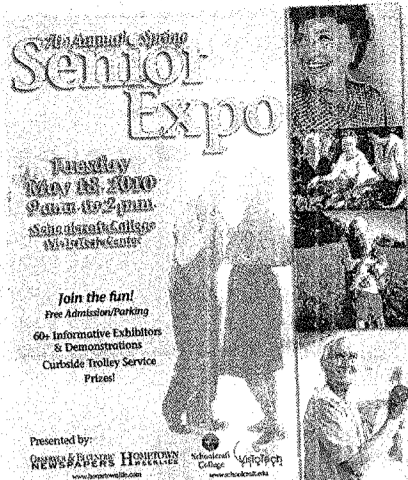


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ENTERTAINMENT, B7



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MAY 13, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 45
Number 101

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

SPECIAL
SECTION
INSIDE

AROUND TOWN

Planting Day

Grab your garden gloves and tools and head over to the Westland's DTE Energy Community Garden 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 15, for to volunteer your time planting.

Volunteers should plan to bring their own tools, sunscreen, drinking water and closed-toed shoes. The garden is almost an acre in size. The food grown in it will be donated to Gleaners Food Bank of Southeast Michigan.

The DTE Energy Garden is at 38155 Cherry Hill, west of Newburgh.

Health care

The 11th District Congressional Democrats, in conjunction with Organizing for America, District 11 Voters for Affordable Health Care and the Michigan Universal Healthcare Access Network, present a District 11 town hall meeting, "How the PPACA and Health Care Reform Benefit You," at noon (registration starts at 11:30 a.m.) Saturday, May 15, at Northwest UAW Local 163, 450 S. Merriman, south of Cherry Hill, in Westland.

Keynote speaker will be U.S. Congressman John Conyers, who will discuss the bill and what still needs to be done.

The expect panel includes District 20 state Rep. Marc Coriveau, who will answer questions on the state health committee initiatives; Garrett Awra, state director of Organizing for America, who will talk about President Obama's status on the health care bill; and John Freeman, director of Michigan for Health Care Now, who will talk about the initiative of his organization and what they are hoping to accomplish.

The event allows audience members to bring questions to the panel and find out what it means to them. Audience members will be able to interact with each other and tell their stories and concerns.

Used book sale

Looking for a good book or two for your book shelf? Then head over to the William P. Faust Public Library for the Friends of the Library used book sale. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 14-15, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 16. Saturday will feature a \$6 per bag sale — bring your own bag — and Sunday is the \$4 per bag sale.

Get a jump on the sale by signing up to be a Friends member at the preview sale 3-7 p.m. today (May 13).

The library is on Central City Parkway north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Last city union agrees to concessions

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

City supervisory employees have joined other Westland city workers in agreeing to concessions, including a pay freeze for the next two years.

The council recently approved a four-year agreement with UAW Local 174 representing 14 supervisory personnel. The agreement, which had been ratified earlier by union members, calls for pay freezes for the next two years with 2 percent raises in 2012 and 2013.

"I want to thank the bargaining unit. We were able to hammer out an equitable contract after two meetings," said Mayor William Wild. "It follows the other agreements and concessions."

Those concessions include the elimination of longevity pay and a uniform allowance, along with a cost saving change in health insurance for current employees and a different tier for new hires.

The contract also calls for new hires to be placed into a defined contribution pension program instead of

the current defined benefit program. Going forward, new employees will no longer receive post retirement health care benefits.

"It's a small unit but they take on a lot of responsibility," said Wild.

This was the last of the city employees to reach similar agreements. As with the other unions, supervisors will have the opportunity to buy up to five years generic time for an early retirement. Four supervisors who qualify for the program are expected to take the early retirement.

"I would like to express my grati-

tude to these employees who worked collaboratively to negotiate a contract that is reflective of today's challenging economic times," Wild said.

That comment was echoed by Council President James Godbout, who said he wanted to express his thanks to bargaining unit as well.

"You guys do a great job for us. You've stepped up like the other unions," he said. "It's not easy to make concessions but it saves jobs. Thanks for working on a solution."

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

A man and his dog



Westland police Officer Grant Allen works with new police dog Ty, a Belgian Malinois.



Westland police Officer Grant Allen spends time with Ty, the third police dog he has handled. Ty is the first Belgian Malinois Allen has used after two German shepherds.

Police officer has attachment to Westland's new police K-9

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There isn't really any question that Westland police canine Officer Grant Allen develops a strong attachment to his dogs, he sort of wears it on sleeve.

Allen has the names of his first two dogs, Zeke, who is deceased, and Drago, who is recently retired, tattooed with an insignia on the inside of his right forearm. He soon will be adding the name of his new dog, Ty, a Belgian Malinois.

"I wanted to name the new dog

Diesel but he doesn't look like a Diesel. Ty just fits him," said Allen. "His name was Gaston but that reminded me of *Beauty and the Beast*."

Allen and Ty have started their required 280 hours of training that will be completed over a three-month period at the K-9 Academy in Wayne.

"Ty's great dog. He will be a full-service dog," said K-9 Academy owner Terry Foley, a canine officer with the City of Wayne Police Department.

Like his predecessors, Ty will

be trained for narcotics detection, tracking in buildings, area searches, obedience and working with a tactical team. The officer and dog also will make many public appearances at schools and various community events. There are 56 teams that train at the K-9 Academy — dogs and handlers from law enforcement agencies and hospitals.

"We want the most social dogs we can get — they are easier to train than ones with aggressiveness issues," said Foley. "The dog as no emotion about a suspect. He goes after someone because he has been

commanded, not because he dislikes or hates someone."

Like about 95 percent of dogs used in police work, Ty is a male. The reason most agencies use male dogs is the quicker recovery time after neutering — seven days versus a month, said Foley.

At 13 months, Ty weighs about 58 pounds and will likely reach a weight in the mid-70s when he is fully grown at three years old. That's about 10 pounds lighter than a German shepherd. Both Zeke and

Please see **K9, A2**

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Williams rejects plea deal in death of his wife

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Livonia man, charged with murdering his wife, is sticking by his decision to reject an offer to let him plead guilty to a lesser charge and take his chances before a jury.

George Williams, 33, was in front of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Craig Strong Monday for the second time in less than a week. Charged with first-degree murder, which carries a mandatory sentence of life with no parole, Williams had been offered a sentence of 22 to 30 years in prison in exchange for a guilty plea to second-degree murder.

Williams, charged with murdering his wife, Sarah, 28, in the parking lot of Chatters Bar and Grill on Sept. 27, was in

court last week to enter a guilty plea but changed his mind.

"My client has had sufficient time to consider the plea offer and has decided to decline," said defense attorney Scott Nadeau. "His destiny is set in stone. He will go to trial."

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Rebecca Camargo outlined the plea agreement offered to Williams, adding this would be his last opportunity to accept.

"He's a grown man," said Strong. Williams was due in court Monday for a jury trial and pretrial hearing. Nadeau had filed a motion seeking to suppress statements Williams made to police officers following his arrest. Camargo asked

Please see **TRIAL, A2**

Two more W-W unions agree to concessions

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two more unions have received kudos from the Wayne-Westland school board for accepting wage and step freezes and an increase in health care costs.

Members of the Brotherhood of Specialized Skills (BOSS) and MEA Local 4 are the latest Wayne-Westland employee groups to negotiate concessionary letters of understanding with the district to help trim some \$12 million from the district's budget.

The employees have agreed to pay freezes and modest increase in the cost of health care — \$480 a year, or \$20 a month. They had contributed nothing prior to the agreement, Superintendent

Greg Baracy said.

"I want to thank BOSS and Local 4 for what they did," Baracy said. "I know it's a sacrifice and I hope this will get us through the next few years."

BOSS represents the skilled trades, such as plumbers and electricians, and has 33 members. Local 4 includes bus drivers, food service workers and custodians and has 297 members.

In ratifying the agreement, the board congratulated the two unions for "their generosity and foresight in taking voluntary reductions in compensation in the interest of the district and district families and students."

The two groups join the district's Central Office Administrators

Please see **CONCESSIONS, A2**

CONCESSIONS

FROM PAGE A1

Association, Building Administrators Association, Baracy and Deputy Superintendents Gary Martin and Charlotte Sherman in agreeing to wage freezes and increase contributions for health care.

The concession are being sought by the district are part of a multipronged effort to cut expenses and help the district weather the next two years financially without having to cut the educational program.

The first part happened in December when the school board voted to close six elementary schools and reconfigure its elementary program to create 11 K-four buildings and two five-six buildings. The reconfiguration will save the district an estimated \$5 million. The reconfiguration means the elimination of 60 positions, including principals, custodians and teachers as well as a savings in the cost of utilities.

The second effort is the employee wage freezes and increased contributions to health care, which would total another \$5 million in savings.

The agreements so far total 20 percent of the savings, and the district is in the process of talking with the Wayne-Westland Education Association which represents some 800 teachers.

"The teachers are the biggest piece with the pay and step freezes and an increase in the premiums for health insurance," said Martin, who handles the district's finances among other things.

He added that the administration is also looking at class sizes. Under the WWEA contract, class reductions were called for this year and next.

"It was a big issue during the strike," said Martin. "We went ahead with the reduction in 2009-2010, but would like to stop it at this year and not do 2010-2011. That would save \$1 million."

The board also has asked the administration for a 25 percent cut in central office staffing and the building trades and for cuts in supplies. Textbook and library book purchases have been put on hold and no new buses will be purchased. Participation in conferences also has been axed. Those actions will save about another \$5 million, Martin said.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

K9

FROM PAGE A1

Drago were German shepherds, the most popular type of police dog, followed by the Belgian Malinois.

"The Malinois is sleeker and smaller, they're built for speed," said Allen. "It's not the size of the dog in the fight, it's the fight in the dog."

Like Allen, Foley has had several dogs over his police career — dogs that live with the officer and become part of the family for the rest of their lives.

"We have a loving passion for animals and pleasing the public. We're able to give back," he said. "It's a 24-7 job. In police work, most officers can leave their work when they go home. Canine officers have to adjust their lives, their vacations."

