Eventually, a side path guided him to the Philippines where he met his wife and married. They have two children.

Underwood worked at the Burger Center for the Autistic in Garden City before retiring. He enjoys jogging, watching movies on TV, traveling to his Canadian property during the warmer months to canoe, kayak, walk, enjoy the quiet and writing stories, with the help of Corvus Crow.

For more information about his book, go online to AuthorHouse, a book publisher for emerging, self-published authors, at [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com).

# Volunteers needed for annual bug hunt

Volunteers are still needed for Friends of the Rouge's annual Spring Bug Hunt slated for Saturday, April 24.

Interested volunteers must pre-register by April 12. Children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult.

The event begins at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Environmental Interpretive Center. Volunteers will be assigned to teams of four-eight people who each travel to two sites where they will look for living things in samples collected from the river.

The number and type of bugs found is used to assess each site and data are submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment and Rouge communities.

The Spring Bug Hunt is part of a long-term monitoring pro-



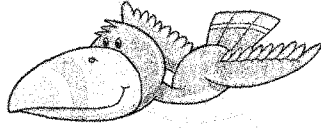
PHOTO BY C. MARVIN FOR FOTR

Volunteers examine water samples from the Rouge for during last year's Spring Bug Hunt.

gram that was created in 1998 to train local residents to collect information about the health of Rouge streams. It is coordinated by Friends of the Rouge

and supported by the Alliance of Rouge Communities.

For more information or to sign up, go online to [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).



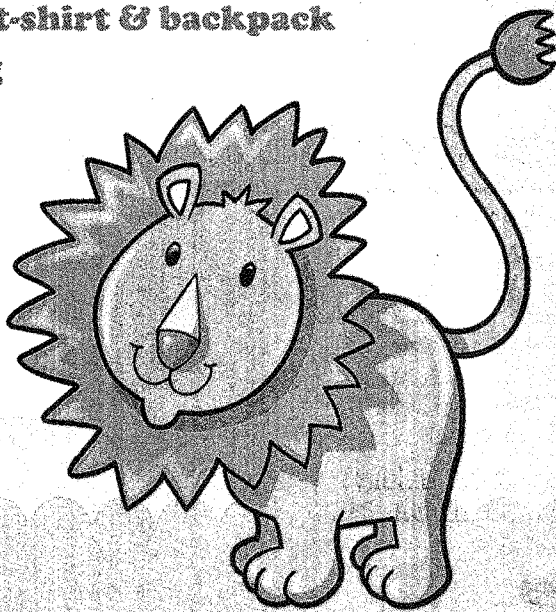
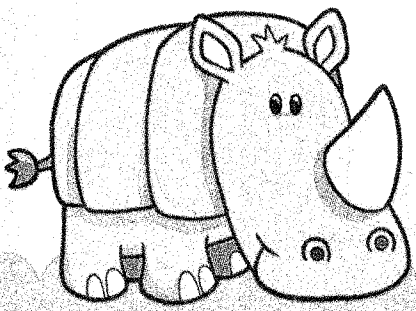
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# PUBLIC SAFETY

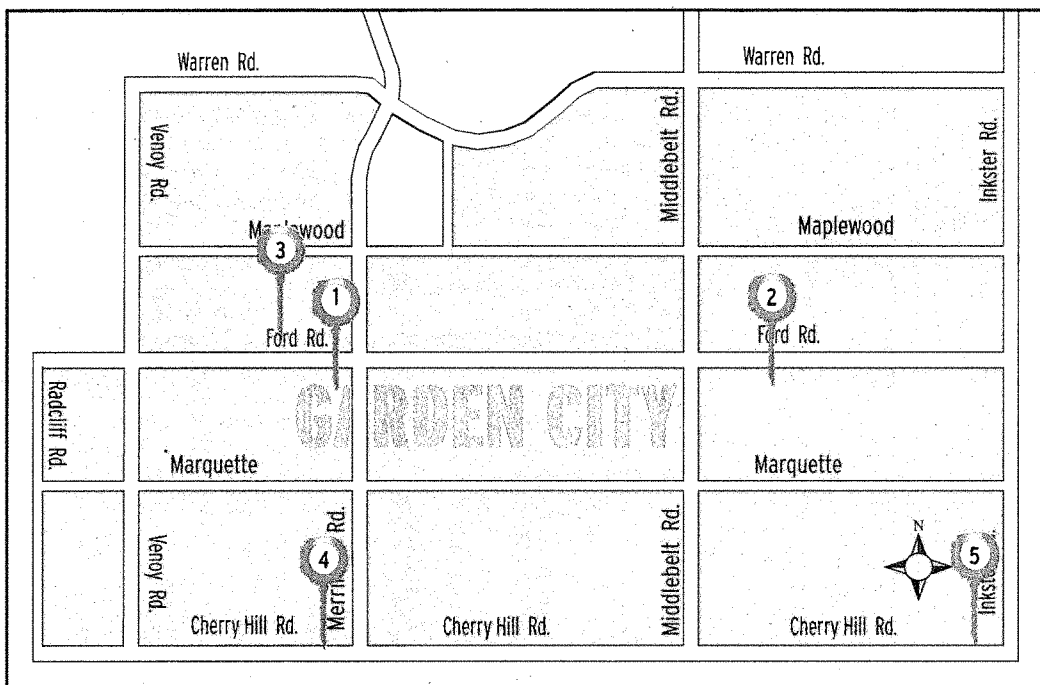
## Woman reports Good Friday road rage incident

**1** A trip to a Lenten Fish Fry at St. Raphael Church turned frightening for a 26-year-old Canton Township woman and her 6-year-old passenger during an alleged road rage incident April 2.

The woman was on eastbound Ford approaching Merriman when she realized a man was deliberately trying to hit her vehicle, she said.

While talking to her 56-year-old mother on her cell phone, she continued driving to get rid of the man. Her mother was already waiting for her at the Fish Fry. The woman said she tried an alternate route and eventually reached the parish driveway leading to the fish fry.

The woman thought she had finally lost the man when she turned into the driveway of the parish because he kept on going, she said. But then he stopped and backed up when he saw the woman had turned, she said. He followed her driving at 40 mph through the church parking lot



which was filled with cars, she said.

The mother yelled to him that she was calling the police and

that she had his license plate number.

The man shouted an obscenity and a threat before leaving, she

said. Police located the driver, a 68-year-old Garden City man, and spoke with both parties. The investigation is considered open.

### Fraud

**2** A Loudon, Tenn., resident came to the police department March 20 to report that someone had withdrawn funds from a joint account he held with his Garden City cousin who had died in February. The man said he had notified the bank.

One month after the Garden City man died, the cousin said the deceased man's step-daughter was reported to have filled prescriptions for him at a local pharmacy. He said the step-daughter had picked up the drugs for the man while he was alive. The prescriptions were reportedly for Vicodin, Carisprodol and Oxycodone.

### Abandoned autos

**3** Four cars left at a tow lot in the 31000 block of Block for service were reported abandoned March 31 after no one came to claim them. The vehi-

cles were: a 1997 GMC, a 1995 Ford Escort, a 1995 Honda Accord, and a 1985 Honda Accord.

### Vandalism

**4** The manager at Sparks Auto, 115 Merriman, told police that someone vandalized one of their wreckers.

After noticing that the truck ran rough, the manager said they took it for repair at a diesel repair specialist and found that some poured regular gas into the system. There also appeared to be sugar around the gas cap.

### Property damage

**5** Someone used a combination of rocks and a street sign post to break the front window of The New Generation, 173 N. Inkster Road, March 30. Entry wasn't gained.

- By Sue Buck

## Police seek suspect after reported assault with bottle

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Livonia man is recuperating after being cut in the neck with a broken beer bottle during an argument early Saturday and Westland police are looking for the man identified as his assailant.

Police were called at a home in the 36000 block of Glen

just before 2:30 a.m. When officers arrived, they found the victim lying on the front lawn as two witnesses held a blood-soaked towel to his neck. The witnesses said the assailant, a 25-year old man, had fled on foot, jumping over fences through adjoining yards.

"All five people present had been drinking. The victim was

hit in the throat with a broken bottle and had lost a lot of blood," said Sgt. Steve Borisch.

The suspect was identified as the brother of the woman who lives at the home. Most the suspect had lived locally in Oak Park but had been living in Chicago recently. He was at his sister's home visiting while in the process of moving back to the area, said Borisch.

The argument was reported to have started when the Livonia man told the suspect, identified as being affiliated with the Latin Kings gang, that he and others present at the home "weren't into gang banging." The victim and other witnesses told police the suspect became angry, then broke a Bud Light bottle and struck the victim in the

throat area, severely cutting him. Westland Fire Rescue transported the man to the emergency room at Oakwood-Annapolis Hospital and he was subsequently transferred to the main hospital in Dearborn.

"The victim spent three days in the hospital," said Borisch. The suspect's sister initially told police that the suspect

was a new acquaintance but admitted their relationship after other witnesses had identified him.

It's likely that the suspect has fled the area, Borisch said, with family members telling police he has gone to his father's home in Hammond, Ind.

irogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

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## SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice. [www.ssdfighter.com](http://www.ssdfighter.com)

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Battle of the Bands**

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 17  
**Location:** Community Baptist Church, 28237 W. Warren Road, Garden City  
**Details:** Local bands will compete in a free concert to help raise money for a local organization that provides those in need of home repairs with volunteers ready to help. The Michigan Missions Third Annual Battle of the Bands will feature more 15 bands playing all genres of music along with face painting and other entertainment. Proceeds from concession and T-shirt sales will help modify a trailer into a mobile shower station for volunteers. The organization also welcomes donations of time, knowledge, and supplies from individuals and companies in all trades. Michigan Missions is a nonprofit organization that brings youth, host churches and homeowners together to serve God by serving unemployed, disabled, elderly and low-income persons with home repairs at no cost to them.

**Contact:** (734) 679-6350

**Grief Support**

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15  
**Location:** Compassionate Care Hospice office at 5820 N. Lilley, Suite 1, Canton  
**Details:** Compassionate Care Hospice is offering a seven-week grief support series, "Understanding Your Grief," beginning Thursday, April 15. The group is for any adult who has experienced the death of a loved one and will provide support and education on the grieving process. There is no charge.

**Contact:** For information or to register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at 734-983-9050.

**Tribute Show**

**Time/Date:** 5:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, May 8  
**Location:** Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale, Westland  
**Details:** The Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323 and Westland Moose Lodge 2143 are sponsoring the Ultimate Tribute Show, an evening of dinner, drinks and entertainment, featuring celebrity impersonators Barry Manilow, Patsy Kline and Rod Stewart. Tickets are \$30 per person and include the dinner, open bar and show at 7:30 p.m.  
**Contact:** Larry Mosier at (734) 728-7643, VFW Post at (734) 721-9876 or Moose Lodge at (734) 722-3410

**Book-A-Thon**

**Time/Date:** 1-5 p.m. Saturday, May 8  
**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** Ten Michigan authors who are self-published or traditional published have partnered for a book exhibit to meet people and showcase their work. Their books

will be available for sale and autograph. The authors are Corinne E. Frontiero, Sandra N. Cunningham, Cornell R. Amerson, Johnnie Sue Bridges, Cherry Scott Jones, Carla M. Thompson, Christina Reyes, Dione Johnson, C.L. Rossman and Velonda Thompson.

**Contact:** Sandra Cunningham at (734) 478-7942

**Toy-Collectible Show**

**Time/Date:** 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 11

**Location:** Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, between Wayne Road and Newburgh, Westland

**Details:** There will be pop culture, TV/movie items, games, comics, action figures, non-sport cards, new and antiques, hallmark, NASCAR, posters, Hot Wheels, video/music to buy, sell or trade. Win spendable money. Refreshments will be available. Limited table space is available at \$35 per table or \$30, if paid by March 31, Three tables cost \$80. Admission is \$2, kids under age 12 free. Early in at 9 a.m. is \$5.

**Contact:** Gary at (734) 525-3712

**Love of Lace XVI**

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 22

**Location:** Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, just east of Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Enjoy a day of lace making demonstrations, try-its to learn the basics of bobbin lace and tatting, or bring your own project to work on. Lace making supplies will be available for purchase. Free and open to the public.

**All-bred Cat show**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday, April 10-11

**Location:** Allen Park Community

Center, 15800 White St., Allen Park  
**Details:** Sponsored by the Just Cat-in-Around Cat Fanciers, the show will feature 225 pedigreed cats and kittens, four different Cat Fanciers Association internationally qualified judges each day. Admission is \$6 for adults \$5 for seniors \$4 for children and no charge for those under age 5.  
**Contact:** Cathy Hawley at (248) 393-1986 or visit the Web site at [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org)

**Toastmasters**

**Location:** Westland Easytalkers

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

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

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



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Color varies by market.  
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OUR VIEWS

**Our libraries are more than books to read**

A library plays a unique role in our society. It is a reflection of our civic pride — a center for learning, a hub for social interaction and a safety net for those in need.

A library also is the cornerstone of the community. In person and online, it connects people to a whole world of ideas and information.

The William P. Faust Public Library reflects the diversity and character and the needs and expectations of the Westland community. Those needs and expectations are extensive, and the services the library provides are invaluable.

Society is changing and the William P. Faust Public Library is keeping pace. It is no longer a place for people to find a book to read and students to find information for term papers. Sure, it has computers and even Internet access available for visitors, but there's much more. Movie nights, chess nights, poetry slams, guest speakers, children's storytimes and knitting groups are just a few of the cultural activities the library offers.

The Westland public library has become the heart of the community.

Next week, April 11-17, is National Library Week. Sponsored by American Library Association, it's a celebration of the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers. The theme this year is "Communities thrive @ your library," and we believe that describes the William P. Faust Public Library to a "T." It is a mover and shaker in the Westland community.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to library Director Cheryl Napsha and her staff for all they have done to make the library an integral part of the community.

And while we're at it, we'd like to give a shout-out to the librarians and library workers in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. April also is School Library Month. They, too, do an awesome job encouraging kindergartners through high schoolers to use the books and services viable in the school media centers. Whether it's the school library or the public library, take some time to stop by and experience what they have to offer. Who knows, you may find a good book, a video or CD and make a few new friends along the way.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

In response to a story about Westland police seeking information about suspects who robbed a 7-Eleven store:

What's the matter, Pizzuti-man? no blogs or newspapers in your new city (and perhaps state)?

I see you still can't resist keeping an eye on Westland even though you have stated that you last lived in Canton before you recently moved "far away" from this area.

Although I agree with you and some others that personal responsibility is the key point and blame for most crimes ...

I also know that there are statistics out there that show when large numbers of low income housing exists in an area, the higher the crime rates. A few rental properties don't make much difference, but if/when you have hundreds in an area (like large apartment complexes), that will make a difference.

Just ask any law enforcement officer - anywhere.  
rodneydfield

So it's a SLUMLORD'S fault that these two a-holes committed a robbery with a gun, huh?

Did a slumlord instigated this crime or were these felons just part of a gang trying to get 'Street Cred'???

