



LOOK INSIDE FOR MONEY SAVING COUPONS

Shuh moves on

There's was nothing unlucky for in the number 13 for Allen "Buddy" Shuh, the connections pastor at Westland's Journey Community Church. He made it past week 13 of NBC's *The Biggest Loser*, posting another 6-pound weight loss.

Shuh, who has stress fracture, again sat out the challenge, but still lost weight, coming in at 269 pounds at the weigh-in, a 2.18 percent of his body weight loss that kept him from being eliminated. The Wayne resident had started the show in January weighing 403 pounds.

Share memory of grandma

On Thursday, May 3, *Hometown Life Woman*, a special section delivered monthly to Observer subscribers, will publish "A Salute To Women."

As part of this edition, we invite readers to add your words and photos to this special edition. Tell us about a special memory you have or of your grandmother (in 50 words or less, if possible). Share your favorite memory and photograph (jpeg format attached to the e-mail). E-mail your photo and special memory to Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com.

Be sure to include your first and last name and identify your grandmother with a first and last name, too. Be sure to tell us where you live. Don't forget to provide a daytime phone number where you can be reached. Then look for your photo and/or memory in the May edition of *Hometown Life Woman*. Deadline to submit memories and photos is Friday, April 13.

Opening Day ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to Opening Day to watch the Detroit Tigers and the Boston Red Sox Thursday, April 5, at Comerica Park.

Our website, Hometownlife.com, is giving away two prime tickets but you must act fast. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get five extra chances to win, if they also enter the contest. The winner will be selected at random April 2.

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Council OKs plans for new access to MJR

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The rezoning and revised site plans needed to accommodate direct access to Hunter from the MJR Westland Grand Theater have been approved by city council.

On a related matter, the council has scheduled a public hearing for 6:30 p.m. Monday for comments on an amended Brownfield Redevelopment plan which would provide up to \$115,000 tax credit for demolition and other costs relating to the project.

Located north of Hunter on Wayne Road, MJR plans to build

a new driveway south behind Hunter Plaza and through the a parcel which was previously the site of Good Shepherd Reformed Church. The driveway would connect with Hunter just east of Wayne Road. An existing driveway on the north side of the church building would be removed and the western curb cut on Hunter closed.

"This will create secondary access to Hunter and mitigate left turns onto Wayne Road (from MJR)," said Westland Planning Director Bruce Thompson. "It will also mitigate traffic at Wayne Road and Hunter. There will be easier access into

the commercial property (Hunter Plaza) and also at the intersection."

The 3.13-acre former church property was rezoned from R-5, single family residential, to CB-1, low-intensity commercial business. The church and a home on the far eastern end of the property would be both be demolished. The balance of the property including the frontage at Wayne Road and Hunter would be used for a future restaurant, said Thompson.

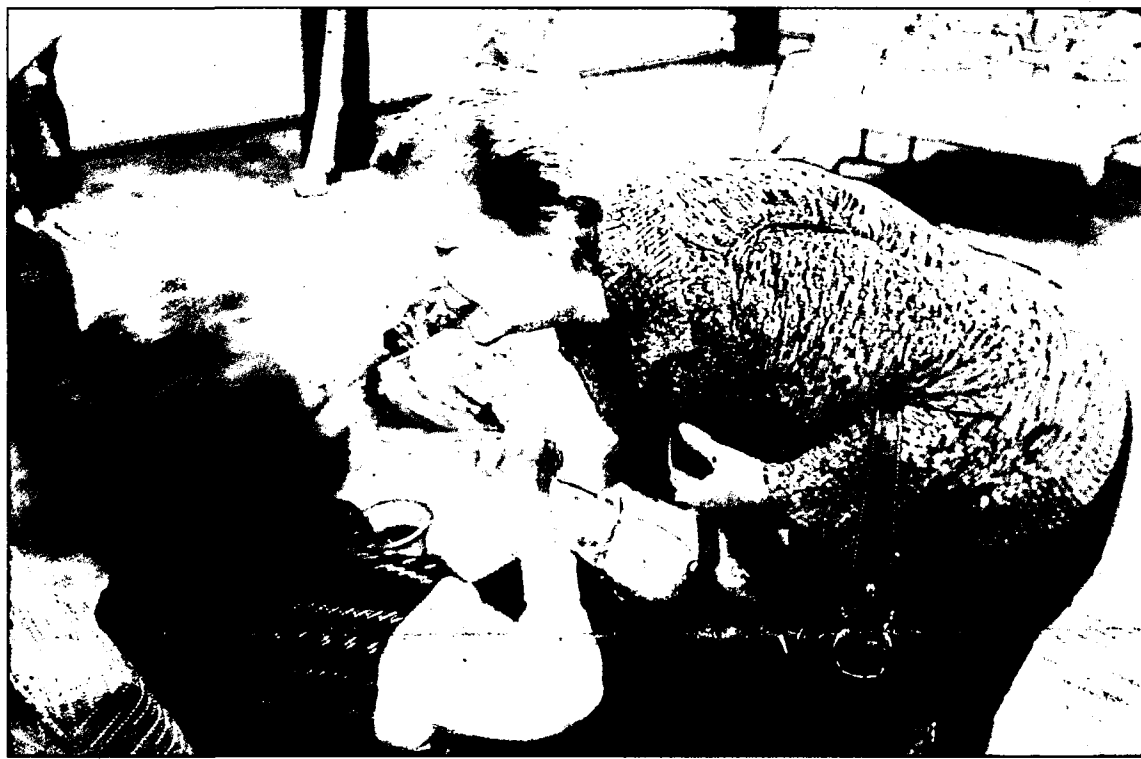
Two site plans were approved — one laying out the new MJR driveway and a masonry screening wall, the second showing the

reconfiguration of parking and the dumpster location for Hunter Plaza.

"Additional parking for Hunter Plaza would be created on the north side of the (existing) church in a swap for the driveway at the south end of the Plaza," said Thompson. "This will have a positive effect on Hunter Plaza. It will move the dumpster to the southeast corner which is a more appropriate location."

Traffic to the rear of the building will now be one way in, one way out, Thompson said, which is much safer for pedestrians.

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Donna Bossio, a former co-worker and friend, presents Marion Lozen with a bouquet of roses during her anniversary celebration Thursday.

'One in a million'

Kroger employee celebrates 60th year with grocer

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Marion Lozen needed a refrigerator, and her husband didn't believe in buying one on credit, so she went out and got a job with Kroger.

Four refrigerators and 60 years later, the Wayne resident is still working and has no plans of retiring anytime soon.

"Retirement's not what it's cracked up to be, at least not for me," Lozen said. "I enjoy working. I don't want to retire."

I enjoy the managers, the other employees and the customers."

The 85-year-old Lozen celebrated her 60th anniversary with the grocery chain at a celebration Thursday at the Kroger Training Center in Westland, with her family, friends, colleagues and Kroger officials on hand.

She was hired March 29, 1952, by Kroger and said the best day of those 60 years "was the day they hired me."

"She's one in a million," said former Kroger employee Don-

na Bossio of Westland, who's known Lozen for more than 20 years. "She never called in sick. She even worked with a sprained ankle."

Three stores

Lozen started at the Kroger store at Michigan Avenue and Venoy and worked there until it closed. She then moved to the Kroger at Merriman and Warren Road, where she worked until it, too, closed. She's been

Please see 60TH YEAR, A2

Civic League pops for garden's water hookup

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

When it's time to start planting crops, the Norwayne Community Garden will have plenty of water thanks to the Wayne-Ford Civic League.

The league board has authorized spending up to \$2,500 so the garden, located on two former residential lots at Dorsey and Newago Court, can hook into city water.

Pam Carter, the garden coordinator, was asking the public to vote online to help the garden earn grant funding through the Raising Organic Family Farms website. Carter was hoping to buy two solar-powered water pumps for the garden, which currently has two water tanks that requires the water to be hauled around the garden.

The simplest answer to the watering problem was obvious to Wayne-Ford Civic League President Vic Barra, a pipefitter for Ford Motor Co.

"I read the article in the (Westland) Observer and saw the problem. The Wayne-Ford Civic League comes to the pump again," said Barra. "They will be able to get rid of the unsightly water tanks. We're glad. This is what the civic league should always have been about."

Plans call for spigots to be

Please see GARDEN, A2

Get ready to compost, season starts Monday

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

When the curbside compost collection season begins Monday, there may well be some pent up demand thanks to the recent warm weather.

But that doesn't mean Westland residents could start getting compost picked up early to accommodate the unusual weather.

"I know it's early but we're having an early spring this year. People are cleaning up their yards," said resident Jo Johnson, who questioned why the compost collection hadn't started.

The problem is that the yard where the compost is taken after it's collected isn't open for business until the week of April 2, said Westland Department of Public Services Director Kevin

Buford.

"We'd love to have started early but the compost yard didn't have their workers back yet, so we couldn't pick up the compost early," he said.

Compost is picked up weekly on the regular trash day in up to five garbage cans labeled as Yard Waste Recycling or up to 10 kraft paper compost bags. The total weight cannot exceed 60

pounds and no plastic bags will be accepted.

Compost is defined as grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden waste, excluding pumpkins, pruning debris and brush. Removed trees are not accepted and compost should not include food scraps, animal waste, chemicals or sod.

Please see COMPOST, A2



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Merriman Road Church presents Easter drama

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Members of Merriman Road Baptist Church are transforming the sanctuary into ancient Jerusalem as they get ready for next weekend's presentation of the Easter musical drama, *More than a Man*.

More than 120 church members are involved in the production which will be staged at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 6-7, at the church on Merriman Road in Garden City.

"We're moving along pretty good, we've had to build more because we changed the set," said Pastor Wayne Parker. "Most of the scenes take place in the temple."

The musical drama presents the passion of Jesus as viewed by three characters — Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus and the high priest Caiaphas.

"It starts with Jesus as a young child in the temple when these men are deciding their future and then jumps 20 years ahead and you see them develop their view of Christ," said Parker.

"We're always looking for different perspectives to view the passion of Christ. This play brings it right down to each man making a choice of accepting or rejecting Christ. We believe it's a decision we all have to make, the message seems clear to us."

Russell Weathers of Livonia, Roy Dray of Westland, and John Rowe of Redford are sharing the directorial duties. Weathers also plays a member of the Sanhedrin Council, while Rowe plays one of the guards.

Joining Weathers as a member of the council is Scott Lefler of Westland. Fresh off of playing Willie in a production of *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* two months ago, is joining Weathers as a member of the Sanhedrin Council. "Willie Wonka was a fund-raiser for the teen group, this is more community outreach."



Jesus, played by Christopher Babb (center) of Canton, appears before the high priest Caiaphas, played by Mark Byars (from left) of Garden City and the Sanhedrin Council - Russ Weathers of Livonia, Dave Oswalt, Scott Lefler of Westland, Terry Crouson of Livonia and Jeff Buchholz, pastor of students.

EASTER DRAMA

What: *More Than a Man*, a free Easter drama
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 6-7
Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, south of Ford Road, Garden City

Details: The musical drama depicts the life of Christ from his early childhood through his crucifixion and resurrection. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The production is free to the public with open seating on a first come, first served basis.
Contact: For more information, call (734) 421-0472.

"Russ asked me to be in the play," said the Westland resident.

'Russ asked'

It's a comment heard from many of the people involved in the production.

"I volunteer everyone else," said Weathers who admits the hardest part is getting everyone together at the same time to get a full rehearsal.

"We've been rehearsing for about six weeks, this week we'll be here every day," he said. "The teens did their fund-raiser and as soon as that was over we started this."
Weathers has been

involved in directing for five or six years, but this is Dray's first time with the church production although he's done it elsewhere. Like Weathers, he also appears in the play, he plays Jesus' father Joseph and appears in only the first scene.

"It's hard getting everyone here for practice, so I fill in," he said.

For the second year in a row, Chris Babb of Canton will play Jesus. The hardest part of the production for Babb, a sophomore studying history at Eastern Michigan University, is hanging on the cross that towers more than 13 feet above the stage. He has a narrow strip of wood to put his feet on, and nails have been bent to give the appearance of being driven through his hands.

This year, the production will incorporate video. In between the time he is taken from Pilate and is hung on the cross, a video will run, showing him being beaten and carrying the cross up the hill to where he's crucified.

"It's totally different," said Rowe. "Normally, he comes in from the back of the church, carrying the cross. With the video, when it's done he'll be on the cross. Everyone will be looking at the temple when we show the video. That's when we'll move scenery to show the tomb."

"This is a good way to reach out to people,"

said Babb. "Being school age, I'm able to invite my friends to church. I hope a lot of my friends come."

Rowe will have the job of removing Babb from the cross. A balcony that covers his tomb has been reinforced to carry the weight of five to six people.

"Most everything you see, we've had to make," said Rowe. "We had to create columns to make it look like a temple and extended it across the stage."

A 'gift'

Rowe has been involved in the Easter dramas for seven years because "I see this as a gift given to me when I became a Christian."

"When I was asked to play Peter, it was my first role and I had to cry, I practiced and practiced," he said. "I found when I put myself into the role, I cried and cried. I've never done theater before, that's why I believe it's a gift."

Playing the high priest Caiaphas is retired Garden City police officer Mark Byars. A veteran of productions by the Dearborn players, Byars will miss out singing in the choir this year.

"It's a different role, but I enjoy being involved," he said. "What's amazing is that church groups have very little time to do a production while community theater has three months. The church has two weeks to bring the drama and choir together and it all comes together in the end."

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EASTER ACTIVITIES

Easter Delight Night

Kids can visit the Bailey Recreation Center to make ceramic Easter ornaments and their very own Easter Basket at an Easter Delight Night 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 3.

Sponsored by D & M Art Studios and the Westland Civitan Club, the activity is for children age 3-12. The cost is \$15 per child and includes the supplies.

The Westland Civitan Club has arranged for the Easter Bunny to visit briefly on his way to decorate his own eggs. Parents should bring a camera, if they would like a picture of their child with the Easter Bunny.

Pre-registration required by March 29 and can be completed at the Bailey Recreation Center. No registrations will be accepted without payment. Supplies for the projects will not be available, if a child isn't pre-register.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Marshmallow Drops

Wayne County Parks and the Westland Civitan Club are sponsoring the annual Marshmallow Drop at 11 a.m. Friday, April 6, at the Nankin Mills area on Hines Drive, just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

Thousands of marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter for youngsters to pick up and turn in for a prize. Regardless of how many marshmallows are collected, each child will receive one treat. There will be three separate age groups - 4 years and younger, 5-7 years and 8 years and older.

For more info, call (734) 261-1990 or visit www.waynecountyparks.org

The Wayne Parks and Recreation Department will hold its 33rd annual

Marshmallow Drop 10 a.m. to noon Friday, April 6, at the Anderson ballfield in Goudy Park on Howe south of Annapolis.

The first drop will be at 10 a.m. for walking toddlers to age 4 and children with a disability. The second drop will be for children age 5-7 and the third drop for child ages 8-10.

The Marshmallow Drop is being sponsored by Cross Pointe Community Church

Bunny Breakfast

The Wayne Parks and Recreation Department will hold its Bunny Breakfast, starting at 10:45 a.m. Friday, April 6, at the Wayne Community Center, located at the corner of Howe and Annapolis.

The breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, juice, arts and crafts and balloons. Pictures with the Easter Bunny are available for \$3 each.

The cost is \$4 for residents and \$5 for non-residents. Children age 2 and under are free. Tickets are on sale now and only 200 tickets sold for the breakfast. For more information, call the Wayne Community Center at (734) 721-7400.

Easter Drama

Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church is partnering with Garden of Eden Church to present the Easter drama, "Journey to the Cross," 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 6-7. The drama will present the life of Christ from birth to death and will be staged as a traveling show with participants going from room to room to see depictions of his life.

Warren Road Church will have its Easter service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 8, while Garden of Eden which also worships there will gather at 12:30 p.m. The church is at 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, Westland.

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Hicks students focus on literacy at carnival

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Patrice Patton barely had time to walk in the front door from work Wednesday evening. Her daughter Paja was waiting, ready to go back to school.

Patton couldn't say no to the Hicks Elementary second-grader, who wanted to go to the school's literacy carnival.

"My daughter wouldn't have it any other way," Patton said. "She called and wanted to know when I'd be home. I told her I get off at 6 and it takes 20 minutes to get home. She said, 'So you'll be here at 6:20.' She's waiting for me at the door with her coat on."

Organized by second-grade teachers Lisa Lizak, Amanda Olson and Rochele Bucher, the cafeteria of the school was filled with students and their families, who were treated to pizza and juice, grade-appropriate carnival games with literacy themes and raffle drawings for board games. The traditional cake walk was turned into a book walk, and youngsters also did a make-and-take craft and visited a fortune teller who served them her very special fortune cookies.

"This is such a positive thing for the school. It's so exciting to get such a large crowd," Olson said. "I wanted to do something to catch the attention of the community. I wanted to get people to come in and learn reading strategies they can use at home. Reading is so important."

Kindergartners had



Loretta Loeffler takes a photograph of Kayla MacDougall and Rollie Christie who poked their faces through a carnival poster.

a fish pond where they caught diagraphs — pairs of letters like "sh," "ch" and "th" — and tried their hand at rhyming and ABC games, while first-graders tested their reading skills with a sight word bowling game.

"The pins have words on them and when they knock them down, they have to read them," Lizak said. "They do it and color a pin on a sheet. They can challenge their friends to do it."

For second-graders, there was a parts of speech ring toss in which they had to supply a noun, verb and adjective when they landed on the appropriate hole, as well as ABC and contractions games, with third-graders doing a fact and opin-



Teacher Lindsay Dugan and Abbie Bargerstock try their hand at the diagraph Duck Pond.

ion Tic-Tac-Toe.

"They're doing some comparing and contrasting writing," Lizak said. "Fourth-graders are working on their homo-

phones (words that are pronounced the same, but have different meaning) in a duck pond and their non-fiction text features."



Heleena Moses tries her hand with the Homophone Memory Match.

Dressed in her best gypsy outfit, Bucher played the reading comprehension fortune teller, using a literacy cootie catcher Lizak found online. Bucher made about 100 fortune cookies, complete with paper fortunes like "A great book is in your future" inside.

"I made three at time and hand-rolled them," she said.

The teachers spent about a month putting together the carnival, not counting the time Lizak spent at home creating the games.

"I'm kind of a perfectionist. I just wanted everyone to have a good time," she said.

And that did happen.

According to Lizak, families started showing up a half hour early and the attendance was the best ever for an event at the school.

"We tried to make it different from a reading night so that people would want to come," she said. "My students were so excited just seeing the items in the hallway. They started asking what they were. They were

so excited to come and do something like this at school."

Parent Amy Brown was working the pizza line, serving slices to students and their families. By 7 p.m., she'd handed out more than 200 slices.

"I have a kindergartner here, she just loves it," Brown said. "For me, this is a small way to give back and help out where I can."

Brown who described herself as the "pizza cop," making sure everyone got a slice, said the foot traffic in and out of the cafeteria had been steady throughout the evening.

Her daughter Lena gave the carnival a thumbs-up. She had already won a book — *Three Little Pigs* — in the book walk and liked the fishing game.

"I think it's great. They should do this every day," she said.

"They've done a wonderful job," Principal Kim Murphy said. "By far this is the biggest crowd we've had all year."

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Westland honors life saver, volunteer

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Two Westland residents were recently honored by Mayor William Wild and the council for notable contributions to the community.

Dylan Henderson, 6, was named a hero and lifesaver in Westland for calling 9-1-1 after his mother Gail, a long-time diabetic, went into insulin shock at their home on Sandra Lane. The youngster, who was sleeping, was awakened by his mother screaming. Dylan wasn't able to wake her up and called 9-1-1.

"I want to say you should never underestimate what age to train kids for an emergency," said Gail Henderson. "I have been a diabetic on insulin for 31 years. At a certain age, I realized I needed to train Dylan for an emergency. I'm so grateful and so proud of him."

After guests left late on Feb. 25, Henderson said she and Dylan fell sleep in her bed. About 3 a.m. on Feb. 26, Dylan, a student at St. Matthew Lutheran School, called 9-1-1.

"I woke up with three firefighters and a police officer in my room. I didn't know what happened," she said. "He told the dispatcher, 'My mom has diabetes. You need to come fix her.' The first time he had to do it (call 9-1-1), he did it correctly."

