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IN BRIEF

July 31, 2011

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Election Day

Westland city offices, excluding the Bailey Recreation Center, the 18th District Court and the William P. Faust Public Library, will be closed Tuesday, Aug. 2, for Election Day, Rubbish pickup will not be affected.

Summer concert

Bill Bynum & Co, will perform as the Westland Summer **Concert Series continues** Thursday, Aug. 4, at the pavilion behind the William P. Faust Public Library on Central City Parkway, north of Ford.

The band is described as having "a sound that's at once as comfortable as old jeans and as fresh as a new blade of grass.... The band's core of guitar, pedal steel, fiddle, bass and harmony vocals can lean into country, veer toward bluegrass, or take listeners on a unique journey through Bill's original songs."

The concert starts at 7 p.m. Seating is limited, so bring a comfortable chair and sit back and enjoy the music. The Friends of the Library will hold a 50/50 raffle with the winner announced at intermission.

Plues and barbecues

Make sure your calendar is clear of engagements, except for one, Saturday, Sept. 24.

That's when the city of Westland and the Westland Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a new event sure to please those who love good music, food and drinks.

Blues Brews & BBQ will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the grounds of Westland City Hall,

36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road. The event will feature some of the best BBQ around, great blues bands - Front Street Blues Band from noon to 1:40 p.m., The Boa Constrictors 2-3:40 p.m. and The Alligators 4-6 p.m. - a wide variety of Michigan-brewed craft beers, a car show and a kid zone.

Bring the whole family to enjoy the day. For updates, check the city's website and Facebook page.

find the ball

Readers have until midnight tonight to enter the Westland Observer's "Christmas in July Shopping Spree" and win some cool cash.

It's easy to win. Just find the beach ball icon on the pages

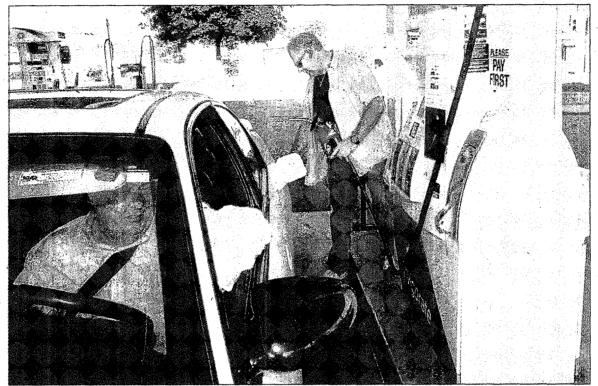


of the July 21 edition of Hometown Life Inspire. Observer subscribers

received a copy of Inspire inside that newspaper with an entry form and directions on Page 4 (of Inspire). Or you can enter online at hometownlife.com. Look for the "Win a Christmas in July Shopping Spree" under the Don't Miss section.

All entries that correctly list all the pages on which the beach ball appears have a chance to win one of three shopping sprees for \$250, \$125 or \$75.

Happy Christmas in July and happy hunting for the holiday beach ball. Don't delay. The contest is limited to Michigan residents only and only one entry per household.



Robert Guskovict of Westland answers the call to pump gas for Michael Harris, executive director of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Association, at the BP station at Venoy and Warren Road in Garden City.

Fill 'er up: FuelCall helps disabled get gas

BY SUE MASON OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Getting gas has gotten a little bit easier for disabled motorists in western Wayne County with the addition of FuelCall buttons at a gas station at Warren Road and Venoy in Garden City.

The BP station is the 10th such facility to install FuelCall buttons at two of its pumps. The FuelCall button allows disabled drivers to notify the attendant that they need refueling assistance.

"We've been active in getting the buttons installed in gas stations since 2008. Our goal is to see one at every gas station in the area," said Michael Harris, executive director of Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Harris calls the FuelCall button "a quality of life item" because it provides a "bit of independence" for the disabled. Instead of needing a passenger who can get out and pump gas, they need only pull into a station with FuelCall,

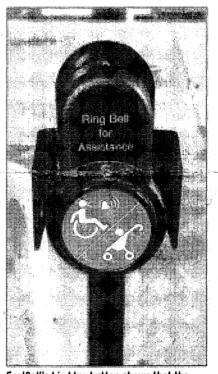
pull up to a designated pump and push a button, alerting the attendant that they need assistance.

A sign on a post above the pump lets drivers know the times and days the services is available, as well as a number to call for information. At the BP in Garden City, the button also is available to parents who don't want to leave children unattended in their vehicles.

Fueling assistance is required under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and there are ADA incentives of up to 50 percent to get gas stations to install the buttons. The setup costs about \$1,200, which is reduced by half.

"It helps pay for itself with the increase business it generates plus the goodwill it generates," Harris said. "A lot of times it's a matter of educating the gas station owner. There's a company, Inclusion Solutions out of

Please see FUELCALL, A2



FuelCall's big blue button shows that the services is for the disabled and parents with small children.w

RESA board to interview 7 for W-W appointment

BY SUE MASON

Two former school trustees are among seven individuals who will interview before the Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency board in hopes of being appointed to fill a vacan-

cy on the Wayne-Westland school board. The five-member RESA board will hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, to find a replacement for William Gabriel, who resigned May 26. The RESA board is making the selection after the Wayne-Westland school board failed to muster the necessary four votes to appoint Scott Davis to fill the vacancy within 30 days of Gabriel's resignation.

The RESA board meeting will be held at the Wayne RESA Education Center, 33500 Van Born Road at Howe, Wayne. The board will interview the candidates, and will hear public comment - speakers will be limited to three minutes

 before making a decision. This is Davis's fourth try at landing a seat on the Wayne-Westland school board. In addition to this vacancy, Davis, the general manager of Value City Furniture in Westland, was a candidate for an appointment in February to fill the remaining five months of Martha Pitsenbarger's term. He also was a candidate in the May school election,

where he placed fourth. He will face a challenge from former board members Jeffrey Hayton and Frederick Weaver, as well as from Bhagwan Dashairya, Michelle Sample, Virginia Shroat and Kevin Headrick.

Hayton is a quality assurance analyst with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget who was tapped to fill the Pittsenbarger vacancy until June 30. He

Please see BOARD, A2

Police: Auto shop owner used money from bogus charges to pay bills

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The owner of a Westland repair shop will be in 18th District Court Tuesday for a preliminary hearing on a charge that he made five fraudulent charges on a credit card belonging to the daughter of a customer.

Michael Tlais of Westland has been charged with one count of credit card fraud, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail, a fine and full restitu-

tion. He was arraigned before District Judge Mark McConnell Thursday. A not guilty plea was entered and bond was set at \$50,000/10 percent.

Westland police arrested Tlais on Wednesday after receiving a complaint from an Indiana woman that more than \$9,200 in charges had been made to her debit card by the Westland Auto Repair, 29414 Warren Road, on three occasions after she used it to pay for repair work done on her mother's car.

According to police, the woman authorized a charge of \$383.99 for the repairs which showed up on her account on July 8. However, two additional charges were made on July 13 and July 18 and three more on July 25. All of the transactions, totaling \$9,219.95, were initiated by Westland

Auto Repair. The man offered police several reasons for the additional charges, including being a computer error, but eventually said he had financial problems and

had used the money to pay personal

"He may have seen an opportunity because of the victim lived out of state and because she gave him the information over the phone," said Police Sgt. Todd Adams.

This isn't the first time that there have been complaints about overcharges on credit cards involving the repair shop. According to police, in a 2008

Please see CHARGED, A2

Judge delays ruling on trial in court embezzlement case

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The decision on whether a former Westland 18th District Court clerk should stand trial on a charge of stealing money posted for bond will be made Sept. 16.

Judge William Hultgren has given attorneys in the case 30 days in which to file briefs before making his decision following a hearing Monday, July 25, in 19th District Court in Dearborn.

Westland resident Lynne Marie Handzlyk, 52, is charged on three felony counts of embezzlement. The charges against Handzlyk are being handled through the Dearborn district court to avoid a conflict of interest in Westland.

An investigation by the Michigan State Police was requested by the court administrator after an audit found \$2,000 in court funds were missing. A not guilty plea has been

Please see DELAY, A2

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INDEX

Plymouth MI

APARTMENTS C3 AUTOMOTIVE C5

CROSSWORD PUZZLE C4

REAL ESTATE C2

case, \$1,995.23 was charge to Westland woman's credit card for a repair bill of \$195.23. The woman didn't notice the overcharge until she received her credit card statement. When she called the shop, she was told by the owner that the mistake was made by her credit card company. However, the card company advised her that

it was fraud and to contact police.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

She did, but not before trying to get the money back. The woman kept calling the shop and eventually received two personal checks which she couldn't cash them because of insufficient funds in the account. That case was resolved when the owner of the repair business re-credited the overcharged amount plus the amount of the original repair bill. A second similar case was reported in 2005.

In that instance, a customer's credit card was fraudulently charged some \$5,400 on two different days. While the owner didn't confirm or deny the additional charges, he did give the woman three checks two covering the additional charges to the account and one for interest. The checks also bounced.

When questioned by police, the man said he was unaware the checks had not cleared because he had been out of the country for a month, settling his father's affair. He told police he would make good of money within 10 days, however, the woman didn't receive any money until he was arrested by police for fraud. He gave the woman \$1,000 at that time and later gave her \$1,500 in travelers' checks. He paid off the remaining amount within days of a court appearance.

Those victims were elderly women, and there may be other victims out there," said Adams. "The charges may not have been for large amounts,

they may have been smaller ones that people wouldn't easily notice.'

Tlais could plead guilty to charge at the hearing next week. However, that will not be the end to his problems. The State of Michigan has been notified by police that his mechanic and business licenses have expired.

"The state is going to want to investigate that," Adams

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A full list of gas stations offering fuel assistance for the disabled can be found on the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Pump Guide website at www.pumpguide.com. Gas stations offering FuelCall assis-

14 area gas

stations

offer FuelCall

assistance

Garden City

tance include:

• BP, 32889 Warren Road, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; call (734) 762-490

Westland

- Sunoco, 8405 N. Inkster Road, available 24 hours a day seven days a week; call (734) 525-6109
 - Marathon, 37401 Joy
- Marathon, 37368 Ford, 6 a.m. to midnight seven days a week; call (734) 728-4265
- Marathon, 32919 Cherry Hill, Westland
- · Marathon, 29424 Ann Arbor Trail
- Sunoco, 31215 Warren Road; call (734) 522-0606

Canton

 Cascardo Oil Co., 42438 Warren Road, 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday and 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; call (734) 459-4437 Redford

• Marathon, 14301 Telegraph, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday; call (313) 538-1555

Farmington

• Marathon, 32340 Grand River, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week; call (313) 731-1590

Southfield

- USA Speed Stop, 24960 Telegraph, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; call (248) 357-3221
- · Southfield Fuel Stop, 26450 Lasher, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday; call (248) 356-7009

Novi

· Sovels Service Station, p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; call (248)

Chicago, which is working with BP. We're hoping to get BP and Marathon to install FuelCall in all of their gas stations in the United States."

Harris also is hoping to get the Kroger Fuel Centers and Meijer gas stations to install FuelCall.

"We're always working on something to try and introduce new people to the service," he said. "I'd like to see Meijer have it, but we haven't been successful. Meijer will provide the service, but you have to beep the horn or call them. With this, you push a button and a little jingle goes off and lets them know you need assistance."

The MPVA-sponsored pumpguide.com website provides an online directory of gas stations willing to provide assistance for the disabled. While there's at least 1,000 stations listed, for most, "there's no way to contact them unless you honk the horn or call them ahead of time," Harris said.

As for promoting the FuelCall locations, Harris said the best form of advertising is word of mouth.

"No matter where the service is, it's going to catch on," he

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VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE hometownlife com

campaigned for a seat on the board in May school election, finishing sixth among the field of seven candidates. He had recused himself from participating in making a decision on who would fill the remainder of Gabriel's term so that he could be considered for the

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appointment.

Weaver served on the Wayne-Westland school board for eight years, resigning in 2008 after taking a position with a church in Midland. He moved back to the community earlier this year to become senior pastor of Reflection Church in Westland. During his time on the board, he served three years as president as well as one-year terms as board treasurer and secretary.

Dashairya is the president and CEO of the management consulting firm of Dashairya and Associates. Currently a member of the Westland Downtown Development Authority, he has been a candidate for several elective offices, including Westland City Council, Wayne County Commission, congressman and governor, and for the appointment to fill the Weaver vacancy. He also served on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee and Building Improvement Team in 1993-

Sample also was a candidate to fill the Pitsenbarger vacancy. She is a parent volunteer at Hamilton Elementary, Marshall Upper Elementary and Stevenson Middle schools and serves as the financial secretary, Sunday school and vacation Bible school teacher at St. Mark's Missionary Baptist Church in Inkster. She also has been active in the Cub

Shroat also was among candidates who filed for Gabriel's vacancy. She is the senior director of business planning and analysis at the R.L. Polk

coach a U6 soccer team, volunteers for school activities and is active in her church. Headrick is the manager of material services at Providence Park Hospital in

Novi and Providence Hospital

in Southfield. He is a mem-

& Co. in Southfield. She helps

ber of St. Theodore Catholic Church and has been involved in Cub Scouts, PTA and Friends of the Sassafras Trails. The candidate who wins the

appointment will serve until June 30, 2012.

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Propane!

entered for Handzlyk, who remains free on \$5,000 personal bond.

Handzlyk served as the bond clerk for the 18th District Court. Her daily responsibilities included receiving and processing bond money delivered by the Westland Police

Department. She was responsible for documenting the funds after they were delivered by police and matching the funds to their corresponding court files. Handzlyk would then deliver the funds with the appropriate court file to the court's bond cashier.

It is alleged that Handzlyk embezzled \$1,000 on three times occasions - Oct. 20, 2010, Nov. 4, 2010, and Nov. 5, 2010. Handzlyk used the last

\$1,000 bond payment to pay back the first in an attempt to avoid detection. Handzlyk allegedly signed for the payments, but failed to turn them over to the bond cashier. Instead, it is alleged she took the cash for her own personal

Handzlyk faces a maximum possible penalty of 10 years in prison, if convicted.

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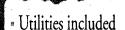
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Resident Dorothy Perry and her children Dana, Tom, and Julie

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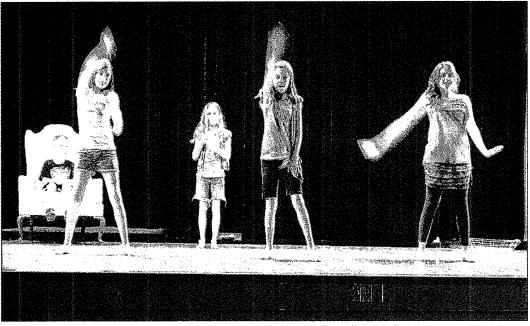
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Kennedy Klauza, Meghann Butchart and Riley Klauza dance to the song "Happily Ever After."

Shining Stars Theater debuts with 'The Story of Grimridge'

BY SUE BUCK **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Plymouth resident Andrea Fisher saw a need in Garden City and responded by developing a youth theater pro-

The group's first production, The Story of Grimridge, has one show at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at Henry Ruff Elementary School at Henry Ruff and Maplewood, east of Merriman. Tickets are \$5, available at the door.

Fisher, 19, a student at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, has had a passion for theater ever since she began performing in youth theater shows as a young child.

"There were no children's theaters in Garden City, leaving the kids with no place to perform close to home," Fisher

She wanted to find a way to provide those kids the with same chance that she had to perform onstage. After months of numerous phone calls, e-mails and sending out 300 fliers to different schools,

the idea of Shining Stars Theater became a reality.

"Today, there are 10 very talented girls and boys, ages 8-12, all from Garden City, performing in the program," Fisher said.

She said planning took months and she heads the next day back to college, where she is studying communications and creative writing.

Her mother, Michelle Fisher, is the producer. The performers helped to

write the play, the story of a young girl, Lily, who doesn't believe in "happily ever afters." She finds herself lost in the Kingdom of Grimridge, which is being ruled by the evil Lady Minerva. Lily befriends mermaids, elves and fireflies and learns about the horrible things being done to the kingdom. She must find the courage to stand up to Lady Minerva and, along with Prince Dylan and the rest of her friends, make the kingdom a better place for everyone.

"The Story of Saving Grimridge is a fun-filled fairy

tale with lots of singing, dancing and even sword-fighting," Fisher said.