PIZZUTI-MAN

to Bmille23 if you don't fall under the categories i mention being a slumlord or renting low income apartments you obviously aren't to blame.

jimr65

WESTLAND OBSERVER



Sue Mason Community Editor  
Susan Rosiek Executive Editor / Publisher  
Grace Perry Director of Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What plans do you have for your Easter vacation?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"Catching up on homework and doing lesson plans. I teach part time."

Jennifer Barson  
Westland



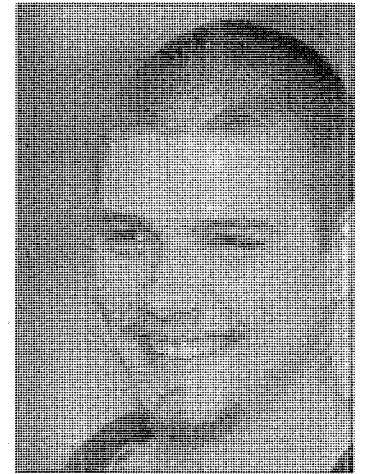
"I really don't have any plans, it's just another week for me."

Lynetta Johnson  
Westland



"I'll actually be studying for my EPA certification test for heating and cooling. I want to work on commercial and residential HVAC units."

Nolan Sanders  
Westland



"I'm going to Florida, I'll be working there."

Martin Mulroy  
Westland

LETTERS

Story was misleading

I am writing in response to your March 28 article on the Michigan Senate Democrats' "foreclosure amendment." While the story provided some useful information on issues surrounding property values and home foreclosures, some details were missing and so the article was misleading. Contrary to the implications in the article, Senate Republicans agree with Democrats on the need to lower property taxes for homeowners in communities hit hard by foreclosures.

The foreclosure amendment would have required property tax assessors to include foreclosed homes when studying comparable homes for the purposes of a property tax assessment. During floor debate, the amendment's sponsor, Sen. Buzz Thomas, argued that this amendment was needed to ensure that property tax assessments more closely reflect a home's true market value.

I could not agree more with Sen. Thomas' goals. That is why I introduced Senate Bill 76, which Sen. Thomas expressed support for in his floor speech. This bill would implement the same provisions as the Thomas amendment, but like the amendment, it needs to be refined.

Both my bill and the amendment would require that all foreclosures be included when assessments are being conducted. Unfortunately the problem with this approach is that some banks will sell foreclosures at far below their market value simply to get them off of their books.

If we included these artificially deflated foreclosures in our property tax assessments it would reduce property values far below their true market value, devastating local revenue for basic public services. This would mean fewer police and firefighters, more potholes, and less money for schools. As such, both the bill and the amendment need to be improved to ensure that foreclosures included in assessments reflect a realistic picture of the current housing

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Web: www.hometownlife.com E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

market.

That is why I spoke against the Thomas amendment. I support what Sen. Thomas is trying to do, but I feel that we need to continue to work on the issue to strike a balance between fairness in taxation and funding for basic public services.

I look forward to working with Sen. Thomas on this issue and to working out an agreement on my bill.

Jud Gilbert  
state senator  
25th Senate District

Stop the punishment

Punishment for a job well done.

That is what the Michigan State Senate Republicans believe. How can you call Bill SB1227 an incentive for our public school employees?

Our teachers — those who have dedicated their lives to teaching and working with our young people — are now having this "incentive" forced upon them. An incentive that says if you do not retire in this time, we will penalize you by taking away your dental and optical coverage. Also, we want you to pay extra for your future retirement.

That is not an incentive but a punishment. That is what our Republican Legislature believes.

Instead of figuring out ways to fund public education — which is not an entitlement program — the Republicans choose to ignore their responsibility and run their party line. They choose to give up their courage and their integrity and run on a platform of no taxes. They choose to be a bottleneck in a system that is supposed to support our teachers and students.

They want to cut again another \$118 per student, thinking that there is still fat in the budgets of school districts. What kind of logic is that when for the last decade, school districts have been readjusting and taking cuts? However, now is the time not to cut but to fortify our educational process.

It's time that Republicans step up and raise the money to pay off the debt that they have incurred in the last two decades in Michigan government. These spineless legislators have the gall to toy and punish people. Well, I believe it's time we citizens do something about these nonstatesmen who do not care for the educational system and let our voices be known today and if necessary at the polls next November.

Enough is enough! Let's raise our state income taxes for two or three years, and get rid of the debt and the interest we pay on their debt. Let's stand up to these irresponsible Republicans, and do what we know in our hearts needs to be done, fiscally and morally, to be a great state again. It's time we show that "WE CARE" for all of Michigan, not a party who criticizes and does nothing to show answers to our real problem. Enough excuses. They are creating propaganda that creates fear and distrust.

Enough is enough. Let's stop their punishment!

Rev. W. Kargus  
United Church of Christ

Fill out Census form, be sure you're counted

Once every 10 years, each one of us living in the United States has a unique opportunity to make a direct and positive impact on our neighborhoods and communities. How? Well, in 2010, it's as easy as answering and mailing back our Census forms. Doing so is simple, fast and safe. Doing so makes it far more likely that our neighborhoods achieve the fullest count possible; and, in the process, greatly increase our community's fair share of the \$400 billion annually distributed to local programs and services for the next 10 years. That's a lot of money that improves our quality of life and that of our children.



Dwight Dean

Returning your Census form is one of the best ways to get the most significant return of your tax dollars through programs which enhance local education and pre-school programs, health care clinics, job training classes, road and bridge construction, among many others that are often easy

to take for granted, especially as we rush back and forth taking care of our personal priorities. When speaking to neighborhood and community organizations, folks often share their concerns about our hectic lives, concerns about privacy and questions about just what the government should know, or not know.

Our mission at the United States Census Bureau is to meet our constitutional requirements every 10 years in ways which ultimately meet the needs of the American people. That's why we conduct the Census, to simply count people and note information that helps us better understand a community's expectations and wishes. So, let's review why and how the 2010 Census form is simple, fast, and safe:

IT'S THE SHORTEST CENSUS FORM IN HISTORY

Your household has received the shortest and simplest Census form in history. It consists of only 10 questions, and, on average, takes no more than 10 minutes to complete.

IT'S EASY

The questions are direct, basic and ask only about your general living situation, how many live at your address, their race and whether they are male or female.

IT'S CONFIDENTIAL

Protecting the safety and security of your Census data is more than a goal — it is our prized duty and it's the law. Census data cannot be shared by the Census Bureau with anyone at the local, state or federal government levels. All Census Bureau employees take the oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data and face strict penalties if there would be a violation.

So, now as we find ourselves in the midst of the Census 2010 campaign, let's pull together, complete our Census forms, mail them back, and do what's right for ourselves, our families and our communities. Let's stand up and be counted ... it matters for now and for the next 10 years!

Dwight Dean is director of the Detroit Regional Census Office.



# 'My life is one miracle'

## Nun gives God credit for her successful health-care career

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI  
CORRESPONDENT

At age 85, Sister Mary Modesta shows no signs of slowing down.

As head of the "No One Dies Alone" program at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Sister Modesta is devoted to the volunteer program that provides the presence of a compassionate companion to dying patients who would otherwise be alone.

Sister Modesta has enjoyed a long and satisfying career in health care. She hired staff before the hospital opened 51 years ago, launched the lab department and served as president of the hospital before spearheading the "No One Dies Alone" program.

She attributes her successes to a first-grade lesson.

"I learned why God made me: 'To know him, to love him and to serve him,'" she said. "That has been my guiding star all my life."

Born Stella Piwowar in Detroit, she knew by the third grade that she wanted to be a Felician nun. She always trusted God would help her navigate what looked like impossible mountains.

She has been a member of the Felician religious community for 66 years and taught for 13 years after getting her teaching certificate. But she always wanted to be involved in health care. Her opportunity came during the planning stages of St. Mary Hospital in the early 1950s.

### BACK TO COLLEGE

She said she didn't feel she knew enough to head the lab, so she went back to college and received her medical technology degree from Madonna in 1956, a master's



Sister Mary Modesta, 85, has spent her life depending on God for everything she's needed to run and equip St. Mary Mercy Hospital and her latest ministry, the 'No One Dies Alone' program.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

in the same field from Wayne State University and a master's in hospital administration from the University of Notre Dame. She was named a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives in 1998.

Six months before the hospital opened, Sister Modesta was among a small group who hired personnel and equipped departments.

### TRUST IN GOD

"I said, 'God if you want a lab, you have to make it,'" Sister Modesta recalled. "All you have to do is know God, love God and serve God. I was always asking for more people and more equipment."

In 1977, she was appointed vice president heading diagnostic services, and in 1982 she was appointed president and

CEO along with Sister Renetta Rumpz, who was appointed vice president. Sister Rumpz took the helm when Sister Modesta stepped down in 1998.

"Sister is a very caring person, a person of deep faith and very dynamic," said Sister Rumpz, former provincial minister of the Felician Sisters. "She's very devoted to the community, not only the Felicians, but the com-

munity of Livonia. I've known her 32 years and through her leadership we were able to put forward major projects and renovations."

Sister Modesta resigned her hospital post in 1997 after attending a convention that talked about the "No One Dies Alone" program.

"I could feel the Holy Spirit hovering over me and telling me in my heart that when you retire this is your new ministry. I always felt wherever God put me, He will provide," she said. "I'm here only to love Him and serve His people, nothing else. When God wants something done, He puts everything in our hands to do whatever His will is. It's why I can do the things I can do. At baptism, we got faith, hope and love instilled in our souls and if this wasn't enough, God gave us the Blessed Trinity. God loves us so much, He lives in us."

Other hospitals ran similar "No One Dies Alone" programs, but they often ended at 11 p.m. each day and Sister Modesta thought, "People die at night, too."

### EXPANDS PROGRAM

So with volunteers and the support of the St. Mary Mercy nursing staff, the program expanded to 24 hours daily. Volunteers or "compassionate companions" are able to help provide terminally ill patients with the gift of respect and dignity at the end of life. From 1997 to 2002, Sister Modesta was on call to go to patients' sides. Now there are 80 volunteers from surrounding communities.

"God puts it in their hearts that they want to serve others," Sister Modesta said, adding that she often sits with volunteers at dying patients' bedsides until the volunteer is comfort-

able with the process.

Her room in the convent is equipped with a computer that helps her monitor patients who are near death and either don't have family or have relatives who need a break.

"Of all my responsibilities, this is the most fulfilling," she said. "It gives me so much joy to be there when they die."

Last August, Sister Darlene Marie Schoenherr started working with Sister Modesta to coordinate the program.

"She's an excellent role model for me," Sister Schoenherr said. "She's a very spiritual and prayerful person."

During her time with St. Mary Mercy, Sister Modesta saw the hospital grow from 175 beds, 99 physicians and 300 employees in 1959 to 304 beds, more than 500 physicians and 1,700 employees.

The additions came one after another — the child care center, the various emergency rooms and technology expansion. It was one challenge after the other.

### TEAM EFFORT

"There was always something new the people needed," she said. "God always provided us with the knowledge and wisdom. I appreciated our board members, administrative team, medical staff, every nurse, every aid, every volunteer — even the people in the community who spurred us on. You have to do it in a team effort to serve the health care needs of the people in the community."

Along with the "No One Dies Alone" program, Sister Modesta heads the hospital's Lost and Found, works on routing lost patient mail and serves as team leader of employees in a walking club. She greets the benefit of each role with the same enthusiasm.

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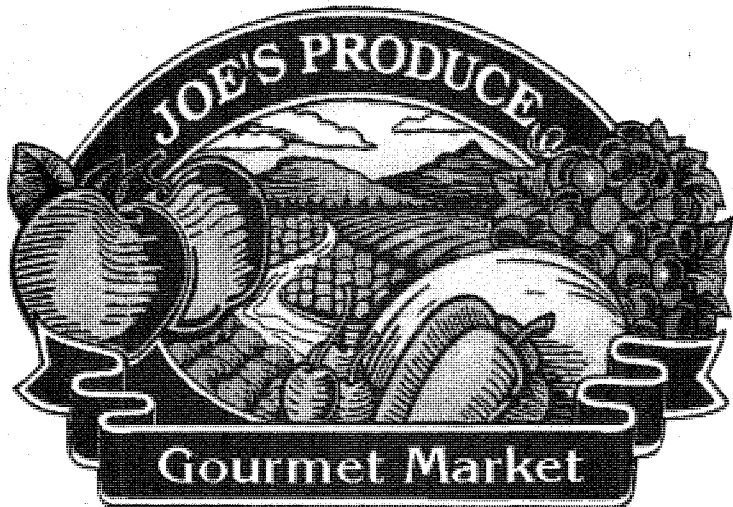
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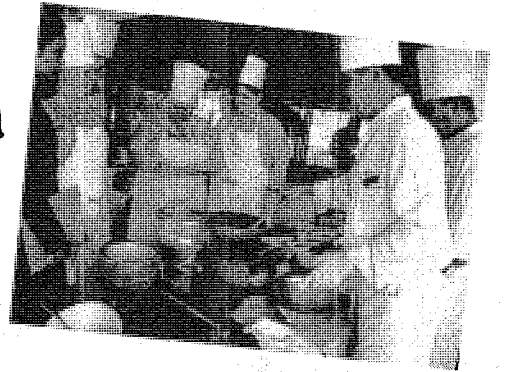
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SECTION B  
(WL)

# HOMETOWN LIFE

Brad Emons, editor (313) 222-6851  
bemons@hometownlife.com



Stevenson's Becky Adamcheck was seventh in last year's Division 1 state finals in the 300-meter hurdles.

## Taking stock

### Churchill, Franklin, Stevenson yield dividends

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They've been the GM, Ford and Chrysler of area girls track and field during the past decade. The models change from year-to-year, but the Big Three remain intact.

Livonia Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson will once again lead the way.

Churchill, led by one of the Midwest's premier prep distance runners Sara Kroll, will look to defend its Division 1 regional and Public Schools of Livonia Invitational titles.

Kroll, one of three Michigan girls to qualify for the Foot Locker National Cross Country Championships last December in San Diego, had a sterling track season in 2009 where she finished runner-up in the 800-meter run (2:14.39) and seventh in the 1,600 (4:57.0) in the Division 1 state finals.

Kroll, headed to Michigan State, was also a key member of Churchill's 4 x 800 relay team which also includes returnees Tiffany Raisanen, a senior, and Bethany Pilat, a sophomore.

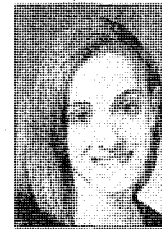
"With all the success that our senior class has had over the past three years, we will be depending on our freshmen and sophomore class to score half of our points, which is a lot to ask of underclassmen," Churchill coach Pat Daugherty



Sara Kroll Churchill



Aubrie Scott John Glenn



Megan McPherson Franklin

said. "We should be a well-rounded team with quality athletes in each event. If we continue to work hard and if we can gain valuable experience early in the season we should do OK."

Franklin, the KLAAs South Division champions and fourth-place finisher in the KLAAs Kensington Conference meet, sent a seven-member contingent to the state meet.