"I just want to chase bad guys," said Allen. "There is the satisfaction of watching the dog work the streets, finding concealed dope the officers couldn't find and tracking robbers or burglars who would have otherwise gotten away."

Ty will be the fifth dog to work for the Westland Police Department. Currently, Officer Joe Bobby has a dog named Friday.

"The dogs have been beneficial to the department. They are cross-trained for



K-9 Academy owner Terry Foley is a canine officer with the City of Wayne Police Department.

narcotics detection and tracking of people and evidence that might have been thrown into a field," said Chief James Ridener. "It's been successful on many levels — recovering people, evidence and drugs. And it pays for itself through drug forfeiture money."

After more than eight years in service, nearly 9-year-old Drago was still wanting to work, Allen said, but had lost stamina.

"Drago is playing the big brother role for Ty. He still wants to be first out the door when I go," said Allen, whose family also has another dog and a cat. "It's taking a bit for him to adjust to retirement. I'm having a retirement party for him at Malarkey's. He'll be there for the first couple of hours."

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AROUND WESTLAND

Poppy sale

Members of American Legion Post 251 will be at Ford and Wayne Road, Warren and Wayne Road and Warren at Newburgh Friday, Saturday and Sunday for their annual Poppy Sale to benefit veterans.

Plant exchange

The Westland Garden Club will hold a Spring Plant Exchange 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road. Everyone is invited. Club members maintain the gardens at the park, which is south of Marquette. For more information, call Jo at (734) 522-3918 or Maureen (734) 728-1232.

Teens needed

Teens are being sought to volunteer to help with the Summer Reading Program at Westland's William Faust Library, located on Central City Parkway north of Ford. Interested teens can download an application at the library web site www.westland.lib.mi.us. Return the completed application to the Children's Department.

Pool countdown

The Bailey Outdoor Pool will open on Saturday, May 29. Open swim sessions are

noon to 3 p.m. and 4-7 daily, weather permitting. The H2O Zone Spray Park is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. For more information about the pool, the spray park, or swimming lessons, please visit www.cityofwestland.com.

Spaghetti dinner

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, May 21. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and desert, as well as entertainment, for just \$6.

The center also has pinochle and euchre games at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinochle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 419-2020.

Special Olympics

Bowl a few frames and help raise money for the Wayne Westland Special Olympics Sunday, May 16, at Wayne Bowl, 36900 Michigan Ave. between Wayne Road and Newburgh. The cost is \$10 per person for three games nine pin no tap. There will be a 50/50 raffle and basket raffles. Check-in is at 10 a.m. with bowling 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Register by calling Nancy Wilcox at (734) 748-0170 or Glenda Lundy at (313) 204-5830.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On May 18, 2010, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1992	Ford	Escort/2 Dr	Red	1FAPP11J5NW164782
1993	Ford	Aerostar/SW	Green	1FMDA31X2PZC42186
1998	Ford	Taurus/4 Dr	Blue	1FAPP53S4WG230968
1994	Jeep	Cherokee/SW	Gray	1J4GZ58Y9RC346727
1990	Pontiac	Sunbird/2 Dr	Red	1G2JB34K4L7536929
2002	Dodge	Ram/Pickup	Silver	1D7HU18Z92S629754
1983	Chrysler	New Yorker/4Dr	Red	2C3BF66P6DR174489
1990	Chevrolet	Lumina/4 Dr	Gray	2G1WL54T0L1138092
2001	Mazda	626/4 Dr	Gray	1YVGF22C515235329
1990	Buick	LeSabre/4 Dr	Brown	1G4HR54C5LH502689

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

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after June 12, 2010 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time.

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
2001	Ford	F350/Pickup	Green	1FTWV33FW1EC57644

Publish: May 13, 2010

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES

MTG. 12 05/03/10

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves
102: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 04/19/10.
-Appr. req. from Am. Leg. #251 to hold poppy sale from 4/14-16th, Ford & Wayne, Wayne & Warren, & Warren & Newburgh.
-Appr. req. from Kroger, 200 S. Merriman to have a tent for floral sales from 5/4-6/5/10.
-Appr. req. from Westland Fest. Cmte. to hold summer fest. 6/30 thru 7-4-10 w/ fireworks 7-4-10 on City Hall grounds & surrounding area.
-Appr. req. from Wayne Memorial to hold flower sale at Wayne Lawn & Garden on 5/8/10 & 5/09/10 & have a Schwann's truck available to sell merchandise.
-Appr. of Storm Sewer Easement Agrmnt. btwn. WWCS & the City for property at 34125 Avondale.
-Adopted Prep. Res. to transfer 1 K-9 from Westland PD to Grant Allen; amt. \$1.00.
-Held public hearing for proposed 2010-2011 Budget.
104: Intro. Final Statement for CDBG Grant Year XXXVI Annual Cons. Action Plan 7/1/10-6/30/11.
105: Waived procedure to intro. & adopt Final Statement for CDBG Grant Year XXXVI Annual Cons. Action Plan 7/1/10-6/30/11.
106: Adopted Final Statement for the CDBG Grant Year XXXVI, Annual Consolidated Action Plan 7/1/10-6/30/11.
107: Adopted Prep. Res. to adopt yr. XXXVI CDBG & HOME Program budgets.
108: Appr. U.A.W. Local 1174 CBA 6/1/10-6/30/14.
109: Appr. U.A.W. LOU re. purchase of Generic Time to provide for early retirement for qualified employees.
110: Appr. U.A.W. LOU re. V. Emmons & J. Dickie retirements.
111: Appr. rev. site plan for prop. addition to Northcreek Estates PDU, e. side of Newburgh, s. of Joy Rd. w/contingencies.
112: Appr. checklist: \$493,202.49 & Prepaid: \$287,777.24.
Mtg. adj. at 8:27 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk, CMC

Publish: May 13, 2010

TRIAL

FROM PAGE A1

for more information on why the defense was seeking to suppress the statements. "My client says that he was not in a sound state of mind when he made statements to police," said Nadeau. "He may have been intoxicated. He had a lot to drink — I personally don't see how he could have

been sober. That's up to the court."

Williams also contends that the officers ignored his requests for an attorney and continued the interviews, said Nadeau.

A May 28 hearing on the motion to suppress the statements has been scheduled. Williams, jailed since his arrest shortly after the murder, is scheduled for a trial beginning July 29.

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Alliance for Great Lakes benefits from walk

BY M.B. DILLON
CORRESPONDENT

More than \$7,000 was raised by participants in Garden City's Style Masters Aveda Salon 10K Earth Month Walk to benefit the Alliance for the Great Lakes.

"The purpose of our walk is to heighten awareness and raise funds to help conserve our most precious resource - the clean water surrounding our state," said Melanie Groves, event director and owner of Style Masters Salon. "God gave us this tremendous gift, it's up to us to take care of it."

Walkers raised pledges, and donations came from sponsors including Cheryl Bowker Allstate Insurance, Bifano Eyecare, Canton Waste Recycling, Jack Demmer Ford, Leo's of Westland, Renee's Bar, Zerbos, accountant Paul Sharrow, Envy Tanning Salon, Eternal Tattoo and more.

Based in Chicago, IL, the non-profit Alliance works to conserve water and protect the



Christina Boertje (from left) Jonah Smith of the Alliance for the Great Lakes, Melanie Groves, Beeb Synowiec, Michael Kusz, Samantha Hernandez, Nicole Smith, Kalisha Jones and Danielle Clark show off an oversized check for \$6,800 raised by Style Masters Salon during its annual walk.

environment. Jonah Smith, the Alliance's director for sustainable development, traveled from Chicago to accept the contribution.

"The funds you raise are critical to our mission. Your efforts truly help us protect and preserve the Great Lakes,

and I thank you," said Smith, noting that both the Alliance and Earth Day are celebrating their 40th anniversaries this year.

With its four annual walks in Hines Park, Garden City's Style Masters Aveda Concept Salon has raised more than \$20,000

to support the work of the Alliance.

Money raised by the eco-friendly Aveda salon has

helped the Alliance contain the threat to the Great Lakes posed by the invasive Asian carp, among other things, said Smith, a Detroit native. Alliance initiatives include education, coastal conservation, preserving beaches, sand dunes and urban habitats, contaminant cleanup and sustainable business.

Also on hand to support the cause was Lake Orion writer Bridget McGovern Llewellyn, author of the new children's book, *One Child, One Planet: Inspiration for the Young Conservationist*. Illustrated by the award-winning Carl R. Sams and Jean Stoick, the colorful hardcover picture book teaches children about the importance of conservation.

For each 6.2-mile, annual walk, Groves creates educational signs and posts them along the route. A few of this

year's "green" proverbs were:

- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when full to save up to 1,000 gallons of water per month.

- At least 36 states in the U.S. are expected to face water shortages within the next five years.

- One in 7 people lacks access to clean water.

- Two-thirds of the world's population is projected to face water scarcity by 2025.

- 50 percent of the world's wetlands has disappeared in the last century.

- Skip meat one day a week. It takes 5,000 gallons of water to produce one pound of meat.

More information about the Alliance is available at www.greatlakes.org. Style Masters, at 32669 Warren Road, can be reached at (734)422-6460, and on found on Facebook and Twitter.

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Detroit man charged in flower shop robbery

Strong arm robbery

Police were called to Westland Florist and Greenhouse, 34235 Ford, May 9 about a theft in progress. The shop owner told police he owns the building and his brother operates a computer shop in the adjoining space which can be accessed from the flower shop through an interior door.

Three youngsters, later identified as Detroit residents — one age 10 and two 12-year-olds — were at the counter asking for money while a man was standing near the door. Store employees reported calling the owner to the front of the shop after the youths began disturbing items on the counter and refusing to leave.

The shop owner said he noticed a third youth, age 10, leaving the door from the computer shop wearing a backpack. Since the computer shop wasn't open for business, the building owner said he grabbed the youngster's backpack.

