

WAYNE JROTC SHINES AT COMPETITION

EDUCATION - A4



BRINGIN' IT HOME

JAZZ FLOURISHES IN UNLIKELY VENUE, B4



SUNDAY
August 15, 2010

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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IN BRIEF

Health Fun Fest

Back-to-school immunizations, free book bags and school supplies for the first 300 children, a farmer's market, food, fun and entertainment and an array of health screenings. Those are just some of the offerings that Wayne County residents and families will enjoy at the annual Wayne County Department of Public Health Fun Fest from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, on the grounds of the Wayne County Department of Public Health, 33030 Van Born, just west of Venoy, in Wayne.

The event includes dental, hearing, vision and blood pressure screenings, HIV on-site testing, lead testing, adult and child immunizations and healthy and safety information. There also will be information about Head Start, WIC and breast feeding. Participants can also take advantage of a mercury thermometer exchange, croon a tune with karaoke and pick up some Project Fresh vegetables and fruit.

If that isn't enough, there also will be a bicycle, safety helmet and car seat giveaway in addition to the backpacks and school supplies.

For more information, call the health department at (734) 722-7000.

Backpack giveaway

Youngsters from throughout Westland are invited to be part of a backpack and school supplies giveaway at the Salvation Army's Wayne-Westland Corps 1-4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 23.

The event is sponsored by Mayor William Wild and all items will given out on a first-come, first-served basis. All recipients must pre-register by calling the Salvation Army at (734) 722-3660.

The Wayne-Westland Corps is at 2300 S. Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

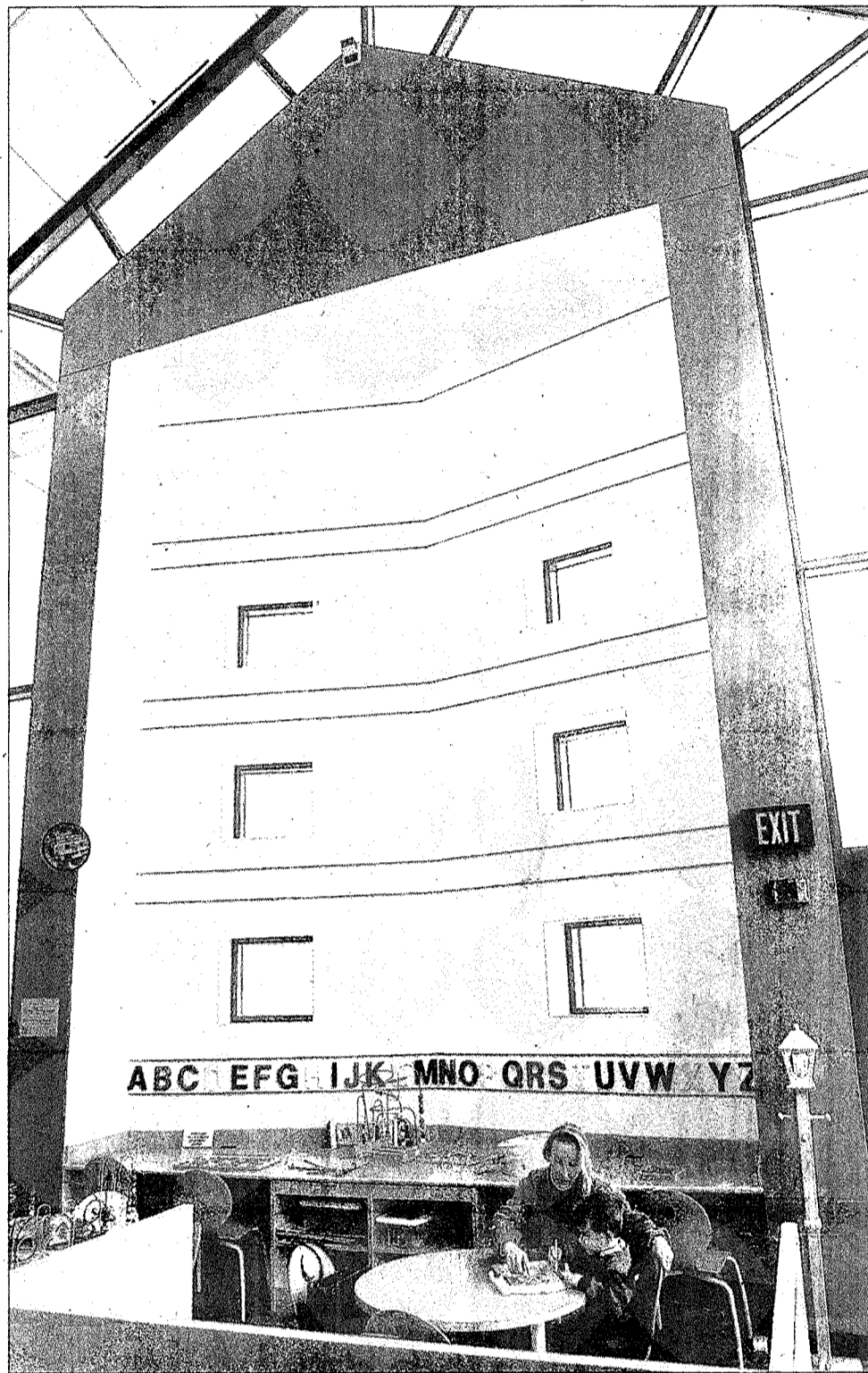
Appointment

Westland Mayor William Wild has named Jessica Letourneau as the city's new budget director.

Letourneau's duties will include the compilation and completion of the city's annual budget and preparation of weekly, monthly and quarterly financial reports as well as helping oversee day-to-day operations of the city's finance department.

A graduate of John Glenn High School and a Westland resident, she worked for the City of Plymouth for nine years. She has an extensive municipal finance background.

"The city remains committed to providing fiscally responsible service to the residents and a well-crafted budget is a reflection of the quality of that service," Wild said. "Ms. Letourneau will work for the city as a contractor, saving funds on health care and pension costs, while allowing the city to perform its budgetary duties."



According to Director Cheryl Napsha, the library's reserve funds are 'earmarked for facility maintenance and capital improvements' like the repainting of the interior done in 2008. 'We're sitting on it, it's to protect the future of the building,' she said.

City, library board must negotiate rent

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If the Westland wants to charge the William P. Faust Public Library rent, the city will need to negotiate a lease with the Library Board.

That's the gist of an opinion prepared by the city attorney at the request of the city and the Library Board, which balked at the city's plans to charge the library more than \$50,000 annually for rent. The city's general fund budget, adopted in June, included \$500,000 transferred from library to cover 10 years back rent.

"We are very happy that the attorney ruled the city can't charge the library more than \$500,000 in back rent and that any rent had to be negotiated through a mutually agreed upon lease," said Library Director Cheryl Napsha.

Mayor William Wild had proposed the rent concept for the library but hadn't included it in his budget proposal to the council. Council President James Godbout had asked that the proposal be included.

"We need to negotiate. Our intent is to sit down with the library board to come up with a reasonable rent proposal," said Council President James Godbout. "If we charged the library rent at the rate we charge other departments, it would have a significant impact on the library budget. I don't think anyone wants to do that."

Wild couldn't be reached for comment but Deputy Mayor Jade

Smith said the mayor was leaving it to council to work out an agreement with the Library Board.

The city transferred the more than \$500,000 for back rent from the library account to the city's general fund the night that the council adopted the budget.

"The money is in their account, we sent a letter requesting it," said Napsha.

The premise of the rent was the common practice of the general fund charging other departments rent for space used in municipal buildings. For instance the water-sewer fund, is charged rent for space used for the water billing department.

"If we charged the library at the rate of the other departments, it would be significant. It would probably be close to \$400,000," said Godbout. "No one wants to do that. It would have a negative impact on the library operations."

Opened in 1996, the library was constructed largely with state money, opened without any debt and has its own operating millage. Westland owns the building and charges the library \$200,000 annually for overhead costs.

The library has a \$1.9 million budget with a .994 millage levy — before the Headlee rollback — generating \$1.7 million for the largest portion of its revenue. Property tax revenues for 2010-11 are projected at \$1.5 million due to decreased property values. The library had a \$1.5 million fund balance, effectively its savings account.

"We feel that the \$200,000

Please see **RENT, A2**

Wayne-Westland makes four administrative appointments

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When school starts at Wayne Memorial High School next month, students will see a new face, that of Assistant Principal Julie Lublin.

The appointment was one of four administrative appointments approved by the Wayne-Westland school board at this month's meeting.

"I'm very excited to be here," Lublin said. "Everyone in the community continues to welcome me, so I already feel like I'm a part of here. I can't wait

for the start of school and to see the students."

Lublin comes to Wayne-Westland from the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, where she served briefly as an interim assistant principal and was a counselor. She has a bachelor of arts of teaching degree in English and communications, master's degrees in curriculum and teaching and counseling and an educational specialist degree in educational leadership.

The school board also approved the appointment of Donna Lochrie as the executive

director of school improvement and federal/state programs and Shannon Blick as principal of Wildwood Elementary School.

"She's been an outstanding teacher and administrator and has brought so much to the education department," Supt. Greg Baracy said in recommending Lochrie's appointment. "She's a very thorough and knowledgeable lady. I'm proud to bring her name to the board."

"I'm thankful for the opportunity and I assure you I will continue the dedication I have shown in this position with Wayne-Westland," said Lochrie,

a Belleville resident. "I'm proud to continue to be a part of the Wayne-Westland family."

Lochrie has a bachelor of science degree in mathematics/chemistry and speech and a master's degree in the art of teaching. She joined the school district in 1971 as an adult/community education teacher and went on to teach mathematics at Adams and Stevenson middle schools and John Glenn and Wayne Memorial high schools before joining the instruction department as the secondary director of school development.

Baracy described Blick as

"one of the teachers others look to for leadership in the classroom."

"I'm thankful for this opportunity," said Blick, a Canton resident. "Wayne-Westland is my home. Mr. (Bernard) LaPorte was my principal and (school board trustee) Mrs. Middel was my Brownie leader. Wildwood has been my second home, and I'm glad to be able to lead the school."

Blick has a bachelor of science degree in elementary education/structures of disciplines,

Please see **SCHOOLS, A2**

Wife identifies knives used in attack by husband

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Nicole Carter recognized the knives she described her estranged husband as wielding after he broke into her trailer early July 30.

"He had one of my steak knives. It came from the knife block set that my parents gave me for my wedding," Nicole Carter testified Thursday in Westland 18th District Court Thursday. "I had one knife in my chest — the whole thing. He (Barry Carter) put the sec-

ond knife in my stomach. He twisted it and left it."

Barry Carter, 33, is charged with two counts of assault with intent to murder, two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm and one count of home invasion. An additional charge of interfering with a crime report during the commission of a felony was added after the testimony.

With her left hand and wrist heavily bandaged and immobilized, Nicole Carter, 30, described the attack that left her with 21 stab wounds,

including punctures of her pericardium sac, which surrounds the heart, and her liver, which had two wounds.

Nicole Carter testified she was in her bedroom with her friend Scott Mowery at about 1:45 a.m. when she heard her estranged husband's voice outside.

"He said, 'You're both dead.' He was outside the window," Nicole Carter said. "He yelled it. I didn't have my hearing aid in. I didn't hear what he said

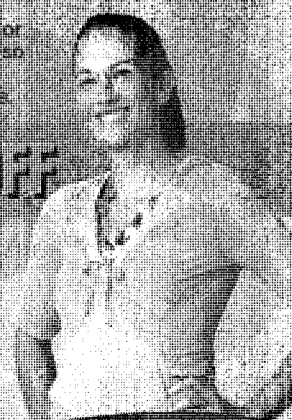
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SCHOOLS

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mathematics and science, a master of science degree in education, elementary reading and literacy and an educational specialist degree in educational leadership.

She started with the district as a substitute teacher and taught second grade at Hoover and first grade at Hicks before becoming the reading recover/literacy leader at Wildwood.

Cheryl Watson was also appointed as the executive secretary to the school board and deputy superintendent.

"I'm very excited for this opportunity and I hope my vast background will serve you well," Watson said.

Watson joined the school district in 1975 as a teachers aide at Kettering Elementary. She has been a secretarial aide, secretary, secretary to the assistant principal and director of alternative education, substitute procurement secretary in employee services, receptionist/accounting clerk in the business services office and secretary to the principal at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center before moving to the district's administrative offices.

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RENT

FROM PAGE A1

for overhead is more than adequate for rent," said Napsha. "We do have reserve funds earmarked for facility maintenance and capital improvements. It's not just surplus we're sitting on, it's to protect the future of the building. The board has been very fiscally responsible over the years. That's how we've developed the reserves."

With the city's financial problems — the city made cuts to reduce a projected \$3.5 million deficit for the current fiscal year and a \$12 million shortfall the following year — Godbout said he didn't know how the city couldn't charge the library rent.

"I understand that the library millage is for the library. At one point, we looked at a satellite library at the Dorsey Center. Does that mean we couldn't charge rent there?" said Godbout. "It's the same concept."

A committee will likely be formed to resolve the matter, Smith said.

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TESTIMONY

FROM PAGE A1

after that."

Nicole Carter and Mowery, 30, both testified that Barry Carter pushed aside the slider section of a window air conditioning unit, which allowed them to see his face.

Within moments, Nicole Carter said her estranged husband entered the trailer and was trying to force his way into the bedroom.

In their testimony, Nicole Carter and Mowery both described Barry Carter sweeping his arm in the gap of the partially open door with a knife in his hand as Mowery pressed against the door trying to keep him out.

After door was knocked off the hinges, Nicole Carter and Mowery testified they ran into the living room in an effort to escape through the front door.

Defense attorney William Winters questioned why Nicole Carter had tried to escape through the front door, noting there was another exit door next to the bedroom door, and asked if she was actually going to the kitchen for a knife to arm herself.

"That door has a latch on the top and the bottom. It takes

force to open. It was too close to the bedroom door," she said. "I wanted to get out the front door. I wanted to escape."

The testimony from both victims was that all three people ended up in the kitchen/living room area. Mowery said that Barry Carter knocked him to the floor, then stood nearby making stabbing motions at him which he followed with a kick.

"I was telling him I'd leave, that he could be with Nicole — whatever it took," said Mowery, a Redford resident. "He brought the knife down. I put my hands in front of my chest and the knife when through my hand."

Mowery, whose hand was also heavily bandaged, continued talking to Barry Carter, who he said paused as if thinking about ending the attack.

"He said, 'She (Nicole Carter) has already called the police, I have to finish it,'" Mowery said. "I had a strong idea what that meant — he was going to kill both of us. He kept trying to get behind Nicole to cut her throat."

When Barry Carter again turned his attention back to Nicole Carter, Mowery said he fled the trailer, located at Mohawk Trailer Park on Joy west of Inkster Road, to get help.

While wrestling with her estranged husband and attempting to take the knives, Nicole

Carter said her finger and wrist were cut.

After the attack, Nicole Carter said Barry Carter began stabbing himself in the neck.

"I tried to call 9-1-1 again. He took my phone and threw it down the hall," she said. "He yelled down the hall, 'Scott, tell my mom I'm sorry and that I love her.' He said he had to leave."

Barry Carter was gone when police, who had met Mowery on Joy, arrived at the trailer. Officers were still at the trailer processing evidence when he returned, suffering from a serious neck wound, and was arrested.

Judge Sandra Cicirelli ordered Barry Carter bound over for trial on the four original charges and the added charge. He is being held in lieu of \$1 million cash bond. Circuit court arraignment is set for Aug. 19.

There was also a show cause hearing on the charge that Barry Carter had violated his probation from an earlier domestic violence charge. The probation conditions prohibited Barry Carter from contacting or harming Nicole Carter. After splitting with his wife, Barry Carter moved into his mother's nearby unit.

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Westland man faces hearing in death of police officer

A 36-year-old Westland man will be in Taylor's 23rd District Court on Sept. 21, for a preliminary hearing on charges stemming from the shooting death of Taylor Police Cpl. Matthew Edwards.

District Judge Geno Salomone formally arraigned defendant Tyress Trearndos Mathews in the defendant's hospital room on Tuesday, Aug. 10. A plea of not guilty was entered for Mathews, who is being held without bond. Mathews has been charged with first-degree murder, a felony punishable by life in prison without parole; murder of a peace officer, a felony punishable by life in prison without parole; assault with intent to murder, a felony punishable by life or any term of years; felon in possession, a felony punishable by five years in prison; felony firearm, which carries a mandatory two-year sentence; and as a habitual fourth offender, which is

punishable by life, if the primary offense has a penalty of five years or more.

He has been charged in connection with the July 23 shooting at the Coppertree Apartments on Pine Street in Taylor that resulted in Cpl. Edwards' death.

According to Taylor police, Cpl. Edwards and his partner, Cpl. Gregory Piche, went to the complex to investigate a report of a break-in in progress. The officers encountered the defendant leaning on a minivan parked outside of the residence. He allegedly told them he had had an argument with his wife and claimed he needed to re-enter their apartment to get his keys.

Cpl. Edwards was with the defendant when it's alleged that he fired a handgun, fatally striking the officer. Piche exchange gunfire with the defendant when he attempted to flee.

Cpl. Edwards was pronounced dead at a local

hospital. The defendant was also taken to the hospital and is currently being treated.

"I would ask the community to continue to keep Cpl. Edwards' family in their prayers and in the days to come as his family tries to comprehend the circumstances surrounding this tragic incident," Taylor Police Chief Dale Tamsen said. "I would also like to thank the community and other police agencies for the outpouring of support shown to our department at this time. The response has been incredible and our department will now try to start the healing process."

Cpl. Matthews was the first Taylor police officer to die in the line of duty in the department's history. He had joined the department in January 2005. He was named Officer of the Year in 2008 by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

Cpl. Edwards is survived by his wife and two children.

Hearing delayed for suspects in bank robberies

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for two men charged with robbing a Westland cash advance store has been delayed two weeks.

Cousins Antwann Baker, 26, and Johnny Junior Baker, 23, made a brief appearance in Westland 18th District Court Thursday as the hearing was adjourned until Aug. 26.

While the pair have been charged in the Westland case, they are suspects in a string of armed robberies, including one that left a Garden City smoke shop owner shot.

Making an appearance of behalf of both defendants, defense attorney Jill Schinske said the Bakers agreed to waive their right to a preliminary examination within 14 days.