The Patriots, last year's regional runner-up, will be led by senior Emily Quint, who placed sixth in the Division 1 pole vault (11 feet, 2 inches) and placed fourth in the regional in the high jump (5-2). She also helps out in the hurdles.

Also back is junior distance runner Megan McPherson, who holds school records in both the 1,600 (5:16.5) and 3,200 (11:14.2).

Please see **PREVIEW, B3**

## SIDELINES

### MU's Irwin saluted

Madonna University junior Jess Irwin (Monroe) was named as the league's Pitcher of the Week for the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference for the period ending April 4.

Irwin went 2-0 last week with wins over Huntington (Ind.) University and Indiana Tech.

In the Crusaders victory over Huntington, Irwin allowed just hit and a walk in a 1-0 win. She also struck out 11 and allowed just two hits in a 2-1 MU win over Tech.

For the week, Irwin posted a 0.50 earned run average in 14 innings of work, striking out 24 and allowing just one earned run.

### College Cup II

The Michigan Bucks of the United Soccer League's Premier Development League will host its College Cup II Saturday, April 10, at the Ultimate Soccer Arenas, 867 South Boulevard, Pontiac.

The double-header will feature men's teams from Oakland University and Notre Dame College (Ohio) at 5:15 p.m. and Michigan vs. Michigan State at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the two games are \$10 (children 5 and under are free).

To obtain tickets, visit [www.bucksoccer.com](http://www.bucksoccer.com); or visit the Ultimate Arenas front desk or the Upper 90 Pub.

For group rates, call Dawn Fitzgerald at (248) 709-3121.

### Madonna golfers fifth

The Madonna University women's golf team placed fifth in last weekend's Detroit Titan Invitational held at Western Golf & Country Club in Redford.

The host University of Detroit Mercy won the team title with a two-day total of 314-323-637 followed by IUPUI, 326-321-647; University of Findlay (Ohio), 325-33-658; Northwood, 346-354-700; Madonna, 366-365-731.

U-D Mercy's Alaina Stefan (Farmington Hills Mercy) was medalist with a 75-79-154. Teammate Rachel McHenry (Livonia Ladywood) took fifth overall with 80-80-160.

Michelle Hall led MU with a 94-82-176 (tied for 16th) followed by Sara Simnitch, 90-87-177 (tied for 20th); Livonia Stevenson's Chelsea Bathurst, 92-94-186 (25th); Livonia Franklin's Mariel Meyers, 90-102-192 (27th); Caitlin Steele, 94-104-198 (29th); and Megan Fleischer, 105-109-214 (30th).

MU will be back in action this weekend at the St. Francis Invitational in Kendallville, Ind.

## Catching on: Crusaders' Shay excels behind the plate

BY JIM TOTH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When it comes to athletics there isn't a job too big, or too small, for Ashley Shay.

The Garden City native currently in her junior year attending Madonna University has been quite an addition to the Crusader athletic program, setting the standard of excellence and determination on the softball diamond and serving as statistician and cheerleader off it.

Shay has her Crusader teammates primed for another successful trek through the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and possible return to the NAIA National Championship later this spring. Madonna stands 17-6 on the season heading into a double-header scheduled Wednesday with University of Michigan-Dearborn.

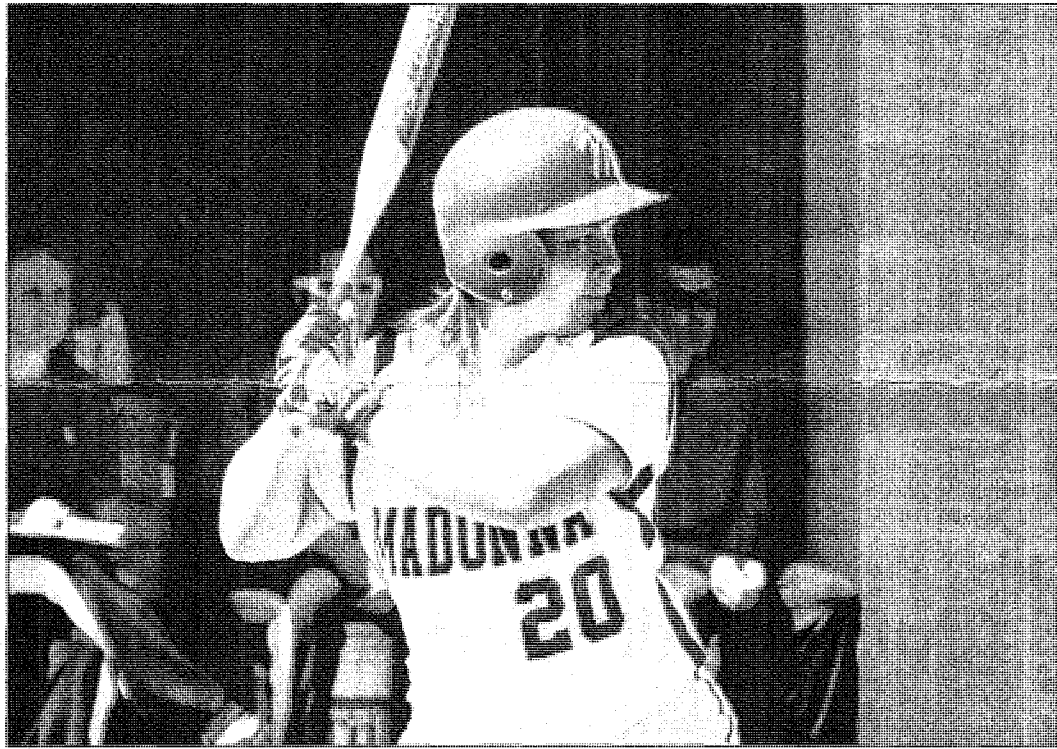
"We're all playing pretty well

as a team right now," said Shay, a catcher in her third season of play for coach Al White's club. "We worked hard during the off-season to get better and I think that experience we have is starting to show."

You need look no further than Shay to find experience — one of seven upperclassmen (juniors or seniors) on the 2010 roster — and leadership as she holds down duties as team captain.

"Shay is one of the real leaders," said White, who finds himself in the midst of his 12th season in charge of the Crusader program. "She has really matured as a catcher, which isn't always easy. You have to go out there behind the plate and think like a manager, think like a pitcher and think like a hitter and be able to put all of those together. She can do that and, as a coach, you

Please see **SHAY, B3**



PAT MOORE | MU SPORTS INFORMATION

Madonna University junior Ashley Shay leads the Crusaders with 17 RBI through 23 games played this season.

## Dark Angels to make WFA debut Saturday at Glenn

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hunkering for a quick football fix?

The Detroit Dark Angels, a new franchise in the Women's Football Alliance, launches its 2010 season beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday at Westland John Glenn High School against the defending league champion and national runner-up West Michigan Mayhem.

The 40-member Dark Angels have filled the void left by the Detroit Demolition, which is taking one-year leave of absence from the IWFL after playing its home games last season at Livonia Franklin.

Westland's Chuck Lauber is co-owner and general man-



DAVE BANKS

The Detroit Dark Angels will open their Women's Football Alliance season Saturday night at home against defending champion West Michigan Mayhem. Game time is 7 p.m.

ager of the Dark Angels. Co-owner Aaron Brothers serves as defensive coordinator, while former San Diego State


player Tony Gaisser is the head coach. (Gaisser also played for the Anaheim Piranhas of the Arena Football League.)

The Dark Angels, members of the WFA's North Central Division, began practice on March 4.



"Once the Demolition were not going to have a season, we got our own franchise," Lauber said. "I was part of that coaching staff and we took their slot after we found out they suspended operations. We've kind of been behind the eight-ball from the start, but we've got a good core of people. I'm kind of coming in fresh and I didn't really know anything about what happened before."

Please see **ANGELS, B2**



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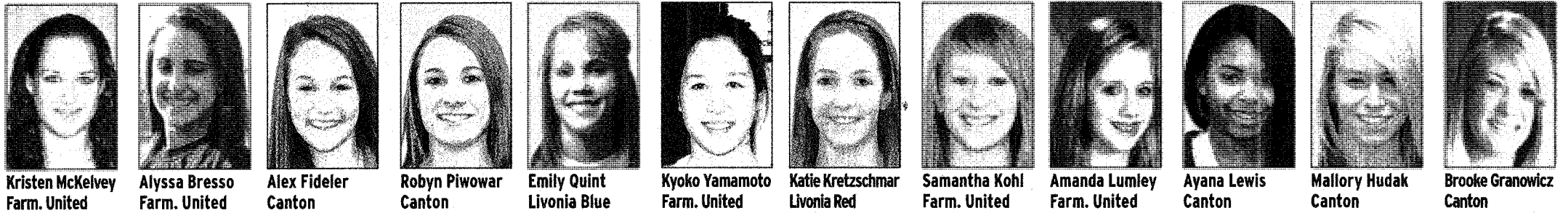
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# All-Area gymnasts keep raising the bar

**DIVISION 1**  
**Kristen McKelvey, Jr., Farm. United:** McKelvey finished third in the D-1 all-around competition with a 37.725 total. She also earned all-state honors in three of the four events, placing second on vault (9.625), fourth on bars (9.4) and fifth on floor (9.425). At the Athens regional, McKelvey was second or third in all events, taking second in the all-around (37.3). She also was All-OAA (36.95).

"Kristen is the nicest girl in the world," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She's very complimentary toward other competitors, but she wants to win. It's not a deceiving personality, but she has an inner drive."

Though a longtime club gymnast, McKelvey competed for the high school team for the first time and played a key role in Farmington United finishing second in the state. She also was a first-time diver at North Farmington last fall.

"I knew she had a ton of talent and wasn't in shape at the time, gymnastics-wise," Dwyer said. "I told her: 'Kristen, you're going to be one of the top gymnasts in the state! When I got the call she wanted to join the team, I exhaled and said: 'All right, let's go!'"

**Alyssa Bresso, Soph., Farm. United:** Bresso overcame injuries during the season to have a quality finish. She was seventh in the state in the all-around (37.325) and also is all-state on beam and floor; she was fourth (9.4) and seventh (9.4), respectively. Bresso just missed on vault and bars with ninth- and 11th-place finishes. She was the third in the all-around at the regional (36.275), taking second on floor, fifth on vault and bars and sixth on beam.

"She grew up as a sophomore, because I don't know if she would have been able to do that last year," Dwyer said. "I give her a ton of credit. She's gifted; she's one of the most effortless gymnasts on our team. It'll be hard to match this, but she has the potential to do even better the next two years."

**Alex Fideler, Fr., Canton:** What a freshman season it was for Fideler, making an immediate impact at Division 1.

Fideler was the all-around champion both at the KLA conference and state regional meets on the uneven parallel bars.

"Alex Fideler was a gift to walk in as a freshman with so much talent and to be a rookie who could make us so successful," said Canton head coach John Cunningham, adding

**2009-10 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GYMNASTICS TEAMS DIVISION 1**  
 Kristen McKelvey, Jr., Farm. United  
 Alyssa Bresso, Soph., Farm. United  
 Alex Fideler, Fr., Canton  
 Robyn Piwowar, Jr., Canton  
 Emily Quint, Sr., Livonia Blue  
 Kyoko Yamamoto, Jr., Farm. United  
 Katie Kretzschmar, Fr., Livonia Red

**DIVISION 2**  
 Samantha Kohl, Sr., Farm. United  
 Amanda Lumley, Soph., Farm. United  
 Ayana Lewis, Soph., Canton  
 Mallory Hudak, Sr., Canton  
 Brooke Granowicz, Jr., Canton  
 Alex Kitz, Jr., Livonia Blue  
 Amy Bell, Sr., Farm. United

**CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR**  
 Jeff Dwyer, Farm. United  
 John Cunningham, Canton

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
 Salem: Nicole Jacobs, Ade  
 Jepperson; Canton: Kali Pierce, Brittany Granowicz; Plymouth: Reagan Engstrom; Livonia Blue: Cassie Morford, Katie Bridges; Livonia Red: Katina St. Pierre; Farmington United: Lena Schneewind; Harrison: Stephanie Sanders.

that Fideler became the school's third all-time state champion when she scored a 9.65 on balance beam at the state meet in Rockford.

Fideler also scored 9s on all four events there to bring home medals as well as All-American honors (in all events and all-around).

"She beat the girl that had the highest all-around score ever in state meet competition," said Cunningham, referring to how Fideler defeated Grand Ledge's Alexis Byington on beam. "... In order to do that at state meet, you have to be totally solid, focused. ... (it was an) absolutely solid routine, it was beautiful."

**Robyn Piwowar, Jr., Canton:** Another outstanding, versatile gymnast for the Chiefs was Piwowar, the team's co-captain and Most Valuable Gymnast.

"Robyn Piwowar was a true team leader whose captainship and consistent high scores made the team as good as it could be," Cunningham said.

The junior's consistency and performance earned her Elite All-American awards not to mention a number of medals.

She was second all-around at regionals and won four medals from the D1 state meet including a third-place 9.6 on vault.

Also outstanding was Piwowar's 9.565 average on floor exercise.

**Emily Quint, Sr., Livonia Blue:** The



**Alex Kitz Livonia Blue** **Amy Bell Farm. United**

senior placed 10th in the All-Around at the state finals with a score of 36.725, including a seventh on vault (9.45) and ninth on floor exercise (9.2).

Quint was the regional all-around champion (37.00) thanks to firsts on vault (9.425), beam (9.75) and floor exercise (9.575).

"Emily is an outstanding leader and gymnast," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Fierk said. "She was MHSAA Senior Gymnast of the Year. Emily has always shown great drive and sportsmanship throughout her time as a high school gymnast. She was in the gym always trying to improve her skills and her routines. My best memory of this season is when she got a 9.75 on beam at regionals."

**Kyoko Yamamoto, Jr., Farm. United:** Yamamoto earned all-state recognition on bars, taking eighth place (9.175) in the Division 1 meet. She was a state qualifier in the all-around, finishing in 14th place with a 36.35 total. At the regional, Yamamoto was third overall (36.275). She also was third on beam, fourth on bars, fifth on floor and sixth on vault.

"Bars is her best event," Dwyer said. "She didn't hit her best routine like she did the day before (in the team meet), but she showed in the standings she is all-state."

"I look at how close she was in other events. She's a good all-arounder and has one more year. I think she's going to push herself to get what it takes (into her routines) to get her scores up a little higher in other events."

Dwyer added: "She might look terrible for a week in practice but, when it comes time for a meet, she just turns it up a notch."

**Katie Kretzschmar, Fr., Livonia Red:** The ninth-grader placed eighth in the all-around at the regional (35.675) including thirds on both vault (9.2) and floor exercise (9.175).

Kretzschmar also was seventh all-around at the Kensington Conference meet including a fourth on floor. The state qualifier also added a sixth in the Canton Invitational on beam (9.225).



**Jeff Dwyer Farmington coach** **John Cunningham Canton coach**

"Kate is an extremely hard worker," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "She possesses a very positive personality, and is friendly to teammates. Coming to the team as a freshman she has stepped up and showed everyone what she was capable of."