At that point, the owner said he chased the youngster out the front door and around the parking lot. Then the store owner said he was confronted by a Detroit man and they

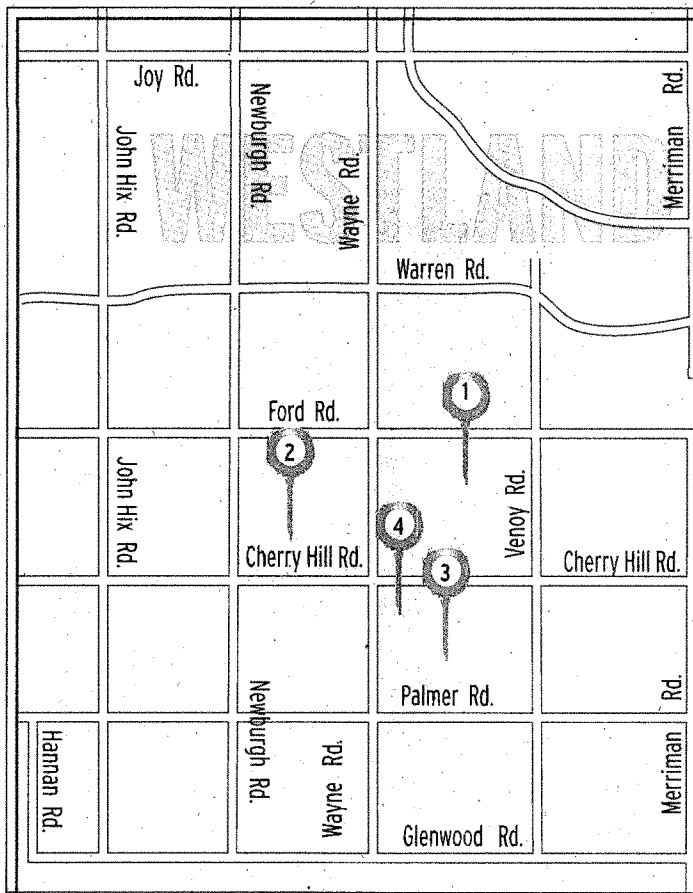
began wrestling, breaking the front window to the flower shop. The owner said the suspect took up a fighting stance, commenting, "Let's go." The owner was able to get the man inside the store by the time officers arrived.

One 12-year-old boy was taken into custody but the boys had fled on foot and were later picked up by Garden City police officers who turned them over to Westland officers. All three youngsters were eventually released to family members.

Three laptop computers, valued at \$700, were recovered from the backpack. The Detroit man was facing charges of larceny assault, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and vandalism after pulling an interior panel off the door on a patrol car.

Vandalism

The leasing manager of Hickory Woods apartments, 370 Hickory Lane, told police that he arrived at work May 9 to find that two clothes dryers had been damaged. Checking the surveillance video, the manager said a tenant was seen placing his clothes into two dryers.



When he returned, the clothes weren't dry and the man is seen becoming upset.

The video showed the man kicking the control deck of the dryer several times, damaging it. He then moved to the second dryer and kicked that control panel several times, also causing damage. The

video showed the man leave twice and each time return to do more damage to the dryers. The total damage was estimated at \$900.

The officer escorted the manager to speak with the tenant, who apologized and offered to correct the damage. He was ticketed and released.

Larceny

A resident in the 35000 block of Palmer told police May 10 that someone had stolen a tool box with 39 assorted tools and 25 compact discs valued at \$1,070 from his pickup truck while it was parked in his backyard. The items were last seen on May 8. The owner said the 1999 GMC pickup was locked but a window may have been left slightly down.

Retail fraud

Police were called to Kmart, 165 S. Wayne Road, May 10 after employees reported detaining two people for shoplifting. An employee told the officer a Westland man was spotted unwrapping two DVDs which he hid in the back pocket of his slacks. The woman, also a Westland resident, placed hair straightener and two bottles of shampoo in her purse. The pair then met up at the entrance and left without paying for the items, which were valued at \$79.

Vehicle thefts

A 2004 Ford Super Duty van valued at \$10,000 was reported stolen from a home in the 30000 block of Warren Road May 9. The vehicle, which read Cougar Contracting on the sides and rear, had a vehicle recovery

system. The unit showed the vehicle was at Hubbell and Puritan in Detroit. The owner reported recovering the vehicle with the assistance of Michigan State Police.

On May 7, a Livonia man told police that he had allowed his son to borrow his 1997 Dodge Caravan while the younger man's vehicle was in the shop. The son said the vehicle, which was paid for, had been stolen from the Waynewood Apartments, 6747 N. Wayne Road, where it had been left parked.

A 2002 Land Rover Discovery, valued at \$10,000, was reported stolen May 9 from a home in the 36000 block of McKinney. The man said he was current on the payments and had all the keys.

Solicitors

Police were called to the 7700 block of Ritz May 9 about man soliciting residents, asking to paint house numbers on the curb. The officer found the man, a Westland resident, walking on Ann Arbor Trail. He told the officer that Westland wouldn't give him a peddler license although he said he did have one in Dearborn Heights. He was ticketed for soliciting without a license.

-By LeAnne Rogers

WESTLAND ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION

These vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction. The auction will be on Tuesday, May 18th at 11:00 am and will be held at 6375 Hix, Westland, MI, 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN
1996	FORD	TAURUS	1FALP52U2TG215242

Publish: May 13, 2010

OE08700134 - 2x1.5

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI, May 29, 2010 @ 1:00 p.m.

- #104 Jacqueline Roberts
- #220 Richard Kates
- #651 Juaita Johnson
- #734 Jelettha Smith
- #924 Vicki Wiper
- #926 Robert Tacco
- #927 Laser Graphx Inc.
- #1135 Laser Graphx Inc.

Units contain household items-furniture.

Publish: May 13 and 20, 2010

OE08699208 - 2x2



PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF GARDEN CITY WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To all residents and interested parties:
Legal notices are available for review at our website.

The minutes from regular and special Council meetings are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/minutes

Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/bids

You can also access this information at Garden City City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.

Publish: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, Apr. 15, May 13 & June 10, 2010

OE08686655 - 2x3

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, May 27, various items of the City Westland, Special Investigations Unit, will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, Belleville, MI, County of Wayne, at approx. 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	VIN	Year	Make	Model
6635903	1GBEG25K1PF342169	1993	CHEV	VAN
6646322	1G2HX54C1L1269174	1990	PONT	BONNEVILLE
6593605	1GKDT13W6SK513649	1995	GMC	JIMMY
6663303	1FTCR14T9JPC11851	1988	FORD	RANGER
6664205	1HGC5644YA083908	2000	HOND	ACCORD

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction. Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold. Registration fees apply.

Publish: May 13, 2010

OE08700043 - 2x3



**ST. MARY MERCY
LIVONIA**
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM



**The Center for
Joint Replacement**

Re-Discover Freedom

**Are you living in pain?
Now is the time to
Rediscover your mobility.**

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive team approach to your care.

Our expert staff will answer your questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures, and implant options. Learn about our pre-surgical classes, choosing a personal coach, group physical therapy and what to expect post-surgery.


Our clinical expertise and team approach means shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.

To learn more, attend one of our next **FREE Educational Seminars** 6 to 8 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 25, Auditorium
Thursday, June 24, Classroom 10**

To register for a seminar, call the Center for Joint Replacement today at 734.655.2400.
stmarymercy.org

REMARKABLE MEDICINE. REMARKABLE CARE.



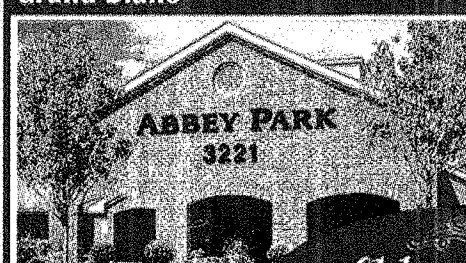
Because she deserves the best...

Discover Abbey Park – our extras make the difference!

Services your mother needs	What you can expect at Abbey Park
Daily light housekeeping	We make the bed and take out trash every day
Nutritious meals	Continental breakfast and choice of lunch or dinner are included
Laundry service	We wash bed linens and towels every week
Full cleaning service	We vacuum, mop, dust and change linens every week
Warm and friendly caregivers	From housekeeping in the morning to dinner service in the evening, your mother is attended by our caring staff
An active social life	Full time activity directors offer trips, games, and entertainment
Friendship	A vibrant community of seniors enjoy ice cream socials, movies, Happy Hour and live entertainment every week
Transportation	Scheduled chauffeured transportation for doctors appointments, dinner and casino trips
Security	We provide 24-hour staffing, medical monitoring and the reassurance of a full facility generator
Professional care	Medicare certified services, physician visits, physical therapy, podiatry, hair salon available
Affordable	Monthly rental fee includes heat, water, electricity, housekeeping services, two meals and 24-hour staffing. Veterans and surviving spouses may qualify for the VA Aid & Attendance Benefit.

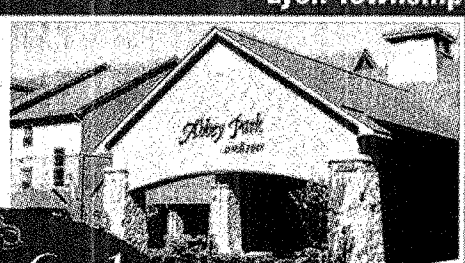
Abbey Park - your mother can live here, for the best of her life. For more information, please call...

Grand Blanc




3221 E. Baldwin Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI
At Genesys Health Park
(810) 606-1110

Lyon Township



28413 Abbey Lane
New Hudson, MI
Across from Coyote Golf Club
(248) 437-6550



Abbey Park
INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING

www.abbeypark.com

Wartime Veterans may qualify for the Aid & Attendance benefit. Call for information.

Westland-Garden City Strictly Business



Center opens

Oakwood Healthcare System recently held a grand re-opening of the Oakwood Imaging Center-Canton, formerly known as the Oakwood Canton Imaging Center, located at 2050 N. Haggerty Road, south of Ford Road in Canton Township. The center is aligned with Oakwood Annapolis Hospital and the Oakwood network of Imaging Centers, and offers the same excellent quality of care that physicians and patients have come to expect. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call (800) 543-WELL.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

HFAP accreditation

Garden City Hospital was awarded accreditation from the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program, an independent, recognized accreditation authority. Garden City Hospital earned this distinction after HFAP conducted an extensive and objective review of the hospital's quality and safety standards in March. "Garden City Hospital clearly demonstrates a commitment to quality patient care," said Michael Zarski, CEO of HFAP. "We base our decision on federal standards, patient safety and treatment, quality improvement, and environmental safety. Garden City Hospital met or exceeded standards in every case." "We're proud to achieve this prestigious distinction," said Gary Ley, Garden City Hospital president and CEO. "By awarding us accreditation, the HFAP has recognized our commitment to providing outstanding care to our patients and our community. In fact, quality is consistently the priority focus in our strategic plans and goals."

