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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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## IN BRIEF

### Splash, splash!

Break out the bathing suits and beach towels. It's time to get wet with the opening of the outdoor pool at the Bailey Recreation Center and H2O Zone this weekend.

Summer kicks off on Saturday, May 28, at the pool and splash park. The H2O Zone will be open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, while the Bailey Pool will be open from noon to 3 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. The H2O Zone is free, however, there is a fee for the pool - adult resident \$5, \$6 nonresident per session, child resident \$4 and nonresident \$5 per session. All day passes are \$7 and \$12 for resident and nonresident adults respectively and \$5 and \$8 resident and nonresident children, respectively. The wading pool costs \$2 and \$3 per session of resident and nonresident children, respectively, and access to the sundeck is \$2.

Call (734) 722-7620 or visit [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com) for more information.

### It's a parade

The Wayne-Westland Veterans Parade Council presents its annual Memorial Day Parade 1 p.m. Sunday, May 29.



It starts at the Wayne Ford Civic League

at 1645 N. Wayne Road, south of Ford. It will head north on Wayne Road to Ford and then goes west on Ford to the Peace Memorial on the lawn of Westland City Hall where there will be a brief memorial wreath ceremony.

Holiday, city offices, including the library, recycling center and 18th District Court, will be closed on Monday, May 30. The library, historical museum and recycling center will be closed Saturday, May 28, and the library will be closed Sunday, May 29.

There will be no rubbish or recycling picked up on Memorial Day. Those collections will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

### MITES winners

Nine Wayne Memorial High School students received state recognition for their computer-aided design work in the Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society state competition earlier this month.

According to teacher Steve Vasiloff, 18 CAD drawings and two architectural models were entered in regionals in six different categories. Twelve of those drawings and the two models qualified for the state level competition. Of those, seven drawings and the two models placed.

Adrianna Williams walked away with the championship and Jessica Andrews was the state runner-up for AD-4 Architectural Model category.

Thomas Rodler was state runner-up with Ronald Rhan placing third and Joseph Brown fourth in MD-18 CAD Rendering-Manual.

Jacob Charron was third and Ian D'Arcy 10th in MD-14 CAD Pictorial Assembly, and Eichard Wilson was seventh and Brown ninth in MD-11 CAD Pictorial Single Part.

## State's new biz tax gets mixed reviews

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As a business owner, Jeff Emerson won't be directly impacted by the elimination of the Michigan Business Tax — his American Gear and Engineering has been in a Renaissance Zone for two years and is already exempt from that tax.

"It would be a great help otherwise but it's hard to say if it will generate jobs," said

Emerson, whose business is located in Westland. "We've been busier (recently) but people have trimmed down — they got lean and mean. I've hired three new people, but I'm definitely rolling the dice."

Proposed by Gov. Rick Snyder and signed into law Wednesday, the new tax plan eliminates the MBT and replaces it with a 6 percent tax on corporations that file a federal return. Owners of some 100,000 firms that pay

the MBT now would be taxed solely on their personal income. The \$1.7 billion in tax relief is financed with \$1.5 billion in new income tax revenue, including taxing public and private pensions. Those born before 1946 would be exempt from the levy.

The elimination of the MBT would save businesses money but Emerson notes he just received a 13 percent rate increase in the Blue Cross medical plan offered to his 46 workers.

"My costs for metals is up, and I have to pay more to keep good people," said Emerson. "Any gain you get, there are holes all over to fill."

By the narrowest of margins and voting largely along party lines, the legislature has approved Snyder's tax shifting plan which Republicans tout as a job-creating incentive plan. Critics view it as shifting taxes from businesses to retirees, middle-class working people,

the poor and those needing state services.

### A NO VOTE

"No doubt I voted against it. I can only hope that the economy is improving and the creation of jobs with it," said state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland. "Some of the uptick in the economy can't be attributed to anything the legislature has done."

Please see **TAX, A2**

## 'She has my back ...'



U.S. Marine Corps veteran Terran Frye of Westland said that he has benefitted from his service dog Hershey.

## Psychiatric service dog helps veteran with PTSD

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Disabled with post-traumatic stress disorder after two tours of duty in Iraq, Terran Frye would feel his anxiety level increase when faced with a trip to the mall or other crowded places.

"When you've been in combat and dealing with crowds, then you come back to society, it's not an easy transition," said Frye, who served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps. "It's hard trusting people. In a crowd, someone can come up behind you. There are so many people, you feel crowded in there."

Now Frye is getting more comfortable in crowds and other places thanks to a four-legged friend, his service dog, Hershey.

"I get depressed a lot and don't want to get out of bed. She helps me feel comfortable going out — she has my back. I can go to restaurants. I went to Arizona and she rode shotgun in the truck," said Frye, who stationed in Iraq for six-month tours in 2003



Jennifer Petre founded Stiggy's Dogs, a non-profit group providing service dogs to veterans, in memory of her nephew, a medical corpsman, who was killed in Afghanistan.

and 2005. "It's amazing to be able to fly again. It's just her watching my back and helping me with crowds."

A black Lab-Beagle mix, Hershey is a service dog provided and trained by Stiggy's Dogs, a nonprofit organization founded by Jennifer Petre in honor of her nephew, Benjamin Castiglione, a hospital corpsman third class, killed in Helmand Province in Afghanistan in 2009.

Psychiatric Service Dogs

like Hershey are taught specific tasks needed by the veteran with whom they are paired. It can include help directing them through a crowd, reminding them to take medication or waking them up from a nightmare or when the alarm clock goes off.

"I see big increases in confidence with the dogs. The veterans aren't as worried as much with the dog. It takes pressure off them," said Petre, who has established a Stiggy's Dogs training facility in Livonia.

"With a dog, they're not looking at the person. Nobody really cared that I was there," said Frye.

The dogs selected and trained to work with the veterans are usually mixed breeds and found at animal shelters. That's the concept reflected in the motto of Stiggy's Dogs, "Rescuing one to help rescue another."

The dogs complete what is called good canine citizen training, then go on to addi-

Please see **SERVICE DOGS, A2**

## City juggles duties following building director's firing

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

About six weeks before a planned reorganization that would have eliminated his position, Westland's building director has been fired.

Roger Shifflett had been a city employee for about seven years — three years as a building inspector and four years as the director. Like other directors, Shifflett was a mayoral appointee.

"At this point, all I can say is his appointment with the City of Westland has been terminated," said Mayor William Wild. "I really can't comment further."

A Wyandotte resident, Shifflett couldn't be reached for comment.

As part of budget cuts proposed for 2011-12, the city's Building Department is effectively being eliminated. In the budget proposal, Wild noted the decline in the need for building inspections, which are self-funded through permit fees.

The inspectors also handled ordinance enforcement, which doesn't generate revenue in the same fashion.

Building inspections were scheduled to be contracted out with residential ordinance enforcement transferred to the Fire Department, which already is handling commercial ordinance enforcement.

The building inspectors are being laid off and allowed to bump into other positions within their American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees bargaining unit.

Effective July 1, Shifflett was to be reassigned as a supervisor in the Community Development Department, a UAW bargaining unit position. He was to continue to be the city's building official of record with the state and plan reviewer for the city. The reassignment would have taken Shifflett from a director's position paying \$86,622 to the supervisor job which pays

Please see **SHIFFLETT, A2**

## W-W trustee says he wasn't talking about privatization

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The P-word raised its head at the Wayne-Westland school board meeting this week, but one trustee said that was not the intent when he asked about layoff notices and bidding out of non-instructional surfaces.

"What I said was taken out of context," said Trustee Jeffrey Hayton. "I'm concerned about shared sacrifices and the \$9 million difference we're facing. I'm not looking at taking anyone's job. I'm not a proponent of privatization, but we need to look at the services we do now to educate our child and what we can do better."

The discussion came as Superintendent Greg Baracy updated the board and the community on the 2010-11 School Aid bill which is being addressed by House-Senate Conference Committee and with the concurrence of the two chambers sent to the governor for his signature by May 31.

Hayton had asked about the need to issue layoff notices in a

timely manner and to look at all employees groups in covering the projected revenue loss. As part of his comments he pointed to the Farmington schools, where a company indicated it could clean its school buildings with far fewer employees than the district employed. Farmington was able to get concessions from its employee group to avoid privatization.

However, Baracy pointed out that in the case of the teachers, there are caps on class sizes in the contract which precludes the massive layoffs that have been seen in other districts. Likewise, the custodians' contract dictates the square footage for each employee.

"We have no extra help, we have no latitude with these contracts," said Baracy. "I think it would be premature. Rather than upset employees, it's better to wait and see what comes down the pike and then talk with the bargaining units."

"We don't have employees sitting around do nothing," added

Please see **SCHOOLS, A2**



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# SHIFFLETT

FROM PAGE A1

\$56,329. Planning Director Bruce Thompson was to assume the day-to-day duties of the building director effective July 1 under the proposed budget. These changes, including closing the Economic Growth Building on Marquette, were projected to reduce spending by \$373,572. Thompson will now take over those addition duties immedi-

ately. Randy Rohraff, a senior building inspector bumping into a new position, has agreed to take over as the city's plan reviewer with the state and serve as building official through June 30.

The city's Request for Quotes for building inspection services included the option for serving as a building official and a plan reviewer, Wild said.

"What will happen with the hybrid UAW supervisor position is still under discussion," he said.

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# SERVICE DOGS

FROM PAGE A1

tional training with their new owner once they have been matched with a veteran.

After learning about Stiggy's Dogs while volunteering at the Wayne County Fairgrounds last summer, Frye looked at the group's website and filled out an application.

"In March, I officially got Hershey. They were looking for the right dog. She was training in North Carolina," said Frye, who is originally from Kansas. "I followed her on Facebook and on the website. I met her (Hershey) for the first time and started training in February."

Married to Michelle, a nurse, and a father of two, Frye is 100 percent disabled due to PTSD.

"I'm not going to be working,

so I volunteer. I do what I can do. I have some good days and some bad days," Frye said. "I have a lot of appointments to go to at the veterans center."

Since getting Hershey, Frye has been spreading the word to veterans he knows about Stiggy's Dogs and hopes to attract more veterans suffering from PTSD to the program.

"I hope in the future to work on setting up things for veterans so that they feel comfort-

able," said Frye. "We need a bigger facility. There is a big waiting list, people need help. It takes a few months to get a dog trained and out the door. We want to train more dogs and help more veterans."

For more information, visit [www.stiggysdogs.org](http://www.stiggysdogs.org). Veterans interested in obtaining a service dog can e-mail Frye at [terran@stiggysdogs.org](mailto:terran@stiggysdogs.org).

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# SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE A1

school board Secretary Cindy Schofield. "They take care of the grounds, they care for the outside and the inside of the buildings. Our custodial staff is the best. Our custodians who live in this community take great pride in this district. These clean buildings set the tone for how our children learn."

Tov Pauling, a shift leader at Adams Upper Elementary School, told the school board that custodians "are working

harder than ever." He pointed out that the bargaining unit lost 18 employees last year with the closing of six schools, has taken "three zeroes" for pay raises and pays 3 percent more for health care.

"We work hard, we're tired all the time," he said. "I enjoy my position with the district, it's challenging and I look forward to keeping it."

Trustee Carol Middel came to Hayton's defense saying that she did not hear anything said about breaking contracts.

"I did not hear him ask for privatization, I heard him ask a question in looking for knowl-

edge," she said.

The district faces a dilemma. Baracy has admitted that Wayne-Westland, with tweaking, could meet the dashboard best practice, but of the four others that are tie-barred to an additional \$100 in per pupil aid, the district's "not even close."

And for practices like employees paying 10 percent of their health care costs, it needs to get several unions on board with wage and step freezes and a small increase in health care that the other unions and administrators have already accepted.

"Some of our employees have

not stepped up, maybe they now see the situation different and see it is more dire," Baracy said. "A number of bargaining units have to step up. When we get the other bargaining units to agree, we can move forward on more shared sacrifices."

"We'd like to do the right thing and do it with the full cooperation of all of the bargaining groups," he said.

Hayton, however, said there's a lot that could be done to solve the budget problem.

"But we're not doing that, we're looking at one side," he said.

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# TAX

FROM PAGE A1

People are more confident and spending more money."

Skeptical that the elimination of the MBT, LeBlanc cites a conversation he had with a trucking company owner.

"He said when are we going to do something for small business — they're dying. I asked what he wanted us to do and he didn't know — something," said LeBlanc. "He didn't know that his state business tax liability was going to be eliminated. I asked how many people he would hire (based on the tax cut). He laughed. He doesn't need to hire anybody. I wondered how many people were in his situation."

In fact, LeBlanc wonders whether the shift of taxes to individuals will have a negative impact on the state economy by reducing discretionary spending.

"I can't see that benefits the economy in any way," said LeBlanc, who had comments similar to Emerson. "The business tax cut is one piece of a very large pie. Health care costs are huge."

LeBlanc also isn't happy with retirees having their pensions taxed, in particular since that money is needed to fill the hole caused by the elimination of the MBT.

"The reason pension are being taxed without my support is because the state had to find money to offset the corporate tax cuts," said LeBlanc. "It's not like that money is to do new and different things. That's \$900 million — about one-eighth of the state budget. For that kind of money, you would expect to get something new and different."

Noting experts on both sides of aisle agreed that the governor's corporate tax proposal is the most unstable form of taxation, LeBlanc said, "Why don't we

want a stability? This is our third business tax plan in four years."

## SHARED REVENUE

Westland Mayor William Wild isn't sure if the elimination of the MBT will generate jobs — he said he's been more focused on the changes in state shared revenue.

Wild is pleased more funding has been added back to state shared revenue which now has to be earned by the governor's three-pronged criteria — a financial dashboard to let the public view the city's operation, shared services with other communities and requiring employees to pay 20 percent of health care costs.

The city's proposed 2011-12 budget is balanced without using state shared revenues — any additional funding would go into the city's fund balance.

"By Jan. 1, I think we will be in line for the first two-thirds of the funding," said Wild.

Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp said

county officials had projected losing as much as \$25 million to \$30 million in state funding for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1, including state shared revenue, funding for mental health services and cuts across other departments.

"It's a problem because we already have a \$100 million deficit," Helmkamp said.

Wayne County already has reduced its workforce by 40 percent since 2003, he said, "and the lion's share of that has been over the last three years." If the county has to absorb another round of deep cuts, "a number of services will be impacted."

"I can't tell you what all those are yet, because we're still working on that, but I'm sure there will be some personnel cuts again," he said.

Staff writer Darrell Clem contributed to this story.

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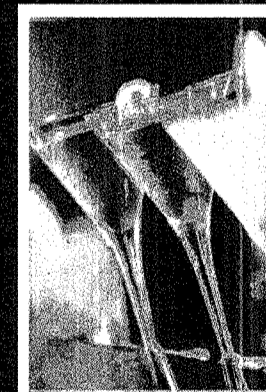
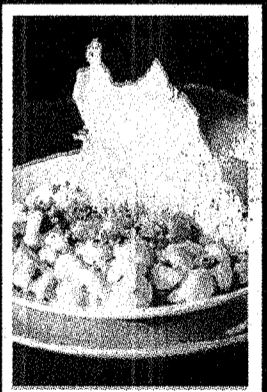
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# Game on: Group raises money for Child's Play charity

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was understandable that Matthew Ramey was talking fast Tuesday morning. Just hours earlier, the Garden City resident had made his mark in the Guinness Book of World Records, spending 31 hours and 31 minutes playing FIFA 2011 soccer.

Along the way, Ramey, also known as "The Mizz," surpassed the current world record of 30 hours and one minute, held by an Australian who set the record playing FIFA 2011 in January.

"I had two different clocks on all the time," said an excited Ramey. "I have log sheets, I have a notary coming in to legalize the document."

Ramey's world record was just a part of a 72-hour marathon gaming session that started at 9 p.m. Sunday at the Garden City video game room. A group of five gamers planned on playing until 9 p.m. Wednesday evening to raise money for Child's Play, a game industry charity dedicated to improving the lives of children with toys and games in a network of more than 60 hospitals worldwide, including Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit.

Playing for donations and per hour pledges, the group hopes to raise \$800. Living on food donated by businesses like Tim Hortons, Mr. Pizza, Lucky Wok and American Pie and downing energy drinks and Mountain Dew to keep



After more 36 hours of playing video games for charity, some players take a break. Napping is Alex Hthiy, while Dan Brooks talks to Dakota Isaacson.



Matthew "The Mizz" Ramey played for more than 31 straight hours to break a "Guinness Book of World Records" record.

going, they were hell bent on making it to the end.

Even Caleb Bond, owner of Gamers Avenue, a gaming store inside the Game Yard, brought in food, treating the players to a breakfast of eggs, bacon, toast and pancakes Tuesday morning.

"I figured these guys were getting tired of doughnuts," Bond said.

"The first Gamers Give Back, we all passed out at 66 hours," said Carl Addison of Garden City. "Last year was 48 hours and we had a larger turnout, more were able to compete."

## CHILD'S PLAY

The group started in 2009 with a 72-hour marathon to raise money for Garden City's annual Santaland Parade and

repeated with a 48-hour event last year. However, this year they decided to shift gears and raise money for Child's Play and surprise Game Yard owner Chris Allers with compensation for allowing them to use the facility.

"There's pride on the line because we couldn't make it the last time," said Addison.

This year's group started out larger, but started to dwindle when one player left because he wasn't feeling good. Another had to go see his girlfriend and a third couldn't get the time off from work. Even Alex Hthiy of Garden City, one of two players "who were on time" for the start of the marathon, thought he'd have to leave early to go to work on Thursday.

"I've been racing, first-per-

son shooters and video games with really long stories to keep me entertained," he said. "I've been playing *La Noire* for 12 hours and I'm not even half way through the second disc. It's a really long game."

Richard Moore was into playing the popular *Call of Duty Black Ops*. It was his first time in a gaming marathon and he said it was as much fun as he thought it would be.

"I was going for a record for driving games, but I realized my attention span wasn't that good," he said. "Actually it was fun watching Matt break the world record."

## KEEPING CONNECTED

Dan Brooks came straight from his mother's birthday party to the Game Yard for

the marathon. He described his position with the group as "mainly a record keeper and social networker."

"I've been going on Facebook and Twitter, letting people know how it's going," he said.

Brooks didn't make it to the end of the 48-hour marathon — he made it to hour 46 — but said he has a feeling "I'll do 72."

"I'm the only one whose taken a nap," he said.

Ramey didn't nap during his record-setting gaming. While he was allowed a 10-minute break every hour, he took just three the entire time.

"I just wanted to get it over," he said. "I won't play FIFA 2011 ever again."

He did admit that his heart was in his mouth when storms

rolled through Monday evening. He held his breath, hoping the Game Yard wouldn't lose power. It didn't and he forged on, scoring hundreds of goals on his way to his world record.

Once the gamers know how much they've raised, they plan to get together on June 6 to pick out things for Children's Hospital from a list on Amazon which will deliver the goods.

Ramey works for Oakwood Hospital and sees the fundraising as an opportunity to let sick youngsters know "someone out there cares about them."

"I want us to be known as setting a world record to help kids in the hospital," he said.

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U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, told Politico he's considering a run for the presidency in 2012 and will make a decision in the next couple of weeks.

## McCotter for president? Reports say he's considering it

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, is considering a run for president, according to published reports.

On Monday, McCotter told Politico he is seriously considering a run and will make a decision in the next two weeks.

"I think the majority of the Republican electorate isn't happy with the choices they've got and want to take a look at

new people," he said.

The Observer contacted McCotter's office for comment on the report Tuesday. McCotter's office responded: "Representative McCotter has nothing to add to the Politico story at this time."

Other Republicans who are running or expected to run are former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, former Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania and former

Utah Gov. John Huntsman. Former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin and Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann are considering running.

McCotter is in his fifth two-year term in U.S. Congress, representing western Wayne and western Oakland counties, including his hometown of Livonia. Prior to his election in 2002 to Congress, McCotter also served as a state representative, Wayne County commissioner and Schoolcraft College trustee.

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## Police identify motorist as illegal alien

### Illegal alien

A Westland man was taken into custody by the U.S. Border Patrol after being identified as an illegal alien during a traffic stop May 22.

**WESTLAND** The officer stopped the vehicle after running its license plate while on patrol and finding that the owner was listed as having an expired license.

The driver, 25, provided a registration for the vehicle and a federal identification card from Mexico. Upon further investigation, the officer said the man admitted living in the country illegally for three years. The man showed the officer his paycheck, without a Social Security number, from Fox Hills Country Club where he said he had been employed for three years. The man told the officer he had no children or other family in this country.