"Katie shows grace in her gymnastics as well as discipline. It has been a privilege coaching Katie this season. She continues to master skills and achieve new ones. During practice and meets Katie demonstrates concentration and focus during routines. She balances school and gymnastics very well earning herself exceptional grades."

**DIVISION 2**

**Samantha Kohl, Sr., Farm. United:** Kohl capped her high school career by being crowned state champion on bars (9.3) and beam (9.45). She was the state runner-up in the all-around (37.375) and also was all-state on floor and vault, finishing fifth (9.35) and eighth (9.275), respectively. At the Athens regional, Kohl was second on bars, third on floor, fourth on vault and fifth on beam, earning second place in the all-around (36.7). She was All-OAA in the all-around, too.

Kohl was ill with a fever in the days before the regional, but she willed her way through that meet, according to coach Jeff Dwyer.

"She's pretty tough but I could tell it was getting to her in the warm-ups," he said. "We had a talk; I told her: 'It's probably going to be the hardest day of your life, but you have to do everything you can. You can beat this sickness today, too.'"

"I was just so impressed with what she did by placing second in the all-around. It was the most impressive meet she's shown me during her career, to do what she did under those conditions."

**Amanda Lumley, Soph., Farm. United:** Lumley is the Division 2 state champion on floor exercise, winning that event with a 9.6 score. She was fourth in the regional (9.1) and also qualified for state on vault. Lumley

was All-OAA in both events and is an all-around gymnast.

"She's a great dancer," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She doesn't look like she would be as powerful as she is, but she dominates (on floor). I tell her: 'When you go out there, own the floor, make it happen.' To be a state champion as a sophomore is pretty incredible and a great accomplishment."

**Ayana Lewis, Soph., Canton:** A wiry, versatile young athlete, Lewis was the Chiefs' rookie of the year.

She captured championships at the KLA conference meet and state regionals and took fourth in all-around at the state finals — medaling in all categories.

Lewis earned All-American honors in all events.

**Mallory Hudak, Sr., Canton:** The senior co-captain was an important member of the Final Four Canton team.

Hudak won balance beam and took second on floor exercise at the regionals, then went on to medal on the latter event at the state meet.

Her efforts garnered All-American honors on three events and all-around.

**Brooke Granowicz, Jr., Canton:** The junior came back to gymnastics after an extended absence and "made an amazing rebound" with a fifth place showing at the state regional and ninth place at the state final on balance beam, noted Cunningham.

Granowicz, elected one of Canton's captains for next season, averaged 8.985 on beam to earn All-American status.

**Alex Kitz, Jr., Livonia Blue:** The junior earned All-State honors on the uneven bars with a fifth (8.95) at the state finals.

She was 15th all-around at the state meet after placing third at the regional (34.975).

Kitz contributed a second at the regional on the uneven bars (8.9) as well as a sixth on vault (8.75).

"Alex is a good gymnast with great ability to be even better next season," Fierk said. "Alex made it to 'states' in the all-around as a sophomore. She shows great pride and drive when doing gymnastics. She is one that wants to improve her skills and make her routines harder and better to get higher scores for her team. She is someone that Livonia Blue is lucky to have for another two years."

**Amy Bell, Sr., Farm. United:** Bell ended her senior season and prep career by achieving all-state status on the balance beam at the Division

2 state meet, taking 10th place with a 9.0 score. She was another all-around competitor who provide Farmington United with quality depth.

At the state meet, "She got the 9.0 and we were waiting for final places," Dwyer said. "They announced her in 10th place, but she didn't hear it. I said: 'Amy, you just got all-state!'"

"The tears started to flow. It was just an awesome way to end her career. Some girls get overshadowed because we have such a strong team. I'm glad she ended her season getting the recognition she deserves."

**CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR**

**Jeff Dwyer, Farm. United:** Dwyer guided Farmington United to a runner-up finish in the state meet.

His gymnasts achieved their best score of the season (149.1) to finish a close second behind Grand Ledge (150.225).

Farmington United was third last year and second in 2008. It won the Oakland Activities Association championship again and was undefeated in dual meets.

"That was the highlight of the whole season, when you can take home a trophy," Dwyer said the state meet. "Our goal at the beginning of the season was to be No. 1 or 2."

"It's an honor to take home a state runner-up trophy. There is no third-place trophy. That's why it was tough to place third at the state meet, because you go home with nothing."

"That was an empty feeling last year, but I think that drove a lot of the girls, too."

**John Cunningham, Canton:** Cunningham presided over Canton's 26th All-American Team, which the veteran coach (his Canton career began in 1979) said was its second Elite team achievement.

Canton won the KLA conference championship and regional championship for the second time in history and also captured 19 medals at regionals, 15 at states and a state champion in Fideler.

During the regular season, the Chiefs finished 3-1 in division meets but followed up with a 5-0 mark in conference meets to one-up Northville.

"Our season goal was to be a top-three team," Cunningham said. "We didn't realize how satisfying it would be to take fourth in the state and show what an exceptional team effort with focus and consistency could achieve. ... It was a very good year."

# MU baseball team bounces back on road

Turnabout was fair play as the Madonna University baseball team traveled Monday to Fort Wayne and beat host Indiana Tech, 4-3 and 12-4, in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header.

MU, swept Saturday at home by the Warriors, improved to 22-5 overall and 2-2 in the WHAC.

The No. 18-ranked Crusaders captured the opener behind the five-hit pitching of Jeremy Gooding, who improved to 4-0 on the season.

The Livonia native and Dearborn Divine Child High grad struck out five and gave up just two walks in going all seven innings.

Drew Fry's sacrifice fly scoring Mike Gansser in the top of the seventh proved to be the

game-winning run.

Gansser went 2-for-3 to pace MU's six-hit attack.

Other MU RBIs went to Donny Holland and Jeff Bultinck.

John Toshlog (2-2) took the loss for Tech.

The Crusader unloaded for 16 hits to complete the sweep in the nightcap as top three hitters in the lineup — Ted Toune, Shawn Little (Canton) and Bultinck — each collected three hits and one RBI.

Toune belted his fourth homer of the year, while Dan Harder went 2-for-4 with two RBIs. Zach Flavin added 3-run double.

John Ballarin, who pitched 3.1 scoreless and hitless innings in relief, got the win for the Crusaders. He is 2-1 on the year.

Indiana Tech's Zach Hoisington belted a 3-run homer in the first inning off MU starter Kyle Bolton.

The loss drops the Warriors to 14-17 overall and 2-2 in the WHAC.

**INDIANA TECH 16-8, MADONNA 4-6:** It was a rough start to the WHAC season Saturday as the host Crusaders (20-5, 0-2) were swept by visiting Indiana Tech (14-15, 2-0), Madonna University.

Tech pounded out 22 hits and three homers off four MU hurlers in the opener en route to a 16-4 six-inning mercy rule victory.

Brendan Sontag went 4-for-5 with five RBIs, while Gordon Murphy added three hits and three RBIs for the victorious Warriors.

MU starting pitcher Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn), who suffered his loss in four decisions, gave up four earned runs and seven hits in just one inning.

Ted Toune, Jeff Bultinck and Mike Gansser each went 2-for-3 for the Crusaders.

Toune belted his third homer of the year, while Zach Flavin contributed a 2-run shot, also his third of the season.

Indiana Tech pitcher Evan Hock (4-0) went all six innings, allowing four earned runs on seven hits.

In the nightcap, Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) led off the bottom of the seventh inning with a pinch-hit home run that made it 8-6. A walk to Toune followed by a single by Billy Hardin III (Livonia/Novi-Detroit Catholic Central) and a single by Bultinck loaded the bases for Flavin with one out.

The Crusader first baseman battled Tech's winning pitcher Tyler Snoke, but went down looking on strikes and then induced Matt Kay (Canton) to pop out to left to end the game and complete the sweep for Tech.

# ANGELS

FROM PAGE B1

Laubert and Brothers were teammates with the local semi-pro teams Michigan Twisters, Detroit Seminoles and Jackson Bombers.

Rounding out the staff is offensive coordinator Darrin Wubbenhorst, who served as an assistant at John Glenn and Wayne Memorial high schools; David Banks, offensive line coach; and Travis Farkas, receivers and defensive banks coach.

Laubert said the Dark Angels will consist of refugees from the Demolition, rookies and other WFA franchises (including the Mayhem and Toledo Reign).

Kellie Otto, who stands 6-foot-2 and played last season for the Mayhem, commutes three times a week from the west side of the state and will play quar-

terback for the Dark Angels.

Former Livonia Ladywood High and West Virginia University track athlete Alexis Noel will line up as a running back.

Former Demolition stand-outs Misty Findley and Kim Walters are also listed on the Dark Angels roster along with former Schoolcraft College basketball player Aisha Moore.

The Dark Angels will play an eight-game schedule in the WFA. Other Saturday night home games on the schedule include the Dayton (Ohio) Diamonds, May 15; Cleveland Fusion, June 5; and the Reign, June 12. All are 7 p.m. starts at John Glenn.

Individual game tickets are \$7 (adults) and \$5 (ages 11-18). Youths 10 and under will be admitted free. Season tickets (all four home games) are \$20.

For more information on the Dark Angels, visit [www.detroitdarkangels.com](http://www.detroitdarkangels.com); or call Lauber at (734) 777-7058.

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**GIRLS TRACK & FIELD CAPSULE OUTLOOK**

**LIVONIA CHURCHILL**

**Head coach:** Pat Daugherty, third year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** Kensington Conference and Division 1 regional champions; Public Schools of Livonia Invitational champs; 4-1 (South Division).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Shannon Getchen (first-team All-Area), Emily Clairmont (first-team All-Area), Chloe Taylor (third-team All-Area), Samar Aoude (third-team All-Area), Alicia DiMauro, Lauren Stoltman.  
**Leading returnees:** Sara Kroll, Sr., distance (first-team All-Area, 800, 2:14.39; 3,200 relay); Taylor Byron, Sr., shot put (second-team All-Area; regional champ); Leah Heinzelman, Soph., sprints (third-team All-Area; 12.8 in 100); Megan Kelly, Sr., 400 (1:03); Lindsey Kreuzman, Soph., pole vault (8-6); Sencclair McDonnell, Soph., high jump (second-team All-Area; regional champ, 5-2); Bethany Pilot, Soph., 1,600 (first-team All-Area 3,200 relay); Tiffany Raisanen, Sr., 800 (first-team All-Area 3,200 relay); Meghan Catalano, Sr., 400 relay.  
**Promising newcomers:** Sydney Anderson, Fr., hurdles; Kerrigan Riley, Fr., distance; Demi Crossman, Fr., sprints; Ashley Cochran, Fr., sprints; Sally Tomala, Jr., pole vault; Rachel Oetzman, Soph., throws; Julia Szuba, Fr., long jump-sprints; Emily Norscia, Fr., throws; Michelle Azar, Fr., distance; Mallory Eshelman, Sr., throw; Deleana Eshelman, Sr., throws; Mahogany Miller, Jr., throws; Hanna Shemke, Fr., throws; Vivien Okechukwu, Fr., distance; Ajhia Jackson, Fr., sprints; Sharon McCall, Jr., hurdles; Kelsey Manoogian, Sr., hurdles.  
**Daugherty's 2010 outlook:** "As always we have very high team expectations, as well as individual aspirations. Every year our seniors decide our season goals and this year is no different than the past two years. We have our sights on competing for the divisional, conference and regional team titles. We will be led by our 2010 senior captains Sara Kroll, Taylor Bryon, Jenna Szuba and Meghan Catalano. Sara and Taylor are coming off of very successful junior seasons with both winning regional titles, and Sara earning All-State in both the 800 and 1,600."

**LIVONIA FRANKLIN**

**Head coach:** Dave Bjorklund, 10th year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** South Division champs (5-0); Division 1 regional runner-up; fourth in Conference.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Ashly Butkowski (first-team All-Area); Meghan Powers (second-team All-Area).  
**Leading returnees:** Emily Quint, Sr., pole vault-sprints-hurdles (first-team All-Area pole vault, 11-2); Megan McPherson, Jr., distance (first-team All-Area 3,200, 11:14.2; 3,200 relay); Seneca Scott, Sr., hurdles-relays (regional champ, 100 hurdles, 15.9; 300 hurdles, 47.6; first-team All-Area 3,200 relay); Savannah Haig, Sr., throws (second-team All-Area; discuss state qualifier, 112-7; shot put, 34-10); Liz Holloway, Sr., high jump-long jump (5-0 third in regional high jump); Kathryn Chinavare, Soph., sprints (sixth in regional 100, 12.6); Mallory Church, Jr., middle distance (first-team All-Area 3,200 relay); Jen Mueller, Jr., 100 hurdles (third at regional); Shannon Niznik, Sr., hurdles-1,600 relay; Meghan Lark, Jr., pole vault (8-0); Amanda Borio, Jr., long jump-sprints-pole vault; Megan Wickens, Jr., distance-middle distance; Nicole Price, Jr., throws.  
**Promising newcomers:** Leslie Gomez, Jr., distance; Natalie Modes, Fr., sprints-long jump; Kelly O'Brien, Fr., hurdles-relays; Sarah Bo, Soph., sprints; Megan Crawford, sprints.  
**Bjorklund's 2010 outlook:** "Although we only lost two people to graduation, they were some pretty big point scorers, especially Butkowski. We have a lot of new kids and are working through some injuries right now, while trying to figure out exactly what our lineup will be. In the end, we should be able to put together some nice relays and score well in several key individual events. Quint, Scott, and McPherson should continue to score big points for us, while we expect other people such as Chinavare, Mallory Church, Mueller, Niznik and Wickens to step up and fill in some of the points we lost. Haig looks solid in the throws, and Gomez, a newcomer to track, already looks strong."

**LIVONIA STEVENSON**

**Head coach:** Kelly Graham, seventh year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAs Kensington Conference (Central Division).  
**Last year's finish:** Division 1 regional (fifth); Kensington Conference (sixth); 3-2 (South Division).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Courtney Calka (first-team All-Area); Michelle Blackstone (third-team All-Area); Lisa Black.  
**Leading returnees:** Becky Adamcheck, Sr., hurdles (first-team All-Area, 300 hurdles, 45.72); Marci Kovsky, Jr., hurdles; Becky Holubka, Jr., discuss; Emily Wolf, Jr., pole vault; Erin Erickson, Jr., sprint relays; Megan DeMarco, Sr., sprint relays; Victoria Saferian, Sr., distance; Claire LeBlanc, Sr., sprints; Stephanie Batshon, Jr., sprint relays (second-team All-Area); Alex Kitz, Soph., pole vault; Andrea Gentile, Jr., hurdles; Haley Babcock, Soph., 1,600 relay (second-team All-Area).  
**Promising newcomers:** Kelly Glynn, Fr., distance; Brenna Gabrielson, Fr., middle distance; Karlie Gallagher, Fr., middle distance; Dani Garon, Fr., sprint relays; Kelly Hall, Fr., distance; Brooke Kuchka, Fr., distance; Jordan Verleye, Jr., sprint relays; Jenny Wutka, Fr., hurdles; Chelsea Billingsley, Fr., throws; Rachel Batshon, Fr., throws; Becca Bubenheimer, Soph., throws-sprints; Monika Rudis, Jr., jumps.  
**Graham's 2010 outlook:** "I am very excited to see what the season has to offer for us. We have 100 girls to date, and I am hoping we find some very good talent within that number. Losing our three seniors who pulled a lot of points for us is a huge gap to fill, but I believe will can make up those points in other events with our new girls as well as find points within our young and experienced distance crew. If we stay healthy within our veterans and the new incoming athletes excel the team will have success."