The hearing may not actually take place locally since



Antwann Baker



Johnny Baker

the FBI has taken over the investigation and is seeking a federal indictment due to the number of robberies the Bakers are suspected of having committed across Wayne County.

Charges were filed in the Westland case so that the pair would be in custody pending the federal charges.

Antwann Baker has been charged with armed robbery, unlawful imprisonment and being an habitual offender in the Westland case. He is being held in lieu of \$1 million cash/surety bond.

Johnny Junior Baker is

charged with armed robbery and unlawful imprisonment charges. He is being held in lieu of \$500,000 cash/surety bond. Not guilty pleas were entered for both defendants.

The pair are charged with robbing Approved Cash Advance, 8367 N. Wayne Road, on April 23. The clerk was held up at gunpoint and left bound with duct tape.

The men were arrested based on information developed by Garden City police in their investigation of the July 8 holdup at the Smoke Shop, 6737 Middlebelt. The store owner was handcuffed and shot during the robbery. The store owner survived.

The Bakers are suspects in about 10 different robberies in communities that included Detroit and Redford, along with Westland and Garden City.

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Wyandotte woman to stand trial for bank robbery

A Wyandotte woman has been ordered to stand trial on a charge of robbing a Westland bank.

Danielle Marie Evans, 32, waived her preliminary examination in Westland 18th District Court Thursday. She is charged with one count of bank robbery, which carries a sentence of up to life in prison.

While is suspected of five

bank robberies in Westland, Ferndale, Allen Park and Wyandotte, this charge is that Evans robbed TCF Bank in Westland on July 23.

It was reported that the robber obtained \$1,710 from TCF Bank.

Evans was arrested after a relative, a Melvindale police officer, saw her picture in a television news story and recognized her.

Police reported recovering \$20 from Evans, the rest of the missing money having already been spent. Evans allegedly used the money to support a heroin addiction and to pay bills - she has five children under the age of 10.

Scheduled for circuit court arraignment on Aug. 19, Evans is being held in lieu of \$100,000 cash/surety bond.

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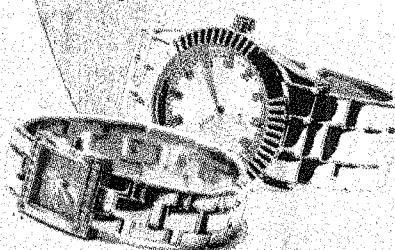
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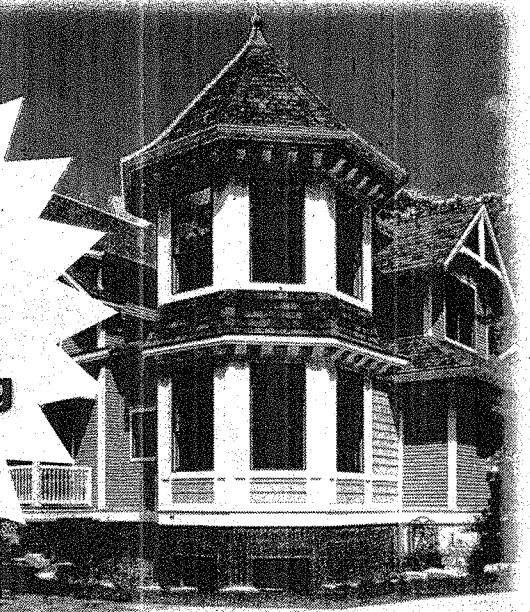
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EDUCATION

Sunday, August 15, 2010

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Wayne JROTC 5th in nation in leadership

The Wayne Memorial High Schools JROTC Zebra Battalion has proven its among the best units in the country when its Leadership Team placed fifth in this year's Leadership Symposium and Academic Bowl competition.

The four-day symposium and competition was held on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., and attracted 72 two teams - 24 academic and 48 leadership teams. The competition, which began with JROTC teams in more than 1,000 high schools competing in an online competition in December, is the nation's largest academic bowl and leadership symposium for high school students worldwide.

The Wayne team, which included Jackie Odien, Chelsea Draper, Jenna Johnson and Sheila Tanner, made it to the elite eight, but missed the final four by a single question and ended up

fifth. "The trip to JLAB and Washington, D.C., has been a unique experience for me," said Cadet Captain Jackie Odien, captain of the leadership team. "I think the success we had here at JLAB reflects the great leadership training we receive at Wayne Memorial High School in the JROTC Battalion."

The fifth-place finish caps off a successful year for the unit which won the third annual Wayne Raider Challenge and the Michigan-wide Raider Championship and placed fifth in the country at the national competition in Georgia.

The Raiders won six of the seven events on their way to winning the Wayne Raider Challenge Championship.

"The competition was tougher this year," said Stephen McNamara. "Our second-place finish in academics was the first time we did not win an event here."

Teams from Jackson, Grand Rapids, Westland, Detroit, and Hobart, Indiana competed. Cass Tech High from Detroit challenged Wayne in the cross-country rescue, falling short of Wayne's winning time by 3 seconds. Renaissance High, also from Detroit, came close with a 2-minute, 39-second rope bridge time, but Wayne clocked in with a record time of 2:20.

The Raiders also placed first in the one-mile run, fitness test, 5 kilometer road march, and the gauntlet. Kevin Newborn won individual honors with a first-place fitness score of 164 pushups and situps. The Raiders have two minutes to complete as many repetitions as they can of each exercise.

Roger Tanner was runner-up with 162.

Wayne's Keslie Honeycutt and Aimee Papineau finished third and fourth with 121 and 110 repetitions.



The Wayne Memorial JROTC Zebra Battalion Leadership Team of Jackie Odien, Chelsea Draper, Jenna Johnson and Sheila Tanner are honored by Brigadier General Arthur M. Bartell, Commander of U.S. Army Cadet Command.

ACHIEVERS

Three Westland residents received degrees from Kaplan University at summer commencement ceremonies.

William Bridgeford was awarded an associate of applied science degree in business administration, while Candice Weatherman received an associate of science degree in interdisciplinary studies and Joshua Weier an associate of applied science degree in business administration.

The Kaplan University summer 2010 class, which included

more than 4,200 graduates, earned associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees - as well as professional certificates - completely online. Kaplan University has graduated nearly 27,000 online students since it began offering web-based degrees in 2001.

Receiving degrees during spring commencement ceremonies at Central Michigan University in May were Garden City resident Ashley Stone, bachelor of science, and

Westland residents Stacey Elliott, master of science in administration, Denise Hein, master of science in administration, Kierre Majors, bachelor of science in education, Caitlin Meloche, master of business administrations, Michael Minnis, master of science in administration, Christie Music, bachelor of science, Sarah Rorabacher, bachelor of science in education, Jessica Sanford, bachelor of science in education, Kenisha Shoulders, graduate

certificate, Katrin Thompson, bachelor of science, Jcynthia Tory, master of science in administration, Bridget Trevino, bachelor of science, Stephanie Wengert, bachelor of arts, and Michael Wissman, bachelor of applied arts.

Named to the spring honors list at Central Michigan University were:

Garden City residents Kendra C. Beedle, Christine Mary Chapman, Crystal R. Fargo, Anthony Paul Hallup,

Kaitlin Marie Hearn, Brittany Joann Mouzouraki, Michael Anton Nordby, Daniel Patrick Schwartz and Samantha R. Waelde.

Westland residents Blaise Christine Badynee, Wednesday Marie Brunswick, Joseph Anthony Cucci

Christopher Scott Florowski, Chad Erin Foerster, Katie Lynne Kalajian, Julie Ana Kobylarz, John Mitchell Moore, Grant Thomas

Morgan, Christie N. Music, Jillian Jae Novak-Alexander, Patrick Ryan O'Connor, Robert Melvin Padget, Chelsea Lynne Randles, Jessica M. Sanford, Kelly Elizabeth Sutherland, Chelsey Marie Trefney, Dessislava C. Tzankova, Jessica Lynne Vantoll, Michael F. Wissman, Brittany Ann Wood and Nicole D. Ybarra.

The students had to maintain a 3.5 grade point average or higher to be named to the list.

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Reverse mortgage can be solution for some

Q: Dear Rick: A few years ago, my son was having financial difficulties and to assist him we (my wife and I) took out a mortgage on our home. The deal was our son would make the mortgage payments on the home. The last few years, he has made the payment and there has been no problem. However, his situation has not improved and he can no longer make the payments. My wife and I can't make the payments. We talked to the mortgage company about restructuring, but our request was denied. The mortgage company recommended that we sell our home. We have equity in our home, but we don't want to sell. We love our house and have no intention of moving. I hope you can suggest an alternative to selling our home.

A: There is an alternative that allows you to stay in your home and ease your financial burden. It appears you qualify for a reverse mortgage and it may be the answer to your problems.

A reverse mortgage allows you to tap into the equity of your home, allowing you to stay in the home for as long as you like. Unlike a traditional mortgage — where you make monthly payments of principal and interest — a reverse mortgage has no monthly payments. The mortgage is paid off in full when the home is sold. In addition, you are not under any obligation to sell your home.

If you stay in your home until you die, then upon death the house would be sold and the proceeds used to discharge the mortgage. If, for some reason, the house sold for less than the outstanding mortgage, neither you nor your estate nor your beneficiaries would be liable for the shortfall. The mortgage company assumes that risk.

A reverse mortgage would ease your financial situation because you could use the proceeds to pay off the existing mortgage.

In addition, if you are able to withdraw more money from your home, you could use that money for anything you want.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Based upon your situation, it would make sense for you to explore a reverse mortgage.

Many seniors believe that reverse mortgages are something to be avoided at all cost.

However, that is not the case. There are many situations where reverse mortgages make sense. A reverse mortgage is a great financial tool for a senior with financial issues, equity in their home and the desire to stay in the home long term.

On the other hand, I am not a fan of using the proceeds from a reverse mortgage to make an investment. In the past, many seniors were suckered into withdrawing equity from their home and then investing the money in high-risk investments. This strategy makes no sense. Equity in a home provides a cushion that should only be used in cases of severe financial difficulties.

Obtaining a reverse mortgage is a little different than obtaining a traditional mortgage. There are literally hundreds of different programs available for traditional mortgages. In addition, while fee structure and interest rates vary dramatically between different companies, this is not the case with reverse mortgages. Reverse mortgages have become very standardized and there are not a lot of options available to you. However, like anything else in the financial world, the key is to deal with a company that you have confidence in and one which will work with your best interest in mind.

There are a number of fine reverse mortgage companies. One that I've had success with is First Financial Reverse Mortgage (www.firstloans.net).

In today's difficult economic times, seniors who are struggling should at least consider a

reverse mortgage. The money from a reverse mortgage could be used to pay off an existing mortgage, pay off a high-interest charge card debt or even be used to provide additional cash

flow on a regular basis. The question to ask is do you plan to be in your home long term. If the answer is no, then a reverse mortgage is most likely not for you.

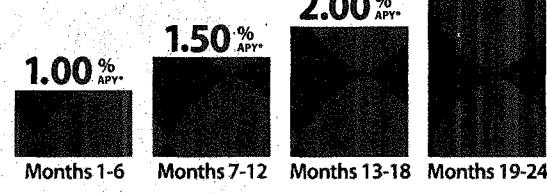
However, if you are having financial issues and plan to be in your home long term, a reverse mortgage is definitely something to explore. Good luck!

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.

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Doris Biscoe, former TV News Anchor, may personally attend some of these workshops.†

A sales representative will be present with information and applications. To reserve your space at one of HAP's free workshops or for accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call toll-free at (800) 449-1515 or TDD (800) 956-4325, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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*Based on the Summary Rating of Overall Health Plan Quality awarded by the federal Medicare program (2008-2009 data).

†Paid Spokesperson, Doris Biscoe, is a member of a HAP non-Medicare Plan.

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Origami: Paper folding is ageless

It is still not known today how or where origami began. One theory is that since paper was invented by Ts'ai Lun in China in the year A.D. 105, paper folding had to have followed soon after.

When paper was introduced to the Japanese in the late sixth century, origami came along with it. Since there is no evidence of origami in China, and also Japanese records only go back to the 18th century, some historians claim that origami must be a Japanese invention. No matter where paper folding actually began, Japan is still recognized as the place where origami was fully developed.

The Japanese never wrote anything down at the time so only simple designs were passed down through an oral tradition. It wasn't until 1797 that the first written instructions appeared when Thousand Crane Folding was published.

In 1888, the word origami was coined. It came from oru (to fold) and kami (paper). Before that, art form was called orikata, which meant "folded shapes."

By the eighth century, paper folding made its way to Arabic lands. It wasn't until the 12th century that the Arabic people brought origami along with them to the west, notably Spain. After the Arabs left Spain, the Moors developed their own form of origami, which they called papiroflexia.

For many centuries, people continued folding the same shapes. In the 1950s, Yoshizawa Akira published many books with new models of forms in the 1950s. Exhibitions of his work around the world spread the popularity of origami.

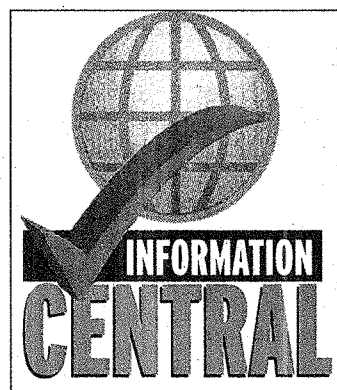
Today, expert paper folders can be found everywhere. New techniques of folding have been developed that have really elevated the technical skill that goes into origami. To learn how to do origami yourself, check out one of our books on the subject, such as "Brilliant Origami" by David Brill or watch the DVD "Fold It: Beyond Traditional Origami."

Stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Activities

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Aug. 17

Join us as we discuss "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks. In 1996, Hanna Heath, an Australian rare-book expert, is offered the job of a lifetime: analysis and conservation of the famed



Sarajevo Haggadah, which has been rescued from during the Bosnian war. Priceless and beautiful, the book is one of the earliest Jewish volumes ever to be illuminated with images. When Hanna discovers a series of tiny artifacts in its ancient binding, she begins to unlock the book's mysteries. Copies will be available at the Reference Desk. All are welcome.

Documentary Movie Night:

"Trouble the Water," 7 p.m. Aug. 18

Join us for a viewing of the documentary film "Trouble the Water." On the day before Hurricane Katrina - just blocks away from the French Quarter but far from the New Orleans that most tourists knew - Kimberly Rivers Roberts, an aspiring rap artist, turns her new video camera on herself and her 9th Ward neighbors trapped in the city. As the hurricane begins to rage and the floodwaters fill their world and the screen, Kim and her husband Scott continue to film their harrowing retreat to higher ground and the dramatic rescues of friends and neighbors. The couple returns to the devastation of their neighborhood in New Orleans, only to be met by the appalling repeated failures of the government.

Summer Concert Series: Andy John and Mark Jewett 7 p.m. Aug. 19, ages 14 and up, at the Library Pavilion.

Join us for our last concert of the summer, as Open Mic regulars stop by to take the stage. Andy John first got into music when he heard Elvis sing "Good Rockin' Tonight" and plays rockabilly and folk-rock. Mark Jewett has been studying at the hands of local folk masters for years and is sure to offer an upbeat show. Limited seating provided, so bring a chair, if you're late.

Friday Night Movie Cult Classics: 7 p.m. Aug. 20

This week's selection is "Raising Arizona" (Rated PG-13). Ex-con Hi and

ex-cop Ed meet, marry and long for a child in the wilds of Arizona. When Ed discovers she's barren, the God-given solution is presented: snatch a baby from a set of quintuplets. Thus begins a series of kidnappings, capers and rum goings-on that revolve around the helpless yet universally-loveable child. All movies start at 7 p.m. This is an after-hours program. Library doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Fight Foreclosure One-on-One Counseling Session: 5-8 p.m. Aug. 23

Homeowners can schedule a private, 30-minute, one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor from the Wayne County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program. Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to schedule your appointment. Space is limited. The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive network of certified counselors who will help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure.

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

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

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library: 7 p.m. every Wednesday.

Special Demo: Online Projects Everyone welcome, including crocheters.

Chess Group: 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays.

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess Masters are all welcome. No signup required.

Computer Classes are offered all year long. Contact the library at (734) 326-6123 to find out more.

Last Chance: Library Summer Reading Program - Adults readers you still have time. Deadline is Aug. 21.