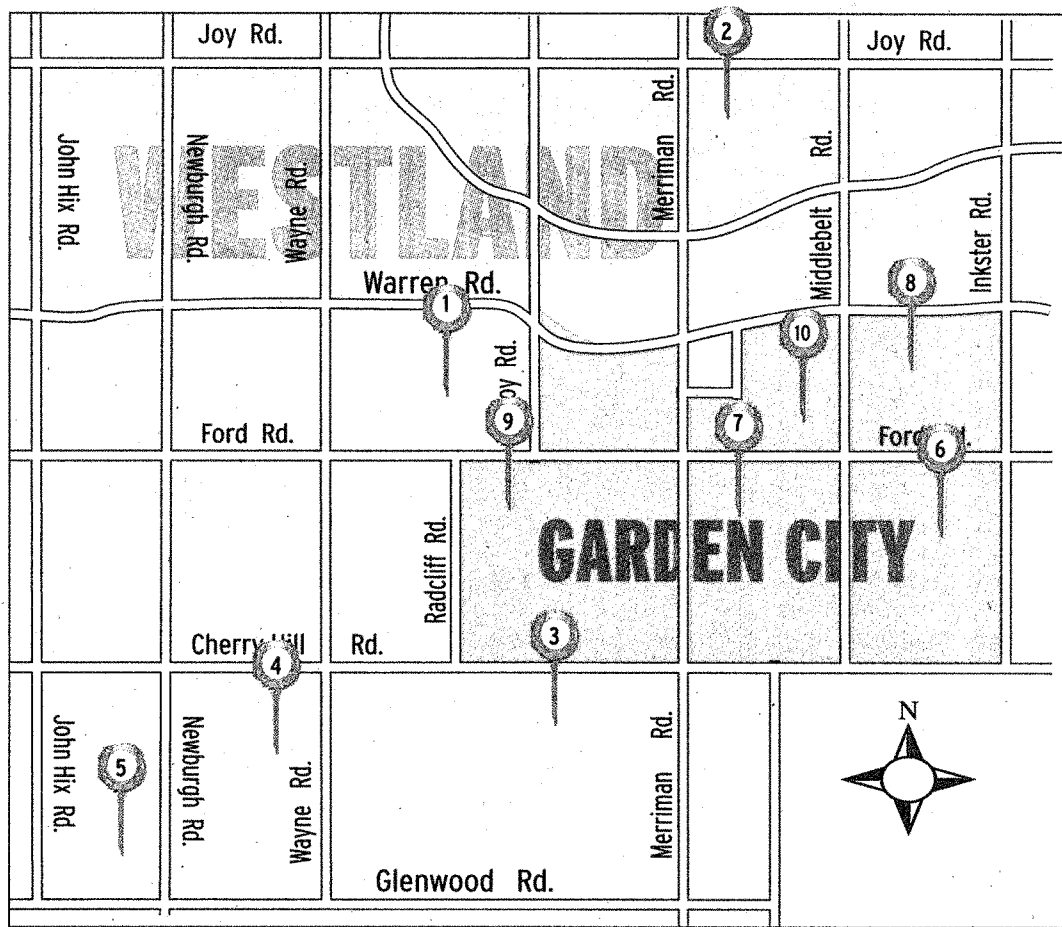
The man was also cited for having not acquired a driver's license and no insurance.

### Break-in

**1** A Breitling watch and a PlayStation 3 with as Tiger Woods game, valued at \$3,400, were reported stolen May 23 from a home in the 33000 block of Lancashire May 23. The officer noted the doorknob on the side door had been pried. The intruder rummaged through closets and drawers but the items taken were in plain view.

### Equipment stolen

**2** A Sterling Heights man told police May 23 that someone had stolen a Bobcat hammer attachment valued at \$10,000 from the parking lot of the CVS Pharmacy



at Joy and Merriman. The owner said the equipment, which had been attached to a Bobcat vehicle, was last seen May 21. The attachment was described as weighing about 800 pounds.

### Break-in

**3** A break-in was reported at Skone's Place, 175 S. Venoy, early May 20. The bar manager told police that she arrived for work to find the heating/cooling system had been pulled from the building wall to gain entry to the business. She reported \$2,781 stolen from a filing cabinet.

The manager said only current and former employees know exactly where the money is kept. A surveillance video showed a male dressed in dark clothing with a hood pulled over his head enter the business and walk directly to where the money was kept.

### Vandalism

**4** Just before 4 a.m. May 24, police responded to an alarm call at Jumbo Video, 920 S. Wayne Road. The front door window had been shattered but was still intact. The officers noted that the rest of the building was secure and no

entry appeared to have been made to the store. The damage from glass breakage was set at \$300.

### Drive off

**5** An employee at the Mobil gas station, 2746 Newburgh, told police May 22 that about 2:30 p.m. that a man pumped gas into a light blue Honda Odyssey, then drove off without paying. The clerk hadn't made a report immediately but reported the \$29.69 theft to his father, who owns the station. The father later filed the complaint. -By LeAnne Rogers

## Resident finds shotgun missing from home

### Break-in

**6** A homeowner in the 28000 block of Marquette reported that he had been away from his home for five days because it was being renovated. When he returned May 6, he found that someone broken in and stolen a 12-gauge shotgun.

The suspect gained entry by breaking the bathroom window and unlocked the rear door to leave. The police were able to lift blood samples from the broken window and a dry-wall sponge.

### Break-in

**7** The manager of Arby's at 30049 Ford reported that someone broke into an outside walk-in freezer before 7:45 a.m. May 17. About \$175 in miscellaneous food merchandise was stolen.

The police, who found a padlock on the ground, were unable to find any evidence because the store employees had disturbed the contents, according to the police report.

### Marijuana possession

**8** The police arrested an 18-year-old Redford Township student at Cambridge High School on Cambridge after they found marijuana in his pants pockets about 7:45 a.m. May 17. The boy was called into the office after a teacher believed that he had drugs. He took out a cigarette, rolling papers and marijuana from his pants pockets.

### Stolen vehicle

**9** The owner of a 1999 Chevy Tahoe said that it was stolen

about 1:30 a.m. May 17 after he parked it at LA Insurance, 32917 Ford.

He told police that he left the keys on the floorboard when he went into the store to pay a bill. While he was inside, he said that he saw an unknown black man enter his vehicle and drive away southbound on Venoy from the business.

The Garden City car owner said that he had a \$500 revolver under the front seat and \$200 in the center console.

### Stolen truck

A resident in the 29000 block of Bock reported that someone stole his 2005 Ford pickup May 17-18 after he left it locked and parked behind his garage.

### Retail fraud

**10** An unknown man stole two cartons of cigarettes, valued at almost \$60, from Andrews Drugs, 29438 Ford, about 5:15 p.m. May 18.

The suspect first put the cigarettes on the counter and then fled toward Beechwood without paying for them.

He was described as a white male, late 20s, about 5-foot-9, with a thin build, spiked brown hair with a scab or scarred forehead. He wore a hoodie jacket.

### Retail fraud

The driver and passenger of a car parked nearby entered the CVS store located at Ford and Inkster, but only the passenger shoplifted some items.

The man stole 10 tubes of toothpaste and two bottles of mouthwash by concealing them in his clothing. -By Sue Buck

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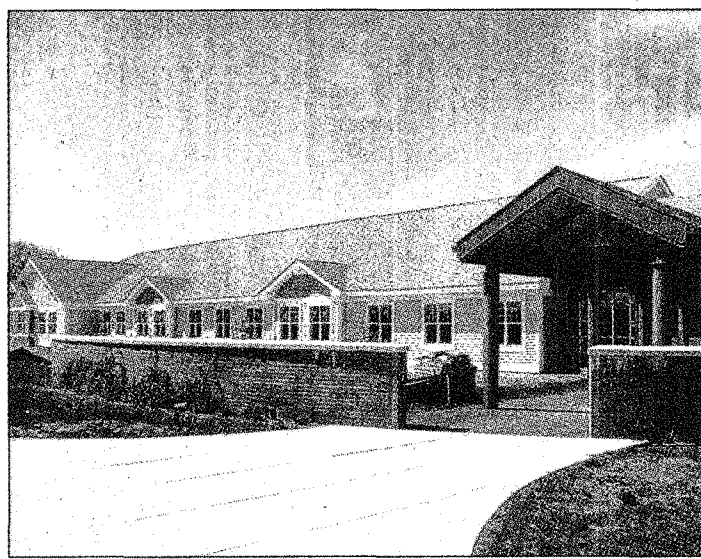
# First Step invites public to opening of new residential facility

First Step is putting out the welcome mat, inviting the community to join the grand opening of its new residential facility Tuesday, May 31.

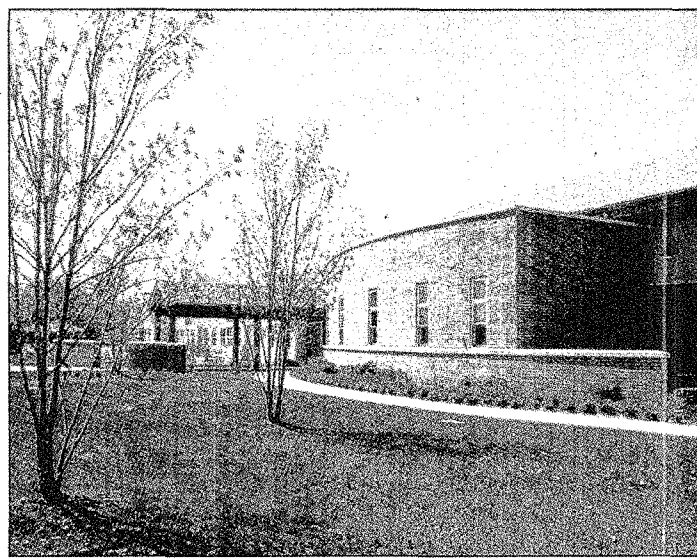
The local nonprofit agency, which provides services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, will celebrate the opening of the facility at 4400 S. Venoy, just south of Annapolis in Wayne. The event will be 4-7 p.m.

The agency began raising funds for the facility in 2008 when it had to leave its location in Canton due to irreparable building conditions. At that time, First Step moved its residents into a temporary location while they worked to raise needed funds. Construction on the new building began in August 2010.

The First Step staff and Board of Directors set out to build a model facility to meet the needs of the community for years to come. First Step offers a safe place to stay and comprehensive services, such as counseling, assault response, legal information, safety planning, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Forensic Exams, and a 24-hour Help Line for victims of intimate partner



First Step's new residential facility has 10 apartment-like suites and can accommodate up to 50 survivors per night.



The new residential facility sits at the rear of First Step's Wayne/SANE Clinic on Venoy just north of Annapolis.

Wilson Smithbauer of Grosse Ile, and a lead grant was provided by Wayne County EDGE, whose mission is to provide safe, affordable housing for low income families. Wilson Smithbauer's name will appear on the building.

"There are so many kind and generous people who came together in support of this project," said Loren Treadwell, Capital Campaign co-chair. "We will be recognizing these people at our Grand Opening Event."

First Step is still raising funds to complete the project. Donations are needed to add technology, furnishings, commercial quality laundry equipment, playgrounds, gazebo/picnic shelter and garage/donation resource area. People interested in finding out more about donating can call (734) 416-1111 or go online to info@firststep-mi.org.

About First Step: First Step is the only agency in out-County that provides comprehensive services to support victims of domestic and sexual violence. Last year, First Step touched the lives of 16,480 people.

violence and survivors of sexual assault. First Step also provides support and services for children affected by these crimes.

"We are often told by police, prosecutors and by the victims of violence themselves, that the service we provide is an important part of the safety net in the community," said Judy Ellis, First Step's executive director. "Many victims are killed or seriously injured by domestic or sexual violence

each year. First Step offers an option to living in a violent home and support and resources to help people live lives of peace and safety." "This new facility was designed to offer survivors a peaceful place to heal from the trauma of the violence and the stress of leaving one's home," she said.

According to Ellis, the facility is built with a balance of

public and private space to help our guests feel welcome, comfortable, empowered and supported. Each family suite has its own private bath, a small living area and a mini-kitchen. There are 10 apartment-like suites, which First Step estimates can accommodate up to 50 survivors per night.

The new facility also includes a fully-equipped

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Clinic, children's areas and program space.

"I have to admit, fund-raising in a tumultuous economy has been challenging, but I am proud of our board, our volunteers and staff," said Ellis.

The fund-raising efforts were led by Loren Wadington Treadwell and David Treadwell of Canton. A lead gift was provided by Karen

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# Westland minister leads State Senate in prayer

A tradition in the State Senate, Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, welcomed local Pastor Randy Bennett of the Westland Free Methodist Church to the Capitol, where Pastor Bennett led the body in prayer before the Senate's session began on Wednesday, May 18.

Pastor Bennett asked that the legislature make a difference in people's day-to-day lives to affect positive change in the state before requesting that the Senators look beyond what is

simply ordinary and do more.

"I ask You to bless Glenn Anderson and all of these Senators as we gather to make a difference in our great land," Pastor Bennett said. "Lord, I pray that even as I stand before this delegation in an extraordinary way and as they lead an ordinary day, so to speak, I pray that You will use them to do extraordinary things."

Pastor Bennett concluded by asking that "every one of us would find our faith in a way

that would be meaningful."

He then recited the Pledge of Allegiance with the rest of the State Senate and stood with Anderson at the Senate Rostrum for a photograph - both are customary.

"Hosting the invocation is one of my favorite traditions in the Senate," said Senator Anderson. "It reminds all of us that while we are here working every day that we are doing so not just for ourselves but for the greater good."



Pastor Randy Bennett of the Westland Free Methodist Church pose with State Senate, Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, at the Senate Rostrum after delivering the invocation.

## AROUND WESTLAND

### Bowling benefit

A Breast Cancer 3-Day bowling benefit will be held Saturday, June 4, Oak Lanes, 8450 N. Middlebelt Westland. Check-in begins at 6:30 p.m., bowling starts at 7 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per person and includes three games of 9 pin no tap bowling, and shoe rental and mystery, cash bar, snack bar open, raffles and 50/50 drawings all night. Bring a team or come alone. Pre-pay by May 27 for free 50/50 tickets. Contact Dawn Downer at (734) 502-4277 or at [downt@doubleexpress.net](mailto:downt@doubleexpress.net).

Proceeds will help Downer raise the \$2,300 she needs to walk in the Michigan Breast Cancer 3-Day Aug. 12, 13 and 14.

### Benefit concert

"For the Love of Chris" is a benefit to help musician/singer/song-writer Chris McCall win her fight against Cancer. Enjoy an amazing night of music with an incredible line up of local Detroit bands featuring The Christina Jensen Band, Panic Trigger, Robb Roy and Pistol Day Parade.

The event takes place 4-10 p.m. Sunday, June 12, at Bumper's Bar and Grill, 8631 N. Newburgh, south of Joy, Westland. The event is open to people who are age 18 and older. A \$10 donation at the door will be accepted.

### Farmers Market

The Westland Farmer's Market is back for a second season. This year the market is being held in the Westland City Hall Parking Lot on Ford Road. The market is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Oct. 25.

People interested in participating must complete an application, which can be downloaded at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com) and return it with the appropriate vendor fee to the City of Westland Parks and Recreation Department before consider-

ation for participation in the market.

For more information on applications, guidelines, or fees and permits, contact Robert Kosowski at (734) 722-7620.

### Spaghetti dinner

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, May 27. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and desert, as well as entertainment, for just \$6.

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

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

### Memorial Day Parade

The Wayne-Westland Veterans Parade Council will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade 1 p.m. Sunday, May 29.

The parade starts at the Wayne Ford Civic League parking lot, 1645 N. Wayne Road, and heads north on Wayne Road to Ford. The parade then goes west on Ford to the Peace Memorial at City Hall.

### Fund-raising events

The AMVETS Post 171 Relay for Life is continuing its fund-raising efforts with several different activities. The team has:

- A bowling benefit 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4 - check-in is at 4 p.m. - at Town N Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Enjoy cosmic bowling, 9-pin no tap. Cost is \$20 of adults and \$15 for children age 13 and under for bowling, pizza and pop. There also will be 50/50 and basket raffles and door prizes.

- An online Avon fundraiser new through July 31. Go to [jfinfrock.avonrepresentative.com](http://jfinfrock.avonrepresentative.com) and click on online events to place your order. Be sure to use the promotional code of AMVETRELAY2011. Team AMVETS will earn 30 percent

of total sales now through July 31. Products will be home delivered.

• Quarter Mania 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, at the AMVETS Post 171, 1217 S. Merriman, Westland.

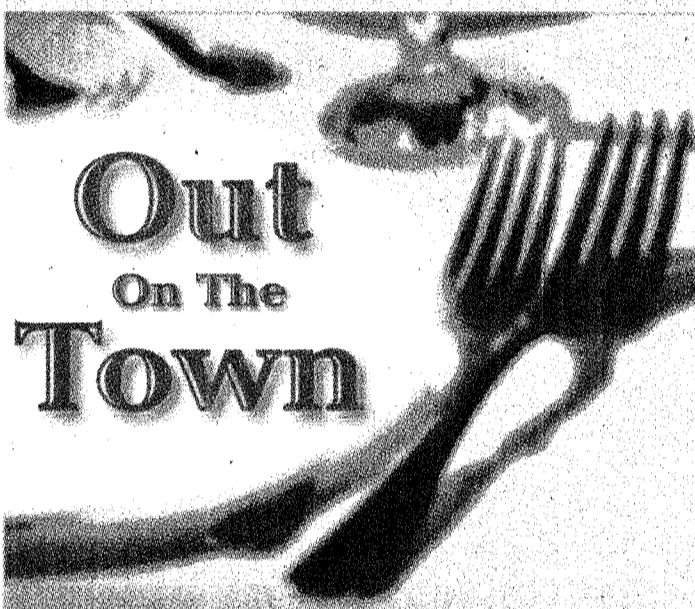
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stop shop and great time to meet your local consultants. More than 100 items will be auctioned off. Bid on quality vendor items with one to four quarters (per paddle), depending on retail value. Once all quarter bids are placed, a randomly chosen number is called. If the person with that

number placed a bid, they win the item. Numbers will continue to be drawn until there is a winner. Bids are collected for each drawing.

Some of the vendors include Scentsy, PartyLite, Mische Bags, Lia Sophia, Pampered Chef, Pure Romance, Tastefully Simple,

"31", Dove Choc, Tupperware and Beijo Bags. Reserve a spot by June 3 by e-mail at [RFLAMVETS171@yahoo.com](mailto:RFLAMVETS171@yahoo.com). Call Stacy Edwards at [quartermania.stacy@gmail.com](mailto:quartermania.stacy@gmail.com) or by calling (734) 368-2765. Reserve your lucky numbers/paddles at [www.quartermaniami.eventbrite.com](http://www.quartermaniami.eventbrite.com).



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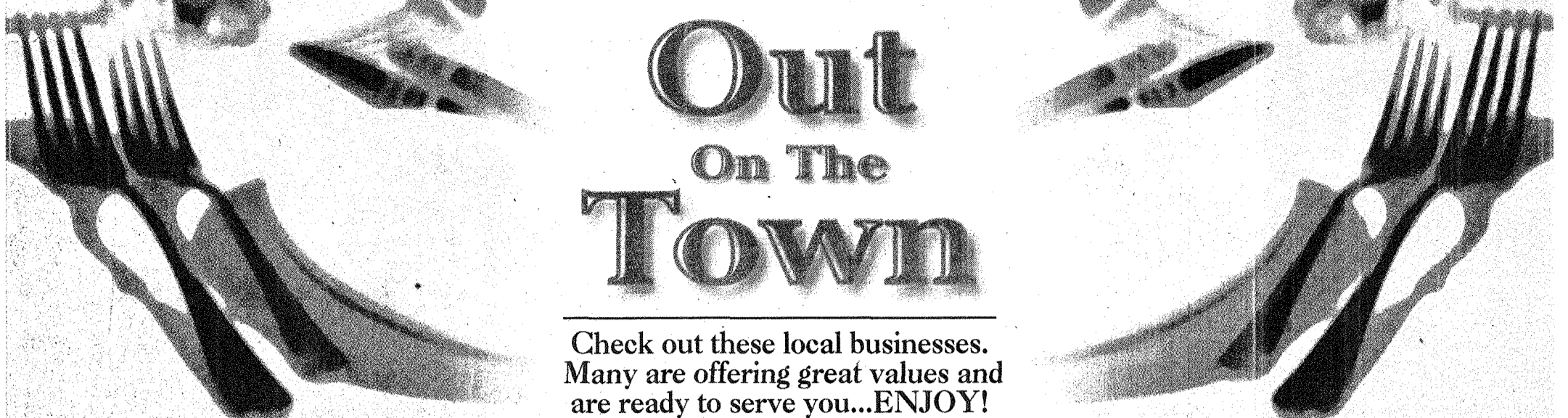
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# Pink Power

## Area women, men race/walk for the cure

Participants and volunteers from western Wayne and Oakland counties were part of the more than estimated 40,000 runners and walkers in Saturday's Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in downtown Detroit.

The area on Woodward near Comerica Park was a sea of pink with signs, banners and pink ribbons everywhere marking the 20th anniversary of the race/walk sponsored locally by the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Maureen Keenan Meldrum, chair of the Detroit race, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1991. In 1992, she walked her

first race. Now as leader of the event, Keenan Meldrum is proud of metro Detroiters' supporting the cause.

"So many are having tough times, but perceived the need is great," said Keenan Meldrum, a Lathrup Village resident. "Our slogan is 'Times are tough. Breast cancer is tougher and metro Detroiters are the toughest of all.'"

A host of state and local celebrities were part of Saturday's event — U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, Gov. Rick Snyder and Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and their wives — but the real stars were the breast cancer survivors, their friends and families who raised

money and walked or ran to show their support for the cause.

Since 1992, the community has rallied the support of family, friends, neighbors and coworkers to raise and invest \$20 million to help end breast cancer. Organizers said in 2010 alone, the Detroit Race raised \$2.3 million, providing year-round resources, \$1.55 million in community grants and more than \$428,300 to support global breast cancer research.