The HFAP is authorized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to survey all hospitals and other medical facilities for compliance with the Medicare Conditions of Participation. The HFAP is a non-profit, nationally recognized accreditation organization. It has been accrediting healthcare facilities for more than 60 years and under Medicare since its inception. Its mission is to advance high quality patient care and safety through objective application of recognized standards. Its accreditation is recognized by the federal government, state governments, managed care organizations and insurance companies.

Summer is around the corner and Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury is gearing up for its Second Annual Classic Car and Truck Show to be held on Saturday, June 5. Participants can save \$5 by preregistering their classic car or truck now. To preregister, visit the Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury online newsletter at metropolitan.dealerconnection.com/Newsletter/ to get a

registration form. The show is sponsored by Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury and Kar-Go Carburator and will be held at the dealership at 32000 Ford, Garden City. Registration will be 8-11 a.m. Judging will start at 10 a.m., with awards presented at 3 p.m.

Last year's show drew nearly 300 cars and 1,000 people. Metropolitan will open its doors and clear its new car lot to make room for the show. This year will feature four-time world champion martial artist Mariah Moore, more trophies, food and fun for all, including music, Moon Walk and goody bags for the first 300 pre-registered participants.

First 300 entries will get dash plaques. There also will be trophies and exclusive awards like the Mayor's, Dealer's and Police Chief's Choice Awards, 100 judges' Choice Awards and Outstanding Awards.

The family-friendly event is open to the public and all net proceeds will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. So bring a classic or just stop by with family and friends to enjoy the show.

For questions or more information, call (734) 458-1965.

Consider long-term goals, needs in investing

Who said being an investor is easy? Just when you think everything is getting back to normal, we have a week like last week. All of a sudden the fear that many people felt more than a year ago comes back in one day. Being an investor is not easy. Unfortunately, there is no easy way to go.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

In the past, investors who were nervous about the market had some viable alternatives to consider. Many went with CDs and accepted the fact they would have lower rates of return in exchange for safety and security. In today's world, CDs are paying very low rates of return and do not keep up with the increased cost of living and cannot offer the same security as in the past.

Just about everyone recognizes that just to stay even you need to get greater rates of return than what CDs are paying. If you are saving for retirement five or six years down the road, you may be retired for 20-30 years. During your retirement, the cost of living will go up and as a result you'll need rising income throughout your lifetime. In that regard, CDs just don't cut it. The key is to invest

wisely. Many people may be asking what has caused the market to go south over the last few weeks. One reason is what is happening in Greece. There is a fear that Greece will default on their obligations. Although Greece only represents about 2 percent of the European economy, the fear is that if Greece defaults, there will be a domino effect.

Many European banks own Greek debt and if Greece defaults, these banks may then default on their obligations. In addition, the fear is there are other countries like Greece that have been fiscally irresponsible and may default on their obligations.

Greece has been on a financial roller coaster ride for a while and although a few months ago it appeared that the situation was resolved, it is once again causing uncertainty and fear. Who knows, another week from now the situation in Greece may be on the back burner again and things could get back to normal. Markets have a way of correcting themselves and sometimes it happens rather quickly.

As an investor you do not want to react based upon panic and potentially miss a significant run.

My advice is to maintain a portfolio based upon a strategy of asset allocation. That means allocating a portfolio within a variety of different

asset classes and then periodically rebalance back to your initial allocations. By using this strategy, investors should maintain a position in cash in order to cover short-term needs and emergencies.

The best possible protection for investors is achieved by maintaining an asset allocation strategy and having investments in a variety of different types of equity and fixed-income investments. Keep in mind that whenever there is unusual volatility, the news media jumps to immediate conclusions. Unfortunately, these speculations generally turn out to be incorrect and as investors, reacting can be to our detriment.

Markets are still volatile and subject to wide fluctuations, and it appears that it will be that way for a period of time. I wish I could tell investors to sit on the sidelines and wait it out, but I can't.

The way to get through uncertain times is to make sure you have a game plan based upon your individual situation, your risk tolerance and most importantly, your long-term goals and objectives.

Good luck!

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

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Blues and Muse

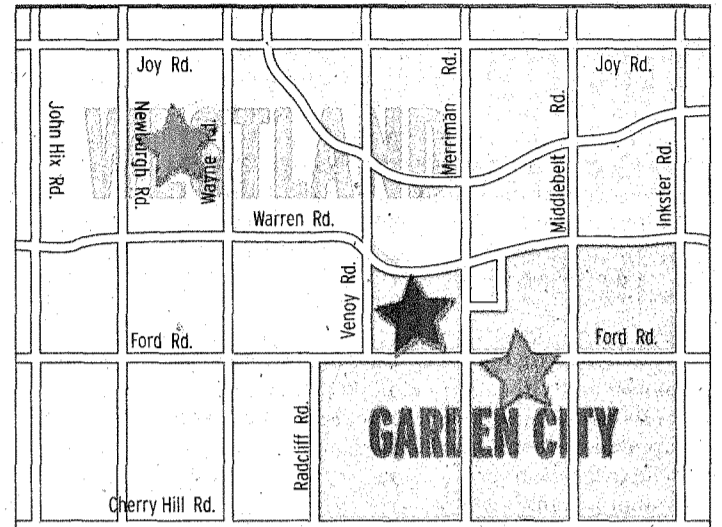
Time/Date: 8-11 p.m. Saturday, May 15
Location: Maxwell's Art and Treasures, 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City
Details: Come to Maxwell's for a night filled with live music and poetry. Here's your chance to come on stage for the open MIC and spoken word. Or just sit back and enjoy the talented performers on stage. As always, local artists work will be on display and for sale. Stroll around the antiques and collectables. Enjoy great food during the intermission and meet new people. Admission is just \$5.
Contact: Call (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7, or visit www.maxwellsartandtreasures.com for a complete list of upcoming events and art and music classes available.

Buster of a Blizzard

Time/Date: Throughout the month of May
Location: Dairy Queen of Garden City, 28825 Ford, east of Middlebelt
Details: Hey Blizzard fans, meet the all-new Buster Bar Blizzard treat - hot fudge, peanuts and choco chunks blended with creamy vanilla soft serve. It's the Blizzard of the Month and you'll find it only at your favorite DQ. And while you're there, stop and taken the newly renovated exterior of the building. It's say Dairy Queen all the way.
Contact: (734) 427-7850

Sensory Friendly Films

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Saturday, May 22
Location: AMC Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, north of Seven Mile, Livonia
Details: AMC Entertainment (AMC) and the Autism Society have teamed up to bring families affected by autism and other disabilities a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis. Sensory Friendly Films



will feature "Shrek Forever After." The AMC movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down, and families will be able to bring in their own gluten-free, casein-free snacks. No previews or advertisements will be shown before the movie. Additionally, audience members are welcome to get up and dance, walk, shout or sing - in other words, AMC's "Silence is Golden" policy will not be enforced unless the safety of the audience is questioned. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the event.
Contact: www.autism-society.org/sensoryfilms

Mask Fitting Clinic

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays
Location: Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland
Details: Attention CPAP and BiPAP users. Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center can help. Visit the, any Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed.
Contact: (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

Free screenings

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 15
Location: Laurel Park Place, Newburgh at Six Mile in Livonia
Details: The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in partnership with specialists from the University of Michigan Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology are offering a Free Asthma Screening Day. Visitors will have the opportunity to take a simple breathing test and fill out a short questionnaire in order to assess whether they have asthma or not, and to discuss the results with U-M asthma specialists. The U-M Asthma Program is a new clinic offered as part of the U-M Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. With its state-of-the-art pulmonary and rhinoscopy suites, the center takes a multidisciplinary approach to providing optimal care by offering a variety of programs and services, including asthma diagnosis and severity assessment, immunotherapy options, and opportunities for social work and home visiting nurse support. Clinic locations now include Livonia and Ann Arbor.
Contact: To learn more about the U-M Asthma Program or the free screening and education event, call (734) 232-2154.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

for the

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SALE HOURS: MON, THURS: 10-8, TUE, FRI, SAT: 10-7, SUN: 12-5, CLOSED WED

LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com



Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS

Trustee Middel oversteps role on school board

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools district is working hard at having its ducks in a row when the 2010-11 school year begins. A lot needs to happen between now and then and the district has strived to make the transition to a K-four-five-six elementary program a smooth one.

Unfortunately, the smooth ride hit a pothole with the appointment of Mark Cesarz as co-principal of Adams Upper Elementary School. It should have been a slam dunk. Cesarz's credentials are outstanding and he's got plenty of experience — almost 11 years as an assistant principal at Adams.

His appointment should have been a simple vote to confirm, congratulatory remarks and a thank you from Cesarz. But instead it became an embarrassment for Cesarz, who was put on the hot seat about his wages by Trustee Carol Middel.

Middel questioned the estimated \$6,000 pay increase Cesarz would receive as a co-principal, and asked if he would consider taking a pay freeze like what is being asked of other employees in the district. We thank Evelyn Baron, Michigan Education Association Uni-Serv director, who stepped up to represent Cesarz, a member of the Wayne-Westland Building Administrators Association, and put an end to the unfortunate exchange by pointing out that the pay issue should be discussed in closed session.

We are disturbed by Middel's actions. Since being elected to the board in 2009, she proven to a capable and competent board member and has been consistent in siding with what she believes is best for the students, even if it has put her at odds with her fellow trustees. But there is no way to justify her behavior when it comes to Cesarz's appointment. It showed a complete disregard for the district's employment process and union contracts.

We can't slough it off as lack of understanding. She of all board trustees, a former member of the Wayne-Westland Education Association, knows what can and cannot be done by contract. As a board member, she also is aware the building administrators are covered by the W-WBAA contract.