Information Central was compiled by reference librarian Andrea Perez. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org

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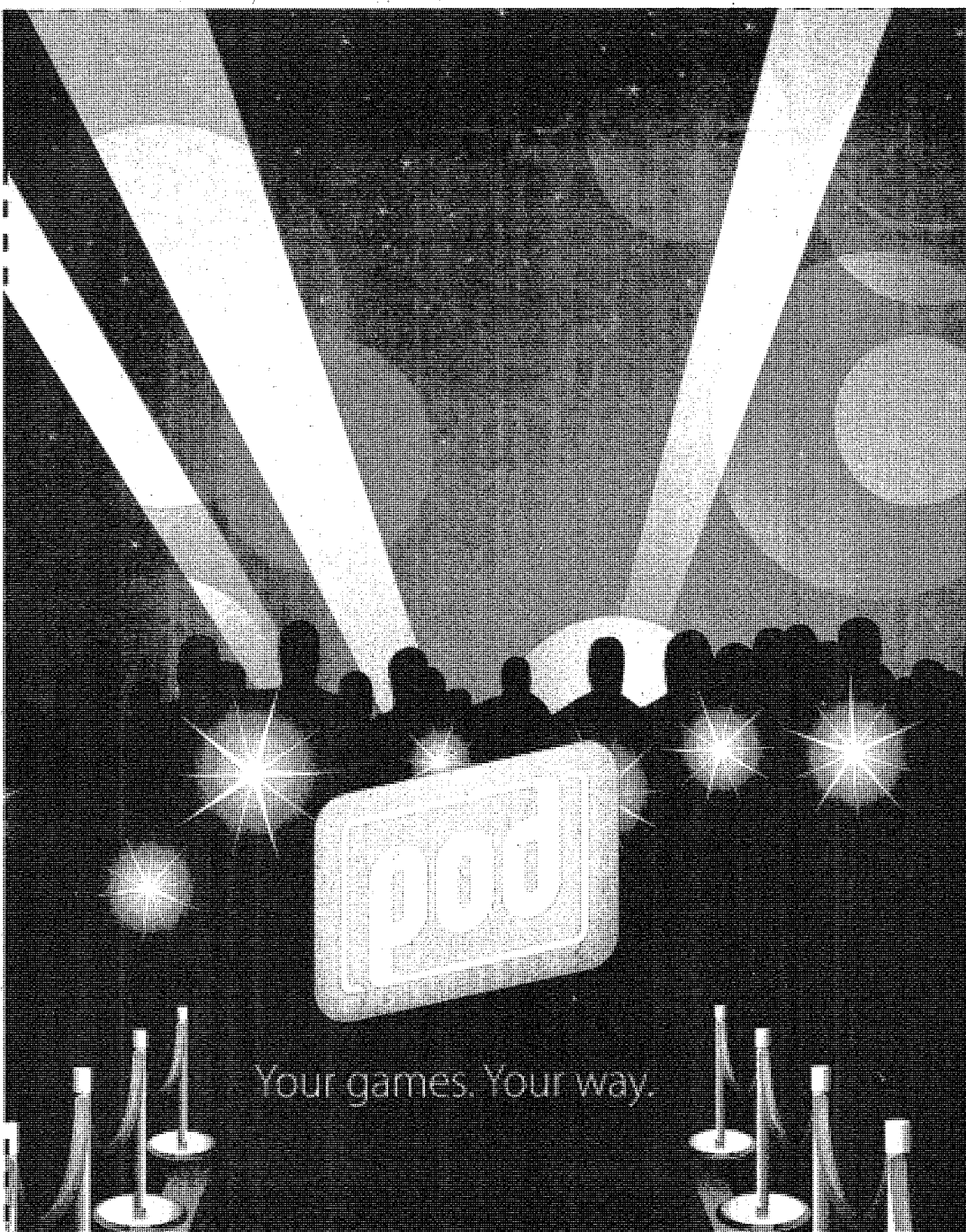
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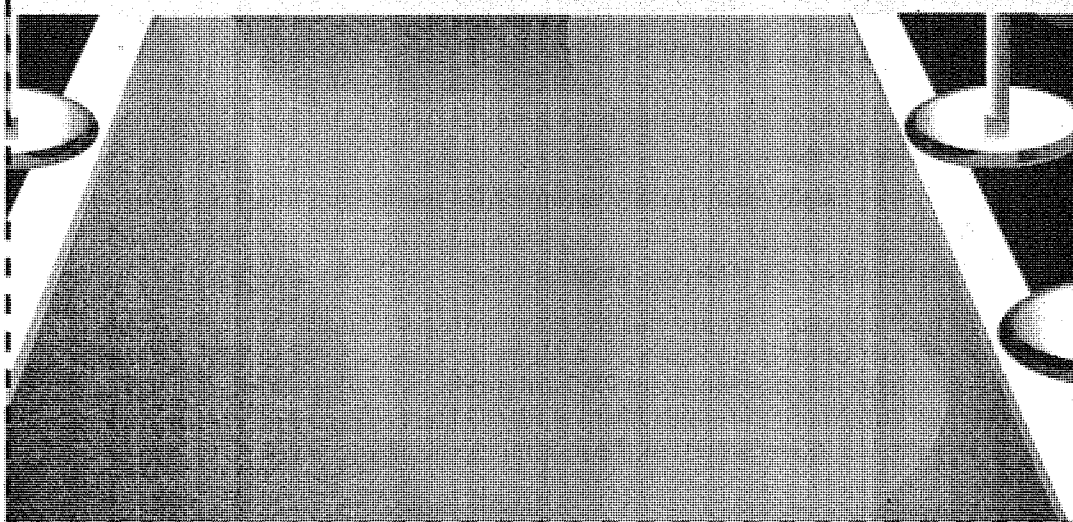
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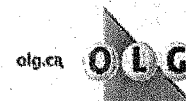
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Westland man faces hearing in fatal car accident

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland man is under house arrest after being arraigned Thursday on charges of driving drunk and killing another motorist.

Thomas Rada, 55, was arraigned in 18th District Court on one count of homicide-manslaughter, one count of operating with a suspended license causing death, operating under the influence of alcohol causing a death and

drunken driving.

Stanislaus "Stan" Zielinski, 69, of Waterford was killed in the June 9 accident on Cherry Hill near Wildwood. Zielinski was driving a Chevrolet Metro Cab minivan eastbound on Cherry Hill when he was struck head on by a westbound Ford Explorer driven by Rada.

A preliminary examination had been scheduled before Judge Sandra Cicirelli but it turned out that Rada hadn't actually been arraigned when he was brought to court July

29. Instead, Rada had been taken to the hospital.

It was the second time the arraignment had been delayed due to health problems stemming from serious injuries he received in the crash.

Prior to the hearing on Thursday, defense attorney Chris Polaczyk told Cicirelli that Rada was unwell and feeling dizzy. A court officer got a wheelchair which was used to bring Rada into the courtroom.

Rada, who sat slumped in

the wheelchair, had bleeding in his brain and a pulmonary embolism, Polaczyk said, adding that he had just been released from his most recent hospital stay on Tuesday. He noted Rada was taking 11 different medications.

"I know we had to delay his arraignment due to his medical condition. He is still having problems," said Cicirelli, noting the incision scars that were visible on Rada's head. "Typically, I'd set a \$1 million cash bond. Due to

his medical condition, I will set a \$1 million personal bond with conditions."

The conditions included Rada being placed on house arrest with an electronic tether and allowed to leave his home only for doctor visits or other medical treatment. Rada is also not allowed to consume alcohol.

Since Rada had prior drunken driving convictions — 1992 in Redford, 1997 in Dearborn Heights and 2003 in Taylor — Cicirelli noted

that a drunken driving conviction in this case would become a felony with enhanced penalties.

Rada had always shown up for court hearings, Polaczyk said, and has support from his adult sons, one of whom was in court with Rada's two Alcoholics Anonymous sponsors.

A preliminary examination for Rada was scheduled for Sept. 9.

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

AROUND WESTLAND

Zumba classes

Ditch the work out and join the party at Skateland West's Zumba Fitness Class 10-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 28.

The introductory class is free of charge and has Derica Wade, a certified Zumba Instructor, as the teacher. Learn the Zumba dance steps for a leaner, toner and firmer you. Zumba burns 500-800 calories an hour so hit the lights, cue the music and lets party on the floor at Skateland West.

Skateland West is at 37550 Cherry Hill, west of Newburgh in Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-2800.

Office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, has resumed regular office hours in the 12th District after taking the month off in July.

Gebhardt, who represents south Livonia, Inkster and Westland, will be at:

• The McDonald's restaurant (27125 Cherry Hill Road, Inkster, at noon the first Monday of the month.

• Starbucks at 36545 Warren Road at Central City Parkway, Westland at 10 a.m. and at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, both on the second Monday of the month.

• Biggy Coffee, 33328 Plymouth Road, Livonia, at 10 a.m. the fourth of the Monday of the month.

Bowling benefit

Do you like to have fun? Do you like to help others while having fun? The head to the Town N Country Bowling Alley in Westland 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, for Light

the Night Bowling, a fundraiser to benefit the Michigan Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Tickets cost \$15 and include three games of bowling, pop, pizza, shoe rental and bowling prizes. There also will be a 50/50 raffle and gift baskets to be won.

Town N Country Bowling Alley is at the corner of Wayne Road and Avondale. For additional ticket information, send an e-mail to hollyshear@live.com.

Volunteers needed

Westland's DTE Energy Community Garden needs volunteers on 4-7 p.m. Wednesdays for weeding and harvesting the food that is being grown and donated to Gleaners Food Bank of Southeast Michigan. The food will be distributed to children, seniors, disabled people, work-

ing families and other individuals in need of emergency food.

Volunteers should plan to bring their own gardening tools, sunscreen, drinking water and closed-toe shoes. The DTE Energy Garden is located at 38155 Cherry Hill but volunteers are asked to use

the Avondale entrance.

Foreclosure help

Homeowners can schedule a private 30-minute one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor from the Wayne County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program 5-8 p.m. Monday,

Aug. 23 at the Westland Library, Central City Parkway north of Ford. Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to schedule your appointment. Space is limited.

The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive

network of certified counselors who will help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure.

For more information, visit www.FightMortgageForeclosure.com or www.WayneCounty.com or call (877) 693-6199 or (313) 833-2948.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

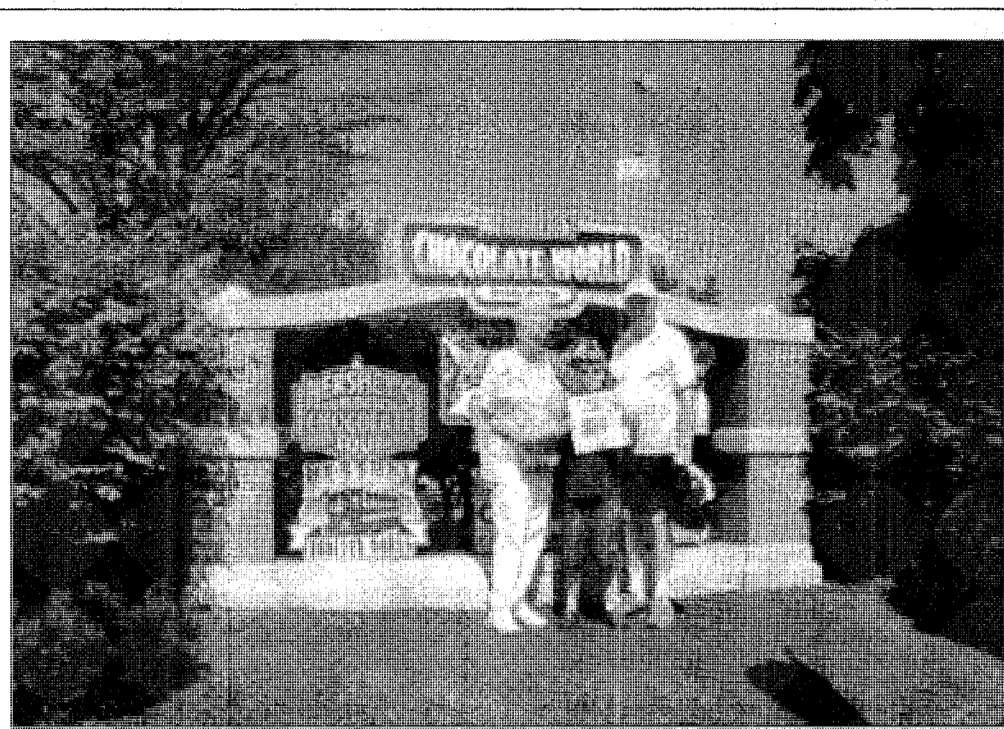
UPCOMING EVENTS

Fly Fishing Club
Time/Date: 7:30 9:30 p.m. Sept. 8
Location: Clarenceville Middle School, 20210 Middlebelt Road Livonia
Details: The Michigan Fly Fishing Club is a non-profit organization

which has been helping men and woman to develop Fly Fishing Skills since 1970. Come join us for the first meeting in September.
Contact: Bruce Kramer, president, at (248) 672-9056 and visit the website at www.MFFC.org.
School physicals
Time/Date: Wednesday mornings, Aug. 18, Aug. 25 and Sept. 1
Location: Oakwood Healthcare Center-Westland, 2001 S. Merriman Road, Suite 100, Westland
Details: Officials at Oakwood Healthcare Inc. want to help get children ready for school, help their parents save a little time and help out with shopping, too.

The Oakwood Healthcare Center-Westland on Merriman Road is offering back-to-school physicals during the next four weeks to ensure children are ready for the new school year. Physicals will be offered Wednesday mornings. Appointments are required; parents can expect to be in and out within approximately one hour. Children will receive a free school supply gift bag after their physicals. Most insurance plans are accepted.
Contact: For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (734) 727-1000.

Baby Shower
Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Saturday, Sept. 30
Location: Robert H. Jones Knights of Columbus Hall, 25160 Outer Dr., Lincoln Park
Details: The Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency is holding its 13th annual Community Baby Shower, a free event for low-income expectant parents and those with infants younger than 3 months of age. Mothers and fathers will receive valuable information and resources regarding their new bundles of joy. Guest speakers will also share information regarding family health and safety, parenting tips and growth and development. To be eligible, parents must be low-income and reside in out-Wayne County (Wayne County, excluding Detroit). Participants will also enjoy lunch, prizes and raffles throughout the event. On-site childcare will be available for children over the age of one. Space is limited and the event does fill up quickly. Registration begins on Monday, Aug. 9, and continues until spaces are full.
Contact: Call (734) 246-2280, Ext. 156 for more information or to register. Callers who reach a voice mail-



Wish You Were Here

Victor and Clare Bianchi of Westland pose with their grandson Kyle and their Westland Observer at Hershey, Pennsylvania for their "photographer," daughter Mary Ellen Proffitt of Plymouth. According to the Bianchis, they had a lot of fun at Hershey Park, took the Chocolate world tour about Hershey candies, visited Zoo America, rode the rides at the amusement park and enjoyed the waterpark on the 90-degree days - July 15-20. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

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BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There's still time to sign up for a new program at the Maplewood Community Center that is expected to help people handle their chronic illnesses.

The two-hour classes start at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18, and continue one day a week for six weeks.

Cheryl Stepanian, community center supervisor, is urging people with chronic illnesses to "take the PATH to better health."

PATH is designed to provide the skills and tools needed by people living with chronic health conditions to improve their health and manage their symptoms.

"As a result, people are better equipped to face the daily challenges of living with a chronic condition," Stepanian said.

Two trained leaders conduct the workshop.

"One or both may have a lifelong health condition," Stepanian said.

A fun, interactive workshop helps participants to improve

their health and feel better, she said. Class members will learn how to deal with the challenges of not feeling well. Besides personally handling the challenges of their condition, they are in contact with health care workers and family members.

The classes are expected to help the participants overcome stress and relax, increase their energy and handle everyday activities more easily while staying independent, she said.

The classes are free due to funding from The Senior Alliance. They will be held at the Maplewood Community

Center, 31735 Maplewood in Garden City.

The PATH Program has a proven track record for helping people manage their chronic illness, Stepanian said.

"The Centers for Disease Control and the Administration on Aging agree that this program is efficient and effective, if you follow the program," Stepanian said.

To register, call (734) 793-1852 or sign up in the office at the Maplewood Community Center.

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Expo offers 'good chance to meet people'



Ann Chaloux of Livonia and Irene Ivanac of Garden City represented Strength & Spirit Personal Training and Massage at the expo.

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Business expos typically have lots of vendors displaying their wares.

The 5 Star Business Group, of which the Garden City Chamber of Commerce is a member, offered something different to business customers and the public Tuesday at the Roma Banquets of Garden City. Gordon Chevrolet of Garden City and Jack Demmer Ford of Wayne brought new cars for the public to check out up close.

"This is the first time that we have ever had cars," said Amelia Oliverio, executive director of the Garden City Chamber of Commerce.

Sheri Barber of Gordon Chevrolet's New car sales division, talked about the 2010 Chevrolet Equinox, a SUV.

"It gets great mileage, 30 miles per gallon," said Barber. "For an SUV, that's pretty good."

Barber said that it is a good feel-

ing to feel, touch and smell a new car. She also mentioned the drawing for free car detailing and for services like oil changes.

More than 50 vendors participated in Tuesday's event.

"For lunch, we had more than 150 people," Oliverio said, calling the participation an "excellent turnout."

Tammy Campbell of Affordable Embroidery on Manor Park Drive in Garden City proudly displayed her handiwork. "Almost anything can be embroidered," Campbell said.

Don Haigh of Firing Line, an indoor gun range and gun shop in Westland promoted the many gun safety and training classes offered. He said that the instructors have a police or military background. It was his first time at the Expo.

"It's a good chance to meet people," Haigh said.

The Firing Line does gun sales and also offers a "Ladies Night." Carey and Ron Dowdy mem-

bers of the Redford Chamber of Commerce, advertised their company, Java Payment Services, in Novi. They help businesses set up credit card processors to allow them to use credit cards for payment.

"We give them the machines to process their transactions," Carey Dowdy said.

The businesses involved in the expo included Garden City, Dearborn Heights, Wayne, Westland and Redford.

For the participating businesses, the Expo is their opportunity to promote their products and services to a diverse group of expo goers, ranging from potential customers, fellow chamber members, business and community leaders, decision-makers and government officials to the general public.

"The Expo is a great networking resource and affordable venue to advertise a company," Oliverio said.

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NEWSPAPER OBSERVER

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GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Open Mic Night

Stop by Maxwell's Arts and Treasures for Open Mic Night 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Sept. 21.

Bring your friends and family to a fun night of art and entertainment. Maxwell's features local poets, musicians and artists in a family friendly atmosphere. Intermission is at 9 p.m. when food is available for a donation. Maxwell's does not sell or serve alcohol, however, bring your own beverage for open mic. No need to sing up early, just show up and stay until you play.

Maxwell's is at 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City. For more information, call (734) 427-5300, Ext 7.

Flea markets

The outdoor flea market season is in full swing at the Straight Farmhouse where people can sell their goods between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. the second and third Saturdays of the month.

Spaces are available inside the farmhouse for \$15 which includes the table. Outside spaces are \$10 and sellers have to bring their own tables. Sellers can register and pay the day of the sale.

The flea market helps support the Straight Farmhouse, home of the Garden City Historical Museum, and the Maplewood Center. The markets run through Sept. 18.

For more information, call (734) 793-1850.

Preschool enrollment

Garden City Preschool housed in Lathers School has fall openings for children who will be age 3 or 4 by Dec. 1, 2010. There's morning classes two days a week for three-year-olds and morning and afternoon classes two or three days a week for four-year-olds.

The tuition-based program runs for 34 weeks. FIA families welcome. For more enrollment information, call Linda at (734) 762-6362

The program is also hiring early childhood staff. For staffing information, contact Sonya at (734) 762-8440.

VA consultation

Are you entitled to federal benefits from the Veterans Administration? Are you applying for federal benefits from the VA? Are you fighting for an increase of benefits from the VA? If you answered yes to any of the aforementioned questions, Project SALUTE from the University of Detroit Mercy has the answers.

On Monday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m., at PLAV Post #166, 39375 Amrhein (at the corner of Echols) in Livonia, free individual consultations will be provided along with a complete presentation of available disability and pension benefit matters. Bring your DD-214 (discharge papers), recent rating decisions and any other documentation which will help attorneys understand and evaluate your current position.