Donations are still being accepted for this year's event. For details and incentives visit: <http://www.karmanos.org/detroitraceforthecure/friendsfor.asp>



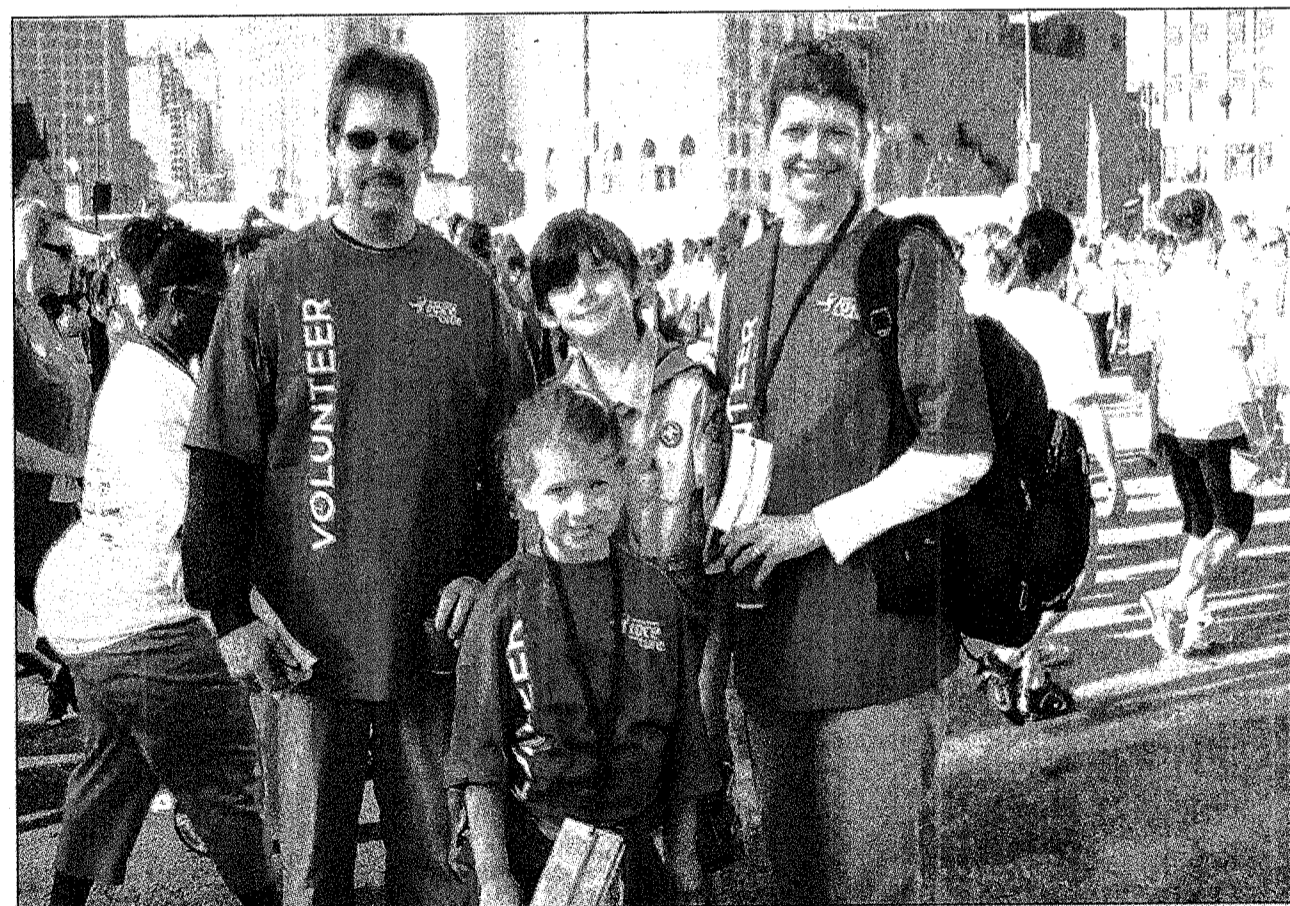
Liz Irick of Dearborn and Fred Peters of Redford Township donned pink tutus for Saturday's race. It was their first time at the event and they came because they have friends battling cancer and "it's a great cause."



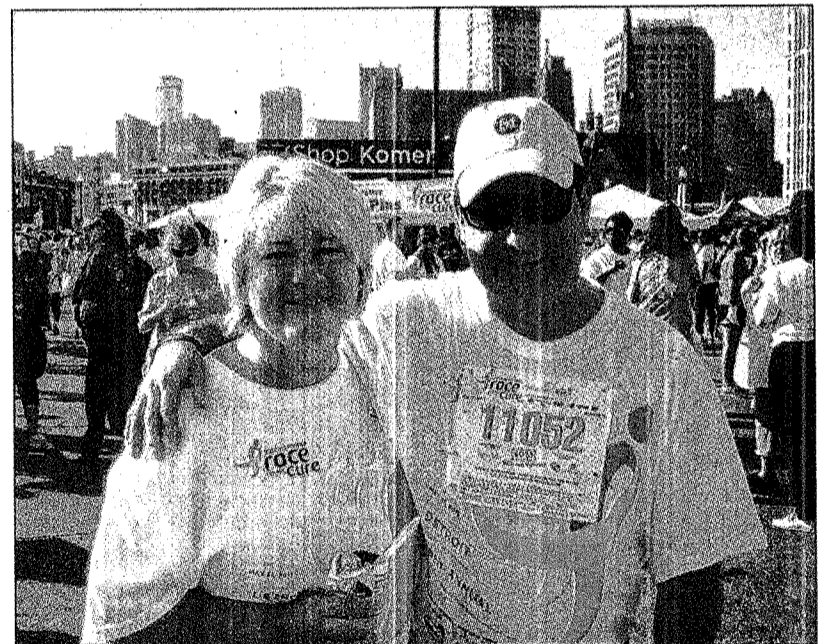
Members of the Pink Brigade, march in honor of breast cancer survivors Donna Mughannem of Livonia, Gwen Blases of Livonia and Arlene Lachman of Commerce Township. The 33 members of the Pink Brigade come from Wixom, Livonia, Commerce Township, Westland, Canton and other nearby communities. The group was among some 700 teams participating in Saturday's event.



Team "Bust the Girls Out" are all relatives from metro Detroit. Runners included Mike Miller, 28, of Berkley, Amy Kapelanski, 24, of Plymouth, Rebecca Taylor, 19, of Canton and Joe Taylor, 13, of Canton. Joe is a student at Pioneer Middle School. The extended family has participated in the Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure since 2005. About 10-12 family members participated this year. "My mom had a scare earlier this year," said Taylor, adding it turned out not to be cancer. "We just got involved because it is a great cause."

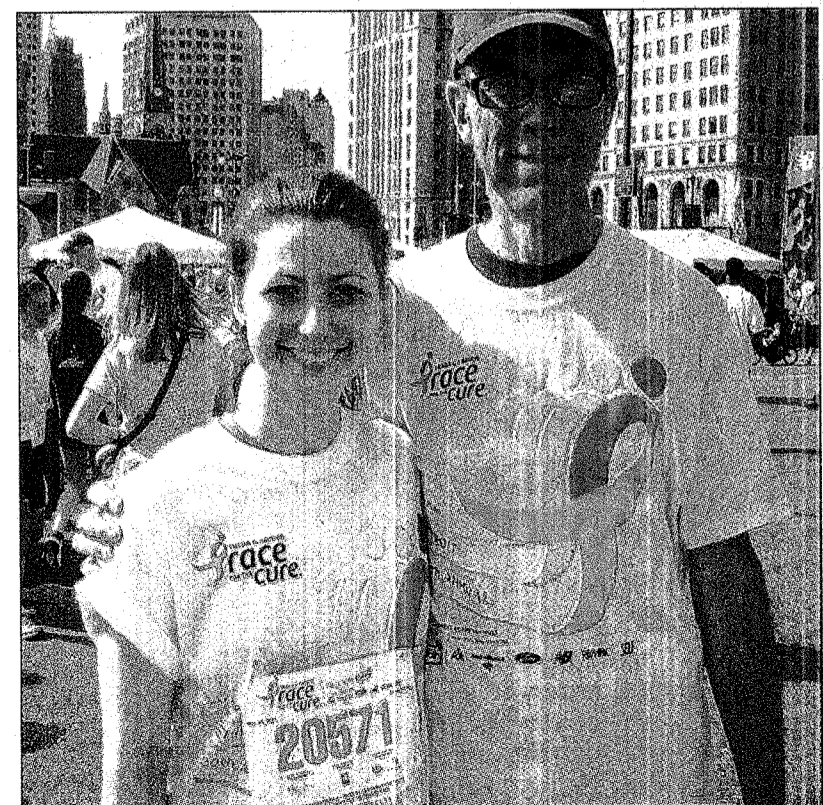
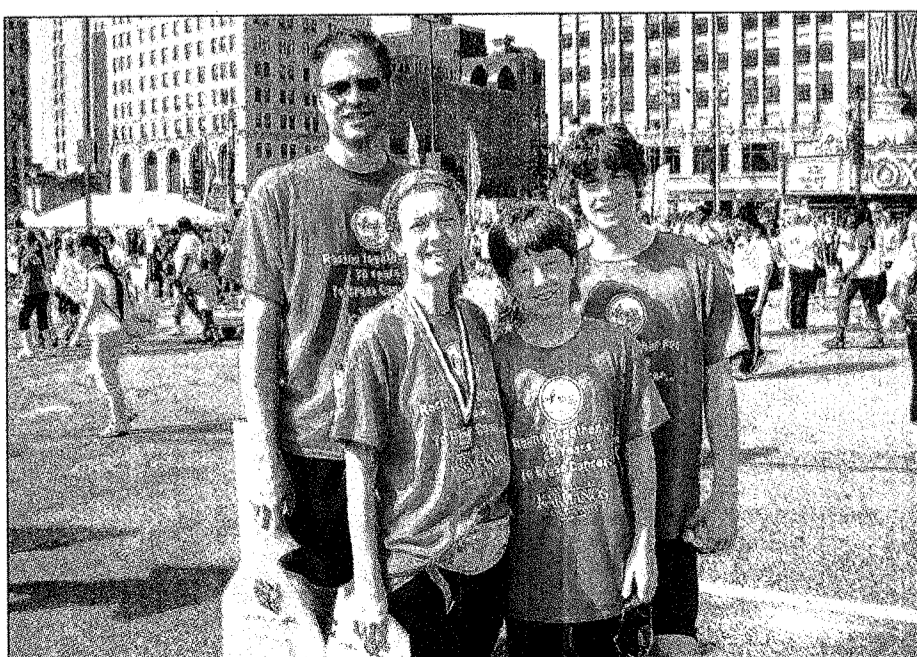


The Lipski family of Livonia volunteered at Saturday's race. They are dad, Kevin; mom, Dianna; Nathan, 11; and Melissa, 6. Nathan, a member of Boy Scout Troop 271 of St. Michael's Catholic School, used the race as an opportunity for community service so his family joined in. Nathan is a student at Riley Upper Elementary. Melissa attends Coolidge Elementary.



Livonians Lori and Andy Nersesian were part of Team Treasure Chests - about 20 people walking/running in memory of Nancy Griffin, Andy's sister, who died from breast cancer in 1999. The team also celebrates breast cancer survivor, Betty Gronski, Andy's mother. Lori Nersesian is an art teacher at Cooper Upper Elementary School in Livonia.

**Team Karmanos:** "Racing together for 20 years to erase cancer." Farmington Hills residents Helen Peck, director of clinical trials at Karmanos, her husband, Brian Marples and sons, Edwin Marples, 12 and Jake Marples, 16, participated in Saturday's race on Team Karmanos. Jack is a student at the International Academy while Edwin attends Warner Upper Elementary. Helen received a medal for finishing the race in 23 minutes.



All smiles after finishing the race are Becky Clark and her dad, Mike Clark, both of Westland. They have been running the race for "five-six years." "My aunt, Judy, had breast cancer but she is in remission," said Becky.



# Police personnel, civilians honored for service

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Police officers, police dogs, civilians and one toddler were recipients of 30 awards presented at the 2011 Westland Police Department Awards Ceremony.

Andrew Sharp was by far the youngest award recipient. After his mother was punched in the head and knocked to the ground by a purse-snatcher in the Toys R Us parking lot, the youngster gave chase as the attacker fled. Andrew didn't catch up with the thief due to his size and his mother's intervention.

"This is one of my favorite awards. We are awarding a citizen citation to recognize the bravery of young Andrew. After witnessing his mother being attacked, he showed courage and a protective streak," said Westland police Sgt. Todd Adams, presenting the award along with a Toys R Us gift certificate purchased by officers. "We hope he has a better shopping experience this time."

Robert and Karen Schomak also received civilian citations after witnessing the March 12 incident and providing information that helped lead officers to the three suspects that were eventually arrested at a nearby apartment complex.

A civilian award was received by Karen Fitz, who pulled a youngster from a swimming pool. The youth was a weak swimmer and got into trouble after jumping in and out of the pool. Fitz rescued him after learning his mother, who was nearby, couldn't swim.

Fitz did CPR until police and firefighters arrived. She credited a quick response by police and firefighters with saving the youngster.

Officer Harlan Epperson received one of two Life Saving Awards presented to officers. Epperson was recognized for his response to the December explosion at the William C. Franks Furniture store in Wayne. On patrol nearby, Epperson heard someone calling for help in the debris.

"The building was on fire but he climbed onto the rubble and with others removed steel, bricks and debris to rescue (store owner) Mr. Paul Franks," said Sgt. Richard Novakowski. "There was a spewing gas line. This was a selfless act of courage."

Two employees were killed in the explosion. Franks was critically injured but survived.

Currently on deployment with a National Guard unit in the Middle East, Officer Tim Horvath also received a Life Saving Award after responding to a call of a lifeless 5-year-old in a swimming pool. A man who didn't live at the apartment complex brought several children there to swim and hadn't noticed the child at the bottom of the pool.

A trained paramedic, Horvath was eventually able to get the child breathing and the youngster made a full recovery.

WLND Director Craig Welkenbach, crew member David Monark, and Westland John Glenn High School



Andrew Sharp, 5, was full of energy when he bounded onto the stage but became embarrassed when the audience applauded a civilian citation he received with Robert and Karen Schomak, standing on either side of him.



Ryan Jedrusik played a game waiting for his father, Lt. Jeffery Jedrusik, to receive a commendation unit during the Westland Police Department Awards program.



Westland Police Chief Greg Angelosanto was among the speakers at the department's annual awards program.

Assistant Principals Marva Foster and Ryan McMahon received civilian awards for assisting officers in identifying the suspect eventually charged with a shooting at July 4 Westland Summer Festival fireworks.

Welkenbach and Monark dropped what they were doing and jumped in to help improve video shot at the festival in an effort to identify the suspect, Novakowski said.

With the improved quality video, Foster and McMahon were able to identify the suspect as a former Glenn student.

Police dog Ty was honored for taking a hit for the team. Ty and handler Officer Grant Allen were pursuing a suspect who eventually hid under some pallets. Ty crawled under the pallets and grabbed the suspect by the arm to pull him out.



Friends Savannah Novakowski and Natalie Kavanaugh enjoy the hors d'oeuvres at the Westland Police Department Awards.

Instead the suspect grabbed Ty and neither would let go.

A Taser was used to subdue the suspect but Ty got the shock also. Ty let go of the suspect, the suspect let go of the dog and was arrested.

Sgt. Kyle Dawley and Officer Kristie Bastine received the Purple Heart Award for injuries received as they arrested a suspected drug dealer. Bastine was head-butted and kicked to the ground, causing her to be briefly unconscious in the altercation. She later had to have surgery to repair tendon damage. Dawley received a tear to his cornea and a sprained ankle before the suspect was subdued.

Held at Joy Manor, the awards program drew family and friends, along with officials, including Westland Mayor William Wild, state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and 18th District Court Judges Sandra Cicirelli and Mark McConnell.

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

# Five police officers receive promotions

Five officers received promotions during the Westland Police Department 2011 awards program.

Lt. Robin Collier has been promoted to deputy police chief in charge of the uniform division. Collier joined the Westland Police Department in 1992, was promoted to sergeant in 2002 and lieutenant in 2007. He served as Support Services lieutenant since May 2010.

Collier earned a bachelor of science and a master of science degree from Eastern Michigan University. He also attended Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command. He has two sons and has earned seven departmental awards.

"I've had 19 years waiting to give this speech and there is no speech to give," said Collier. "I'm happy that my brother is here to pin my badge on me. He has helped through a lot of stuff. I'm proud to be here today."

Sgt. Michael Harhold has been promoted to lieutenant and will be assigned to a shift as patrol lieutenant. Harhold joined the department in 1993 and was promoted to sergeant in 2006. He is a trained fire-

arms instructor, patrol rifle coordinator and an evidence technician.

Harhold earned a bachelor of science degree from Madonna University, is a graduate of Northwestern University School of Staff and Command and is currently pursuing an master of science degree in business administration at Madonna University. Harhold is married, and his father is a retired Dearborn police officer. He has earned 17 departmental awards.

Officer Mark Cholak has been promoted to sergeant and will be assigned to a shift as a patrol sergeant. Cholak joined the department in 1995 and has served as a traffic officer for 12 years. Cholak is a trained accident reconstructionist, motorcycle officer and motor carrier officer.

Married with two sons, Cholak is a police pension board representative and has earned four departmental awards.

Officer Steve Ewing has been promoted to sergeant and will take over the Field Training Officer Program, along with being assigned to a shift as a patrol sergeant. He joined the department in 1995 and has served as a community police officer, field training officer, driving instructor and crisis/hostage negotiator. He also is the head TASER instructor.

Married with one son, Ewing has one son and has earned 10 departmental awards.

Officer Norm Brooks has been promoted to sergeant and is being assigned to a shift as a patrol sergeant. Brooks joined the Westland Police Department in 1997 and has served as motor officer, TASER instructor and president of the Westland Police Officers Association.

Brooks served in the U.S. Army Military Police at Ft. Leavenworth. He also has worked for the Royal Oak Township and Inkster police departments. Brooks has earned 11 departmental awards.



Collier



Harhold



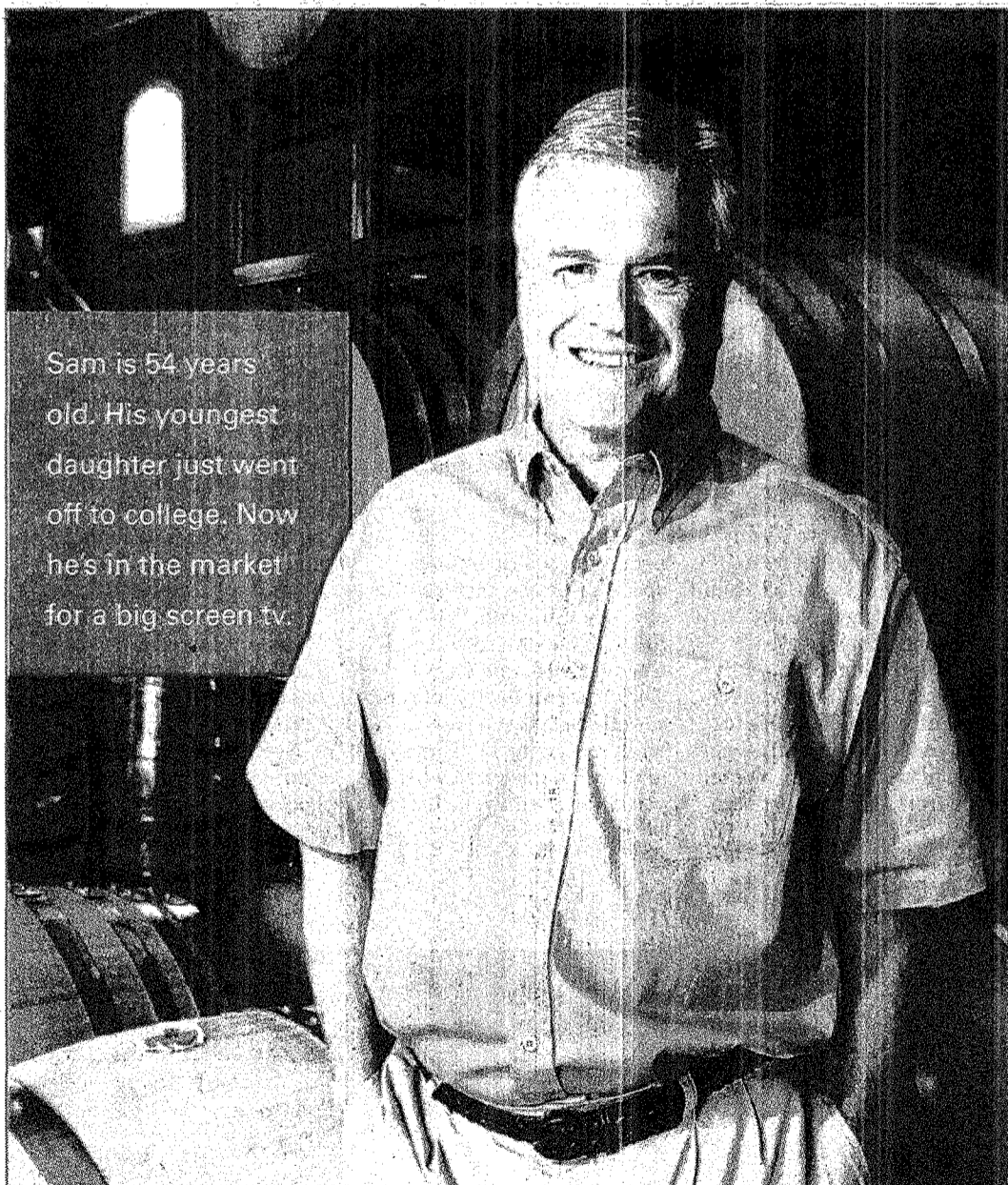
Ewing



Cholak



Brooks



Sam is 54 years old. His youngest daughter just went off to college. Now he's in the market for a big screen tv.