**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN**

**Head coach:** James Fitzgerald, first year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** Division 1 regional (third); Kensington Conference (fifth); South Division (1-4).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Chanel Payne (first-team All-Area), Ryan Anderson (third-team All-Area), Shaunte Roberts (second-team All-Area), Jaimie Medel, Carly Pitrago.  
**Leading returnees:** Aubrie Scott, Jr., sprints-long jump (first-team All-Area, 200, 26.3); Stephany Brown, Soph., 200-400 (first-team All-Area 400 relay); La'Che Walton, Sr., hurdles; Cassie Sanders, Sr., throws; Tyjia Carson-Callaway, Sr., high jump-sprint relays; Alex Hamlett, Jr., 800-3,200 relay; Audrea Flores, Jr., pole vault-800.  
**Promising newcomers:** Kelly Glynn, Fr., distance; Brenna Gabrielson, Fr., middle distance; Karlie Gallagher, Fr., middle distance; Dani Garon, Fr., sprint relays; Kelly Hall, Fr., distance; Brooke Kuchka, Fr., distance; Jordan Verleye, Jr., sprint relays; Jenny Wutka, Fr., hurdles; Chelsea Billingsley, Fr., throws; Rachel Batshon, Fr., throws; Becca Bubenheimer, Soph., throws-sprints; Monika Rudis, Jr., jumps.  
**Graham's 2010 outlook:** "I am very excited to see what the season has to offer for us. We have 100 girls to date, and I am hoping we find some very good talent within that number. Losing our three seniors who pulled a lot of points for us is a huge gap to fill, but I believe will can make up those points in other events with our new girls as well as find points within our young and experienced distance crew. If we stay healthy within our veterans and the new incoming athletes excel the team will have success."

**LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND**

**Head coach:** Alissa Hall, second year.  
**League affiliation:** Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.  
**Last year's finish:** Division 1 regional (first); Metro Conference (second); dual meets (4-1).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Katy Ramthun.  
**Leading returnees:** Nicole Zehel, Sr., 800-1,600-relays (third-team All-Area; state qualifier); Emilie Freeman, Sr., high jump-200-400-relays (state qualifier); Rachel Storck, Sr., hurdles-high jump-pole vault (state qualifier); Sarah Maynard, Jr., distance; Jess Rice, Soph., 800; Amanda Terranella, Soph., hurdles.  
**Promising newcomers:** Erin Hardin, Fr., sprints-long jump-middle distance; Alyssa Flury, Fr., sprints; Marcella Flury, sprints; Jamilyn Preece, Jr., throws.  
**Hall's 2010 outlook:** "The season looks very promising. The team has been working hard in the preseason under the leadership of a very dedicated group of seniors. We're looking especially strong in the distance, mid-distance, and hurdle events. The team expects to be very competitive in the conference and region, and looks forward to their continued improvement as the season progresses."

**LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE**

**Head coach:** Brady Gustafson, fifth year.  
**League affiliation:** Metro Conference.  
**Last year's finish:** Division 3 regional (third); Metro Conference (third); 6-3 overall dual record (3-2 Metro).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Aneta Elliott, Marlene Azar, Sydney Clark, Amelia Harmon.  
**Leading returnees:** Paige Davis, Sr., throws; Emily Jasmer, Soph., throws; Evangela Daniels, Jr., hurdles; Jen Baumgardner, Sr., distance; Kamal Sander, Sr., sprints.  
**Promising newcomers:** Melanie Kieling, Fr., 400-800; Toyna Vernier, Fr., high jump-long jump; Taylor Heller, Fr., middle distance; Kayla Brown, Fr., sprints.  
**Gustafson's 2010 outlook:** "The girls are relying on fresh faces to compete this year. Evangela Daniels, Kamal Sanders and Jen Baumgardner are looking for success in conference and regional meets this year. Newcomers Toyna Vernier, Melanie Kieling, Taylor Heller and Kayla Brown will need to step up for the girls team to be successful. Paige Davis and Emily Jasmer placed in conferences last year and look to return as the top throwers in the league."

**LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE**

**Head coach:** Alissa Hall, second year.  
**League affiliation:** Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.  
**Last year's finish:** Division 1 regional (first); Metro Conference (second); dual meets (4-1).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Katy Ramthun.  
**Leading returnees:** Nicole Zehel, Sr., 800-1,600-relays (third-team All-Area; state qualifier); Emilie Freeman, Sr., high jump-200-400-relays (state qualifier); Rachel Storck, Sr., hurdles-high jump-pole vault (state qualifier); Sarah Maynard, Jr., distance; Jess Rice, Soph., 800; Amanda Terranella, Soph., hurdles.  
**Promising newcomers:** Erin Hardin, Fr., sprints-long jump-middle distance; Alyssa Flury, Fr., sprints; Marcella Flury, sprints; Jamilyn Preece, Jr., throws.  
**Hall's 2010 outlook:** "The season looks very promising. The team has been working hard in the preseason under the leadership of a very dedicated group of seniors. We're looking especially strong in the distance, mid-distance, and hurdle events. The team expects to be very competitive in the conference and region, and looks forward to their continued improvement as the season progresses."



**Megan Yanik Ladywood**



**Emily Quint Franklin**



**Becky Adamcheck Stevenson**

**Sarah Barnett, Jr., sprints;** Ebere Ogbuaku, Soph., hurdles.  
**Promising newcomers:** Alexis Mikonczyk, Fr., throws; Jazzelle Straka, Fr., 200-400-jumps; Abbey Wright, Soph., middle distance; Casey Butler, Fr., distance; Kayla Jones, Fr., sprints; Talour Phillips, Fr., sprints-hurdles; Ayana Wynn, Fr., sprints; Brandy Jackson, Fr., sprints; Mary Dreher, Fr., distance.  
**Fitzgerald's 2010 outlook:** "Our numbers have been strong so far this spring. We have several quality girls that will contribute in many areas. Although we have a young team, our freshmen and junior classes are strong. We lost some key sprinters to graduation, but hope to fill those spots and still compete at a high level. This group has worked very hard so far and is looking forward to a successful 2010 season."

**WAYNE MEMORIAL**

**Head coach:** Kevin Miller, 10th year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** Division 1 regional (11th); Kensington Conference (12th); 0-5 South Division.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Brittany Askin.  
**Leading returnees:** Rochelle Woods, Sr., sprints; Meah Long, Jr., sprints; Francis Jackson, Sr., high jump; Lalita Hayes, Sr., high jump; Holland Boertje, Soph., distance; Sarah Carney, Sr., distance; Carmen Speen, Jr., sprints.  
**Promising newcomers:** Sydney Ball, Fr., distance-high jump-pole vault-hurdles; Cache Crowe, Fr., sprints; Calita Jones, Fr., sprints; Diamy Lee, Soph., sprints.  
**Miller's 2010 outlook:** "We have 40 on the roster right now and 30 about regulars, which is twice as many as last year. But we're still small against teams we're up against. We're trying to get more people in more events going. With more bodies, we can fill up more events and be more competitive. (Rochelle) Woods came real close making 'states' in the 100 and 200 last year. She's been pushing herself - that's a goal. We also might have a relay team, the 4 x 100, that might be competitive as well."

**LIVONIA LADYWOOD**

**Head coach:** Alice Ahearn, second year.  
**League affiliation:** Catholic League (Central Division).  
**Last year's finish:** Division 2 regional (seventh); Catholic League (second).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Katie Morasso (first-team All-Area), Brigid Molloy (third-team All-Area), Julia Kenney.  
**Leading returnees:** Megan Yanik, Fr., hurdles (first-team All-Area 110 hurdles; 1,600 relay); Megan Vitale, Jr., sprints (first-team All-Area 1,600 relay); Teresa Wojnarowski, Jr., 300 hurdles-sprints (first-team All-Area 1,600 relay); Meredith Houska, Sr., distance; Siobhan Aldridge, Jr., distance; Alexandra Darr, Soph., distance; Sarah Wickman, Soph., distance-throws; Emma McClory, Jr., distance; Lauren Micallef, Jr., distance; Kelly Campbell, Soph., long jump-sprints; Angelina Czarnecki, Sr., sprints-throws; Shannon Farnell, Soph., sprints; Haley Giordano, Sr., sprints-long jump; Maureen Murphy, Sr., sprints-long jump; Alyssa Achacon, Sr., sprints-long jump; Adriana Young, Fr., sprints-throws; Meaghan Mulchay, Soph., middle distance-sprints-high jump; Katherine Taylor, Fr., sprints-middle distance-high jump.  
**Promising newcomers:** Shannon Scarlett, Sr., sprints-middle distance; Lauren Karwan, Sr., sprints-middle distance; Megan Talty, Fr., distance; Erica Mucci, Fr., distance; Sarah Koch, Fr., throws.  
**Ahearn's 2010 outlook:** "We have a small team this year and we'll have to be strategic to win meets. However, we have a lot of talent for a small team and the girls are willing to try different events for the good of the team. We're looking forward to a competitive, as well as a developmental season."

**LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE**

**Head coach:** Brady Gustafson, fifth year.  
**League affiliation:** Metro Conference.  
**Last year's finish:** Division 3 regional (third); Metro Conference (third); 6-3 overall dual record (3-2 Metro).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Aneta Elliott, Marlene Azar, Sydney Clark, Amelia Harmon.  
**Leading returnees:** Paige Davis, Sr., throws; Emily Jasmer, Soph., throws; Evangela Daniels, Jr., hurdles; Jen Baumgardner, Sr., distance; Kamal Sander, Sr., sprints.  
**Promising newcomers:** Melanie Kieling, Fr., 400-800; Toyna Vernier, Fr., high jump-long jump; Taylor Heller, Fr., middle distance; Kayla Brown, Fr., sprints.  
**Gustafson's 2010 outlook:** "The girls are relying on fresh faces to compete this year. Evangela Daniels, Kamal Sanders and Jen Baumgardner are looking for success in conference and regional meets this year. Newcomers Toyna Vernier, Melanie Kieling, Taylor Heller and Kayla Brown will need to step up for the girls team to be successful. Paige Davis and Emily Jasmer placed in conferences last year and look to return as the top throwers in the league."

**LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND**

**Head coach:** Alissa Hall, second year.  
**League affiliation:** Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.  
**Last year's finish:** Division 1 regional (first); Metro Conference (second); dual meets (4-1).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Katy Ramthun.  
**Leading returnees:** Nicole Zehel, Sr., 800-1,600-relays (third-team All-Area; state qualifier); Emilie Freeman, Sr., high jump-200-400-relays (state qualifier); Rachel Storck, Sr., hurdles-high jump-pole vault (state qualifier); Sarah Maynard, Jr., distance; Jess Rice, Soph., 800; Amanda Terranella, Soph., hurdles.  
**Promising newcomers:** Erin Hardin, Fr., sprints-long jump-middle distance; Alyssa Flury, Fr., sprints; Marcella Flury, sprints; Jamilyn Preece, Jr., throws.  
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**Leading returnees:** Nicole Zehel, Sr., 800-1,600-relays (third-team All-Area; state qualifier); Emilie Freeman, Sr., high jump-200-400-relays (state qualifier); Rachel Storck, Sr., hurdles-high jump-pole vault (state qualifier); Sarah Maynard, Jr., distance; Jess Rice, Soph., 800; Amanda Terranella, Soph., hurdles.  
**Promising newcomers:** Erin Hardin, Fr., sprints-long jump-middle distance; Alyssa Flury, Fr., sprints; Marcella Flury, sprints; Jamilyn Preece, Jr., throws.  
**Hall's 2010 outlook:** "The season looks very promising. The team has been working hard in the preseason under the leadership of a very dedicated group of seniors. We're looking especially strong in the distance, mid-distance, and hurdle events. The team expects to be very competitive in the conference and region, and looks forward to their continued improvement as the season progresses."

**SHAY**

FROM PAGE B1

have to love the way she calls a game."

Shay moved into the catching position at Madonna her sophomore season after spending much of her freshman year playing the outfield. In that initial campaign, Shay, a product of Dearborn Divine Child High School, started 33 of 46 games and compiled a .367 batting average in 98 plate appearances. Ten doubles and four home runs helped her drive in 25 runs that season and set the table for even greater production the next year.

Switching over to catcher and filling in the role of the team's designated hitter in 2009, Shay garnered All-WHAC first team honors after leading the Crusaders to a 25-3 league mark. She batted .350 with 17 doubles, two triples, four home runs and 35 RBI to her credit. The Crusaders finished 53-11 overall and advanced through two rounds of the NAAs before being eliminated by Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.), 8-1.

"The biggest adjustment for me was my freshman year when I was playing right field," Shay said. "I had caught all the way through high school, but they had a senior catcher here, and it was just weird for me playing the outfield. I had a tough time to be honest about it, so it was good last year to move back to catcher."



PAT MOORE | MU SPORTS INFORMATION

Garden City native Ashley Shay finds herself the No. 1 catcher on the roster this spring for Madonna University's softball team.

"It's just that I like being in on every play and being a catcher you can do that," Shay went on. "I like being in control of situations."

White has instilled a great deal of confidence in Shay this year as her continued maturity has her calling pitches for the Crusaders' top two starters of Jessica Irwin and Hallie Minch.

"It's been quite a change because in high school I never called pitches," said Shay, who also has been quite productive with the bat by posting a .316 mark at the plate and leading the team with 17 RBI. "But this year I'm the senior catcher and coach (White) has shown confidence with me. Even with hitting you have to go up there with confidence."

Madonna may not have been Shay's first choice coming out of a stellar prep career in which she earned multiple all-city, all-district and All-

Catholic League honors for her diamond performances. But it certainly has proven to be the right choice.

"I was looking at a couple of different schools, but those programs all seemed to say softball was first," Shay said of her decision-making. "Madonna had always been on the back burner for me and when I visited it was fantastic. I met with coaches and some players and they all said school was first and the most important. It was all about school, and then softball, and that's the way I wanted it. I have found it to be a very good family environment here."

Softball was introduced to Shay at a very young age as she would watch her father, Al, compete on the diamond, as well as her older brother, Ryan, who became a four-year letter winner in baseball at Bowling Green State University.

She began to take great interest in softball at around age 12 and hasn't looked back since. Yes, volleyball at one time shared the spotlight with softball, but that was displaced once her passion for the latter continued to grow.

"I played volleyball in high school and that was basically to keep me in shape," said Shay, who still remains connected with the sport by serving as statistician for the Crusaders' women's program. "My love and passion has always been for softball."