Stitching social

Stop by Maxwell's Arts and Treasures for its Stitch Away Social 6-8 p.m. the first Monday of the month. Crochet, knitting, hand sewing and needle art welcome. Bring a project that is currently in the works, or get some advice on how to start on something new. The cost is \$5 per person.

Maxwell's is at 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City. For more information, call (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7.

Shop online

Help Garden City Schools support its staff and students whenever you shop at Amazon.com.

Simply follow the link at the bottom of the district's Web site — www.gardencityschools.com. A portion of any resulting purchases will be returned to Garden City Public Schools. Products do not cost any more by using the link, and residents don't

have to do anything more than click on the link to start shopping.

Donations sought

Have a used video, book or DVD you looking to pass on? Well, consider donating it to the Garden City Library which is looking for donations of books, videos and DVDs in good condition. For more information, call the library at (734) 793-1830.

Straight Farm House

The Garden City Historical Museum is open at its home at the Straight Farm House, 6221 Merriman.

The Friends of the Museum are continuing their fundraising efforts, selling engraved brick pavers and renting the Grande Parlour for social and business occasions.

The bricks are \$50 for the 4-inch by 8-inch size that has up to three lines. The 8-inch by 8-inch bricks are \$75 and have room for up to six lines of text.

The Lathers General Store is open from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, offering a variety of collectibles and gift items. Call (734) 838-0650 for more information or visit www.sfonline.org.

Office hours

Need to talk with Garden City Mayor Randy Walker? You'll find him Tuesdays at Garden City Hall. Walker will hold office hours 4:30-6 p.m. Residents can schedule an appointment by calling Administrative Assistant Margo Ciecierski at (734) 793-1660.

Recycle for cash

Drop off used ink jet cartridges, cell phones, digital cameras and similar items at City Hall. Garden City Charities, a group formed by city staff, sends the items off to be recycled by Cartridges for Kids and gets cash in return. Money raised by Garden City Charities benefits local organizations.



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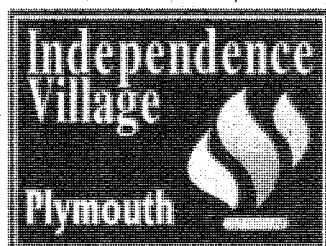
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SPORTS

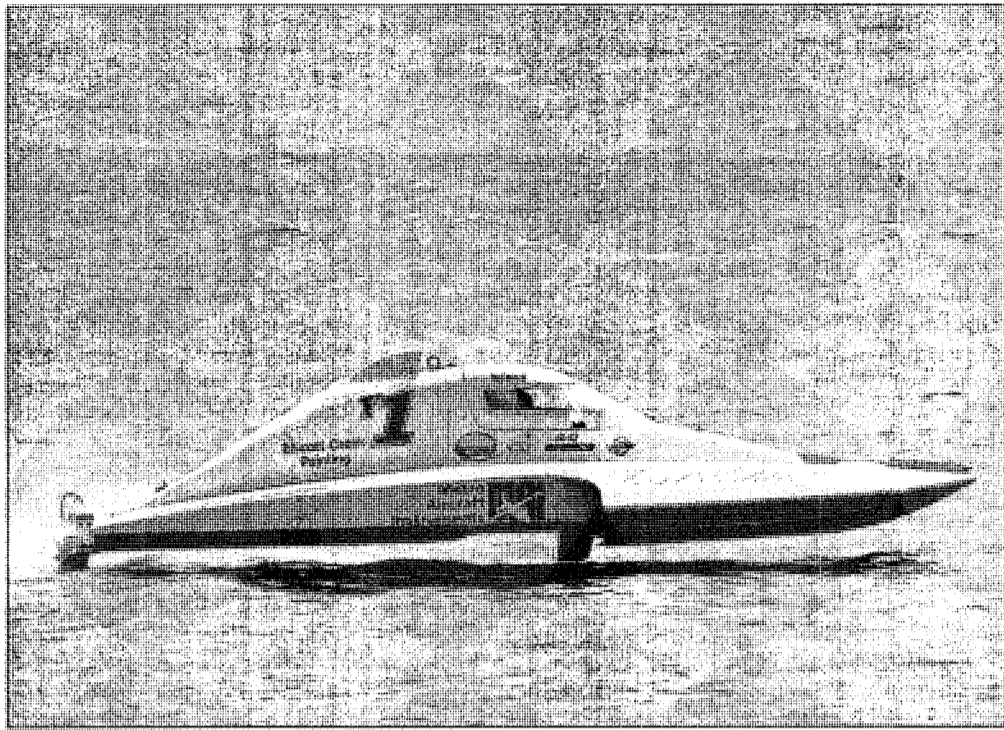
SUNDAY, August 15, 2010

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INSIDE

MILESTONES, B9

HEALTH, B10



Driven by Dan Kanfoush of Buffalo, N.Y., the Fast Eddie II glides over the water during a hydroplane race.

Right on course

Dual wins have Sechler headed for APBA crown

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Following a two-for-one weekend in late July and a little engine retooling, Jim Sechler and his team are running smoothly again on the hydroplane racing circuit.



Jim Sechler

owner of the *Fast Eddie II*, and driver Dan Kanfoush won two more titles and boosted their American Power Boat Association lead with a successful trip to Cambridge, Mass. They won a sixth consecutive Summer National Championship and their third World Championship in the one-liter modified inboard class July 23-25. Both championships are decided in the same race. It's actually a three-in-one event with the Canadian Summer

National title also being a part of it.

Sechler, who resides in Farmington Hills, is not a member of the Canadian Boating Federation, however, so he couldn't claim that title, too.

"The Summer is harder to win than the World," Sechler said. "More people show up at the Summer than the World Championship. Why is that? The

Please see **COURSE, B2**

Xavier marks spot for Spartan center

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite missing his entire junior season, Jalen Reynolds still proved to be a hot commodity among Division I college basketball recruiters.

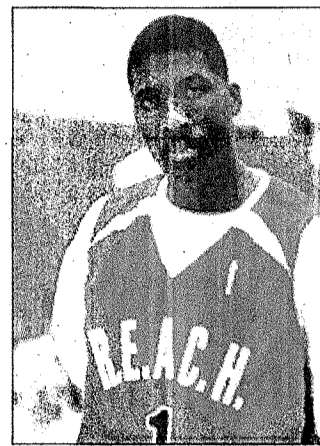
The 6-foot-9 senior center, who will suit up this winter for the first time at Livonia Stevenson High after transferring last December from nearby Livonia Clarenceville, verbally committed this week to Xavier University.

According to Stevenson coach Mike Allie, Reynolds has yet to qualify academically under NCAA entrance standards, but that didn't stop the offers from coming in from such schools as West Virginia, Pitt, Southern Cal, University of Detroit Mercy, Oakland University, Western Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Duquesne and Providence. "He had about 10 to 12 (offers)," Allie said. "He thought Xavier was the right fit and he loved everything he saw there. He liked the smaller campus. He knew what he wanted and he didn't want to waste everybody's time."

Reynolds made a couple of trips to Cincinnati and Allie took his squad to a team camp hosted by Xavier head coach Chris Mack.

"Xavier has been to five straight Sweet 16s and they've graduated 79 straight seniors, which is the most of any school in the NCAA," Allie said.

The Stevenson coach said Reynolds' narrowed his final choices down to U-D Mercy



Jalen Reynolds

and Xavier (a member of the Atlantic 10 Conference).

"He could have easily stayed home, but he decided to go away," Allie said. "Coach (Ray) McCallum (of Detroit) was a class act all the way in the recruiting process along with coach (Carlos) Briggs (McCallum's assistant)."

Reynolds spent his freshman year at Redford Union, but switched schools for the 2008-09 season at Clarenceville where he started as a sophomore for the Metro Conference champions.

Clarenceville changed coaches prior to the 2009-10 season where Reynolds remained enrolled during the fall semester. He played with the Trojans through the preseason, only to transfer after his family moved to the Stevenson attendance area on Dec. 5, 2009.

After Stevenson administrators consulted with the

Please see **XAVIER, B2**

SIDELINES

Whalers promotion

Brian Sommariva has been promoted from assistant coach to assistant general manager with the Plymouth Whalers by club president Mike Vellucci.

It's a new position. Vellucci also serves as the team's general manager and head coach.

Sommariva joined the Whalers as a volunteer assistant coach in 2006 and has since worked in a variety of jobs,

including video analysis and player development.

He was an assistant coach at Notre Dame Preparatory School for three years prior to joining the Whalers.

"Brian deserves this chance," Vellucci said. "I have been looking to fill this position for the last few years, and we're confident in Brian's abilities. He'll be assisting me with daily duties and be in charge of our scouting and drafts. We want to stay connected with our prospects, and Brian will be watching those players and maintaining those relationships."

Sommariva will assist Vellucci and associate coach Joe Stefan with immigration and billet issues and player personnel decisions.

"This job is a natural extension for me to continue to work with the coaches and current scouts," Sommariva said. "They know my personality and I know theirs, so there should be a real good synergy among us."

Plymouth opens its regular season on Sept. 23 against Memorial Cup and defending OHL champion Windsor.

The Whalers' home opener is Saturday, Sept. 25 at Compuware Arena against the Barrie Colts.

For ticket information, call (734) 453-8400 or visit www.plymouthwhalers.com.

Dwyer All-Tourney

Connor Dwyer, a junior at Churchill High School, was selected all-tournament team at the National Amateur Baseball Federation 16-and-under World Series hosted recently in Northville.

Dwyer, an outfielder, batted over .400 and set a World Series record with four triples in a game as the Northville Broncos reached the semifinals before losing 2-1 to the Rotterdam (Ohio) Rams. Bronco pitchers Michael O'Sullivan (University of Detroit Jesuit) and Jeffrey Gurtley (Northville High) also earned all-tourney accolades.

Hole-in-one club

Santina Palazeti, of Farmington Hills, used a driver to ace the 116-yard, No. 1 hole in the Thursday morning women's 18-hole league at Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf Course. Palazeti, who recorded her first ace in 30 years of golf, shot a 101 for 18 holes.

MU spikers facing rare underdog role

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jerry Abraham's 24th season as Madonna University women's volleyball coach can only be categorized by one word — uncertainty.

The Crusaders are coming off a respectable 32-7 season in 2009, but that didn't meet MU standards as crazy as it sounds.

The Crusaders, who tied for second place in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and did not win a WHAC title for the first time since 1997, find themselves as a rare underdog role entering 2010.

PREVIEW

"I'd have to say Indiana Tech returning everybody will be the favorites," Abraham said of the defending WHAC champ. "And actually what's very good this year — and it's a positive thing — we have a real talented league. Aquinas (College) is going to be strong. Davenport (University) has a new coach and she has everybody coming back pretty much. The new school (Northwestern Ohio)



Dempsey



Gatt

we played them in two tight games. From top-to-bottom it will be the most competitive WHAC since I've been here."

Three players graduated, including four-year setter Inta Grinvalds and top hitter Mary McGinnis (3.76 kills per game). Two others left the program, while another was lost to academics. But Abraham remains optimistic and undaunted.

"We have a talented team," he said. "There's a lot of newness, a lot of competition in a couple of spots. We're looking for a second middle hitter. We have actually three players that will compete for that position. That a position now that is a major part of volleyball that needs to be defined."

"We lost some size and a few

Please see **SPIKERS, B3**

Catching up with ...

Wayne grad Guess on Irish football staff

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lorenzo Guess was always on the move when he starred in two sports at Wayne Memorial High School.

These days, the former All-State guard in basketball and highly-touted quarterback-defensive back, who later played both football and basketball at Michigan State, recently unloaded his furniture in South Bend, Ind., where Guess now serves as assistant strength and conditioning coach for football at Notre Dame.

Two Men and a Truck never had it so good.

But Guess, now with a wife (Bianca) and a 5-month-old daughter (Nadia), hopes his moving days are over for the time being.

"It's funny," Guess said. "Since I started coaching about eight years ago, I've been in a different state every year. Now I'm trying to stay put."

Guess, who hopes to become a head coach in



Lorenzo Guess

the future, served last season as the tight ends coach for the Big East champion Cincinnati Bearcats, who finished 12-0 during the regular season before losing to Florida in the AllState Sugar Bowl.

But when Brian Kelly left Cincy prior to the bowl game to coach the Fighting Irish, Guess was changing addresses again.

Prior to his one-year stint in Cincinnati, Guess served on the strength and conditioning staffs at the

University of South Florida (2009), Alcorn State (2008), Kentucky State (2007), Cincinnati (2006) and Tiffin University (2005), the latter school where he earned his master's degree.

At Kentucky State, Guess wore three hats — position coach, video coordinator and assistant strength and conditioning coach.

Guess was the head strength and conditioning coach at Alcorn State before going to South Florida in 2009 where he served as the assistant strength and conditioning coach, while working with the women's volleyball and men's basketball teams.

But just after five months on the job, Guess was on the move again when Kelly came calling at Cincinnati.

Guess leaned on USF head hoop coach Stan Heath, a Detroit Catholic Central High grad and his former MSU assistant coach, for advice on his next move.

"He (Heath) said it was an

Please see **GUESS, B3**

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Coach's Corner left stranded

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Coach's Corner/Canton Sports left runners stranded with the bases loaded in three different innings Wednesday during an 11-5 setback to the Des Plaines (Ill.) Patriots at the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament in Lilly, Pa. Coach's Corner, the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League representative finished 1-2 in the 16-team 20-and-under double-elimination tournament. The Patriots, representing the Chicago Metro AAABA representative, stayed alive by banging out 13 hits. Jason Cohen, who had a triple and double, collected three hits along with teammate Brian Konsler in a game played at spacious War Memorial Field.

Kevin Serna chipped in with two hits and three RBI as Des Plaines rallied from a 5-4 deficit with three runs in the bottom of the fifth, one in the sixth, two more in the seventh and one in the eighth. Coach's Corner had a total of 12 hits, but left 11 runners stranded. They also made three errors. "They (Des Plaines) got the crucial hit and we did not," Coach's Corner assistant coach Frank Corey said. "And when we hit the ball hard, they (Chicago) made the plays. "I was impressed with the way they were swinging the bats in the cage before the game and I was worried about the way they would hit the ball." Winning pitcher Joe Uffheil went seven innings to pick up the victory. Jack Kosar came on for the final two innings in relief. Losing pitcher Robert

Fraser (Madonna University/Westland John Glenn) gave up four runs in four innings before giving way to MU's Aaron Saarela, who went the next 3.2 innings. Erik Wright (Canton/Saginaw Valley State) finished up in the eighth. MU's Donnie Holland, the designated hitter, went 3-for-4 with two runs scored in a losing cause. Garrett Rebain (MU/Plymouth) also went 3-for-5 with an RBI. Six other Coach's Corner players had one hit apiece. Coach's Corner ended its season at 32-9 overall. "Overall the kids played well, they never quit and had good intensity," Corey said. "During the tournament we hit .324 and we raised our team batting average for the season to .280. We hit well."

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COURSE

FROM PAGE B1

Michigan High School Athletic Association regarding the transfer, the school followed through on the association's recommendation to have the center sit out the entire 2009-10 season. Reynolds, meanwhile, upped his stock during the spring and summer AAU circuits playing for the 17-and-under R.E.A.C.H. program. He appeared in AAU tourneys this summer in Las Vegas, Anaheim, Calif. and Indianapolis where he more than held his own. "We measured him and he's a legit 6-foot-9 with a 7-4 wing span," Allie said. "The big thing this summer is that he's shooting the ball more consistently from 15-to-18 feet. "End-to-end he probably runs the floor better than any big man around. And even if he rebounds the ball, he's going to get to the other end. "He also has an excellent knack for blocking shots. The big thing is keeping him out of foul trouble." Allie said Reynolds has been working diligently to meet NCAA academic standards since he arrived at Stevenson. "We're hoping he qualifies," the Stevenson coach said. "He's doing everything the right way. He's got a good heart and is respectful of others off the court."

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Summer National is the APBA's biggest race. The World Championship is a UIM (Union Internationale Motonautique) race. After two days of qualifying, the *Fast Eddie II* team was on top of its game for the final heat Sunday. "We realized this one race was worth an awful lot," Sechler said. "There were a lot of bonus points on the line. It wasn't just us. We could see all the teams there were nervous. "We walked over the finish line in the morning and talked out the entire race, where we wanted to be, all the different things, to get a good idea exactly how we were going to run it. "When the race started, we were nervous, but the rest of the class got up to the finish line way too early and had to slow down. Whereas, we hit our marks perfectly. "We hit the start line going full speed. We hit that start and, by the first turn, man, that race was over. All the other boats were getting up too early, because they were worried about lane position and trying to get on the inside of the other guy." After having an engine blow up the first day of the Quake on the Lake July 16-17 on Pontiac Lake in Waterford, Sechler did some troubleshooting and fixed the engine problem. "I had the adjustment totally wrong," Sechler said, explaining the trouble was with the

spring tension on the exhaust valves. "Once I adjusted that, she was off and running. "It made all the difference. We could tell when (Kanfoush) left the pits on Friday, the thing was going to run a lot better." Sechler said they went into the Cambridge race a little nervous in the wake of the engine trouble the previous weekend. "It's amazing how much better the engine runs when you put all the parts in it," Sechler said. "We went in there and said: 'Well, let's see how it goes.' Starting with the first qualifying heat, the boat ran real well." The *Fast Eddie II* is the leader in the race for the APBA high points championship, too. Sechler guesses the lead to be a couple hundred points, but he's not concerned with the exact numbers right now. "We're in good shape," he said. "We've got 10 races in and need five more. One bad weekend or a couple in a row, and people can catch up pretty quickly. But I like where we are. "I typically don't look at point totals. I don't care what other people are doing; I care what we're doing. As long as we're doing what we're supposed to do, then winning championships takes care of itself." Sechler, who won World Championships in 2006 and '08, is in Hampton, Va., this weekend for the Eastern Divisional — the last APBA title race of the 2010 season.