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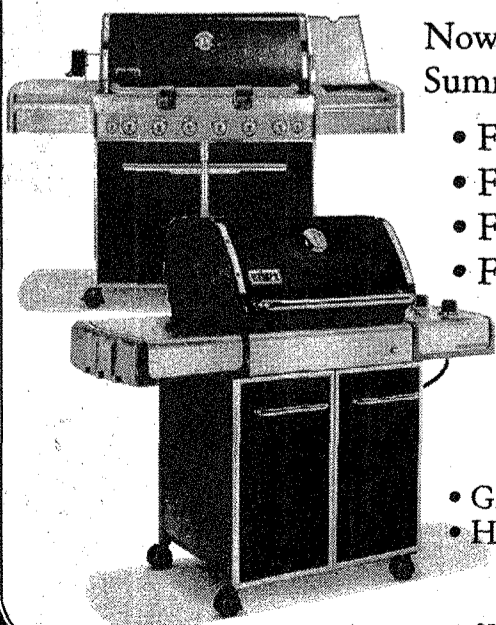
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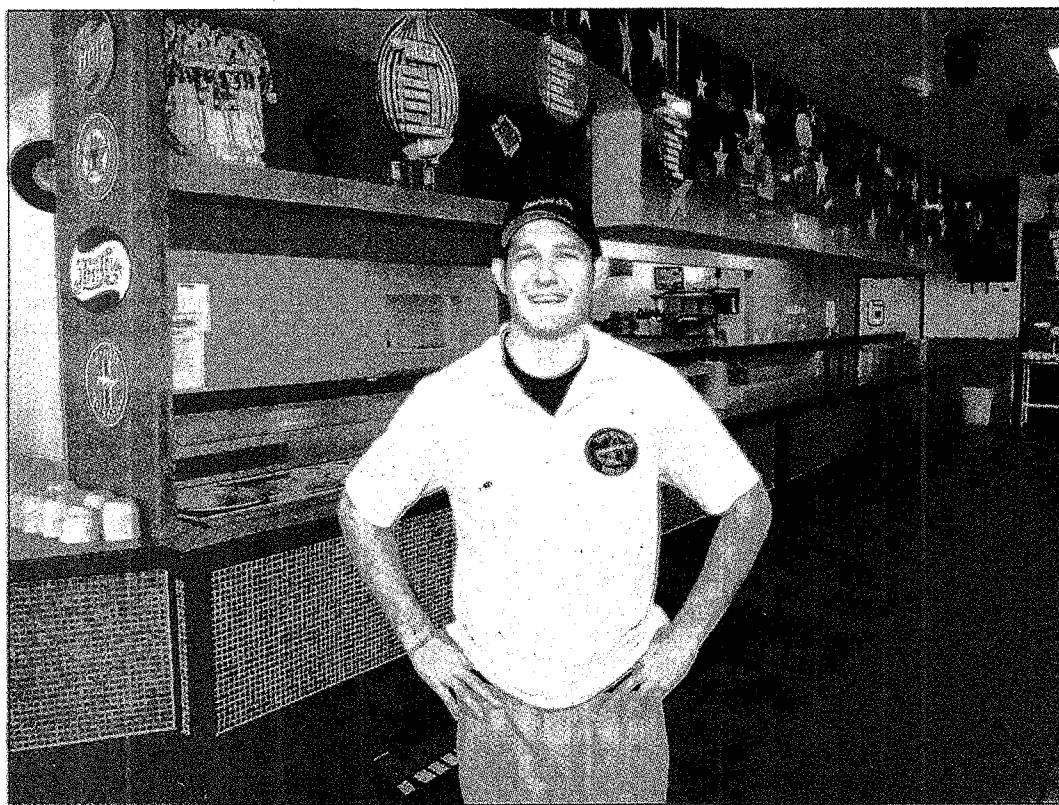


PHOTOGRAPH

# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, May 26, 2011

hometownlife.com



Owner Jarred Kwiatkowski offers a one-of-a-kind dining experience that is surprisingly budget friendly at his American Pie Pizza in Garden City.

## American Pie offers pizza, fun atmosphere for families

**Observer:** Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

American Pie is perfect for the whole family. Its unique decor featuring movie posters, cartoons and superhero characters, a miniature Statue of Liberty and even surfboard benches welcomes customers to a one-of-a-kind dining experience that is surprisingly budget friendly.

**Observer:** How did you first decide to open your business?

Founder Dan Kwiatkowski developed the entire concept of the all-you-can-eat pizza buffet and salad bar restaurant because with the economy, there is a need for a fast casual restaurant with a great atmosphere. Just because families need to be thrifty doesn't mean they have to give up every luxury.

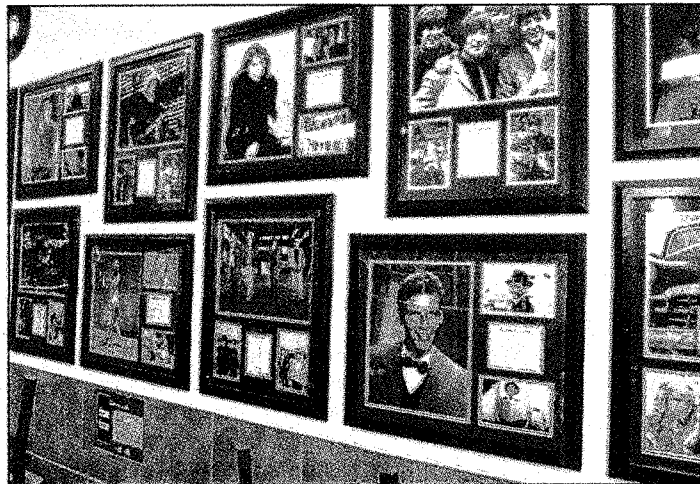
**Observer:** Why did you choose Garden City?

Dan saw the need for a fast casual atmosphere restaurant. **Observer:** What makes your business unique?

The staff of American Pie is proud of the tremendous amount of thought and effort that went into creating a clean and fun-filled family atmosphere for your dining experience. We serve freshly baked pizzas, garden fresh salads, Momma's pasta bar and mouth watering desserts.

We continuously strive to maintain the highest food quality and freshness while constantly keeping an eye to detail as well as cost efficiency.

The pizzas at American Pie range from the basic popular



Framed photographs of movie stars like Frank Sinatra and music greats like Jim Morrison and The Beatles line the walls of American Pie.

### AMERICAN PIE

**Business address:** 5726 Middlebelt, Garden City  
**Your name and title:** Jarred Kwiatkowski, owner  
**Business Opened When:** March 1, 2011  
**Number of Employees:** 18  
**Hours of operation:** 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday  
**Your business specialty:** Pizza  
**Business phone and/or website:** (734) 266-1667, www.AmericanPiePizzas.com

pepperoni to luscious new specialty pizzas, such as BBQ chicken, California White, Spinach Dip, Macaroni and Cheese and Flame Thrower. The pizzas on the buffet rotate as you dine, so you can go back and get a piping hot slice of another unique pizza when you're done with your first

slice. A unique announcement system lets you know when new pizzas have been added.

The salad bar is loaded with toppings to make any type of salad and the buffet also offers pasta all the time and a baked potato bar and chili at lunch - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

American Pie also has its own gaming experience for your pleasure with a separate game room for "kids" of all ages.

**Observer:** How has it changed since you opened?

The restaurant has become a family experience. It opened its first store at 12 Mile and Hoover roads in Warren, and now has stores in Shelby Township, Taylor and its newest location in Garden City. Dan's son Jarred is owner of the Garden City store.

**Observer:** Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share?

No, but for dinners, be daring and try something new. You won't be disappointed.

## BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

### Operation ABLE winners

Operation ABLE of Michigan, an affiliated company of Spectrum Human Services, Inc., has announced the winners of its Ability Is Ageless Awards for 2011 naming Presbyterian Villages of Michigan as 2011 Employer of the Year Award.

The honor is given to an organization that both demonstrates through hiring, promotion and recognition that they understand the value of mature employees and through their products and services contribute to the well-being of older adults.

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (PVM) has a solid reputation for hiring practices that include people 50 and older. Evidence of that was shown by the 12 individuals who were honored at the luncheon as a result of nominations from their employers.

PVM is a leader in offering an array of high quality home-like residential options for seniors of all income levels and with diverse care requirements. They provide housing for 3,500



Cheryl Sonnenberg, wellness supervisor/volunteer coordinator for PNM's Village of East Harbor, shows off her Most ABLE Award.

older adults on 24 campuses throughout Michigan, including the Village of Westland. One of their newest projects involves working with Henry Ford Health System and other community organizations to provide support services that will help people remain in their own homes.

Additionally, two PVM employees were selected for the highly competitive Most ABLE Awards. Employers throughout the region nominated 108 individuals for Ability Is Ageless Awards, 98 received Distinguished Service awards



Carrie Moon-Dupree, vice-president of risk management and quality for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan is congratulated for receiving a Most ABLE Award by Joanne Robinson, PVM senior vice-president of operations.

for their strong work ethic, the contribution of their skills at work, their role modeling and mentoring for younger colleagues, overcoming barriers, and their involvement in their communities.

Among the 10 winners for Most ABLE Awards were Carrie Moon-Dupree of Canton, 61, Vice-president of risk management and quality, Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, and Cheryl Sonnenberg of New Baltimore, 53, wellness supervisor/volunteer coordinator at PVM's Village of East Harbor.

## BUSINESS MILESTONES

### Half-Off Haircuts

**Time/Date:** Going on now  
**Location:** Saranda's Salon, 35135 Warren Road, Westland  
**Details:** To celebrate our 36th year in business we are offering a new client special: Half off your first haircut (Tuesday through Friday only). Saranda's is a full service hair salon offering men's and women's cuts, formal styling, color, highlights, permanent waving, Brazilian straightening treatments and facial waxing. Salon hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays Walk-ins are also welcome.

**Contact:** Call for an appointment at (734) 728-4834, or visit the website at www.sarandasalon.com.

### Wine Glass and Glassblowing

**Time/Date:** 5-10 p.m. Thursday, June 16  
**Location:** Glass Academy, 25331 Trowbridge, Dearborn  
**Details:** Join us in our celebration of the wine vessel and the liquid grapes that fill the glass. The upcoming wine show features master craftsmen blowing custom wine glasses to fit your needs. Tickets are \$85 each and include one hand blown wine glass, two complimentary drink tickets and complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Also available are \$200 VIP ticket which include the wine glass, drink tickets and hors d'oeuvres as well as front row seating to watch master craftsman Chris Nordin create a one of a kind speciality goblet. Tickets must be purchased in advance, no tickets sold at the door. Must be 21 years of age to purchase, ID will be checked at the door.

**Contact:** Purchase tickets on the

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website at www.glassacademy.com or by calling the studio at (313) 561-4527.

### Dine with the doctors

**Time/Date:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, 2011  
**Location:** Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland  
**Details:** Uncontrolled pain is a growing concern in the United States, affecting the lives of more than 76.5 million adult Americans each year. The Comprehensive Pain Relief Center of Michigan, affiliated with Garden City Hospital, is hosting an educational lecture focusing on promoting pain management awareness in the community. Pain Management physicians and professionals Drs. John E. Kurtz, Amr Elsaadat and Ala Alosman and nurse Kifaya Shami will discuss how to alleviate the anxiety and/or misconceptions of pain treatments, motivate improved pain control and increase strength and endurance to assist a return to a functional, productive lifestyle. All are invited to attend this free community event. A full dinner buffet, sponsored by Medtronic Medical Equipment, will be provided for guests.

**Location:** For reservations or more information, call Kifaya Shami, Pain Relief Center of Michigan, at 734 422-2483.

### Classic Car Show

**Date:** Saturday, June 4  
**Location:** Metropolitan Lincoln, 32000 Ford Road in Garden City  
**Details:** Have a classic car or truck you would like to enter? Advance registrations are now being accepted at Metropolitan Lincoln for the third annual Classic Car and Truck Show. Register now and save \$5 off the regular registration price of \$20. Also, there are goody bags for the first 200 advance registrations to be handed out at check in on the day of the show. This event is free to attend with proceeds benefiting the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.  
**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 259-4870.

### Dine for \$7.99

**Time/Day:** 4-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
**Location:** Texas Roadhouse, 36750 Ford, Westland  
**Details:** Texas Roadhouse is now offering 10 dinners priced at just \$7.99. This legendary offer is similar to the Texas 2fers offer but is even better by offering you more choices. Your dinner options include 6-ounce Sirloin, Road Kill, Single Pork Chop, Pulled Pork Dinner, Grilled BBQ Chicken, Country Fried Chicken, Chicken Critters Dinner, Grilled Chicken Salad, Chicken Caesar Salad and Chicken Critter Salad. All dinners except salads come with two made-from-scratch sides of your choice and fresh baked bread.  
**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 729-4570.

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# Teach kids money smarts from early age on

Memorial Day, the traditional unofficial beginning of summer, is just around the corner. It is the day to go to the beach, have a barbecue with friends and family, relax and enjoy the good life. However, we all know that Memorial Day is more than enjoying the good weather and the company of our friends. It is also a day that we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Throughout our history as a country, we have been blessed with men and women who have served and protected our country and kept it safe and free. On Memorial Day, it is



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Memorial Day, I will give thanks to those who have sacrificed for me.

Now that Memorial Day is almost here, before we know it, kids will be out of school

incumbent upon all of us to take a few minutes and remember those who have served and protected our country throughout history. I know that on this Memorial Day, as I do every

and doing the things that kids do during the summer. I remind parents that summer is a great time of the year to begin to teach your kids to have an appreciation and understanding of money. After all, if they don't learn from you, they'll eventually learn it from the charge card companies.

Particularly for those parents who have children about to start college in the fall, if you haven't started teaching them about money, now is the time. College kids who get themselves into financial difficulty will find that their credit scores are affected. Not only

can that hurt them in obtaining credit in the future, but it could also impact their ability to get a job. More and more employers are using credit scores in their decision-making process to determine who gets a job. Good money skills are essential for college students not only to get a job, but also to be able to successfully manage their way through life.

Learning about good money skills is not just for college bound students, but for everyone, at any age. I believe that teaching about personal finance should begin in kindergarten and continue on throughout high school.

Teaching kids about personal finance and personal responsibility can be a fun educational summer project. Personal finance is something that just isn't taught in schools, but it is an essential skill that kids will need and use for the rest of their life. In addition, understanding personal finance at a young age will increase the quality of life now and well into the future.

If you are looking at doing

something this summer that will enhance the quality of your child's life, spend some time this summer teaching your kids to have an appreciation and understanding of money.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [money@hometownlife.com](mailto:money@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's website at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## GARDEN CLIPPINGS

### Bowling benefit

A Breast Cancer 3-Day bowling benefit will be held Saturday, June 4, Oak Lanes, 8450 N. Middlebelt Westland. Check-in begins at 6:30 p.m., bowling starts at 7 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per person and includes three games of 9 pin no tap bowling, and shoe rental and mystery, cash bar, snack bar open, raffles and 50/50 drawings all night. Bring a team or come alone. Pre-pay by May 27 for free 50/50 tickets. Contact Dawn Downer at (734) 502-4277 or at [downt@doubledexpress.net](mailto:downt@doubledexpress.net).

Proceeds will help Downer raise the \$2,300 she needs to

walk in the Michigan Breast Cancer 3-Day Aug. 12, 13 and 14.

### Past Forward

Learn about Karma along with Past Lives at a program, entitled Past Forward, 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriman, Garden City.

Have you ever wondered if you were a peasant or a princess? Gayle Buchan, a certified hypnotherapist, and Kristy Robinett, psychic medium, takes you on a journey of your past lives. Open the book to your past and learn how to heal to move on with the future.

Tickets are \$35 each and are

available online at [www.tangledwishes.com/events](http://www.tangledwishes.com/events). Light Refreshments will be served.

### Golf outing

The Lyman Foundation is sponsoring the 32nd Annual Lyman Golf Outing benefiting Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City.

The outing will be held on Aug. 13 at Hickory Creek Golf Course. The Lyman Foundation is looking for hole sponsors and golfers for the event! Hole sponsors will be acknowledged in the golfing program and with the local media.

For more information regarding hole sponsors or registering to golf in the event, contact Sharon Lundie at (734) 728-4919.

### Free testing

As a service to the community, the staff of Garden City Hospital's Community Services offers blood pressure testing, free of charge, on a bi-weekly basis to senior citizens at the Maplewood Community Center, located on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Testing will be available at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (734) 458-4330.

### WESTLAND - MINI-STORAGE

1600 NEWBURGH RD.  
WESTLAND, MICHIGAN 48186  
734-729-1710

AUCTION DATE: JUNE 15 10:00 AM

Unit #114	Linda Scholl	Table, chairs, boxes, household items
Unit #122		Riding Mower, tools
Unit #403	Diana Gerwolls	Toys, clothes, boxes, household items
Unit #517		Music tapes, boxes, misc. items
Unit #538	Lawrence Clinic	Sports items, furniture, misc. boxes, TV
Unit #710	Wayne Kilgore	Furniture, kitchen items, dryer, tires

Publish: May 26 & June 2, 2011

CE08741568 - 2x2.5

### CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 11 5/16/11

Presiding: President Godbout  
Present: Cicirelli-Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves  
82: Appr: minutes of regular meeting held 5/2/11.  
- Bid for Fire Dept. Medical Evaluations to Bio-Care; amt. \$24,140.00  
- Bid for Police Dept. Lobby Renovation to Progressive Counters & Remodeling; amt. \$10,406.00  
- Bid for Fire Dept. fitness equip. to be split 3 ways to Fitness Things; amt. \$17,000.00, All Pro Exercise; amt. \$10,180.00 & Rogue Fitness; amt. \$18,437.79.  
- Intro. Ord. 29-W-35 to adopt registration and inspection fees of vacant properties and provide penalties for non-compliance.  
- Intro. Ord. 29-W-36 to provide for an admin. fee for vehicles that are impounded or towed at the direction of the Police Dept.  
- Intro. Ord. 29-W-37 to provide for permits, bonds, cash deposits, liability insurance and permit fees for street excavations or openings.  
83: Adopt. prep. res. to set public hearing date of 6/8/11 to consider street lighting special assessment.  
84: Adopt. prep. res. to appr. req. to absolutely abandon, vacate & terminate 12' wide water main easement, MJR Theater site, 6800 N. Wayne Rd.  
85: Appr. 3 yr. subscription by the City w/AT&T U-Verse; amt. \$8,218.63 per yr.  
86: Intro. Final Statement for CDBG Consolidated Plan 2011-2015 & Annual Action Plan 7/1/11 - 6/30/12.  
87: Waived procedure to intro. & adopt Final Statement for CDBG Consolidated Plan 2011-2015 & Annual Action Plan 7/1/11 - 6/30/12.  
88: Adopt. Final Statement for CDBG Consolidated Plan 2011-2015 & Annual Action Plan 7/1/11 - 6/30/12.  
89: Adopt. prep. res. to adopt yr. 2011-2012 CDBG & HOME Program budgets.  
90: Adopt. prep. res. to request MSHDA Housing Resource funds for NSF projects.  
91: Appr. Rev. Site Plan for prop. roof ext, Plastipak, 1351 N. Hix, PID 0950-99-0009-000, -0010-002, -03 & -04, w. side of Hix, s. of Ford.  
92: Appr. rezoning from CB-4 to I-1, PID 038-01-0021-304 & -0022, n. side of Ford, w. of Venoy.  
93: Appr. Spec. Land Use for prop Indoor Shooting Range, 33000 Ford Rd, PID #038-01-0021-304 & -0022-000, n. side of Ford, w. of Venoy.  
95: Appr. checklist: \$2,231,779.98 & Prepaid: \$ 291,728.60. Mtg. adj. at 9:00p.m.  
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout  
Council President

Tina Stanke  
Deputy City Clerk

Publish: May 26, 2011

CE08741182 - 2x7

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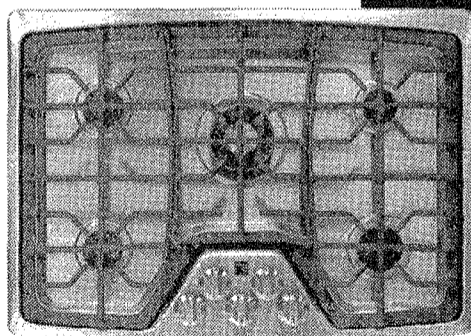
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See below for appliance brand exclusions.†

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memorial day  
**SALE!**

IN-STORE & ONLINE  
NOW THRU JUNE 3

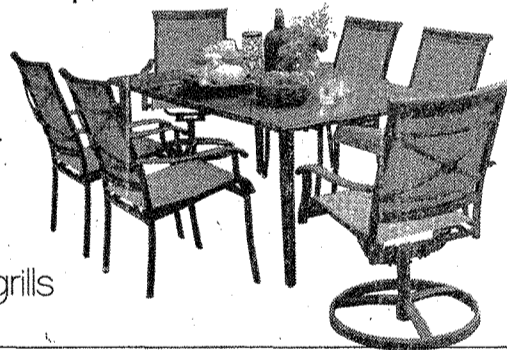
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**55% OFF**  
mattress sets

plus extra 10% off  
mattress sets \$499 or more.

plus save an  
additional \$75-350 off  
certain mattress sets  
\$499 or more.  
All mattress offers ends 6/4/11.

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**HOT BUY**  
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plus 40% off installation with purchase of KaraStep™ carpet pad

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area rugs



**NO INTEREST IF PAID IN FULL IN 12 MONTHS**

on all Karastan purchases of \$199 or more with a qualifying Sears card  
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or if you make a late payment. Offer good thru 5/31/11. See below for Important Deferred Interest Details.