The full cast has 10 performers: Bethany Stoddart as Lily, Emily Proctor as Lady Minerva, Dominic Tomasi as Prince Dylan, Meghann Butchart as Mrs. Cobblestone, Riley Klauza as Aqua the Mermaid, Arianna Sawyer as Kayla the Elf, Alison Kindred as Spinz the Body Guard, Alyssa Griglio as Madame Delia the Gypsy, Lucas Stoddart as the Messenger and Kennedy Klauza as Glow the Firefly.

Proctor, 12, said that she enjoys her role as Lady Minerva because her character gets to be in charge. Tomasi, 11, also like his role as Prince Dylan.

"He gets taken to the dungeon and has to find a way to get free," he said.

Riley Klauza, 11, also plays Mother Nature.

"I'm friends with the firefly and I help Lily solve her problems," Klauza said.

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Shining Stars players Alison Kindred, Lucas Stoddart and Dominic Tomasi take part in a sword fight that breaks Prince Dylan out of the dungeon and defeats Lady Minerva.

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LPS looks at collaborative agreement for food services

Sunday, July 31, 2011

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Livonia schools officials are looking to collaborative agreement with Plymouth-Canton for food services after school board members told administrators they are interested in it.

One possible option is Livonia would share Plymouth-Canton's food services director and the districts would do joint purchasing.

Lisa Abbey, director of business services, said Livonia currently has a vacancy in that position.

"They would provide management; we would retain our food service employees," she

Abbey said she believes Plymouth-Canton would offer healthier and tastier food, get students through lines more quickly and increase participation by 20 percent, which would generate more revenue in the food services budget. She said even though the districts are similar in size, 10,000 students purchase lunch at Plymouth-Canton schools compared with 4,000 at Livonia schools.

In Plymouth-Canton, the high school cafeterias are like mall food courts with six options including Mexican and Asian cuisine, premade salads and wraps, and hamburgers. The elementary schools have carts with a wide selection of vegetables including chickpeas, said Nick Armelagos, Livonia's administrator of finance, who visited the Plymouth-Canton program.

Livonia's current lunch program meets all federal and nutritional requirements and offers fresh food and vegetables, Abbey said. But the Plymouth-Canton program offers students more choices.

The Plymouth-Canton director previously worked in private industry and has revamped their program, Abbey said, adding it has a

surplu

Livonia would have to hire an assistant director, buy about \$150,000 in equipment and add some staff, Abbey said.

hometownlife com

Livonia's \$3.5 million food services budget is self-supporting and has a surplus of \$50,000 to \$150,000 each year, she said. If the program were to generate additional revenue, some costs currently in the general fund could be absorbed by the food services budget, she said.

Trustee Gregory Oke said the state has been pushing for school districts to share services in order to cut costs. "I think this is something that would reflect well on our districts," he said.

Abbey said details of a collaborative agreement are still being worked out, and both school boards would have to agree to them. "None of the details are put into stone," she

ksmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2098

Target shopping spree helps kids get ready for school



Antonio Carney, 12, of Westland ponders which items to put in his basket during the Target School Spree on July 26 at the Westland Target store.

Youngsters served by the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army got a jump start on their back-to-school shopping, thanks to the Westland Target store.

Using \$80 Target gift cards and a reusable shopping bag to pick out much-needed backto-school clothing and supplies on Tuesday, July 26. Each student was escorted around the store by Salvation Army and Target volunteers.

Nearly 300 children visited Target stores across metro Detroit.

The Salvation Army and Target partnered to help 12,000 disadvantaged elementary and secondary students across the country as they gear up for the upcoming school year. The annual Target School Spree provided backpacks, calculators, pens, pen-



Target employee Debie Wright of Westland guides Amarea Wright, 10, also of Westland, through the company's Westland store during the Target School Spree on July 26.

cils, art supplies, clothing and other necessities the children may not otherwise be able to afford.

Education is at the heart of Target's giving and the Target School Spree is one way that Target acts locally to help kids learn and schools teach, paving a path to graduation.

As part of the Target School Spree, Target awarded all 40 of The Salvation Army Divisions nationwide a total of \$1 million in Target GiftCards and in-kind contributions for the shopping sprees. Nearly 500 Target stores participated in the one-day Target School Spree event.

ACHIEVERS

Named to Madonna University's Dean's List for academic achievement during the Winter 2011 term were:

Wayne residents Michelle
Denise Brewer, James
Anthony Davis II, Tina Marie
Lamb, Evan Forrest Parker,
Dolrick Dequina Rosales,
Kimberly Sanborn and Cheryl
Lynn Ziegler.

Westland's Lisa Lee Alarayshi, Abatchy Adele Edwige Allais, Maria Esther Altwal, Amanda Lynn Bailey, Meagan Bales, Daniel A. Baunoch, Carla Beaver, Geoffrey K. Bedner, Hailey Makenzie Benton, Nicole Deanne Bergeski, Brooke Eden Bode, Timothy John Boes, Cory D. Boutin, Kristen Marie Boven, Suzanne Marie Bower, Marie C. Bowles, Diana Lynn Brda, Mallory Jane Brosious, Erin Christine Burke, Yuliya Yevgenyevna
Buzle, Adrienne Kirsten
Camunag, Chelsea Chisholm,
JoAnn Michael Conner,
Danny Joseph Daniels, Krista
Ann Dawkins, Chelsea Louise
Dean, Elizabeth Therese
Dempsey, Cynthia Jenise
Dunbar, Geanine Deneice
Edwards, Stacey Ann Fields,
William Walter Francis,
Crissa Galvan and Lisa M.
Garbutt.

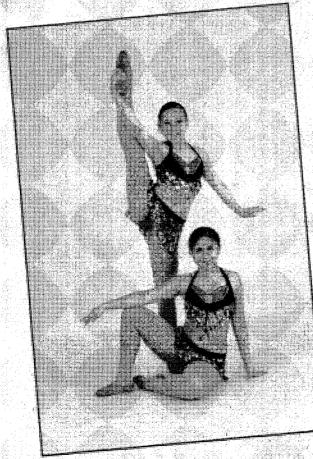


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Starting Aug. 2- Sept. 1

Classes begin Sept. 6th



1372 S. Lilley at Palmer Canton 784397,9755 Check out our websiter www.the-dance-concentration.

Keeping cool in dog days of summer

July brought us record-breaking temperatures, sometimes in the triple digits. While these incredibly hot days are convenient for those headed out to the beach, they can be quite uncomfortable for the rest of us. Extreme heat can cause the body to lose more water than it can replace, leading to muscle cramps, illness, dizziness and headaches, among other unpleasant

Indeed, high temperatures can be dangerous for those who do not take proper care to stay cool and hydrated. Heat illness can cause shock and even

When temperatures rise into the mid- or high 80s and above, make sure to drink water, avoid strenuous physical activity, and find a place to keep cool. Stay out of the sun and avoid alcohol and caffeine, as they both cause dehydration and increase risk of heat illness. During a heat wave, it is particularly important to check in on both children and elderly friends and relatives on a regular basis, as the younger and older among us are especially susceptible to dehydration and heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

If you find yourself without access to air conditioning or water when temperatures rise, seek a cool place, such as a basement or air-conditioned building. Drawing shades or curtains can reduce temperatures inside, and taking a cool bath or shower can lower body temperatures to protect against beat illness.

When temperatures skyrocket, the City of Westland opens cooling centers to provide bottled water and a place to cool off, hydrate and relax while temperatures soar outside. Designated cooling centers in the city include the Westland Public Library, the Friendship Center, the Bailey Recreation Center and the Dorsey Center.

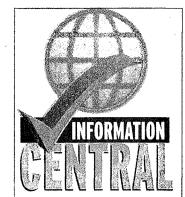
For more information about any of the above-mentioned topics, visit the Public Library of Westland or call the Reference Desk at (734) 326-6123. You can also search the online catalog at www.westlandlibrary.org at any time.

The library's summer hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

Highlighted Activities

Summer Afternoon Movie: "Cyrano de Bergerac," 3:30 p.m. Aug. 2, Adults and Teens

Join us for the summer version of Afternoon classics. This month's theme



is Foreign Films, this week: "Cyrano de Bergerac" starring Gérard Depardieu, Anne Brochet and Vincent Perez. This movie is rated PG. No registration needed

Fight Foreclosure One-on-One Counseling: 4-7 p.m. Aug. 2, New Day,

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

Teen Program - Art Journaling: 4 p.m. Aug. 4

Learn the ins and outs of keeping an art journal, which is a type of journal where thoughts are expressed through art rather than written entries.

Summer Concert Series in the Pavilion: Bill Bynum & Co, 7 p.m. Aug. 4, Adults and Teens

"With songs both traditional and original, and a sound that's at once as comfortable as old jeans and as fresh as a new blade of grass, Bill Bynum & Co. is a band that's easy to love and hard to quit. The band's core of guitar, pedal steel, fiddle, bass and harmony vocals can lean into country, veer toward bluegrass, or take listeners on a unique journey through Bill's original songs." Seating is limited, so bring a chair, if you have one. Winner of the 50/50 raffle to benefit the Friends of the Westland Library will be announced at intermission.

Genealogy - Researching Your Family's Heritage: 10 a.m. Aug. 6

Kris Rzepczynksi, librarian, Library

tor and member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, has designed this program for the beginner genealogist. Learn the basics in how to explore key resources, including census records and newspapers, online tools and databases to assist you in your research, and successful strategies for finding your elusive ancestors. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org/events or call the library at (734) 326-6123.

Genealogy - Coming to America: Research with Ship Passenger Lists: 1 p.m. Aug. 6, Adults

Kris Rzepczynksi, librarian, Library of Michigan genealogy coordinator and member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, has designed this program for the advanced genealogist. Immigration research is one of the most exciting and rewarding parts of family history research. This session will explore the available U.S. passenger lists and indexes, the genealogical information typically found in them and strategies for finding arrival records of your immigrant ancestors. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org/events or call the library at (734) 326-6123.

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

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

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library: 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Everyone welcome, including crochet-

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

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

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

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



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NEW Summer Salad

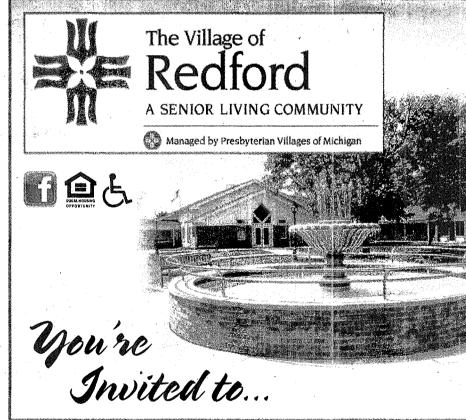
PEACHES & POPPY

Northville M-Sat. 7a - 9p Sun. 8a - 6p 20540 Haggerty Road just south of 8 Mile next to Trader Joes (734) 402-2214

Bloomfield Hills M-Sat. 7a - 8p Sum. Closed
43119 Woodward Ave. just north of
Sq. Lake Rd. in the Kingswood Shopping Plaza
(248) 481-7418

pieperspies.com

of Michigan genealogy coordina-



Our Courtyard Series

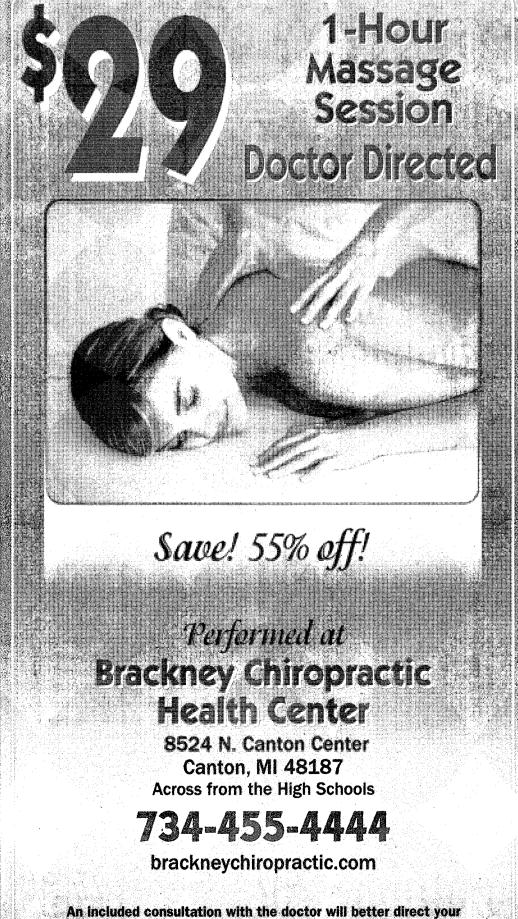
Be Our Guest Thursday Evening! August 4th At 6:30 p.m.

Craig Marsden 50's & 60's

For More

For More Information 313.531.6874

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massage therapist to enhance your massage experience. Regular price \$65

Offer expires 8/31/11

Dine and Dash

Eight students receive their black belts

Eight individuals have advanced to the rank of black belt at Guardian Martial Arts and Fitness in Garden City.

The students highlighted the American Kenpo requirements at a Black Belt Extravaganza held at St. Matthew Lutheran School in Westland on June 25 in front of family and friends:

The students had prepared for months, following years of training to get ready for black belt testing. They used all their personal fortitude, physical strength, leadership and selfdefense skills gained through training to earn their black

Before being eligible for the Extravaganza performance, students appeared before a private review board which tested on their knowledge and skill of the American Kenpo system.

"Many people want to be a black belt, but when they find out that work and time are involved, or they come to a challenge, they quit. Most black belts have the same amount of time invested as a college graduate," said senior



Kelly Perkins (back row, from left), Chris Sprow-Fernitz, Shelby Perkins and Doug Ozdarski join students Ariel Fretter (front row, from left), Taylor Padgett, Austin Thomas, Saadeh Jallad, Ali Dabaja, Christina Schowechert and Mariam Dabaja at the June 25 Black Belt Extravaganza

chief instructor Kelly Perkins, adding that American Kenpo is known for its street-smart selfdefense.

Earning black belts were Doug Ozdarski, second degree

black belt, and Ali Dabaj, Austin Thomas, Mariam Dabaja, Saadeh Jallad, Christina Schwochert, Ariel Fretter and Taylor Padgett, junior black belts.

Guardian Martial Arts and Fitness is at 30942 Ford, Garden City. For information about the American Kenpo or other programs available at the center, call (734) 266-0565.

Eating out has never been more fun than Garden City Chamber of Commerce's eighth annual Dine and Dash restaurant rally 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13. Enjoy the tastes of the vari-

ous Garden City restaurants. Park at one restaurant - you'll be assigned a starting location - then use the "Big Yellow Bus" provided by Garden City Public Schools, to visit all of the participating eateries before returning to your starting point. Enjoy free food, entertainment, if available, purchase drinks, if you wish, and experi-

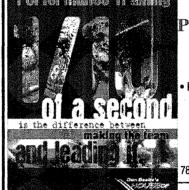
ence a taste of the restaurants in the Garden City area.

Tickets include a souvenir Dine & Dash shirt to be worn during the even, (the T-shirt is your ticket), complimentary appetizers from the participating restaurants, transportation and an evening of pure fun for family and friends.

Tickets cost \$18 for adults, \$17 for senior citizens and \$70 for a party of four. All tickets must be purchased in advance -limited seating available. They're available from Garden City Chamber of Commerce. Call (734) 422-4448 or go to the website, www.gardencity. org, and click on Hot Events.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

In sports that extra tenth of a second can be the difference between victory and defeat. House of Speed gives athletes of all ages the edge they need to win. Using certified trainers, specialized equipment and state-of-the art traing programs, House of Speed helps athletes enhance their explosiveness, speed & agility. House of Speed will help you excel at any sport. To register for a free speed pass session visit houseofspeed.com/livonia

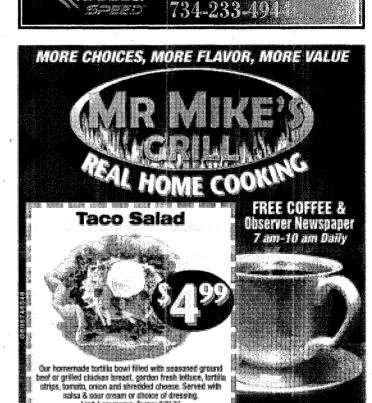


All Sports Performance Camps - August 8 - 12 • 1 - 3 PM - August 22 - 26 • 1 - 3 PM Cost \$150 per camp per week

Price includes a T-shirt (for all camps) To register, go to houseofspeed.com/livonia click on Camps then click on the Register button. Hurry, space is limited! 835 Market Street . Canton, MI 48187

Discounts available see website.