Prep bowlers hone skills in off-season

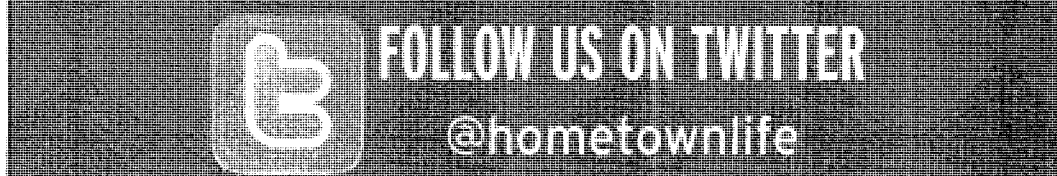
BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's been a very productive off-season for several area high school bowlers. Salem incoming senior Ryan Clark, a first-team All-Observers pick, rolled his second 300 game of the year in the U.S. Bowling Congress Junior Gold Championships, July 14, in Indianapolis, Ind. Clark's 30-game total of 5,995 placed him 61st out of a field of 982 male bowlers. His first 300 game of the season came March 14 in the Mach Memorial Tournament at Oak Lanes in Westland. Wayne Memorial junior Elliot Arnold, another first-team All-Observers selection, notched his second 300 game of the year and first 800 series on July 13 in the

Tuesday Majors at Wayne Bowl. Arnold's 800 set also included games of 245 and 290. On March 14 in the Western Wayne Youth Traveling Classic at Livonia's Cloverlanes, Arnold recorded his first perfect game in a 755 (300-223-222) series. Not to be outdone is Westland John Glenn junior Thomas Brusseau, a second-team All-Area selection, who rolled his first 300 game and second 800 series July 13 in the Tuesday Majors at Wayne Bowl. On June 8 in the Tuesday Majors, Brusseau rolled games of 297-243-267 for his first 807 series. On July 6, he notched his first-ever 700 series with a 268-215-225 set in the Tuesday Majors. Plymouth's Ryan Riva and John Glenn's Natalie Brown, a first-team All-Area pick, also broke the 800 series mark on March 14 at

the Mach Memorial, with totals of 842 and 803, respectively. Prior to the start of the 2009-10 MHSAA season on Nov. 14-22, Steven White (John Glenn) and Clark were the male handicap and male scratch champions, respectively, in the Western Wayne County USBC City Tournament of Champions at Romulus Lanes. White had a total of 763, while Clark finished with a 728. Doubles champions included: Brusseau and Casey Bindas (Canton), Male Handicap Class A, 1,409 total; first-team All-Area Stephani O'Harris (Wayne) and Christina O'Harris, Female Handicap Class A, 1,491; Brown and Alex Champaign (Canton), Mixed Handicap Class A, 1,354; Clark and Daniel Jordan, Male Scratch, 1,375; Arnold and Stephani O'Harris, Mixed Scratch, 1,161.

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EMPLOYMENT section with various job listings including: ENTRY LEVEL 2010 MANAGEMENT 2011, QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER, FINANCIAL ADVISOR TRAINEE, HOTEL HOUSEKEEPERS, INVENTORY/CUSTOMER SERVICE, LICENSED ELECTRICIAN, LOOKING FOR A CAREER (not a job) REAL ESTATE CONSULTANT, MACHINIST, Manufacturing Engineering Tech, LOGISTICS COORDINATOR, SUPERVISOR TECHNICAL COMMITTEES, RECEPTIONIST, MEDICAL ASSISTANT, DENTAL ASSISTANT, CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT, EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST, MEDICAL ASSISTANT, MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, PHYSICIANS WANTED, REGISTERED NURSE/P.T./O.T., AUTO SALES NEW, HANDYMAN, and Recycle this Newspaper.

Wild Cards strike 'gold' in tourneys

In their fourth season, the 14-and-under South Farmington Wild Cards have achieved twice what they could not do their first three seasons. They won two tournaments!

In the past, the Wild Cards were close but never achieved gold. They made it to the finals in three of four tournaments in 2008 but settled for silver. The Wild Cards were semifinalists in two tournaments last year.

In the Frankenmuth tournament at the end of June, the Wild Cards won all three of their round-robin games, beating the Novi Madness Blue, the Livingston Breeze and Frankenmuth.

In the semi, South Farmington beat a good Fenton team, 7-2, behind the pitching of Katie Stimetz, who struck out 11 batters and walked none.

Hannah Long went 3-for-3

with a triple to break open the game. Katie George had two hits; Laura Bruton drove in the winning run.

The Wild Cards defeated the Midland Line Drive in the final, 5-2. Samantha LaLonde pitched the entire game, striking out seven and walking three.

A combination of tough defense, including plays by the outfield combo of Jamie Jeffries, Long and George, and timely hitting by Melissa Schneider, Elizabeth Carlson, George and Stimetz led to the victory.

In their second tournament, a USSSA competition in Romeo, the Wild Cards won three round-robin games with big hits by Long, LaLonde, Jeffries, Carlson and Stimetz.

They beat the Oakland Sidewinders in the first round of bracket play, 3-0, before falling to the Dearborn Heights Wild in a semifinal

game, 4-1.

By finishing among the top four teams at Romeo, the Wild Cards earned an invitation to the USSSA World Series.

South Farmington went into the Pinckney tournament in early July without LaLonde due to an injury, so their other pitchers had to step up.

Carlson and Stimetz combined to help the Wild Cards win all three of their round-robin games.

In the semifinals, the Wild Cards beat the Livingston Breeze, 6-1, behind the pitching of Stimetz and Carlson and the 4-for-4 hitting of Schneider. Marisa Tasky's play at third base stopped bunt attempts and hard shots alike.

In the final, Stimetz pitched a complete game and led the Wild Cards to a 7-2 win over the South Lyon Stealth. Big hits by Shannon Seegert,

Cayley D'Ascenzo and Stephanie Wagner sealed the tournament victory.

The Wild Cards also did well in Western Wayne County League, winning a share of a division title by beating the co-champion Shock in a doubleheader, 6-3 and 8-7.

The second game was a nailbiter with the Wild Cards pulling off a come-from-behind victory with key last-inning hits by Schneider and Carlson.

One of the reasons for the team's success is 10 of the players have been together for at least three years. In addition to good pitching, the Wild Cards had a good defense and two quality catchers in Schneider and George.

The Wild Cards had a 26-6 record with one tournament remaining in Hartland. All but one of the players attend a



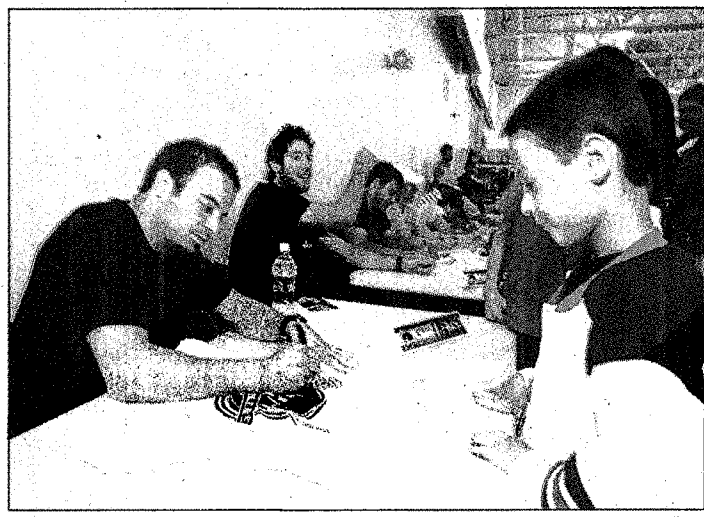
The members of the two-time tournament champion 14-and-under South Farmington Wild Cards are (front, from left) Samantha LaLonde, Elizabeth Carlson, (seated) Brooke Timlin, Stephanie Wagner, Hannah Long, (kneeling) Shannon Seegert, Cayley D'Ascenzo, (standing) Katie George, Katie Stimetz, Laura Bruton, Jamie Jeffries, Melissa Schneider, Marisa Tasky, (back row) coaches Jim LaLonde, Bill Stimetz and Maureen Carlson.

Farmington Hills school. For information on 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U tryouts

for the 2011 season, go to the SFBI website at www.sfbi.org.

It's a winner

Whalers alumni game boosts autism awareness



Besides watching the second annual Plymouth Whalers alumni game on Aug. 7, fans were able to get close up and personal with NHL players such as Carolina Hurricanes forward Chad LaRose (left) and Dallas Stars forward James Neal (background).

The second annual Plymouth Whalers alumni game - played Aug. 7 at Compuware Arena - was a success on many levels.

The event was staged for Autism Awareness and the Whalers teamed up with the Hope for Autism Foundation and Autism Compass.

Not only was information available about autism, but parts of Compuware Arena were transformed into autism-friendly environments, including a sensory-friendly room available during the game, dedicated family-friendly restrooms and gluten-free concessions options for purchase.

Although the White battled the Blues to a 14-14 draw, the action on the ice took a back seat to the smiles from fans and alumni throughout the afternoon.

An autograph session with the Whalers alumni set for 2:30 p.m. lasted a little more than two hours as fans lined up around the seating area and out into the lobby. Although many fans wanted to see NHL players Chad LaRose and Justin Peters (both Carolina), David Legwand (Nashville), James Wisniewski (New York Islanders), James Neal (Dallas) and Jared Boll (Columbus), many others re-connected with former captains Randy Fitzgerald, Mike Morrone, AJ Jenks, Andrew Taylor and Chris Terry and others.

According to Rob Mason, who attended the game with his daughter (Schoolcraft College student Alanna), the event provided fans a great opportunity on several levels.

"This is a great event," Mason said. "Not only is this an opportunity to meet and get autographs with NHL-star players - and certainly

some of them here are rising stars - but for \$10 you get an opportunity to see a game in a few moments that is going to charity.

"Not only that, you show your tickets stub and you'll receive a free ticket for the Whalers home opener (Sept. 25 against Barrie). This is a \$10 bargain in a day when people are looking for bargains."

Mason and his daughter spent ten solid minutes visiting with Boll before the game.

"It was really nice," Mason said. "My daughter is a huge fan of his and she was hoping for this opportunity. He's a very nice young man."

Chiming in was Dearborn's Ken Redpath, describing the event as "good hockey and good entertainment. I came here today to see Mike Morrone. I started following the team at Joe Louis Arena and I've been coming ever since."

Whether it was participating in the autograph session, playing the game or visiting afterwards in CJ's Brewing Company, all the players enjoyed themselves.

At one table at CJ's, NHL Whalers Chad LaRose, James Neal, Justin Peters and Boll traded stories with J.D. Eaton and Jeff Gardiner, both of whom played during the early days of the franchise.

Goaltender Jason Saal, who backstopped the Whalers to an OHL championship in 1995 when they were known as the Detroit Junior Red Wings, traveled from Augusta, Ga. to play in the game.

"I look forward to being back in the locker room," Saal told the Augusta Examiner. "That's what I miss the most about hockey. Just being in the locker room after the game, after and before practice. Hanging out with the guys, the camaraderie is the biggest thing."

SPIKERS

FROM PAGE B1

players that aren't returning, but I think we're fast and we're athletic. And we do have a talented group coming back."

Outside hitter Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) and defensive specialist Anna Gatt (Livonia Churchill) are the lone senior returnees.

The 5-foot-8 Dempsey sparked last season en route to All-WHAC honors. She piled up 419 kills (3.2 per game) and led the Crusaders in digs with a total of 385 (2.94 per game).

"We have a lot of new players coming in and feel like we have some spots to fill, but just enough returning players to get things going. It should be good," Dempsey said. "I'm going to try and assume the same role I had last year. Plus, with new leadership, obviously. Like being a captain

and everything this year, you take on more responsibility.

"Leadership - getting everybody on the same page, same level. Having all the girls be one cohesive group and unit. It's my responsibility to make that happen."

Gatt appeared in all 39 matches last year as a back row specialist.

"We had three girls quit on us, so we're hoping the three freshmen who come in will step up their game and compete. I can't give you a take on the season right now. It will be one extreme or the other. I feel we'll really, really be good, or so-so.

"Liz and I are the two seniors. We're going to take on a leadership role and try to lead this team to at least Nationals, which we didn't do last year."

Starter Karie Altman, a 6-foot junior middle hitter, averaged 2.54 kills per game and had a team-high

110 blocks.

Other returnees include junior defensive specialist Emanda Koszela, who finished with a team-best 605 digs (4.14 per game); junior outside hitter Megan Fricke; and two Latvian players who saw limited action last year as freshmen - 6-foot outside hitter Anastasija Baranovska and 5-11 outside hitter Anastasija Seremetjeva.

Meanwhile, sophomore Evia Prieditis (Milford) is the heir apparent to Grinvalds at setter.

"The last setter, Inta Grinvalds, was an All-American and she started every game for four years," Abraham said. "This is going to be new, but Evia was a red-shirt freshman, so she wasn't just coming out of high school. Evia is talented and does a lot of great things. She can attack the ball from the front row. She has a nice tip shot. She had a chance to play

in the spring and has been working with us in the offseason here. I'm very excited about her actually. She's learned a lot behind Inta, practiced every day with Inta last year. She just didn't play in games. She doesn't have college experience yet as far as actual games, but she's played a year with us."

Three freshmen are also expected to get ample opportunities to showcase their skills include 6-3 first-team All-Observer middle hitter Emilie Freeman (Lutheran High Westland), 5-10 outside hitter Lauren Mora (Grand Blanc) and 5-9 freshman outside hitter Jess Martin (Howell/Greenwood H.S., Ky.).

"We had three girls quit on us so we're hoping the freshmen will step up their game and compete," Gatt said. "I haven't seen Jess play, but Emilie (Freeman) is really tall. She'll be great at the net. She's like 6-4.

Three freshmen are also expected to get ample opportunities to showcase their skills include 6-3 first-team All-Observer middle hitter Emilie Freeman (Lutheran High Westland), 5-10 outside hitter Lauren Mora (Grand Blanc) and 5-9 freshman outside hitter Jess Martin (Howell/Greenwood H.S., Ky.).

She's just got to get her footwork down and she'll be an all-star, I can see that now.

"Lauren (Mora) is really eager to learn. I remember during practices she'd be asking 'coach,' after every break: 'What am I doing wrong? What do I do to fix this?' And that's great to see with a freshman."

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GUESS

FROM PAGE B1

opportunity that I couldn't turn down and, actually, he helped me make the decision after I got the interview," Guess said.

Last January, Guess migrated to South Bend and has come away impressed with his new surroundings.

"It's a nice place," he said. "They have premier athletic facilities. At Cincinnati we had no indoor practice field, so we had to practice in the snow for our bowl game. They (Notre Dame) have everything you need, and every resource that we're using, to be successful."

Guess has been around a lot of great collegiate coaches during his career, both as a player and a coach. He played basketball two seasons under Tom Izzo (going to the 1999 Final Four) and Tom Crean (Marquette/Indiana), and spent three years with Saban (now with Alabama).

And now he is working under Kelly at Notre Dame. "Coach Kelly is a good motivator," Guess said. "He's up front and he'll let you know how he feels - good or bad. He's not going to sugarcoat things, but he's not going to

hold a grudge either.

"He's extremely detailed, whether it's the coaches, players or anybody connected with the football program. Nick Saban was extremely detail-oriented, too. When coach Kelly says it's six inches, it's not six-and-a-half or five-and-a-half. It's six. It's his way and it has to be perfect."

Guess works alongside Notre Dame head strength and conditioning football coach Paul Longo (a Wayne State University grad) along with another assistant, Jake Flynn.

His job description does not involve any coaching or recruiting as stipulated under NCAA guidelines. "My job in the weight room is to help our guys get bigger, stronger, faster," Guess said. "It's going pretty well. We have a little bit bigger players than we had at Cincinnati. During the season, usually our guys lift twice a week, and the younger guys who are not playing come in sometimes three times per week."

Guess says he remains in tip-top condition and, at age 32, still looks like he can play. "I work out all the time," he said. "We have the facilities, so I'll use it. In the position I'm in, I can't look out of shape."

Guess, who led the Zebras'

hoop program to a pair of state semifinals his junior and senior years, began his coaching odyssey at his high school alma mater where he spent three seasons with boys coach Wayne Woodard.

He also did personal training and played Arena League football before going to Cincinnati as a graduate assistant under then Bearcats head coach Mark Dantonio (now at MSU).

Ironically, Notre Dame travels to East Lansing Saturday, Sept. 18, for a televised night game (starting at 8 p.m.).

Guess, the former Michigan State defensive back and All-Academic Big Ten selection, has been contemplating the return to his college alma mater.

"I've been thinking about it," he said. "I don't know how it will be. I'll let you know after the game. I know all of their coaches. Coach Dantonio was my position coach (at MSU). We'll see when we get there. It will be weird being on the opposite sideline, I know that."

Guess, however, realizes he has a job to do. "When it's all said and done, it's still about coaching 19- to 22-year-olds," he said. "And getting them to play as hard as they can and getting them to graduate."

YOUTH BASEBALL TRYOUTS

Motor City Chiefs

Tryouts for the 2011 Motor City Chiefs under-9 baseball club will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17, and 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 21 at UAW Local 735 Field, 48055 Michigan Ave., Canton. If unable to attend either tryout date, an evaluation can occur before Aug. 17. For more information, call (734) 377-3123, or e-mail

motorcitybaseball@gmail.com.

Riversharks tryouts

The Motor City Riversharks of the Kensington Valley Baseball-Softball Association will host 2011 tryouts from noon-1:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 15, and 2-4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 20, at UAW Local 735, 48055 Michigan Avenue, Canton.

Players do not have to attend all three tryout dates.

Players must be willing to commit to 40-to-50 games including weekends and tournaments, with the schedule running from April through July.

To pre-register or for more information, contact coach Bill Boyd - (734) 718-7782; motorcityriversharks@gmail.com.

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Bringin' it home: Jazz flourishes in unlikely venue

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Jazz pianist Sven Anderson plays a gig at a "hang" every fourth Tuesday night in Plymouth.

"It's like a living room. It's got a fireplace and all these sofas," said Anderson, describing the scene. "The drinks are inexpensive. It's got a whole other thing going on as opposed to other night clubs in the area. I wouldn't even call it a night club. It's a club, but it's open to the public."

What jazz musicians like Anderson call "a hang," club members know as Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780. And that Tuesday night gig is a free monthly jazz performance designed to both acquaint the public with the art form, while stirring up interest in the lodge and its charitable programs.

The idea seems to be working.

"We started this in April and it's starting to build," said Byron Taylor of Plymouth, who created the concert series and recruited Anderson and his trio to perform every fourth Tuesday.