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Novi 44075 12 Mile Rd. 248-679-1000

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Offers good thru 6/3/11 unless otherwise stated. Valid only at The Great Indoors stores and at [www.thegreatindoors.com](http://www.thegreatindoors.com). Offers exclude Everyday Price items, Great Price items, special order kitchen, bath and decorative hardware fixtures, All Clad, Henckels, LeCruuset, Simply Calphalon 12-in. omelette pan, Weber, Viking, DCS and clearance grills, Stearns & Foster, Serta Gazelle and iComfort, Sealy Abacus and Hartline Ti and Simmons Beautyrest Black mattresses, closeouts and open box merchandise, Aga, Asko, Bertazzoni, Best hoods, CornuFé, Dacor, DCS, Electrolux, Electrolux Icon, Fisher & Paykel, GE Monogram, Jenn-Air, Liebherr, Marvel, Miele, Thermador, U-Line, Vent-A-Hood, Viking (not available in CA) and Zephyr. Limited offers and special purchases excluded from raincheck option. The Great Indoors shall not be held liable for errors. Not valid on prior purchases, gift cards, delivery, installation or sales tax. CONTRACTORS LICENSE NUMBERS: The following license numbers are held on behalf of The Great Indoors: AZ (Gen. Comm. Contr. Lic. ROC #160177B-1 and Gen. Res. Contr. Lic. ROC #160178B); CA (Contr. Lic. #797513); MD (MHIC 321-47); MI (Res. Bldr. #2101175210); VA (Class A Contr. 2705 057009). Services and installation performed by The Great Indoors authorized licensed contractors. \*Members earn Points on Qualifying Purchases, excluding sales taxes and other fees. Subject to full program terms available at [shopyourwayrewards.com](http://shopyourwayrewards.com). Must maintain a valid email address and remain opted-in to receiving promotional emails from Shop Your Way Rewards to earn Bonus Points.

**IMPORTANT DEFERRED INTEREST DETAILS** (when offered); Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the purchase balance is not paid in full within the promotional period or if you make a late payment. With credit approval, for qualifying purchases made on a Sears card (Sears Commercial One® accounts excluded) Sears Home Improvement Account™ valid on installed sales only. Offer is only valid for consumer accounts in good standing and is subject to change without notice. May not be combined with any other promotional offer. Sears Cards: As of 5/2/2011, APR for purchases: Variable 7.24%-27.24% or non-variable 14.00%-29.99%. Minimum interest charge: up to \$2. An Annual Membership Fee of up to \$59 may apply. See card agreement for details. Sears cards are issued by Citibank (South Dakota), N.A. Sears Solutions cards are issued by HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A.

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

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

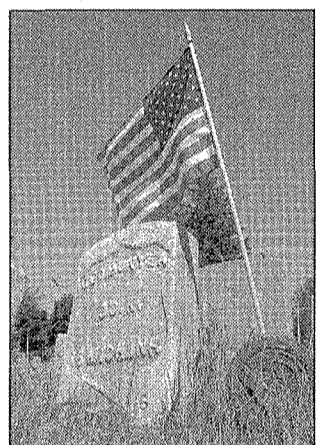
## OUR VIEWS

# Honor sacrifice Recall those who paid ultimate price

Every year at this time, we pay tribute to those who have given their lives in the defense of this country. This year, in the wake of the killing of Osama bin Laden, we have even more of which to be proud than ever. Without a single loss of life — or even major injury — our military scored perhaps the biggest victory yet in the war on terror.

That stunning success, however, does nothing to overshadow the contributions made by the thousands of our military servicemen and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice to ensure Americans continue to enjoy the freedoms secured by their efforts.

On Monday, we pause to remember those who have made that sacrifice. There will be parades, memorial services and flags fluttering on the graves of the servicemen and women who have given their lives so we can live free.



American flags fly over veterans' graves for Memorial Day in remembrance of their sacrifice for our country.

FILE PHOTO  
It's the one day of the year set aside for the nation to get together to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country. In the Gettysburg Address, Abraham Lincoln called on Americans to complete the unfinished task of ensuring that liberty "shall not perish from the Earth."

Americans have never wavered in that commitment to freedom, nor in the effort to help those who seek to be free. Americans have fought in two World Wars for freedom, in Korea and Vietnam. Americans have fought a Cold War, in Desert Storm, in Iraq and

Afghanistan against tyranny, oppression and terror.

However, the traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country. For many, Memorial Day and the three-day weekend marks the official start of summer. People use the time to open their pools and their cottages and gather for picnics.

Some will take time to observe ceremonies like the parade in Westland, which starts at 1 p.m. Sunday.

People will attend similar ceremonies and spend some time observing the meaning of the day but, by and large, Americans will focus on having fun.

To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the National Moment of Remembrance was established in 2000. It asks that at 3 p.m. on Memorial Day all Americans voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing for a moment of silence or listening to *Taps*.

An e-mail we received sums up best what we should ponder, during that moment of silence. The author is unknown, but the sentiments are on the money:

It is a veteran, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It is a veteran, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is a veteran, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is a veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is a veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is a veteran, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

On this Memorial Day 2011, we urge you to take time to remember what it stand for. We cannot afford to forget why there is a Memorial Day.

## Time to share your view

If you're reading this editorial, chances are you have an interest in the stories, the issues and the news in and about the Westland community. We value the role we play in that.

But, we also value the role you play.

Often people only write letters when they're upset about an issue, but you should know that positive or uplifting viewpoints are also cheerfully welcome and given their place alongside the negative views.

There are times, such as during elections or when other hot issues abound, when our letters pages are filled and, indeed, we run out of space and opinions cannot be shared on our pages.

Letters to the Editor represent a golden opportunity for readers to contribute their viewpoints about that world around them. Of course, we do retain the right to edit for clarity, fairness and space.

Letters can be e-mailed to smason@hometownlife.com or mailed to the Westland Observer, 615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226.

We want readers to know, if you've got the opinion to share, we've got the space to share it.

## LETTERS

### Thanks, coach Carr

I would like to congratulate the University of Michigan and former John Glenn head football coach Lloyd Carr on going into the College Football Hall of Fame. He is more than deserving of this award. It couldn't have gone to a better man.

Having played for Lloyd my last two years at Glenn was great. He was an excellent coach and a great person on and off the field. Having kept in touch with him for all these years, I went to my only Rose Bowl courtesy of coach Carr, got my oldest son's pics with Anthony Carter, John Wampler and many others when they were practicing in Azusa, Calif.

When I started coaching Comet football, he would let us bring our kids out there as he did for the Glenn football players. I have a lot of great memories. After they won the 1997 championship, I was there to say Hi to him the day of the parade. He took me inside Schembechler Hall. I have a whole photo album from that day. Got to hold Charles Woodson's Heisman Trophy, so I can thank Lloyd for many years of being friends with him and never forgetting.

On two occasions Lloyd was so fantastic. Here is a guy running one of the biggest programs in the country and Chuck Gordon had called him, told him I was not doing very good and I was in the hospital. Coach Carr called me to check up on me and to let me know he was thinking about me. Another occasion, just before my son David was deployed to Iraq as a Marine, Lloyd had me and David go up to his office, talked to us, wished David luck.

He didn't have to do any of the things I mentioned but he did because he is a class act, one of a kind. It was truly an honor playing for him, and again, I want to say thanks, coach, for everything you did. To you and your entire family and all of your former football players, congratulations. You did a great job.

Bud Somerville  
Westland

### Freedom of speech lives

Mike Doran of Milford should be thankful for the right of freedom of speech and a free press in America. Doran believes that bin Laden is alive and well, like Elvis Presley. His comments demonstrate that the constitutional right of freedom of speech has another benefit: it allows stupidity and hatred.

Leonard Poger  
Westland

### Say no to the governor

Gov. Snyder needs to take stock of our state and its residents. It is time to say no to corporate tax breaks. The state will not attract corporations, if we have high crime rates, underemployed, and undereducated people. We have to stop giving tax breaks to corporations and make life easier for the elderly.

Seriously, Gov. Snyder has no idea what to do. First he wanted to cut the K-12 school budget, and then he wanted to increase taxes on the elderly. Next he decided to spend money on the Pure Michigan campaign. He hasn't made one smart decision since he took office. For a nerd, he isn't too bright.

I honestly cannot figure out how he managed to get elected. I wasn't fooled by his rhetoric spouting that he was a proud nerd. How many people who are nerds go around announcing it? Not many. In my opinion, people who brag on themselves are not usually as great as they claim.

Wake up, Michigan! Pay attention to what Gov. Snyder says and then read between the lines. Stop playing the shell game with him, and put your feet down, Michiganders. Tell Gov. Snyder we won't stand for this treatment, and we are not interested in lining his pocket or any of his buddies who have large corporations who are reaping all of the benefits while the little guys suffer.

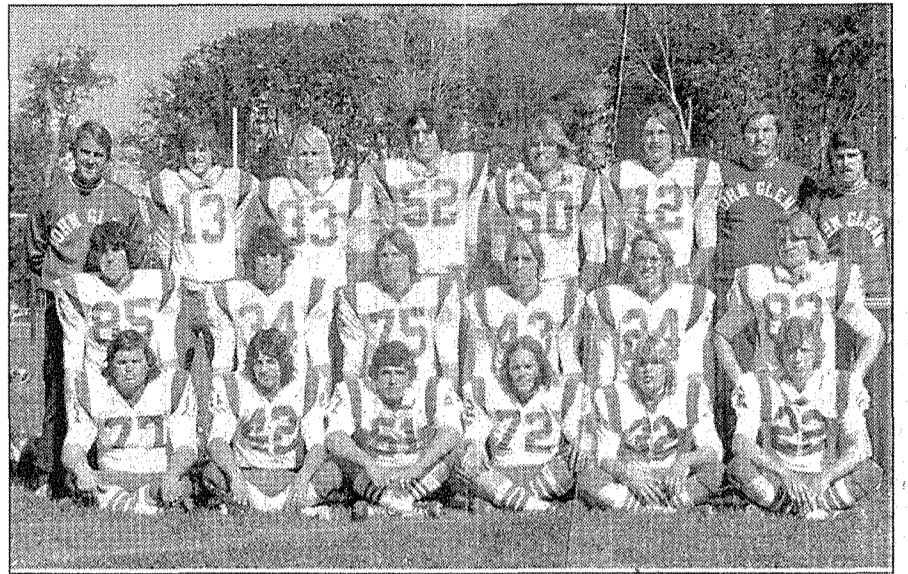
I would love to get a tax break for staying in Michigan. People are leaving this state in droves, and I don't think that throwing money at companies will actually work. Let's try being more creative please.

Vonda L. Newborn  
Inkster

### Reasons to end wars

Why we must end the wars in the Middle East.  
1). Our bridges and dams are in danger of collapsing.

"The crumbling state of our infrastructure poses a real threat to public safety and the nation's economy," Bill Marcuson, the president of the American Society of Civil Engineers, wrote on his ASCE blog just a few days before the collapse of the Interstate 35W bridge in Minneapolis. "Financing the urgently needed repairs must become a priority for our nation's leaders."



Lloyd Carr (back row, left), who coached at John Glenn High School before joining the University of Michigan football team, is headed for the College Football Hall of Fame.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:  
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

In total, ASCE calculates, at least \$1.6 trillion must be invested in order to avoid further disasters like the one in Minneapolis. According to the ASCE, the number of "unsafe" dams and dikes has increased by a third to over 3,500 country-wide since 1998. Worryingly, "the number of dams identified as unsafe is increasing at a faster rate than those being repaired."

1) <http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,498028,00.html>

2). Our schools are crumbling. American students rank 25th in math and 21st in science compared to students in 30 industrialized countries.

By the end of eighth grade, U.S. students are two years behind in the math being studied by peers in other countries. Sixty-eight percent of eighth-graders can't read at their grade level, and most will never catch up. Dropouts from the class of 2007 will cost our nation more than \$300 billion in lost wages, lost taxes and lost productivity.

Dropouts contribute about \$60,000 less in federal and state income taxes. Each cohort of dropouts costs the U.S. \$192 billion in lost income and taxes. Sixty-five percent of U.S. convicts are dropouts and lack of education is one of the strongest predictors of criminal activity.

A dropout is more than eight times as likely to be in jail or prison as a high school graduate and nearly 20 times as likely as a college graduate. For each additional year of schooling, the odds that a student will someday commit a crime like murder or assault are reduced by almost one-third.

Each year, the U.S. spends \$9,644 per student compared to \$22,600 per prison inmate. Increasing the high school completion rate by just 1 percent for all men ages 20 to 60 would save the U.S. up to \$1.4 billion per year in reduced costs from crime.

[http://broadeducation.org/about/crisis\\_stats.html](http://broadeducation.org/about/crisis_stats.html)

3). Our roads are disintegrating. The U.S. freeways got the miserable grade "D" from the ASCE. Around 332,000 kilometers of highways cross the U.S., most of them built in the 1950s. Bad road conditions, potholes, cracked asphalt and broken road surfaces cost US drivers a total of \$54 billion each year — \$275 per motorist — in terms of extra vehicle repairs and operating costs caused by driving on roads in need of repair.

4). We are laying off police and fire personnel across the country.

5). We're closing libraries.

6). We haven't the personnel to check the thousands of container ships entering our ports.

For a second year, U.S. government screeners have failed to detect a shipment of depleted uranium in a container sent by ABC News from overseas as part of a test of security at American ports. The ABC News test was criticized by officials at the Department of

Homeland Security, who assigned agents in at least four cities to investigate ABC personnel and news sources involved.

The ABC News S project involved a shipment to Los Angeles of just under 15 pounds of depleted uranium, a harmless substance that is legal to import into the United States. The uranium, in a steel pipe with a lead lining, was placed in a suitcase for the shipment.

"If they can't detect that, then they can't detect the real thing," explained Tom Cochran, a nuclear physicist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, which lent the material to ABC News for the project.

<http://newsmin.org/content.php?ol=security/bigbrother/airports/abc-news-ships-depleted-uranium-container.txt>

7). We are unable to secure our borders.

April 16, 2011: In Texas, 54 percent of legal immigrants and 70 percent of illegal immigrants receive welfare assistance, with illegal immigrants generally receiving benefits on behalf of their U.S.-born children.

<http://snarkybytes.com/2011/04/16/why-secure-borders-matter-2/>

According to recent GAO reports, the Border Patrol has established operational control of less than 44 percent of the southwest border and has reached an acceptable level of security on 32 of the nearly 4,000 northern border miles in fiscal year 2010.

<http://www.fedsmith.com/article/2826/legislation-proposed-require-dhs-secure-borders.html>

The solution to these problems is, apparently, to tax retirees, defund Medicare and other essential programs, and give tax breaks to the wealthy.

The war that never was needs to end, today. We are at a crossroads in America.

We can continue to dump billions into the war machine and allow the rest of our society to disintegrate, or we can pull together, like Americans have always done, and bring our brave men and women home to their families and start the hard job ahead of us.

Jamie Walker  
Garden City

### Helmet health

I feel that the issue of not wearing helmets on bikes is affecting our community greatly. People who do not wear helmets have a high chance of damaging their brain and spinal cord.

My neighbor used to be very athletic and would ride his bike for miles on end. Until one day, when he was not wearing a helmet, he hit a bump on the sidewalk and went flying. His spinal cord was severely damaged. He is now paralyzed from the waist down and has difficulty moving his upper body.

My neighbor was one of the many who have suffered from damage to their spinal cord or brain. No one should have to suffer as my neighbor did. I greatly encourage others to wear a helmet when riding a bike.

Laws on wearing bike helmets should be enforced more because do you really want to risk it? If I did not wear a helmet, I would be very angry at myself from how I was living. Not wearing a helmet doesn't show others you are cool or a rebel. It just shows you are not wearing a helmet ... and what will that ever do for your life?

Will it show you accomplished anything? Because it won't, the only thing you will accomplish is that you accomplished putting your life on the line, and you might even die. Does that sound "fun"? I didn't think so.

Start teaching your children to wear bike helmets. We would all like more birthdays in the world, not less. When we teach them to wear bike helmets, it will help them be more safe than not wearing them. Save the world, wear bike helmets.

Taylor Smith  
Canton

# Soccer tournament a boon to business

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton Cup, a three-day soccer tournament that starts Friday, is expected to shatter attendance records and boost the area economy when as many as 55,000 players, their families, supporters, spectators and coaches gather for an event that continues to grow, even as it marks its 29th year.

Athletes and fans from as far away as Toronto, Ohio, Indiana and across Michigan are set to join local soccer enthusiasts and spend money as they descend on area hotels, restaurants, movie theaters, retail shops, ice cream stands and other businesses.

The 66-room Comfort Suites and 117-room Fairfield Inn, neighboring lodgings northeast of Haggerty and Ford roads, started witnessing an uptick in Canton Cup business nearly a year ago as families began reserving a place to stay for the Memorial Day weekend tournament.

"We're sold out," said Nader Judah, regional sales director for A&M Hospitality, which operates the two lodgings. "This is one of the largest venues that attracts people for us."

## NOT JUST CANTON

Canton Cup brings a similar boon to places such as the 239-room, Livonia-based Embassy Suites, off I-275 between Seven Mile and Eight Mile roads.

"Not only is there a little spillover to other communities — there's a lot of spillover," Jason Mack, Embassy Suites sales director, said. "It pushes as far north as Novi. It's definitely a good thing. I'd take this every weekend."

Darryl Noel, tournament director, said 781 teams — a sharp increase over last year's 670 teams — are set to compete on soccer fields across Canton, in parks such as Independence, Heritage, Flodin and Griffin — and, if backup locations are needed, Freedom and Barchester. Athletes also will play on fields at the Plymouth-

Canton Educational Park.

"Canton Cup gets bigger every year because of the quality of it," Noel said. "We work hard to make sure all of our guests have a good experience. We started last summer blocking out (lodging) rooms in Novi, Livonia, near the (Detroit Metro) Airport, and in Canton and Plymouth."

Canton Soccer Club volunteers spend some 300 hours scheduling and researching teams, and township parks employees help get local parks ready for the influx of visitors.

## SPREADING THE WEALTH

Local restaurants from fast-food chains to locally owned eateries expect to cash in when huge crowds bring their appetites to town. Kim Janes, owner of Carrabba's Italian Grill on Haggerty south of Ford, said Canton Cup business helps to offset what would be a slower time when many local families leave town for the holiday weekend.

"It's very beneficial," she said, adding that she intends next year to become more involved in promoting the event. "I love giving back to the community and helping any way I can."

Gary Krone, owner of Carvel Ice Cream on Ford Road east of Lilley, said his business will sell ice cream as it routinely does at places, such as Independence Park. He also said he notices an uptick of in-store sales.

"The Canton Cup is big for us. It's always busy for us," Krone said. "This is like the beginning of the good-weather season. We see a rush of people, and finally we get bombarded. We will have people lined out the door."

Melissa McLaughlin, township treasurer and a DDA board member, said it's difficult to estimate the economic impact Canton Cup has on Canton and other communities, though it's certainly significant.

"Kids come to the tournament, and along comes Mom and Dad and the siblings and the grandparents," she said. "Suddenly you've got this exponential



The fields at Canton's Independence Park are only a fraction of the number that will be in use this weekend.

impact on the community."

At noon Saturday at Independence Park, Noel said a ceremony honoring Memorial Day is set, with comments from township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, a moment of silence, the playing of *Taps* and the Yankee Air Museum conducting a fly-over of aircraft.

LaJoy initiated Canton Cup nearly three decades ago and became its first director. He said it has been rewarding to watch it grow.

"It's huge. It's really terrific," he said. "It's a tribute to all the people who have worked so hard for so many years to keep it going. I think it's incredible for the community."

LaJoy said Canton Cup has emerged as the single biggest draw of visitors to Canton.

"I don't think there's anything that could match it," he said. For more information, visit [www.cantonicup.net](http://www.cantonicup.net).

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

# Festival celebrates arts abilities

VSA Michigan-Southeast celebrates 20 years of showcasing arts ability at its festival Friday, June 3, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, and Saturday, June 4, at the Michigan State University Community School-Detroit.

The performances spotlight more than 200 children with developmental and physical disabilities from schools including 5678 Dance Center and Academy in Livonia; Old Village, Northville; Pontiac; Detroit, and Lincoln Park along with adults like Plymouth pianist, Raymond Wells. Throughout the year the children and adults participate in music and art therapy classes that culminate in the performances.

Southeast Region Committee members Jody Stark, Margaret Hull, Cindy Babcock, Connie Lott, Linda Ann Chomin, and Gayle Owens put on the festival that includes vocal and instrumental music, dance and drama.

Stark was named 2011 Educator of the Year by VSA Michigan. As a music therapist, she has more than 27 years experience with various populations including autistic, cognitively and pre-primary impaired, at-risk children and youth, and breast cancer survivors. She is currently Site Director of Music Therapy Clinical Services, MSU Community Music School-Detroit.

"We're excited about this being our 20th anniversary, that we've been able to provide this 20 years," said Stark, committee chairperson.

The festival not only gives performers with mental and physical challenges the opportunity to show off their talents but participate in hands-on art activities like painting a mural with artist-in-residence Daniel Cascardo, and music and movement. Drumming with Kevin Collins and juggling with Chuck Clark and Dan Baier add to the fun.

"We'll be making yarn balls for the kids to juggle," said Stark. "The jugglers are good for interacting with audience and it's a new way to interact with participants. They seem to really have fun."

VSA enables children and adults with disabilities to experience and grow through the arts. Jean Kennedy Smith founded the nonprofit organization as Very Special Arts more than 25 years ago after her sister Eunice Kennedy Shriver started Special Olympics.

Hours for A Celebration of Arts-Ability, the 20th Festival of VSA Michigan-Southeast are 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, June 3, at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at MSU Community Music School-Detroit, 3408 Woodward Ave.. Experiential hands-on art activities will be provided for festival participants and audience members. The VSA Michigan 2011 Emerging Artists Touring Exhibit will also be featured.

The event is open to the public and free of charge. For more information, contact Jody Stark at (313) 273-7762 or e-mail [catinc@earthlink.net](mailto:catinc@earthlink.net).

Attention all Boys, Girls, Teachers and Parents!