Dylan's father Christopher Henderson also expressed pride that Dylan responded so well in an emergency. "You don't want them to grow up too fast. You definitely want to teach your little ones," he said. "We're so proud. He was so brave. There was not one tear."

Along with framed certificates from the mayor and council, Dylan received an appropriate gift.

"Since you're a lifesaver, we have some Lifesaver gummies," said Wild.



Dylan Henderson, 6, was accompanied by his parents Gail and Christopher as he was honored for calling 911 after his mother went into insulin shock. Presenting the certificates were Councilman Adam Hammons (far left) and Mayor William Wild (far right).



Mike Sifter (center) was recently honored for his volunteer efforts at the Westland Historic Village. With Sifter, a Westland resident, are Councilman Bill Johnson (left) and Mayor William Wild.

"You're a special young man."

Mike Sifter was honored for his volunteer efforts at the Westland Historic Village, including plastering the ceilings at the Octagon House.

"He has never asked to be paid and has donated mate-

rials, Mike has helped us a lot," said Wild, presenting a certificate of appreciation to Sifter, a 20-year resident. "He's just a good guy."

"We all know there isn't much of a budget over there. Without volunteers like Mike, there is a lot that wouldn't get done," said Councilman Bill Johnson,

who presented a certificate of appreciation from the council.

Sifter was also very involved in the city's recycling committee during its early days, added Council President James Godbout.

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Westland earns Tree City USA designation

Westland has been named a Tree City USA Community by the Arbor Day Foundation for its commitment to urban forestry.

This is the eighth year Westland has earned this national honor from the Arbor Day Foundation, the nation's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to planting trees.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit, environmental and education organization of more than 1 million members with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees.

"We all benefit when communities like Westland place a high priority on planting and caring for trees, one of our nation's most beautiful resources," said John Rosenow, Chief Executive and Founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees shade our homes, add beauty to our neighborhoods, and provide many environmental, economic and social benefits. We applaud Westland's elected officials, volunteers and citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest."

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Westland has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community. Tree City USA communities must have a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a community forestry program with annual expenditures of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Communities that earn Tree City USA recognition not only have taken the time to meet the four standards, they know that trees:

- Promote healthier communities by filtering the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles.
- Moderate climate, conserve water and provide vital habitat for wildlife.
- Reduce the heat island effect in urban areas caused by pavement and buildings. Reduce energy use and increase property values.

More information about the Arbor Day Foundation and its programs can be found at www.arborday.org. Tree City USA information can be found at www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

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Reaction positive at first school bond forum

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia school board received positive feedback to a proposed construction bond of up to \$200 million to pay for school improvements.

But the approximate 24 parents, seniors and other community members who attended the first of five forums on the topic had some advice for the school board:

"We need a brand-new school; you can only redesign a school so much," said Fred Mack, a retired teacher who taught in Livonia Public Schools for 52 years.

"It can't just be paint, windows, heat — what is it that makes Livonia schools the schools of choice?" asked Joe Mitra, a 20-year resident with no children in the district who works as an educational architect. "I'm all about the emerging trends ... in learning environments."

"Go through what's needed, as opposed to what the administration wants," said Al Churchill, a retiree on a fixed income.

Decision by December

The school board is holding the forums to gather the community's input on what kind of projects a construction bond should pay for, what the selling points would be to voters, what the challenges would be to passing a bond and what the level of support from the community would be.

The board plans to decide by December whether it will seek a bond, when it would place the proposal on the ballot, how much the bond would be for and what improvements the bond would pay for.

The district conducted a telephone poll Jan. 23-25 of 480 registered voters to gauge their support for \$190 million in improvements in three areas: technology and equipment, fine arts and major facility renovations. A \$190 million bond would

COMMUNITY FORUMS

Community forums will be held:

- 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 3, at Holmes Middle School, 16200 Newburgh.

- 3:30-5 p.m. Monday, April 16, at Stevenson High School, 33500 W. Six Mile. (Shuttle service will be provided from the Civic Park Senior Center at 3 p.m. for this forum.)

Parents, staff and community members can attend any of the meetings, regardless of location. In addition, a forum for students in kindergarten through 12th grade will be held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh. Parents must accompany elementary-age students.

RSVPs are appreciated for the forums. Contact Jill Wozniak at jwozniak@livoniaschools.org or call (734) 744-2510.

cost the owner of \$125,000 home about \$144 a year for 30 years.

The majority of respondents said they believe voters would reject a \$190 million bond proposal because it would cost too much. However, the majority also said they personally would support it. The majority of respondents also said they think most people would support technology renovations to help make the district competitive with current education practices.

The technology renovations, without the other improvements, would cost an estimated \$36 million, or \$31 per year for the owner of a \$125,000 home.

Additional input sought

The forums are a continuation of the board's efforts to get community input, said Donna McDowell, administrator of communications for the district. All the comments from the forum will be recorded and given to board

members for their deliberation, she said.

The first forum was held at Franklin High School last week. After administrators presented background information on the need for school improvements and the limited funding currently available to pay for them, attendees broke into small discussion groups with school board members.

According to administrators, the district's sinking fund generates only about \$4 million to \$5 million a year. "It would take 25 to 30 years to get at all the things we're talking about," Superintendent Randy Liepa said. However, a bond, like a mortgage on a home, would allow the district to make the improvements sooner rather than later.

Dianne Laura and Gregory Oke said all the people in their group were very supportive of a bond.

"It's nice to hear a lot of people would be supportive if we do things the right way," Oke said. "I feel good it's not all negative." However, he noted, it was only the first of five forums.

"It was very positive," Laura said, adding people made some really good comments. But "we need to look at reality and what's going to pass."

Behind in technology

The eight community members in Oke's and Laura's small group listed what their priorities would be, ranging from technology to new lighting, plumbing, flooring and signage.

Alicia Douglas, who has a child in elementary, middle and high school as well as college, said Livonia is 10 years behind surrounding districts, including Clarenceville and Wayne-Westland, when it comes to technology.

"This is how our children learn now," she said. Michele Michaels, a member of the Hayes Elementary PTA board, agreed. She

said students have the technology at home but take "10 steps back" when they go to school. She said Hayes is 50 years old, and the windows leak, the temperature can't be controlled, and the sign outside is rotting, kept together by fresh paint "so people don't realize."

"I have no questions," she told Oke and Laura. "Run with it; go for it."

But Mack and Mitra questioned whether the existing classrooms are large enough to turn into modern-day learning environments.

Churchill said the changing job market makes renovations to the career center "pretty important." He advised school board members to consider what's really needed. "Projectors in every classroom? I question whether that makes a lot of sense," he said.

'Chump change'

Douglas said she thought community members would pay \$150 a year to finance all the improvements listed in the district's long-term facilities plan, if they have the necessary information. She suggested volunteers hand out brochures at grocery stores.

"It comes out to be less than \$12.50 a month. I can grab that spare change in my home from the laundry. I don't see it as a problem. It's chump change."

But the seniors in the group said \$12.50 extra a month is a lot for someone on a fixed income, especially on top of the recent tax increases for public safety and senior services.

Pat Mack, a retired Cass Elementary School teacher, said school improvements will benefit seniors, even those on a fixed income for whom an extra \$12.50 a month is a struggle.

"It affects the type of neighbors you have," she said.

ksmith@hometownlife.com

(313) 222-2098

'War on Iran?' topic of talk

Long-time local peace activist Rudy Simons will give a talk on a possible war with Iran at the Citizens for Peace meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 10, at Unity of Livonia.

The title of his talk is "War on Iran? Views from Iran, Israel & U.S." Attendees will hear three views from Simons, as he speaks from the perspective of an Iranian, an Israeli and an American as they consider the prospect of war with Iran.

Simons will share his insight into the political mood of Iran and its people. He will provide viewpoints unavailable to the majority of Americans since he is one of a few U.S. citizens who has traveled throughout Iran with the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

Since the 1920s, the Fellowship of Reconciliation has sent delegations of peacemakers to regions of the world in conflict and to nations regarded as U.S. enemies. This people-to-people outreach, a form of civilian diplomacy, has taken Simons to Iran, Israel and Palestine four times in the past six years.

A group discussion will follow his talk. The public is invited to this free presentation. Unity of Livonia Church is on Five Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster. For more information, call (734) 425-0079 or go to www.citizensforpeace11.blogspot.com.

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25th annual Seedlings benefit raises record amount for program

The 25th annual bowling event benefitting Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia raised more than \$32,000 — a new record, said Debra Bonde, director of Seedlings.

"We were thrilled," she said, adding pledges are still coming in. "I'm just struck by how generous people were. It just touches my heart. They do it partly for fun, but they also do it for the right reason."

Bowling for Braille Books, held Saturday at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth, will allow the nonprofit to produce more than 3,200 braille books for children at a cost of \$10 each.

Bonde said the event drew 130 bowlers, about the same number as in past years. But a lot more bowlers turned in more than the minimum, motivated by incentives and/or excited to mark the fundraiser's 25th anniversary.

This year, those who turned in \$250 or more in pledges were entered in a drawing to win a Kindle Fire, courtesy of city of Livonia Treasurer Dennis Wright. Those who raised \$100 or more could have a braille book inscribed in their name. The minimum to participate was \$60.

Eighteen people raised more than \$250 each, with the top three pledge-getters raising \$3,400 alone. Cheryl Murphy of Novi won the drawing for the Kindle.

Steve Barnhart of Canton bowled the highest game with a score of 288. "He just missed it by one



Debra Bonde, founder and executive director of Seedlings Braille Books For Children, along with Chris Edmonds, radio host at WMGC-FM, welcome bowlers to the 25th annual bowling event.



Bill Joyner bowled a high game of 165, helping the Friday Musings team defeat the Livonia Observer.

pin; we were all watching," Bonde said. While some bowlers challenged themselves to see how high a game they could bowl, Bill Joyner of Friday Mus-

ings challenged the Livonia Observer to a team competition, something Bonde hopes to encourage more of.

—By Karen Smith

Best bet? Transfer money from 401(k) to an IRA

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: My employer has just sold his business to a competitor. Like my old company (where I worked for 20 years), the new company has a 401(k) plan. The new employer says we can either transfer the money in our existing 401(k) plan into its plan or we can close out the current 401(k) plan. I am about 10 years away from retirement and I'm not sure what option would be better for me. The new 401(k) plan is not nearly as good as the old plan. I am concerned about taxes. If I take the money, it would cost me a lot in taxes. What do you recommend?

A: Let me first address the tax issue. If you have money in your old 401(k) plan directly transferred into an IRA, then there will be no tax consequences. A direct transfer means that the money goes directly from the old 401(k) plan into an IRA. This is a relatively simple transaction to accomplish. Any custodian such as a Vanguard, Fidelity or TD Ameritrade can do it for you.

In analyzing your options, I recommend the direct transfer into an IRA because you will have complete control of your investments. Unlike your new 401(k) plan, which has limited options, with an IRA, you virtually have unlimited investment choices. Therefore, it is much easier for you to establish a balanced and diversified portfolio. In addition, you don't have to worry if, down the road, your employer changes the plan or the investment options.

Whether someone retires from a company or their company is sold, as in this case, 99 percent of the time I recommend directly transferring 401(k) money into an IRA. I'm always a believer that people should maintain as much flexibility as possible with their money and an IRA offers that flexibility. The downside of the

IRA vs. the 401(k) plan is you can borrow money from your 401(k). You cannot borrow from your IRA. However, when it comes to investment options, the IRA gives much greater flexibility than a 401(k) plan.

There are many reasons why I am not a fan of borrowing money from a 401(k) plan. First, the adverse tax consequences. When you borrow money from a 401(k), you are paying interest that is not tax-deductible. I recognize that the interest you pay is generally going into your retirement account, however, when that money comes out, you will be taxed. Therefore, you're really paying double taxes on the money that you're paying in interest.

Another reason I'm against borrowing from 401(k) plans is because in many plans you cannot contribute new money if you have an outstanding balance. Particularly for those who take advantage of a company match, this can be a severe penalty.

Lastly, I believe retirement money is sacred and that you should avoid borrowing against it at all costs.

A key factor to successfully moving money from your old 401(k) plan into an IRA is to make sure that you're dealing with the right company. Too many times when people retire or change employers, they end up paying excessive fees on the money that they invest. As an example, I recently met with someone who transferred their 401(k) money, which was in a 401(k) Roth, into a variable annuity within a Roth IRA. This transaction benefitted one person only — the person who sold the variable annuity. For the client, it meant excessive fees and limited investment options. Therefore, when you do move money from a 401(k) into an IRA, be careful of unscrupulous salespeople who will attempt to advantage of you.

Good luck!

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



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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In training

The former Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital property was used by the Urban Search and Rescue team from the Western Wayne County Mutual Aid Association March 13 to train for life-saving emergencies like a tornado or missing person situation, which requires a wide-area search. Farmington Hills Fire Chief Corey Bartsch, a team leader, said the 40-person team trains for a different scenario each month. Since 2006, the USAR team has performed this important role, one particular scene they responded to was the explosion at the W.C. Frank's Furniture Store in 2010.

Zonta offers scholarships in culinary arts, aviation

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County is offering two \$500 scholarships to assist women in reaching their educational goals. The scholarships will be awarded to women who are pursuing a career in the fields of Culinary Arts or Aviation Management. Classes must be taken at Schoolcraft College and all monies will be handled through the Schoolcraft College Foundation office. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and reside in the Schoolcraft College District which is Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Wayne, Garden City, Westland, Northville Township and the Wayne County portion of Northville. These scholarships are open to all women without regard to race, ethnic origin, disability or age.

To request an application, email rsrand521@sbcglobal.net. Applications must be returned by mail and post-marked by June 1. Scholarships will be awarded by July 30 and monies available for the Fall 2012 semester.

Zonta International is a non-profit women's service organization whose mission is to advance and improve the status of women. The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County supports the needs of women through community projects and fund raisers. Over the years, it has given more than \$30,000 in scholarships to help women reach their academic goals and be prepared to enter the workplace. To learn more, call (734) 464-0450 or visit www.zonta.org.

AROUND WESTLAND

Anniversary auction

St. Mary Parish in Wayne is celebrating its 150th anniversary with an auction, "A Night on the Town," at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, in the Parish Activity Center, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne.

There will be a silent auction, live auction, raffles, music and more. The cost is \$25 per adult (age 21 and older) and includes strolling buffet, dessert and two beverages.

Pre-registration is necessary and can be completed by calling the parish office at (734) 721-8745 or visit the website, www.stmarywayne.org, and clicking on the Auction Gavel for forms and more information.

Surplus food

The City of Westland will be distributing surplus federal food at the Dorsey Community Center 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 19, for residents living north of Michigan Avenue. Residents of Westland living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the second Monday of the month at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis,

between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. For information, call the church at (734) 729-1737.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers will pick up their food at the apartment complex and must call their building manager for their day of distribution.

For the month of April, frozen ground beef, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, peaches, dried plums, tomato soup, raisins and possible additional items will be distributed. For more information, call the Dorsey Center's

surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

The program is administered by the Wayne County Office of Senior Services which determines all food allocations, distribution sites and dates of distribution.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army hosts Higher Rock Cafe, an evening of Christian music, fellowship, games and concessions at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Friday of the month at the corps, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer.

There's no cover charge. For more information visit Higher Rock Cafe on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/WayneWestlandHRC or call (734) 722-3660.

Free Movies

Enjoy a free movie when the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army holds its monthly free movie nights, beginning Sunday, April 1, with a double feature, *The Mighty Macs* and *The Muppets*.

The movie starts at 4 p.m. at the corps activity center, the corps, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer. Popcorn and concessions will be sold.

Other movie nights are Sunday, May 6, with *Bonhoeffer* and *Dolphin Tale*, and Sunday, June 3, with *The Adventures of Tin Tin*.

Zonta Dinner

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County is hosting a "Get to Know Us" dinner at Schoolcraft College 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 23.

The program will include a speaker from the Yankee Air Ladies on Women in Aviation. There will be information on what is Zonta, how the club has helped women within the community and new scholarships and upcoming community events.

The dinner will be held in the Vista Tech Center on the Schoolcraft College Campus. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. To assure adequate seating and food, reservations are required. Call Barbara by April 12 at (734) 464-0450 with number of guests who will be attending.

Zonta International is a worldwide women's service organization working to improve the status of women locally and globally.

50th anniversary

The community is invited to join the Westland Chamber of Commerce in celebrating its 50th anniversary at a gala Friday, April 20, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland.

The gala will start with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m. followed by a family-style dinner, featuring chicken cordon bleu and roast beef, at 7 p.m. and entertainment by Steve King and the Dittilies 8 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets for the gala are \$40 per person and \$320 for a table of eight. Tickets are available at the chamber office, 36900 Ford Road, east of Newburgh. Sponsorships also are available, and businesses interest-

ed in being sponsors have until April 6 to sign up.

Call the chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

Spaghetti dinner

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

The center is holding game night at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26. It also has euchre and bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinocle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

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

Doo Wop Dinner

Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall is hosting a Doo Wop Dinner, featuring The WhatAbouts, Friday, April 27.

Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by the show 7:30-9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and include pizza, salad, rolls and soft drink or coffee. A cash bar will be available.

For reservations, call (734) 216-9451 or Kelly at (734) 377-1745. Angelo Brothers is at 33550 Ford Road, Westland.

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File Photo

Pam Slezak finds a book she's interested in at Bookstock, southeast Michigan's largest used book and media sale. The sale is returning to Laurel Park Place mall April 22-29.

Bookstock returns

Bookstock is back, celebrating 10 years of supporting the need to read. Metro Detroit's largest used book and media sale, where all proceeds benefit literacy and education projects in metropolitan Detroit, will be held April 22-29 at Livonia's Laurel Park Place.

Bookstock's Pre-Sale will kick off at 8:15 a.m. Sunday, April 22, with a performance by the Wayne State University Gospel Chorale. There is a \$10 admission charge for the Pre-Sale only, which runs through 11 a.m. and offers savvy shoppers and collectors first crack at Bookstock's treasure trove of bargains.

Bookstock has more than 100,000 donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records for sale at bargain basement prices. The sale will continue through Sunday, April 29, running Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Books will be sold for half price on Sunday, April 29, the last day of the sale.

Bookstock has generated more than \$655,000 for liter-

acy and education programs throughout Oakland County and Detroit over the past nine years. More than 700 volunteers work together throughout the year to organize and staff the weeklong Bookstock sale. Bookstock has also established the Bookstock Scholar Awards, which are given to outstanding library science students at Wayne State University. In 2011, Bookstock joined with corporate partners Gardner White Furniture and Wallside windows to present the first three \$2,000 awards.

Bookstock is sponsored by the Oakland Literacy Council, Detroit Jewish News, Hour Detroit Magazine, Schostak Brothers and Company, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and a consortium of Jewish communal non-profit organizations that support education and literacy projects throughout metro Detroit. For more information about Bookstock, call the Bookstock hotline (248) 645-7840, ext. 365, or visit www.bookstock.info.

Laurel Park Place is on Six Mile Road east of I-275 in Livonia.

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A western Wayne County-based megachurch is forging ties with people halfway around the world with the goal of putting two impoverished villages on a path of sustainable economic growth.

Members of NorthRidge Church, which hosts more than 9,000 people at weekend services at three area locations, have agreed to "sponsor" more than 3,000 children in the villages of Moyo and Hamaundu, in the southern African country of Zambia, through World Vision, a Christian relief and development agency.

Organizers expected the long-planned program to generate 2,000 sponsorships, but that number was quickly reached when the program was announced at services early this month, and more than 1,000 more sponsors are on a waiting list as World Vision prepares to send along information about more children in need.

"This has set a precedent with World Vision," said Beth Harris, NorthRidge's outreach director. "A church has never been able to do the number of sponsorships we've been able to do."

While each sponsorship links a church member or family to a child or young adult in Moyo

or Hamaundu, sponsors' contributions actually go toward a World Vision Program that helps improve life for all villagers, Harris said.

"We're not just sponsoring kids, it's a whole area development plan," Harris said, adding that the church's commitment is for 10 to 15 years.

The development plan, said NorthRidge's Mike Miller, focuses on five key areas: providing the villages with clean water, better health care and an improved education system, fostering economic development, and supporting local churches. NorthRidge sponsors' donations will go to World Vision programs already in place in the villages, he said, and World Vision is partners with existing churches there.