Any questions, please cal



www.mrmikesqrill.com

6047 NORTH WAYNE ROAD - WESTLAND (734) 729-6453 (MIKE) - Open 7AM - 9 PM Daily; Fri. & Sat. (iii 11 pm

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President, Garden City

Hospital

"A short term rehab at Four Seasons reduces the risk of readmission to the hospital ... readmit too soon and coverage may be at risk."

Over the last ten years insurance companies have been developing protocols to deny hospital readmissions. As part of recent changes in federal law, Medicare is following suit. "If readmission is for the same diagnosis, the government tries to deny payment," said Gary Ley, President and CEO of Garden City Hospital. "It has been an issue for a long time. They deny and we appeal." One of the first questions hospital discharge planners ask the family is "can you provide the necessary care at home?" If not, a brief stay at Four Seasons could prevent readmission to the hospital; 24 hour nursing care, cardiac rehab, physical therapy - rehabilitative care builds strength

before returning home and helps decrease readmissions.

Drop in for a Visit Anytime! Any Day!

734 416 2000 8365 Newburgh Road | Just South of Joy Road | Westland 48185

Take a Tour on our Website! www.fourseasonsnursingcenter.com





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capabilities. Offers & coverage, varying by svc, not available everywhere; see vzw.com. Speeds may be reduced for top 5% of users for up to 60 days when in congested networks areas. Limited-time offer. Restocking fee may apply, Rebate debit card takes up to 6 wks & expires in 12 months. LTE is a trademark of ETS1. 4G LTE is available in 55 metros & 80 major airports in the U.S. DROID is a trademark of Lucasfilm Ltd. and its related companies, Used under license. © 2011 Verizon Wireless

Fitness trainer rescues couch potatoes and dogs

BY PAT MURPHY OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There was a time when Brenda Woody didn't like dogs.

"I thought they were messy and gross," said the former Miss Michigan and bodybuilding champion, who with husband Randy operates a fitness center licensed in Redford Township.

But that was before the transformational experience of meeting Bertil, Randy's pet pit bull mix. "He melted my cement heart and made me into a better person," she said.

Once she got to know Bertil, Woody came to love dogs and develop a soft spot in her heart for those that had been neglected or abused. "Now, when I see a dog in need," she said, "I $\,$ must go." She helps strays that happen along, as well as those dropped off by friends, neighbors and strangers. "Sometimes we get pets from owners going into assisted living," she said.

Professionally, she and Randy - Mr. Eastern Michigan of 1986 and a national bodybuilding competitor operate the Better Life Fitness Center at 9562 Telegraph Road, where participants can lose up to eight pounds every four weeks. The center promises to help motivated people, "Lose weight, get fit and have fun."

At home in Westland, however, Woody and her husband own five dogs. They also temporarily shelter dogs that live in "foster homes" before being placed with permanent owners. Their goal is to rescue, restore and train dogs before finding them new homes.

"Barking is not acceptable," said Woody, who insists her dogs also get the nurturing needed for them to become good pets. It's not uncommon, for example, for her to drive around with four or more dogs in her van. "It helps with their socialization," she said.

They also work with prospective owners, explained Woody, who is also lead instructor for Michigan's Best Bootcamps and a motivational speaker. "We make sure they can handle the animal and will provide good care." Once a dog is adopted, they offer free followup training and assistance, she said.

One of the people who brought a stray puppy to the center is another Westland resident, Anna Shetler, also a self-described dog lover. "I saw him on Eight Mile in Ferndale, frightened and afraid to move, she said, "and I brought him

She and her husband John already own a dog and a cat, ing the puppy subsequently named Zap. So she took the puppy to Woody's rescue shelter, where she was confident he'd be nurtured and trained. Zap is recovering now, Shetler



Anna Shetler (left) and Brenda Woody hope to raise money to help rescue dogs like these.

a new home and new life.

In addition to helping develop business at Matick Chevrolet, Shetler coordinates charitable and community events at the dealership. "We have a history of involvement in Redford," she said, supporting Blessings in a Backpack, Little League, the Commission on Children's Issues and other efforts.

Her boss, Molly Williams, was ecstatic when she learned of the animal shelter, Shetler said: "She gave me the green light and became a big supporter."

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, the dealership is hosting a Community Garage Sale on behalf of the Better Life Canine Center. Tables are available for \$15 each, money that will go directly to the kennel, along with proceeds from the sale of hot dogs and other grilled items.

"It's phenomenal for the dealership to host the event on its busiest day," Woody said. "It shows the owners have a heart for doing the right thing, and they legitimately want to make an impact on the community."

Artist Pads,

Journals &

Dragging victim recovering from injuries

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An 18-year-old Westland man continues to recover after he was struck by a car and dragged during an incident Canton police say happened early July 2 near Beck Road and Woodlong Drive.

The victim remains in a hospital intensive care unit after he underwent surgeries, and police say he is facing numerous other medical procedures.

Authorities had feared early on that his condition could worsen, but he has continued to recover although he was dragged for what Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has called "a considerable distance."

Outdoor movie

Center, 36651 Ford.

free of charge.

Open house

The Westland Downtown

soring a Park It movie night

Development Authority is spon-

Wednesday, Aug. 24 in the park-

Yogi Bear will be shown on the

ing lot of the Bailey Recreation

big screen at 8:30 p.m., but the

fun starts at 7 p.m. There will

be live music, inflatable bounc-

ers, kid's activities and free

giveaways. There also will be

concessions with food available

for purchase. The movie night is

Westland Free Methodist

Church will hold a preschool

open house and sneak peak

The alleged driver of the car that hit him hasn't yet faced any criminal charges. Authorities are continuing their investigation.

The victim was struck by a car driven by a 20-year-old Westland man, Schreiner has said.

Neither man's identity has been released by authorities.

The victim was caught under the vehicle and dragged from the scene toward Beck and Saltz roads during what Schreiner has described only as "a large social gathering of young adults and teens."

The driver got out of the vehicle, left the scene and later turned himself over to authorities. He was released from custody as the investigation continues.

Canton police began investigating the incident after receiving a call shortly after 3 p.m. Saturday, July 2.

Authorities have said it appears the driver and the victim were acquaintances, though no details have been released about what may have led to the incident.

The victim was standing in a grassy area off Beck Road when the car allegedly left the roadway, struck him and dragged him.

Police have indicated that no other information about the incident is expected to be released while the investigation is ongoing.

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

AROUND WESTLAND

6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, at the church, 1421 S. Venoy, south of Cherryl Hill, Westland.

Receive enrollment information, meet the teachers, see the classrooms, and do fun preschool activities. Parents who enroll a child for the 2011-2012 year will receive half off the

enrollment fee - a \$25 savings. For more information, call the preschool at (734) 728-3559 or send an e-mail to wfmpreschool@yahoo.com. Or visit the website at www.livesarechanging.com/html/preschool.htm.

Farmers Market

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Artist Pencils & Pastels

Westland Farmer's Market is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday in the Westland City Hall parking lot at 36601 Ford Road, through Oct. 25. Stop by and enjoy a wide array of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams, flowers, crafts and many other great items.

For more information, call Robert Kosowski at (734)722-

Summer bowling

Westland Youth Assistance Program is hosting a free summer bowling league for Westland youth, between the ages of 10 and 16. The league meets 6-8:30 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 12 at Westland Bowl, at 5940 N.

Wayne Road. Space is limited to the first 80 Westland youth to register.

Art & Hobby

Project Display

For more information, call (734) 467-7904.

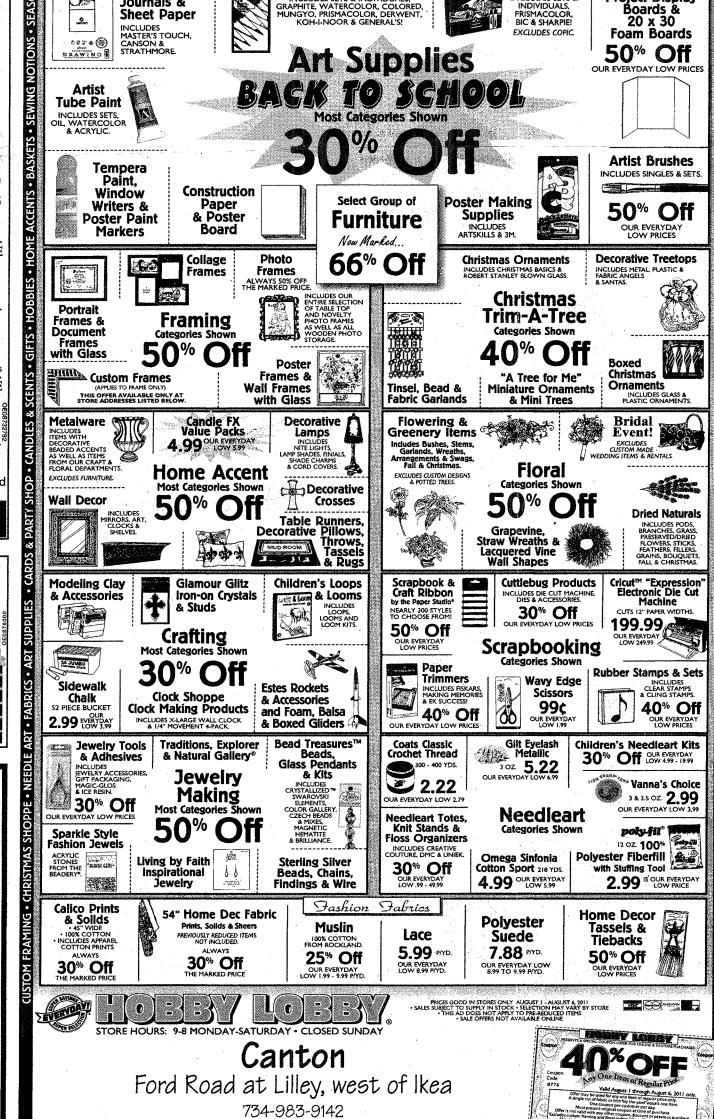
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Keep emergency funds in CDs, not annuities

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

GUEST COLUMNIST

Dear Rick: I just had a CD come due and I want some advice as to how I should invest the money. The CD is for \$25,000

and it acts as my emergency fund. Other than occasionally pulling out a few hundred dollars, I never touch this money. I know you always tell people they should have



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

an emergency fund of money and Lam comfortable keeping this \$25,000 as an emergency fund. Does it make sense to buy another CD? The teller at the bank recommended an annuity. It has a penalty period of 10 years, but the teller said I could pull out 10 percent a year without penalty. I'm neither a conservative nor an aggressive investor. What should I do?

A: I believe that you invest based upon your goals and objectives. With every dollar in your portfolio, you ought to ask what your goal for the money is. In your situation, the goal is to establish an emergency fund.

The key with an emergency fund is to access it quickly, without incurring unnecessary expenses, and at the same time not be subject to market volatility. Therefore when comparing a CD and an annuity for your emergency fund, the annuity is not appropriate. The CD is the route to go.

There are certain types of annuities I like. Typically, fixed annuities and equityindexed annuities can, in certain situations, be a benefit to investors. For investors who look for guaranteed rates of return without any principle fluctuation, certain types of annuities can be a benefit. On the other hand, annuities like variable annuities are not investor friendly and I generally warn investors to avoid them. However, as with all investments, there is a time and a place for them.

Annuities are not something I recommend for an emergency fund. They are typically for a longer-term investor. In addition, just about all annuities have penalty provisions. If you need to draw down on the money, particularly over a short period of time, you may have to incur substantial penal-

Emergency funds need to be liquid and that's why CDs fit the bill.

I do recognize that cancelling a CD before its maturity can incur a penalty, however, it's typically a nominal

one at best. With annuities, if you cancel before maturity, the penalties can be considerable.

One of the problems that many people have with CDs is the rate of return that they are currently paying, however, there are ways to increase your return. The best way is to shop CD rates. You'd be surprised at the difference in rates — particularly Internet-based banks which are trying to attract business by paying more than traditional banks. If you are willing to use an Internet bank,

that is the way to go.

Keep in mind that I would never recommend that anyone deal with a bank that is not federally insured. You may get higher rates of return by using non-federally insured CDs, however, it is just not worth the risk. When you invest in something like a CD, safety and security must be your primary concern, and you only get that with federally insured institutions.

Because of the Internet, shopping CD rates has become much easier. The website I recommend when it comes to shopping CDs is www.bankrate.com. All the CDs listed are federally insured.

One last note regarding CDs and that is to always check with your credit union. Credit unions will generally pay higher rates of return than traditional

Credit unions have similar types of insurance as banks, plus they're very safe and easy to deal with. Many people are under the mistaken belief that it's difficult to join a credit union - that is not the case. It has never been easier to join a credit union than it is today.

I recommend investors establish an emergency fund of at least three to six months of living expenses. The objective of this money is to provide instant access to funds if needed, thus protecting other portions of your portfolio. I recognize in today's low interest rate environment it is tempting to take emergency money and invest it in higher paying instruments. My advice is to avoid this temptation and focus on what the money is meant to accomplish. When it comes to emergency money, access and availability, as opposed to returns, are the key ele-

ments. Good luck!

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

50 miles, 50 states, 50 days

Kidney recipient rides bike to raise awareness about need for organ donors

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Eighteen people die each day in the United States waiting for an organ transplant.

So this summer, David Landsberg rides. And rides. And rides.

On Wednesday, Landsberg, a kidney transplant recipient in 1999, rode his bike in Livonia and on Hines Drive on day No. 24 of his "Donors Rock Ride," his quest to ride his bike 50 miles in 50 states in 50 days.

Landsberg was joined at the Cycle to Fitness bike shop on Farmington Road in Livonia by six members of the Racing Greyhounds riding club and Jennifer Tislerics, special events and partnerships coordinator of the Gift of Life Michigan. Tislerics said the ride was a "great opportunity to spread his message.'

Landsberg is riding his bike to educate the public and promote the need for registered organ, eye and tissue donors. More than 110,000 Americans are waiting for life-saving transplants.

Landsberg, who is partnering with Donate Life America on his Donors Rock Ride, began the ride July 4, the anniversary date Landsberg received his life-saving kidney from a 6-year-old boy.

"If there are no donors, there are no recipients," Landsberg

Landsberg of Dallas, Texas, was born with polycystic kidney disease, a progressive degenerative disease that leads to renal failure, he said.

Both kidneys and his spleen were removed in 1998. He was on dialysis three days a week, four hours a day and, he said, he "watched a lot of people die."

"When you're sick, you start defining yourself by what's happening in your life,' Landsberg said. "I would say I was a dialysis patient. Then one day I saw Kirk Douglas interviewed by Barbara Walters after he had suffered a stroke. She asked him why he was so happy, and he replied, 'I'm thankful it's not worse."

At that point Landsberg thought about Christopher Reeves, who was paralyzed from his horse-riding accident, yet Reeves never gave up in his efforts to regain mobility. "I thought, 'I've got it easy," Landsberg said. "I was more grateful for what I had versus what I didn't have."

Landsberg, founder of the Society for Organ Donor Awareness, calls July 4 his "Independence from Dialysis Day." He kicked off the ride in Austin, Texas, that day and will conclude it Aug. 23 in Oklahoma City.

His mission is also to register new donors in every state.

Landsberg said he feels "fantastic" and is thankful and grateful for the family who gave him his opportunity to



live with the donated kidney. Bike riding is "pretty grueling," doing the 50 miles day

after day, he said. "I want to get people's attention to what I'm doing and open up dialogue to the whole donor process," Landsberg

Landsberg has ridden his Specialized Roubaix bike 1,200 miles as of Wednesday. When he finishes in August, Landsberg will have ridden 2,600 miles. He added two more cities to bring the total number to 52 on the ride.

Six members of the Livoniabased Racing Greyhounds joined him Wednesday morning at the Cycle to Fitness bike shop on Farmington Road before heading out south on to Farmington Road to Hines Drive.

"We liked his story, and we like riding," said Daniel Sterling, a Livonia resident who leads the riding club.

M.V. Carroll of Farmington Hills, also a member of the Racing Greyhounds, said the group enjoys taking in Hines Drive. "It's the freedom of being on a bicycle with nature and out with friends," Carroll said.

"We're going to get a few miles in. It helps relieve stress," Sterling said.