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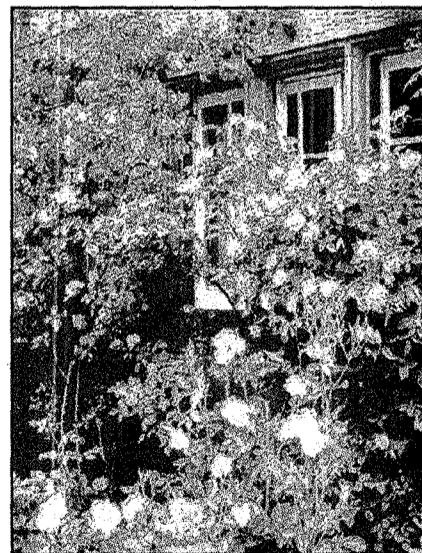
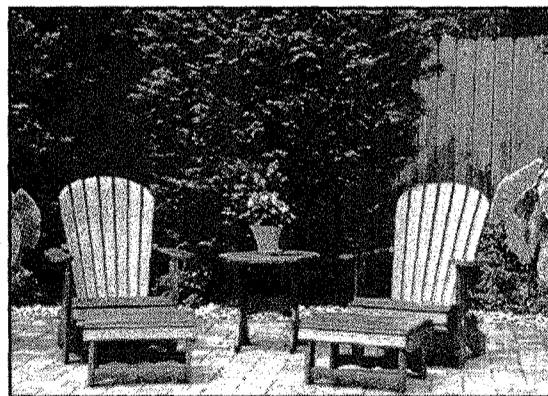
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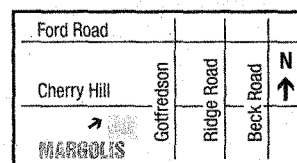
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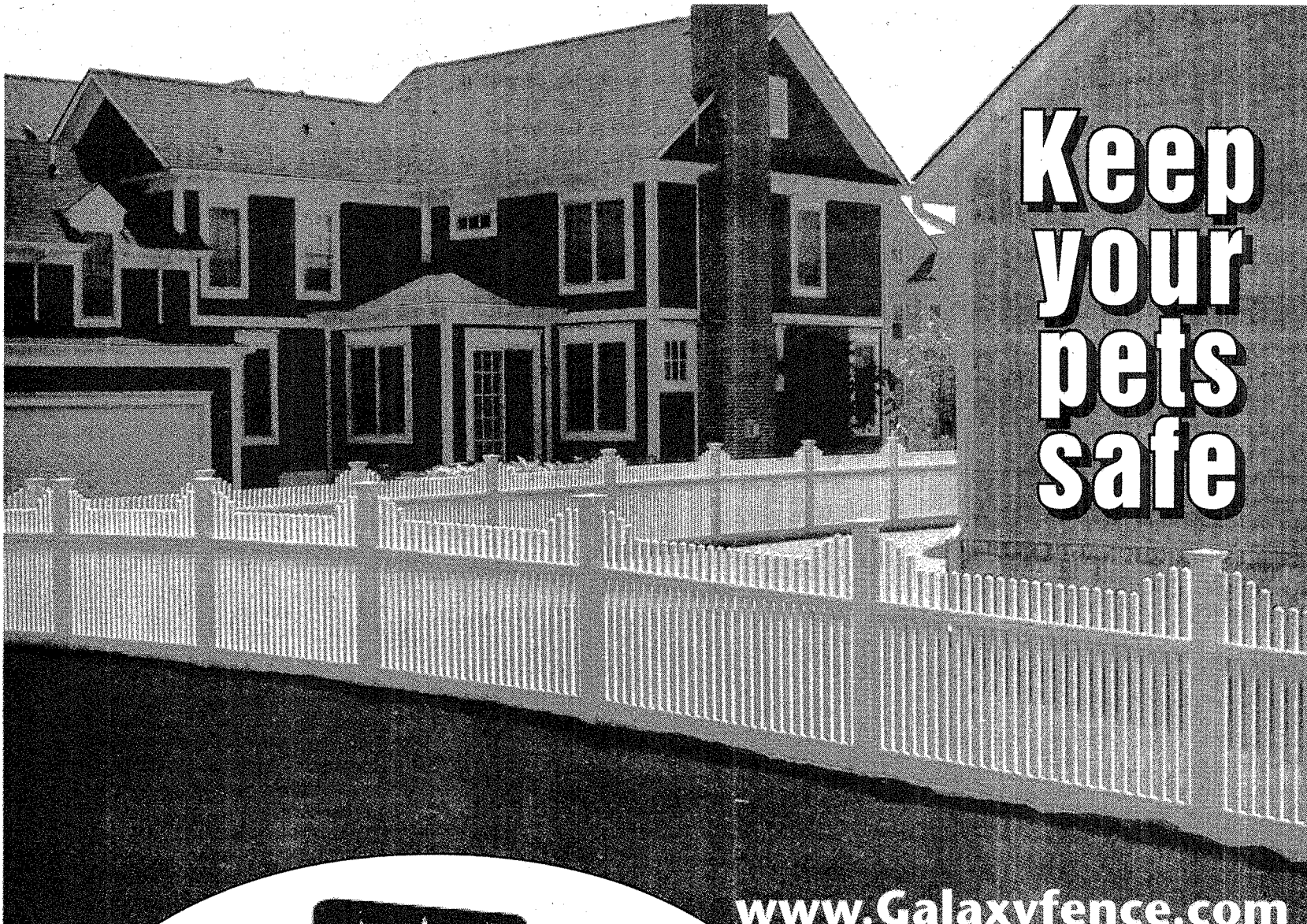
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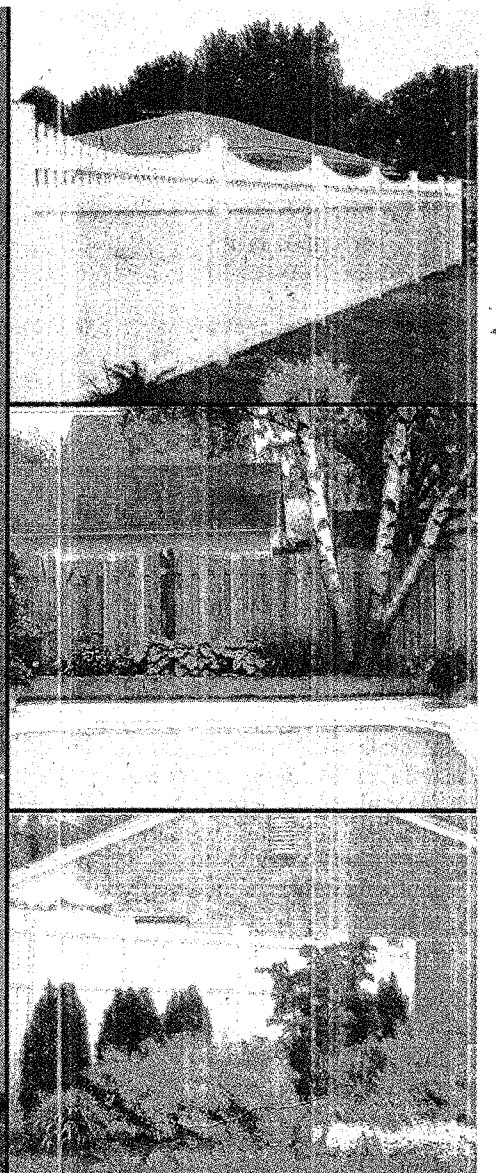
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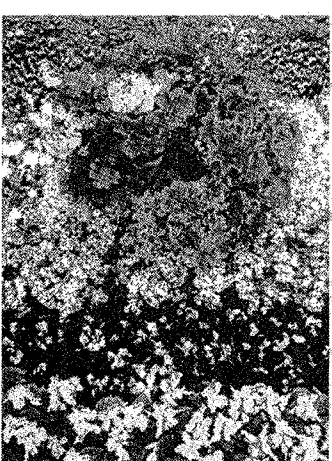
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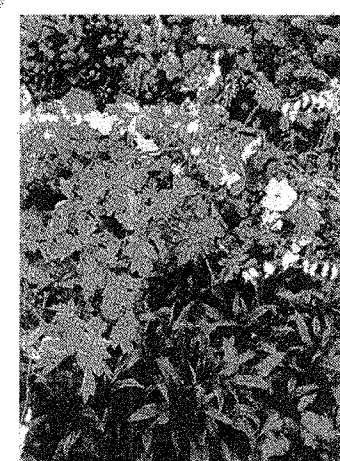
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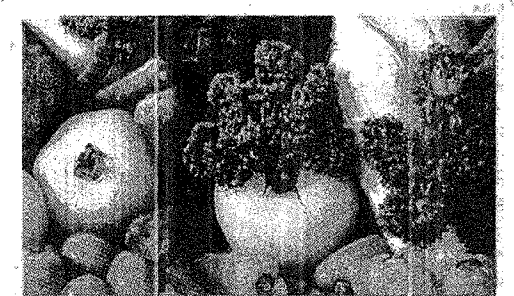
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# Kensington champs

## McDonald propels Spartans by Canton, 3-2

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sometimes it's the little things that lead to a big victory.

That was the case Tuesday afternoon as host Livonia Stevenson earned the KLAAs Kensington Conference baseball championship with a come-from-behind 3-2 win over Canton.

Stevenson, the Central Division champs, improved to 23-8 overall and moved into the KLAAs title game at 4 p.m. Wednesday at home against Hartland (25-2).

Canton, 23-5 overall and the South Division co-champion, may not want to return to Stevenson's diamond any time soon after squandering a 2-run lead for the second time this season.

Stevenson junior right-hander Chris McDonald, pitching with a cast on his glove hand from a broken thumb, picked off Canton runners in the first, fifth and sixth innings to help his own cause.

"We have 34 pick-offs now in 31 games," Stevenson coach Rick Berryman said. "We work on it, we work on it, we work on it. It's by design and the kids take it serious. What it does is that it keeps every kid on every pitch because they look for signs every pitch. They're focused. And they committed to it. They committed to it last year and committed to it this year. I don't know how many times we've been saved by key picks in situations."

McDonald scattered six hits, walked three and struck out five in seven innings.

"A very gutsy performance on his behalf," Berryman added. "This is his second start. The first was a little tough because he just got used to it. He's been practicing with it on and today he did a great job. We work on catching with a cast. It's the first pitcher I've worked with in 40 years that I've worked on the mechanics with a cast on his left hand."

Canton sophomore pitcher Mike Stafford, a left-hander, cruised through the first four innings as he held Stevenson scoreless on just two hits.

Canton, meanwhile, scored both of its runs in fourth without the ball leaving the infield.

A walk to Seth Tschetter, a punt single by Bernebe Salinas and a walk to Chris Perkovich loaded the bases.

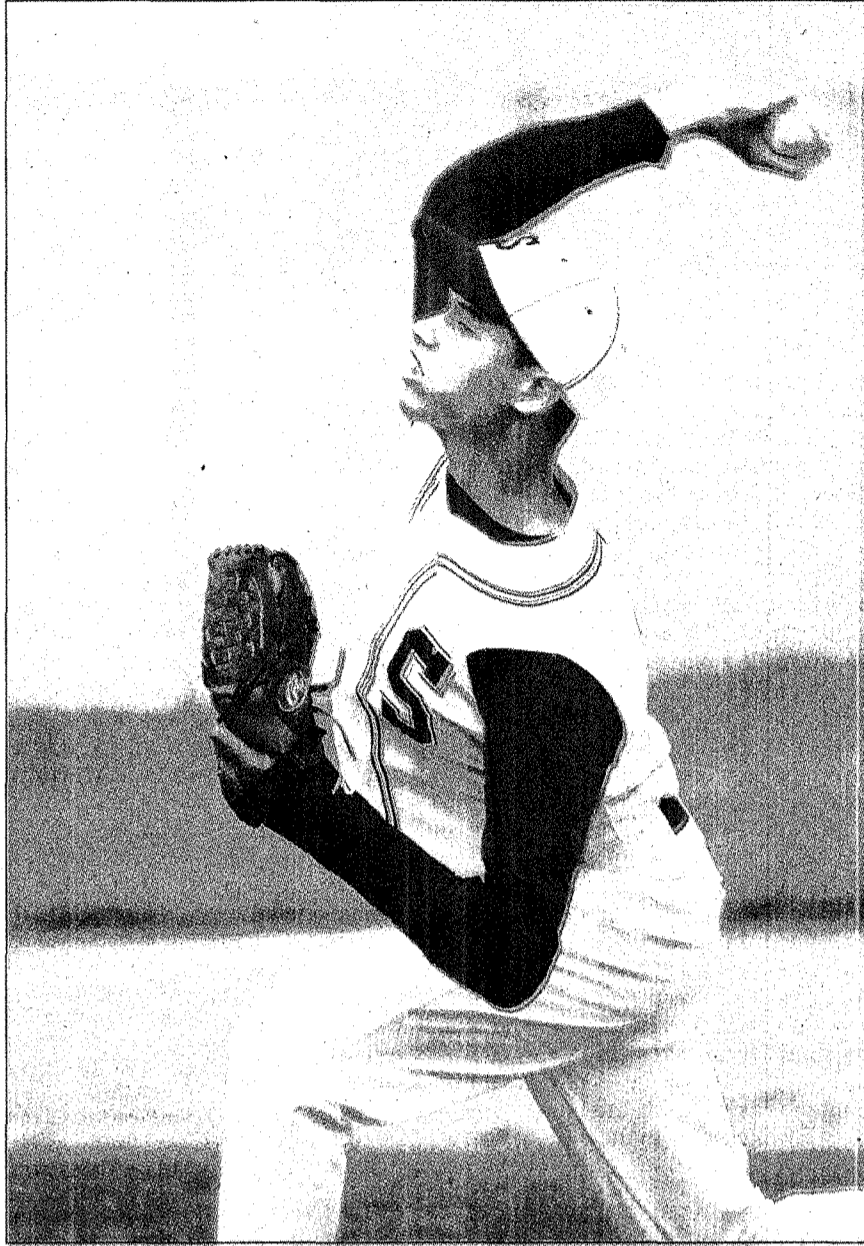
Ryan Bazner's infield single brought Tschetter home and Stafford hit into a 4-6-3 double play, but Salinas scampered home with the second run.

In the bottom of the fifth, Stevenson got on the board when Troy Bodtke led off with a single and scooted all the way around to third on Brandon Jurcszyn's sacrifice bunt when the Chiefs failed to cover third.

Brendon Hayes then followed with an RBI groundout to cut the deficit to 2-1.

In the bottom of the sixth, Stevenson manufactured a pair of runs to take the

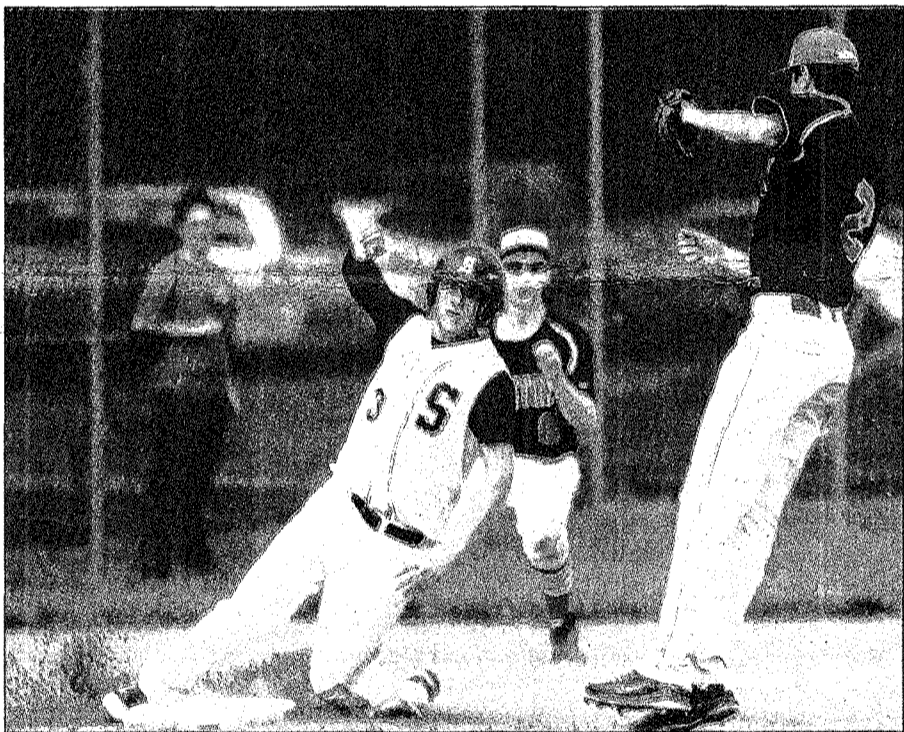
Please see SPARTANS, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson pitcher Chris McDonald make his second start and got the win with cast on his glove hand after suffering a broken thumb.

Stevenson's Troy Bodtke goes all the way from first to third on the sacrifice bunt ahead of Canton fielders Chris Perkovich (2) and Mark Main (6) in Tuesday's Kensington Conference final.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Stevenson adds City hardware to its case

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There was an added bonus to Saturday's Livonia City Baseball championship final at Ford Field.

The matchup featured two KLAAs divisional champions — each with 20-plus victories on the year.

And surprisingly, even the weather cooperated for a change.

Stevenson (22-8), the Central Division champ, successfully defended its City crown with

a 4-2 win over rival Churchill (21-8), the South Division co-champ.

Winning pitcher Evan Piechota, coming off back-to-back one-hit outings, improved to 7-0 by going all seven innings.

The senior scattered seven hits, walked two and struck out three. He also helped himself with the bat, going 2-for-4 with an RBI.

Losing pitcher Jon Targus gave up all four runs on six

Please see BASEBALL, B2

## REGIONAL TENNIS RESULTS

**MHSAA GIRLS TENNIS DIVISION 1-REGION 4 TOURNAMENT**  
May 20-21 at Brownstown Woodhaven  
**TEAM STANDINGS (top 2 qualify for state finals):** 1. Dearborn, 24 points; 2. Livonia Churchill, 23; 3. Livonia Franklin, 17; 4. Southgate Anderson, 10; 5. (tie) Woodhaven and Dearborn Fordson, 8; each; 7. Westland John Glenn, 4; 8. (tie) Wayne Memorial, Taylor Truman and Detroit Cass Tech, 3 each.

**INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT FINALS**  
**No. 1 singles:** Angelica Woods (LF) def. Alexis Card (SA), 6-0, 6-1; **semifinals:** Woods def. Manal Saad (DF), 6-0, 6-0; Card def. Amanda Bloom (Dbn.), 7-6, 6-0.  
**No. 2:** Carolyn McCullen (LF) def. Leslie Reynolds (Dbn.), 4-0 (retired); **semifinals:** McCullen def. Danielle Stacey (SA), 6-0, 6-0; Reynolds def. Nicole Kruse (LC), 7-6, 6-1.  
**No. 3:** Ani Cooper (LC) def. Jennifer Pagador (LF), 6-2, 6-0; **semifinals:** Cooper def. Stephanie Tomlin (WM), 6-0, 6-1; Pagador def. Olivia Tottis (Dbn.), 6-7, 6-2, 6-0.  
**No. 4:** Mara Karagozian (LC) def. Christina Dubicki (Dbn.), 7-5, 6-0; **semifinals:** Karagozian def. Caitlin Onodi (SA), 6-0, 6-2; Dubicki def. Natalie Mays (LF), 7-5, 6-4.  
**No. 1 doubles:** Quincy Banini-Rylie Fallu (LC) def. Shannon McFadden-Desiree Clenney (WJG), 6-4, 6-2; **semifinals:** Banini-Fallu def. Alyssa Cupit-Megan Miles (Woodhaven), 6-3, 6-0; McFadden-Clenney def. Dema Fawaz-Deema Hagehassan (Dbn.), 6-3, 6-3.

**No. 2:** Angela Grafh-Dena Makled (Dbn.) def. Kristi Fata-Jayde Schulz (LC), 6-2, 6-1; **semifinals:** Grafh-Makled def. Samantha Nadwie-Jessica Perretti (Woodhaven), 6-0, 6-2; Fata-Schulz def. Niki Phillips-Marissa Kowalsky (SA), 6-4, 6-4.  
**No. 3:** Tamara Mackie-Lara Fawaz (Dbn.) def. Maria Paul-Becky Snyder (LC), 6-0, 6-0; **semifinals:** Mackie-Fawaz def. Heba Chahrou (DF), 6-0, 6-3; Paul-Snyder def. Renee Kozakowski-Nicole Jarecki (LF), 6-1, 6-0.  
**No. 4:** Liesel Stemas-Megan Bolger (Dbn.) def. Rujuta Patil-Pankiti Thaker (LC), 6-4, 6-7, 6-4; **semifinals:** Stemas-Bolger def. Zeinab Mcheik-Rana Hamid (DF), 6-3, 6-3; Patil-Thaker def. Jamie Buchanzenko-Kayla Buchanzenko (LF), 6-2, 4-6, 6-3.

**DIVISION 1-REGION 2 TOURNAMENT**  
May 20 at Novi Meadows M.S.  
**TEAM STANDINGS (top 2 qualify for state finals):** 1. Northville, 29 points; 2. Novi, 26; 3. Brighton, 14; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 10; 5. Hartland, 9; 6. (tie) White Lake Lakeland and Walled Lake Central, 5 each; 8. (tie) Howell and Walled Lake Western, 3 each; 10. Walled Lake Northern, 0.

**INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT RESULTS**  
**No. 1 singles:** Abby Wang (Novi) defeated Joanne Weber (N'ville), 7-5, 7-6 (7-3); **semifinals:** Wang def. Abby Haughe (H), 6-2, 6-3; Weber def. Aimee Moccia (LS), 7-6 (7-1), 6-1.  
**No. 2:** Erin Doud (N'ville) def. Rachel Byron (H), 6-1, 6-0; **semifinals:** Doud def. Laura Gumpfer (LS), 6-0, 6-0; Haughe def.

Caitlin O'Brien (Novi), 6-4, 6-2.  
**No. 3:** Mackenzie Powers (N'ville) def. Rebecca Chen (Novi), 6-0, 6-1; **semifinals:** Powers def. Maryssa Herbert (WLL), 6-1, 6-0; Chen def. Rachel Raneses (B), 6-0, 3-6, 7-6 (7-0).  
**No. 4:** Alex Jeannotte (N'ville) def. Aswari Kanitkar (Novi), 6-4, 7-5; **semifinals:** Jeannotte def. Swan Germain (H), 6-1, 6-0; Kanitkar def. Kate McClure (B), 6-0, 6-1.  
**No. 1 doubles:** Meggie Riegel-Jenna Snyder (Novi) def. Christy Murphy-Danielle Romano (N'ville), 6-1, 6-1; **semifinals:** Riegel-Snyder def. Haley Linkous-Marybeth Rice (WLC), 6-1, 6-1; Murphy-Romano def. Mary Wojtala-Lexie Willey (B), 6-1, 6-4.  
**No. 2:** Ally Weaver-Jackie Kjolhede (N'ville) def. Emily Kwederis-Ori Nagasaka (Novi), 6-2, 6-1; **semifinals:** Weaver-Kjolhede def. Maiko Reukmann-Taylor Timah (LS), 6-2, 6-0; Kwederis-Nagasaka def. Aubry Russell-Shannon Urban (B), 6-3, 6-2.  
**No. 3:** Christy Snyder-Elizabeth Sakorafis (N'ville) def. Ashley Aljadhah-Emily Sheeran (Novi), 6-0, 7-6 (7-5); **semifinals:** Snyder-Sakorafis def. Katrina Antonishek-Lindsay Henderson (WLL), 6-1, 6-0; Aljadhah-Sheeran def. Rylie Haupt-Mckenna Russell (B), 6-1, 6-2.  
**No. 4:** Meng Meng Jie-Amy Zhou (Novi) def. Lauren Starr-Emily Toupin (N'ville), 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; **semifinals:** Jie-Zhou def. Melina Canzano-Laure Shureb (LS), 7-6 (7-3), 6-2; Starr-Toupin def. Mackenzie Stuenkel-Alyssa Pratt, 6-1, 6-3.

# Chargers net state finals berth

Franklin's Woods cruises, also qualifies in singles

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Denise Berg-Grant has been the girls tennis coach at Livonia Churchill for 17 years and never had the Chargers qualified for the MHSAA finals — until Friday.

Churchill, reaching six of the eight flight finals, earned a trip June 3-4 to the Division 1 state finals in Midland by finishing runner-up to Dearborn in the Region 4 tournament held Friday and Saturday at Brownstown Woodhaven.

Dearborn edged Churchill, 24-23, for the regional title, while Livonia Franklin just missed out as an additional state qualifier by mere point with 17. (See complete regional results.)

"This is the first time that we have qualified the girls team as far as I know and I have been around that school for about 23 years," Berg-Grant said. "They are very excited."

Churchill was led by its No. 1 doubles team of junior Quincy

Please see TENNIS, B2

# Lutheran Westland seizes crown in D4 girls regional

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Mike Unger has coached his fair share of boys regional track and field championships during his lengthy career at Lutheran High Westland.

Now doing double duty, Unger also has found the Midas touch with Warrior girls as they captured the Division

4-Region 39 title Saturday at home by edging Royal Oak Shrine for the team title, 163-156.

"Looking at the entries, we figured (Royal Oak) Shrine was going to be the team to beat," Unger said. "The previous weekend at the Warrior Invitational, we finished 34 points ahead of them, so in some ways I was surprised the

## PREP TRACK

meet ended up as close as it did. "I give Shrine a lot of credit for the performances they had at the meet on Saturday ... they placed in more events than we did. We're a little short on numbers, so I was pleased with the way our team performed in

that they did what they had to do to win the meet."

The Warriors qualified 13 in individual events and three relays for the Division 4 state finals Saturday, June 4, at Jenison. (The top two finishers in each event automatically qualify for the state finals.)

Individual regional champions for the Warriors included: Alyssa Shirkey, shot put (27

feet, 6.5 inches) and discus (91-0); Alissa Flury, pole vault (7-6); Jacqui Schwartz, 100-meter hurdles (16.31); Amanda Terranella, 200 hurdles (50.17); Jess Rice, 800 (2:31.2); and Erin Hardin, 1,600 (5:43.66).

Lutheran Westland's 4 x 100 relay quartet of Hardin, Alissa

Please see TRACK, B4

## SIDELINES

### Jaycee Park meeting

The Michigan Wolves-Hawks Soccer Club will stage a neighborhood informational meeting for residents about the Jaycee Park Improvement Plan, beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 2, at Coolidge Elementary School, 30500 Curtis Road, Livonia.

The club, which received a \$100,000 grant from U.S. Soccer, plans to install a turf soccer field.

In an agreement with the city of Livonia, the Wolves-Hawks have been maintaining and improving Jaycee Park, located south of Eight Mile and east of Farmington (next to Tyler Elementary).

For more information, e-mail Lars Richters at LarsRichters@aol.com.

### MU's top scholars

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics announced its 2011 Daktronics Softball Scholar-Athlete Team on Tuesday and a pair of Madonna University student-athletes, senior Tara LaMilza and junior Kiley Thornton, were among the 326 players honored.

To be selected, a student-athlete must be a junior or senior, be nominated by her head coach and have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

LaMilza, a St. Clair Shores native and Warren Regina graduate, was honored for the second straight season. A mainstay in the Crusaders outfield in each of her four seasons, LaMilza, a chemistry and forensic science major, posted a .319 average with six home runs and 36 RBI.

Thornton (Jda), making her first appearance on the national team, posted a .444 average in 26 games.

Both LaMilza and Thornton, a biology major, were honored earlier this month with selections to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference all-academic team.

The Crusaders ended the 2011 season with a 38-12 record and an appearance in the WHAC Tournament's championship game.

### Canton Cup Soccer

The 29th annual Canton Cup Soccer Tournament will take place Friday through next Sunday on more than 68 fields in Canton — with Independence Park at Cherry Hill and Denton roads being the main hub.

It is deemed the largest such tournament in Michigan, and will draw more than 750 teams from the state and all over the Midwest. Teams will be composed of boys (ages 8-19) and girls (ages 8-14), with each team slated to play at least three games and reach the playoffs.

The tournament is presented by the Canton Soccer Club and is sanctioned by Michigan State Youth Soccer Association and the United States Youth Soccer Association. More than 50,000 spectators are expected.

Kicking off the tourney will be contests 5-9 p.m. Friday. Action continues from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and concludes with final games and award presentations from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday.

On Saturday, Canton supervisor and original tournament director Phil LaJoy will be a special guest, and there will be a Memorial Day ceremony at noon (featuring a fly-over by vintage B-17 and B-25 bombers).

Immediately following the ceremony, the Michigan Bucks of the Professional Development League will face the Indiana Invaders. That contest is sponsored by the Canton Soccer Club.

For more information, visit www.cantonsoccerclub.com.

# Nick of time

## Warriors' Andrzejewski stars at plate in 14-1 rout



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson celebrates its Kensington Conference baseball championship after beating Canton, 3-2.

The bats were in full swing Monday as Lutheran High Westland took five innings to blow out host Auburn Hills Oakland Christian, 14-1, in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference baseball game.

Nick Andrzejewski led the way going 4-for-4 with a triple, four RBI and three runs scored as the Warriors improved to 10-4 overall and 7-3 in the MIAC's Blue Division.

Other offensive contributions for the Warriors came from Marc Rosin (3-for-4, double, three RBI); Jake Andrzejewski (2-for-3, three runs, RBI); Kent Krzysek (2-for-4, two runs, RBI); Taurrek Fikes (2-for-4, triple, two runs, two RBI).

Rosin, the winning pitcher, allowed one earned run on five hits. He did not allow a walk and fanned three.

"We didn't play bad early on, we just couldn't seem to get the bats going, which obviously kept the game close, Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "We had a huge fifth inning (11 runs) and we hit the ball the way I know we are capable of."

The loss drops Oakland Christian to 5-11 overall and 0-10 in the MIAC Blue.

**NOV 3, CHURCHILL 1:** In a Kensington Conference crossover Tuesday, the host Wildcats (15-10) averted a last-inning Livonia Churchill (21-9) rally to earn the victory.

Tyler Root, the winning pitcher, went the first 6.2 innings allowing one earned run on five hits and five walks. He struck out five before giving way to Logan Regnier, who earned the save when he got Churchill's Joe Williams to line out to first with the bases loaded in the top of the seventh inning.

Churchill starter Ben Matigian went all six innings, allowing three runs on six hits and two walks. He struck out five.

### PREP BASEBALL

Dan Cameron went 2-for-2 with a walk and Alex Tsakos had a bases loaded RBI single for Churchill.

Tyler Schwanz went 2-for-3 for Novi.

**SALEM 13, WAYNE 12:** Demetrius Dunlap and Scott Devine each collected three hits and smacked back-to-back homers in the second inning Tuesday as the Rocks (8-11) out-slugged visiting Wayne Memorial (11-16) in a Kensington Conference crossover.

Matt Rowland, Brett Ramirez and winning pitcher Tommy Rodriguez also collected three hits apiece for Salem.

Tom Briggs led the Zebras with three hits and four RBI. His 3-run homer in the top of the seventh cut the deficit to 13-12.

Losing pitcher Tyler McCurry also had three hits.

**LUTHERAN WESTLAND 6, MOONEY 2:** Thomas Handschumacher pitched a complete game and Kent Krzysek went 3-for-4 and scored two runs as Lutheran High Westland (11-4) earned the non-league victory Tuesday at Marine City Cardinal Mooney (6-15).

Hanschumacher allowed two runs, both unearned, on just three hits and two walks. He struck out four.

"Today I was very pleased with how our defense played and how good Thomas threw out there," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "We had two double plays and (Marc) Rosin made some very tough plays at third to keep them off the base paths."

"Our only blemish came in the sixth when we botched two Taylor-made double play balls. We got out of it and didn't let it affect us, which was good to see."

Taurrek Fikes also had an RBI, while Jake Andrzejewski scored a pair of runs for the Warriors.

"Offensively we did enough to win but we need to get the bats going more consistently as we get ready for the state tournament if we are going to have any chance of advancing," Wade said.

**SOUTH LYON 9, FRANKLIN 4:** On Monday, Tom Kort went 2-for-3 with a 2-run double and solo homer to propel the Lions (9-16) to the Kensington Conference crossover victory over visiting Livonia Franklin (13-16).

Winning pitcher Dylan Miller worked the first five innings before giving way to reliever Colin Tittle.

Dan Muller, Joel Trudell and Joe Barczuk each had an RBI for the Patriots, who were out-hit 10-4.

Trudell, who gave up five earned runs in four innings before getting relieved by Justin Forrestal, took the loss.

**S. LYON EAST 15, JOHN GLENN 0:** Justin Ulrich belted a 2-run homer and Pat Powers added a solo shot Monday as host South Lyon East (2-17) took four innings to mercy Westland John Glenn (8-21) in a Kensington Conference crossover.

Tyler Jedinak had a 3-run triple and later scored on a wild pitch to end the game.

Winning pitcher Luke Dymtro gave up just one hit, a double to Brian Monty.

Glenn starter Kevin Karsnick allowed seven runs in 3.1 innings before being relieved by Jake DeMoss, who allowed eight runs.

**SKYLINE 9-12, JOHN GLENN 7-8:** On Saturday, Westland John Glenn (8-19) dropped both ends of a non-league double-header to host Ann Arbor Skyline (8-18).

The Rockets couldn't hold 3-0 leads in both the first and second games before falling 9-7 and 12-8, respectively.

In the opener, Glenn starter Colton Lipsinski went the first 3.2 innings and took the loss.

Kevin Karsnick went 2-for-4 with an RBI in a losing cause. Brandon Smeltzer also had a hit and scored a run.

In the nightcap, Glenn committed five errors as losing pitcher Jesse Smitherman went 3-for-3 and scored four runs. Smitherman went the first 4.2 innings.

Caleb Clenney also went 2-for-5 with two RBI for the Rockets.

## SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

lead for keeps.

Tyler Lynch led off with a walk and came all the way around from first to third when Evan Piechota's single to right was misplayed.

Mark Wagner followed with an RBI single and Mike Vomastek's hot shot to third was snagged on a one-hopper by Ryan Bazner, who went to second on the force play, but Piechota raced home with the go-ahead run.

McDonald, who got out of the sixth with a timely pick-off for the third out, then set down the Chiefs in order to close out the game in the seventh.

"We did a terrible job on the bases," Canton coach Mark Bloomfield said. "I don't know what to say about it - we were

brutal. They (Stevenson) were better than us. They deserved it and we were terrible."

Stafford, meanwhile, gave up just four hits, walked two and struck out five in six innings.

"He (Stafford) did a real nice job," Bloomfield said. "Even that last run they (Stevenson) scored there - we had the corners in - the third baseman (Bazner) made a nice play. We yelled 'four.' We got the out at second base."

In the crossover meeting between the two teams earlier this year, Canton lost a 2-0 lead and fell 6-2 to the Spartans on a walk-off grand slam.

"We did the same thing last time," Bloomfield said. "We get a lead - if you sit around with a good team you're going to lose that game. We didn't learn from our mistakes last time."

Canton's base running mistakes were magnified in the

loss.

"There's no excuse," Bloomfield said. "We're getting picked off, first and third, with a full count to our five-hitter, whose batting about .450. 'Make sure he goes home' and he gets picked off. We just didn't use our heads at all today."

Meanwhile, the Spartans pushed the right buttons to pull out the victory.

"We did enough," Berryman said. "Troy Bodtke's heads-up base running on the bunt and Hayes getting a ground ball is key to come back (in the fifth)."

"And McDonald gutted it out and threw good a good seven and we got to them late. And we knew going in he (Stafford) would tire out on short rest. That's what we were hoping, and well, it worked."

"It works because the players do things right."

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## BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

hits, four walks and a hit batter in 4 2/3 innings.

Stevenson scored a run each in the first and second innings and built a four-run cushion after five before the Chargers tallied two in the sixth.

Stevenson's Tyler Lynch also collected two hits, while Brandon Jurczynsyn, J.J. Petterson and Josh DeYonker each drove in a run.

Stephen Foster went 2-for-3 for the Chargers, while Joe Williams added an RBI.

**CHURCHILL 1, FRANKLIN 0:** In a pitching duel, Livonia Churchill (21-7) scored a run in the top of the seventh to beat Livonia Franklin (12-15) in a semifinal game.

Churchill senior right-hander Troy Bogenschutz went all seven innings to pick up the victory. He allowed just five hits and did not allow a walk.

Franklin senior right-hander Brent Marzion was the hard-luck loser, going the distance himself as he allowed just four

hits. He hit one batter and did not give up a walk.

The Chargers started the game-winning rally when Ben Matigian's double just eluded a diving attempt by Franklin center fielder Dan Muller. Mike Rybinski's sacrifice bunt moved Matigian to third and Dan Cameron's sacrifice fly to center brought home the game-winning run.

Tyler Dewhirst had two hits in a losing cause for the Patriots.

**STEVENS 12, CLARENCEVILLE 2:** In the first semifinal of the day, Livonia Stevenson (21-8) scored six runs in the second inning and added five more in the fourth Saturday to mercy Livonia Clarenceville (9-7) in the City Tourney.

Winning pitcher Mark Wagner, a senior, worked all five innings allowing just four hits. He fanned four and walked four.

Losing pitcher Damien Quarles gave up six runs on three hits and five walks in two innings before giving way to Jimmy Moody.

Clarenceville committed three errors and issued 10

walks.

Mike Vomastek and J.J. Petterson each drove in two runs, while Tyler Lynch was on base four times and added a two-run double.

Mark Wagner, Brendon Hayes, Josh DeYonker and Evan Piechota each added an RBI.

Zac Rosen went 2-for-2 with an RBI for the Trojans. Ben Gehan also knocked in a run, while Eric Trotter doubled and scored a run.

**FRANKLIN 6, CLARENCEVILLE 0:** Joe Barczuk tossed an eight-hit shutout and knocked in three runs Saturday as host Livonia Franklin (13-15) won the consolation game against Livonia Clarenceville (9-8) in the City Tourney.

Barczuk went all seven innings and had four strikeouts and no walks. He had a two-run single in the first inning and added an RBI double in the fifth.

Josh Gorman also went 2-for-3 and scored twice.

Losing pitcher Damien Sanchez went all six innings, allowing all six runs on seven hits and four walks,

dominated the first two singles flight as senior Angelica Woods (No. 1) captured 36-of-37 games en route her first regional crown, while freshman Carolyn McCullen (No. 2) won 28 straight games.

Woods downed Alexis Card of Southgate Anderson, 6-0, 6-1, while McCullen defeated Leslie Reynolds, 4-0 (retired).

Franklin's No. 3 doubles team, Renee Kozakowski and Nicole Jarecki, and its No. 4 doubles, Jamie and Kayla Buchanczenko, both fell in the regional semifinals.

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## Marian OT goal denies Blazers in league final

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

### GIRLS SOCCER

Livonia Ladywood's bid for a Catholic League girls soccer title came to a cruel conclusion Saturday against top-ranked and defending Division 2 state champion Birmingham Marian.

After the two teams battled to a 1-1 draw through regulation time, Marian won the overtime coin toss and put the ball deep into Ladywood's end.

The Blazers' Allison Bielski tackled the ball away from Marian's Danielle Mazur inside the 18-yard box, but the ball wound up on the foot of Elizabeth Tresnak, who finished the game-winner just 30 seconds into the OT and 2-1 victory.

Marian improved to 13-2-1 overall with the win, while No. 6-ranked Ladywood dropped to 11-2-6.

It was 0-0 at halftime in the closely contested match.

Marian's Martha Stevens broke the scoreless deadlock with a penalty kick in the 51st minute, but Ladywood's Kelly Capoccia tied it in the 71st minute off a long cross from Emily Huddleston.

"Both teams really dug in at the defensive end of the field," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "Quality scoring chances were hard to come by for everyone. I thought their center back

(Stevens) was the difference in the game. Dominique (Sarnecky) and her battled all day. It was fun to watch."

Marian outshot the Blazers, 10-7.

Ladywood goalkeeper Maddie Reed made five saves, while Marian's Makenzie Larson had to make just two stops.

The Blazers suffered a key loss when midfielder Paige Brennan left the game with 20 minutes to play after re-aggravating a knee injury. "Obviously you never like to lose, but I am pleased across the board with our effort," Shingledecker said. "It was great to see us rally and score after Paige left the game."

**COUNTRY DAY 2, LADYWOOD 1:** On Tuesday, Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day (14-4) got goals from Alleina Szydowski and Maria Haugen to beat Livonia Ladywood (11-3-6) in a non-league match.

Szydowski's goal came on a breakaway in the 24th minute and Haugen scored on a header off a corner kick in the 47th minute to make it 2-0.

Ladywood came back in the 72nd minute when Catherine Garber finished off a free kick by Kelly Capoccia that hit the goal post.

Goalkeepers Maddie Reed (Ladywood) and Rachel Bergman (Country Day) each made three saves.

"This was a good match for us heading into districts," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "Country Day is well organized and has some excellent players. I think our team as a whole is excited about getting into tournament play next week."

**LUTHERAN WESTLAND 5, SUMMIT 1:** Julia Yancy recorded two goals and two assists Tuesday as host Lutheran High Westland (9-4-1) downed Romulus Summit Academy in a non-conference encounter.

Taylor Wiemer, Beth Cross and Angela Morrison also tallied goals for the victorious Warriors.

**CLARENCEVILLE 5, HARPER WOODS 0:** On Monday, Ashley Murphy scored a pair of goals and Sadie Zachos had two assists as host Livonia Clarenceville (6-11) blanked the Pioneers.

Kayla Zawol, Amal Musleh and Brianna Tuuri-Cesarz also tallied goals for the victorious Trojans, who led 2-0 at intermission.

Tuuri-Cesarz started in goal before being lifted for Rachel Kirschweg, who completed the shutout over the final 65 minutes.

## Swift kick: Rocks pound Churchill

Livonia Churchill girls soccer coach called it "a total Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde act."

The Chargers fell flat in Tuesday's KLAAS Kensington Conference third-place crossover match falling to Salem, 6-0.

Churchill now stands 10-5-2 overall, while Salem improves its record to 8-6-2.

Salem goal scorers included Kristina Klusek, Emma Tardiss, Lily Burnstein, Katelynn Krause, Gusti Kummer and Emily Barfuss.

"It was an uninspired, non-competitive attitude by the team," said Hebestreit, whose team trailed 2-0 at halftime. "We have some sort of mental switch that goes off when we play on the grass at Canton. There was no passion, no energy. It looks like were a little fragile, a little timid in that field."

Despite the lopsided loss, Hebestreit hailed the play of senior captains Kelsey Rothermel and Rachel Zukowski. "They kept playing and kept playing hard," he said.

**STEVENS 6, FRANKLIN 0:** Dayna Stevens scored twice, while Allison Corp added a goal and two assists Monday night as host Livonia Stevenson (6-9-2) defeated Livonia Franklin (5-11-2) in a Kensington Conference crossover.

Shannon Black, Emily Chrzasz and Krista Kane also tallied goals for the Spartans, who led 4-0 at halftime.