Certainly, Middel should ask questions — that's something a school trustee should do — but she needs to know there is a limit to what she says and does.

To her credit, she did tell Cesarz she was sorry and that the discussion was never about him, but about the position. We disagree. The discussion was very much about Cesarz, and her apology was too little too late. Mark Cesarz is an experienced and capable administrator who deserved better.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

Here's a sampling of comments by our online readers about:

• Changes in the summer festival

It's been a family tradition to attend the parade. We have continued the tradition with our grandchildren. We are sorry to learn the parade will be cancelled this year and hope that it can be restored in the future. It really is a wonderful event for families and neighbors to get together.

ourview

• Cuts to Youth Assistance

The Youth Assistance program is one of the best in this area. They helped my nephew turn his whole attitude around. His parents and the rest of our family are so grateful. Had it not been for them, he probably would have gotten involved in one of the Westland "gangs" around here. If we don't have people like this to turn our youth around, where do we turn to? Maybe the mayor should get rid of his "deputy mayor" (and save on that salary and benefits package). Don't make the kids of this city pay until you have removed some from your own office.

JustaNumber

WESTLAND OBSERVER



Sue Mason
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
/ Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What services to you believe are the most important ones a city provides its residents?

We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"Senior citizens. Some seniors use the services because they don't know where to go. I'm better off. I've lived here so long and my kids live right around the corner."

Patricia Jablonski
Garden City



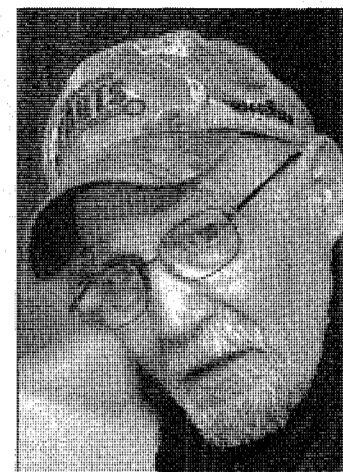
"Trash pickup is definitely one of them and so is the schools."

Drew Aldrich
Garden City



"Police and fire and school right after that."

Sean Quigley
Westland



"Obviously garbage pickup. Without that, we'd really have a mess."

Robert Jessing
Garden City

LETTERS

Thanks to dedicated staff

As health care organizations across the country celebrate National Hospital Week, I believe it is important to step back and acknowledge the dedicated staff of Garden City Hospital for all of their hard work, caring and compassion.

Working in health care is extremely challenging and demanding. We are open seven days a week, 52 weeks a year, 24 hours a day. While others get to celebrate holidays and weekends with friends and family, our incredible staff provides comfort, caring and healing to our patients and their families.

A hospital is a lot more than bricks, mortar and equipment, it's about people. I am proud to work side-by-side with an incredibly talented group of employees who make a difference in other's lives every day.

With all the attention that the health care industry has received in the past several months, words like Medicare, Medicaid, reimbursement, HMO, etc. have become a part of our daily vocabulary.

Today we need to focus our attention on just two words that aren't used often enough. Those two words are "thank you." Thank you to all of the dedicated, caring and compassionate employees of Garden City Hospital. You perform great deeds every day.

Happy National Hospital Week!

Steven Solomon
vice president, Human Resources
Garden City Hospital

Show support for our troops

May 15, 2010, is Armed Forces Day. Right now, volunteer men and women are everywhere protecting we civilians here at home. And in honor of the troops who do so much to protect us, hundreds of troop support groups across America ship thousands of care boxes each year to them all over the world.

More than 90 percent of Americans have never served in the military. I am one of them, representative of the rest. And on behalf of all of those they protect, I thank the troops for preserving our liberties, livelihoods and businesses. Even though the borders of this country are penned with their blood, and even though we don't keep our national house in order, they go forth each day to protect it and give us more time. Let's hope in the end we can all make them as proud of us as we are of them.

Showings of support means a lot to them, and here is an inkling of their gratitude for the bonds between us:

"I wanted to say thank you so much for sending out the care package to my airman. She received the box today and she was literally in tears and could not believe that there are people who cared enough to send her a box. She said she felt like it was Christmas or better because she has not had a Christmas since she was younger. It was great seeing her tell everyone who walked in the office about the box. Again, thank you and your team for taking the time to think of us over here and we truly do appreciate your support!" — S.Sgt. Leticia
"Thank you, thank you, and thank

you so very much for the packages we received. We, the 2025th Transportation Company want you to know how appreciative we are for the phone cards, games, magazines, books, music CDs, DVDs, toiletries, the food and all the other goodies that were sent to us yesterday," wrote Maj. Earnest, who was overwhelmed with the packages that came in and he right away distributed the goodies to all the soldiers. "It is a hard road for us over here especially during the holiday season. Being away from our families is really tough but with the goodies and gifts it made everyone feel like getting into the holiday spirit. From the 2025th Transportation Company Family we would like to extend our heartfelt thank you for all of your support. We will always have a place in our heart for you."

Since her inception, America has been unique among nations of the world. We go further to do more good than any other nation on earth. As acts of freedom, not dominion. Which is why so many foreigners want their pictures taken with our troops when they encounter them in transit.

I periodically receive e-mails from people in other countries pining that they wished their people did for their military community the way Americans do for theirs. You see, America is a charitable nation, with a majority who believes in the personal responsibility of doing good at the individual level. Hence, a voluntary military. And hence the voluntary support for its members from us.

Indeed, hundreds of charitable groups have arisen to support the troops' morale and well-being while they are deployed. Are there amazing people in this country or what? You will find these groups listed at www.SupportOurTroops.Org.

So for Armed Force Day this year, go out and find an event to participate in. Or send a care package. Or make a donation. Find the core moral satisfaction in stepping up for those who step up for all of us.

And to all the troops from all of us here at home, I say thank you, and may God bless and keep you safe.

Martin C. Boire
chairman
Support Our Troops

Keep Saturday delivery

A couple of feedbacks ... Those folks who seem to be all for the discontinuance of U.S. mail delivery on Saturdays are opening themselves up to a rude awakening as the "law of unintended consequences" kicks in.

Bills will be late in being received, and bills will be late in being sent. The banks and credit card companies will have a tremendous late fee windfall if such a move is made. I can just see everybody crying about the problems that will be created.

Why can't the U.S. post office start a new two-tiered wage rate for new hires so that postal rates don't escalate out of sight? If it's good for autoworkers, it should be good enough for our civil servants! Guess we can forget about that service slogan, we deliver through rain and snow, but not on Saturdays!

And, the second is about that Proposal A loophole that would allow a county to

sock it to taxpayers with increased property taxes. It should be repealed. I hope our Livonia representatives in Lansing will do something about that!

Joe Neussendorfer
Livonia

Equal pay for women

April 20 was National Equal Pay Day. Currently, women in Michigan earn 72 cents on the dollar compared to men doing comparable work. That is worse than the national gender wage gap of 80 cents on the dollar. With so many women in Michigan being the chief wage earners, this has a huge impact on the well-being of families in our state.

Federal pay equity legislation was introduced in 1945, around the time my mother went to work to support her two daughters. It is ridiculous to think that so little has changed in more than 60 years.

It has been over three decades since the actual passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII. Isn't it time that working women received a full dollar on the dollar?

Please take a moment and urge our state legislators to support SB 486-489 and HB 4851-4854, legislation that supports a woman's right to earn equal pay for equal work!

Karen B. Zyczynski
Novi

Oppose amnesty

Recently, a rancher in the state of Arizona was shot and killed by an illegal alien. Even more tragic than this event is the fact that the mainstream media has totally ignored it. Glen Beck, on Fox News, thought that when he finally broke the story, others in the mainstream media would follow suit. However, that did not happen. Could the reason our controlled mainstream media (TV, radio and press) ignores important stories like this is to not hurt Obama's bid to pass an amnesty for 15-30 million illegal aliens?

Amnesty legislation has already been introduced in both houses of Congress. Harry Reid, majority leader in the Senate, says that he is only four votes shy in the Senate from having the 60 votes needed to block a filibuster and pass this bill. If 15-30 million illegal aliens can be granted amnesty and allowed to vote by November, then the Tea Party's plan to "vote the rascals out" may not be easy. Remember, Obama makes the rules. And after all of the unconstitutional tricks used to pass the health care bill, nothing is impossible.

From Obama's viewpoint, illegal aliens will mean permanent Democratic Party control of the US government. If you oppose amnesty for people who have broken our laws, call and write your two U.S. senators and your congressman and urge them to oppose these bills.

Some people say that opposing amnesty for illegal aliens is racist. Exactly what part of illegal do they not understand?

Gerald N. Wiggins
South Lyon

McCotter files for re-election in 11th District

U.S. Representative Thaddeus G. McCotter has filed the maximum 2,000 petition signatures required to seek re-election to Michigan's 11th Congressional District seat.

McCotter, 44, was elected to Congress in 2002 and is serving his fourth term. In 2006, he was elected by his colleagues to national House leadership to serve as the Republican House Policy Chair.

McCotter spent filing day managing the GOP's time under the House's Committee of the Whole, during which his resolution honoring the late Ernie Harwell was sent to the full House.

"We live in a time of war and recession, and our Michigan is especially hard hit. But we are a resilient community, and we will transcend these difficult times," he said. "If again honored to be entrusted as our commu-

nity's voice in Congress, I will continue fighting to promote our economy, security and liberty, and to defend and enhance our cherished way of life."

McCotter lives in Livonia with his wife Rita, a registered nurse, and their children, George, 17, Timothy, almost 15, and Emilia, 12.



McCotter

Laura Toy enters race for 6th Senate seat

A Livonia City Council member and former state lawmaker has entered the race in the state Senate's 6th District.

"I am running for the state senate to give our community its voice back in Lansing," said Laura Toy. "While our municipalities, schools, and citizens struggle, unfortunately we have seen more finger-pointing than solutions out of our state government."

Toy, a successful small business woman who has co-owned and operated Cardwell Florist shop on Plymouth Road in Livonia for the past 32 years, represented the 6th District from 2003 to 2006. A Republican, she narrowly lost a bid for a second term to current State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland.