Landsberg hopes more Michigan residents step forward and register to donate organs. "It doesn't cost any money," he said. "If you leave this Earth, you'll be a hero.

"We always look at people in the military, police officers and firefighters as our heroes. This is a way for the common person to be a hero and to make the world a better

Anyone who wishes to join the Donor Registry can do so at www.giftoflifemichigan. org, by calling (800) 482-4881 or by visiting any Secretary of State branch office. Michigan residents who join the Donor Registry receive a red heart donor emblem for the front of their license or state ID card so they know they are fully regis-

Abandoned vehicle auction: 08/06/2011 12 pm Sparks Auto and Towing, 31797 Block Street Garden City MI

1.	1992	Dodge	1B7HE6Y5N5627246
2.	1998	Ford	1FMZU24E2WUA20969
3.	1993	Infiniti	JNKAY21D8PM006379
4.	2001	Oldsmobile	1G3GS64C714227065
5.	1999	Ford	3FAFP15P8XR182144

Publish: July 31, 2011



CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING 11-001

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that a special meeting will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135. At the hearing all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard on the following agenda item.

1. 11-001, Regulated Use, 7139 Merriman is proposing to allow acupressure massage at the acupuncture clinic.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting and should be addressed to the Office of Community Development at 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48185. The plans are available during regular office hours for viewing at the above

Posted: August 10, 2011

Publish: July 31, 2011

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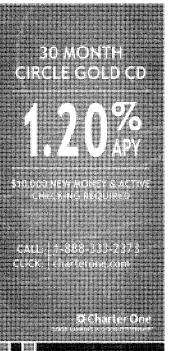
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CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeals will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2743-M. Fyfe-6158 N. Globe

Req. for a side yd. fence location variance and a 1'6" side yd. fence hgt. variance from Art. X of the Westland City Code of Ordinances in order to replace an existing 4' high chain link fence located in the north side yd. of the home with a 6' high vinyl screening fence; whereas Sec. 22-304(a) states that only rear yds. may be enclosed with a fence and Sec. 22-303(c) states that side yd. fences that are allowed cannot exceed 4'6" in hgt.

Petition #2744-J. Dobozy/Wayne Family Pharmacy-244 N.

Req. for a non-conforming sign variance from Ord. 248 in order to replace an existing 20 sq. ft. panel on an existing non-conforming

free-standing sign located at the site; whereas Sec. 15:3.6(b)(5) states that à non-conforming sign cannot be changed to any extent without being brought into conformance with current Zoning Ordinance standards.

Petition #2745-M. Thompson-33106 Armada

Req. for $20^{\circ}11^{\circ}$ front yd. setback variance from Ord. 248 to construct an 8'8" x 16'11" covered porch addition to the front of the home that would be 4'1" from the front lot line; whereas Sec. 7:4.2 requires a minimum front yd. setback of 25 ft.

Petition #2746-Heartland Drugs-34414 Ford Rd.

Req. for 50.5 sq. ft. sign area variance from Ord. 248 in order to install additional wall-mounted signage at the site that would comprise 250.5 sq. ft.; whereas Sec. 15:6.2(a) allows the space a maximum of 200 sq. ft. of wall-mounted signage.

Publish: July 31, 2011

County Commission adding Facebook to its web presence

easier to follow the happenings of the Wayne County Commission.

Thanks to a restructuring of the Commission's webpage that will provide viewers an easier navigation trail, along with regular posts to its Facebook page, visitors to both sites will now find greater accessibility to the important issues, views and events circulating throughout Wayne County, according to Commission Chairman Gary Woronchak, D-Dearborn.

By bookmarking the

Commission's website at www. waynecounty.com/commission/, visitors will find a more user-friendly system in gaining access to all 15 Commission districts and receive updated information released by the respective County Commissioners.

In addition, the website offers information dealing with the Commission's eight standing committees, four special committees, various department's ranging from the Commission Clerk's office to Fiscal Agency, newsletters and a list of recent news releases

7 DAYS

The Commission's informational Facebook page is available at www.facebook.com/#!/ WayneCountyCommission, or by simply searching for Wayne County Commission on Facebook. It is a great source for sharing event information, ceremonial tributes and accomplishments by Commission personnel, Woronchak said.

"Commissioners know how important it really is to connect with their constituents, and with the popularity of Facebook and the changes made to the county website, we are now able to do that better than ever," said Woronchak.

"There has been a concerted effort within the commission to deliver current information to residents in a manner that is easily accessible for all."

"I would encourage Facebook users to visit the Wayne County Commission page and click 'like' to keep informed on Commission activities," he added.

Retired general takes post as firm's veteran advocate

The Medical Team Inc., a diversified national health care services company with an office in Livonia, announced that retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone has joined the company as Veteran Advocate.

Fausone brings significant health care experience serving the nation's servicemen and women, company officials said. She will spearhead development of the company's Home for Heroes initiative, a program of clinical care, behavioral health and support services to meet the needs of veterans who have sustained life-changing injuries.

In addition, she will facilitate the company's ability to provide a range of home health services to veterans.

Fausone most recently served as Assistant Adjutant General, Veterans Affairs for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for



Fausone

Michigan. From 2001-05, Fausone served as the Assistant for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs working directly with the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs,

Force Health Protection and Readiness. Serving in this capacity, she assisted in developing and implementing programs, policy and operations for Reserve Affairs.



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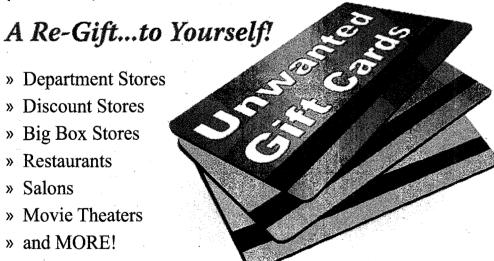




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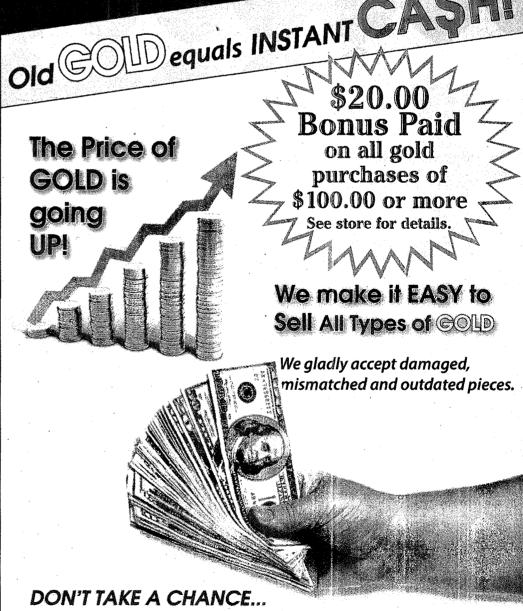


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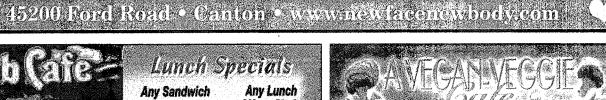
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Canton, MI 43137

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SPORTS hometownlife(iii)com

SUNDAY, July 31, 201

INSIDE

DOGS FOR A CAUSE



Heavy pedal

Triathlon in Big Apple on horizon for Plymouth couple

THE DIETER FILE

Who: Bill Dieter, 40 and Maria Dieter, 43, of Plymouth.

What: Both are veteran triathletes who will be among 3,000 athletes worldwide to compete Sunday, Aug. 7, at the 11th annual Nautica New York City Triathlon.

About the race: Participants will swim 1.5 kilometers, bike 40 kilometers (24.85 miles) and run 10 kilometers (6.2 miles). It is the only Olympic-distance triathlon in New York City.

Careers: Bill went to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and is a mechanical engineer at BASF in Wyandotte. Maria is a Wayne State University grad who earned an MBA and works as a project planner with Ford in Dearborn.

Other: The Dieters, who do not have children, also ran the Boston Marathon. They have two dogs, both rescued from the Michigan Humane Society. Scout is a lab terrier mix while Kona is a shepherd mix.

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth triathletes Bill and Maria Dieter had a marathon courtship — literally.

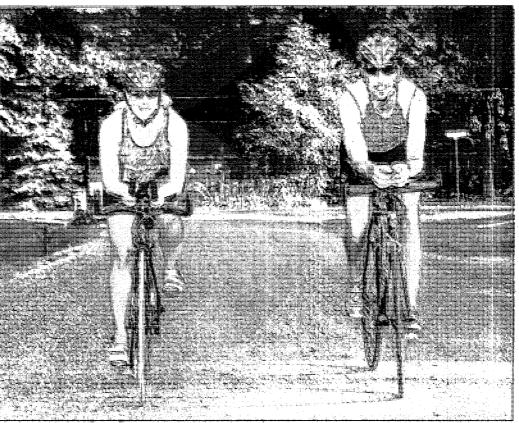
And now the Dieters, who are about to celebrate their first wedding anniversary, are days away from taking the plunge in an entirely different

On Sunday, Aug. 7, they both will swim in the Hudson River, bike along the Henry Hudson Parkway and run through Central Park as part of the 11th annual Nautica New York City Triathlon.

"It's going to be an awesome race," said Maria, 43, who has been active on the triathlon circuit since 1999.

She ran for a number of years, but got bored quickly, something rectified by the three-sport triathlons.

"When you get tired of one and you just want a little break, it's time to start focusing a little bit more on the other sports," Maria said.



Maria and Bill Dieter of Plymouth enjoy riding their bikes both along neighborhood streets (above) and at triathlons such as next weekend's in New York City.

Her husband, 40-year-old Bill Dieter, is a veteran marathoner who still loves to run.

But he branched off into tris in 2001. Now he wants to compete in a triathlon in all 50 states. That's quite a statement from somebody who a couple of decades ago merely watched the events on TV from his living room.

"I guess in my 20s I was too busy hanging out with my buddies, too busy playing softball and golfing," Bill said during an interview with the couple in their treadmillladen home. "There's always been an interest, but I never took the time and dedicated my time to training for one, and actually doing one.

"But after my first one in 2001 (at Clark Lake near Jackson) I was hooked."

Seven years later, it happened again for Bill, when he met his future wife — who actually had him beat as far as experience in triathlons.

And now, there's no doubt the Dieters continue to put a unique spin on their "quality time."

A mutual friend through Bill's job set them up in August 2008 and their first date, appropriately, was to go on a bike ride along Hines Drive from Nankin Mills in Westland.

NO TIME TO WASTE

She already was planning to put some miles on her triathlon bike anyway, so why not invite him to tag along?

"I'm not giving up a training date for some random dude,"

Please see COUPLE, B3

Harrison-MSU grid pipeline still flowing

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Aaron Burbridge will continue the tradition of Farmington Hills Harrison football players going to Michigan State.

The 6-foot-2, 185-pound wide receiver and defensive back for the defending

Division 2 state champion Hawks hopes to follow in the footsteps at MSU of ex-Harrison players like Bob Wasczenski,

John Miller,



Mill Coleman, Drew Stanton (Detroit Lions), Agim Shabaj and Mark Dell (recently signed as free agent by the Denver Broncos).

Burbridge, listed as a four-star recruit by Rivals. com, made a nonbinding verbal commitment to MSU after receiving offers from Michigan, Notre Dame, Ohio State and Illinois among others.

"A lot of people from Harrison have been successful in their careers at 'State' and have gone on to the next level, which I want to do,

too," said Burbridge, who had 36 receptions for 720 yards and two touchdowns as a junior for the 14-0 Hawks. "I've always been a Michigan State fan.'

Burbridge is the third Harrison player to verbally commit to a Big Ten school as tight end Devin Funchess and defensive end Mario Ojemudia are headed to rival Michigan.

"I didn't want to go too far away from home and they're looking for wide receivers, which was another big reason so I'll be able to come in a play a lot as a freshman," said Burbridge, who scored two TDs in last year's 38-28 state championship win over Lowell at Ford Field.

Burbridge also returns kicks and punts, and plays in the secondary where he recorded five interceptions (two returned for TDs) to go along with 13 deflections and 24 stops.

"He's the first kid we've ever had here where Alabama called," Harrison coach John Herrington said. USC, Nebraska ... all the big schools were there, but his main interest was Michigan State and Michigan."

Burbridge said he vis-

Please see GRID, B3

Poise pays off for Shepler



Jordyn Shepler, who will be a senior at Churchill, shot a 77 to lead all girls players Wednesday in the Motor City Junior Golf Championship held at Whispering Willows.

Motor City Junior boys results, B2

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's all upstairs for Jordyn Shepler.

The incoming senior at Livonia Churchill High kept her emotions in check Wednesday and fired an impressive 18hole total of 77 to lead all girls in the 2011 Motor City Junior Golf Championships held at Whispering Willows Golf

"I'm getting more consistent," said Shepler, a first-team All-Observer pick during school season for the Chargers. "I just have to remind myself to keep my mind in control after

Shepler, who captured the Girls 15-17 age division by 16 strokes, hit very few bad ones and nearly matched her personal tournament best of 76.

She was also able to overcome her disappointment when she shot 89-86-175 and failed to qualify for match play at the 33rd Golf Association of Michigan Girls Junior Amateur held June 27-30 at Michigan State University's Forest Akers

"I was putting well, good off the tees, good all-around," Shepler said her game on Wednesday. "I've been playing pretty consistent. I can always be better, but I'm getting there.

During three events on the Top 50 Junior Tour, Shepler said her scores ranged in the "80s and 81s." She also won a Players Championship at Whispering Willows, a course she is totally all too familiar with and works for during the summer months.

With the help of her high school coach and Whispering Willows pro Paul Worley, along with swing coach Dave Van Loozen of Edgewood Country Club, Shepler hopes to land a college scholarship someplace next year.

And she'll also hone her game next week at MSU's golf camp before the prep season begins.

Meanwhile, Imani Gunn and Kayla Whatley shot 93 and 97, respectively, to finish second and third in the Girls 15-17. Detroit's Erica Heath won the Girls 13-14 title with the second best overall score of the day with a 91.

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

SIDELINES

Shaw signs deal

Former Livonia Clarenceville High standout and Penn State linebacker Tim Shaw signed a one-year contract Friday with the Tennessee Titans of the National Football League.

The 6-foot-1, 236-pound Shaw, an unrestricted free agent, confirmed the signing Thursday night with the Observer and inked the deal on Friday, according to his agent Shawn Smith of XAM Sports.

Shaw, a standout on special teams, appeared in all 16 games last season with the Titans making 21 solo tackles and adding eight assists.

In 2009, Shaw was credited with a Chicago Bears franchiserecord 30 special teams tackles and his 20 "press box" special teams stops led the NFL.

Shaw was a fifth-round pick of the Carolina Panthers in 2007 where he appeared in 14 games before making three appearances in 2008 with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

He has a total of 70 career tackles in 48 games with two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

Paciero named

Former Livonia Churchill High and Schoolcraft College volleyball player Christine Paciero was recently named the 11th head coach in school history at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

Paciero most recently coached at Dominican University (III.) where she posted a three-year record of 63-28, including Northern Athletic Conference title and NCAA Division III tournament berth in 2010.

Paciero is a former assistant at Wayne State University and Cedarburg (Wis.) High School. She played on Schoolcraft's 1988 NJCAA National Championship team and helped Florida Southern to an NCAA Division II Final Four

Cole nets honor

Allegheny College (Pa.) freshman Patrick Cole (Livonia) was listed 22nd in the final 2010-11 Campbell/ITA Regional College men's tennis rankings in the NCAA Division III Central Region by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

The University of Detroit Jesuit High grad finished 18-4 in singles en route to North Coast Athletic Conference first-team honors, just the third player in program history to earn that honor.

He was also named NCAC Newcomer of the Year and NCAC Player of the Week twice.

Mi soccer recruits

Madonna University men's soccer coach Eric Scott announced the signing of two more recruits last week from nearby Schoolcraft

Also in the fold is Farmington Hills Harrison grad Dane Laird and Royston, England native Joe Carver (Meridian School).

Carver had seven career goals and 13 assists, while Laird added nine goals and eight assists for the two-time Michigan Community College Athletic Association champions who helped the Ocelots to a 2009 NJCAA National tournament berth.

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Ioanou bests teammate Proben in Motor City playoff

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Andrew Ioanou didn't bring the cake or the candles, but threw himself quite a birthday party Wednesday at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

The senior-to-be at Livonia Churchill High won a two-hole playoff over close friend and teammate Ben Proben to capture the Boys 16-17 age division at the Motor City Junior Golf Championship.