"We fixed the room up real nice and we decided, 'let's try something different.' Why not get something going to help build the Elk image? I've been an Elk for over 20 years. I love the Elks. We do a lot of good things. We're always looking for younger members to join the club. The more this



Jazz pianist Sven Anderson is a regular at the Plymouth Elks Club's fourth Tuesday concerts. That's band member Rob Emanuel on drums.

builds and the more members we get, the more we can help veterans, handicapped people, and kids."

INEXPENSIVE FUN

Taylor said the Tuesday night series has drawn several music lovers who subsequently joined the club.

"Young people today are looking for more than jumping around on the dance floor. This is a place where people want to come out to relax and enjoy. And one thing about the Elks, you pay \$2.50, not \$7 for a beer. That's why people have come out — not only to support the music, but they come to have a reasonably priced night out."

Anderson and his wife, Janet Tenaj, who sings with the band, say they like the

relaxed atmosphere and attentive audience.

"We had a really good time and it seems the audience has a good time," Tenaj said.

RECRUITING TALENT

Anderson and Taylor have been acquainted for about 20 years through the Detroit Federation of Musicians, where the Elks member and retired jazz drummer was a union board member who negotiated contracts, served as secretary and treasurer. He booked talent for the union's outreach programs in schools, nursing home and public parks and became friends with many working musicians in southeastern Michigan.

"I'm there (on Tuesdays) because of him, actually," said Anderson, noting their



Ron Kischuk (on trombone) and the Tartarsauce Traditional Jazz Band will perform Aug. 22 at the Plymouth Elks Club.

JAZZ CONCERTS

Outdoor Jazz Concert: Sunday, Aug. 22, at the Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, west of I-275 in Plymouth. The musical line-up includes Ron Kischuk and the Tartarsauce Traditional Jazz Band, with vocalist Judy Cochill, 2 p.m.; George Benson Quartet, 3 p.m.; Sven Anderson Trio with vocalist Janet Tenaj, 4 p.m.; and John Trudell Quintet with a surprise vocalist. Free admission. If it rains the concert will be moved indoors.

Jazz@The Elks: 7-10:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 24. The Sven Anderson Trio plays jazz from Cole Porter to salsa. Free admission but donations are accepted.

Contact: (734) 453-1780

longtime friendship. He and Johnny Trudell, George (Sax) Benson, and Ron Kischuk and the Tartarsauce Traditional Jazz Band all accepted Taylor's invitation to perform at an outdoor concert Aug. 22 on

the Plymouth Elks Club grounds.

"It's really friendship is what this boils down to," said Kischuk, who heard about the event through Trudell. "People you work with for years want to try

something different. You find a way to make it work. Yes, it's about the art, the music, but it's also about community."

The concert is free, although beverages and food will be available for purchase. The show will move into the club if it rains.

"It's our first try and we'd love to see the place packed," Taylor said, adding that if it's successful, the concert may expand to an all-day or two-day event next year.

For more about the Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, and its many programs, including Friday night fish fries and philanthropic outreach, visit http://plymouth_elks1780.tripod.com; (734) 453-1780.

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Let's get visual, visual: Arts group is on the move

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) this month will pack up and head to a location with more convenient parking and better visibility at New Five Village Shopping Center.

The organization, which offers classes, art exhibits and guest speakers at its monthly meetings, currently rents space in the Dickinson Center, a Livonia Public Schools building that houses special education services and community education classes. The school board voted in late June to close the building to save on expenditures.

The district had leased space to the group since 1983, but didn't have another room available, said Dorothy Amberger, VAAL board member.

"We had to start looking around. We're not for profit, so we couldn't afford a lot. Because of the economy this (new location) became available to us at a lower price."

It's just in time for the organization's fall class session that starts Sept. 7.

"We're in the process of packing up old place and cleaning up the new place which needs little spiffing up."

Summer workshops and classes will continue at Dickinson, located on

Newburgh just north of Six Mile, through Aug. 27. VAAL must vacate the space by Aug. 30.

"We didn't want to cancel any classes. We'll work around people with packing and so forth," Amberger said. "People volunteered to help with packing and cleaning and we'll have a mover to move everything."

SPRUCING UP

She said the new space needs a little TLC — a coat of paint, some cleaning and possibly new carpeting — before fall classes start.

The building formerly housed a tobacco shop and includes what Amberger sus-

pects was a cigar humidor because its walls are covered in cork.

"We're going to use that room, probably take the doors off and just make it an extension of the large room."

Amberger said the new site has better visibility than the Dickinson Center space and more convenient parking.

"We're right out on the strip mall. It has excellent parking — lots of parking spots. (At Dickinson) people had to walk all the way through the parking lot to the classroom, which is tucked into the back of the building."

She said easels and work spaces will be set up toward the front of the room, with

storage areas in the back. Water is available in a large sink in the restroom.

"We'll have that visibility to the community. We were thinking we might even have a sidewalk sale of our art some day."

Businesses in the mall include a UPS store, Chinese restaurant, and sandwich

shop, among others.

VAAL hasn't set a date, but plans to hold an open house after moving into the new building.

For information about membership and classes, call (734) 838-1204 or e-mail to vaalart@yahoo.com or visit vaalart.org.

Pet rescues offer vaccination clinic, adoption event

Livonia-based Tail Wagger's Inc., is helping animals stay healthy by offering a series of four low-cost vaccination clinics.

All clinics run 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The first is today, Sunday, Aug. 15, at Sheehy Animal Hospital, 1870 Middlebelt, south of Seven Mile, in Livonia. Other clinics will be held Saturday, Aug. 21, at Pet Food & More, 15399 Merriman, at Five Mile, in Livonia; Sunday, Aug. 22, at Pet Food & More, 3050 Union Lake Road, at Haggerty, in Commerce Township; and Sunday, Sept. 12, at Pet Food & More, 1068 W. 14 Mile, Clawson.

Tail Wagger's, Inc., founder Laura Zain says she hopes "people will take advantage of this low cost vaccination clinic and get their pets properly vaccinated to avoid further health issues."

She said Sheehy Animal Hospital and Pet Food & More are donating staff and services for the weekend clinics.

Distemper, Rabies or Bordetella will cost \$12 each. Bordetella is recommended especially for dogs that frequent dog parks, boarding



facilities and doggy day cares. All three vaccines are available for \$30. Sheehy Animal Hospital also is offering micro-chips for \$30 per pet and heartworm testing for \$18.

No appointment is needed but an RSVP will help Tail Wagger's with planning. Pets will be taken on a first-come first-served basis. Zain expects a minimal wait time. To RSVP call (734) 560-4660 or e-mail vaccinationclinic@yahoo.com.

PURRS AND PAWS

Country Cat and City Kitty rescue presents its first "Purrs



Stella the horse from Berwyck Saddle Club will be on hand at Purrs and Paws in the Park Sunday to help promote the adoption event and craft show.

and Paws in the Park" animal adoption event and craft show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, Sunday, Aug. 15 at Claude Allison Park, located on Beech Daly, north of Six Mile in Redford.

Rescue organizations will offer cats, kittens, dogs, puppies, birds and exotics for adoption. A veterinarian from St. Julians Cat Care will be on hand to answer questions and

special guest Dana Lundon from 96.3 WDVD will emcee. Patty Perushak of Berwyck Saddle Club in Milford will offer horse and rider demonstrations. The event also includes dog agility demonstrations, service dog demonstrations, crafters and vendors, a 50/50 raffle, and pet food and kitty litter drives.

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Haiti mission trip gives Westland mail carrier an opportunity to give back

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Kim Clark of Westland still gets emotional when thinking about her trip to Haiti this spring, traveling to do mission work with her church, Rosedale Park Baptist of Detroit.

"I didn't want to give money, I didn't want to send clothes," the Westland mail carrier said of her actions after the January 2009 earthquake. She went in late April and early May this year with about 12-15 from her church, joined by a few from a Baptist church in Virginia.

She told Westland Rotarians Thursday, July 29, children in Haiti were still afraid to be inside buildings. "They're afraid to go back in their homes," Clark said.

Her church group stayed in a Haitian orphanage, although there were many

Her church group stayed in a Haitian orphanage, although there were many Haitians sleeping and living in tents. The missionaries did crafts work, with Clark noting one woman's gift of a message that scraps and castoffs can be turned into something beautiful.

Haitians sleeping and living in tents. The missionaries did crafts work, with Clark noting one woman's gift of a message that scraps and castoffs can be turned into something beautiful.

One nurse was part of their group, doing basic medical checkups with

the help of first aid supplies provided by two local pharmacies. Health problems ranged from gas due to eating so many beans to rashes.

"Within three days, we ran out of supplies because there were so many people," Clark said. She met a team of doctors who were doing surgeries there, and Clark urges medical professionals to travel to Haiti where their skills are still needed. "They were so excited just to get crayons," Clark said of children she worked with. "They had nothing out there." Children were excited to get stickers, too.

There were small pickups serving Haitians as taxis for pay, but most walk nearly everywhere. Clark said children were clean and neat in school uniforms, although not all can afford school fees.

Her group ministered to over 1,000 children during

their 10-day stay. "We left almost everything we had," she said of her first mission experience. The locals spoke Creole, and missionaries were helped by good interpreters.

Clark didn't see a lot of humanitarian organizations at work while she was there, but noted they didn't see the entire island. She was impressed children dress well for church and hold strong Christian beliefs.

She didn't see a lot of building progress. "There's nowhere for them to put all the rubble. They were slowly building," said Clark, adding clean water remains a major concern.

"One of the biggest things was 'Don't forget about us.'" The missionaries were asked to return for a women's conference, and are working to that goal.

Clark, who ate goat and other foods while in Haiti,



Kim Clark of Westland (upper left) traveled to Haiti on a mission project with her church this spring. Clark is a Westland mail carrier.

saw some damage just about everywhere they traveled. She wasn't worried about violence: "We didn't have to be afraid. They were not that kind of people."

She called her trip a "life-changing" experience. After her return, she volunteered at the Junior Olympics and saw local kids playing with water: "Stop playing with that. Give it to Haiti!" was her immediate thought.

Clark was introduced by

friend and Rotarian Mary Vellardita of Westland, co-owner of a local printing business Clark frequents. Vellardita praised Clark as a single mom who put two children through college working at the post office some 20 years.

"She also has a heart of gold the size of this room," Vellardita said. "She's just a wonderful, kindhearted lady."

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CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeals will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, September 1, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2711-Wildwood LDHA, (Country Court Apts, 5995 Wildwood, Country Village Apts., 34675 Stacy, and Westland Woods Apts., 6051 N. Wildwood)

Request for a variance from Ordinance 248 in order to make major comprehensive repairs and improvements to the three apartment complexes under the MSHDA PILOT Program that exceed 25% of the current market value based upon a recent appraisal required for the PILOT approval and are classified as legally non-conforming structures as they do not meet current Zoning Ordinance requirements with respect to site density, setbacks and minimum unit square footage; whereas Section 5:2.1 states that non-conforming buildings and structures may not be repaired, improved or remodeled in excess of 25% of the current market value of the structure(s) to which they are made.

Publish: August 15, 2010

OE08710429 2x4



Fun in the sun

This summertime snapshot was submitted by Valerie Schultheis, a Garden City resident and Canton Police Department records bureau staffer. The dog in the picture belongs to Valerie and her husband, George. Ghost is 1 year and 9 months old. The picture was taken last summer in their back yard in Garden City. 'He loves to run around the yard playing ball then jumping into the pond to cool off,' Valerie Schultheis said. 'He loves to work and help out around the house by picking things up and handing them to us. He is a true heel dog and is always at his daddy's feet or in his truck.'

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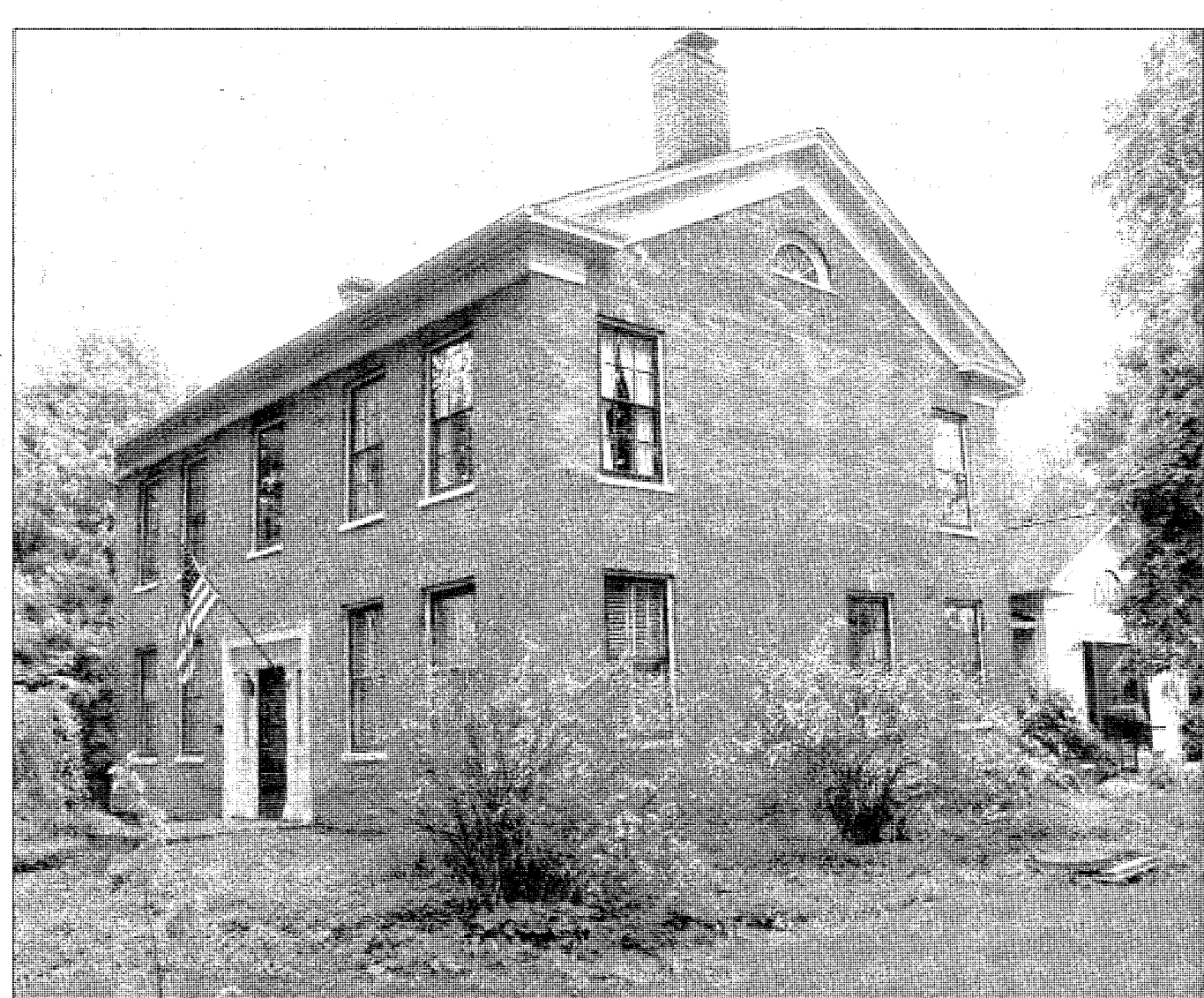
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Historical houses

This 1839 classic brick house with Greek Revival details, the Esek Pray-Van Bolt house in Superior Township, is among the seven sites included in the 33rd annual Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation Historic Home Tour. The tour this year features three houses and a school in Superior Township and three buildings in Ypsilanti. Tickets are \$10 in advance at Haab's Restaurant and Salt City Antiques in downtown Ypsilanti; on Washtenaw Avenue, at Norton's Flowers & Gifts; in Depot Town, at Nelson Amos Studio and in downtown Plymouth, at Saxton's Garden Center. Tickets are \$12 on tour day, available from the Ypsilanti Historical Museum on North Huron Street and Haab's Restaurant on Michigan Avenue. For more information, contact Penny Schreiber at (734) 483-5688 or penny8@comcast.net or Jan Arps-Prundeau at (734) 426-5057 or janarps60@gmail.com.

REUNION CALENDAR

Submit announcement at least two weeks in advance to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Got an old class photo? Send it along with your announcement in jpg form.

Belleville High School

Class of 1971
Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail: BHS.1971@yahoo.com. If on Facebook join the group by searching BHS reunion 1971 40th sign up site; also on CLASSMATES/REUNIONS.

Birmingham Groves High School

Class of 1975
35th class reunion, Oct. 22-23, will include homecoming game, Friday night, and party, Saturday night, at The Birmingham Community House. Contact groves1975@gmail.com or Groves Class of 1975 - 35th Class Reunion, on Facebook.

Birmingham Seaholm

Class of 1970
40-year reunion, 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18 at The Community House, in Birmingham. Visit www.seaholmclassof70reunion.com for information and to register contact information.

Dearborn Lowrey High School

Classes of 1949-51
A joint reunion of all three classes will be held Sept. 26 at the Warren Valley Golf Club in Dearborn Heights. Call Peggy Webster at (313) 383-4699, Bob Rock at (313) 274-8370 or Shirley Vonn at (313) 291-6069. Or e-mail to yankees-outhern@hotmail.com.

Detroit Cody

Classes from 1950-1969
Annual picnic for all '50s-'60s Cody Comets and friends, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 22, Nankin Mills Pavilion, at Anni Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. BYOB and bring a chair; organizing committee will supply music and memorabilia. The Optomystics will perform. Door prizes, hot dogs, bottled water, T-shirts and sweatshirts, tassels and music CDs will be available. Free parking for classic cars. No need to register - just show up. Classmates.com will have information and photos from past picnics. Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134.

Class of 1965

Looking for graduates from the January and June classes for a September reunion. For more information call Tim Dunning at (248) 879-2148 or e-mail to timdunning@wowway.com or call Chris Snopkoski Nashlen at (734) 261-3116.

Detroit Mackenzie

Class of 1962
Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

Class of 1960

50th reunion will be held Oct. 16 at The Marriott in Livonia. For more information contact: Tim Yarde at (248) 573-7147 or Russ and Judy (Mackinder) Sarns at (734) 464-7166.