"We have lost so much over the last four years," Toy said. "The stakes are too high not to put a fighter back in Lansing. I have a clear record of results and that is exactly what is sorely lacking right now for the people of this district."

As a former legislator, Toy said she spearheaded an effort that saved 1,500 critical jobs in Redford Township at Detroit Diesel, and she sought to secure fair water rates for suburban customers of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

Toy also worked on legislation placing restrictions on Canadian and out-of-state waste in an effort to keep Michigan communities clean, and sponsored Michigan's version of Jessica's Law designed to put repeat child sexual predators away for life without parole.

"Simply showing up isn't enough if you're voting against the interests of the people you

serve in western Wayne county," Toy said of Anderson who is running for reelection.

Anderson had failed to pass a single bill since entering office in 2007, she added.

"People deserve more than a friendly smile from their legislators, they deserve hard work, action, and above all else results," she added.

Toy was elected president of the Livonia City Council in 2007.

A life-long Wayne County resident and graduate of Livonia's Bentley High School, she holds an associate's degree from Schoolcraft Community College and a bachelor's degree with a triple major from the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

The 6th Senate District includes Garden City, Livonia, Redford Township, and Westland.

Mosher to challenge McCotter in 11th District

When Canton's Natalie Mosher attended Barack Obama's inauguration last January with millions of other Americans from across the country, she had a hard time finding words to describe the experience. Less than four months later, she says the emotional event was the catalyst for her to get more involved in helping the country make a change.

The 65-year-old lifelong Democrat has announced she is running for Congress and will challenge Republican Thaddeus McCotter of Livonia, who is currently in his fourth term representing Michigan's 11th District. "Yes, the inauguration inspired me," said Mosher. "When you watch where we've been the last eight years, you realize how much work we have to do to get back on track."

Mosher, who has never held elected office before, calls herself a different kind of candidate who will "solve problems and get things done." She says her approach would include working with member of all parties.

"I believe that voters are sick of the finger pointing that is only compounding the hard work it takes to develop and implement solutions to the urgent issues of our time," Mosher said. "Whether it's job losses, the credit crunch, falling home prices, affordable healthcare or the myriad of other challenges facing us, Democrats, Republicans and Independents are looking for one thing — solutions. I'm running to offer solutions that get Michigan back to the prosperity that we enjoyed just a few years ago."

Mosher, who was born and

grew up in Detroit, has worked as a public school teacher and in the field of non-profits. She worked for the American Cancer Society when she lived in Ohio, and more recently was the chief development officer for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. She has lived in Canton since 2004.

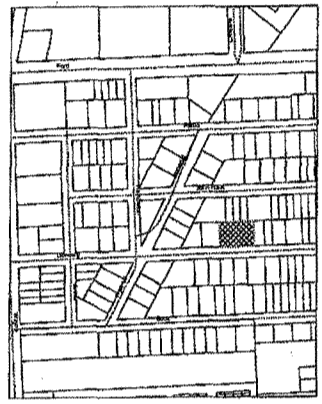
If elected, Mosher said she would make healthcare, developing alternative energies, and

creating jobs her top priorities. A big proponent of the domestic automotive industry (she says relatives, including her husband, have a total of 154 years experience with the auto companies), Mosher said she would work to stop bad trade deals like NAFTA and CAFTA (Central America Free Trade Agreement), which she believes have hurt American auto workers.

**CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF MEETING**

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

Case #2177, Proposed Land Division, Parcel #042-02-0280-300, 35020 Donnelly, North Side of Donnelly, East of Wayne Road, South of Ford Road, City of Westland



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 1, 2010.

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

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: May 13, 2010 051869750 - 265

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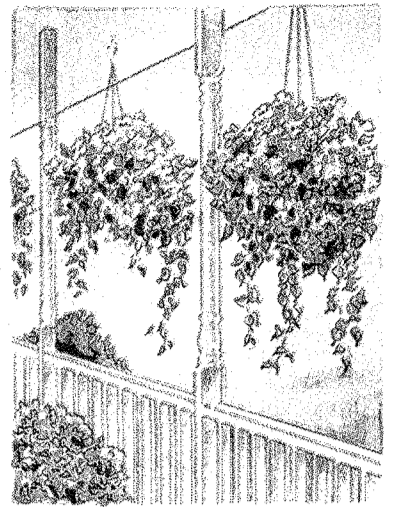
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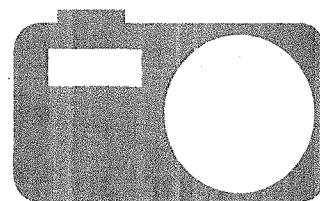
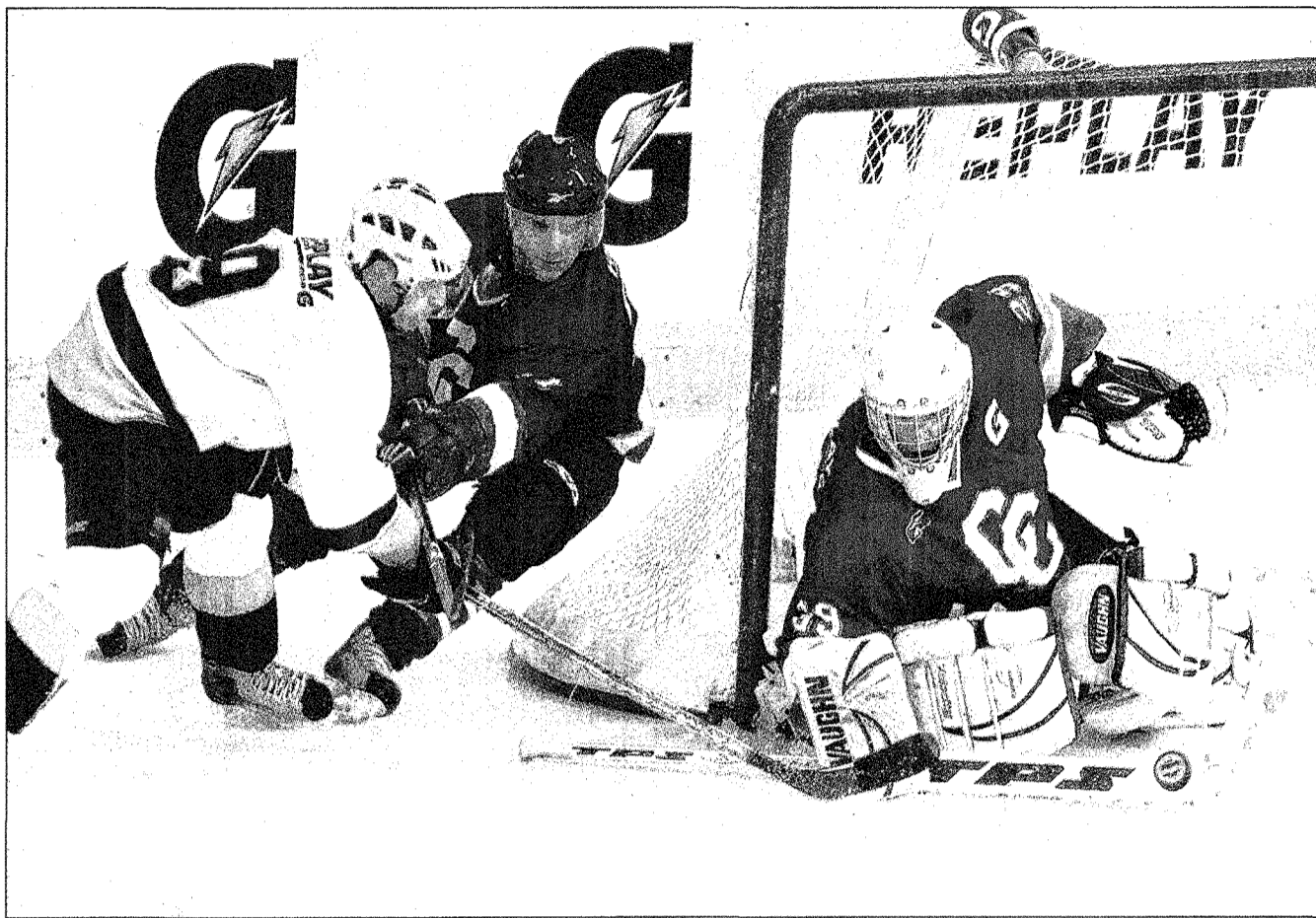


Photo galleries
Online at hometownlife.com

SECTION B
(WL)

HOMETOWN LIFE

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



RENA LAVERTY

What a Replay!

One of Sunday's standouts, Catholic Central goalie Matt Modelski (No. 29) stops an in-close scoring bid by Trenton's Brad Zancanaro (No. 9). One of the CC blueliners (middle, not identified) also converges on the play during Sunday's G REPLAY game at Plymouth's Compuware Arena. Trenton earned a 4-2 victory of hockey alums. See story on www.hometownlife.com

Dark Angels plan benefit for slain cop

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Detroit Dark Angels professional women's football team will honor and support slain Detroit police Officer Brian Huff, the 45-year-old who was the first Detroit police officer killed in the line of duty in five years.

He leaves behind a widow and 10-year-old son.

A special fund-raiser will be held from 8-10 p.m. Thursday at U.S. 12 Bar & Grill, located at 34824 Michigan Ave., Wayne. For a \$20 donation, patrons will receive an open bar for domestic beer, wine and well drinks.

The Dark Angels will also donate half of their game gate proceeds to the family on Saturday, May 15, against the Dayton Diamonds at Westland John Glenn High School, located at 36105 Marquette.

Please see **BENEFIT, B3**

SIDELINES

Strike Out Cancer

The second annual "Strike Out Breast Cancer" Public Schools of Livonia Invitational girls softball tournament will be Saturday at Livonia's Ford Field, located at Farmington and Lyndon roads.

The first game, beginning at 10 a.m., will feature Livonia Churchill vs. Livonia Clarenceville. The second game pits Livonia Franklin vs. Livonia Stevenson at noon.

The championship game is set for 1 p.m.

Following the 10 a.m. game, a ceremony will be held to recognize breast cancer patients and breast cancer survivors. Each school will select a representative to throw out a pink softball to honor those who have died or survived cancer.