Ioanou and Proben each shot 75s, while another Churchill player, Cory Dare, took third overall just one shot off the pace with a

Both Ioanou and Proben bogeyed the No. 10 hole, but Ioanou took the title with a par on No. 11 followed by another bogey by Proben, who was a first-team All-Observer pick this year for the

"It was a good 17th, I guess I had luck on my side," Ioanou said. "He (Ben) is a good player. He congratulated me. We're pretty close. He and his brother Nick (who shot 81) I've known since we were five or six."

Whispering Willows is also Churchill's home course during the boys golf season.

Ioanou, who also plays on the Top 50 Junior Tour, has won two tourneys each this year at Livonia courses Fox Creek and Whispering Willows.

"It was tough and windy," said Ioanou, who once shot a 70 during a practice round at Whispering Willows. "We were hitting straight into the wind. My short game was pretty good, but I did not do anything else well. I was just scrambling.'

Ioanou, however, has been pleased overall with his summer

"I'm hitting more fairways and greens, I'm getting better," he said.

Meanwhile, Edgar Lewis IV, who resides in Heightstown, N.J., but spends his summer in Livonia, shot an impressive 76 to run away with the Boys 14-15 title.

Lewis defeated runner-ups Austin Harris and Ryan Riva by nine strokes.

JUNIOR GOLF RESULTS

2011 MOTOR CITY
JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
July 27 at Whispering Willows G.C.
AGE-GROUP RESULTS
Boys 16-17: 1. Andrew loanou, 75 (won
2-hole playoff): 2. Ben Proben, 75; 3. Cory

Z-note playoff), 2. Bell Probett, 73, 3. Coty Dare, 76; 4. (tie) Michael Wilson and Dante Cicchelli, 80 each; 6. (tie) Nick Proben and Nick Massa, 81 each; 8. Craig Whatley, 82; 9. Connor Murphy, 83; 10. Dominic DiLisi, 85; 11. Ryan Linn, 87; 12. David Nietzke, 88; 13. (tie) Nick Kruczynski and Justin Legel, 90 each; 15. Alox Watson, 98 Alex Watson, 98. **Boys 14-15:** 1. Edgar Lewis IV, 76: 2. (tie)

Austin Harris and Ryan Riva, 85 each; 4. (tie) Brent Perry and Jason Wysocki, 89 each; 6. Matthew Flood, 92; 7. (tie) Ljam McGuire and Luke Green, 99 each; 9. (tie) Jason Linn and Noah Pappalardo, 100 each; 11. Ryan Gliwa, 101; 12. Vincent Petro, 113; 13. Jack Pierson, 115; 14. Jacob Lynch, 123; 15. Jeff Flannigan, 134. Boys 12-13: 1. Saahith Mammadi, 92; 2. Joe

Murzyn, 96; 3. Alex Westphal, 105; 4. Kevin Conn, 111; 5. Brent Wilkerson, 113; 6. Nicklas

Conn, 11; 5. Brent Wilkerson, 113; 6. Nicklas
Beers, 133; 7. Michael Dubuc, 153.
Girls 15-17: 1. Jordyn Shepler, 77; 2.
Imani Gunn, 93; 3. Kayla Wheatley, 97; 4. (tie)
Laura Shureb and Elise Kendra, 107 each; 6.
Olivia Asta, 110; 7. Kathleen Karzewski, 117; 8.
Christina Briden, 119; 9. Natalie Boziomowski, 120; 10. Kelly Hernandez, 124.
Girls 13-14: 1. Erica Heath, 91 each; 2.
Caroline Bland and Mary Peltz, 107 each.
CLOSEST-TO-THE-PIN
Boys 16-17: Cicchelli, 4 feet, 1 inch; Girls
15-17: Shepler, 15-6; Boys 14-15: Pappalardo, 8-8; Boys 12-13: Murzyn, 35-0.
LONGEST DRIVE
Boys 16-17: Linn; Girls 15-17: Karcewski; Boys 14-15: Wysocki; Girls 13-14: Bland; Boys 12-13: Mummadi.

"It was a real good round, one of the best of the year" said Lewis, who plans to try out his freshman vear for his Heightstown High team (located near Princeton). "I can hit well off the tee. The key is playing it smart, play it safe, not try and push your clubs, and stay within yourself."

Lewis' round was highlighted by a pair of par saves from off the green using his sand wedge.

"My chipping saved me," said Lewis, who also dabbles in basketball. "Both were on the back nine. One was on par-5, No. 16 and other was the No. 14, par-4."

Lewis, who has won both a two-man best ball and two-man scramble at Whispering Willows, plans to return next summer to compete on the Meijer Junior

Meanwhile, Farmington Hills' Saahith Mummadi shot a 92 to seize the Boys 12-13 title, four shots ahead of Joey Murzyn.

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Canton's Justin Legel taps in a putt during Wednesday's Motor City Junior Golf Championship held at Whispering Willows.

String of aces at Fox Hills

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth has had its share of hole-in-ones this summer on the venue's various golf

Last week, it was announced that Todd Erickson sank an ace on the 147-yard 14th hole at the Golden Fox.

Erickson used a Rescue club to hit the Callaway ball down the fairway and into

But his was just the latest in a string of perfect tee shots.

Following is a rundown of the accomplishments:

• On July 15, Westland's Cliff Englehart, 41, used a pitching wedge to ace the 124-yard 5th hole at the Woodlands.

• On July 6, Canton's Jim Gagleard, 55, aced the No. 1 hole (105 yards) at the Strategic Fox. He used a 9 iron.

• On July 5, Troy's Jim Lveck, 37, used an 8 iron to ace the 144-yard 5th hole at the Woodlands.

• There were two other aces on July 5. Steven Matranga, 37. of Ypsilanti, sank a hole-in-one on the 2nd hole of the Lakes course - a 173-yard shot. He used a 1 wood.

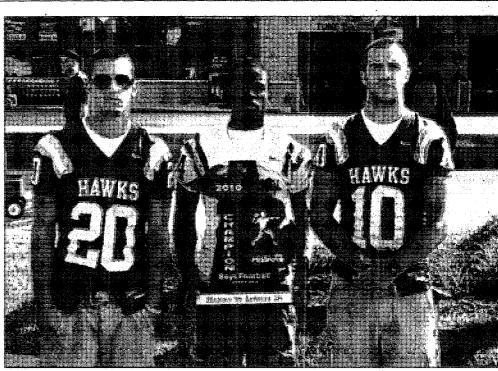
• Also July 5, 68-year-old Kurt Hardenburg of Plymouth aced the 171-yard 17th hole at Strategic Fox. He used a 5 wood.

• On June 29, West Bloomfield's Joe Muraviglia, 62, shot a hole-in-one on the 5th hole at the Woodlands. He used an 8 iron to sink the 128yarder.

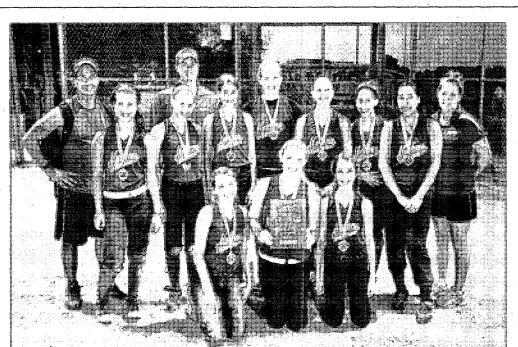
• On June 25, 11-year-old Donny Borgula of Plymouth sank a hole-in-one on the 91yard 8th hole at the Strategic Fox.

• On June 21, Eileen McHenry, 64, of Pentwater aced the No. 6 hole (99 yards) at Fox Classic - Hills. She used a Nike 8 iron.



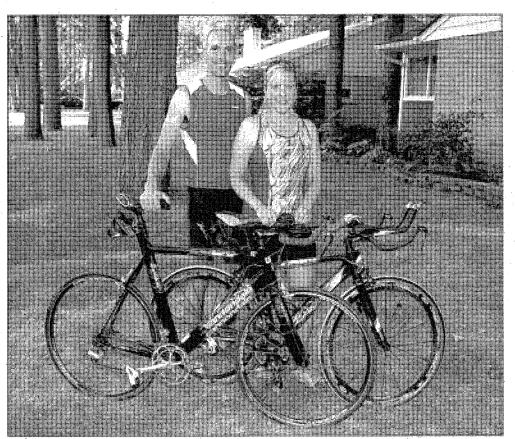


In addition to the annual parade and other activities during Founders Festival weekend in downtown Farmington July 16, the community paid tribute to the state football champions from Harrison High School. The Hawks won their 13th state title last November in the Division 2 final. Representing the Hawks were senior captains (left to right) Steve Slobin, Derek Head and Tommy Vento. Shouts of "Go Hawks" were heard as the players marched in the parade. Slobin and Head will play college ball at Siena Heights, Vento at Michigan State.



Tops in 'the Burgh'

The Motor City Madness 12U Red softball team recently won all eight games at the Battle of the Burgh July 8-10 in Pittsburgh, Pa. to capture the title in their division. The Madness defeated the Silver Creek (Pa.) Starz in the championship game. Head coach Scott Ampe and five players are from Canton or Plymouth. Pictured in the front row (from left) are Alivia Cragg (Canton), Kaitlyn Wolschlager (Walled Lake), Emma Nowak (Plymouth). In the middle row (from left) are Sydney San Juan (Novi), Madyson Ampe (Canton), Emma Clark (Canton), Mckenzi McKnight (Novi), Nicole Ireland (Novi), Aziza Afzal (Canton), Shirley Hao (Novi) and coach Holly Ireland. In the back row (from left) are coach Adam Sam Juan and head coach Scott Ampe, of Canton.



Getting in bike rides is part of the training Plymouth's Bill and Maria Dieter do to prepare for triathlons. It is also what they did on their first date three years ago, after having been set up on a blind date.

FROM PAGE B1

Maria joked recently.

Obviously, the couple hit it off immediately, so much that besides signing up together to compete at various triathlons and marathons, they married Aug. 14, 2010 - two years to the day of that first blind date.

August certainly is their month to shine: Their wedding date also was a year after they competed in their first Ironman triathlon in Louisville, Ky.

"A week or two after we met, she said, 'You need to sign up for an Ironman," Bill recalled. "Which wasn't until a year after

"So this was a long-term commitment we're already setting us up for," he said with a laugh.

Maria described the Ironman as a longer triathlon, with a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run.

There actually are four different distances for triathlons, however, and next week's is composed of a 1.5-mile swim, 40-kilometer bike ride (just less than 25 miles) and 6.2mile run.

Meanwhile, Bill and Maria rode their bikes side-by-side and chatted as they pedaled down Hines Drive on that first date. They instantly connected.

"It just clicked, it really did," said Maria, adding that their common interest didn't hurt matters any. "We were in triathlons, I had done a little bit more (triathlons than Bill). He was a big marathoner. I ran, but not to the extent he did."

Staying with the August-is-a-big-month theme, the Dieters next Sunday will be among 3,000 athletes taking on The Big Apple, having been selected through a lottery process.

GOING FOR IT

"I've always wanted to do that one, but I never got around to it," Maria said. "Ford used to be the major sponsor, too, and since I worked at Ford I thought that would be a great one. And then every year it was just filling up, you could never get into it. So I kept blowing it off.

But this year, well Bill's aunt lives in Manhattan. So we thought let's try to get in and if we get in great, we could go to New York and spend the week there."

They actually signed up as a two-person group. "We got the e-mail that we were selected and we were really excited about it," Bill said.

After swimming in the Hudson, they'll bike the Henry Hudson Parkway and wrap things up with a 10-kilometer run in Central Park, which ends at Tavern on the Green.

"These are cool ones that are unique that you don't get to do every day," Maria said.

They'll travel to New York City a few days before the race and will stay at the Manhattan apartment of his aunt's friends (who are vacationing this summer in the Hamptons).

'Even if you drive down Hines, you see people on bikes like ours all the time. It's not unusual. They're cruising on their aerobars.'

MARIA DIETER

Although their focus will be on gearing up for the Nautica event — which entails scoping out the three-pronged course to ensure they can make seamless transitions from water-to-land — they'll squeeze in some sight-seeing and visits with his aunt, who also lives on Manhattan.

"We try to combine races with vacations," Bill said.

The night before the triathlon, the Dieters will probably have some pizza (Bill's pre-race staple) and pasta (Maria's dining choice).

When they return to Michigan, they'll give detailed reports to their friends at Northville's Wolverine Sports Club. Bill and Maria are part of a bike-riding club there.

"I think the biking groups are a lot of fun," she said. "If you did it by yourself, it would be tough. But when we go out in the evening, maybe on a day like today where it's hot, you don't feel like it.

"But you know your friends are meeting somewhere and you want to join them for a bike ride it's a lot easier to get out. ... We've met a lot of great friends."

As for pre-triathlon training, the Dieters ride their bikes to Kensington and back, swim at Lifetime Fitness Center in Canton or Island Lake and run neighborhood streets

Sometimes, when training around the house, they bring along their two dogs rescued from the Michigan Humane Society. Scout is a lab terrier mix, while Kona is a shepherd mix.

Maria doesn't always leave home to get in her daily exercise, however. She has a treadmill in the breezeway and she trains on that while watching TV or listening to the radio.

"I love running on it, year round if I could," she said. "Bill runs outside year round, it doesn't matter what the weather is, how bad it's snowing, windy, cold, rainy, dark. That's not for me.

The buzz of competing with peers on the tri circuit definitely is.

That goes for Bill, too. He said camaraderie is one of the big draws of going around to various triathlons. Next up is one in South

"It's friendly competition," he said. "You're not ticked off at the guy that runs past you. You congratulate each other at the end. It's really nice that way.'

Also nice for the Dieters is knowing they aren't alone in their passion for getting off the couch and springing into action.

"Even if you drive down Hines, you see people on bikes like ours all the time," Maria said. "It's not unusual. They're cruising on their aerobars."

Just like the day they met, too.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

SHARIG

Schmitt grabs gold at FINA Worlds

Canton's Allison Schmitt is continuing her penchant for coming up big under the brightest lights.

The 21-yearold Schmitt was a member of the United States women's gold-medalwinning 800-meter freestyle relay Thursday night at the FINA World Aquatic

Championships in Shanghai, China. Schmitt, a Canton High

Allison Schmitt

School alum entering her senior year at the University of Georgia, anchored the Team USA relay team that finished first with a time of 7-minutes,

46.14-seconds -- edging second-place Australia (7:47.42) and third-place China (7:47.66).

Also on the USA relay team were lead-off swimmer Melissa Franklin, Dagny Knutson and Kathryn Hoff. Schmitt swam 1:56.49 in her

"The other three girls did a great job," said Schmitt, on the Georgia Sports Communications Web site. "They put us there. Diving in last, I knew I had to keep it controlled and bring it home."

Meanwhile, Schmitt finished sixth on Wednesday in the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 1:56.98.

Setting a new world record in that event with a time of 1:55.58 was Italy's Federica

Pellegrini.

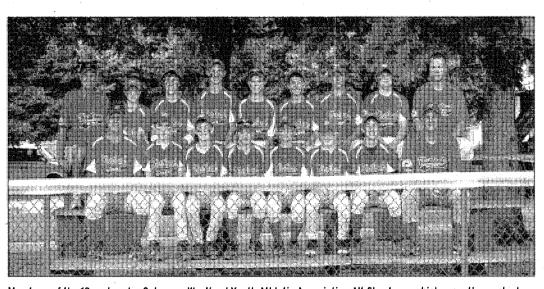
Schmitt, a 2008 Olympian and member of the North Baltimore Aquatic Club, added to the many awards she has earned throughout her career.

At the 2009 FINA World Championships, she earned silver medals in the 200 free and 800 freestyle relay.

Also that year, she claimed her first NCAA title in the 500 free and set new American records in the 200 and 400 free events at the 2009 MOO Duel in the Pool.

Last year, the native of Pittsburgh, Pa. grabbed first in the 200 free at the CP National Championships.

While at Canton, she won the school's female athlete of the year in 2007 and 2008 and set records in nine events.



Members of the 13-and-under Cobras, a Westland Youth Athletic Association All-Star team which recently reached the Pony League Zone semifinals in Evansville, Ind.