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**PREVIEW**

FROM PAGE B1

She earned first-team All-Observer honors in the 1,600. McPherson was also a member of Franklin's first-team All-Area 4 x 800 relay team (9:49.8) which also includes returnees Seneca Scott, a senior, and Mallory Church, a junior. "Competition in our division and conference will be tough and I expect several other teams to be gunning for us, so we will have to work very hard if we want to continue the success we have had over the last few years," Franklin coach Dave Bjorklund said. Stevenson took a slight downturn last year finishing fifth at the Division 1 regional and sixth in the Kensington Conference meet. The Spartans lost their standout four-year distance runner Courtney Calka, the Division 1 runner-up in the 1,600 (4:51.97). She is now running for Eastern Michigan University. Hoping to fill the void left by Calka's graduation is senior hurdler Becky Adamcheck,

who took seventh in the Division 1 state finals in the 300 hurdles (45.72) after setting the school record (45.6). "With Becky returning for her senior year I am excited to see what she can do as well as my leading veteran returners," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "We have some solid returners that I intend to rely on to carry the load with our dual meets and believe we do have a better team than what we had last year." Westland John Glenn took a surprise third in last year's regional thanks to the efforts of Chanel Payne, who went a career- and school-best 18-5.75 in the long jump (third in Division 1). Payne has graduated, but has passed the baton to junior Aubrie Scott, a first-team All-Area pick in the 200 (26.3). Scott also went 17-4.75 in the long jump and will team up with sophomore Stephany Brown on the first-team All-Observer 4 x 100 relay. James Fitzpatrick also takes over the full-time coaching duties for Alan McGowan. Rival Wayne Memorial did not win a dual-meet in the KLAAs South last year, but 10th-year coach Kevin Miller is encouraged by his team's turnout.

Watch out for sprinter Rochelle Woods, who just missed qualifying for the state meet a year ago. Meanwhile, Livonia Ladywood hopes to improve upon its runner-up finish in last year's Division 2 regional. Second-year coach Alice Ahearn will get a boost from first-team All-Area hurdler Megan Yanik, a senior who finished third in the 300 lows (45.5) and fifth in the 100 hurdles (15.81). Three-quarters of Ladywood's 4 x 400 relay return including junior Megan Vitale and junior Teresa Wojnarowski. Lutheran High Westland is defending champion in the Metro Conference, but the Warriors won't be able to repeat after joining the Michigan Independent Conference. Second-year coach Alissa Hall returns three state qualifiers in seniors Nicole Zehel, Emilie Freeman and Rachel Storck. Livonia Clarenceville will remain in the Metro Conference for its final season before it disbands. The Trojans will be led by shot put and discus throwers Paige Davis and Emily Jasmer.



# Westland-Garden City Strictly Business



Kevin Rochette, his father Dave and brother Steve are ready to show what's available for the summer outdoor season at the three-day event at the Westland Camping Center.

## Camping center ready for outdoor season

Westland Camping Center is teaming up with some of the biggest names in outdoor activities, including Coleman, Old Town Canoe and Ocean Kayaks, as well as local Michigan companies, such as Outdoor Adventures Campgrounds and the Michigan Kayak Fishing Club to kick off the summer season.

The kickoff will be held Friday-Sunday, April 23-25, at Westland Camping Center, 1475 S. Newburgh, Westland. Camper and trailer sales specials, service demonstrations and accessories sales will be going on all weekend, and on Saturday, hundreds of dollars of prizes will be given away and manufacturer representatives will be on hand to answer questions.

There also will be activities for the kids, including face painting, balloon animals, and grilling hot dogs.

"You don't get into the camping business, if you don't love it," said Dave Rochette, owner of Westland Camping. "I've been camping with my family my whole life, and I love to be able to share that with our customers." Westland Camping Center has been helping families camp for more than 40 years.

"We want to make sure that we don't just provide a camping vessel, but we want to provide all the things you can do while camping: games, kayaks, destination locations,

everything," Rochette said.

Rochette runs the business with the help of his family - his wife Irene and their sons Kevin and Steve. "Everyone pitches in, and everyone has a particular interest in the outdoors, and that fits in nicely with everyone else," said youngest son Steve Rochette. "Personally, I love the gadgets, and I especially love cooking in the outdoors, so I tend to handle the parts and accessories, while my brother Kevin loves to fish and kayak, so he handles those departments."

"We've never really done anything this big before, and we are floored by the support we are receiving from all of our product vendors as well," he added. "Almost all of the raffle prizes were donated by manufacturers and vendors who are also excited about this coming year."

The Open House Sales Event is meant to kick off the summer season, and reminding people of how much fun there is to be had outdoors in Michigan.

"We want to make sure everything about our business is represented," Steve Rochette said. "That's why we are bringing in so many different groups of people to present everything from service and maintenance, kayaking, to our trailer manufacturers being here, all to show how family vacations can be made easier."

"We are going to be dupli-

cating the sales offers we had at the February RV show in Novi since so many people liked it. We will even have somebody on hand from Parkside Credit Union to talk to people about financing," added Dave Rochette. "The Michigan economy has been hit hard in the last few years, and it's important that people see how economical camping is, even for a large family. But I hate talking about the 'terrible Michigan economy' thing, when there are so many things to do in this state that have nothing to do with economics. We have rivers, lakes, campgrounds, state parks, state forests, landmarks, and hundreds of other great places to go just in our state, and that's just in the Lower Peninsula. Cross the bridge, and there is even more to do."

Westland Camper will offer clinics on how to outfit a kayak with the latest fishing gear, sales on kayaks for between 50-70 percent off, trailer service demonstrations, and clinics on how to properly maintain your trailer to avoid costly repairs later on down the road.

The activities and giveaways and product reps will be at the center 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 24. For more information on the event, check out the updates on Westland Camping's Facebook page or call (734) 326-7700.

### BUSINESS MILESTONES

#### Spring Blood Drive

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 9

**Location:** Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury, 32000 Ford, between Merriman and Venoy, Garden City  
**Details:** Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury is holding its spring American Red Cross Blood Drive. The need for blood is constant and rolling up one's sleeve to donate blood with the American Red Cross really is giving the gift of life. For more information regarding donation eligibility requirements, visit the Red Cross Web site at [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) or call (800) 448-3543.

**Contact:** To schedule an appointment at Metropolitan, call (888) 860-0007, or schedule an appointment online at the Red Cross Web site. Walk-ins are also more than welcome.

#### Dinner Theater

**Time/Date:** Saturdays only through May 1

**Location:** The Dinner Theatre at Hawthorne Valley, 7300 Merriman, north of Warren Road, Westland  
**Details:** -Enjoy dinner and theater - "The Cemetery Club" - for 31.95 per person. Cocktails (cash bar) at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and the show. "The Cemetery Club" is the story of three widows meet once a month for tea before going to visit their husbands graves. Ida is sweet tempered and ready to begin a new life, Lucille is a feisty embodiment of the girl who just wants to have fun, and Doris is prig-

ish and judgmental, particularly when Sam, the butcher, enters the scene. He meets the widows while visiting his wife's grave. Doris and Lucille squash the budding romance between Sam and Ida. They are guilt stricken when this nearly breaks Ida's heart.

**Contact:** (734) 422-3440

#### Mother's Day Cakes

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 8

**Location:** Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 N. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** Mary and her staff will again be letting children decorate cakes for Mom on the Saturday before Mother's Day. No reservations are necessary. Just bring your child and let them make you a special cake. The cost is \$3.  
**Contact:** (734) 261-3680 or (888) 715-4479

#### General store

**Time/Date:** noon-3 p.m.

Wednesdays and Saturdays  
**Location:** The Lathers General Store inside the Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** Looking for something different. Visit the old-fashioned general store that's a gift shop, boutique, and resale shop. It benefits the Straight Farmhouse, home of the Garden City Historical Museum.  
**Contact:** (734) 838-0650

#### Job Seekers Lab

**Time/Date:** Every Tuesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 5-8 p.m. and

Friday 1-4 p.m.

**Location:** William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland

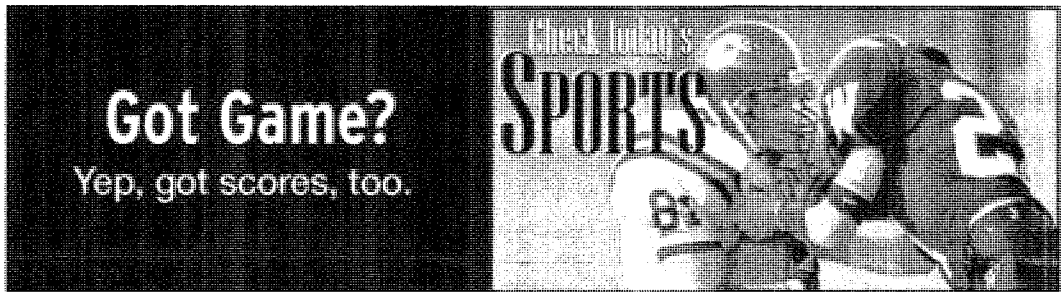
**Details:** Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job related activity? Stop by the library where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help.  
**Contact:** (734) 326-6123 or go online to [westlandlibrary.org](http://westlandlibrary.org)

#### Gamers delight

**Time/Days:** noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, noon to midnight Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday  
**Location:** Pandemonium, 1858 Middlebelt, Garden City  
**Details:** A true hobby gaming store, Pandemonium specializes in collectible card games, miniature games, role-playing games, Chessex Dice, Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Strategic board games, Forge World, used miniatures and books and much more.  
**Contact:** (734)-427-2451

#### Family Fun Nights

**Time/Date:** 5-8 p.m. Sundays  
**Location:** Mr. Mike's Grill, 6047 N. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** Grab the kids and head to Mr. Mike's for Family Fun Night with John Duh Balloon Baffoon every Sunday evening. There's free balloon creations, free ice cream sundae station and free chocolate fondue fountain.  
**Contact:** (734) 729-MIKE (6453)



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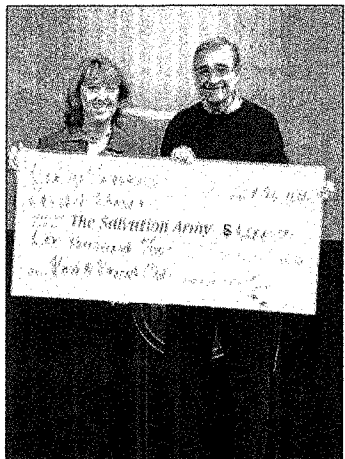
### BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

## Co-Op Services gives \$1,000 to Radiothon

Listeners to 104.3 FM WOMC and the 23rd Annual Dick Purtan Radiothon to benefit The Salvation Army had the opportunity to hear the voices of many generous individuals and organizations, including Lisa Fawcett, marketing director of Co-op Services Credit Union.

Fawcett attended the Radiothon at Oakland Mall to congratulate Purtan on his retirement and to present Co-op Services' check for \$1,000 to aid The Salvation Army's Bed & Bread program which provides food, shelter and services to disadvantaged men, women and children within metropolitan Detroit.

"It was an honor for Co-op Services to help sponsor and contribute to the annual Dick



Dick Purtan receives Co-op Services' donation of \$1,000 from credit union marketing director Lisa Fawcett.

Purtan Radiothon which has raised millions of dollars during the past two decades to

help needy people in our community," said Fawcett. "It was also a privilege to shake hands with Mr. Purtan. He's a legendary broadcaster who has given so much to a variety of worthwhile causes during a noteworthy career."

The Salvation Army reports that a donation of \$120 will feed one person for a year. Every day, it is estimated that approximately 5,000 meals are served through the Salvation Army facilities and from the Bed & Bread trucks that make stops in metro Detroit's most depressed areas.

This year's event raised an estimated \$2,339,440.

For more information about Co-op Services, visit the credit union Web site at [www.cscu.org](http://www.cscu.org) or call (800) 321-8570.



# ENTERTAINMENT



Anna Bonde in 42nd Street.



Murder Mystery Company will perform a benefit show at Churchill High School in Livonia for the Anna Bonde Memorial Scholarship Fund.

## Interactive show benefits scholarship, honors former student

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Anna Bonde would have loved playing to a full house with former Livonia Churchill High School classmates at the 1st Annual Murder Mystery Dinner, Friday, April 16 at their alma mater.

"Anna was the best of us," said Scott Cramton, a graduate of Churchill's Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) program with Anna and founder of the Murder Mystery Company. "She was first off far and away the most talented person I've ever met. She was a dear friend to so many people."

Cramton's theater company, along with other CAPA graduates, will stage the murder mystery dinner show to raise funds for the scholarship that was established in Anna's memory after she was killed by a drunken driver in 2001.

The show, which combines improvisation, costumed murder mystery characters and audience interaction, will start at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, Livonia. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for senior

citizens and college students, and \$10 for high school and middle school students and include dinner, the show and a silent auction. Reservations can be made at [www.starringcapa.com](http://www.starringcapa.com) or by calling Anna's mother, Debra Bonde, at (734) 765-5105. The deadline is Friday, April 9.

### CAPA GRAD

Anna, who graduated in 1999, had been a member of CAPA and performed in numerous musicals and plays while at Churchill. She was a friend of Cramton, who runs the Murder Mystery Company in Grand Rapids, and of Justin Issa and Adam Mack, who work with its Chicago, Ill., troupe.

"They wanted to bring one of the shows here and do it in her honor," said Bonde, who met Issa and Mack for lunch a few months ago to talk about the concept. "They told me about their idea and I was thrilled and touched that they would do that. I didn't think they were still so touched by her death."

"One of the biggest fears parents have is that their child will be forgotten. They never got a chance to make their mark. It would be easy for

these kids to go on with their lives. The fact they remember her and loved her so much just blows me away."

Bonde said many volunteers, including parents of current students, have donated food for the event or solicited businesses for food and auction items.

More than 200 tickets have been sold, with approximately 400 individuals expected to attend the event.

### BIG PRODUCTION

Cramton, whose Murder Mystery Company troupes dot the map from California to Ohio, says the Churchill event will be his "most lavish show."

Typically, the performances use one to five actors, depending on the size of the audience. The show at Churchill will include about 30 actors.

"So many actors will make it an extravagant and amazing piece this time," Cramton noted. "Not all of them will be on stage in a traditional manner. Some will be interacting with the audience."

"Our claim to fame is that we interact more with the audience than most shows do," Cramton said.

Every show is customized and audience members feel like a part of the show. Some are given a costume and invited to play a character. Everyone works together to solve the murder mystery.

Cramton extends an "open invitation" to CAPA grads to work with his company.

"All of the CAPA kids are just fantastic. The training you get in CAPA is heads and tails above any other training I've ever received," he said.

Bonde said the Murder Mystery Company also plans to involve some current students in the Churchill show.

"They've already done some workshops with them. I thought that was a nice way to give back," she said.

The Anna Bonde Memorial Scholarship has given \$20,000 to CAPA seniors since it was established in 2002.