Michelle Krawczyk started in goal for the Spartans before being relieved by Cate Marchione, who preserved the shutout by saving a second-half penalty kick.

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# NEWSPAPERS OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY



## Knowledge, Experience, Dedication

The Observer Team has more than 100 years of experience covering youth, prep and local college sports teams. Our team is dedicated to providing what local readers expect - information about outstanding students athletes who compete in our hometowns and aim to be the best they can be in the classroom, on the field, on the court or in the pool.

### Dan O'Meara Sports Editor

**Beat:** Farmington/Farmington Hills youth/prep sports

**Experience:** Has covered sports in the Farmington community for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for more than 23 years and, for seven years, worked the same beat in Plymouth-Canton. Before joining the Observer, Dan worked for three daily newspapers - the Big Rapids Pioneer, The Daily News in Greenville and the Ypsilanti Press - from 1979 until early 1987.

**Education:** Graduate East Detroit High School; B.A. Journalism (minored in history and english) Central Michigan University in 1978.

**Awards:** Honored for sports writing, sports column writing and best sports sections by the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America.

**Personal:** Lives in Westland. Attends annual homecoming reunions with former 'Shamrocks' from EDHS and enjoys covering the gridiron sport.

**In his own words:**

"I enjoy reporting and making the Observer the go-to source for sports information, especially when covering big games and events of heightened interest in the community."

### Ed Wright Sports Editor

**Beat:** Redford, Garden City youth/prep/recreation sports

**Experience:** Worked as the sports editor for the Marshall (Mich.) Chronicle and Dearborn Heights Leader before accepting position as a publications manager for Midwest Publishing, Inc. Worked at Midwest Publishing, Inc. for 16 years before getting laid off in 2004 due to economy-based down-sizing.

Worked as free-lance writer for Observer from 1999-2002; worked as sports editor of Plymouth and Canton Observers from 2004-09. Developed and operated PlymouthCantonSports.com from August 2009 to February 2011.

**Education:** B.A. in journalism from Central Michigan University.

**Awards:** Many state and national writing awards for sports coverage, sports writing, column writing and sports features from the Michigan Press Association and the Suburban Newspapers of America.

**Personal:** Married to Laura (25th wedding anniversary in August 2011); three kids: Erik, 21; Brandon, 17; Ben, 10. Erik is a redshirt sophomore pitcher for Madonna baseball team, majoring in marketing and sport management; Brandon is a student at Cooke School in Northville; Ben is a fourth-grader at Tonda Elementary in Canton. The Wright family lives in Canton.

**In his own words:**

"Here is why I love covering high school sports: There are no lockouts, no holdouts, no taking plays off, no guaranteed contracts and no practice boycotts. It's refreshing being able to write about athletes who play for their school, their teammates, their coaches and their love for the games."

### Brad Emmons Sports Editor

**Beat:** Livonia, Westland youth/prep sports, Madonna University, Schoolcraft College.

**Experience:** Joined the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers in December 1977 and has covered the Livonia, Westland, Redford, Canton, Plymouth and Garden City sports beat for nearly three decades.

**Education:** Livonia Franklin High School grad where he played high school basketball on the patriot's first district championship team B.A. journalism, Franklin College, Franklin, Ind.

**Awards:** Catholic League Hall of Fame (1996) Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Honor (2008) O&E Journalist of the Year (1996) College Tennis MVP, Franklin College 1977 Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association Finish Line Award (2003) Honored for sports column writing by the Michigan Press Association

**Personal:** Lives in Plymouth and is an active distance runner with two local clubs (Northville and Downriver). He averages 30-35 miles per week.

**In his own words:**

"Covering community sports is rewarding because it's remains the last bastion of amateur sports. The athletes and schools remain appreciative of the coverage."

### Tim Smith Sports Editor

**Beat:** Plymouth and Canton youth/prep and Plymouth Whalers of the OHL.

**Experience:** Joined the O&E in 1986, as a news reporter for the Southfield Eccentric. He also covered news beats in West Bloomfield/Lakes (1991-97) and Farmington (1997-2001).

Joined the sports staff in 2001, covering the Redford - Garden City communities, Madonna University and Schoolcraft College.

**Education:** Graduate of Livonia Clarenceville High School, B.A. Mass Communication Wayne State University.

**Awards:** Finalist for Society of Professional Journalists (Detroit Chapter) Journalist of the Year Award in 1996, O&E Journalist of the Year 1998. Writing, reporting awards from the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America.

**Personal:** Lives in Livonia with wife Donna and 16 year-old daughter Elizabeth. He is the author of "Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies--Little Thumbs Up!" (1999). Is a longtime recreational ice hockey goalie.

**In his own words:**

"I cover teams from year-to-year, all season long. You almost feel part of the teams yourself and can't help silently cheering when an athlete or team does something incredible. Another plus: When moms and dads thank us for what we do, chronicling the efforts of their sons or daughters in a way they can't get anywhere else."

Meet the Observer All-Star  
**SPORTS TEAM**



# ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, May 26, 2011

[hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



BRING THE TASTE OF SUMMER TO YOUR MEMORIAL DAY MEAL  
FOOD, B9

# Celebrate Memorial Day with reflection, parades

Many Americans will stop and reflect at 3 p.m. Monday, May 30 in accordance with the "National Moment of Remembrance" called for more than a decade ago by the White House.

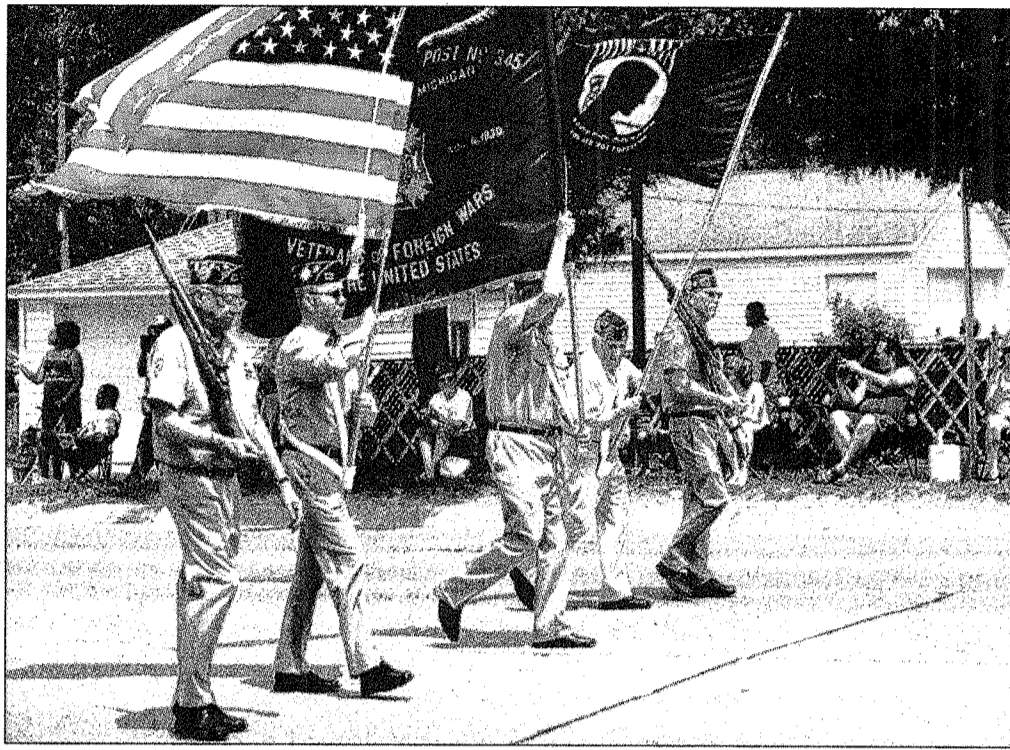
The resolution asked Americans to celebrate the "true meaning" of the holiday, the day the nation honors those who died while defending the country.

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day and was officially proclaimed in 1868 by Gen. John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. The first Memorial Day was observed May 30, 1868, with flowers placed on graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873.

In 1915, Moira Michael, a teacher, conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans organization to nationally sell poppies.

In 1871 Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

Residents can pay tribute to fallen heroes at parades throughout western Wayne and Oakland counties:



VFW members parade with flags in Redford during a previous Memorial Day celebration.

### CANTON

Memorial Day Service will take place at 1 p.m. Monday, May 30, at Heritage Park behind Canton Township Hall on Canton Center Road. The veterans group has been doing this service since 1989. For more information, call (734) 394-5100.

"Because of the Brave" a tribute to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country presented by the Beck Ridge Chorale, at 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday, May 30, in the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road. Visit [www.beckridgechorale.org](http://www.beckridgechorale.org) for details. Tickets are \$10 per person.

### FARMINGTON

The parade starts at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30, from the Farmington Plaza on Grand River Avenue and travels west on Grand River and ends at Oakland Avenue where a memorial service will take place at the War Monument in Memorial Park. The city of Farmington and Farmington Hills Police Officer, Firefighter and DPS Officer of the year will be recognized. For more information, call (248) 919-6917.

### GARDEN CITY

Memorial Day Ceremony at 11 a.m. Monday, May 30, on the front lawn of City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, between Ford and Warren roads. Guest speaker is retired Air Force Maj. Rick Briggs. Amber Grand will sing the national anthem. For more information, call (734) 793-1600.



Youngsters wave at marchers during a previous Memorial Day parade in Northville.

### LIVONIA

Livonia Memorial Day Ceremony will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 28, at Veterans Memorial Plaza, corner of Five Mile and Farmington. Held at Veterans Park Memorial Plaza will be a tribute to our veterans — complete with military salutes, a wreath-placing ceremony, special guests and music performance. For more information, call (734) 466-2418.

### MILFORD

Milford American Legion Memorial Day Parade will take place at 11 a.m. Monday, May 30, on Main Street in downtown Milford. The parade is expected to have thousands of attendees and is making room for 1,000 veterans to attend. As an added bonus there will be military aircraft overhead during the parade. For more information, visit [www.milfordlegion216.org](http://www.milfordlegion216.org).

### NORTHVILLE

Parade begins at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30, in downtown Northville. The annual parade is both solemn and joyful as it remembers those who died in military service, yet kicks off the summer season. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, strollers and four-legged friends to watch the procession, highlighted by the Northville High School Marching Band. For more information, call (248) 349-1300.

### NOVI

The annual parade begins at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30, and travels west along 10 Mile Road from Karim Boulevard to the Novi Civic

Please see **PARADES, B8**

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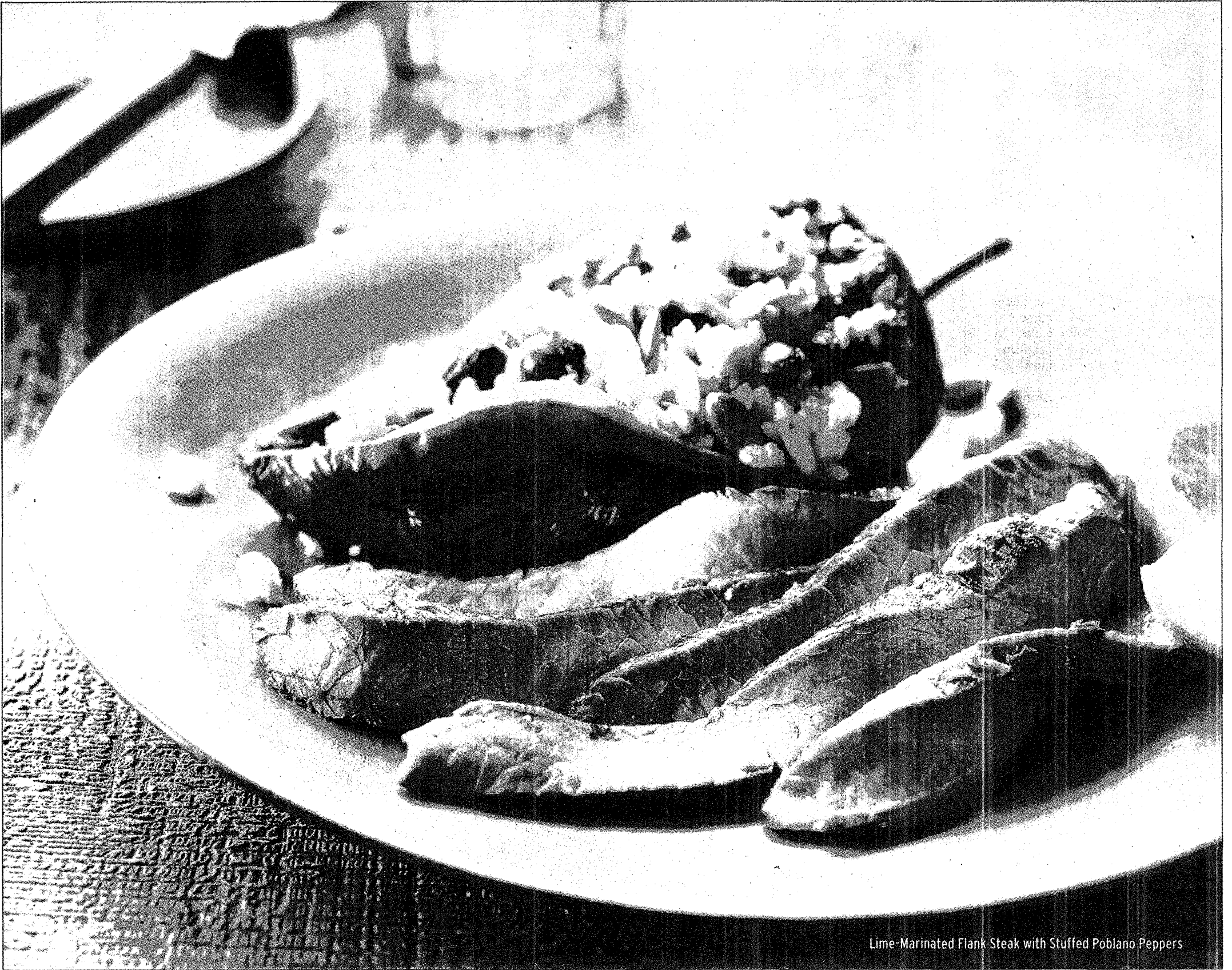
# FOOD

Thursday, May 26, 2011

hometownlife.com

### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay  
 Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883  
 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com  
 Comment online at hometownlife.com



Lime-Marinated Flank Steak with Stuffed Poblano Peppers

## FLAVORFUL, *festive and fun*

Bring the taste of summer to your Memorial Day meal

Memorial Day is often synonymous with a backyard barbecue to kick start the summer. As you celebrate this holiday weekend, have a delicious, grill-inspired meal ready in 45 minutes or less with these fun, flavorful recipe ideas. With mouthwatering grilled beef, canned tomatoes and bold bursts of flavor from lime juice, chimichurri and barbecue sauces, your Memorial Day menu is sure to be a memorable hit.

Get your grill sizzling with recipes like Lime-Marinated Flank Steak with Stuffed Poblano Peppers and Chimichurri Steak Wraps. And don't forget a refreshing salad to complete your grilling holiday menu. Spicy Barley and Black Bean Salad is a fast option with a flavorful twist — perfect for your Memorial Day table.

For more grilling recipes and beef cooking tips visit [www.BeefItsWhatsForDinner.com](http://www.BeefItsWhatsForDinner.com), and for quick and easy weeknight recipes that can be prepared in 30 minutes or less, visit [www.ReadySetEat.com](http://www.ReadySetEat.com).

#### LIME-MARINATED FLANK STEAK WITH STUFFED POBLANO PEPPERS

Makes 6 servings  
 Total Recipe Time: 45 to 50 minutes  
 Marinade Time: 6 hours to overnight  
 1 can (14½ ounces) diced tomatoes & green chilies  
 ¾ cup chopped fresh cilantro, divided  
 ½ cup fresh lime juice  
 2 tablespoons olive oil  
 1 beef flank steak (about 1½ pounds)  
 2 cups cooked brown rice  
 1 can (15 ounces) reduced-sodium or regular black beans, drained and rinsed  
 6 medium poblano chili peppers (about 4 inches long)

**Toppings:**  
 Toasted shelled pepitas (pumpkin seeds), crumbled queso frescos and lime wedges (optional)  
 Drain tomatoes, reserving juice for marinade. Set aside diced tomatoes with green chiles.

Combine reserved tomato juice, ¾ cup cilantro, lime juice and olive oil in medium bowl. Cover and refrigerate ½ cup marinade for rice. Place beef steak and remaining marinade in food-safe plastic bag; turn steak to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator 6 hours or as long as overnight, turning occasionally.

Combine rice, reserved ½ cup marinade, diced tomatoes, black beans and remaining ¾ cup cilantro in medium bowl. Season with salt and pepper, as desired. Set aside. Cut slit lengthwise down 1 side of each poblano pepper to create pocket, leaving stem and tip intact. Make another small crosswise cut just below the stem to form T-shaped opening. Remove and discard seeds and membranes, being careful to keep peppers intact. Spoon rice mixture evenly into peppers. Wrap each tightly in aluminum foil to seal.  
 Remove steak from marinade; discard marinade. Place steak in center grid over medium, ash-covered coals; arrange peppers around steak. Grill steak, covered, 11 to 16 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill 16 to 21 minutes) for medium rare to medium doneness, turning occasionally. Grill peppers, covered, 25 to 30 minutes (20 to 25 minutes on gas grill) or until peppers are tender and filling is heated through, turning occasionally.

Carve steak across grain into thin slices. Remove peppers from foil. Serve peppers with steaks and toppings as desired.



Spicy Barley and Black Bean Salad

#### CHIMICHURRI STEAK WRAPS

Makes 4 servings  
 Total Recipe Time: 15 to 20 minutes

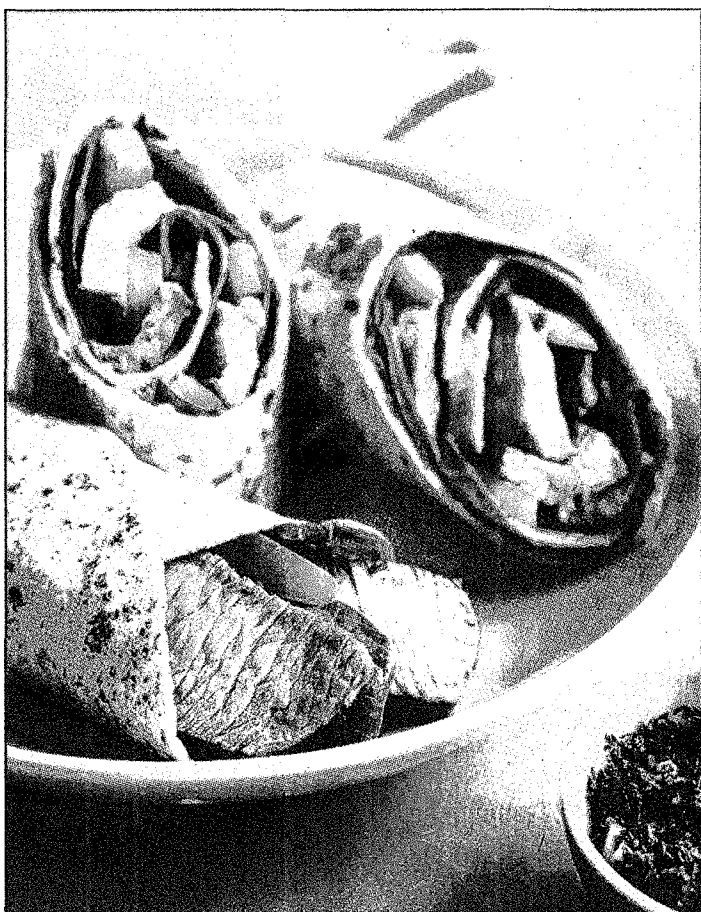
**Chimichurri Sauce:**  
 1 cup fresh parsley leaves  
 2 cloves garlic  
 3 tablespoons olive oil  
 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar  
 ¼ teaspoon salt  
**Steak Wraps:**  
 4 medium whole wheat tortillas (8 to 10-inch diameter)  
 3 cups fresh baby spinach  
 ½ large red bell pepper, cut into thin strips  
 12 ounces grilled beef steak, cut into slices  
 Place parsley and garlic in food processor or blender container. Cover; process until finely chopped. Add oil, vinegar and salt; process just until blended.  
 Spread each tortilla evenly with Chimichurri Sauce, leaving ½-inch border around edge. Top with equal amounts spinach, bell pepper slices and beef slices on top two-thirds of tortilla. Fold bottom of tortilla up over filling. Fold right and left sides to center overlapping edges; secure with wooden picks, if desired.

#### SPICY BARLEY AND BLACK BEAN SALAD

Makes 4 servings (1-½ cups each)  
 Total recipe time: 25 minutes

1 cup quick cook barley, uncooked  
 ½ cups frozen whole kernel corn, thawed  
 ½ teaspoon garlic salt  
 ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper  
 1 can (15 ounces each) whole black beans, drained, rinsed  
 2 cans (10 ounces each) diced tomatoes & green chilies, drained  
 ¼ cup sliced green onions, white and green parts  
 ½ cup shredded cheddar or Mexican blend cheese  
 Cook barley according to package directions; drain if necessary. Place barley in large bowl. Add corn, garlic salt and pepper; toss to combine. Add black beans, drained tomatoes and onions. Sprinkle with cheese just before serving.

Copy courtesy Family Features, with recipes from The Beef Checkoff and ConAgra Foods.



Chimichurri Steak Wraps











# AUTOMOTIVE

HOMETOWNlife.com

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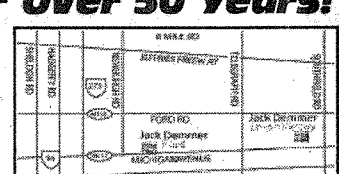
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