Detroit Northwestern

All classes
Classes of 1950-51 are sponsoring an all-class reunion picnic, noon to 5 p.m., Aug. 28, at Oak Park Community Center, shelter #2, 14300 Oak Park Boulevard, west of Coolidge, north of Nine Mile. \$15 per person includes food. Call Marlene (Olson) Hanna at (313) 937-8233 for more information.

Detroit Pershing

Class of 1960
50th reunion festivities in September will be held at the Doubletree Guest Suites Fort Shelby in downtown Detroit. For more information call Sherry Forbush (Sharon Bailey) at (248) 994-0664 or Joan Harrington (Mazey) at (734) 595-7508.

Farmington High School

Class of 1970
Planning reunion in 2010. Seeking classmates. Join the group on Facebook by searching Farmington High School Class of 1970 Reunion. Or e-mail Carla Campbell Lehn at dblehn@aol.com.

Garden City High School

Classes of 1950s and 1960s
Reunion events planned for Sept. 17-19. Call Donna at (734) 427-0535 or e-mail to odponte@wowway.com

Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Garden City East

Class of 1964
Picnic, Aug. 21, in Garden City Park. For more information e-mail Karen Medwid Berry at karber@comcast.net or Teri Friedman at terifriedman@gmail.com

Garden City West

Class of 1970
40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland. Dinner and DJ included for \$50 per person. Classmates from the classes of 1968-1972 also invited to attend. For more information, call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254.

Livonia Bentley

Class of 1961
Planning a 50th class reunion for 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail to dbruner@twm1.r.com or call Don Bruner at (734) 524-0979 to register and for more information.

Livonia Stevenson

Class of 1970
Reunion Saturday, Aug. 21, in Livonia. For more information call Sue Ganzak Carnhill at (850) 235-2672 or e-mail ganzakcarnhill@hotmail.com.

Plymouth-Canton, Salem

Class of 1980
Joint 30th reunion with golf outing Sept. 3 and evening gathering, Sept. 4. For more information and to register on its website visit http://home.comcast.net/~1980cantonsalem/site/ Contact the reunion committee at 1980cantonsalem@comcast.net.

Redford High School

Class of 1960
Reunion Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Radisson Hotel Livonia. For more information call Nancy Foster Lightbody at (734) 425-3099 or e-mail to nlaopie@gmail.com.

Redford Thurston

Class of 1970
40th reunion, 6 p.m., with dinner buffet starting at 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Radisson Hotel, 17123 Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. \$30 per person. E-mail to Robin Daszenco Sindici at treasuresoldandnew@sbcglobal.net if interested in attending. Booked rooms also are available at \$79 per night; suites for \$149. Anyone interested in a room reservation must call (734) 464-1300 by Sept. 22 and identify themselves as a member of the Thurston High School 40th reunion group.

of the Thurston High School 40th reunion group.

Redford Union

Class of 1975
Reunion runs 5-11 p.m., Friday, Nov. 26, at Embassy Suites Livonia. Cost is \$50 per person; ticket deadline is Oct. 1. Make checks payable to Joanne Piasecki and send to Reunion Redford Union 1975, P.O. Box 530213, Livonia, MI 48153. Questions? Contact RU75Reunion@gmail.com or Reunion Redford Union 1975 on Facebook.

River Rouge High School

Classes of 1960-66
Reunion starts at 6:30 p.m., Aug. 21, at Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 N. Merriman, Westland. Cost is \$40 and includes buffet, cash bar, DJ. Mail check to Helen Mihias (Tassi) at Hawthorne Valley. Contact Trisha (Pat) Mihaiu, at (313) 843-2415 or e-mail to tmehi@yahoo.com.

Rosary High School

Class of 1966
Planning 45th reunion in July of 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail Pam at Taffitoo@aol.com

St. Agatha

All school
For all graduates, students, teachers, and friends of St. Agatha Grade School and High Schools, members of St. Agatha Parish and St. Katharine Drexel VHS, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Aug. 21 at Capitol Park, 26590 Capitol, Redford. Pack your lunch or bring your grill and baseball/softball gear. There is an area for soccer/football and a skatepark. For more information, or to donate your time/services in getting the word out or by providing something you think may be a welcome addition to this event, contact Jan at aggiesreunion@yahoo.com. Visit the Reunion Web site at www.redfordaggies.com.

St. Hyacinth

All school
Saint Hyacinth Grade School and Commercial High School plan a reunion, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the school's closing, at 11 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 19 at St. Hyacinth Church, 3151 Farnsworth, Detroit. Mass at 11 a.m., school open house, snacks and refreshment. For more information, call the rectory at (313) 922-1507.

Head to party after cruisin' Woodward

The Woodward Dream Cruise isn't the only retro party happening Saturday Aug. 21. Successfully Single plans a "hot roddin' good time" from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Radisson Hotel, 17123 N. Laurel Park Drive, north of Six Mile and east of I-275, in Livonia.

The '50s singles event will feature complimentary appetizers, a cash bar, special icebreaker, rockin' around the clock to Musical Memories of the '50s and beyond, door prizes, raffle and more.

Successfully Single invites guys to grease back their hair and women to don their capris or poodle skirts and take a step back in time. Vintage attire is optional, but party goers who wear '50s fashions are eligible to win a special door prize. All ages are welcome.

Call (248) 289-6406 for more information or visit www.successfullysingle.org.

Be part of a 'flash mob' at Detroit Zoo

Flash mobs are all the rage. They've "frozen" at shopping malls, invaded at least one retail store and danced a choreographed routine at a cider mill and annual Detroit auto show over the past few years.

Now you have the chance to be a part of one at 11 a.m., Wednesday, at the Detroit Zoo, in Royal Oak.

Visitors will "freeze" for three minutes in a flash mob around the Rackham Fountain.

What exactly is a flash mob?

It's an organized group of individuals who choreograph a stunt or action and then perform it at a specific time in a public space. That action could involve movement, such as a dance routine, pillow fighting, or freezing in place. Ideally, onlookers aren't aware a flash mob is about to assemble in their midst. They're not "in" on the joke until it happens. After the mob finishes the dance, freeze or other action, its participants disperse into the surrounding crowd.

Those who want to "Freeze at the Detroit Zoo" should arrive at the Zoo's Main Picnic Grove by 10:30 a.m. for instructions. Regular admission and parking fees will apply. Participants will receive "I Froze at the Detroit Zoo" buttons while supplies last.

The Detroit Zoo is located at 10 Mile (1-696 service drive) and Woodward Avenue, in Royal Oak. It's open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily, with extended hours until 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Labor Day. Hours change to 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the day after Labor Day through October.

Admission is \$11 for adults, 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens, 62 and older, and \$7 for children, ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

Musicians wanted for area concert band

The Orchard Lake Philharmonic Society announces the formation of its third organization.

The OLPS Concert Band will begin rehearsals on Sept. 15. Adult musicians and 11th- and 12th-graders are invited to join the group for Wednesday night rehearsals at the Madonna University/Orchard Lake Center campus, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake, on the corner of Orchard Lake and Commerce roads. The Community Band will be conducted by Joshua James.

The OLPS Symphony Orchestra is beginning its fourth season on Tuesday, Sept. 14, under the direction of Sue Mutter. Weekly rehearsals will take place at OCC, Orchard Ridge campus (off Orchard Lake Road, just south of 12 Mile). Please see the website for instruments needed.

The second season of the dynamic OLPS Jazz Orchestra continues its rehearsals on Thursday nights at Madonna University/Orchard Lake Center campus under the direction of Joshua James. Last year's group "wowed" audiences with its interpretation of the music. Additional musicians are encouraged to join. Check the website for a list of instruments needed.

For more information and registration for all three groups, please log on to www.OLPSmusic.org.

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When a patient comes to a doctor with joint pain, the patient's expectation is that he or she will leave the office knowing what caused the pain and have in hand a prescription to treat the problem.

That succession of events is not what always happens. The reality is that often the physician is not able to tell the patient what the problem is, but rather what the problem is not. Certain clues tell the doctor that the arthritic condition that the patient is experiencing is not life threatening or likely to cause impairment. One important clue is the longevity of the condition. The longer that patient has had an ache but is still able to carry on work and usual activities, the less likely that condition is a risk to the patient's well being.

Other reassuring features are: that on examining the patient, the doctor is unable to find any swollen joint, deformed bone, or weakened muscle, that X-rays or CT scans are normal, and laboratory tests fail to reveal any abnormal findings in evaluation of the blood, liver or kidneys. Such evidence allows the doctor to reassure the patient that no hidden cancer or unusual condition such as Lupus is present.

When the physician completes his evaluation, and uncovers nothing that explains the patient's pain, the physician can turn his attention to controlling pain.

Since the condition may last for a prolonged period, the doctor will try to avoid narcotics and instead use heat/cold, aspirin and physical therapy to control the discomfort. Usually, the doctor will follow the patient closely so if any change in the person's condition occurs, the doctor can quickly follow-up.

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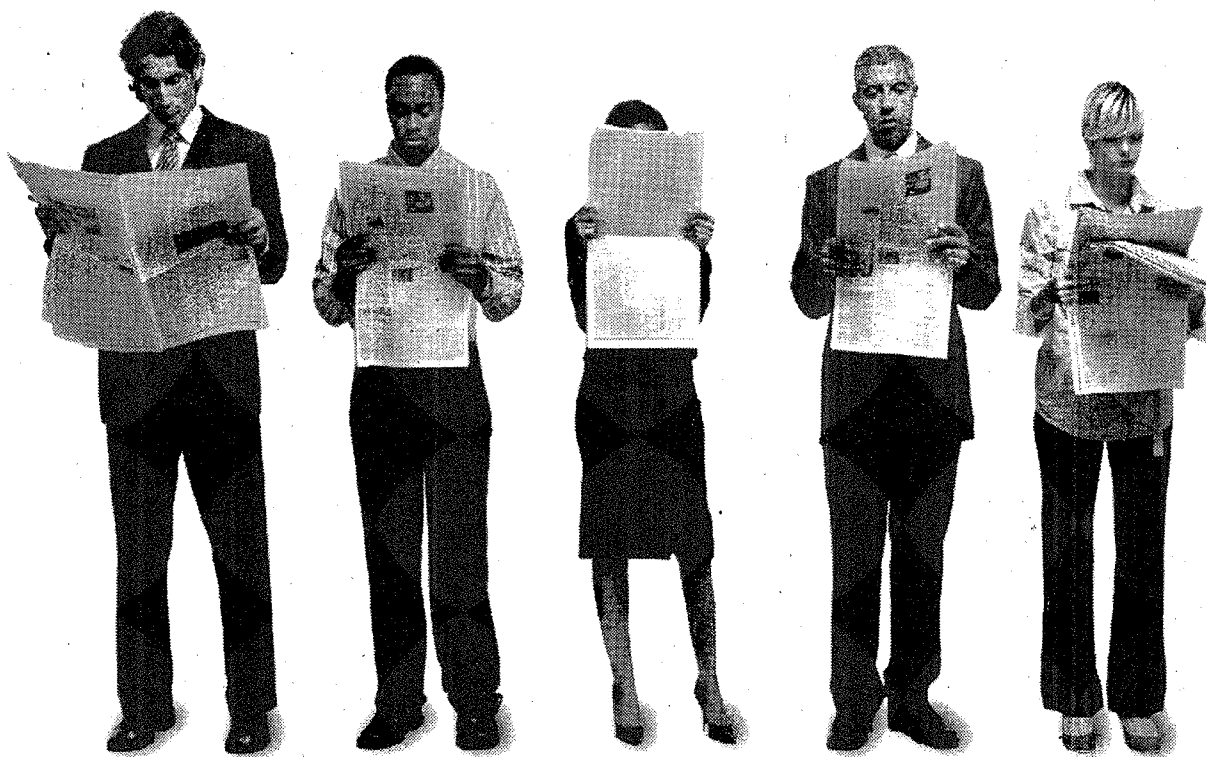
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61%

18-24 year olds and 25-34 year olds who read a newspaper in an average week. 65% of everyone in those age groups read a newspaper or visited a newspaper website that week.

40%

Households with unique visitors to newspaper websites in an average month.

56%

According to Google, percentage of consumers that have researched or purchased products they saw in a newspaper.

52%

Percentage of people who are more likely to buy a product if it is seen in the paper.

TONS

Number of creative options for advertisers choosing to utilize the newspaper. From belly bands, polybags, post-it notes, scented ads, taste-it ads, glow-in-the-dark and temporary tattoos, as well as event and database marketing, behavioral targeting, e-mail blasts, e-newsletters and more.

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Newspapers make a larger investment in journalism than any other medium. Most of the information you already read from "aggregators" and other media originated with newspapers. No amount of effort from local bloggers, non-profit news entities or TV news sources could match the depth and breadth of newspaper-produced content.

This is not a portrait of a dying industry. It's illustrative of transformation. Newspapers are reinventing themselves to focus on serving distinct audiences with a variety of products, and delivering those audiences effectively to advertisers across media channels.

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MILESTONES



Mildred and Jack Barnum of Livonia

70 YEARS OF WEDDED BLISS

Jack and Mildred Barnum of Livonia will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on Aug. 31.

They are the parents of James Barnum of St. Louis, Mo., and Barbara Barnum Quinn of Canton and the grandparents of Melanie, Scott, and Ryan (Jessica) Quinn. They are also the great-grandparents of Jackson, 4, and Annabelle, 1.

Jack was a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army in World War II. He worked for Ford Motor Company for more than 39 years. Mildred was a secretary for Lincoln Park Public Schools and a homemaker.

Jack and Mildred lived in Lincoln Park before moving to Livonia more than 30 years ago.



Mildred and Jack Barnum on their wedding day.



Irene and Robert Siedlik of Livonia

60TH ANNIVERSARY

Robert Joseph and Irene Helen (Chora) Siedlik of Livonia, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 17 with family and friends.

The couple met in kindergarten and knew each other through grade school and high school. They started dating when Robert was discharged from the U.S. Army. Irene encouraged Robert to get his high school diploma. He graduated June 15, 1950, and they married two days later. They had close to 1,000 guests at the wedding.

Robert and Irene have three children, Mark (Sherry) Siedlik of Canton, Denise (Jeff) Berthiaume of Canton and David (Cathy) Siedlik of Livonia.

They also have four grandchildren, Lauren, Matthew,



Robert and Irene Siedlik of Livonia on their wedding day in 1950.

Rachel and Caroline.



Heather and Brad Wilson celebrate their one-year anniversary.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Brad and Heather (O'Malley) Wilson celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary with family and friends recently in Charlevoix. The couple married July 25, 2009, at St. John's in Plymouth.

Heather, who grew up in Livonia, met Brad, an Imlay City native, at Western Michigan University. Both teach in St. Joseph.

They topped off their week of celebration by attending the outdoor wedding of their good friends, Bob Armbrister and Kristen Krause, July 23 in Traverse City.

60TH ANNIVERSARY

David L. and Phyllis (Sutherland) Madison of Farmington Hills celebrated 35 years of marriage with a family dinner at their favorite restaurant.

The couple were married July 9, 1975 at their home in Southfield.

Their children are Ken Madison of Brighton; twins Pam and Pat Madison, who live in Fowlerville, and Texas, respectively; Ron Madison of Westland, the late Laura Madison Langham; Lisa Chapman of Livonia, and Amy Garber of Ann Arbor. They also have 15 grandchildren and

four great-grandchildren.

David and Phyllis are retired. She previously worked as a bookkeeper at Laventhol & Horwath. He owned a scrap metal business and leased cars. Phyllis is an award-winning painter in a senior art group and loves crossword puzzles. David is a dedicated sci-fi reader and bridge player. Together, they love assembling huge, challenging puzzles.

They have enjoyed travelling the United States over the years and visiting their family, although their favorite travel destination is Hawaii.

David and Phyllis Madison of Farmington Hills



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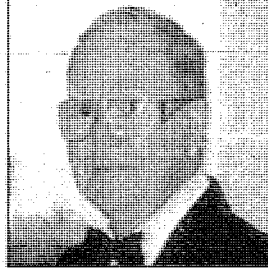
GAROLD F. BOVIA

Age 84, of Albion, passed away August 6, 2010 in Pinckney, Michigan. He was born February 12, 1926 in Gypsum, Ohio to Garold Francis and Elsie Thelma (Bernore) Bovia. His first wife Helois Johnson Bovia died August 5, 2001. On February 4, 2006 he married Alice J. (Wilbur-Shaw) Bovia who survives. He worked as a Letter Carrier in Wayne and Westland for over 25 years where he retired in 1986. In 1989 he came to Albion. Garold was a member of the Marshall Assembly of God Church and a leader of the Royal Rangers. He enjoyed bowling, reading, traveling and especially his family and friends. He is survived by his wife Alice J. Bovia of Albion; daughters Katherine Sue Urban of San Antonio, Texas, Sandra Meade of Westland and Cynthia Brissette of Walled Lake; sons John Bovia of Pinckney, Larry Bovia of Hamilton, Joel Bovia of Clermont, FL and Jeff Bovia of Westland; 29 Grandchildren; 50 + Great and Great-Great-Grandchildren; Step-Children Dianna Browning, Alvie Shaw Jr. and Donald Knisley; a sister Thelma Elliott of Temperance, MI and brothers Roland Bovia and Marvin Bovia both of Toledo, OH. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 1:30 P.M. at J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home, 811 Finley Drive, Albion with Rev. Harry Borsheim officiating. Burial was at Hunt Cemetery in Clarence Township, MI. Visitation for family and friends was Monday, August 9, 2010 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM and 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the funeral home. Assistance with Memorial contributions can be made to: Arbor Hospice or Cancer Society envelopes are available at the funeral home.