To learn more about the Murder Mystery Company, visit [www.grimprov.com](http://www.grimprov.com)

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# Mission at Redford parish aims to spark faith renewal

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

The parishioners at Our Lady of Loretto in Redford hope to "spark the holy spirit within" and "set their faith on fire" with a renewal mission beginning Sunday, April 18.

They'll listen to a message from former Pentecostal minister, now a Roman Catholic deacon, Alex Jones.

And they're extending an invitation to the public to join them for any or all of the three-day revival.

"It's going to be different for us, but different can be good," said Jim Feldt, a member of the church's evangelization committee. "Let's be honest, the Catholic Church has a somewhat stale reputation. It's not a Bible-thumping

**The mission is free and open to the public. It runs Sunday-Tuesday, April 18-20, at the church, located at 17116 Olympia, Redford. The church's contemporary ensemble will perform each night. Food and fellowship will follow the presentations. Call (313) 534-9000.**

church. To get someone with this man's fire ... I want to see something through his eyes."

Jones, of Farmington Hills, a former teacher in Detroit Public Schools, led Zion Congregational Church of God in Christ, the state's second oldest Pentecostal church, from 1975-1982. He was senior minister at an Evangelical/Charismatic church for the next 18 years. While preparing for a Bible study one day, he began reading about church history, including writings by

the Apostolic Fathers, disciples and martyrs of the 1st and 2nd century Christian church. His discoveries drew him and his wife, Donna, to the Catholic Church. They and 54 members of his Evangelical congregation began the conversion process two years later and were confirmed at an Easter Vigil service in 2001.

Jones subsequently was ordained a deacon, became the evangelization coordinator for the Archdiocese of Detroit — a position from which he has

retired — and earned a master's degree in pastoral studies. The author of *No Price Too High: A Pentecostal Preacher Becomes Catholic*, Jones serves St. Suzanne parish in Detroit and speaks on a variety of topics at missions, conferences and workshops throughout the country.

## LIGHTING A FIRE

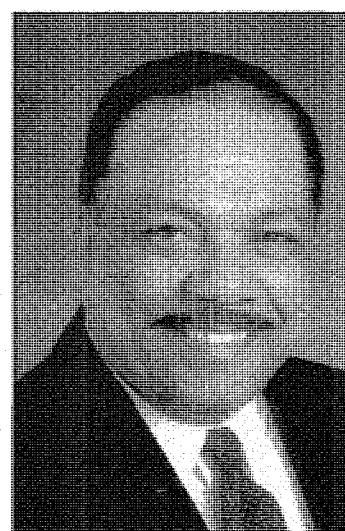
"He's a man with a story and that draws you in. What's nice about this talk is that it's not just about that," said Feldt, adding that Jones will touch briefly on his own life before moving on to a broader topic.

"His talk appeals to all denominations. It's not a recruitment to the Catholic Church. It's about renewing your faith, setting your faith on fire."

It's just what Our Lady of Loretto's evangelization committee, formed less than a year ago, needs before it can begin its work.

"If you believe in something, you want to share that with someone else. If you believe in Jesus you want to tell someone else. With that simple concept we formed the evangelization committee," Feldt explained. "There's no book that tells you here's how to do it. We're feeling our way around. Before we evangelize our faith needs to be on fire. We thought this would be a great way to start."

The mission is free and open to the public. It runs Sunday-Tuesday, April 18-20, at the church, located at 17116 Olympia, Redford. The church's contemporary ensemble will perform each



Jones

night. Food and fellowship will follow the presentations. Call (313) 534-9000.

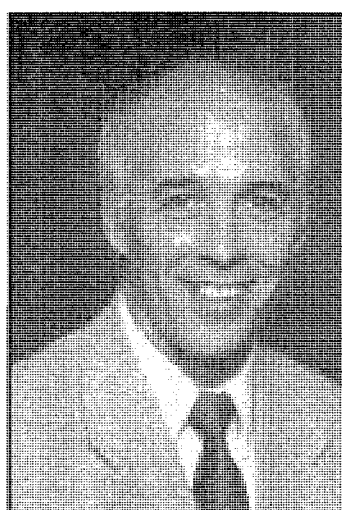
## Speaker shares conversion story at Livonia church

St. Michael the Archangel Church's new series, "Why Be Catholic," which opened to a standing-room-only crowd of more than 300 individuals in January, continues Wednesday, April 14 with Paco Gavrilides, author, speaker and retreat master.

Gavrilides, who serves as the archdiocesan coordinator of Evangelization and Catholic Men's Ministry, will speak at 7 p.m., in the school cafeteria, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia.

The orthodox Episcopalian convert will share the story of his conversion to Catholicism. He describes his conversion as "discovering I wasn't standing on solid ground anymore and realizing a whole new world was opening up to me."

Gavrilides served as an international missionary for more than 20 years, is director of the annual Archdiocese of Detroit Men's Conferences, and gives regular marriage retreats with his wife, Inez. He also edited a series of faith-based workbooks and has made many guest appearances on Catholic



Gavrilides

radio.

There is no charge for his presentation and no reservations are required. A children's ministry is available through prior arrangement with [www.childrensministry@livoniastmichael.org](http://www.childrensministry@livoniastmichael.org).

For more information call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207, or visit the parish Web site at [www.livoniastmichael.org](http://www.livoniastmichael.org).

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com) or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form. For a complete listing online, go to [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).

## APRIL 8-14

### Congregation Beth Ahm

**Time/Date:** 1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 11

**Location:** 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Dr. Amy Brode will talk about the overactive bladder and incontinence, at a program sponsored by the congregation's Sisterhood; free admission and open to the public

**Coming up:** The Sisterhood starts a weekly Mah Jongg group, 12:30-3 p.m., Tuesday, April 13. Cost is \$1 per person; participants should bring current Mah Jongg card. Also a free weekly DVD series continues at 1 p.m. Wednesday; topics for April 14 are "Rome Arrives in Jerusalem" and "Parting with the Temple," drop-ins welcome and no reservations needed

**Contact:** (248) 851-6880 or [www.cbahm.org](http://www.cbahm.org) for Brode's program; Gail Ellenbogen at (248) 626-4123 or e-mail [gellenbo@yahoo.com](mailto:gellenbo@yahoo.com) for Mah Jongg; Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 for DVD series

### The Corners

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, April 9

**Location:** 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster Road, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Rabbi Howard Addison, an assistant pro-

fessor in the Intellectual Heritage Department at Temple University, leads a workshop about the interface between Kabbalah and the Enneagram. He'll explain how to use it for personal growth and working with clients in the helping professions. Cost is \$100

**Contact:** RSVP to Michael Abramsky at (248) 644-7398

### Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 6-7 p.m., April 11, 18, 25

**Location:** 9601 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** Ballroom dancing lessons, followed by a practice session, with music. A dance party will be held 7-9:30 p.m., April 25. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$6 for each lesson and \$6 for the dance. Attend the class and dance for \$10. Pay at the door in Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from the March classes will go to the Cancer Relay for Life; April's proceeds will go to the Capital Improvement Fund

**Contact:** (734) 751-1957 or (734) 422-0494

## APRIL 15-21

### Birmingham Temple

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m., Saturday, April 17

**Location:** 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Vivace Music Series features pianist Ralph Votapek performing works by Copland, Schubert, Ravel and Albeniz. Afterglow and refreshments follow the concert; tickets are \$20 for members and seniors, \$23 non-members. Student and group rates available

**Contact:** Joyce Cheresch at (248) 788-0338 or Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348

### Congregation Beth Ahm

**Time/Date:** 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 17

## RELIGION CALENDAR

**Location:** 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** Shabbat Club for kids provides a morning of parasha play, games, interactive learning and Shabbat fun

**Contact:** RSVP to Amy Newman at [relschooll@cbahm.org](mailto:relschooll@cbahm.org) or (248) 851-8820

### The Corners

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m., Saturday, April 17

**Location:** 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster, in West Bloomfield

**Details:** Enjoy a "Moment of Shabbat" with your 2- through 6-year-olds and celebrate Shabbat with songs, stories, arts and crafts and a special Havdalah service, sponsored by Temple Shir Shalom; no charge

**Contact:** (248) 406-4255

### Emmanuel Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday, April 17

**Location:** 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington Road and Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** "Spring Fling" dance designed for adults with developmental disabilities, special needs, and their caretakers includes music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages will be served

**Contact:** RSVP no later than April 9 to Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to [judy@emmanuel-livonia.org](mailto:judy@emmanuel-livonia.org)

### Leon's

**Time/Date:** 9:30 a.m., April 17

**Location:** 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City

**Details:** Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting; all separated, divorced and singles may attend

**Contact:** Kathy at (734) 513-9479

Please see CALENDAR, NEXT PG.

# Your Invitation to Worship

## CATHOLIC

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Tridentine Latin Mass  
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8  
38100 Five Mile Road  
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200  
Mass Schedule:  
Fri. 7:00 p.m.  
Sat. 11:00 a.m.  
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.  
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. OE0868259

**St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church**  
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8  
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220  
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)  
MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a,  
Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

**St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church**  
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616  
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)  
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,  
Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a OE0868259

## CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 455-1525  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER  
(734) 455-3196 OE0868792

## LUTHERAN-ELCA

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA**  
Farmington Hills 23225 Gull Rd. 248-474-0594  
SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM  
**Sunday Worship & Sunday School**  
9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE  
10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES  
11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE  
NURSERY AVAILABLE  
BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS OE0868731

## UNITED METHODIST

**Redford Aldersgate** 2 blocks South of Plymouth  
United Methodist  
10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170  
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sunday School  
11:00 - Contemp Family Worship  
[www.redfordaldersgate.org](http://www.redfordaldersgate.org) OE0868711

**ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills  
[www.orchardumc.org](http://www.orchardumc.org)  
248-626-3620  
Worship:  
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages  
Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter OE0868746

## PRESBYTERIAN

**Fellowship Presbyterian Church**  
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire  
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road  
Nursery provided • [www.fellowship-presbyterian.org](http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org) OE0868719

## PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

**ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**  
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)  
(734) 422-0494  
Friends in Faith Service  
9:00 am  
Traditional Service  
10:30 am  
Visit [www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org)  
For information about our many programs OE0868183

## GREEK ORTHODOX

**NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI  
Sunday Services  
Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  
Rev. Fr. George Vapouris  
Parish Office 734-420-0131  
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
[www.nativitygochurch.org](http://www.nativitygochurch.org) OE0868611

## LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96  
734-522-6830  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional  
Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am  
Early Childhood Center  
Phone 734-513-8413  
Staffed Nursery Available  
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport  
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden OE0868713

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY  
313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.  
Worship Service  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery Provided  
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor OE0868735

## Risen Christ Lutheran

David W. Martin, Pastor  
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1/2 mile W. of Sheldon)  
(734) 453-5252  
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am  
Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30  
Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.  
[www.risenchrist.info](http://www.risenchrist.info) OE0868811

## EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

**WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
"Just west of I-275"  
Northville, MI  
248-374-7400  
Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.  
Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours  
Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.  
Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 580  
The WNUZ Word Station  
For additional information visit [www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org) OE0868814

## LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

**ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.  
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.  
website: [www.stpaulsilivonia.org](http://www.stpaulsilivonia.org) OE0868730

## CONGREGATIONAL

**North Congregational Church**  
36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750  
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School  
Faith - Freedom-Fellowship  
Ministers  
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OE0868727

**For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: [dhart@dnps.com](mailto:dhart@dnps.com)**



**CALENDAR**

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

**St. Aidan**  
**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April 15  
**Location:** 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** David J. Conrad, M.A., Theology is the presenter at a program called "The Church: Its Essential Qualities and Purpose"  
**Contact:** RSVP by noon the day of the event to (734) 425-5950  
**St. Theodore Catholic Church**  
**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday, April 18  
**Location:** 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast also includes ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk and juice. It's sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, age 2-10  
**Contact:** (734) 425-4421

**APRIL 22-28**

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, April 23 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 24  
**Location:** 28000 New Market, just north of 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road in Farmington Hills  
**Details:** The Woman's League of the church sponsors a rummage and bake sale. In addition to clothing and homemade baked goods, the sale will feature small appliances, furniture, books, bedding, linens, toys, jewelry and much more. \$3 and \$5 bag sale on Saturday  
**Contact:** Lucille Ehlers at (248) 553-2889

**April 29-May 5**  
**Antioch Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** Rummage sale 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, April 30, and 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 1  
**Location:** 33360 West 13 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** The church also is collecting items for the sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, April 26-28  
**Contact:** Judy Glass at (248) 476-9074

**Congregation B'nai Moshe**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m., May 2  
**Location:** 6800 Drake, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** "Torah, Technology and the Future of Israel," will explore the relationship of Torah values to the applications of modern technology. There will be a panel presentation with Steven Bekhor, on "Israel's Nuclear Horizon," Ellen P. Rosenberg, on "Water Resources and Conservation in Israel," and Steven H. Schwartz with "Torah Values and the Environment. The B'nai Moshe Choir will perform and there will be a question and answer period followed by a social hour with refreshments. Admission is free  
**Contact:** RSVP to (248) 788-0600  
**St. Aidan**  
**Time/Date:** 6-9 p.m., Thursday, April 29  
**Location:** 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** The Rev. Norm Dickson and Dr. Mary Healy will be the guest speakers at the Endow groups at the church. The session, a reflection on Women of Peace and Love, is aimed at women and girls, age 16 and over. A light dinner will be included. A free will offering will be accepted  
**Contact:** RSVP to the parish office by April 25 at (734) 425-5950

**ONGOING**  
**AWANA**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays  
**Location:** Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade  
**Contact:** (248) 426-0096  
**Breakfast**  
**St. Michael the Archangel**  
**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m.-noon, third Sunday each month, October through May  
**Location:** 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, in Livonia  
**Details:** The Ushers' Club presents an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast served in the school cafeteria and featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages.