Westland Cobras cap stellar season

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The 13-and-under Cobras provided a ray of sunshine amidst a number of dark clouds that have hovered over Westland Youth Athletic Association during the past

The Westland Pony League All-Stars came away with a state championship on July 16 and reached the semifinals of the Zone tournament the next weekend before losing to Davenport (Ia.), 9-2.

"To have this success as an underdog has been a big shot in the arm to our organization," Cobras manager Greg Hovermale said. "We were definitely an underdog and exceeded expectations.

A preliminary examination for a former WYAA president charged with embezzling over \$20,000 from the group has been adjourned until Aug. 22 in 18th District Court.

The Cobras began their tournament quest at Grand Ledge's Deagle Middle School by defeating Lakeland, 16-1, and Dearborn, 12-1.

In the state finals, Jon Hovermale (Westland) threw a complete game in a 7-2 win over host Grand Ledge.

Catcher Colin Savage (Canton) was the team's top hitter and Bragg Eastin (Westland) belted a solo homer in the victory to send the Cobras to Evansville, Ind. for the Zone tournament.

"The kids showed they could play great baseball," Hovermale said. "We beat the host team and Grand Ledge has a storied history in Pony. And we did it as the least experienced team."

On July 20, Gabe McBay (Canton) delivered a pair of key hits and Tyler Byers (Canton) tied the game with a 2-run single as the Cobras rallied for a 11-9 victory over host Evansville.

In the second game, Byers threw just 65 pitches in five innings as the Cobras mercied Kankakee (Ill.), 14-4, to clinch their pool.

That was followed by a 6-

3 setback to Southeast (Ill.) in pool play and a 9-2 loss in the elimination round to Davenport, a game where the Cobras were unable overcome four errors and deficits of 5-0 and 6-2.

Hovermale, however, came on in relief to 1-hit the Iowans over the final four innings, but it wasn't enough.

Rounding out the Cobras' squad, sponsored by Savage Tree Service, includes Dalton Crane, Logan Wilt, Stephen Heganauer, Brandon Rager, Joe Chinavare and Nate Binkiewicz, all of Westland; along with Griffith Shiminski of Canton and Noah Billingsley of Livonia.

Assistant coaches included Chuck McBay, Jason Eastin and Vince Shiminski.

"Back in February we didn't even know if we had enough money to conduct business," Hovermale said. "To overcome our financial difficulties has been extremely gratifying."

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FROM PAGE B1

ited MSU just on Wednesday before making his verbal commitment after meeting with senior wide receiver B.J. Cunningham and receivers coach Terrence Samuel.

"He's a player with tremendous explosion who can close on the ball in a hurry," Herrington said. "We timed him electronically in the 40 (yard dash) and he's run a

4.37, which is the fastest we've ever had anybody run. He's around a 4.4. He's got great athletic ability and he's tough. He's got all the qualities."

Herrington said Burbridge has some work to do in the classroom before he'll be able to sign an NCAA letter-ofintent early next year.

"I just finished summer school, and did well, and I'll be taking the ACT in September," Burbridge said.

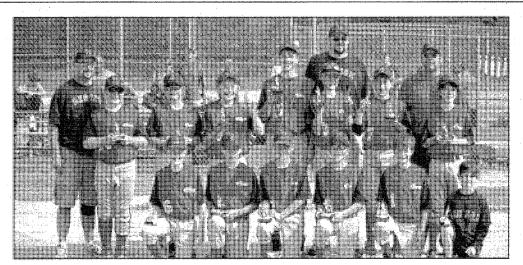
Meanwhile, Burbridge said he has been focusing on his

footwork and route running during the summer in preparation for the upcoming season.

The Hawks open Saturday, Aug. 27 against Detroit Cass Tech at Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium.

"We want to defend our state championship, but we'll have a target on our backs so we'll have to play hard if we want to have another 14-0 season," Burbridge said.

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Red Sox

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association 11U Red Sox competitive baseball team finished second July 16-17 at the Canton Flying High in July tournament, following a first-place finish June 25-26 at the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Panther Summer Classic. Members of the Red Sox include the following: (front row, from left) Jack McCarthy, Ryan Lambrix, Luke Hindt, Andrew Putlock, Ryan Fulyater and Sawyer Hindt; (middle row, from left) Vinnie Jean, Chase Nealey, Alex Nealey, Alex Howie, Derek Goderis, Jake Semik, Max Korff; (back row, from left) coaches Blair Hindt, Mark Goderis and Clifton Nealey.



Jays win Showdown

The Livonia Junior Athletic League Blue Jays recently captured the 12-and-under Livonia Summer Showdown at Bicentennial Park with a 3-1 victory over the Lakes Area Mud Dawgs. Members of the Blue Jays, who finished 4-1 in tournament play, include (front row, from left): Gage Tyrrell, Jake Giacobbi, Keegan Flaherty, Brenden Kelly, Jeremy Haist; (second row, from left): David Brackett, Riley Flaherty, Howie Whitaker, Zack Spence, Brian Martin, Devin Visnaw; (back row, from left) assistant coach Paul Giacobbi, head coach Mike Flaherty and assistant coach Howard Whitaker.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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Dogs for a cause

Canton canine event boosts Cancer Society

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Kathie McFry of Canton describes herself as a "walking ray of hope."

"Part of the reason I am that, I attribute to my dog," said McFry, who was diagnosed with stage four anal cancer two years ago. "He has been wonderful for me. He needs to be walked every day, so that keeps me moving. He's a good hugger and occasionally a comedian. He has been a wonderful caregiver for me and helped me along with this journey."

McFry wanted to recognize her Golden Retriever, Bo, and other dogs that lift their human companion's spirits as they face cancer and other illnesses. A participant in Canton's Relay for Life, she also wanted to "give back" by helping the American Cancer Society. She will combine both concepts in Bark for Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society that also celebrates dogs, Saturday, Aug. 6, at Heritage Park, in Canton.

This dog lover's event will include a walk, dog games such as a canine version of musical chairs, contests, information about cancer prevention, kids' activities, food, dog demonstrations, doggy massage, vendors and more.

"I'm just beaming that we were able to put this together. It's my way of giving back and being able to extend Relay for Life. We're hoping this will take off and become a big event. It's going to be a lot of fun and a lot of laughs," she said.

PET PRESCRIPTION

Amanda Rasnake of Plymouth,



Kathie McFry hopes to raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society through Bark for Life on Aug. 6 at Heritage Park in Canton. McFry says her dog, Bo, a Golden retriever, has been a support to her as she battles cancer.

McFry's daughter, is among the volunteers helping with Bark for Life. She's both the mission chair — making sure cancer prevention materials are available — and the dog games coordinator. Rasnake, a registered nurse who works in rheumatology research at the University of Michigan, also will offer a few facts and figures about the health benefits of owning a

pet.

"Having a pet can improve your mood. I found data from a study that found that people who were living with a chronic illness were less likely to report the symptoms of depression when they own a pet," said Rasnake, who has a 12-year-old son and three cats. "Pets provide social support because having a pet can open your

network of friends and acquaintances. Pets also provide the gift of unconditional love. They can be there in ways for you that people can't. They offer love and companionship, enjoy comfortable silences, keep secrets and are excellent snugglers."

Rasnake found studies showing that pets can lower blood pressure.

BENEFITS, RISKS

She said the potential health risks of pairing a dog or cat with a patient that has a weakened immune system, appears to be minimal as long as the pet is healthy and behaves appropri-

"Hand washing is key for people with compromised immune



Ron and Kathie McFry of Canton brought "Bo" into their family approximately two years ago, not long before Kathy was diagnosed with cancer.

BARK FOR LIFE

When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday Aug. 6

Where: Heritage Park, located on Canton Center south of Cherry Hill, Canton

Why: To raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society and to pay tribute to dogs for their ability to raise the spirits of their human companions and love them unconditionally

Details: Registration and silent auction from 9 a.m. to noon, Hastings Street Rhythm and Blues, 9:15 a.m., opening ceremony with Kathie McFry, Angela Gallegos of the American Cancer Society, cancer survivor Lauren Pollock, and blessing of the dogs, 10 a.m. survivor kick-off lap, 10:15 a.m., contest judging, 10:45 a.m.; Blue Surf Band, 11:45 a.m. Event includes face painting, dog games, demonstrations, kids' activities, dog contests, food and vendors

Registration fee: \$20 for the first dog, \$5 for each additional dog in advance; \$25 for first dog, \$5 for each additional dog on event day **Contact**: www.relayforlife.org/canton or e-mail to bflcanton@gmail.com

systems. More human illness results from human to human contact rather than animal to human contact," she said. "Of course involving your physician and veterinarian will be the best choice so you can make your own

While in nursing school Rasnake encountered many therapy animals in pediatric wards and geriatric facilities. Bo is training to become a therapy dog, passed his therapy test and has two more on-site observations he must ace before McFry can take him into hospitals where she hopes to give hope and support to other cancer patients.

"I think that's part of the reason I'm still here. I'm supposed to do this work. We think Bo was heaven sent," McFry said. "We (she and husband, Ron) had been empty nesters for 10 years. I kept watching those cute commercials on TV with puppies. One day we said that's it."

They brought Bo into their lives a few months before McFry was diagnosed. After 10 months of chemotherapy, the cancer was in remission, but reappeared in her liver two months ago. She is undergoing a second round of chemo, but says Bo helps to mitigate the side effects of the drugs.

"As far as I'm concerned, (pet ownership) should be a part of the prescription."



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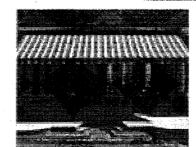
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COMMUNITY LIFE

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Farmington Hills man takes a lead role in film about saint's sister

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

When tickets for the film Leonie!, went on sale at Emagine Theatre in Novi last month, the buying frenzy that followed seemed more typical of a Harry Potter flick, not a movie about five nuns, a saint's sister and their loving parents.

The Michigan-made production not only sold out its debut screening, two added premiere day shows sold out and as of last week seats at a fourth screening on Monday, Aug. 1, were filling up fast.

Executive producer Barbara Middleton isn't surprised.

"What people are looking for today is not violence and sex. It's not magic. It's solid teachings and an example of someone living a good life who, with all their struggles, reaches their goal," Middleton said.

The film tells the story of Leonie Martin, one of five daughters — and the sister of St. Therese of Lisieux - growing up in a middle class family in late 19th century France. As a child Leonie endured chronic illnesses and learning disabilities, posing a challenge for her parents as they dealt with their daughter's emotional extremes and stubbornness. Like her sisters, who entered the Carmelite monastery, Leonie felt she had a calling to a religious vocation. She was rejected by the Carmelites, the Poor Clares and initially, the Visitation Sisters, an order which she eventually joined and spent the rest of her life.

"My admiration for her is how she persevered," said Middleton, who presents Catholic conferences through the Holy Trinity Apostolate, based in Sterling Heights. "She kept trying and trying. She



Carrie Kot and Jeff Barron play Zelie and Louis Martin, the parents of Leonie. Barron, a Farmington Hills resident, has five daughters like Louis did.

didn't give up. She had bouts of anger and learning disabilities. She's an inspiration. How she persevered touched my

FIRST FILM ROLE

Jeff Barron of Farmington Hills, who portrayed Louis Martin, also found inspiration in his role.

"He was extraordinary. His wife died when the kids were young and he took on the role of raising those five girls by himself," Barron said. "He was a man of great principal. He had his own business, but he never worked on Sundays because of his faith and belief that it is the Lord's day.

"He was concerned about the girls and their well being. He was so focused on their needs he curtailed his business to take care of his daughters and make sure they were growing up in the faith."

Like Louis Martin, Barron and his wife, Peggy, have five daughters. They range in age from 9-21.

When his friend, Joe Robert Maher, the film's writer and director, asked him to consider portraying Louis Martin, Barron, 49, quickly said yes.

"I asked what's the part. He said the father of five girls. I said I think I can do that."

Barron, who works in marketing for a family business,

has portrayed the apostle Peter and Pontius Pilate in Our Lady of Sorrows' annual Living Stations of the Cross. The life-long Catholic will walk the red carpet with his family at the movie premiere on Monday. He'll see himself on the big screen for the first

"The whole experience was wonderful, watching how they make a movie, meeting other actors and actresses and getting to know them," he said. "It was a great experience. The people involved in the Leonie! film were in it for the right reasons, not for financial gain. It was from the heart and that was what was beautiful."



Jeff Barron of Farmington Hills awaits make-up during the filming of

CATHOLIC ACTORS

Middleton and Maher found most of their 87 cast members from parishes throughout southeastern Michigan. Word of mouth helped round up crew and shooting locations.

"The whole production is a miracle," Middleton said. "One person would tell another person who would tell another person. Everyone came forward when needed."

Many of Barron's scenes were shot in a private home in Romeo that doubled as the Martin's estate in Alencon, France. The crew also filmed in a historic school on the property of Warren Woods Tower High School, the Monastery of St. Therese in Clinton Township, St. Mary's of Redford Parish in Detroit and the Visitation Sisters' monastery in Toledo, Ohio, Middleton said visitors generally are not allowed inside the cloistered monastery

enclosure, but Holy Trinity Productions was granted access for filming.

Middleton is searching for a distributor for Leonie! and is contemplating her next film about "the snowshoe priest," Bishop Frederick Baraga, who founded five missions in the early 1800s in the Upper Peninsula.

Barron said he'd enjoy acting in another Holy Trinity Productions film.

"Never in a million years did I think I'd be in a film, let alone something shown in a major theater," he said. "God is so good and he is able to do things we don't think are possible."

Tickets are \$10, available at www.emagine-entertainment.com. The 7 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. shows are sold out. Some seats may be available for the screening at 7:40 p.m.

The Emagine Theatre is located at 44425 W. 12 Mile, in the Fountain Walk complex in Novi.

SOCIAL SECURIT

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

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if



an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law

book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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Mary Rose Maher (left) plays Leonie and Paige Pilarski is the kind nun, Sister Jeanne Marguerite, who helps her to endure a difficult life.

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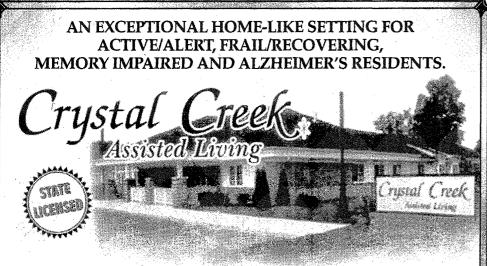
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Museum in Plymouth seeks bazaar entrants

The Plymouth Historical Museum is accepting applications for its annual craft bazaar that will be held from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 at the museum, located at 155 S. Main, Plymouth.

Applicants submit three-four photos of their craft items for this juried show. Judges will choose no more than five crafters per category. Table rentals are \$30 each. Space is tight, so venders must limit their display area to the size of the table or an equivalent space.

The Museum will offer free admission that day for both patrons and craft bazaar shoppers. Crafters are requested to donate an item for the Museum's raffle.

Applications are available online at http://tinyurl.com/ 44phr8c.

Crafters that are not accepted for the bazaar will receive a full refund of their table rental fee. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth.

Belleville High School

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Class of 1971

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

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1954

A 57-year reunion luncheon is planned for Oct. 6 at the Stitt American Legion Hall, Post 232 in Dearborn Heights, For more information call Nancy Barlow Gaspar at (313) 581-6623 or e-mail to Pat Gaston Chiesa at patc629@aoi.com.

Class of 1971

The 40th reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 6, 2011 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Tickets are on sale now for \$52 per person for dinner and open bar. Send a check payable to Fordson '71 Reunion to 16124 Golfview, Livonia, MI 48154. For more information go to Facebook, Classmates.com or the Web page at Fordson71Reunion.com.

Dearborn High School

Class of 1976

35th reunion, Saturday Aug. 13. For details visit http://www.dhs1976.myevent.com.

Dearborn Heights Robichaud Class of 1961

50th class reunion Sept. 24, 2011 at the Dearborn Hills Golf Course. All classes are welcome as Robichaud High School also celebrates its 50th , anniversary. Contact Bill Haskin at billsmustangs@ msn.com; (734)595-4927 or Nancy at wolonl@aol. com; (248) 529-6461.

Detroit Cody Class of 1961

50th reunion Aug. 27, 2011, at Hellenic Banquet Center, Westland. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail codycomet61@gmail.com. Or call Connie Callear Majeske at (734) 425-7094 or Bernie Lekki Grudzien at (734) 522-3167.