CANDACE R. CRAWFORD June 11, 1927 - August 8, 2010

83, of Dearborn, Michigan, formerly of Birmingham, died peacefully on August 8, 2010, surrounded by her beloved family. She was a dear wife, devoted mother, inspiring teacher and caring friend. Born June 11, 1927, in St. Clairsville, OH, the youngest child of the Rev. Dr. Frank C. and Helen (Yolton) Ramsey, Candace grew up in Alliquipa, PA, and later Tarentum, PA. She was a graduate of Tarentum High School (1944) and Oberlin College Conservatory of Music (1949). She was principal flautist of the Chattanooga (TN) Symphony and Assistant Professor of Music at University of Chattanooga (1949-1951), a Rotary Fellow in England and Scotland (1951-52), taught at Brooklyn (NY) Friends School and earned a Master of Music Education degree and a Professional Diploma at Columbia University (1952-54), before becoming Associate Professor in Music Education at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where she concurrently taught at Burriss Laboratory School (1954-63). In 1960 she was awarded a sabbatical grant to study with Carl Orff, who had developed a groundbreaking approach to elementary music education. Returning to Ball State, Candace organized the first Orff Schulwerk workshop offered in the U.S., and soon was in demand around the country as an Orff workshop leader. Today, more than 10,000 teachers nationwide use the Orff Schulwerk approach to teaching. In 1963 she married the love of her life, Jerry Crawford, himself a highly accomplished church musician. They spent 1963-64 studying at the Academy of Music in Vienna, Austria, and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, where Candace was a student of harpsichordist Isolde Ahlgrim. They returned to the U.S. to share in music ministry and raise a family together, living in Pittsburgh, PA, before settling in Birmingham in 1969. Candace taught at Koeper City and Country School in Bloomfield Hills (1971-78), directed children's choirs at First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham (1978-1994), maintained a studio of some thirty private piano and flute students, and taught at the church's nursery school. She retired in 1999 after fifty years of teaching, and often said "I feel as though I never worked a day in my life," such was her love of children and music. As passionate as she was about teaching, she was even more dedicated to her family. She loved to read, knit, sew, play games, attend concerts, and play flute and piano duets with her husband. Candace was a member of Jerry's adult church choir from 1957 until his retirement in 1994, and was proud to have served her church as a Deacon. Her faith and her faith community were central to her all her life. She is survived by her daughter Adele and her husband Kurt Shaffert of North Haven, CT; her son David and his wife Tracy, and grandchildren, Chelsey, Macy and Brandon, of Clarkston, MI; two sisters-in-law and six nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Gerald S. (Jerry) Crawford, and her brothers Rev. Frank Y. Ramsey and Rev. George W. Ramsey. A public Memorial Service was held on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham, MI, 48009. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



LESTER S. BOWDEN

Age 84, of Livonia, MI and Lake Worth, FL passed away peacefully in Florida on July 31st, 2010. Les was born on August 7th, 1925 was the oldest of 7 children. He was the husband of Jane Bowden (Wisner). He proudly served his country as a medic in the 28th Regiment, 5th Division in the Marine Corps during WWII. Les was present on Mount Suribachi the day the flag was raised on Iwo Jima. Les married his wife on April 15, 1944 and spent 66 years together. He was a longtime business man, starting Les Bowden and Associates Insurance Agency in the 1960s. Les loved his wife and family. He also loved caring for their Pomeranian dog, Pepe. His passion was boating, traveling and business. He is survived by his beloved wife Jane Bowden, his daughter Darleen Sweeney, his grand children; Don (Erica) and Debbie (Jason); and great grandchildren David, Aidan and Reid. A memorial service will be held August 17 at 12pm at First Presbyterian Church of Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions made to the Michigan Humane Society.

JOHN J. FEGAN "JACK"

Age 78, August 12, 2010 of Livonia, Beloved husband of Maureen. Loving father of Lynn Smith (Mike), Kathleen (Darel) Stevens, Daniel Fegan and Kelly (Mike) Adams. Brother of Mary Alice Fegan. Grandfather of Adam, Kellan, Colin, Ian, Liam, Beck and Chad. Great grandfather of Kian. Visitation Sunday 2-9 pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia and 10 am Monday until time of Mass at 10:30am at St. Theodore Catholic Church, 8200 Wayne Rd., Westland. Please sign the online guestbook at: www.rgrharris.com

ANN MARGARET (KRUSZEWSKI) HUNTER

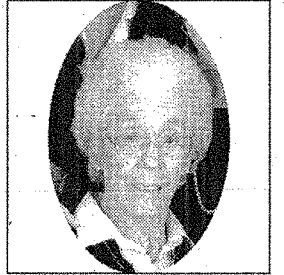
Age 92, died on August 9, 2010 at Marywood Nursing Care Center in Livonia where she resided for the past 2 1/2 years. She was born in Lansing, Michigan on August 22, 1917 to Maria and Stanley Kruszewski. She was preceded in death by her husband Maxwell and her son Stanley Hunter; she is survived by her daughter Patricia (John) Haines, her grandchildren Marie Woolum, Mattawan, MI; Mark (Sara) Hunter, Northville; Kristen Hunter, Taylor; Stanley (Julia) Hunter, Endicott, NY; Inga Hunter, New Hartford, CT and 5 great grand children. She was a member of the Wayne Garden Club and the Wayne/Westland Senior Choir. Arrangements by the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland. Contributions can be made to St. Mary Outreach Center, Michigan Humane Society or Marywood Nursing Care Center.

GENE "RED" RUFUS JOHNSON

Of Westland, MI, age 69, passed away suddenly Friday August 6, 2010. He was born November 21, 1940 in Pike County, KY, son of John M. and Ollie (Hall) Johnson. Gene came to Michigan in 1956. On May 17, 1958 he married Geneva Cross and she survives. Gene worked for General Motors spring and bumper division in Livonia for 25 years, retiring in 1989. He became an ordained minister in 1975 and became the Pastor of the Ypsilanti Old Regular Baptist Church in 1984. Gene was affiliated with WYAA for many years. His fellowship with God, his church and his family were the most important things in his life. Besides his loving wife of 52 years, Geneva. Survivors include; two sons; Bobby (Susan) Johnson and Ritchie Johnson. One daughter; Angela Johnson, two grandchildren; Joshua and Ashley, one sister; Della (Tony) Valerian and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two infant sons, three brothers and one sister. Funeral services were Tuesday August 10, 2010 at the Ypsilanti Old Regular Baptist Church in Canton, MI. Burial followed in Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton, MI. Memorial contributions in Memory of Gene Johnson made to the Ypsilanti Old Regular Baptist Church, 5668 Denton Rd., Canton, MI, would be appreciated. Arrangements by Stark Funeral Service, Ypsilanti, MI. Please sign his guestbook at: www.starkfuneral.com

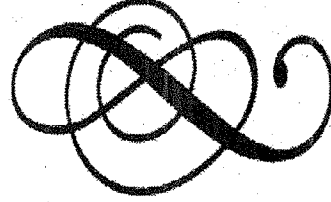
CAROLYN STUART OLSON

Passed away after a long illness on Monday, August 9, 2010. She was the daughter of Shelton and Jean Wright of Birmingham and Pentwater, MI, widow of Dr. Kenneth Olson and mother of Charles (Peter) Olson of Lake Barrington, IL and Nancy Olson of Grand Rapids, MI. She had three grandchildren, Christopher, Catherine and Daniel Olson of Lake Barrington and two brothers, Newell Wright of Pentwater, MI and Willis Wright of Port Washington, NY. Carolyn was born in 1923 in Chicago, IL. She graduated from Baldwin High School in Birmingham, MI, Oberlin College and received her Masters Degree from the University of Michigan. She began her career as an elementary school teacher at Miss Fine's School in Princeton, NJ and the Ogontz School in Philadelphia. Returning to Birmingham, she retired from the Birmingham Public Schools in 1995. While living in the Birmingham area, Carolyn was an active member of the Kirk-In-The-Hills Presbyterian Church. Her father, Shelton Wright, was one of the original trustees that built the church. On retirement, she then moved to her beloved Bass Lake near Pentwater, MI for the balance of her life. She loved the Pentwater area having vacationed there nearly every year of her life. She was active in the P.E.O. Sorority and in gardening clubs wherever she lived. She will be greatly missed by her extended family, her many, many stalwart friends, especially those who helped her through her long convalescence in her later years. Visitation will be Thursday, August 12 at the King Funeral Home, 2370 N. 72nd Ave., Hart, MI from 3-5pm and 6-8pm. Services will be at King Funeral Home on Friday, August 13 at 10:00am with interment immediately following at the Pentwater township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions will be welcomed by the P.E.O. Chapter E.U., C/O Tamara Brand, Treasurer, 322 N. William St., Ludington, MI 49431, who will later contribute to one of the P.E.O. philanthropies. Arrangements by King Funeral Home, LLC, Hart, MI.



MILDRED SHANNON

Age 90 of Canton, August 11, 2010, previously of Pennsville, NJ. Dear wife of the late Clinton. Loving mother of Jane Shannon, and Clinton (Vicki) Shannon. Proud grandmother of Megan Boyle, Daniel Boyle, Molly (Apolinario) Silva, Todd Shannon and Scott Shannon; and great-grandmother of Casey Boyle. Dear aunt of Diane Pack, and Beverly Futrell. Graveside service Monday 11 AM at Lawnside Cemetery, Pilesgrove, NJ, with Rev. Doug Strickland of St. Paul's United Methodist Church officiating. To share memories please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



MARY ELIZABETH KITSON "BETTY"

Age 78, of Farmington Hills, passed away July 29, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME.



RICHARD E. STRAITH, M.D.

Peacefully August 12, 2010 surrounded by his loving family and caregiver. Age 88 of Bloomfield Hills. Co-founder of Straith Memorial Hospital and former owner of the Straith Clinic. Proud veteran of the US Army-WWII. Beloved husband of Valerie J. (nee Salancy) for 42 years. Dear father of James (Gail), Carol Brewer (John, M.D.), Janet Husband (Ray) and Joan Klann (Avery). Grandfather of Adam and Kate Brewer, Brian and Michael Husband, Lauren Straith, Harlow and Morgan Klann. Brother of William (Hope), Jean Hepner (Neal) and the late Virginia Jeffries. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile) Tuesday 1-8pm and Wednesday 10:30am until memorial service 11:30am. Family suggests memorial tributes to The Michigan Parkinson's Foundation, 30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste 150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025 or The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, 840 Third St., Santa Rosa, CA 95404. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

GENEVIEVE LASH

LEXINGTON. Age 79, died Saturday, August 7, 2010, in Port Huron Hospital. She was born November 24, 1930 in Hamtramck, daughter of the late Joseph & Mary "Marie" (Planko) Miciuda. She and Leon Lash were married August 20, 1954 in Hamtramck. Genevieve was a member of St. Edward on the Lake, Lakeport. She was retired as a pharmacist at K-Mart. Surviving are her husband, Leon. One son, Christopher of Lexington. One brother, Cass Miciuda of Sterling Heights. One granddaughter, Stephanie Lash and one great grandson, Aedan. She was preceded in death by a son Mark on October 1, 1979, and a brother, Joseph. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 A.M. Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at St. Edward on the Lake. www.pomeroyfuneralhomes.com

LUANA I. ROHLIN

Age 64, August 10, 2010. Dear wife of David for 43 years. Loving mother of Tamara, Joel and Alexis. Grandmother of Alexander and Jacob. Sister of Dr. Marilyn Van Dyke, Erwin (Ann) Johnson and the late Walton Johnson. Also survived by several cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. Retired as a Nurse Educator from Garden City Hospital. Past President of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses, Southeastern Michigan Chapter. Arrangements by John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd. Interment will be at Friends Quaker Cemetery in Queensbury, New York. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

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St. Mary Mercy helps seniors at new emergency department

An emergency room visit can be stressful for anyone, but senior citizens can find the experience overwhelming.

To answer the needs of an aging population, St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia opened the area's first emergency department dedicated to the needs of senior citizens July 14.

It is a regional initiative of the St. Joseph Mercy Health System, (a member of Trinity Health), but Livonia's was the first to open, according to Jennifer Kennedy, director of marketing/public relations St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, said, "Data shows that many seniors who visit the emergency department have complex conditions including multiple chronic illnesses, are on a number of medications, or have repeat visits. These new services are specifically geared to identify their unique needs, offer a physical environment that is more responsive to seniors and to reduce anxiety.

"Since the opening of our Senior Emergency Department we've had an extremely favorable response among patients and their caregivers, physicians and staff. We're pleased to be able to provide this exceptional service to our communities," added Spivey.

FIRST SENIOR ED

"This is Michigan's first implementation of a dedicated program addressing the emergency care needs and physical comforts of adults ages 65 and up," explained Garry C. Faja, president and CEO, St. Joseph Mercy Health System. "Since its opening, St. Mary Mercy-Livonia has had extremely favorable responses from patients and caregivers, families, physicians and staff."

Seniors often find a visit to a hospital emergency department to be overwhelming due to factors such as loud noise, a lack of privacy and the fast pace of interactions with staff. Poor hearing and neurological limitations often make it hard for seniors to understand.

Jack Weiner, president and CEO, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland (Pontiac), said, "This is a continuation of our commitment to meeting the unique needs of our patients. Seniors have a unique set of situations that affect the delivery of their care. The Senior ED is a program that's structured to meet the particular needs of the senior population and to ensure that they have an outstanding and comprehensive experience."

Pressure-reducing mattresses to minimize soreness during longer stays, soft lighting, noise buffers, reclining chairs, large-print charts and discharge papers, oversized clocks, large print way-finding signs and non-slip/non-glare floors are among the amenities in a senior emergency department. Additionally, items frequently forgotten when a patient is rushed to the emergency department are provided, such as reading glasses and hearing enhancement technology.

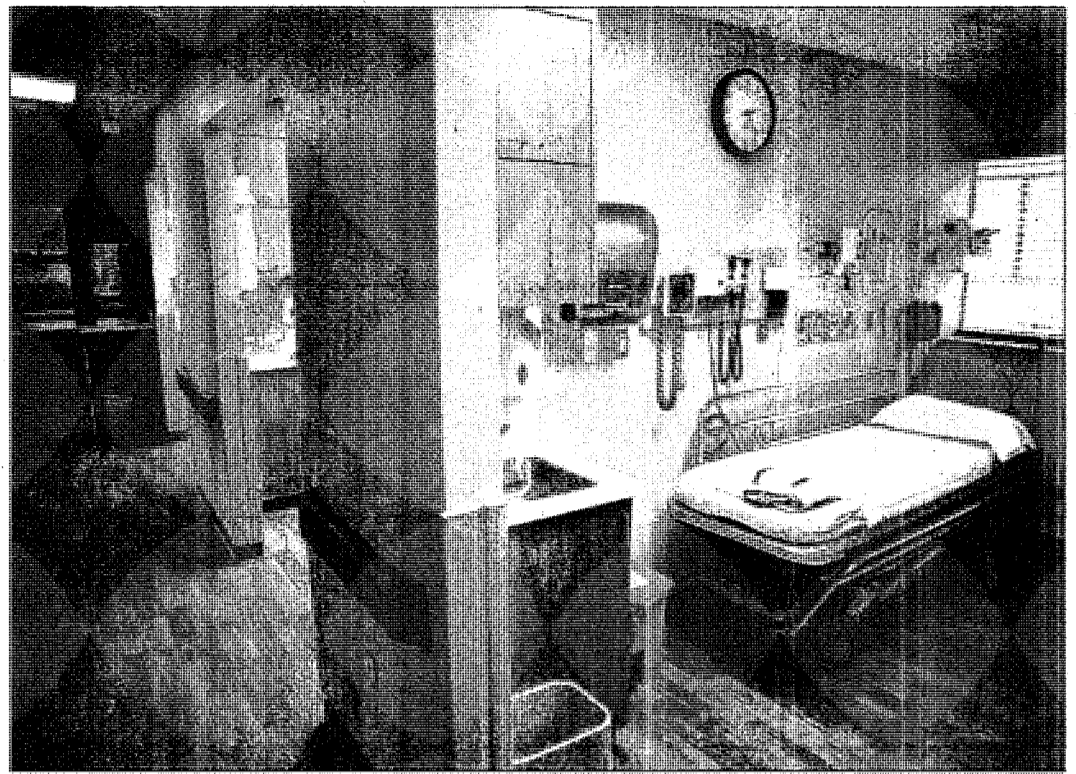
"Our vision is to create a remarkable patient experience supporting the specific needs of seniors, their families and caregivers," Faja says. "Each emergency department will take extra steps to create that experience, which will offer additional comfort, safety, communication and security."

By Jan. 1, 2011, emergency departments at Chelsea Community Hospital, St. Joseph Mercy-Ann Arbor, St. Joseph Mercy-Brighton, St. Joseph Mercy-Livingston, St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland, St. Joseph Mercy-Port Huron, and St. Joseph Mercy-Saline will each have a Senior Emergency Department staffed by caregivers who are specially skilled in geriatric emergency care.

Collectively, the eight emergency departments serve five counties where seniors represent 21-25 percent of the total population. SJMHS conducted market research that indicated 85 percent of seniors and 91 percent of caregivers desire a specialized emergency care experience.

BENEFIT TO SENIORS

Also, emergency care traditionally focus-



The facility at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia is geared to the needs of senior citizens. This is a patient bay.

es on treating patients' immediate health concerns and discharging them as quickly as possible so that additional patients can be seen.

Given the emphasis on speed, older patients often do not receive or understand instructions on what they should do to address their health issues once they return home. In addition, factors such as limited transportation, unfamiliarity with technology and difficulty dealing with bureaucracy may prevent them from going to follow-up doctor's appointments and/or obtaining needed medications in a timely manner. As a result, seniors have a high rate of return visits to the emergency department, leading to high costs.

With this program, medical staffs at each facility are taking additional geriatric emergency medicine training and nursing staffs will complete Geriatric Emergency Nursing Education through the Emergency Nurses Association. These courses allow physicians and nurses to sensitively and appropriately identify and treat patients with pre-existing conditions, multiple medications, dementia, living condition concerns, nutrition and depression. During a patient's stay at the senior emergency

department, a multidisciplinary team will assess physical function, cognitive status and level of risk. The approach will also include pharmacy and social work consultations, which will help seniors and their caregivers develop a care plan upon discharge from the emergency department.

The new emergency department is part of a growing trend to meet the needs of an aging population. In late 2008, Holy Cross Hospital (a member of the Trinity Health) in Silver Springs, Md., north of Washington, D.C., was the first hospital in the nation to create an emergency room specifically tailored to serve seniors.

Earlier this year, Bill Thomas, M.D., an international authority on geriatric medicine and elder care, visited Livonia to discuss senior emergency departments with hospital leadership and staff members. He is a consulting physician on the program.

Trinity Health is the fourth-largest Catholic health care system in the country. Based in Novi, Trinity Health operates 44 acute-care hospitals, 379 outpatient facilities, 33 long-term care facilities and numerous home health offices and hospice programs in eight states.

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