Meals are served buffet-style. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, 4-11, free for children under 3, and \$15 for a family with two adults and children  
**Contact:** (734) 261-1455

**Career workshops**  
**St. Matthew's United Methodist Church**  
**Time/Date:** First and third Mondays  
**Location:** 30900 Six Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Workshops are designed to help people in employment transition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone looking for work.  
**Contact:** (734) 422-6038

**Classes/study**  
**Detroit First Church of the Nazarene**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday  
**Location:** 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile  
**Details:** Tuesday Ladies Bible Study; \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5  
**Contact:** (248) 348-7600  
**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month  
**Location:** 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia  
**Details:** Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun  
**Contact:** Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

**Livonia Unity**  
**Time/Date:** Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions  
**Contact:** (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org  
**Men's Bible study**  
**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.  
**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township  
**Contact:** John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

**Merriman Road Baptist Church**  
**Details:** Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Tutors available for day or evening.  
**Contact:** (734) 421-0472; leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you  
**New Life Community Church**  
**Time/Date:** Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays  
**Location:** 42200 Tyler, Belleville  
**Contact:** (734) 846-4615  
**Our Lady of Loretto**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday  
**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford  
**Details:** Scripture study  
**Contact:** (313) 534-9000

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday  
**Location:** 26701 Joy  
**Details:** Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey  
**Contact:** (313) 274-3820  
**St. Michael the Archangel**  
**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., second and fourth Thursday of each month  
**Location:** 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia  
**Details:** Led by Catholic author and apologist, Gary Michuta. The in-depth study of the Gospel of St. Matthew continues, using the Hahn-Mitch study guide. New students of any faith are welcome  
**Contact:** (734) 261-1455

**Seeds of Mercy Mission Home**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., every Friday  
**Location:** 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Bible study  
**Contact:** Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234  
**Ward Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Mondays  
**Location:** Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville  
**Details:** Learner's Bible study  
**Contact:** (248) 374-5920

**Clothing bank**  
**Canton Christian Fellowship**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday  
**Location:** 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty  
**Details:** Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need  
**Contact:** (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

**Fellowship dinner**  
**St. James Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month  
**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford  
**Details:** Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals  
**Contact:** (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730

**Food Bank**  
**New Hope Church**  
**Time/Date:** 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only  
**Location:** is 44815 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton  
**Contact:** Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528

**Moms**  
**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday  
**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Mothers of Preschoolers. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners  
**Contact:** Angie at (248) 427-1020

**Dunning Park Bible Chapel**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays  
**Location:** 24800 West 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

**Prayer**  
**Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesday  
**Location:** 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City  
**Details:** Prayer, spiritual healing  
**Contact:** (734) 427-3660

**Nardin Park United Methodist Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday  
**Location:** 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests  
**Contact:** (248) 476-8860

**St. Edith Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday  
**Location:** 15089 Newburgh, Livonia.  
**Details:** Music, singing, prayer  
**Contact:** Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906

**St. Michael's Church of Livonia**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday  
**Location:** Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia  
**Details:** Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction service follows  
**Contact:** (734) 261-1455

**Singles**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Time/Date:** Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program  
**Location:** 200 E. Main St., Northville  
**Details:** Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5  
**Contact:** (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org  
**Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**Time/Date:** 11:30 a.m., Sunday  
**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville  
**Details:** Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation  
**Contact:** (248) 374-5920

**Song Circle**  
**Congregation Beth Ahm**  
**Time/Date:** Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat  
**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.  
**Contact:** (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

**Support**  
**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, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling  
**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  
**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 Fibro-Myalgia support group meets; no dues, but donations are accepted  
**Contact:** www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768  
**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturday morning  
**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available. There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and use if needed. Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard.  
**Contact:** (734) 421-8451.

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m., the first and third Friday  
**Location:** 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets. Respite care is provided. The group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association  
**Contact:** Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426

**Thomas a' Becket Church**  
**Time/Date:** Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m., Thursday  
**Location:** 555 S. Lilley, Canton  
**Details:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly encourages members to lose weight and keep it off  
**Contact:** Margaret at (734) 838-0322

**Unity of Livonia**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday  
**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia  
**Details:** Overeaters Anonymous meets  
**Contact:** (313) 387-9797, www.oa.org  
**Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m., praise and worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid

Rock Cafe (optional coffee and deserts)  
**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville  
**Details:** Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free  
**Contact:** For child care call (248) 374-7400. Visit www.celebrater-recovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

**Thrift store**  
**St. James Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday  
**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford  
**Contact:** (313) 534-7730  
**Way of Life Christian Church**  
**Time/Date:** 2-3:30 p.m., third Saturday from October through May  
**Location:** 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth  
**Details:** Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives  
**Contact:** (734) 637-7618

**WORSHIP**  
**Adat Shalom Synagogue**  
**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., Sunday and 6 p.m., week days  
**Location:** 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills  
**Contact:** (248) 851-5100  
**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services; 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes  
**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia  
**Contact:** (734) 522-6830

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4/7/10

# Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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**KSENIA BZDEL**  
 Age 91, of Farmington Hills, passed away April 1, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington, MI

**BETTY JEAN MARIE GERICH**  
 Age 78. March 31, 2010. Beloved wife of the late John Gerich. Loving mother of Michael Gerich and Susan (Ray) Rogal. Grandmother of Michael, Heather, Caroline, Lauren, and Rachel. Great-grandmother of Mikayla and Mikenzie. Will also be missed by a long list of loving family members and friends. Visitation was held on Monday at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Funeral Service was Tuesday, at Grace Lutheran Church, Redford. Interment Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Lutheran Church in Betty's honor.

**JOHN K. MARIKIS**  
 March 31, 2010 age 82. Beloved husband of the late Eleni. Loving father of Sandy (Curt) Hamilton, Bessie (Kevin) Bone, and Dina (Robert) DeMerrell. Dearest grandfather of eight. Survived by his siblings Dimitri, Christoforos, Paraskevi and George. Memorials to church or Alzheimer's Assoc. www.neely-turoski.com.

**LAWRENCE AVON SETTER**  
 Age 98, passed away Thursday, April 1, 2010 in the comfort and presence of his family. Larry was born and grew up in Sanilac County, Michigan; later moving to Detroit to work as a welder and raise his family. The son of Alonzo and Annie Setter, he married the late Alberta Hepfinger on September 3, 1935. He is survived by his loving daughters Marie (Bill), LaVonne (Doug), and Cindy (Mark), his brother Charles Setter of Brown City, nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Larry enjoyed life, travel and the company of his friends and loved ones. His life included a long history with the Lola Valley Masonic Lodge 583 as a Lifetime Member and Master Mason where he served as Worshipful Master in 1970. He was also named Lola Valley Lodge Mason of the Year. Larry was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Later in life, Larry married the late Lillian Lannom. He also was a long time companion to the late Bessie Barber. Visitation will be Friday, April 9 from 1-9pm at Fisher Funeral Home (24501 5 Mile, Redford Twp). Larry will be honored by the Lola Valley Masonic Lodge 583 F.&A.M. and Kindness Chapter 523 O.E.S. on the evening of Friday, April 9. Funeral proceedings and a celebration of his life are scheduled for Saturday, April 10 at 11am at Fisher Funeral Home. Interment at Grandlawn Cemetery, Detroit, MI. The family has requested that all donations be directed to the Lola Valley Lodge 583 F.&A.M. or the charity of your choice.

**OBITUARY POLICY**

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

**Deadlines:**  
 Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
 Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

*Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.*

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May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



# VegFest

Feed yourself inside and out with fresh ingredients

LUSH cosmetics, known for its skin care products made of fresh fruits and vegetables, will be among more than 60 exhibitors at VegMichigan's "VegFest," an event that teaches about foods and other products that are plant-based and animal-free.

The annual celebration runs 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, April 18, at Ferndale High School, 881 Pinecrest, south of Nine Mile, west of Woodward, in Ferndale.

Admission is \$10 at the door for adults, \$5 for students and free for children under 6 and VegMichigan members.

VegFest is part of the world-wide Great American Meatout, now in its 26th year. Festivities take place each spring across America and in two dozen other countries, encouraging people to "go meatless" for a day and explore a healthier, environmentally friendly, plant-based diet.

VegFest visitors can taste vegetarian and vegan foods from more than two dozen restaurants and stores, including Four Moore Foods of Westland and Krishna Catering & Restaurant of Garden City, win door prizes, browse exhibits, and hear guest speakers, including Rory Freedman, author of *Skinny Bitch*, and John Salley, former NBA champion and television personality.

Other presenters throughout the day will include Dr. Joel Kahn, medical director of cardiac rehabilitation at Beaumont Hospital; diabetes specialist Caroline Trapp; environmentalist Troy Farwell, director of Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center; raw foods educator and Schoolcraft College graduate Andrea McNinch, founder of Regeneration Raw; and VegMichigan president Harry Pianko.

Exhibitors run the gamut, from an organic farm to health professionals to animal sanctuary and rescue groups. Local representatives include The Treehouse for Earth's Children health food store in Farmington, Puppy Mill Awareness of Northville, and LUSH, with stores in Novi, Troy and Sterling Heights.

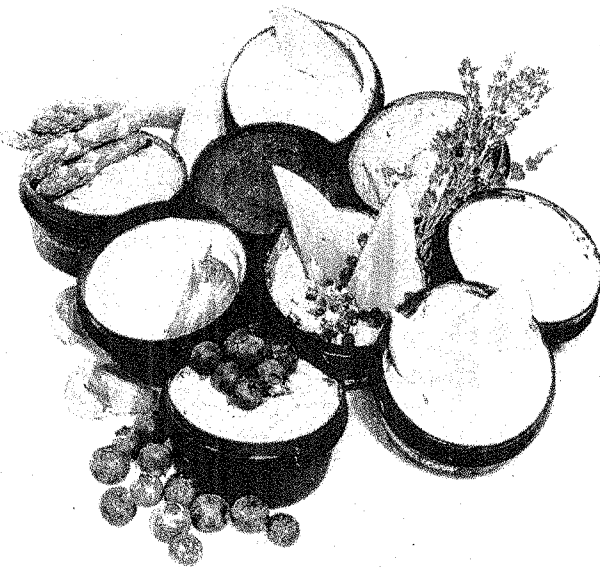
LUSH sells skin care, bath, cosmetics and fragrance products that are 100 percent vegetarian. No animal testing is done on LUSH products or ingredients and 65 percent are preservative-free.

Product creator Helen Ambrosen is responsible for the company's innovative range of products made of fresh organic produce. They're created daily and stored in refrigerators at LUSH shops until sold.

Ambrosen also created a few simple how-to's for whipping up a face mask, hair shine treatment and sea salt body scrub, all with ingredients that are likely to be on hand:



Oatmeal and bananas are just for the breakfast bowl. Combine them with almond, peach and honey to make a face mask.



LUSH cosmetics uses fruits and vegetables in many of its cosmetics.

## FACE MASK

- 2 medium, nicely ripe bananas (peeled)
- 2 tablespoons of runny honey
- 1 fairly ripe peach (stoned and skinned)
- 2 generous tablespoons of ground almonds
- Fine ground oatmeal

Blend the bananas, honey, and peach together to make rich mucilage. Bananas are excellent skin softeners and have potent moisturizing properties. Peaches are a good fruit choice for young skins as they cleanse and help remove excess sebum without stripping the skin. Honey is excellent for all skins, especially if you are prone to breakout, as it helps keep spots at bay and reduces redness. (A good tip if you do have spots is to dab honey straight onto it.)

Add the ground almonds and mix together — the almonds are to help polish the skin and remove dead surface cells.

Add enough oatmeal to make a paste that can be spread onto the face and neck. Apply gently to face and neck area, being careful not to drag the skin. Leave for 10-15 minutes and remove gently with warm water.

## SEA SALT BODY SCRUB

- 2 tablespoons of fine sea salt
- Olive oil or Brazil nut oil

Take 2 tablespoons of fine sea salt and mix to a paste with a heavy oil such as olive oil or even better, Brazil nut oil. This is deeply nourishing for the skin.

Wet the skin and apply to the backs of arms, legs and anywhere where the skin is rough. Don't use on the décolleté area. Rinse off the skin.

## HAIR SHINE TREATMENT

- 1 tablespoon of apple juice
- 2 tablespoons of lemon juice

Take 1 tablespoon of apple juice and mix with two tablespoons of lemon juice for a quick hair shine treatment. After shampooing and conditioning, apply to the ends of the hair, leave for a minute and then rinse. This should give a nice shine.

- Sharon Dargay

## CITY BITES

### Shots for Breast Cancer

**Livonia** - You can be a part of history Sunday, April 18, as Claddagh Irish Pub attempts to break the world record for the most shots of Irish whiskey downed in succession.

Audra Borger, sales manager, likens the process to a line of dominos.

"We're scheduled to start at 8:45 p.m., but we're asking people to get there by 7:30 p.m. and we're lining everyone up at 8 p.m. We'll line people up like a Christmas shopping line."

At the appointed time, the individual at the start of the line will down a shot of Jameson Irish Whiskey, followed by the next person in line until every shot is gone.

"We figure it will take 15 minutes to get through the entire pub," she said. "There will be some coordination involved between pubs as well."

The action will start at 6:30 p.m. at one of Claddagh's 14 other locations in the Midwest, travelling from pub to pub as participants at each site down their drinks in hopefully seamless succession. The Livonia location, followed by the Claddagh pub in Lansing, will bring the "largest shot slam" to a close.

Claddagh hopes to register at least 150 participants in advance at its Livonia location. The cost is \$7 and the first 150 registrants will receive a commemorative shot class.

All proceeds from the Livonia pub will benefit Shades of Pink, a nonprofit organization that funds client programs that financially help women with breast cancer.

"It's something that is touching us close to home," said Borger, noting that the manager of Claddagh in Lansing is undergoing treatment for breast cancer. "And it's a Guinness World Record attempt, too. It's really cool."

To participate, call the Livonia pub at (734) 542-8141. It's located at 17800 Haggerty; www.claddaghirishpubs.com.

### Slice for Life

**Tri county** - All nine Buddy's Pizza locations will participate in the 34th annual "Slice for Life Event" Monday, April 19, with proceeds benefiting the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

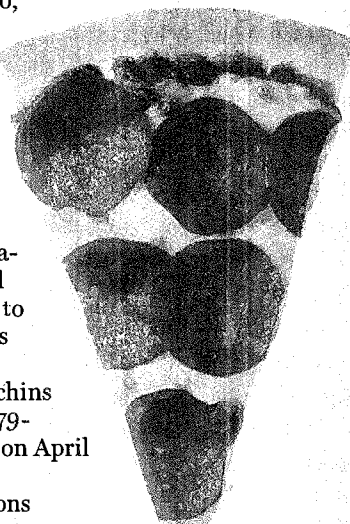
With the purchase of an event ticket patrons may either dine-in and enjoy all-you-can-eat two-topping pizzas and salad or carry-out a four-square two-topping pizza or an individual sized Antipasto, Greek or House salad.

Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$6 for children from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and \$15 for adults and seniors, and \$6 for children from 4-10 p.m. A team from 2clowns.com will visit Buddy's dine-in locations throughout the day and all participants may register to win one eight-square Buddy's pizza every month for a year.

Buy tickets from the Capuchins in advance by calling (313) 579-2100, ext. 170, or at the door on April 19.

Local Buddy's Pizza locations are 33605 Plymouth Road, between Farmington and Stark Roads, in Livonia and 31646 Northwestern Highway, just west of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills. Buddy's also has restaurants in Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit and Warren, as well as carry-out only sites in Royal Oak and Bloomfield.

- Sharon Dargay



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## Join us for the 36th Annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast

Friday, April 30, 2010  
7-9 a.m.

Laurel Manor Special Events Center  
39000 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI



### Special Guest Speaker

LeAnn Thieman

Author, Nurse, Motivational/Inspirational Speaker

"Accidentally" caught up in the Vietnam Orphan Airlift, she reminds audiences they don't have to fly into a war zone to make a difference in the world. No effort is too small.

Musical performance by the Livonia Youth Choir

Adult Tickets: \$15  
Student Tickets: \$10

The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Inc. is recognized by the IRS as a Section 501(c) 3 charitable organization.

For ticket information, call Sally Butler at (248) 476-9427 or visit www.livoniaprayerbreakfast.org