"What we want is a relationship (and) ultimately a sustainable, thriving community," said Miller. "To do what we're talking about, it will probably take anywhere from 10 to 15 years from today to the finish line, where those communities are thriving."

Harris and Miller said because key development areas are interrelated, improving conditions in one can improve conditions in another. For example, they said, village girls who now have to walk three to five miles daily to fetch well water, which their families depend on, have

a hard time being in school, so wells closer to the population will improve access to education.

"Now they can get water and go to school," Miller said.

NorthRidge's commitment came after Pastor Brad Powell and several other men from the church visited both Moyo and Hamaundu about six months ago. Miller said World Vision has been laying the groundwork for about a year and a half.

Church member Mark Warren of Wyandotte and his family are sponsoring two Zambian children through a donation of \$35 a month per child. Warren said it's good to be a part of something bigger than oneself and that he's "thrilled to give back halfway around the world."

As the program progresses, he said, sponsors can interact with the children, exchanging letters and pictures, Warren said.

"We're just an average family who's glad to be part of the campaign," said Warren, the circulation director for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

Harris said another goal is to have more visits by NorthRidge members to Moyo and Hamaundu.

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House OKs Walsh bills making it illegal to lie to cops

The Michigan House on Thursday approved two bills introduced by a western Wayne County lawmaker that make it a crime to willfully and knowingly lie to law enforcement officials during an investigation.

House Bills 5050 and 5051, which make it illegal to conceal information or to make misleading statements during a criminal investigation, were amended in the Senate and returned to the House for passage.

"This closes a loophole in Michigan law that allowed someone to protect a suspect in a crime by misleading police investigators," said state Rep. John Walsh, R-Livonia. "This will act as a deterrent to someone lying to police or providing false information during an investigation."

The bills prohibit people from doing any of the following during a criminal investigation:

- Knowingly and willfully issuing or providing any writing or document to the peace officer that the person knows is false or misleading regarding a material fact;
- Knowingly and willfully concealing from the peace officer (by trick, scheme or device) any material fact; and
- Knowingly and willfully making any statement to the peace officer that is false or misleading regarding a material fact.

Based on the severity of the crime being investigated, violators could face penalties ranging from 93 days in jail to four years in prison.

"This does not infringe on the right of people who are being questioned during investigations, and it will not change the rights to due process of law," Walsh said. "Time is of the essence in police investigations, and someone giving false information is wasting time and taxpayer money by sending officials on wild goose chases."

The measures have been sent to the governor for signature.

Diapers are Ford's better idea

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Ford Motor Co. employees, in a move to help children and struggling families, collected 18,653 disposable diapers delivered by company volunteers Monday to the Canton-based Detroit Area Diaper Bank, a nonprofit charity that has helped meet a critical need across southeast Michigan since April 2009.

Rolling up in a box truck, Ford Volunteer Corps members dropped off supplies the diaper bank's unpaid leader, Marybeth Levine, planned to start dispersing this week to social service agencies ranging from the Wayne County Women, Infants & Children Program to the Downriver Fish & Loaves Food Pantry.

Employees from 15 locations, mostly in Dearborn but including the Livonia Ford Transmission Plant, collected the diapers and thousands of baby wipes last week during the latest Ford Accelerated Action Day effort that gives back to local communities. Donations to the diaper bank marked one of many activities across metro Detroit.

Stocking shelves

Plymouth mom and Ford employee Lisa Jacobi delivered diapers along with company volunteers Dave VanHoet of Canton, Vince Amore of Livonia, Mark Carrier of Ann Arbor and Levine's husband, Steve Levine — helping to restock the diaper bank's Extra Space Storage unit off Canton Center Road.

Jacobi said diapers are expensive and out of reach for struggling families who can't afford to buy supplies not covered by government safety-net programs.

"This is a way we can reach out and help the community," she said.

Ford volunteers also collected 147 cans of formula donated to area food banks.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ford volunteers Lisa Jacobi and Dave VanHoet are part of the Ford crew unloading diapers.



Ford volunteers Lisa Jacobi, Dave VanHoet, Vince Amore and Diaper Bank volunteer Bruce Will unload a truckload of diapers.

Marybeth Levine and diaper bank volunteer Bruce

Will welcomed the latest donation, which was timely because donations had fallen off since a major campaign ended during the 2011 holiday season.

"This couldn't come at a better time," Levine said, adding that Ford Motor Co.'s help should get the diaper bank through another month.

Action day

Will, a Ford retiree, said the company's effort provided "another reason Ford's the best."

Levine started the volunteer diaper bank (www.detroitareadiaperbank.org) in April 2009. Since then, the charity has distributed over 1.2 million disposable diapers to numerous agencies across southeast Michigan, including First Step, The Salvation Army and Starfish Family Services.

During the Ford Accelerated

ated Action Day, the company donated \$50,000 to numerous agencies. Efforts included painting a playroom and assembling shelves at the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, creating an art therapy room for First Step's domestic violence program, building house walls for Habitat for Humanity and sprucing up residential cottages for Redford-based Methodist Children's Home Society — among numerous other projects.

"There is no better use of our dollars and our deeds than to invest in children," said Jim Vella, president of Ford Motor Co.'s Fund and Community Services. "Our investment in the community will help bring comfort to families today while laying the groundwork for better days ahead."

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CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeal 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, April 18, 2012 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 #2759-D. Koscielniak-711 Denice
Req. for side yd. fence location variance from Art. X of the Westland City Code to install a 6' high privacy fence in the north street side yd. of the home; whereas Sec. 22-303(c) states that side yd. fences that are allowed cannot exceed 4'6" in height.

Publish: April 1, 2012 OE08772246 3x3.5

WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by Wayne-Westland Community Schools, 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185 for:

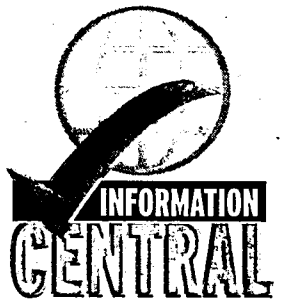
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Proposals are to be submitted in accordance with contract documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. 1191 W. Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302-0374.

- DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**
 - Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after March 26, 2012. Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC.
 - Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Architect's office, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.
- DUE DATE**
 - Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when they will be publicly opened and read aloud.
Date and Time: April 4, 2012, at 11:00 AM EST
Place: Wayne-Westland Community Schools, 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185
- GENERAL INFORMATION**
 - Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of ninety (90) days after date of receipt of bids. A 5% bid bond is required in accordance with the Section 002113-F - Instructions to Bidders (See Page 002113-F-1, Paragraph 2.G.).
 - Accepted Bidder shall be required to enter into a contract with Wayne-Westland Community Schools and furnish satisfactory Performance Bond in accordance with the Section 002113-F - Instructions to Bidders. (See Page 002113-F-3, Paragraph 2.L.).
 - The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein. If in the Owner's opinion it is in their best interest, the contract may be awarded to other than the lowest bidder, for reasons of establishing uniformity, delivery time, etc.

Publish: April 1, 2012 OE08772246 3x3.5

The Pursuit of Happiness



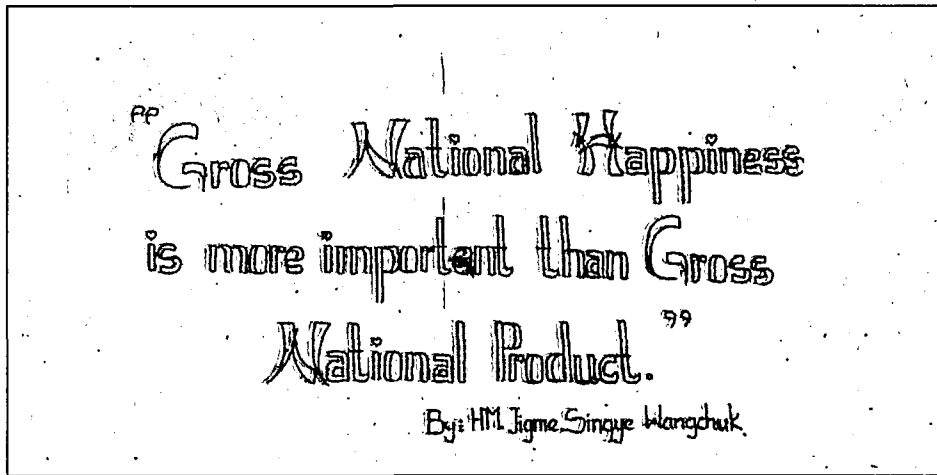
The Declaration of Independence has long held "the pursuit of happiness" as an American goal, but now it is formally becoming a human goal. On Monday, April 2nd, 2012, Resolution 65/309 will be put into effect by the United Nations. Most of us don't pay attention to U.N. resolutions, but this one emphasizes the importance of happiness on a global scale.

Up until now, a country's Gross Domestic Product was used to measure its progress as a nation, in social and economic terms. It has been discovered that having a high GDP doesn't necessarily translate to a happy nation with a positive sense of well-being.

This resolution was proposed by Bhutan, a small Himalayan nation in Asia that has been using Gross National Happiness as a measure of success for years now. *Business Week* has ranked it the happiest country in Asia and the eighth happiest in the world, despite its economic limitations.

This is a big paradigm shift. It means reassessing what we, as humans, value. No longer will wealth be determined solely by dollars. According to Bhutan, true wealth means having a "ravishing environment," "vibrant health," "strong communal relationships" and "meaning in life and freedom to free time."

For individuals, there has been a multitude of books published claiming to guarantee happi-



Slogan about Gross National Happiness in the School of Traditional Arts in Thimphu, Bhutan.

ness to the reader. This is problematic because the concept of happiness is problematic. There are many books that push money and materialism as the path to happiness. But then there is a whole section on happiness as a way of life as opposed to an end goal. Gretchen Rubin's *The Happiness Project* offers concrete steps for people to reach self-actualization. The newest title by Andrew Weil, *Spontaneous Happiness*, focuses on obtaining and sustaining optimal emotional and physical health. Then there's also happiness that comes from how one conducts their life and behaviors. *Happy* by Ian Smith discusses just that.

These books plus many, many more are available for checkout at the Westland Public Library. Visit us anytime and pick up some titles to help you on your way to happiness and well-being. Call 73

326-6123 or go online to www.westlandlibrary.org.

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

Songs and Poems of Peace and Social Justice: 2 p.m. April 1

In conjunction with the Citizens for Peace organization, the Westland Library is proud to present "If I had a Hammer - Songs and Poems of Peace and Social Justice," featuring folk songs of the 1960s folk revival. Gemini, twin brothers San and Laz Slomovits, nationally known for their music for children and families, return to the roots of their music - the classic songs of Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Peter, Paul, and Mary, Joni Mitchell, Malvina Reynolds, etc. as well as traditional songs associated with the 1960s. Come hear songs like *If I had a Hammer*, *Blowing in the Wind* and *Where Have All the Flowers Gone* and sing along

with them. The concert will also feature poems by ancient as well as contemporary poets on the themes of peace and social justice which San and Laz have set to original music.

Zumba Dance Party, 7:30 p.m. April 3 and 9:30 a.m. April 5.

Join *Lisa English for a Zumba® Dance Party! The Zumba program fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program that will blow you away. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing and low tread shoes. All fitness levels welcome. No dance experience necessary. Teens and adults welcome. Space is limited. Call the library or check our website at www.westlandlibrary.org/events for more dates.

New addition to Friday Night Movie: 6:30 p.m. April 6

Join us as we continue to celebrate Academy Award Nominees and

Winners from March through May. Tonight's Movie, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, is about "(J)ournalist Mikael Blomkvist [who] is aided in his search for a woman who has been missing for 40 years by Lisbeth Salander, a young computer hacker." (imdb.com) This movie is rated R (with scenes of brutal violence).

Also, our new monthly feature, *Drew's Movies*, will begin tonight as screenwriter and movie buff, Drew Tierney, will talk about aspects of tonight's movie sure to enhance your movie-watching experience. *Drew's Movies* will start at 6:30 p.m. Snacks and refreshments served. Trivia and prizes. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Movie starts at 7 p.m.

Trigger Point Therapy: 7 p.m. April 10

If you are like 75 percent of the general population, you experience some form of stress every day. Too much stress can cause physical problems that can lead to more serious complications. Trigger Point Therapy offers a safe and natural solution to relieving stress-related problems. Dr. Brian Brackney, a member of the Foundation for Wellness Professionals, will help you learn how to identify your trigger points, how to locate trigger points on any person, and how to relieve trigger points easily and quickly. Hear how the relationship between stress and trigger points effects your health. Sign up online

or call the library to reserve your seat (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.

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 to find out more. The library offers One-on-one computer classes. Call (734) 326-6123.

The Library will be closed April 7-8 in celebration of Easter. We will resume our normally scheduled hours Monday, April 9.

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



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Miracle League wins Pyramid honor Mackinac Bridge, Madonna University Light It Blue

The Miracle League of Plymouth was chosen the 2012 Best Project Teams (under \$3 Million) Pyramid Award for the Miracle League of Plymouth project, a baseball field and pavilion for children with special needs.

The Pyramid Awards are sponsored by the Washtenaw Contractors Association. This particular award recognized architect Joseph Philips and contractor, Ted Barker, Shaw Construction.

Each of these prestigious awards represents the highest level of achievement in the areas of teamwork, service, or innovation. The winners are selected by independent experts in the construction industry.

Ted Barker, President, Shaw Construction; Construction Manager, Miracle League of Plymouth

"A project like this comes by once in a lifetime to construct a very special ball field in the very town you were raised in," said Barker. "To be able to be part of such a dynamic team with Joseph Philips Architect, LLC, Bob Bilkie, and Deb Madonna, who helped raise this project from an idea three years ago to a complete success is all the award any one needs. Then to be recognized by my peers from my very own construction industry as the 2012 Washtenaw Construction Association Best Project Team is overwhelming."

According to judges, the project involved an extremely high level of cooperation between the owner, architect and contractor, resulting in true synergism between these three entities; resulted in an improvement in some critical aspect of the construction project; the improvement is documented and sufficient information is disclosed to the Jury to complete its review; the award nomination is supported in writing by all three entities; the project is located in Michigan; and the contractor/construction manager nom-



The Miracle League of Plymouth was chosen the 2012 Best Project Teams (under \$3 Million) Pyramid Award by the Washtenaw Contractors Association. This particular award recognized architect Joseph Philips and contractor, Ted Barker, Shaw Construction.

inee is a member of the Washtenaw Contractors Association.

"It once again goes back to form and function," said Bob Bilkie, co-chair of the Miracle League of Plymouth. "Not only does the field suit our Miracle League Players well but it is also a thing of beauty to behold. Ted and Joe are at the top of their games."

Madonna, the other co-chair of the Miracle League of Plymouth, said the MLP was "lucky enough" to be able to build a baseball field for children, some of whom

have not had a chance to play."

"There is nothing better for adults than to be able to create a place for all children to play and be part of a team, to provide a place where they will make friends," she said.

The Bilkie Family Field, home of the Miracle League of Plymouth, is at 357 Theodore, behind Central Middle School between Main Street and Farmer, in Plymouth. For more information, visit the website at www.miracleleagueplymouth.org.

In April, the Mackinac Bridge will be lit with blue lights at night as part of the autism awareness campaign, Light It Blue Michigan. It's the first time the Mackinac Bridge has ever taken up a cause.

Bridge participation in the campaign is the result of efforts by Madonna University graduate students and Corner Pieces, a non-profit in the Upper Peninsula.

Working in groups, members of the marketing class identified and worked with four unique non-profit organizations to create marketing plans. The Madonna students then voted and awarded a monetary gift to each non-profit based on the strength of their plan.

"I got a phone call, out of the blue, from a student at Madonna. They said they needed to work with a non-profit on a project, and since we had just started our organization the previous May, we were excited about the help," said Ben Duff, founder of Corner Pieces, a Sault Ste. Marie-based non-profit dedicated to helping children and families living with Autism spectrum disorder.

The students who selected Corner Pieces quickly decided to help Duff with a project he had hoped to undertake, but didn't have the time or resources - to get Michigan landmarks to participate in the national Light it Up Blue campaign led by Autism Speaks, www.lightitupblue.org.

"Michigan had the lowest participation in this national campaign," Duff said. "And we wanted to really make a statement by going after the one thing that everyone in Michigan knows by sight, the Mackinac Bridge."

The marketing plan the group drafted helped raise \$7,500, which was needed to pay for the cost of changing the light bulbs on the iconic

five-mile long bridge, currently the third longest suspension bridge in the world.

Working with Duff's organization, the group also secured participation in the Light It Blue Michigan campaign by the GM Renaissance Center, Motor City Casino, the DTE Energy Building and Madonna University.

"Without the students' involvement, this would never have happened," Duff said.

There will be a lighting ceremony at the bridge on Monday with Michigan's Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley, who has a 4-year-old autistic daughter, and has been an outspoken advocate of expanding Michigan's health care coverage for children affected by the disability.

"This project was a wonderful opportunity for me and my classmates to go beyond the classroom, develop a relationship with a real business, and hopefully have a positive impact," said Scott Draper of Canton, a graduate student in the class.

The class, led by professor Betty Jean Hebel, voted to award Corner Pieces \$500.

When the Mackinac Bridge and Madonna University turn blue, they will be joining a long list of historic buildings and structures that have participated in the 3-year-old national campaign, such as the Empire State Building in New York, Christ The Redeemer in Brazil, and Niagara Falls in Ontario, Canada.

Through the establishment of Corner Pieces www.cornerpieces.org, Ben and Tiffany Duff, whose son is autistic, have made it their mission to provide iPods and iPads to autistic children who struggle with communication. They also seek to educate and inform the general public and affected families about the causes, signs, and treatment of autism, which effects one out of 110 children in the United States.



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SECTION B (WL)
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SPORTS

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Kenning Brichford returns in the sprints for the defending Division 1 regional champions and Kensington Conference runner-up.

PREVIEW

Starting blocks: Track teams set Stevenson defends region title

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Having a well-rounded team has been the formula for success for the Livonia Stevenson boys track program during the past decade.

The Spartans are the defending Division 1 regional and Livonia City champions, along with being Kensington Conference runners-up. They open their season Tuesday with a KLAACentral Division meet at Salem, and ninth-year coach Scott Shaw faces an air of uncertainty as the season approaches.

"We have a good group of seniors that have had success in the past, plus several of them have looked very solid so far in the pre-season," Shaw said. "The only negative is that our numbers are down. I only have 73 kids as compared to over 100 most years. We seem to be down in the number of freshmen participating, which is quite disappointing."

Stevenson lost some top-



Kassius Kelly Clarenceville Adam Clay Franklin

flight talent to graduation, including shot put thrower Jon Aneed, who finished fifth in Division 1, and standout 800-meter runner and relay anchor Matt Williams.

But the cupboard is far from bare for the Spartans, who return senior sprinter Kenning Brichford, who clocked 11.1 and 23.2, respectively, in the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

The lone returnee from Stevenson's school-record 4 x 800 relay team (7:56.1), which finished fifth in the state finals, is junior Zaid Shareef.

Other top returnees for the Spartans include Nick Pod-

Please see TRACK, B3

Warner MAC golf honoree

Eastern Michigan University senior Shannon Warner (Livonia Churchill) was named Mid-American Conference Women's Golfer of the Week after shooting a final-round 72 to place fourth with a three-round total of 218 at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Golf Classic (March 26-27).

It was the second top-five showing of the season for Warner, who has been battling a nagging wrist injury. It also marks the first time in her career she has collected the weekly award.

The transfer from Michigan State, a two-time MHSAA Division 1 individual state medalist and Miss Golf, helped the Eagles turn in a third-round score of 292 to finish with a total of 899 (tied for third place with Middle Tennessee State).

Atienza trio state-caliber

The Atienza brothers of Livonia made a name for themselves at state level events during the weekend of March 23-25.

Jordan Atienza, a sophomore at Franklin, captured the 148-pound weight class at the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association state tournament at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

The 16-year-old was a state qualifier for the Patriots and earned second-team All-Observer honors.

Nathan Atienza, a 12-year-old seventh-grader at Holmes Middle School, took fifth place in the same tournament in the 100-pound weight class for the 1999-2000 age bracket.

And not to be outdone, Owen Atienza, a fourth-grader at Coolidge Elementary School, placed first on vault and floor exercise in Level 4 at the USA Gymnastics Michigan Men's meet held at Lake Orion High School.

The 9-year-old also added a seventh on the parallel bars and took seventh in the all-around.