50s and 60s

Free picnic, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21 at Nankin Mills Pavilion, Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. Classmates.com will have information and photos from past picnics. Questions? Call Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134 or e-mail to Jmarsares@sbcglobalnet or Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or e-mail to pvarilone@wowway.com

Detroit Henry Ford

The 40th reunion, with a "Back to the Bahamas" theme, is scheduled for Aug. 20, at Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty, Livonia. The organizers are trying to reach approximately 1,000 graduates from the January and June classes, as well as any other alumni interested in attending the event. Tickets are \$50. Call Barb Blum Douglas at (313) 804-1282, or Marilyn Ogilvy Twa at (616) 802-0305, or e-mail to hfhs1971reunion@yahoo.com.

Detroit Mackenzie June Class of 1961

50th reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011. For more information e-mail Ivanerian@msn.com or phone Joanne (Poloway) Glance at (734) 878-6543.

Class of 1962

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

Detroit Northwestern Class of 1950-51

Three-day event, Aug. 12-14. Anyone interested may contact Marlene Oleson Hanna at (313) 937-8233. Class of 1971

Celebration Weekend is Friday-Sunday, Aug. 19-21 and will include a meet and greet, class legacy dinner dance and a picnic. A fundraiser, "Bringing Back to the 70s" will be held 7 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, June 25 at Bert's, located in the Eastern Market in Detroit. A portion of the proceeds from the events will be donated to Sickle Cell Anemia, Inc., Michigan Chapter. For more information, call (734) 326-1488 or e-mail to dnshs40th71@yahoo.com

Farmington High School

Class of 1961 A 50-year reunion of the Farmington High School Class of 1961 is set for 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel at 21111 Haggerty Road, Novi. The party dinner buffet is \$48.75 per person. There will be a 9-hole golf outing at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 Seven Mile Road in Livonia at 10:30 a.m. the day of the reunion. Contact Phil "Jim" Newberg via e-mail at pruddyduck1@ sbcglobal.net or call (830) 620-5734; local contact is Louise Giles (248) 224-3369.

Ferndale High School

Class of 1961 4:10-4:25 p.m., Friday, Sept. 9, gathering time at the high school, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. at Rosie O'Grady's, 279 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale. The reunion continues at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Somerset Inn, 2601 W. Big Beaver, Troy, with a social hour, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Weekend concludes with a final farewell and snack 12:30-1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 11, at Dugan's 31501 Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. Bill Stenbak at (231) 544-6522.

Garden City East & West Classes of 1966-67

A casual, joint reunion is planned for Oct. 8. The organizing committee needs addresses of class members. Call Dale Bowes (Whiting) '66W at (734) 427-7148, Carol Gantt Fenner '67W at (734) 326-8467, Karen Colvard (Domanski) '66E at (734) 427-7012, Cheryl Gibbs '67E at (734) 340-9916/(313) 670-2402, or e-mail Dennis Russell at russ027@ comcast.net.

Garden City High School Class of 1986

25-year reunion, Saturday, Oct. 15. E-mail Trish First (Patty Buggy) for more information at pm2b2005@ yahoo.com or contact Kristy Hickson (Roberts) on facebook.

Garden City West

Class of 1981

30-year reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, Livonia. \$45 per person; \$90 per couple. Payment must be received by Sept. 1. No tickets will be sold at the door. Send a check or money order made payable to GC West Class of 1981, 32511 Windsor, Garden City, MI 48135.

«Questions? Call Erin (734) 751-2424. Ladywood High School

Class of 1961

REUNION CALENDAR

Planning a 50th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail sandymacg@aol. com or call Sandy Phillips O'Leary (734) 453-0783 and leave a message if voice mail picks up.

Livonia Bentley Class of 1961

Holding a 50th class reunion Sept. 16-17. To register, call Donald Bruner, (734) 524-0979 or e-mail dbruner@twmi.rr.com.

Class of 1981

30th reunion planned for Aug. 6, at One Under Banquet Facility 35789 Five Mile, Livonia. Visit http://www.freewebs.com/bentley81 for more details.

Livonia Franklin Class of 1966

45th high school reunion, Oct. 8 at Laurel Park Marriott. Seeking classmates and contact info. E-mail contact info to Larry Ruzsas at Lruzsas187264mi@comcast.net or call him at (810) 599-3509.

Plymouth High School Classes of 1951-52

Planned for Aug. 19-21. Just show up for gatherings at 6 p.m. Aug. 19 at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth and 6 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Box Bar Restaurant in downtown Plymouth. Bring a dish to pass and a large bottle of pop for the picnic at noon, Aug. 21 at the #1 pavilion in Plymouth Township Park, 46640 Ann Arbor Trail. For more information call Ron Beaver at (734) 397-9357, Bea Gray at (734) 453-6613 or Dick Nelson at (734) 453-0798.

Classes of 1965-66

6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, behind the "old" high school. Attire is "whatever makes you feel good." Cost is \$35 per person and includes dinner, live music, cash bar and hors d' oeuvres. Tour of old high school will run 10-11 a.m. Saturday. Make checks payable to PHS Class Reunion '65 & '66 and sent to Doug Jaskirny, 47237 Hunters Park Drive, Plymouth, Mi 48170 for the class of 1965. Class of 1966 members send to Donna (Cook) Marshall 1337 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Mi. 48170. Class of 1981

30-year class reunion, 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Rock Bar & Grill, 844 Penniman, Plymouth. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$45 per couple and include appetizers, one drink and cake. Make checks payable to Kallie Michels/Canton-1981 and send them to her at 48714 Pine Hill, Plymouth, Mi 48170. Questions? E-mail to Kallie@umich.edu.

Redford Union Class of 1971

6:30-11:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Tickets purchased before July 31 are \$38. Tickets after that date are \$48. Look for Redford Union Class of 1971 on Facebook or e-mail to RUHS71@vahoo.com

Class of 1962

Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on Oct. 13, 2012

E-mail Linda (Horning) Tracy at lindatracy100@ gmail.com or call her at (231) 882-7268 or e-mail Madeline Rice at paddlinmadeline@gmail.com.

Royal Oak High School Class of 1951

A 60th reunion is planned for Sept. 14 at the Oxford Inn, 1214 Main, Royal Oak. The event will start with a social gathering at 4 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person. For more information and for reservation forms contact Fred Locke and Katy Marsh, 5464 Lakeshore, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059; (810) 385-3253; fjlocke@aol.com

Salem Canton **Class of 1991**

7 p.m.-midnight, Friday, Aug. 12, at The Summit Banquet Center in Canton; includes open bar, banquet-style dinner, photo DVD and memory book. Additional events are Plymouth Pub Crawl, Saturday, Aug. 13 and Family Picnic at Plymouth Township Park, Sunday, Aug. 14. www.canton-1991salem.com

St. Alphonsus **Class of 1971**

40th class reunion, 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, at Liberty Street Brewing, 149 Liberty, Plymouth and 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 24, Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 17123 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia, The gathering on Saturday costs \$60 per person. For more information call Martie Zawacki McClain at martanmc@aol.com (734) 453-4946

St. Mary of Redford Class of 1971

6 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Sept. 10 at Monaghan K of C Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia; \$40 per person or \$75 per couple. Make your reservation check payable to and mail to: Peter Noble, 12001 Market Street #443, Reston, VA 20190. For more information, e-mail to bark-

Southfield High School

Class of 1981

erwa@aol.com.

The 30th reunion is planned for 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 6, at Doc's Sport Retreat in Livonia. Tickets are \$20 per person for appetizers. There will be a cash bar. The group is looking for classmates. For more information go to Facebook Southfield High Class of 1981 or e-mail Terri Jarvi O'Brien at terri@streetmktg.com.

Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1962

Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion

on May 19, 2012. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com

Class of 1976

35-year class reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Livonia Holiday Inn. Visit www.waynememorial76.com or e-mail to reed.terri@sbcglobal.net

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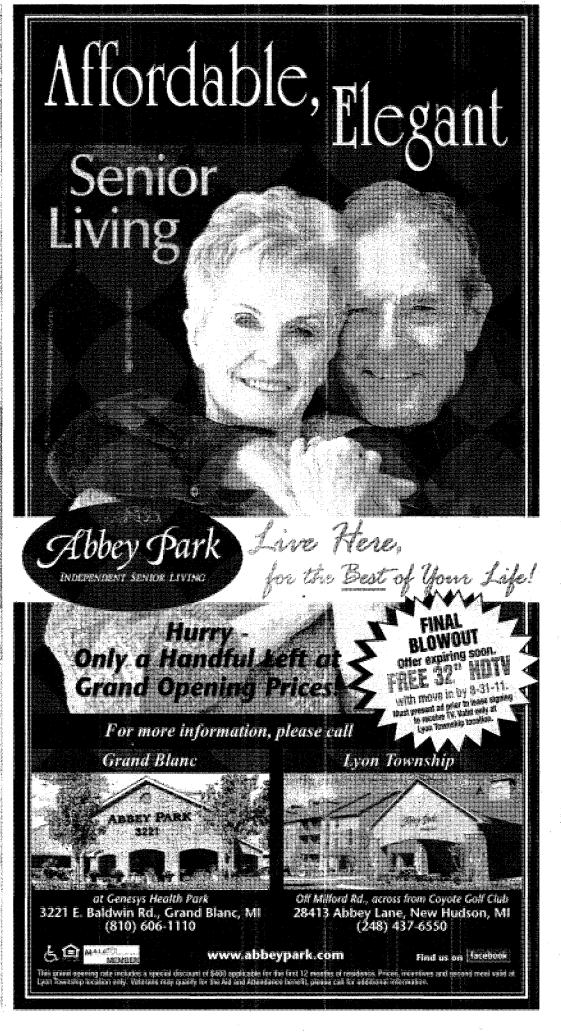
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Peace groups focus on budget plans

Hear a panel discussion on U.S. budget plans at 7 p.m. Sunday, July 31, at the First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave., in Farmington.

Congressman John Conyers, D-Mich., Oakland County Democratic Party chair Frank Houston and Republican Party chair Jim Thienel will discuss three different visions of the federal budget — the Ryan budget, the Obama budget and the "People's" budget. The alternatives all deal with key issues, including deficits, debt, the balance between military and domestic spending, and taxes, in different ways.

A question and answer session will follow the panel discussion. The Moveable Peace 2011 Peace Walk and the Detroit Area Peace

with Justice Network are co-sponsoring the program, which will be moderated by Amy Lange of WJBK-TV.

The Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network, a network of 22 peace and justice organizations based in the Detroit Metro Area, was formed in the wake of the 9/11 attacks on the US and the subsequent bombing campaign in Afghanistan.

The 2011 Peace Walk (www. moveablepeace.org) is a statewide initiative that includes peace walks in Detroit, Grand Rapids and Saginaw. The walks will culminate Aug. 9 in Lansing where walkers they will present petitions asking the Legislature to institute a Commission for Peace and

Help for those in need: Support group offers advice about divorce process

The Transition Center at Schoolcraft College sponsors a Divorce Support Group that meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month in room 225 of the McDowell Center at the Livonia campus.

Meetings are 7-9 p.m. and are open to anyone contemplating divorce, in the process of divorce or having difficulty adjusting to divorce. There is no fee to attend group sessions and registration is not required.

Dianne Hartman of Huron Ridge Associates will facilitate a group discussion on Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 — the final session of the year. Attorney Patricia A. Kasody-Coyle will be on hand at

Attorney David J. Kramer will present an overview of the process of filing for divorce including spousal support, child support, division of marital assets and custody issues on Aug. 23.

each session, as well as a session on Aug. 9, to answer questions in private on a first come, first served

Cynthia Koppin will facilitate a group discussion on Aug. 9.

Attorney David J. Kramer will present an overview of the process of filing for divorce including spousal

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in

today's **Sports** section

marital assets and custody issues on

Attorney Susan L. Elkouri, who specializes in family law, will present an overview of the process of filing for divorce on Sept. 27.

Attorney Marie A. Pulte will discuss the mediation process that assists couples in negotiating their divorce, post-divorce and co-parenting issues on Oct. 25

Cynthia J. Barnwell will discuss the intense emotions triggered by divorce during the holidays and other special occasions, on Nov. 22

For more information about the support group, call the Transition Center at (734) 462-4443.

Find bargains at local rummage sale

Sanctuary at Villa Marie, a non-profit independent senior living community, in Livonia plans a rummage sale Aug. 18-20. The sale will run 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Friday and 9 a.m.-

3 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds from the sale will help fund activities for the resi-

dents at Sanctuary at Villa Marie. The sale will include clothing, shoes, appliances, dishes, glassware, books, furniture, jewelry and much more.

The community also is accepting donated items for the sale. Sanctuary at Villa Marie is located at 15131 Newburgh; (734) 464-9494.



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What is a joint emergency? It is any sudden joint condition that causes a person to become unable to care for himself. An obvious example is a slip and fall down a flight of stairs, with a resulting hip fracture. The individual can't move without intense pain; the incident requires immediate care. Other joint conditions have the same effect. For example: an elderly person living

alone, awakens in the morning, takes a step, but such terrible pain results, that person cannot move another step. He or she is unable to wash up let alone dress and prepare a breakfast. The most likely cause is an attack of gout in the great toe. Only one joint is afflicted, but the result is to incapacitate the person; a joint emergency exists. To remain independent the person must obtain assistance

immediately and receive treatment at once. Joint emergencies are not confined to the feet. I have cared for patients who experienced sudden excruciating pain in a shoulder; dressing, preparing a meal or driving became impossible, any movement caused intense pain. The problem? The patient was on the blood thinner Coumadin, and experienced a sudden bleed into the shoulder. Until I aspirated blood from the shoulder, the patient, because of the pain, could do nothing but stay still. When I finished the aspiration, the patient stood up, walked out of the office and continued his day with no restrictions

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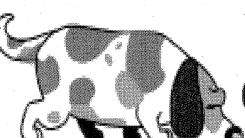
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planned in Traverse City.

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An August 2011 wedding is

MILESTONES

AUGUST WEDDING

Audra Nicole Ahern

and Timothy James Debo

announce their engagement.

Canton, graduated in 2004

received bachelor's degrees in social science and in com-

munications from Eastern

Michigan University. She

currently works at Fidelity Investments as a financial rep-

Lynne Debo of Prudenville,

is a 1999 graduate of Arthur

Hill High School in Saginaw. He served in the U.S. Army

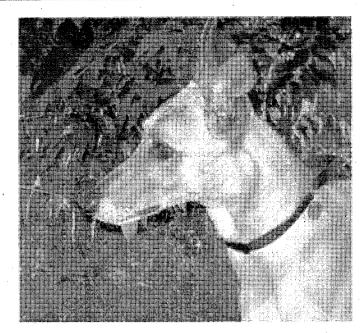
Her fiancé, son of James and

The bride-to-be, daughter of Tim and Nancy Ahern of

from Canton High School and

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resentative.



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Magnificent Myles

Myles is a big goofy boy. He does not like cats or other small animals, but would do just fine with dogs his size. Myles is a real lover and would like nothing better to be in his forever home. He's a 6-vear-old retired racing Greyhound that loves people. He also loves his crate and cozy bed - he's a real homebody. He would do best in a house without a lot of stairs. For more information about Myles call Greyhound Retirement **Adoption Care and Education** at (734) 558-4218 or e-mail to gracegreyhounds@yahoo.com; www.houndsofgrace.org.



Sabourin-Krappitz

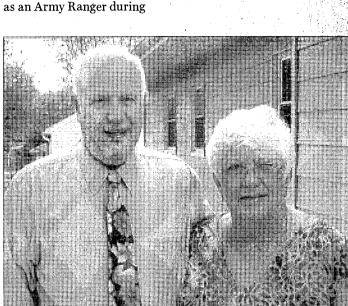
OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED

Jacqueline Nicole Sabourin and Jeffrey Alan Krappitz announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Jeanne Sabourin of Novi and the late John R. Sabourin Sr., is a 2002 Novi High School graduate. She is employed by The Felman Automotive Group.

Her fiancé, son of Chuck Krappitz and Ginger Krappitz, both of Canton, is a 2004 Canton High School graduate. He is employed by: Metro Repair and Maintenance Company LLC.

planned in Plymouth.



James and Barbara Berberet of Canton

An October 2011 wedding is **GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY**

SEPTEMBER WEDDING **PLANNED**

Sartori-Knight

Maria Domenica Sartori and Scott Knight announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Anthony and Dr. Margaret Sartori of Livonia, graduated in 2004 from Mercy High School and in 2008 from Grand Valley State University. She is an executive assistant at Dematic Corp.