Admission is free and fans are urged to wear pink to support the cause. Donations will be accepted at the field with cash or checks going to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

For more information, call Franklin athletic director Ron Hammye at (734) 744-2655; or e-mail rhammye@livoniapublicschools.org.

Glenn grid outing

The Westland John Glenn Football golf outing will be Saturday, May 22, at Fellows Creek Golf Course, located at 2936 Lotz, Canton (just north of Michigan Avenue).

Check-in is at 8 a.m. for the four-person scramble. The cost is \$80 per person (includes 18 holes with cart, hot dog, chips and pop at the turn, and buffet dinner with beverage at Strykers).

Among the prizes available include a brand new car, Rolex watch, 50-50 raffle, closest to the pin and longest drive. There will also be over \$1,000 in other prizes.

For more information, call Steve Waller at (734) 341-1590 or e-mail waller@wwcsd.net.

Diabetes golf outing

Former University of Michigan quarterback and Salem High All-Stater Rich Hewlett will host his second annual "Swing To Cure Diabetes" golf outing on Monday, May 17 at the U-M Golf Course, located at 500 E. Stadium Boulevard, Ann Arbor.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the U-M Comprehensive Diabetes Center and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

The shotgun start commences at 11 a.m. Included in the golf package are 18 holes (with cart), box lunch, beverages, gift pack and dinner at the U-M Golf Course Clubhouse. There will also be a silent and live auction, along with trophy awards.

To register, visit www.swingtocurediabetes.com

Gooding goes distance as MU decks Cardinals

The Madonna University baseball team passed its first test Monday in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference play-offs with a 7-4 triumph over Concordia University at Ilitch Ballpark.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

The Crusaders, who improved their school-record win total to 44-7 overall, took advantage of five Cardinal errors and won despite collecting just five hits.

Winning pitcher Jeremy Gooding went all nine innings to run his season record to 9-1. The Livonia native and Dearborn Divine Child grad scattered 11 hits, walked two and struck out six for the WHAC regular season champions.

Catcher Donny Holland

knocked in a pair of runs, while Billy Hardin II, Ted Toune and Mike Gansser added one RBI apiece.

Shortstop Tony Pounders (Livonia Stevenson) went 3-for-5 and scored a pair of runs for Concordia, which slipped to 24-29 in the double-elimination tournament.

Losing pitcher Brent McNeil (4-7) went all eight innings, allowing four earned runs. He struck out nine and walked six.

Tuesday's action between Madonna and Indiana Tech and the loser vs. Aquinas College was washed out and rescheduled for Wednesday (weather permitting) in the double-elimination tournament with a berth to the NAIA National Tournament at stake.

Crusaders return to Bama

The No. 23-ranked Madonna University softball team earned its second straight trip to the NAIA National Championship with a nail-biting 4-3 win Monday over Davenport University in the championship game of the 2010 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Softball Championship at Battle Creek's Bailey Park.

The NAIA will announce pool pairings later this week as the Crusaders, now 42-10 overall, will travel to Decatur, Ala., as part of the 36-team field.

Senior Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill) collected a pair of base hits to break the MU program record with her 246th career hit, breaking Vicki Malkowski's (1997 to 2000) mark of 245.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Fellow senior Brittney Scero (Canton) also added two hits while four different Crusaders notched an RBI.

Junior All-American Jess Irwin struck out six while allowing three earned runs in improving to 28-4 on the year.

The Crusaders got to Davenport starter Sam Cole for three runs in the top of the third as Sidor was hit by a pitch and pinch runner Ali Robinson (Farmington) stole second before coming home on a single from Erica Landess to make it 1-0.

Hallie Minch (Garden City) singled to load the bases for Arielle Cox, who delivered a double down the left field line to score Tara

LaMilza and Landess to push the MU lead to 3-0.

The Panthers made it a one-run game in the fourth when Karlee Despres connected on a two-out, 2-run homer to make it 3-2.

Madonna made it a 4-2 game in the fifth as Cox scored on a fielder's choice off the bat of Rachael Kethe.

Davenport cut the deficit to 4-3 in the bottom of the fifth when Kristina Krum homered, but Irwin kept the Panthers at-bay and got out of the inning with out any further damage.

The Panthers (46-16) were able to get a pair of runners on in the sixth, but Irwin was able to work out of the jam again and sent the side down in order in the seventh as Nikki Aldrich struck out to end the game.

Patriot Strong Man competition on tap

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Pumping iron has taken on a whole different meaning for Dante Fortin, who has been a competitive power and weight lifter since the age of 18.

He's won national and world titles and still is going strong at age 44.

But the past few years he's shared his expertise and taken a slightly different approach to strength and conditioning training with the Livonia Franklin High football program where his son, David, once a standout running back and linebacker, is now a

member of the Grand Valley State team.

Franklin will stage its Strongest Man Competition from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 22, at Claude Snarey Field.

The event is open to Franklin freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors. They will compete in three different weight divisions including 150 pounds and under; 151-201 and 201-and-up.

Events include: 50-yard tire flip, farmers carry, sled drag, dumbbell press, incline dumbbell press and trap bar dead lifts.

Awards will go to weight divi-

Please see **STRONG MAN, B3**

Rain dance



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Despite cold rain and whipping winds Tuesday night, John Glenn and Canton got together for a KLAASouth girls soccer match. Going for the ball during the first half are the Rockets' Ashley Bailey (22) and Jessikah McClendon (18) of the Chiefs. Glenn fell to the KLAASouth Division leaders, 6-0. See roundup on page B??



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GIRLS TRACK RESULTS

SPARTAN INVITATIONAL GIRLS TRACK MEET

May 8 at Livonia Stevenson
PARTICIPATING TEAMS: Canton (Ctn.), Livonia Churchill (LC), Dearborn Heights...

(FHM), 14-15 each. Pole vault: 1. Michelle Stesicki (N'ville), 9-9; 2. Amy O'Brien (N'ville), 9-6...

(N'ville), 2:23.9; 4. Megan Vitale (LL), 2:24.3; 5. Tiffany Raisanen (LC), 2:31.0; 6. Asher (BHM), 2:31.0.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Free football clinic

Livonia Stevenson High School will be hosting its annual youth football clinic for those currently in grades 2-6 from 9 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Saturday, May 22.

The clinic is free and instruction will be provided by the Stevenson varsity football team and staff.

Walkup registration begins at 8:30 am in the Stevenson North Cafeteria. To pre-register, visit the

Stevenson High School Athletic Department website for a registration form at www.livonia.k12.mi.us/schools/high/stevenson/athletics/athletics.html.

For more information, e-mail Tim Gabel at tgabel@livonia-publicschools.org.

BENEFIT

FROM PAGE B1

Game time is 7 p.m.

The Wayne County and Monroe County Deputy sheriff's associations as well as the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM) have joined their forces for these events.

Huff, a 12-year veteran of the Detroit police force, was killed May 3 when he was met with heavy gunfire while attempting to enter a vacant house in Detroit.

"We all understand that things like this can happen

every day that we put on a uniform," said Dark Angels owner Chuck Lauber, himself a veteran of the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. "It is something that touches close to home for many law enforcement officers and I feel I'm doing what I'm supposed to do when you lose a brother or sister, you do what you can to help their family."

Dark Angels' standout middle linebacker Yarlen Henry is also an officer with the Detroit Police Department.

"I feel that we are all like family both on the department and this football team," she said, "so it makes sense for our families to honor and support my law enforcement brother who leaves his own family behind."

The Dark Angels are off to a 1-2 start in the North Central Division of the Women's Football Alliance. They are made up of veteran and rookie players from the metro area, many from a Detroit Demolition franchise that captured five national titles.

Predicted to make a strong showing in the North Central Division, they have shown steady improvement on both sides of the ball. They hope to keep the Diamonds (0-3) winless.

Tickets are \$10 for entry to the game and the team will also accept any additional donations.

For more information, visit www.darkangelsfootball.com or call Lauber at (800) 505-8669.

BOYS GOLF RESULTS

WESTERN WAYNE INVITATIONAL BOYS GOLF TOURNAMENT

May 10 at Walnut Creek C.C. TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Plymouth, 318 strokes; 2. Livonia Churchill, 332; 2. Livonia Stevenson (Blue), 334; 4. Canton, 337; 5. Livonia Franklin, 349; 6. Stevenson (White), 351; 7. Brownstown Woodhaven, 357; 8. Garden City, 363; 9. Redford Union, 410; 10. Redford Thurston, 411.

23. Tom Cullum, 89; 27. Adam Giordano, 90; 31. Nick Marsh, 93. Canton (337): 1. Zach Conrad, 75; 3. Brendan Muir, 79; 19. Kyle Korte, 86; 42. (tie) Alex Champagne and Marty Peck, 97 each; 48. Frank Parzynski, 101.

Redford Union (410): 38. Josh Marlow, 95; 51. Jake Kinjorski, 103; 52. Dillon Kenney, 105; 55. Jeremy Stover, 107; 57. John Carey, 114; 58. Kyle Gross, 115.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL

Thursday, May 13 Luth. Westland at S Field Christian, 4:30 p.m. (Metro Conference Playoffs) Clarenceville at Cranbrook, 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 14 W.L. Western at John Glenn (2), 4 p.m. Wayne at W.L. Northern (2), 6 p.m. Luth. Westland at Willow Run, 4 p.m. Huron Valley at Taylor Baptist, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 15 (all double-headers unless noted) Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 10 a.m. (Livonia City Tourney at Ford Field) Stevenson vs. Franklin, 10 a.m. Clarenceville vs. Stevenson, noon. Championship final, 2 p.m. Consolation final at Franklin, 2 p.m. GIRLS SOFTBALL Thursday, May 13 Luth. Westland at Mac. Christian, 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 14 Churchill at Farmington (2), 4 p.m. W.L. Western at John Glenn (2), 4 p.m. Ladywood at Warren Regina (2), 4 p.m. Cranbrook at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Taylor Baptist at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 15 (all double-headers unless noted) (Livonia City Tourney at Ford Field) Churchill vs. Clarenceville, 10 a.m. Franklin vs. Stevenson, noon. Championship final, 2 p.m. Consolation final at Franklin, 2 p.m.