Blazers fall

Maddy Rosochacki's eight goals proved to be the difference Wednesday as host South Lyon outgunned Livonia Ladywood, 17-13, in a girls lacrosse match.

Ladywood senior Kylie Birney countered with six goals and senior Emma Ellswood added four, but it wasn't enough as the Blazers slipped to 1-2 overall.

Mia Fragale made seven saves in goal for South Lyon (2-0), while Ladywood junior Stephanie Mackley had six stops.

Trierweiler gains honor

Madonna University freshman second baseman Kasey Trierweiler (Grand Ledge) was selected as the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Softball Player of the Week (ending March 25).

Trierweiler paced the Crusaders to a perfect 2-0 week hitting .714 with a pair of doubles and two RBI as the Crusaders extended their early season winning streak.

BOYS SOCCER

Spartans name new coach

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The torch has been passed. Livonia Stevenson's new varsity boys soccer coach is Ken Shingledecker, who succeeds the highly successful Lars Richters. Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman made it official Friday that Shingledecker, currently the girls varsity coach at Livonia Ladywood and assistant

men's coach at Madonna University, was her choice.

"Ken is a very experienced and well-versed soccer coach," Hyman said. "He is a proven winner and his strengths lie in his ability to stress the importance of team-



Shingledecker

unity and assisting his players in becoming outstanding individuals. His coaching style mirrors the values and expectations that the Stevenson soccer legacy has been built on."

The 34-year-old Shingledecker has quite a legacy to uphold. Richters, a former Stevenson all-stater and head coach at his alma mater for 14 years, stepped down recently to concentrate year-round on coach-

ing the Under-16 Crew Academy program.

Richters compiled an impressive 232-46-23 record, including Division 1 state runner-up finishes in 2006 and 2008, along with two other Final Four appearances.

Stevenson finished 14-7-1 last fall and captured its ninth district championship under Rich-

Please see SOCCER, B2

GIRLS SOFTBALL

Chargers get 5-4 triumph with key hits

Clutch hits in the late going propelled Livonia Churchill to a season-opening 5-4 softball victory Thursday at home over Walled Lake Central in eight innings.

The Chargers, who battled back from a 4-0 deficit, scored three times in the sixth, one in the seventh and one in the eighth to pull out the victory.

Churchill's Casey Bias went 3-for-4 on the day, including a two-run triple in the sixth inning.

Rachel Jason, who went 2-for-4, then belted a leadoff homer in the seventh to send the game into extra innings.

In the bottom of the eighth, Katie Shereda, who also went 2-for-4, tripled and scored the game-winning run on Julia Cavagnini's sacrifice fly.

Winning pitcher Missy Sidor went all eight innings, scattering eight hits and two walks while striking out eight.

Losing pitcher Taylor Meredyk also went the distance, allowing nine hits and two walks while fanning eight.

Taylor Krumm and Brianna Krus each collected two hits for the Vikings (0-1).

A.A. HURON 5-8, HVL 3-6: On Thursday, Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-2) opened its season by losing a doubleheader to visiting Ann Arbor Huron (3-0) in a pair of five-inning games.

The River Rats won the opener, 5-3, as Courtney Ziemba went 2-for-3 with a triple and fence-clearing homer for the

Please see SOFTBALL, B2



The Crystallettes perform their synchronized skating routine at the USFS Championships March 2-3 in Worcester, Mass.

USA's Crystallettes

Local synchro skaters off to ISU Worlds

The Crystallettes senior synchronized skating team has been named Team USA II and will represent the United States at the 2012 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, April 13-14 in Göteborg, Sweden.

The Synchro World Championships will have 21 teams representing 16 countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Russia, Switzerland, Sweden and the U.S.

The Crystallettes were awarded the silver medal at the 2012 U.S. Figure Skating Synchronized Skating Championships, March 2-3 at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass.

On Friday, after skating a clean and edgy short program

to Duffy's Mercy, the Crystallettes were in second place with 60.40 points.

They were less than four points behind the reigning national champion Haydenettes (64.26) and less than three ahead of third-place Miami (Ohio) University, which scored 57.98 points.

Going into the long program Saturday, the Crystallettes knew they had to skate a near-perfect program to stay in the top two spots and earn the honor of representing the U.S. at the World Championships.

The Haydenettes skated just before the Crystallettes and delivered a solid program, earning a score of 138.66 and putting the pressure on the Crystallettes.

But the Crystallettes were

focused and motivated to skate their long program, performed to the Latin-themed *On The Floor* by Jennifer Lopez.

Their performance was an exciting and fun interpretation of the Latin music, with impressive intersections, and overall a very strong effort. Most importantly, however, it was clean and delivered a score of 125.14 points.

As the score wasn't enough to overtake the Haydenettes for first place, the team had to wait to see if it was enough to hold the silver medal.

Miami University skated right after the Crystallettes, but its score (124.66) came in just under the Crystallettes by less than one point, leaving the

Please see SKATERS, B2

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

ters.
 "I hope to carry on the tradition that Lars has built at Stevenson," said Shingledecker, who is general manager at the Taylor SportsPlex. "I plan on doing everything I can to assure this program continues to be thought of as one of the elite soccer programs in the state of Michigan."
 "The opportunity to be involved with a high school with this type of soccer tradition made this a no-brainer. I am in the process of moving my family back to Livonia, and I hope to be able to coach my two boys at Stevenson one day."
 Shingledecker guided Ladywood last spring to a 17-4-6 record and the 2011 Division 2 state final before losing to Plainwell, 2-1. He is 51-22-8 overall in the midst of his fifth season with the Blazers.

Shingledecker was also an assistant coach at his alma mater Lutheran High Westland (1998-2009) under coach Rich Block and was the Warriors girls varsity coach for three seasons (2004-06).

"He is involved in the Livonia City Soccer Club as a head coach and has established solid relationships in the soccer community," Hyman said.

Shingledecker becomes only the fourth boys varsity coach in school history, succeeding Pete Scerri, Walt Barrett and Rich-
 ters.

"I plan to speak to Lars and get some feedback about the style that he found to be successful here," Shingledecker said. "But I'm sure I will mix in a few things here and there to put my own stamp on it. I plan on filling the staff out right after spring break."

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**Tie that binds
 Churchill deadlocks Salem, 0-0**

Junior Ashley Elliott held down the fort in goal Wednesday night as Livonia Churchill battled host Salem to a scoreless girls soccer draw at Centennial Educational Park.

"It was a pretty even game and we had the wind against us in the first half," said Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit, whose team stands 0-1-1 overall. "Ashley played well and made two big saves in the first half on legit chances."

The Chargers got a strong defensive effort, according to Hebestreit, from Rachel Blackney, who was moved to the backline from the midfield.

"We were able to build up our attack and play into our forward Alexa Vakratsis," Hebestreit said. "We had our chances, especially late in the game."

Churchill was coming off a season-opening 7-0 setback Monday at home against Northville.

"I'm happy with the way we bounced back and played pretty well," Hebestreit said.

The tie leaves Salem 1-0-1 overall. **LADYWOOD 4, REGINA 0:** Four different players tallied goals Thursday as Livonia Ladywood (2-0, 1-0) opened Catholic League Central Division play with a victory at Warren Regina (0-2, 0-2).

The Blazers, who Paige Brennan (10th minute); Dominique Samecky from Emily Huddleston (12th minute); and Erin Cronyn from Jenna Urso (16th minute).

Brennan made it 4-0 just two minutes into the second half off an assist from Samecky to complete the scoring.

Ladywood keeper Sara Even posted her first shutout of the year, while Nikki Bradley made nine saves for the Saddletites.

"Our team defense was off the charts tonight," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We were excellent in our pursuit to get the ball back after we lost it. It's a quality league win for us."

RU 2, CLARENCEVILLE 1: Katherine Sprader scored a pair of goals Thursday to enable Redford Union (1-1-1) to slip past host Livonia Clarenceville (1-2).

Sprader scored a goal in each half to give the Panthers a 2-0 lead before Clarenceville's Lindsey Fosth answered with 15 minutes remaining off an assist from Ashley Murphy.

Clarenceville goalkeeper Jillian Bunker stopped 19-of-21 RU shots.

Trojans coach Amanda Moody also singled out of the play of defenders Summer Reddick and Grace King.

RU keeper Candice Brennan stopped 5-of-6 shots.

LUTHERAN N'WEST 1, LUTH. WESTLAND 1: Junior goalkeeper Angela Morrison came up with 27 saves Thursday as host Lutheran High Westland (0-0-1) deadlocked Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (2-0-1) in a crossover game between Michigan Independent Athletic Conference foes.

Lutheran Westland took a 1-0 lead on Allie Lange's first-half goal from Michelle Greening.

Megan Hamilton countered with an unassisted goal for the Crusaders.

WAYNE 3, BELLEVILLE 0: Goals by Amber Parrish, Crystal Fletcher and Katie Kuder enabled Wayne Memorial (1-1) to earn a victory Wednesday over the host Tigers.

Zebraws goalkeeper Ashley Conley made six saves to post the shutout.

MOTT 5, GLENN 0: Hannah Messer's hat trick carried Waterford Mott (2-0) to a win Wednesday over visiting Westland John Glenn (0-1-1).

Hannah Rhoades added three assists, while Lauren Slater and Lexanna Siemasz also tallied goals for the Corsairs, who led 2-0 at halftime.

"We were physically overmatched," said Glenn coach Ralph Cabildo, who received a sterling effort from junior goalkeeper Jenna Redden.

GREENHILLS 5, C'VILLE 0: Sydney Bartell and Katie Lyders each scored a pair of goals Wednesday to lead Ann Arbor Greenhills (1-0) past host Livonia Clarenceville (1-1).

Kirstin Mikhail also tallied a goal for the Gryphons, who led 2-0 at halftime.

Clarenceville goalkeeper Jillian Bunker stopped 12-of-17 Greenhills shots, while the Gryphons' Austin Bunker had to make just three for the shutout.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- PREP BASEBALL**
Monday, April 2
 U-D at Stevenson (2), 4 p.m.
 South Lake at Wayne, 4:30 p.m.
 Romulus Summit Academy at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 3
 Garden City at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at Crestwood, 4 p.m.
 Glenn at Cranbrook, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Novi CC, 4 p.m.
 HVL at Taylor Baptist, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4
 RU at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 B.C. Glenn at Glenn (2), 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 5
 Summit at Wayne (2), 4 p.m.
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Monday, April 2
 Lutheran High Westland at Harper Woods, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, April 3
 Flat Rock at HVL, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4
 Franklin at Garden City, 4 p.m.
GIRLS SOCCER
Monday, April 2
 GC at Franklin, 5:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Dearborn, 5:30 p.m.
 Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 3
 H. Wds. at Luth. Wsd, 5 p.m.
 Ladywood at Mercy, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4
 Glenn at Dearborn, 5:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Gard. City, 5:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.
PREP TRACK & FIELD
Tuesday, April 3
 Churchill at Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at Salem, 3:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin, 3:45 p.m.
 Individual Time Trials at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
GIRLS TENNIS
Monday, April 2
 Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
 John Glenn at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Canton at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Lady, at N.D. Prep, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 3
 Lady, at Sacred Heart, 4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4
 Franklin at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Northville, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
BOYS GOLF
Tuesday, April 3
 Franklin Road vs. Huron Valley at Fieldstone, 3:30 p.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Monday, April 2
 Lady, at N.D. Prep, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 3
 Mercy at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.
COLLEGE BASEBALL
(all double-headers)
Sunday, April 1
 Lourdes at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Thursday, April 5
 Concordia at MU, 1 p.m.
Saturday, April 7
 Concordia at MU, 1 p.m.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
(all double-headers)
Friday, April 6
 UM-Dearborn at MU, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 7
 Huntington at MU, 1 p.m.

**SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
 NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
 ON PROPOSED 2012-13 BUDGET**

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 ("Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2012-13 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2012, at the Grote Administration Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address during normal business hours.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Glenn Cerny,
 Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Publish: April 1, 2012

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SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

game winner.

Winning pitcher Paige Gallingier went all five, allowing four hits and three walks while striking out three.

Losing pitcher Julie St. John, a freshman, gave up just one earned run on seven hits. The Hawks committed three errors. Senior Meghan Kubinski went 2-for-3 with an RBI.

In the second game, winning pitcher Kristen Lynch went 2-for-3 with a double and scored twice as Huron earned an 8-6 win.

Lynch gave up four hits, struck out three and had no

walks. St. John allowed eight hits and fanned five without giving up a walk.

Kubinski knocked in two runs, while Brooke Kuehn had a hit, walked twice and scored three runs.

"Overall good first games," HVL coach Kris Ruth said. "We saw some jitters in the field. We hit the ball, but did not get a lot of solid contact on the ball. Julie St. John did an excellent job on the mound, commanded the strike zone well and didn't walk anyone today."

RENAISSANCE 13, C'VILLE 1: It was a forgettable 2012 opener Wednesday for Livonia Clarenceville (0-1) as the the Trojans could mus-

ter just one hit and committed six errors as visiting Detroit Renaissance (1-0) rolled to a five-inning mercy rule victory.

Phoenix second baseman Breanna Lawrence did the bulk of the damage, going 4-for-4 with a homer, triple and four RBI. She also scored three runs.

Winning pitcher Kayla Banks allowed just one run on one hit and a walk while striking out 11.

Angela McAlpine collected the Trojans' lone hit, an RBI double scoring Rachel Grefke in the first inning.

Freshman pitcher Emily Schwartz, making her varsity debut, suffered the loss. She gave up eight hits, walked four and struck out seven.

DeYonker's bat, arm fuels Patriots' victory

Junior Alex DeYonker did it with his arm and his bat Thursday as Livonia Franklin improved to 2-0 on the young baseball season with a 7-4 win at home over Garden City.

DeYonker went all seven innings, allowing three earned runs on seven hits and four walks. He fanned three and also helped his own cause going 2-for-3 at the plate with an RBI.

Joe Barczuk went 2-for-4 with a 2-run double in the opening inning, while Kevin Nisun reached base three times and scored three runs to go along with a pair of stolen bases.

Garrett Fetner chipped in with an insurance RBI single in the sixth for the Patriots.

Garden City (1-2) collected seven hits by seven different players got an RBI single from Jared Conroy and an RBI sacrifice fly from Sean Fox.

Losing pitcher Zak Kmet went the first five innings and was charged with four earned runs.

Shawn Friesner finished up.

The Cougars committed three errors on the day.

C'VILLE 9, RENAISSANCE 4: The arm of the home plate umpire got quite a workout Wednesday as Livonia Clarenceville left-hander Damien Quarles struck out 13 in just five innings as the Trojans (1-0) opened the season with a win over Detroit Renaissance (0-1).

Quarles, a senior, gave up two hits and walked one. He did not allow an earned run. Ben Gehan came on in the sixth and seventh innings to earn the save as he gave up one earned run on two hits and three walks while fanning five.

Gehan also had an RBI double and scored three runs, while Kyle Kissandi added two RBI on a single and bases loaded walk. Tyler Weed also contributed an RBI single.

"It was just real sloppy," said Clarenceville coach Dan Miller, whose team committed four errors. "We took advantage of some opportunities (like four Renaissance errors), but we've got to play better."

WAYNE 3, BELLEVILLE 0: Pitchers Zach Lankton and Tyler McCurry combined on a four-hit shutout Wednesday as Wayne Memorial (2-1) downed the Tigers (1-1).

McCurry came on in relief during the fourth inning with the bases loaded and

slammed the door on Belleville as he allowed just one hit and two walks over the final 3.1 innings. He struck out four to pick up his second victory of the season.

Zach Lankton, the starter, allowed three hits, walked four and struck five in 3.2 innings of work, but did not get the decision.

Jacob Lefler and Jordan Lowry each collected two hits and each scored a run for the Zebraws, who scored once in the fourth and two more in the sixth.

Lowry got credit for two RBI with a bases loaded walk and a sacrifice fly.

Losing pitcher Tyler Wilson worked six innings, allowing all three runs on five hits. He walked four and struck out eight.

GARDEN CITY 11, JOHN GLENN 1: Tyler Steele went 3-for-4 with three RBI to lead the Cougars (1-1) to a five-inning mercy-rule triumph at Westland John Glenn (0-2).

Brad King worked the first 3.2 innings to pick up the victory. He struck out four, walked three and allowed three hits before giving way to reliever Tyler Glenfield, who got the final four outs.

Glenn starter Jesse Smitherman was roughed up for eight runs over three hits. He allowed four hits, walked four and fanned four.

Reliever Brandon Martin gave up three runs on two hits and two walks in his two innings of work.

SKATERS

Continued from page B1

Crystallettes in second place.

The Michigan skaters' hard work throughout the year had been rewarded with an invitation to represent the U.S. in the 2012 ISU World Championships.

The Crystallette also won the gold medal at the Neuchâtel Trophy in Neuchatel, Switzerland, and the USFS Midwestern Sectional Championships in Plymouth earlier this year.

The Crystallettes team, which skates out of Dearborn, has 19 skaters ranging in age from 15 to 22 years.

The team members are Sharon Neff and Alexandra Zazula, Birmingham; Katilyn Peterson, Dearborn; Meghan Quigley, Meghan Schooley and Cara

Schooley, Bloomfield Hills; Alyssa Shomsky, Livonia; Jacquelyne Zolynsky, Josephine Zolynsky and Mackenzie Elkow, Farmington Hills; Allison Kohl, West Bloomfield; Spencer Thomas, Commerce; DonAe Poe, Redford; Brianne Anderson, Fraser; Nicolette Bailey, Detroit; Katie Benedict, Chesterfield; Nicole Davies, Concord, Mass.; Casey Josz, Howell; and Chelsea MacIntosh, Clinton Township.

The head coaches are Shannon Peterson and Holly Teets. The supporting and training staff includes Ann Barr, Stacy Holland, Kevin O'Keefe and Mike Vigilante.

The Crystallettes will host a sendoff exhibition skate at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at the Dearborn Ice Skating Club on Ford Road. A spaghetti and chicken dinner fundraiser will follow.

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PREP BOYS TRACK OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Head coach: Rick Austin, 18th year. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's finish: fourth (Kensington Conference and South Division); sixth (Division 1 regional). Notable losses to graduation: Tom Windle (first-team All-Area), Carl Rayford (second-team All-Area), Matt Szuba, Nathan Motta, Andrew McEwen, Paulin Chateau, Blake Padgett, Ryan Hall. Leading returnees: Steven Fedak, Soph. (hurdles-pole vault); Jake Hage, Soph. (hurdles-pole vault); Alex Rytarsky, Sr. (pole vault); Jahmon Maton, Jr. (sprints-long jump); Zach Zoltowski, Jr. (hurdles); Robert Howard, Sr. (distance); Stephen Bank, Sr. (sprints); Derek Puihes, Sr. (distance); Ryan Wise, Sr. (middle distance); Malik Johnson, Soph. (sprints); Chad Evans, Sr. (high jump); Darius Lambert, Soph. (sprints); Bryan Bartig, Sr. (throws); Ben Yates, Jr. (distance); Kenzel Jefferson, Jr. (hurdles). Promising newcomers: Michael Barta, Soph. (sprints); Josh Robinson, Soph. (sprints); Jeremy Lewis, Jr. (sprints); Antonio Berry, Jr. (high jump-sprints); Jacob Staff, Soph. (throws). Austin's 2012 outlook: "Jake Hage and Steven Fedak are working hard to continue our rich tradition in the pole vault. Ryan Wise is leading a great group of hard working distance runners who include Robert Howard and Derek Puihes and Ben Yates. Bryan Bartig is back off injury in the throws with Jacob Staff looking to make us very competitive in both throwing events. We have many newcomers in the sprints led by Stephen Bank who are all working hard to secure varsity roles. Zach Zoltowski is setting lofty goals for himself in the hurdle events."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Pat Koelzer, fourth year. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's finish: first (KLAAs South); fourth (Conference); sixth (Division 1 regional). Notable losses to graduation: Austin Jones (first-team All-Area); Dave Koponen (second-team All-Area); Jay Woolfork (second-team All-Area); Ryan Hurt (second-team All-Area); Chadd Chisholm, Alex Forde, Bobby Wilson. Leading returnees: Adam Clay, Sr. (shot put, first-team All-Area, 55-7 school record); Alex Perelli, Soph. sprints (third-team All-Area, 800 relay); Brett Gutowski, Jr., sprints (third-team All-Area); Tom Brokaw, Sr. (hurdles-jump); Jimmy Bagazinski, Sr. (pole vault-sprints); Jordan Bickham, Jr. (sprints-jump); Joe McRobb, Jr. (sprints); Danny Koponen, Soph. (middle distance); Andrew Crechiolo, Sr. (middle distance); Jake Pinard, Sr. (sprints); Andrew McGaughey, Sr. (sprints); Jon Girvan, Sr. (sprints-jumps); Brian Riedy, Sr. (hurdles). Promising newcomers: Keenan Jones, Fr. (distance); Ross Cecil, Fr. (distance); Matt Wirick, Fr. (sprints); Charlie Roth, Soph. (sprints-jumps); Tyler Hoskins, Fr. (middle distance); Tony Vella, Jr. (throws). Koelzer's 2012 outlook: "This will be an interesting year as we look to develop a lot of young athletes. Our jumps and hurdles should be improved from last year while our sprinters look to mature into a deeper, faster group. There's a lot of young talent in the distance area. Still, senior leaders such as Andrew Crechiolo and Jake Pinard have set an example for our younger athletes with their dedication during off season conditioning. This is a hard working team that hopes to remain competitive in our strong division."

LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Scott Shaw, ninth year. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (Central Division). Last year's finish: first (Division 1 regional); second (conference and KLAAs Central). Notable losses to graduation: Jon Aneed (first-team All-Area); Matt Wil-

liams (first-team All-Area); Pat Smith (first-team All-Area); Joe Urso (first-team All-Area); Adam Chudzinski (first-team All-Area); Adam Duncan (second-team All-Area); Angelo D'Orazio, Scott Brewer, Ryan Lackey. Leading returnees: Zaid Shareef, Jr., 200-400-relays; (first-team All-Area 3,200 relay); Kenning Brichford, Sr. sprints (second-team All-Area 800 relay; 11.1, 100; 23.2, 200); Dylan Dunn, Sr. (sprints-relay); Matt Garon, Sr. (400); Jacob Colley, Jr. (800-1,600); Stephen Fenech, Soph. (1,600-3,200); Jeremy Kozler, Sr. (hurdles); Ben Lambert, Sr. (400-800); Joe Murray, Sr. (throws); Nick Podulka, Sr. (sprints-relays-long jump, 20-7); Tony Wilson, Sr. (long jump-sprints-relays); Craig Wilkinson, Sr. (400); Ryan Petrul, Sr. (distance); Adam Wheeler, Jr. (sprint relays); Joe Mims, Jr. (hurdles-relays); Danny Pocalujka, Soph. (throws). Promising newcomers: To be determined. Shaw's 2012 outlook: "I think we will be solid in the sprints, hurdles and relays. Our distance group lost a lot of talent, but we have some others that are improving and ready to step in and compete. In the field events we are young, but I think several kids are ready to compete at the varsity level. Overall we are looking forward to many kids working hard and improving in many areas."

WESTLAND GLENN

Head coach: Jess Shough, 26th year. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's finish: fourth (KLAAs South); ninth (conference); 10th (regional). Notable losses to graduation: Kelly Maxwell (third-team All-Area); Stefan Anthony (third-team All-Area); Rico Cole, Dane Foster, Cameron Orr. Leading returnees: Brandon Benson, Sr. (sprints); Kaly Massenberg, Sr. (hurdles-long jump); Ruben Maya, Sr. (distance); Brandon Ogden, Sr. (throws); Ainsworth Orr, Sr. (throws); Commodore Price, Sr. (sprints); James Williams, Sr. (sprints); Marcus Beeman, Jr. (sprints); Quinn Dupraw, Jr. (pole vault); Karl Fletcher, Jr. (sprints); Jewell Jones, Jr. (middle distance); Jalen Malloy, Jr. (hurdles); Milton Ricketts, Jr. (hurdles); Christopher Codd, Soph. (distance); Ed Maya, Soph. (distance); Thomas Carter, Soph. (sprints). Promising newcomers: LeJon Crawford, Fr. (sprints); Leon Lawford, Fr. (sprints); Brian Davis, Soph. (distance); Jaron Flournoy, Fr. (sprints); Austin Hickeron, Fr. (sprints); Nate Irvine, Fr. (throws); Kimari Johnson, Soph. (middle distance); Josh Koehler, Jr. (hurdles); Adonis Lamb, Soph. (sprints); Derek Mersham, Fr. (middle distance); Micah Orr, Soph. (middle distance-high jump); Quavon Smith, Soph. (sprints); Jesse Orsoria, Soph. (distance); Jerrell Scoggins, Soph. (hurdles); Trey Trotter, Soph. (throws). Shough's 2012 outlook: "We have a very nice group of freshmen and sophomores who are quite talented, but inexperienced. It will be exciting to watch their progress. Our returning athletes have provided great leadership so far this season, especially since we have been without an assistant coach. My previous assistant is now Wayne Memorial's head coach and I have not had the luxury of having six or seven assistants as many of the other teams in our conference have."

WAYNE MEMORIAL

Head coach: Andre Williams, first year. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's finish: sixth (KLAAs South); 10th (Division 1 regional); 12th (conference). Notable losses to graduation: Tyler Gendron, Matt Hansen, Kevin Newborn, Travis Klein, Robert Parker, Corey Stewart, Corey Wright. Leading returnees: Daniel Malcolm, Jr. (1,600); Quinton Davis, Sr. (400-800); Willard Harris, Jr. (100-200-400); Dimitrus Renfro, Sr. (throws); Nick Williams, Sr. (throws). Promising newcomers: Devin Gibson, Fr. (1,600-3,200); Michael Gibson, Fr. (1,600-3,200); Martin Ballah, Fr. (100-200). Williams' 2012 outlook: "I am very excited about this year's track season. With this being my first year at Wayne, I couldn't have asked for a better set of student-athletes. We will be competitive all the way up to the end of the last race. The kids are excited. The coaching staff is excited. We're slowly turning the program around day-by-day. Once we get past our own preseason jitters, I suspect you will see us competing for the conference title."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE Head coach: Brady Gustafson, third year. League affiliation: Independent. Last year's finish: third (Division 3 regional). Notable losses to graduation: DeOndre Hogan (second-team All-Area); Moses Hobson, Anthony Giordano, Chavis Dooley, Adrian Myers. Leading returnees: Kassius Kelly, Sr. sprints (first-team All-Area, 22.1, 200; 10.7, 100); Kimani Dooley, Soph. (400-800, state qualifier); Alec Jones, Jr. (distance); Shawn Cummings, Sr. (throws); Jalen Bryant, Soph. (sprints); Ian Bunker, Jr. (middle distance); Joey Walker, Soph. (distance); Ma Sambou Jatta, Jr. (sprints); Sam Brown, Sr. (hurdles); David Gibson, Sr. (middle distance); Stephen Spens, Soph. (distance); Austin Douglass, Jr. (jumps). Promising newcomers: Mike Demmons, Sr. (sprints); Deavon Wilson, Sr. (throws); Kareem Stewart, Soph. (middle distance); Brad Davis, Soph. (throws); Cody Cardoza, Fr. (sprints); James Hill, Fr. (hurdles). Gustafson's 2012 outlook: "(Kimani) Dooley may have a torn meniscus and that may hurt us because he was a state qualifier last year. With Kassius (Kelly), we're looking for a state championship. We've been bumped up to Division 2 so it's going to be tougher. He took third in Oakland County in 100 and 200 and at the regional first and third. He was (Livonia) city champion in both. Shawn Cummings will also put up some big numbers for us this year. He holds the school record in the discus (135-7). Alec Jones under five minutes in the mile. He's our best miler in a long time. We'll be competitive in all our meets."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND Head coach: Mike Unger, 25th year. League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Last year's finish: second (Division 4 regional and conference). Notable losses to graduation: Zach Musial (second-team All-Area); Micah Kempf (third-team All-Area); Derrick Mozham. Leading returnees: Jake Fairbairn, Sr. (hurdles-high jump-relay, third in D-4 300 hurdles, 40.9); Dawson Davenport, Sr. (throws, MIAC champ and state qualifier); Jake Buffone, Sr. (throws); Zach Arthur, Sr. (sprints); Bobby Miller, Sr. (400-relay); Caleb Kempf, Sr. (200-400-relays); Eric Smith, Jr. (distance); Dan Bunge, Jr. (distance); Pete Sillanpaa, Jr. (distance); Newman Harper, Soph. (pole vault). Promising newcomers: Mitch Boehm, Sr. (sprints-relays); Zach Foor, Sr. (middle distance-relays); Seth Whitehouse, Sr. (distance-relays); Stewart Tarp, Sr. (distance-relays); Jacob Davenport, Fr. (relays); Thomas Krueger, Fr. (throws); Ian O'Banion, Fr. (distance); Austin Olson, Fr. (hurdles). Unger's 2012 outlook: "Our main goal is to be individually as good as we can be, which hopefully leads to the conference championship. We finished second to (Auburn Hills) Oakland Christian last year by 6.5 points and hope to turn that result around. They will be a formidable team again this year along with (Rochester Hills) Lutheran Northwest."

TRACK

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ulka (long jump), Jim Mims (300 hurdles) and Stephen Fenech (3,200). Meanwhile, the KLAAs South Division looks to be up for grabs. Livonia Franklin got a piece of the title a year ago with a 4-1 dual meet record and tied rival Livonia Churchill for fourth in the Kensington Conference meet. Franklin's top returnee is senior shot put stand-out Adam Clay, who broke the school record last year with a toss of 55 feet, 7 inches. But Clay, who has signed a football letter of intent with Southern Illinois, is doubtful for the start of the season after undergoing off-season knee surgery. "The throws have suddenly become our biggest question mark as Adam Clay's return from knee surgery is questionable," Franklin fourth-year coach Pat Koelzer said. The Patriots, however, do return Tom Brokaw (110 hurdles) and Alex Perelli (sprints). Livonia Churchill hopes to have a bounce-back spring under 18th-year coach Rick Austin. The Chargers boast a slew of returnees and hope to make up the loss of distance runner Tom Windle and pole vaulter Carl Rayford. "We are continuing to rebuild in 2012," Austin said. "Pride in our program continues to run deep. There will be many opportunities for our young guys to step into varsity roles this season. I think that we can compete with everyone in a competitive South Division of the KLAAs. We really look forward to what the season has in store for us." Westland John Glenn coach Jess Shough, now in his 26th season, may have to rely on a number of underclassmen to improve upon last year's fourth-place showing in the KLAAs South and ninth-place conference finish. "Our season will be determined by how fast and far they progress — plus how much improvement comes from our

veterans," said Shough, who will bank on senior sprinter Brandon Benson and hurdler-long jumper Kaly Massenberg. At Wayne Memorial, the Rev. Andre Williams, an associate minister at Prayer Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Redford, takes over for James Thomas after spending two seasons as an assistant coach at Glenn. Williams will rely on a pair of distance runners in freshmen Devin and Michael Gibson, along with junior distance runner Daniel Malcolm. One team to watch closely is Livonia Clarenceville, an independent that is moving up from Division 3 to Division 2 for the regionals. The Trojans boast the area's top sprinter in Observerland champion Kassius Kelly, who has already clocked 100 dash times of 10.79 and 10.86 in dual meet victories over Redford Thurston (89-38) and Garden City (82-54). "He has a tremendous work ethic," Clarenceville third-year coach Brady Gustafson said. "He's always on time, ready to work. He lifts during the off-season and also runs AAU in the summer." Mike Unger, now in his 25th season as Lutheran High Westland's coach, lost a pair of outstanding hurdlers to graduation in Zach Musial and Micah Kempf, who ran 15.1 and 15.3, respectively, in the 110 hurdles. Jake Fairbairn, a senior, is the leading returnee for the Warriors after placing third in the Division 3 state finals in the 300 hurdles (40.9). Newcomer Mitch Boehm, a senior, should also help out in the sprints. "With the addition of some seniors who have never run track before, the team appears to be better balanced than it was last year," Unger said. "And having over 40 kids on the team, hopefully a few surprises will emerge to help us be a team with better depth as well."

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All-Observer gymnasts rank among state's best

DIVISION 1

Alyssa Bresso, Sr., Farmington: Bresso placed sixth in the Division 1 all-around at the state meet with a 37.275 score. She also was all-state on vault (seventh), bars (sixth) and floor (fourth). Bresso averaged a nine-plus score in every event this season and a 36.963 in the all-around. At the regional, she was second on vault, third on floor, fifth on bars and beam.

"Alyssa has been a huge reason for our success over the last four years," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "I was glad she went out on top (at the state meet) as she deserved the recognition for all of her hard work over the years."

"She is so talented that you take it for granted that she can always throw a quality routine. Fortunately, she did exactly that on a consistent basis for four years."

Ayana Lewis, Sr., Canton: The senior's brilliant high school career had a wonderful final chapter, culminating with D1 all-state medals on vault and bars. Lewis placed sixth on vault (9.4), seventh on bars (9.250) and just missed being all-state in all-around with an 11th place score of 36.350.

At regionals, she captured championships on vault (9.675) and beam (9.525). She also set three Canton school records (bars, 9.9; beam, 9.75; all-around, 38.275).

"This has been the breakout year for Ayana," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "... Memorable and remarkable."

Lewis, an Elite All American Gymnast and D2 state champion on vault in 2011, was chosen as the Chiefs' Most Valuable Gymnast.

And she was named "Senior State Gymnast of the Year" by the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association.

Nicole Lasecki, Jr., Canton: Lasecki's junior season for the Chiefs featured top-20 finishes in two events

plus all-around at the D1 state meet.

She took 16th on vault (9.050) and 17th on floor (8.975).

"An All American Gymnast in five events and a KLA A Scholar Athlete, she also won the KLA A Kensington Division championship on floor."

At regionals, held at Plymouth High School, Lasecki earned medals for finishing in the top-five in three events.

"Nicole had a very strong year as a result of a lot of hard work," Cunningham said. "... She will be a strong team leader next year."

Melissa Green, Soph., Canton: The smooth and steady performer earned D1 all-state honors in four of five events.

An Elite All American Gymnast, Green took eighth on floor (9.375) and finished in a ninth-place tie on bars (8.975), along with 10th-place showings on beam (9.3) and all-around (36.600).

Green also won five regional medals, highlighted by second-place finishes on vault, bars, floor and all-around.

For her season-long excellence, she won the team award for most consistent gymnast.

"Her consistent high scores were a prime reason for Canton's spectacular season," Cunningham said.

Jocelyn Moraw, Fr., Canton: The freshman burst onto the scene in a big way, helping the Chiefs reload after losing a number of key gymnasts to graduation such as Robyn Piowar and Kali Pierce.

For her efforts, the Elite All American Gymnast won the team's award for top rookie. One of her season's highlights was registering a 9.7 mark on bars to briefly hold the Canton school record.

Moraw competed with the poise of a junior or senior, capturing D1 all-state medals in four events. She took sixth on floor with a 9.45 tally, placed eighth in all-around (36.9), tied for ninth



Alyssa Bresso Farmington U.



Ayana Lewis Canton



Nicole Lasecki Canton



Melissa Green Canton



Jocelyn Moraw Canton



Amanda Lumley Farmington U.



Meredith Jonik Farmington U.



Erica Lucas Canton



Alex Kitz Livonia Blue



Andrea Merlotti Salem



Shannon Diaz Livonia Red



Nicole Jacobs Salem



Brittany Ramirez Salem



Jane McCurry Plymouth



Julia Matherly Harrison

with teammate Green on bars (8.975) and placed ninth on beam (9.325).

At regionals, she was champion on bars (9.6), floor (9.525) and all-around (37.650).

Cunningham said Moraw was a "huge surprise," contributing in a major way to the team's outstanding season.

"With huge shoes to fill missing from last year, Jocelyn calmly became one of our team leaders," Cunningham noted.

DIVISION 2

Amanda Lumley, Sr., Farmington: Lumley is the Division 2 state champion on floor for the second time in her high school career, winning the title with a 9.625 score this year. She was all-state on bars (sixth) and as an all-arounder, finishing fifth with a 36.45 total. Lumley was a

regional champion on floor with a 9.875, and her season average was an impressive 9.633. She won the state title in that event two years ago and was the runner-up last year.

"Since her freshman year, Mandy become stronger and stronger on what were once her weaker events (bars and beam)," coach Dwyer said. "For that reason, I think it is quite an honor to place fifth in the all-around, which is the hardest event in which to earn all-state honors."

"It's remarkable that she did this with a bad back. She is such a tough kid. No one does floor better than Mandy. She is so awesome to watch, because she makes everything look so effortless."

Meredith Jonik, Soph., Farmington: A repeat member of the all-area team like Bresso and Lumley, Jonik is an all-stater in the all-around, finishing eighth with a 36.30 score. She is all-state on beam (sixth) and floor (third), too. Jonik averaged 9.143 and 9.25 in those events, respectively, and her all-around average was 35.90. At the regional, Jonik shared first place on beam with Lumley, and she also was second on vault, fourth on bars and seventh on floor.

"What an accomplishment for a sophomore," coach Dwyer said. "I remember Meredith joining the team last year and proving to be quite the competitor. She has continued to gain even more difficult tricks and has become a gymnast who gets the job done."

"I love how she competes. She has the ability to block out the pressure of the environment and just go after her routines. She is also able to forget about mistakes and move forward."

Erica Lucas, Soph., Canton: The sophomore epitomized perfection on vault, going undefeated and ultimately winning the D2 championship with a score of 9.550.

She finished 11th in the all-around at Kenowa Hills (35.675), just missing all-state honors.

During the season, Lucas won vault in every dual meet, invitational and tournament, including a 9.7 to claim the regional championship.

"Erica works harder than anyone else on the team, every day and weekends besides," Cunningham said. "For her, 'One more try' means 10 at least."

Alex Kitz, Sr., Livonia Blue: The senior captain earned all-state honors in two events after placing fifth on the uneven bars (8.975) and a tie for ninth on vault (9.225).

Kitz also took 14th in the all-around (35.325) in Grand Rapids.

She was the regional champion in the all-around (37.3), including a first on bars (9.4); seconds on floor (9.525) and beam (9.25); and a third on vault (9.125).

She was also KLA A champ on bars (9.4) and third in the all-around (35.8).

"Alex is a great leader and teammate," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Broomfield said. "She was always trying new skills and working hard. She has the drive to success."

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GYMNASTICS

DIVISION 1 FIRST TEAM

Alyssa Bresso, Sr., Farm.

Ayana Lewis, Sr., Canton

Nicole Lasecki, Jr., Canton

Melissa Green, Soph., Canton

Jocelyn Moraw, Fr., Canton

DIVISION 2 FIRST TEAM

Amanda Lumley, Sr., Farmington

Meredith Jonik, Soph., Farmington

Erica Lucas, Soph., Canton

Alex Kitz, Sr., Livonia Blue

Andrea Merlotti, Jr., Salem

Shannon Diaz, Soph., Livonia Red

Jane McCurry, Jr., Plymouth

Nicole Jacobs, Sr., Salem

Brittany Ramirez, Jr., Farmington

Julia Matherly, Sr., Harrison

SECOND TEAM

Morgan Soper, Soph., Salem

Reagan Engstrom, Sr., Plymouth

Alyssa Millhoff, Soph., Farmington

Sierra Nathanson, Jr., Farmington

Marissa Lapinsky, Jr., Farmington

Claire Saunders, Soph., Farmington

Haley Olson, Sr., Livonia Blue

Adelaida Jepperson, Jr., Canton

Rose Prebola, Sr., Livonia Red

Marina Milad, Sr., Canton

Kennedi Lewis, Soph., Plymouth

COACH OF THE YEAR

John Cunningham, Canton

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Farmington United: Karen Johnson,

Rachel Ewald, Kristina Franchi,

Megan Campbell, Marissa Schuh;

Canton: Pia Simon; Salem: Maddie

Burt, Paulette Martino, Nora Askacu,

Brooke Allgeyer; Plymouth: Brenna

Connelly, Megan McKeehan, Sarah

Uhljan; Livonia Blue: Sarah Hogan,

Jillian Zafarana; Livonia Red: Maggie

McGowan, Mallory Dorton, Jackie

Dziurgot.

Andrea Merlotti, Jr., Salem: The junior excelled in her first season with the Rocks.

Overcoming an illness leading up to regionals, Merlotti earned all-state honors on bars, finishing ninth with a 8.925 mark.