Her fiancé, son of Patrick and Susan Knight of Grand Rapids, is a graduate of Davenport University. He is employed by Lax Systems.

A September 2011 wedding is planned at St. Mary Catholic Church, with a reception at Kent Oaks Country Club.

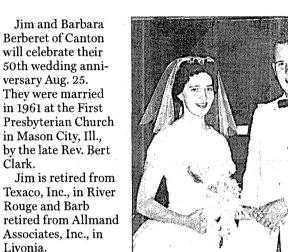
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James and Barbara Berberet on their wedding

Deborah Goltz of Walled Lake. Elizabeth Schumacher day of Plymouth and

The Berberets

nave tnree children:

James Jr. (Rick) Berberet of Canton. They also have seven grandchildren. Jim is the son of the late Richard Berberet and Mary E.

Matthews. Barb is the daughter of the late Harvey and Katherine The Berberets have lived in Canton since 1978. They will cel-

ebrate their milestone anniversary with friends and family at the end of August.

SEPTEMBER WEDDING **PLANNED**

Courtney Ryann Leaym and Todd David Noyes announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Marvin and Connie Leaym of Plymouth, is a 2000 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School. She earned a bachelor of science degree in art education from Western Michigan University and a master's in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College. She teaches high school art in Charlotte,

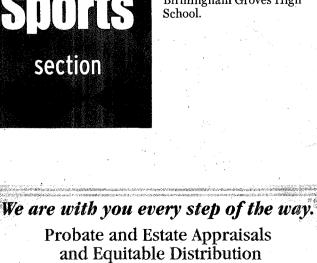
Her fiancé, son of David Noyes of Beverly Hills and Laurie Hynes of Bloomfield Hills, is a 2000 graduate of Birmingham Groves High



Leaym-Noyes

He earned a bachelor of business administration degree from Western Michigan University and is a category manager with Anheuser-Busch in Charlotte, N. C.

A September 2011 wedding is planned at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.



D 1/3/11 B8 B USSUGES/

& Remembrances

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ACKERMAN, WILBERT E.

July 26, 2011, age 91. Beloved husband of the late Marjorie. Dear father of Peter, Jon & Christine. Services were held on Friday, July 29, 2011.

COLE, MARY D.

of St. Clair Shores, 7/13/2011; Age 92. Mother of William (Sherry) and Bonnie (Joseph) Garofalo, 6 grand-children, 3 great grandchildren. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (313) 382-1181

CRAIG, HARRIET WALSH

Of Bay City, age 81, passed away July 12, 2011 at Brookdale Senior Living Home. She was born in Weehawken, NJ on November 17, 1929 to the late George and Freda (Schroeder) Walsh. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor's Degree in chemistry from Douglass College, now a part of Rutgers University. She worked as a chemist at Northville Laboratories before retiring in 1984. She was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Bay City, and a former member of Faith Lutheran Church in Livonia, where she was an active volunteer in by her 3 children: Claudia M. Laws, Katharine E. (James) Guigelaar and Steven W. (Wendy) Craig, 5 grandchildren: Steven, Emily and Ellen Guigelaar, Veronica Laws and Sarah Craig; 2 step grandchildren: Jackson and Shelby Smith, and many friends from all the places she called home. Her beloved husband, Theodore T. Craig, preceded her in death on March , 2004. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2011 at 2 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, 501 Catherine St., Bay City, MI 48706 The Rev. Andreas Teich will officiate. Entombment will be at Elm Lawn Mausoleum. For those who so desire, memorials may be made to Messiah Lutheran Church. The family will receive friends at the church from 1p.m. until service. Arrangements by Penzien-Steele Funeral Home, 608 N. Madison Ave., Bay City, MI 48708

DUQUETTE, JULIUS T.

of Shelby Twp. 7/14/2011; Age 87. Husband of Dolores (nee: Schultz), father of Kathleen, David (Patricia), and Timothy (Lisa). Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248)227-1954.

∠ JONES, DeCOSTA

of Beverly Hills, 7/15/2011; Age 37. Husband of Antonina (nee: Serafano), father of Ethan, Chirstian Smith and Sterling. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248)227-1954.

KAFILA, EUGENE

July 22, 2011 of Plymouth. Services were held by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home on Tuesday July 26. Visit griffinfuneralhome.com

MAYER, WILLIAM P.

Age 83, a former advertising executive died Sunday, July 24, 2011 in Ocala, Florida. Mr. Mayer was Vice President of Campbell-Ewald Company and D'Arcy/Mac Manus advertising agencies in New York and Detroit, where he supervised the advertising accounts of United Delco, United Aircraft, Champion Paper, the Bendix Corporation and Rockwell International. A resident of Miami, Florida for 22 years, he was President and CEO of the marketing consultant firm, Marketing Directions Inc. He retired and moved to Rainbow Springs in Dunnellon, Florida in 1994. He devoted much of his time as a volunteer for Hospice of Marion County and received the Cartright Award, the highest award given to their volunteers. He is survived by his loving wife Beverly; daughter Kathleen M. (Fred) daughter Kathleen M. (Fred) Monacelli; son Mark W. (Lucy) Mayer; grandchildren Erin Mayer, William J. Mayer and Lauren Monacelli. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Hospice of Marion



NORTH, JUANITA MIKESELL

-

Obituaries, Memorials

Age 91 of Zeeland, MI, formerly of Northville, MI passed away Sunday, June 19, 2011. She was preceded in death in 2008 by her husband of 70 years, Edwin W. North. Juanita was as a teller at Manufacturer's Bank in Northville, MI. She is survived by her six children: Dona Nagel, Carol and Ernest Navarro, Edwin and Kathy North, Peggy and Terry Rogers, Dale and Heidi North and James North. Thirteen grandchildren and twenty-five great grandchildren. Brother, Samuel Mikesell. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm, July 31, 2011 at the Bradbury Park Condominium Clubhouse, 40185 Newport Drive, Plymouth MI 48170. Memorial conbutions may be made to Hospice of Holland, or Royal Park Atrium, 400 Parkside Drive, Zeeland MI 49464. The family is being served by the Yntema Funeral Home, 251 S. State Street, Zeeland. An online registry is available at www.yntemafh.com.

NUFFER, Roy A.

of Fraser, 7/13/2011; Age 62; Husband of Nancy (nee: Fox). Father of Cameron and Erin. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248)227-1954.



QUANT, ALICE B.

Beloved wife of Edward B. Quant of Plymouth, slipped quietly away in the arms of her surrounding family on July 19, 2011. Born in Detroit on May 20, 1926, Alice graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL in 1944. She then enrolled at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, IA, where she met her future husband, Edward B. Quant. After graduating from Cornell, Alice and Ed were married on June 18, 1949, and moved to Iowa City, where Alice sold advertising for the local newspaper while Ed completed his MBA at the University of Iowa. Their first child, Kathleen, was born in Iowa City in 1951. Ed's career in industrial relations took the family first to Ohio. where daughter Barbara was born in 1954 and son William in 1957, and then to North Carolina, where Alice and Ed spent some of the happiest years of their lives raising their young family and playing cello and flute respectively in the Asheville respectively in the Asheville Symphony Orchestra. Subsequent moves took the family to New York, Minnesota, Wisconsin, upstate Michigan and ultimately to Plymouth, where Alice and Ed resided for the last 25 years of their 62-year marriage. Throughout her eventful 85 years, however, there was one constant in Alice's life: the log house her father built in the early 1920s just outside Indian River in the woods of northern Michigan. There she spent parts of every year of her youth, returned with her husband and children for annual summer vacations and, finally, shared countless months of her autumn years with Ed, happily puttering around the house and yard, caning chairs, painting and staining, walking in the woods and rocking on the front porch. A woman endowed with keen intelligence and an infectious sense of iumor, Alice was a strong-willed, loving and unwaveringly supportive wife, mother and grandmother as well as a cherished member of her large extended family. She will be sorely missed by them all and by the many who came to treasure her friendship. A private family service was held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Indian River. Memorials may be made in Alice's name to Transfiguration Episcopal Church, 8119 M-68 Highway, Indian River, MI 49721, for the sanctuary audio system fund, or to Angela Hospice, 14100

Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154.



(NEE VANBEMMELEN)

July 22,2011. Age 64. Born in Grand Haven and resided in Livonia, Michigan. Beloved wife of Kenneth J. Ryan for 36 years. Dearest mother of Jeffrey B. Ryan and Kendra A. (Ajay) Rajadhyaksha. Loving daughter of the late Thelma and Julius Garbrecht. Sister of Joyce Kolean and the late Ron Garbrecht, Teacher for Livonia Public Schools for 36 years. A Memorial Gathering was held at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the National Lung Cancer Partnership are preferred at

nationallungcancerpartnership.org. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at rootharris com



SHUREB, PAULINE

Age 90 of Northville. Cherished Wife of the late Wilfred. Loving Mother of Ronald (Debbie), Richard (Marla), Kenneth (Janet) and John (Kathleen). Loving Nanna of Brian, Lisa, Kayline, Crystal, Ricky, Paula, Diane, Theresa, Laura, Justin and Sarah, Great-Nanna of Nathan, Logan, Dharius, Payton and Mason. Dearest sister of Mary Attard. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Memorial Gathering will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan) Sunday 3-9pm with evening Rosary. Memorial Service at St. Colette Catholic Church Monday 9:30am Mass 10am. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. Please visit online guestbook fredwoodfuneralhome.com

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

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

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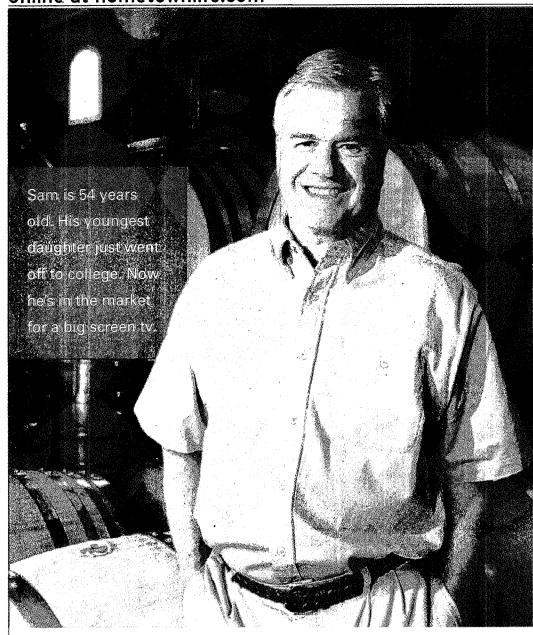
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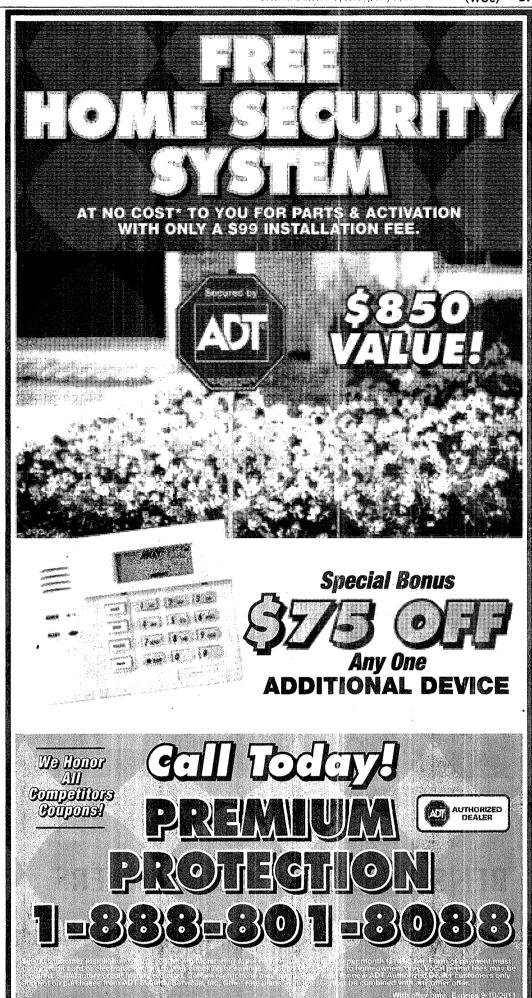
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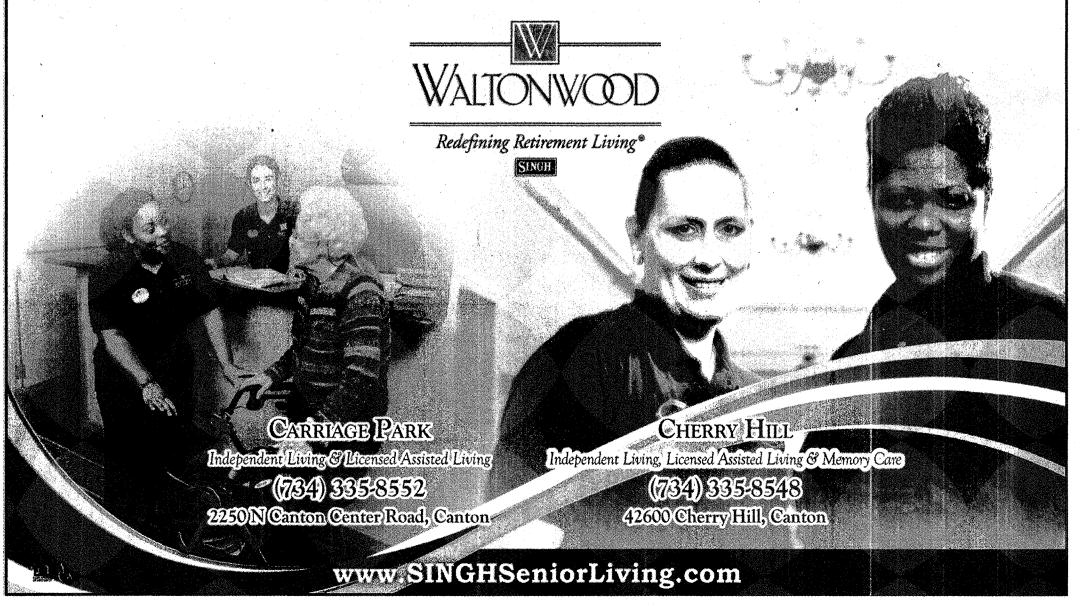
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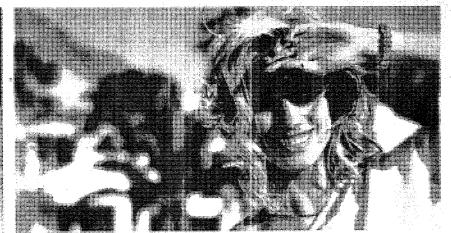
- Nicole B and Lourdes M

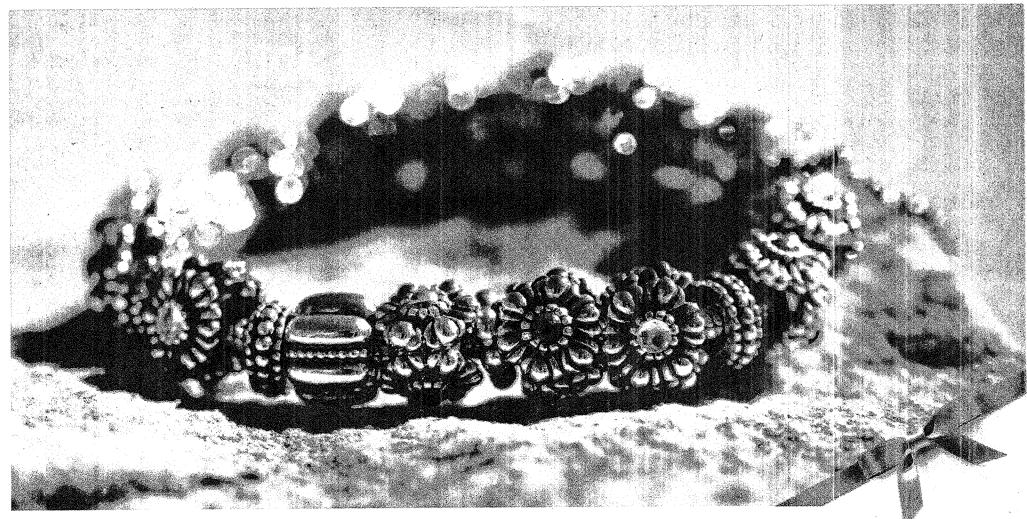
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