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STRONG MAN

FROM PAGE B1

tion winners in each grade. "I have been a competitive power lifter for many years and I have been able to incorporate many variations of exercises to keep the interest of the students at a high level," said Fortin, a senior buyer in purchasing for Heller Machine Tools.

"It's unique, a different style of training. It gives kids the opportunity for many variations of exercise. It's just not lifting heavy weight all the time. The benefit is being

outside, being outdoors and not just stuck in a musty old gym. It gives you some cardio work and conditioning instead of just lifting weights. It combines the two."

Fortin said he already has "50 to 55" Franklin students signed up for the event.

"It's a good turnout," said Fortin, who also serves as a JV assistant football coach at Franklin. "I've gathered an array of knowledge in this style of training. There are benefits to lift this way. I've learned things by trial and error by myself. Lending my style of training to Franklin athletes won't hurt or injury the body. It hits a lot of differ-

ent muscle parts. We change things every week — sometimes we go short yardage distance running. (Head) coach (Chris) Kelbert has seen results — more speed and less injuries. I think we're on the right path."

Fortin said there is still time for Franklin students to register. If interested, call Fortin at (248) 808-1664; or send him an e-mail at dante.fortin@heller.us

"There is no admission," Fortin said. "And this is really a good way to show off the hard work they have put into this style of training."

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The Classics perform hits from the 1970s and '80s.

Hear music from the 1930s big band era to funky sounds of the 1980s

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

James Dignan loves musical variety — and he has three diverse bands to prove it.

The Farmington Hills man manages and plays drums in The Classics, an all occasion band that performs tunes from the 1930s-1990s; The Belle Aires, offering favorites from the 1950s and 1960s; and Stardust Big Band, a 13-piece group that replicates hits from the 1930s and '40s.

"I've been playing drums since I was a child. I have learned to love a lot of different music," Dignan said. "I didn't want to get stuck playing one style."

A practicing psychologist, Dignan formed his first group 11 years ago, adding the others in 2002 and 2005. They perform extensively at outdoor summer shows and for municipal music series, with The Classics also landing work at weddings.

He'll bring all three together on the same stage this weekend for "Through the Decades: A Musical Journey." The show starts at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 15, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door available through the bands' Web site, www.cla6.com. "I expect it to be incredible," said Dignan, who staged a similar concert three years ago at the Redford Theatre. "I love the people that I share music with. I wanted us to do a real special show."

Each band will perform 10 songs during its 35-minute portion of the concert. The Classics will focus on music of the 1970s and '80s, including such tunes as *Play that Funky Music*, *Brick House*, and *September*. The Bel Aires 1950s and '60s repertoire will include *Rock Around the Clock*, *Chantilly Lace*, and *Blue Moon*. Stardust Big Band will reproduce favorites from the 1930s and '40s, such as *In the Mood*, *Take the 'A' Train* and *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*.

ORIGINAL SOUND

Dignan said the bands play the original arrangements of the music and sound "very close" to the original groups that made the songs famous.

"It's a chance to hear your favorite hits the way they were originally recorded."

He'll also show photos of the original bands through a PowerPoint presentation during the performance.

"It's a very big effort. It's fun and exciting



The Bel Aires will perform Saturday, May 15, at Clarenceville High School.

and you get all three bands," said vocalist Nancy Oz, of Canton. "It's going to be a great show."

KARAOKE SINGER

Oz grew up in Livonia, playing flute and violin while in high school and in the wind ensemble while at Schoolcraft College, but hadn't sung professionally until Dignan recruited her for The Classics and The Bel Aires.

"I never thought of myself as a vocalist," said Oz, who is self-employed in the insurance business.

A friend of Dignan's wife, Oz invited the couple to a Christmas party one year. She sang karaoke and Dignan said he might ask her to join the band one day.

"Never in a million years did I think that would happen. I thought he was just being a nice guest," Oz recalled. When one of the lead singers quit, Oz joined the two bands in 2003.

"It's so much fun. Most of the songs are older than I am, but I love that music. It's fun, happy music."

She still performs on flute occasionally, on such songs as *California Dreaming*, *Color My World* and *Under the Boardwalk*. She also bought a piccolo and took lessons.

"I play it on *Rockin' Robin*. It's the only song I play it on, but it was worth it."

In addition to Through the Decades, Stardust Big Band will perform at the Battle of the Big Bands, 7:30-10 p.m., Friday, May 14, at The Cherry Martini, 50296 Cherry Hill, Canton. For more concert schedules for all three bands, visit www.cla6.com



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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 with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.

In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

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.

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Try this fruit in a sauce or eat it straight from the shell

What's a Kiwano?

This strange-looking fruit has some serious spunk, according to Frieda's Specialty Produce Company that supplies exotic fruits and vegetables to

Also known as the African Horned Melon, the Kiwano is in the melon family, but is often described as a combination of kiwifruit and cucumber. It has a jelly-like texture and unique citrusy flavor. Native to the southern Africa, Kiwanos are grown commercially in New Zealand and Australia.

The Kiwano's signature spiky yellow shape and orange-yellow color makes it a popular ornamental fruit, but it has a delightfully unique flavor that is worth tasting.

With the Kiwano reaching its height of season in May, shoppers will find it in stock at Kroger stores throughout southeastern Michigan, including at 1905 N. Canton Center Road, Canton; 45540 Michigan Ave., Canton; 25780 Middlebelt,



Farmington; 37550 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills; 30935 5 Mile, Livonia; 44525 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth; 9369 Telegraph, Redford; and 7350 N. Middlebelt, Westland.

Kroger stores at 5866 Middlebelt, Garden City and 36430 Ford Road, Westland, also can order the fruit.

Once you get a few of these glowing jewels home, slice and squeeze out the edible jelly and seeds, eating it straight from the shell, or use in a salad, dessert or as a delicious garnish for meats. Scoop out the spiky shell and use it as a natural bowl to serve a salad or mousse.

GRILLED BEEF WITH HORNED MELON SAUCE

Also try this dish with grilled lamb or pork instead of beef.

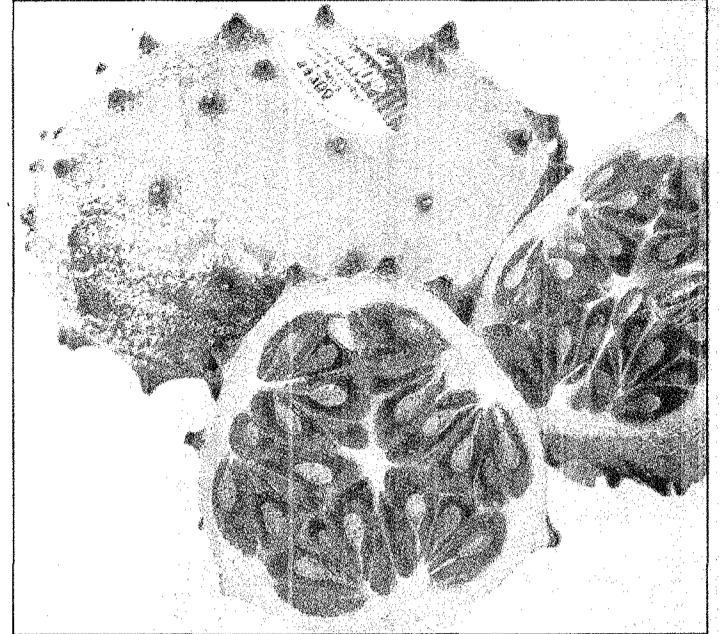
- 1 Frieda's Kiwano
- 1 pound lean beef sirloin, trimmed of all fat
- 4 cups shredded lettuce

- 1/2 cups julienne cut cucumber
- Horned Melon Sauce

Cut the melon into halves. Cut crosswise into thin slices. Cut off the outside skin. Cut the beef into thin slices. Grill or broil the beef to desired doneness. Arrange the lettuce on a large salad platter. Top with the grilled beef, melon slices and cucumber sticks. Spoon the sauce over the top. Makes 4 servings.

HORNED MELON SAUCE:

- 1 Frieda's Kiwano
 - 3 tablespoons lime juice
 - 1 green onion, minced
 - 1 teaspoon oil
 - 1/4 teaspoon cumin
 - 1 clove garlic, minced
- Cut the melon into halves lengthwise. Use a grapefruit knife or small sharp knife to scoop out the pulp. Combine the melon pulp, lime juice, green onion, oil, cumin and garlic in a blender or food processor container. Cover and process until well blended. Makes about 1 1/4 cups.



Kiwano melon

CITY BITES



Register at Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers to win a Wilborn Dream Kitchen.

SAMPLE THE BEST

Plymouth - The 21st annual Showcase and Taste of Plymouth runs 5-7 p.m. Monday, May 24, at Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile, in Plymouth.

Admission is \$10 at the door and includes complimentary food, a cash bar and a chance to win prizes. For the first time ever there will be a live Chef's Cooking Challenge with three judges and an announcer describing the action. Outstanding citizens from local service clubs will be recognized and scholarships will be presented to students.

WIN A KITCHEN

Livonia - Register for the Wellborn's Dream Kitchen Makeover at Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers locations weekly through Aug. 31 for chances to win up to \$12,000 toward kitchen construction or remodeling.

No purchase is required to enter and one winner will be chosen nationally. The entrant's invoice for Wellborn Cabinets used

on their kitchen project will be submitted by the dealer and the check is issued to the winner according to contest rules.

Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers are located in Livonia, Royal Oak, Warren, Clarkston and Woodhaven. For more information call (888) KURTIS-1 (587-8471) or visit www.KurtisKitchen.com.

CHEFS AT THE MARKET

Northville - The third Thursday of each month, beginning at 9 a.m., a local chef tours the Northville Farmer's Market, selecting fresh produce, preparing/demonstrating a recipe and offering samples and recipe cards. No fee or registration is necessary to watch them prepare foods. The chef schedule is:

- The Rusty Bucket Corner Tavern on May 20
 - Pasta e' Pasta on May 27
 - The Lark European Country Inn, June 17
- The market runs 8 a.m.-3 p.m., in the parking lot at the corner of Seven Mile and Sheldon.

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