At regionals, she tied for third on bars (8.900) and took third on beam (9.225) while taking sixth in all-around (35.325).

"She was a great addition to our squad," coach Dana Driscoll said. "Andrea is a very dedicated and hard-working gymnast. ... I am excited to see what she brings to our team next year."

Shannon Diaz, Soph., Livonia Red: The sophomore earned all-state honors on bars with an 8.9 and a 10th-place finish.

She qualified for the state finals with a third-place finish at the regional (also with an 8.9).

At the KLA A meet, Diaz took second on bars (8.95) and beam (9.4) to go along with a ninth on floor (9.05).

"Shannon is competitive, she's aggressive and her talents are increasing," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "She's highly talented and is also involved in competitive cheer. She had an amazing season. The coaches are very excited to see what Shannon will offer next year."

Jane McCurry, Jr., Plymouth: The junior was all-state on floor exercise, with her 9.375 mark good for a seventh-place tie.

She took third in that event at regionals with a 9.5, setting a new school record for the Wildcats.

"Jane is a dedicated hard-working team player setting a great example for her teammates," coach Pam Yockey said. "She has man-

aged, in three years with no gymnastics background, to set the school record on floor.

"She is a joy to coach and a great team leader."

Nicole Jacobs, Sr., Salem: The senior's fourth season with the Rocks proved to be very special as she bounced back from a serious knee injury sustained in the 2011 state meet.

Jacobs persevered and took part in the 2012 meet, too, the fourth straight year she qualified. She tied for 17th on vault (9.050), tied for 14th on floor (9.075) and placed 16th in all-around (35.125).

At regionals, she was second in all-around with a 35.975 and was champion on floor with a 9.600 score.

"Nicole was a captain for the past two years and has been an outstanding leader," Driscoll said. "... This year was exceptionally special because last year at the state meet Nicole suffered a torn ACL.

"She was able to work hard in her recovery and compete at the same high level as she always has."

Brittany Ramirez, Fr., Salem: Making quite an impact as a freshman, Ramirez qualified as an all-around for the D2 state meet, placing 13th on vault (9.125) and 20th in all-around (33.825).

At regionals, she tied for third in all-around with a tally of 35.975. She also finished with a share of third on bars (8.90).

"Brittany has an amazing amount of potential which she demonstrated this year," Driscoll said. "We look forward to seeing what the next few years will bring."

Julia Matherly, Sr., Harrison: Matherly was a state qualifier in the all-around, earning fifth place at the regional with a 35.525 score. She also competed for individual honors on vault, beam and floor at the state meet. At the regional, she scored 8.85, 9.075 and 9.5 in those events, respectively.

"Julia has come very far in her career," Dwyer said. "Her dream was to qualify on at least one event for the state meet. She had the meet of her life at the regionals, posting career highs on vault, beam, floor and all-around."

"It was quite an accomplishment. Julia worked hard every day and put herself in a position to advance. I was glad to see her efforts pay off."

COACH OF YEAR

John Cunningham, Canton: One-upmanship proved quite sweet for the longtime Canton coach and back-to-back Observer Coach of the Year.

In 2011-12, Cunningham presided over a team that narrowly exceeded the remarkable run enjoyed in 2010-11.

Both years resulted in the Chiefs finishing second in the state to Grand Ledge.

In 2010-11, the Chiefs did lose once during the regular season. This time around, the team never tasted defeat in dual meets and rolled through regionals to earn a return trip to the team finals.

Canton (6-0 overall, 4-0 in the Kensington Division) racked up titles in the division and overall KLA A, followed with the regional championship.

At the team finals, the Chiefs registered 148.575 points — just shy of Grand Ledge's winning tally of 149.400.

Canton also set a new team record with 149.1 points, eclipsing the former standard by two points.

"This year's team was shockingly good, both in its weekly improvement and its final consistent success," Cunningham noted. "I have never coached a better team."

This year's team had plenty of individual talent, obviously. Leading the way were four D1 all-staters and D2 vault champion Erica Lucas.

The emergence of freshman all-stater Jocelyn Moraw also bodes well for Canton's continued success.

An Advertorial Special Section Offer

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 734-261-1360 ~ website: stpaulslivonia.org

2012 Holy Week Worship Opportunities

Palm Sunday.....April 1st.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
 Maundy Thursday.....April 5th.....6:30 p.m.
 Good Friday Afternoon.....April 6th.....1:15 p.m.
 Good Friday Evening.....April 6th.....6:30 p.m.
 Easter Sunday.....April 8th.....7:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Celebrate Jesus' victory with us!

HOLY CROSS Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday - April 5 - 7:30 pm
 Good Friday - April 6 - 12:30-2:00 pm - Come as you are, go as you must
 7:30 pm - Tenebrae Service of Darkness
 EASTER VIGIL - April 7 - Saturday 7:30 pm - Service of Light
 EASTER SUNDAY April 8th - 8 & 10 am Brunch at 9 am
 Nursery available <http://holycrosslivonia.org>
 Walk our labyrinth <http://holycrosslivonia.org>
 30650 E Able Rd., Livonia (1/2 Mile West of Middlebelt)

Highland Park Baptist Church

EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 Traditional Service
 11:15 Contemporary Service

www.highlandparkbaptist.com

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia
 734.464.0211 www.holytrinitylivonia.org

Maundy Thursday, April 5 at 7 pm
 Good Friday, April 6 at noon and 7 pm, Prayer Vigil 1-7 pm
 Holy Saturday, April 7 Easter Vigil at 7 pm
 Easter Sunday, April 8 at 8:30 and 11 am
 Easter Brunch served 9:30 - 10:45 am

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 (734) 721-5023
www.stjohnschurchwestland.com

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday 4/5 7:00 pm
 Palm Sunday 4/1 8:30am Low Mass 10:30 High Mass
 Good Friday 4/6 12 noon Liturgy 7pm Stations of the Cross
 Great Vigil of Easter 4/7 6:00pm
 Easter 4/8 8:30am Sung Mass 10:30 High Mass

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TRADITIONAL 8 AM 9:30 AM 11 AM
 CONTEMPORARY 9:30 AM 11 AM

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What will you remember about this Holy Week?

Palm Sunday 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 Monday, Tuesday 7 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 Wednesday 7 a.m., 7 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 Thursday 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy 8:30 p.m. - 8:30 a.m. Friday: The Watch
 Friday 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Noon Good Friday Liturgy 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross
 Saturday 10 a.m. Holy Saturday Liturgy 7 p.m. Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 8 a.m., 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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St. James Episcopal Church

CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Monday - Thursday Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM
 Maundy Thursday, April 5 Choral Holy Eucharist at 7:00 PM
 Good Friday, April 6 Solemn Liturgy at 12:00 PM Choral Solemn Liturgy at 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, April 7 Children's Easter Service and Celebration at 2:00 PM
 Easter Egg Hunt following service
 Easter Vigil and Adult Holy Baptism at 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 8 Holy Eucharist at 7:00 AM in Resurrection Chapel
 Festival Choral Holy Eucharist at 9:15 AM & 11:15 AM

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Holy Week & Easter

Thursday, April 5 - Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM Communion in the Sanctuary Rev. Carol Tate

Friday, April 6 - Good Friday 1:00 PM Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary Dr. Norman Pritchard
 7:30 PM A Choral Meditation - Passion of Christ Glenn Miller and Chancel Choir

Sunday, April 8 - Easter Sunday 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 AM Sanctuary Festival Services Dr. Norman Pritchard

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879-6400

Opportunities for Families

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HOLY WEEK at Rosedale Gardens

PALM SUNDAY - Sunday, April 1
 9:00 a.m. Friends in Faith Service with Praise Team
 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Chancel Choir performing Cantata with Orchestra

MAUNDY THURSDAY - Thursday, April 5
 7:30 p.m. Sacrament of the Last Supper - Fellowship Hall
 Nursery Care Available

GOOD FRIDAY - Friday, April 6
 7:30 p.m. Service of Shadows (Tenebrae)-Chapel
 Nursery Care Available

EASTER SUNDAY - Sunday, April 8
 9:00 a.m. Friends in Faith Service with Praise Team
 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Chancel Choir performing Handel's "The Hallelujah Chorus"

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church USA
 9601 Hubbard at West Chicago Livonia, Mich. 48150
 734.422.0494
<http://www.rosedalegardens.org>

First United Methodist Church of Birmingham

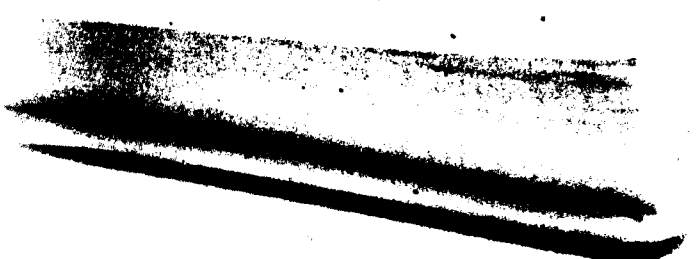
Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, April 1 8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
 Holy Week Evening Worship April 2 - 4, 7:00 p.m.
 Maundy Thursday, April 5 7:00 p.m.
 Community Good Friday Service April 6, 12:00-1:30 p.m.
 At First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham

Easter Sunday, April 8 Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m.
 Traditional Worship 8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
 Contemporary Worship 11:00 a.m. Shine

1589 West Maple Road Birmingham, MI (248) 646-1200
www.fumebirmingham.org

HE IS RISEN



Easter Worship Directory

Resurrection Parish
 48755 Warren Road, Canton, MI 48187 734-451-0444
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week
 Mass each day at 8:30 AM
Holy Thursday, April 5
 Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM,
 followed by adoration until Midnight
Good Friday, April 6
 Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday at 12:30 pm; Stations of the Cross at 2:30 pm
Holy Saturday, April 7
 Blessing of Food at 1:00 PM; Easter Vigil at 8:30 PM
Easter Sunday, April 8
 Masses at 8:30 and 10:30 AM, and 12:30 PM in Church
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK AND EASTER!

Christ Our Savior LUTHERAN CHURCH
 14175 Farmington Rd.
 Livonia, MI 48154
 (Just N. of I-96)
 734-522-6830
 www.christsaviorsavior.org
Easter Sunday*
 April 8 at 6:30 am & 11 am
Maundy Thursday
 April 5 at 7 pm
Good Friday
 April 6 at 12:30 & 7:30 pm Tenebrae

NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 36520 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills
 Phone: (248) 848-1750 northcongregationalchurch.org
EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 8
 9:00 a.m. Family Worship
 10:00 a.m. Easter Worship
"He Will Swallow Up Death Forever"
Rev. Mary E. Biedron, Senior Minister

The First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak
 529 Hendrie Blvd.
 (Corner of 6th St. & Hendrie)
 248.541.0108
 www.fpcro.org
April 8 • Easter Sunday • 9 & 11 am
All Are Welcome! Celebrate Christ's Resurrection!

Covenant Community Church
Easter Service Schedule
 25800 Student - Redford, MI 48239
 313-535-3100 - www.covenantredford.com
Good Friday, April 6, 2012 - 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 8, 2012 - 2 Services
 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. - Morning Worship
 9:30 a.m. - Breakfast - Open to Everyone.

TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Celebrating the Easter Miracle
 8820 Wayne Rd. • Livonia
734-427-2290
 Join us for
 Easter Week Worship
 Maundy Thursday
 7:00 PM
 Good Friday 7:00 PM
 Easter 10:00 AM

First Baptist Church-Detroit
 21200 Southfield Rd., Southfield
 (Located 1 block north of Eight Mile)
 (248) 569-2972 www.fbc-detroit.org
SERVICES
Palm Sunday, April 1, at 11:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m. - Communion Service
Good Friday, April 6, at 12:00 noon - Remembrance of Jesus' hours on the cross.
Easter Sunday, April 8
 9:30 a.m. - Easter Brunch in Fellowship Hall
 10:00 a.m. - Program in Fellowship Hall/ Children's Pageant
 11:00 a.m. - Sunday Service

Celebrate the Risen Christ with St. John's Episcopal Church
9:00 AM
 Holy Eucharist with SonShine (contemporary music ensemble with jazz saxophone)
11:00 AM
 Holy Eucharist with organ, choir, handbells and trumpets
 574 S. Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0190
 www.stjohnsplymouth.org

"Journey To The Cross"
 Sunday, April 1 - Friday, April 7
First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth
 701 Church St., Plymouth
 Sunday, 6:00 - 9:00 PM
 (M-F), 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
 Saturday 8:00 AM - Noon
Self-directed prayer walk for personal contemplation and devotion.
 Check fpcp.net or call 734-453-6464 for further information.

Newburg United Methodist Church
 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia 734-422-0149 www.newburgumc.org
Holy Thursday - 7pm "It is finished"
Good Friday - 7pm "Into Your Hands"
Easter Sunrise Worship - 7am
Sunrise Service at GreenMead, 8 Mile and Newburgh Road
Easter Worship - 9:15am and 11am "The LAST Word!"
 All Are Welcome! Join us every Sunday for Worship at 9:15 and 11:00am. Wednesdays mid-week programming.

Christ the King Lutheran Church
 9300 Farmington Rd. - Livonia, MI 48150
734-421-0749
 www.christthekinglivonia.com
The Rev. James L. Fogle, Pastor
 April 5 - *Maundy Thursday* worship 7:00 pm
 April 6 - *Good Friday* worship 7:00 pm
 April 8 - *Resurrection Celebration* 9:00 am

Risen Christ Lutheran
 Matthew T. Dent, Vacancy Pastor
 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth
 (1 Mile West of Southon)
734.453.5252
EASTER WORSHIP
 8:15 & 10:45 am
EASTER Breakfast
 9:15 to 10:30 am
 \$6 Adult 12 & Older
 \$3 Children Ages 5-11
 Nursery Care Available
ALL ARE WELCOME
 www.risenchrist.info

St. John's
 Woodward Avenue and I-75
 NEXT TO COMERICA PARK
 www.StJohnsDetroit.org
 (313) 962-7358
Good Friday - April 6 - Noon to 3pm
 Full Traditional Ritual with Professional Choir
 Music from John Stainer's *The Crucifixion*
Easter Sunday - April 8
10am - Festive Holy Communion
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Come find out why your neighbors are coming downtown to worship the Lord!

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 TRIDENTINE LATIN RITE MASS
 38100 Five Mile Road • Livonia, MI 48154
734-462-3200
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
 4/05 HOLY THURSDAY: Confessions 5:00 - 6:45 pm
 Mass of The Last Supper 7:00 p.m.
 Followed by the procession to Altar of Repose - The Stripping of the Main Altar and Adoration at the Altar of Repose until midnight
 4/06 GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross 1:00 p.m.
 Solemn Liturgy of The Passion of Our Lord at 3:00 p.m.
 No Confessions today.
 4/07 HOLY SATURDAY: Confessions 9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
 Easter Vigil 10:30 p.m.
 4/08 EASTER SUNDAY: Confessions 9:15 a.m.
 Mass of The Resurrection - 10:00 a.m.

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Holy Week and Easter Day
 Maundy Thursday, April 5
 - 12:10 p.m. The Holy Communion in commemoration of the first Lord's Supper.
 Good Friday, April 6
 - 12:00 Noon - 3:00 p.m.
 Psalms, The Stations of the Cross, and the Good Friday Liturgy, with choral music throughout the Three Hours.
Enter when you can; leave when you must.
 Easter Day, April 8
 - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. - The Easter Liturgy
 Festival Choral Communion at both services.
 Regular Services of Holy Communion
 Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
 Thursdays at 12:10 p.m.
 170 E. Jefferson Avenue
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 with entrance in the median strip
 of Jefferson at Woodward.
(313) 259-2206
 www.marinerschurchofdetroit.org

HE IS RISEN

Michigan Glass Month

Nursery rhymes are a visual treat at exhibit in Canton

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Walk into the lobby at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton and you might find yourself looking for pews.

"It's just like a church," said Tom Newton, who placed stained glass art in the venue last week.

The exhibit, coinciding with Michigan Glass Month, runs April 1-29, and includes a variety of stained glass pieces, in addition to tools and sketches that show the designing, glass making and assembling process. Prominent in the collection is a series of 10 panels depicting nursery rhymes that originally were installed in the kindergarten room at the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, in Farmington Hills.

"We were able to hang in sunlight. Sunlight is very important to stained glass. It's dynamic and changing from morning until night," said Newton, who maintains a studio at the Glass Academy in Dearborn. "That was one of the motivators when I was asked to do this exhibit. They have a beautiful lobby. I said this is absolutely perfect for stained glass, especially during the day."

Last year when the Academy exhibited glass



Tom Newton hangs a pieces in the front window of the theater. The exhibit also includes a series of nursery rhymes in stained glass from the former St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills.

at the theater, Newton offered to loan a few nursery rhyme panels to the display for "extra zip."

"I took four out there and we hung them and moved them away from the wall so light could get behind them. It was real-

ly well received. When the gallery asked me if I was interested in doing it this year. It was an easy decision."

He brought all 10 nursery rhyme windows to the theater, along with other stained glass and the drawings, called "car-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Glass artist Tom Newton unloads a maquette, a drawing that can serve as a design plan for a finished glass work.

toons" that formed the basis of the Mother Goose art. Former orphanage

Newton, a Dearborn resident has become the informal keeper of the nursery rhyme glass for the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, which relocated to Detroit in 2006 after state fund-

ing for residential foster care programs dried up. Today, the nonprofit organization primarily runs tutoring programs for adults and children.

The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul originally founded the Center as a kindergarten for orphans in the

mid-1800s in what is now the 12 Mile-Inkster Road area of Farmington Hills. The nuns' St. Vincent Academy evolved into a full orphanage, but was destroyed by fire in 1928. Charles T. Fisher of Fisher Body and

Please see GLASS, B8



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This photo shows the kindergarten room at the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills with original stained glass nursery rhyme windows.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This window hung in the St. Vincent Sarah Fisher Home.

GLASS

Continued from page B7

his wife, Sarah, donated funds for a new orphanage which opened in 1929. The stained glass for the kindergarten room was made that same year.

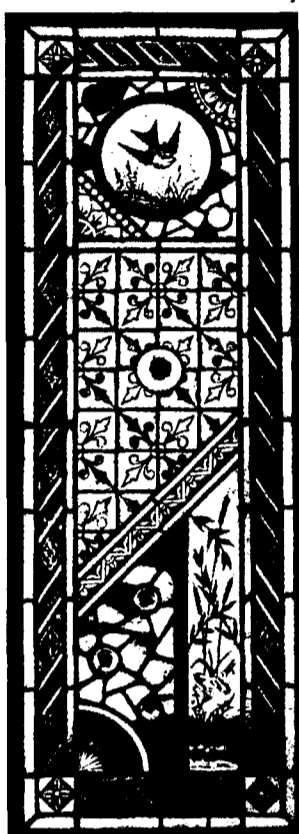
Made in Detroit

Newton likes the quality of the glass windows and their secular theme. "They are simplistic," he said, referring to the design. "And very attractive. The colors are rich and the subject is every day."

The Detroit Stained Glass Works originally crafted a 40 nursery rhyme windows for the Center. Some were destroyed and others damaged when the windows were moved to a gymnasium in the building.

Local artists began restoring them in 1986. The Center owns 10 of the original pieces. A few others are located at Providence Hospital and the Daughters of Charity retained a few.

Newton bought the original sketches for the nursery rhymes, along with other glass pieces



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This piece has several different styles combined. It may have been used as a sample piece by a glass studio.

es and items from the Detroit Stained Glass Works when it closed in

1970. He had no information about the whimsical windows.

"I had these wonderful drawings of nursery rhymes and did a display with them for Michigan Glass Month. I asked if anyone had information on the drawings, I'd like to know."

He received a call and invitation to view the corresponding stained glass pieces from the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.

"They showed me the original windows. It was neat," he recalled.

New mission

Diane Renaud, CEO and director of The Education Experience at the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Detroit, said the stained glass exhibit is a "window of opportunity" to raise awareness of the 168-year-old organization. Now nonprofit run by a board of trustees,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This stained glass mosaic is by Margaret Bouchez Cavanaugh. The late artist produced contemporary designs for Detroit Stained Glass Works and designed the windows for the chapel at St. John's Seminary in Plymouth Township.

rather than the nuns, the Center offers tutoring for first through third graders in northwest Detroit, as well as GED preparation for adults at four locations in the city. It relies on fundraising and donations to continue its free services to the public.

"The windows are symbolic for us because they are a snapshot

of time in our ongoing evolution," Renaud said. "We've always evolved to meet the needs of the community. I understand that the audience that saw it (last year) was excited to know what our latest incarnation had become."

The exhibit is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, by appointment and during public performances at the theater, which is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton; ((734) 395-5300 or (734) 394-5460.

The nursery rhyme windows are included in the Michigan Stained Glass Census at www.michiganstainedglass.org. For more about Michigan Glass Month, visit www.michianglass.org. For more about St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, visit www.svscf-center.org.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Attorneys J.B. Bleske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally 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 Bleske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



Attorneys Bleske 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 yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bleske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bleske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bleske 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.

Bleske 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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Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Photos must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

The church encourages parents to join in on the fun with their children.

Contact: Pastor Roger at (313) 682-7491

EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 7

Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of 8 Mile, east of Haggerty, Northville

Details: Youngsters in age groups 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-11, will hunt for more than 12,000 eggs at this Easter event. Ben Spitzer will entertain and the Easter Bunny will be on hand to pose for photos. Includes games, prizes and gifts for anyone who brings a friend, hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks. Bring your own Easter basket. Pre-registration is required at www.dfnazarene.org. Registration closes after 600 children have signed up or on April 4, whichever comes first

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning April 18

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: "From Grief to New Hope," is a free, eight-week workshop open to the community. Each session will begin with a talk about one aspect of grief followed by small-group participation led by trained facilitators. Each person will be placed in a group with others who have had similar losses. For registration information, call (248) 442-8822

Contact: New Hope Center for Grief Support, (248) 348-0115 or visit www.newhopecenter.net

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. April 16, 23, 30, May 7 and 9

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: Deacon Bob Irvin, the Rev. John Riccardo, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization, will present "Grieving with Great Hope." Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call the church

Contact: (734) 453-0326; olgcp parish.net

LENTEN WORSHIP

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, through Lent

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road in Farmington Hills

Details: Soup supper starts at 6 p.m., followed by the worship service

Contact: (248) 553-3380

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8 a.m. Friday, April 6

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: 37th Annual Men's Good Friday Breakfast features Lomas Brown, former Detroit Lion and seven-time all-pro offensive lineman, as guest speaker. Tickets are \$6 for men and \$3 for boys, 10 and under

Contact: (734) 459-3333

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, April 22

Location: In the community room of the Prentis Apartments located on 10 Mile, east of Greenfield Road in Oak Park

Details: The group will lead a community-wide needlecraft workshop teaching the techniques of cross stitch, needlepoint and huck embroidery. \$5 materials fee

Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

PARENTING SERIES

Time/Date: Dinner, 5:30 p.m., followed by the series, 7 p.m., Wednesdays, April 18-May 23

Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville

Details: "Have a New Kid by Friday!" is the new parenting series by Kevin Leman. Cost for dinner is \$5

Contact: (248) 348-7600

RETREAT

Time/Date: April 20-21

Location: Embassy Suites, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia

Details: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church presents a women's retreat. Guest speaker is Suann Dibble. Cost is \$85 per person

Contact: Barb Karowich at (734) 480-1644 or visit www.christsavior.org

RUMMAGE SALE DONATIONS

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. weekdays

Location: Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, at Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Gently-used, clean, still-in-good-condition items are being accepted for the church's rummage sale on April 21. Tax receipts are available

Contact: (734) 464-0990

VESPERS

Time/Date: 6 p.m., Sunday, April 1

Location: St. Paul Cathedral, 700 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights

Details: Rev. Roman Star will officiate. The Rev. John Wehling, rector of Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, Livonia, will be the homilist. The Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit will sing during the service. Refreshments will

be served after the service.

Contact: Subdeacon Robert A. Mitchell, at (313) 204-5103 or rmitc02@ameritech.net.

VIRTUAL DEMENTIA TOUR

Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. and noon to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28

Location: Riverside Park Church of God & Adult Day Ministry, 11771 Newburgh, at Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Audra Fyre, marketing director of Arden Courts of Livonia presents the tour, which is an effective way to put yourself in the shoes of a person suffering with dementia. No charge, although donations may be made to Adult Day Ministry. RSVP by April 13

Contact: (734) 855-4056

WHY BE CATHOLIC?

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, April 16

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Deb Kinast, who was baptized Catholic and tried several faiths before becoming a devout Baptist as an adult, is the guest speaker. When Kinast learned that Steve Ray, a former devout Baptist, was Why Be Catholic's kick-off speaker in 2010, she attended the meeting. She was determined to convince Ray how foolhardy his conversion had been, but ended up returning to her Catholic faith.

Contact: (734) 261-1455 Ext. 2000, or www.livoniast-

michael.org

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, Wednesday, April 11

Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: The event, sponsored by Widowed Friends, is aimed at widowed individuals of all ages. Cost is \$14 and includes buffet, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door with cash only. Cards, games and conversation after until 9:30 p.m. Must RSVP by April 4. Widowed Friends is a support group offered through the Archdiocese of Detroit

Contact: Cookie at (248) 357-2183, Pat at (248) 545-8348 or Carol at (248) 946-0300

May

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 23

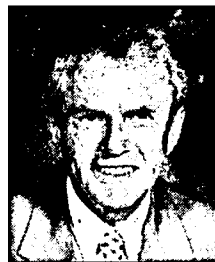
Location: Holy Family Parish, 24505 Meadowbrook, Novi

Details: Grieving with Great Hope, a four-week grief support series for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Presenters will include The Rev. Bob La Croix as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a Catholic bereavement organization. Register by calling the church or visiting Good Mourning Ministry's Web site.

Contact: (248) 349-8847; www.holyfamilynovi.org

Prayer breakfast set for May 3

Dr. Paul L. Maier, professor emeritus at Western Michigan University, guest lecturer, and author will be the featured speaker at the 38th annual event Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 3.



Maier

The annual event is planned for 7 a.m. in Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Inkster Road. Doors open at 6:15 a.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and include a full breakfast and program. Tables of 10 also are available. Ticket orders and information on tables and sponsors are available by calling Sally Butler at (248) 476-9427. Tickets must be purchased by April 13.

The former WMU history professor is widely known outside the university setting for his lectures, writings, television appearances and newspaper and radio interviews. Maier retired in April 2011 after 50 years as one of the most popular professors and experts in ancient history and early Christianity at WMU.

He is a graduate of Harvard University and Concordia Seminary. He holds a doctor of phi-

losophy degree and also pursued post-graduate studies as a Fulbright scholar at the Universities of Heidelberg, Germany and Basel, Switzerland.

He is the recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees and his insights and expertise on current events are widely sought after. His message will be "How We Got the Bible."

The program also features the Tyndale Artists Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Jerry Smith. Scripture readings by local clergy and local leaders along with audience responsive prayer are part of the annual event which is patterned after the National Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C.

April

AUCTION

Time/Date: 6-10 p.m. Saturday, April 21

Location: St. Mary Parish Activity Center and School, 34516 Michigan Avenue, Wayne

Details: St. Mary 1st Annual Auction A Night on the Town will include a silent auction, live auction and more. All proceeds benefit the St. Mary Parish and School. Tickets are \$25 and include a strolling buffet, dessert and two beverages. Pre-registration is a must

Contact: auction@stmary-wayne.org

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Friday, April 20

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland

Details: Walk-ins are welcome

Contact: (734) 722-1735

EASTER SERVICE

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Sunday, April 8

Location: Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia

Details: "The Thorn Easter Experience" worship service features realistic videos of the Easter story, live drama and inspiring music

Contact: (248) 476-8222; www.kenwoodchurch.org

EASTER SERVICE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 6 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 8

Location: New Life Church, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Worship, communion and the "Silent Praise" sign team on Friday; worship, music and "Silent Praise" sign team on Sunday

Contact: (734) 326-7000; www.newlifegardencity.org

EGG HUNT

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 7

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Includes the Easter story, crafts and an egg hunt, with prizes and treats. Youngsters should bring a basket to collect their eggs.

ZONTA CLUB OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP, DINNER PROGRAM

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County presents a "Get to Know Us" dinner, 6-8:30 p.m., April 23 in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

A guest speaker from the Yankee Air Ladies will talk about women in aviation. There will be information on Zonta Club, about how it has helped women in the community, and about its new scholarships and upcoming events.

The dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. To assure adequate seating and food, reservations are required. Call Barbara by April 12 at (734) 464-0450 to make a reservation.

The Club is offering two \$500 scholarships to assist women in reaching their educational goals. The scholarships will be awarded to women who are pursuing a career in

culinary arts or an associate's degree in aviation management. Classes must be taken at Schoolcraft College and all money will be handled through the Schoolcraft College Foundation office.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and reside in the Schoolcraft College District which is Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Wayne, Garden City, Westland, Northville Township and the Wayne County portion of Northville. These scholarships are open to all women without regard to race, ethnic origin, disability or age.

To request an application, e-mail rsrand521@sbcglobal.net. Applications must be returned by mail and postmarked by June 1. Scholarships will be awarded by July 30 and money available for the fall 2012 semester.

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 RHEUMATOLOGY
 18829 Farmington Road
 Livonia, Michigan 48152
 Phone: (248) 478-7860

DILEMMAS IN CARE
 Arthritis can strike at any age. If the condition appears in middle age or later, the patient runs the risk of experiencing other medical problems; arthritis just adds to them.
 For the doctor caring for that patient, arthritis may be more a burden than becoming another item on the list of medical conditions to follow. For example: I care for a patient with gout who also has cancer of the stomach and who recently finished a combination of surgery and chemotherapy for the cancer. He sees me for an acute attack of gout of his foot.
 He cannot take colchicine or medications such as Indocin or meloxicam because he has no stomach to absorb oral medicine and the gastrointestinal tract below the stomach is likely to be sensitive from the chemotherapy. Oral medicine is at risk to cause a bleeding ulcer. The only way to treat the patient is by steroid injection. All other therapies listed in textbooks are precluded by his other medical problem.
 If a patient with gout also has diabetes, then the doctor must think twice before giving cortisone by mouth of injection, a treatment that almost always successfully stops a gout attack. However, cortisone raises blood sugar, and in a diabetic the rise may be dramatic. In this instance, other medicine such as colchicine is the first choice, except if it is contraindicated by the patient having stomach or intestinal conditions.
 If a patient has both arthritis and kidney failure then the doctor faces a dilemma as non-steroidal medications can harm kidney function.
 In short, treating the patient is often much different than what the Internet advises.

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Blocked pipe can lead to a smelly sink

By **Lon Grossman**
Guest Columnist

Q: Can you help me with a problem with my bathroom sink? I notice an awful odor coming from the drain.



Lon Grossman

A: Many times I've gone out to people's houses to inspect for an odor or specific problem and found pieces of roofing shingles obstructing the vent stack opening. I've also found birds, wasps, leaves and other nests in or on the vent. But first, pour bleach into the overflow pipe and scrub with a baby bottlebrush. If the odor persists and you can safely go up on the roof, look down the vent stack. You should see nothing but a clean, unobstructed pipe. Oftentimes, the pipe will go down a few feet and narrow

to a smaller pipe, but it should be clear. If there is an obstruction, you may be able to snag it with a wire from a coat hanger. Don't push what you find down farther. It should be removed. If everything looks good, you may be able to blow out a minor obstruction using your garden hose. If all else fails, call a plumber. That's why they get the big bucks.

By the way you can install hardware cloth screening on top of the vent to keep out debris and nests.

Q: I plan on carpeting my basement. Is there a way to retard humidity through the concrete and also insulate the floor?

A: One product is a sub-floor system from DRICore. It consists of engineered wood panels. The underside is bonded to polyethylene with raised "cleats." The cleats provide an air space between the cold concrete and the wood sub-floor. It also is a moisture barrier. Contact them at 1-888-767-

6374. Another product is called Enviro-Cushion. It is a carpet pad for concrete floors. According to the manufacturer it has an R-factor of 4.5 yet it is only 3/8-inch thick. The padding is available locally at Fair-Way Tile & Carpet. You can call them at (248) 588-4431.

Q: I have discovered mold on some couch cushions that I stored in a second floor hall closet in my house. How do I go about correcting this problem on a very medium income?

A: There are literally thousands of different types of mold. Not all are hazardous and some certainly are beneficial. Just because you have mold on a few cushions, is not a reason to panic.

To have mold you need three things: Air, a food source for the mold (in your case it's those cushions) and moisture. You cannot eliminate air from the equation, but you can get rid of the moisture.

Begin by asking yourself these questions: Why were the cushions wet? Did the moisture come from a pet, plant, roof or plumbing leak from above? Once you have answered those questions and corrected the problem, it's time to clean and restore those cushions. They might be able to be cleaned using Concrobium Mold Control, which is effective against mold and mildew organisms on both hard and fabric surfaces. It comes in a one-quart, ready-to-use spray bottle.

Always test a product first in an inconspicuous corner or edge before ruing the entire cushion. Concrobium can be purchased at Home Depot for about \$9 for a one quart spray bottle.

You can also call a local dry cleaning establishment and ask if they can clean and restore those items. They probably can. Put them in plastic garbage bags and take them to the cleaners.

When you get them back, lay back and enjoy your fresh, comfortable couch.

Q: We have lived in our house for nine years and recently noticed one side of our yard and the front lawn are constantly wet. I suspect either tree roots or poor drainage due to our lot position. Who would be the best person to determine what might be causing the problem?

A: If you have a sprinkler system, there could be an underground leak. If your lot is the lowest in the area, it could be the immediate neighbors yards are draining to yours. If the water is not sitting next to the house you can wait. You'll need to call a landscaping company to install a french drain or a dry well to help with that problem.

Lon Grossman of Bloomfield Hills is president of TechniHouse Inspections Inc., a southeast Michigan residential and commercial inspection company. E-mail your questions to him at drdy@comcast.net. Call (248) 855-5566. Visit his website www.technihouse.com.

GARDEN & NATURE

Livonia Garden Club
Pat Krueger of the Birmingham Orchid Society will talk about caring for these exotic plants, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 3, at the Livonia Senior Center, located at Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. Visitors are welcome; www.orgsites.com/mi/livoniagardenclub/

Butterflies
"Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA) meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. The meeting topic is "Butterfly Garden Enhancements."

Participants will learn how to create and install accessories and enhancements for their butterfly gardens. Admission for non-members is \$3. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

English Gardens
Kick off spring with a look at what's new for the garden at the annual Garden Party Weekend, Sunday, April 1. The event includes free presentations, refreshments, door prizes and a showcase of new gardening products. Featured presentations are:

- Eight Months of Continuous Color with Janet Macunovich, Advanced Master Gardener, noon, in Royal Oak. Macunovich will talk about extending color in the garden.
- Top 10 tips for A Successful Garden with Detroit News garden columnist Nancy Szerlag, noon, in Dearborn Heights.
- Top 10 tips for Lawn Care with Ashton Ritchie of Scotts. He'll share his 40 years of experience and answer questions about weeds, bare spots and more, noon, in Ann Arbor and 3 p.m. in Dearborn Heights.

- All About Hydrangeas, 3 p.m. in West Bloomfield.
- The Thrills & Spills of Container Gardening with Proven Winners representatives, 1:30 p.m. in Royal Oak.
- Perennials: Gardening with Color, noon, in West Bloomfield.
- The Basics of Organic Gardening with Greg Brackett, 1:30 p.m. in Ann Arbor.
- Take Back Your Garden: Stop Deer & Rabbits from Devouring Your Garden, 3 p.m. in Ann Arbor. Julia Hofley will teach the techniques to keep plants from getting eaten from

- neighborhood rabbits and deer.
- The Grass Can Be Greener will focus on what you need to keep your lawn looking its best, 1:30 p.m. in West Bloomfield.
- How to Arrange Fresh Flowers Like a Pro, 1:30 p.m. in Dearborn Heights and 3 p.m. in Royal Oak. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor; (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information,

log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

Garden seminar
Professional gardener, author, educator and speaker, Janet Macunovich, will lead a free seminar on creating an allergy-friendly garden, 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, in Botsford Hospital's Community Room, at the A&E Center, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. She'll offer gardening suggestions and strategies to minimize allergic reactions. Reservations required. Call (877) 477-3621.

Guide to Employment

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

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Gully Transportation is looking for CDL-A qualified drivers for regional positions! Home Every Weekend! We offer Great Pay, Vacation, End of the Year Bonus and Included Health Benefits. Call: 800-566-8960

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Afternoon Shift (3:30pm to Mid.)
Sets up, adjusts and operates CNC Lathes. Works from programming instructions, operational data and machine setup instructions defining material, diameter, methods, machine of sets. Performs deburring operations; reads simple go/no-go, ring, height and plug gages; micrometers; calipers. Requires basic knowledge of machining techniques and methods. Minimum 6 months exp in machine shop or manufacturing environment. \$10 - \$14/hour + 4% shift premium, based on experience. Farmington Hills. EOE
Fax (248) 426-5631
Email resume to: HR@acccontrols.com

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Attention CDL A Drivers
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shortcrete experience required, CDL, year round, benefits. Retail: Swim Pool Supplies, must be 18. Swim Pool Service Dept: Pool Openers, Service/Maintenance and Plumbers 888 704LS Livonia. 734-427-8242

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Hiring Golf Staff (Golf Shop, Starters, Cart Attendant). Apply at 57737 W. 9 Mile Rd., South Lyon.

TEACHERS ASSISTANT

Previous exp. in a learning center needed. Some education preferred. (734) 459-9920

CLEANERS, Full-Time

for area homes. \$10/hr. start. No nights/wkends. Car req. Plymouth. 734-812-5683

ELECTRICAL JOURNEYMAN & HELPER

With industrial exp. for a small contractor. Email to elec451@hotmail.com

Help Wanted-General

Concrete Finisher
Must have exp. and CDL for small crew. Wixom area. 248-684-2500

Landscaping/Lawn Care: LABORERS

Westland, min 3 yrs exp. Pay depends on exp. 734-891-8994

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Growing, well established mechanical contracting company seeking to fill immediately available position for Administrative Assistant with exceptional computer and typing skills. Must be experienced in Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Business degree a plus, organized, reliable and consistent in following procedures.
Fax resume to: (734) 287-4011 or Email resume to: micheller@ccshvac.com

AUTO SALES

Gordon Chevrolet is looking for an exp'd. Auto Salesperson for our Used Car Dept. sales team. Health insurance, 401K, competitive pay plan & a great working environment. This is a great opportunity for the right person. We will respect your privacy. Call Al Denomme for a confidential interview. (734) 456-5242

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CORPORATE CONTROLLER

Livonia insurance agency seeks corporate controller. Candidates must have at least a Bachelor's in Accounting & 3 years previous accounting experience. CPA preferred. Responsibilities include month-end closing, general ledger account analysis/reconciliation, bank reconciliations, cash mgmt, overseeing A/R & A/P, prep of monthly/annual financial statements, managing accounting dept. and internal controls, prep outside auditor schedules, & special projects.

MARKETING & ADMISSIONS

For Assisted Living Facility. Experienced only, need apply. Email resume to: eljlewis@gmail.com

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Novi 208 units 3 yrs. exp in ext. building maint., plumbing and electrical needed. Require excellent customer skills. Send resume to: jobopen6308@aol.com

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We are currently seeking a full-time, licensed, veterinary technician who is outgoing, friendly, and compassionate to join our team. Little Friends of Ferndale Veterinary Care is a progressive, single doctor, small animal practice in Ferndale, MI. We practice high quality, compassionate medicine, with an emphasis on preventative health care. We offer a competitive salary and benefits including health insurance, uniform allowance, paid vacation, license and association dues, yearly CE allowance, and generous employee discounts.
Please send resume to: Little Friends of Ferndale Veterinary Care 1150 East Nine Mile Rd. Ferndale, MI 48229 Fax to: 248-414-7588 or Phone: 248-414-5383

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For established Canton salon. Vacation Pay, Education. Call Carol: 734-451-8256

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Runs between Detroit & Chicago, round trip, home at night & weekends. 2 yrs. exp. req. Must be able to pass health & drug screen. Call: 313-384-8336

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Full-time position available for our carrier services department. Individual will make outbound calls to existing customers, provide back office support by placing carrier orders/repairs. Must be organized, self-motivated, type 60 wpm and have computer/data entry skills. Carrier experience desirable, i.e., AT&T, Paetec & X0. Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm. \$11-\$17/hr. with benefits. Call: 248-586-2177

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Needed immed, exp'd only, benefits & overtime. Call: 734-425-3920 or email: welzool@yahoo.com

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Full-time for a national vending machine company. Responsibilities include: repairs on vending machines, parts, inventory, machine installation, covering routes, warehouse work & service calls. Use own vehicle, some travel & overnights involved. Territory is mostly southern MI, warehouse is in Westland. Salary, mileage, benefits & 401K. Call: 734-326-0300, ext. 120 or email resumes to: jmcleod@winstaff.com, EDE

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

RECEPTIONIST
Experienced only. Part-Time Evenings, 2-8pm. Contact Kathy: 248-932-2500

SECURITY

We are currently accepting applications for fullpart time employment in the Farmington Hills area. Requirements: HS diploma or GED, drug free, no criminal history, computer proficient, benefits, free individual health insurance, tuition assistance, free uniforms. Please call to schedule an interview at: 248-553-9900

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Large Metro-Detroit Dealership is seeking an individual for full-time General Office position with accounting, inventory, and billing experience. We are seeking an energetic, enthusiastic individual with a great work ethic to join our Office team! We are in need of someone who is efficient and accurate and can handle a fast paced work environment.
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SECURITY GUARDS

Part-time, evenings/weekends Call: (734) 729-5500 or Fax resume to: (734) 729-9399 Westland Meadows

Help Wanted-Dental

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Full-time position for a career minded individual. Must have a minimum of 2 years dental experience. Knowledge of Dentrix, ADA Codes and insurance is required. Superior attention to detail and warmth, caring and expert customer service.
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Immediate opening for part-time position in small, 2 doctor office in Livonia. Job duties incl: Front desk, data entry, knowledge of billing and E-Thomas helpful, computer skills a must. Must be organized, have excellent communication skills & be reliable. Please email resume to: rehaboffice@gmail.com

OPTICAL

Part-time for private practice in Farmington. Resume to: jlvargovick@gmail.com

GROOMER: Must be reliable,

skilled professional & have exp. people & animal skills. Fax resume: 734-326-3234

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Full-time, busy family practice in Livonia. Must be able to work flexible hours, patient friendly and reliable. Fax resume: 734-425-1002

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FT position available in busy pain management practice. Experience w/ recovery or critical care background preferred. Excellent wage & benefit package. Clinic Hours are M-F, day shift. No holidays or weekends. Send resume via fax: ATTN: HR Mgr. 734-995-4366 or e-mail to: Maryb@chicagopain.com

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Milestones

Bruce-Lechner

Holly Rose Bruce and Aaron Nicholas Lechner, both of Clawson, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Stephen and Carol Ann Bruce of Farmington Hills, is a 2003 graduate of Farmington High School. She earned a BS degree in brain behavior and cognitive science in 2007 from the University of Michigan and a B.S. degree in nursing in 2008 from Loyola University in Chicago, Ill. She is employed as a registered nurse at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

Her fiancé, son of Daryl and Marie Lechner of Chesaning, is a 2002 grad-



uate of Lapeer East High School. He earned a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering in 2008 from Kettering University. He is employed as an engineer at Meritor.

A September 2012 wedding is planned in Clawson.

Blake-Duncan

Lyneah Rose Blake and Justin Evan Duncan announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Mary (Doherty) Blake of Plymouth, was raised in Ojai, Calif., and moved with her family to Plymouth in 1988. She met Justin in 2002 during their freshman year of college. Lyneah received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Madonna University in 2007 and plans to graduate with a master's degree in counseling psychology in May. She works at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Her fiancé, son of John and Catherine Duncan



of Garden City, attended Wayne State University for both his undergraduate and graduate degrees. He has a degree in geography, and plans to graduate in 2013 with a master's degree in urban planning.

A September 2012 wedding is planned at St. Thomas Apostle Catholic Church in Ann Arbor.

Kylee Marie Geiser

Kylee Marie Geiser was born Feb. 17, 2012, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Proud parents are Josh and Tracey Geiser of Plymouth.

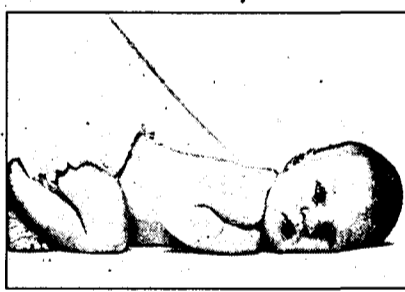


Mason Thomas Wittersheim

Mason Thomas Wittersheim was born March 4, 2012, at Providence Park Hospital in Novi.

Proud parents are Kate Howe and Nick Wittersheim of Farmington Hills.

Grandparents are Tom and Julie Howe of Livonia and Mark and Sheryl Long of Atlanta.



REUNIONS

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ANNAPOLIS CLASS OF 1982

For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeshofield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com.

DETROIT CODY CLASS OF 1962

Looking for Classmates from January and June graduations for 50th reunion, 6 p.m.-Sept. 29, at the Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. North, Livonia. Call Neal and Barb Gehring at (248) 568-2254; NGBG@comcast.net.

DETROIT MACKENZIE CLASS OF 1962

50th reunion, Friday, June 1. For more information e-mail mackenzie1962@gmail.com or phone Mavis (Higgins) Farrand at (734) 675-5675 or Sandy (Tumbull) Dillaha at (734) 281-8595.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967

Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelspach) Whittaker at s.whittaker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST CLASSES OF 1968-1973

Reunion Sept. 22. Looking for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on Facebook. Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wow-way.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@charter.net, Suzie Wright Rogiero at suzie-rogiero@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@gmail.com or Jeff Fordell at jeffrexfordell@comcast.net.

LINCOLN PARK HIGH CLASS OF 1962

50-year reunion for January and June graduates is set for 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Marriott Hotel, located at Six Mile and I-275 in Livonia. For more information or to RSVP e-mail Jean Badoud-Riddell at fictionweaver@sbcglobal.net, Marilyn Roy Snyder at MarilynRoySnyder.com, or Carol Jehle at jehlecarol@yahoo.com.

NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1971-75

The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

REDFORD THURSTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for reunion on Sept. 8. Contact nikkiewestberg@yahoo.com or Sue (Hughes) Morman at (734) 414-9941 for more information.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALL CLASSES

Wayne High Schools Alumni Association 28th All Class Reunion Banquet will be held 5-10 p.m. Friday, May 18 at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born, Wayne. Dinner served at 6 p.m. The organization will honor the class of 1962. For more information call Wanda Boice at (734) 326-777 or www.waynehighalumni@aol.com

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



BROWN, FRANCES M.

Age 80 of Farmington Hills. Beloved wife of Jim for 60 years. Dear mother of Norman (Brenda), Tom (Kathy) and Vera (Doug) Williams. Cherished grandmother of Angela, Candace, Amy, James, Alex and Jake. Sister of Elizabeth Bandon and the late Robert Rauhauser. Memorial service will be on Thursday, March 29th 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or First Presbyterian Church of Farmington
www.thayer-rock.com



CHAFFEE, ASLAUG (OZZIE)

March 27, 2012, at the age of 88. Beloved wife of the late Forrest Clayton Chaffee. Dear mother of Forrest (Pam) and Kimberly (Chris) Congdon. Grandmother of Kelly Vandeginste and Dana Minton. Great-grandmother of Loren Jo. Sister of Oddlaug Marshall. Visitation at Manns-Ferguson Funeral Home, 17000 Middlebelt (S. of 6 Mile), Sunday, April 1, from 1-8 pm. Service will be held at the funeral home on Monday, April 2 at 11 am. Memorials may be made to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, New Smyrna Beach, FL or International Doodle Owners Group (IDOG). Please refer to web site for donation addresses: www.mannsfuneralhome.com.



DEKIERE, JAMES E.

March 23, 2012, age 63. Beloved husband of Phyllis. Dear father of Jon (Joli) DeKiere. Grandfather of Ella & Nicholas. Brother of Janice (Thomas) Neal. Services were held today at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at: www.schrader-howell.com

GREVE, BRUCE ROY

Of Grand Blanc, formally of Westland, age 85, died Saturday, March 24, 2012. www.swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

JOHNSON, BEVERLY ANN

March 21 1961 - March 25, 2012. Beloved wife to Barry Hodges, daughter to Jean and David Johnson, step-daughter to Max Pokryfky. Wonderful mother to April, Tom, and Mitchell, B.J. Hodges and Ashley. Sister to David, Lillian and Colin, Nana to Monique, Crystal, Autumn, Greylan, Chelsie, Colin and his new sibling on the way. Dearest aunt to many nieces and nephews. Beverly lost her fight with cancer, and passed away a remarkable life and last moments with all caring family gathered around.

MCGLINNEN, HELEN MARILYN

February 19, 1924 - March 27, 2012. Helen Marilyn McGlennen passed away peacefully on March 27, 2012 in Farmington Hills, Michigan, surrounded by her loving family. Helen was born in Detroit. She and her family moved to Farmington (Hills) in 1960. She graduated from Wayne State University with a BS in science and went on to receive her Master's in Education from the University of Michigan. She taught in the early elementary grades in the Clarenceville School District for 25 years. She was an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary education society. Helen was married for 53 years to Frederick McGlennen, who preceded her in death in 1996. Helen is survived by three children: Paul (Elizabeth), Darby Duke (Lawrence), and Kathleen Kreidler (Charles); granddaughters: Amanda Becker, Sarah Sullivan, Kristen McGlennen, Suzanne Duke-Mancall, and Catherine Ricker; great-grandchildren: Zephany, Mack, Katelyn, Ashley and Jack. Helen enjoyed music, theater and reading. She was a wonderful entertainer and cook and loved to host fun parties for her friends and family in her lovely home. She and Fred loved to travel and enjoyed trips to Europe, Ireland, the Holy Land and California. She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church. A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 11:00 am at the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

MOORE (STEPHENS) JOYCE L.

Age 85, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Monday, March 26, 2012, in Livonia, Michigan. Joyce was born on February 25, 1927 in Cincinnati, Ohio, the daughter of Esta Alice (Marie) and James Stephens. She graduated from Western High School in Detroit, and worked at Detroit Edison until her marriage. On May 14, 1949, she married Chester G. Moore in Detroit, Michigan. After her retirement from Michigan National Bank, and Chester's retirement from Metro Agency, Joyce and Chester divided their time between their homes in Michigan and Naples, Florida. Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, James Lawrence Stephens, USN, and her grandson, Andrew Moore. Joyce is survived by her loving husband, Chester, five children, Carol (Fred) Baker of Naperville, Illinois, Peggy (Samuel) Townshend of Enon, Ohio, Roger (Rochelle) Moore of Livonia, Patrick (Karen Braun) Moore of Franklin, Michigan, and Kimberly Moore of Lamar, Colorado. She was the beloved grandmother to 14 grandchildren; David Baker, Anne Baker Mareachen, Laura Baker Starzec, Lisa Baker Guerrerro, Steven Townshend, Amy Townshend Jaster, Elizabeth Townshend Volesky, Jennifer Townshend, Aaron Moore, Corey Moore, Adam Moore, Daniel Moore, USMC, Brian Moore, the late Andrew Moore, and 13 great-grandchildren. A celebration of her life will be held in Franklin, Michigan on Saturday, March 31 from 1-4pm. For details, contact Metro Agency 800-522-4030. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to: Livonia Rotary Foundation, c/o Metro Agency, 32646 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48154

MOORE, HENRY E.

Of Canton, passed away February 27, 2012. Born September 6, 1936, he is survived by his wife of 54 years, Audrey A. Moore and brother, David Moore, sisters Rachel Moore and Kristin Hay, and mother, Rev. Viola Moore. On March 31, 2012, a Memorial Service for Henry will be held at 11 AM from the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Rd., Canton. Memorial visitation will be held prior at 10:00 AM at the same location. Memorial gifts may be sent to Michigan Eye Bank, The National Cancer Society or St. Joseph Mercy Hospice.



PUDNEY, HOLLY (HARRINGTON)

Age 54, of Plymouth, passed away on March 28, 2012. Loving wife of 18 years to Richard. Proud mother of Ian. Dear sister of Rick (Debbie) Sparks, Dana Sparks, and Kevin. Beloved daughter-in-law of Margarete Pudney. She is preceded in death by her parents, Richard and Bonnie Sparks. Holly became a devoted volunteer at the Plymouth Salem High School Library and the Plymouth Canton Robotics Club. Holly had a love of cooking, both from her kitchen at home and teaching cooking to others at the Dearborn Heights Montessori Center - Holly could always be found in the kitchen. Friends may visit the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, on Tuesday from 3-9pm. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday at 1:00pm from the funeral home. It was Holly's wish to see her beloved son Ian go to college, so donations are being accepted for Ian's College Education in her memory. Please make checks payable to Ian Pudney. Share memories at: schrader-howell.com

SCHAFFER, PAULINE

March 29, 2012 Age 97 of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Charles D. Loving mother of Roy (the late Winifred) Armat, LaVonne Schaffer, Dawn (Phil) Acosta and Paula (Tom) Jackson. Proud grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 14. Visitation Sun 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Mon 9:30 AM until the 10 AM Funeral Service at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Rd., Livonia. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Humane Society or the American Diabetes Association. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



ROTTER, BETTY

March 26, 2012, age 90, of Plymouth. Beloved wife of Felix for 70 1/2 years. Dear mother of Carol (Albert) Sabatini, Susan (Michael) Kalis, and Fred. Proud grandmother of Jeffery (Kristin) Sabatini, Gregory (Trudi) Sabatini, Darren (Sarah) Kalis, and Ryan Kalis. Great grandmother of Serafina and Gabe Sabatini. Dear sister of Frank (Marilyn) Brown. Betty was an avid artist and volunteered for over 25 years for the Detroit Area Council of Camp Fire, where she served in several capacities including Council President. She was also the president of the PTA at Horger School in Lincoln Park, and was a member of the Lincoln Park Choraleers. Her loving ways, kindness, politeness, sense of humor, and witty comments will be dearly missed by her family, and assisted living caregivers. Memorial service Thursday 10:30 AM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and Beck), Plymouth. Memorial was held Wednesday. Memorials may be made to UofM Brain Bank, Michigan Alzheimers Disease Center, 2101 Commonwealth, Ste. D, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



WARD, (NEE: WHITE) HELEN BLANCHE

Of Farmington Hills and formerly of Livonia and Novi. Cherished Wife of the late Robert G. for over 65 years. Loving Mother of Thomas (Frances Fitzgerald) of Farmington Hills, Bill of Laurium, MI, Nancy Miner of Christoval, TX and Betty (Ron) Rainville of Westborough, MA. Proud Grandpa of Wesley, Keely, Andrew, Scott, Ward and Yulia, and Great-Grandpa of Clinton and Trevor. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Helen was preceded in death by her parents Thomas and Dorothy White and her brother Jack White. Helen will be laid to rest at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, MI with her husband Robert. Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army and/or The Gleaners Food Bank. The family would like to extend their special thanks to the staff of St. John's Hospital and Hospice and the great many family and friends for their kindness, care and concern. A Celebration of Helen's Life will be held at a later date. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel Livonia, MI.



WYLIE, JERRY A.

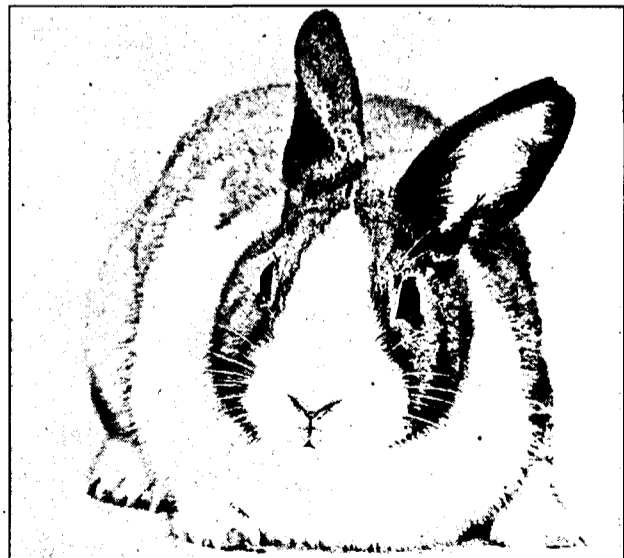
Age 63, of Canton, MI, formerly of Fairfield, IL, died March 27, 2012 in Coldwater, MI. Jerry was born August 12, 1948, in Fairfield, IL, to Dellos and Opal (Wagner) Wylie. He married Elaine McGrew on November 19, 1982 in Flora, IL. Jerry worked for Keller Williams Realty in Plymouth, MI and had been a Fairfield area Real Estate Agent/Broker and businessman for many years prior to moving to Michigan. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in the Vietnam War. He was a member of North Ridge Church in Plymouth, MI. Survivors include his wife: Elaine Wylie of Canton, MI; two sons: Scott Wylie of Bryan, TX, and Ben (Sara) Wylie of West Frankfort, IL; a granddaughter: Ella Grace Wylie of West Frankfort, IL; two sisters: Kathryn (Kenneth) Moore of Fairfield, IL and Janet (Bill) Kosky of East Falmouth, MA; two brothers: Charles T. (Alex) Wylie of Arlington, TX, and Leo (Brenda) Wylie of Ocala, FL; as well as several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. The funeral service for Jerry A. Wylie will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 1, 2012 at Frank & Bright Funeral Home in Frank, IL. Burial will follow in Elmwood Cemetery, Flora, with military honors. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorial donations be made to the American Heart Association. An online guest book is available at: www.frankandbright.com.

Learn about rabbits in Westland

Intelligent, curious and affectionate, rabbits can make wonderful pets. But too often, rabbits adopted on the spur-of-the-moment during the Easter season end up being returned to humane organizations — or worse, abandoned — when the novelty wears off and the responsibilities pile up.

The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) will hold a rabbit education and adoption event 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 7 at the MHS Berman Center for Animal Care, 900 N. Newburgh, in Westland, to help more rabbits find permanent and responsible homes.

"This is the time of year that people are thinking about rabbits, and while they can make fantastic pets, we want to make sure that people are adopting them for the right reasons," stated Linda Reider, MHS director of animal welfare. "We will have rabbit experts on-hand for the event to explain the specialized lifetime care requirements of rabbits, as well as the wonderful things that a rabbit can bring to your home. And of course, we



will have many wonderful spayed and neutered rabbits available for adoption." Two of the many rabbits up for adoption are siblings Laverne and Shirley, who have been in the care of the Michigan Humane Society for nearly six months. They are 1 1/2-year-old New Zealand white rabbits, seeking a home together. They will join approximately a dozen other rabbits up for adoption at the event, including Dwarfs, Flemish Giants, and other varieties. The rabbits have been

spayed or neutered. Adoption fees are \$20 for an individual rabbit and \$30 for a pair and include a chewable basket, which contains food, treats, rabbit bedding, and a rabbit care book.

MHS recommends that the entire family attend the event to meet any potential new furry friends, for the best possible match-making.

For more information, call (866) MHUMANE or visit www.michiganhumane.org.

Easter basket cupcakes add a special touch

Go beyond store-bought marshmallow chicks and chocolate rabbits this year. Perfect for some-bunny special — or as a dessert to brighten any holiday table — A Tisket, A Tasket, A Cupcake Easter Basket cupcakes prove that it can be a good idea to put all your eggs in one basket.

"These cupcakes look impressive," says Nancy Siler, vice president of consumer affairs at Wilton, "yet they require just a few easy steps. Simply bake cupcakes and use your favorite cake mix to help speed up prep time. Cool completely, place into Picket Fence Cupcake Wraps or Basket Cupcake Wraps and pipe with green-tinted icing to create grass. If piping isn't possible, simply spatula ice the cupcakes; either way, they will impress."

Wilton has a basketful of ideas for finishing these little cakes. Perch miniature nest decorations filled with jelly beans on the icing grass for a playful take on a robin's springtime roost. Or, top cupcakes with pre-made icing flowers to echo the cheery hues of spring's first blossoms. These treats will be the perfect end to any Easter hop-pening.

For more Easter or other holiday recipes and ideas, or to order decorating supplies, visit www.wilton.com.

A Tisket, A Tasket, A Cupcake Easter Basket

Yield: Each cupcake serves 1

White Standard Baking Cups
1 package (about 18 ounces) cake mix, any flavor Water, vegetable oil and eggs to prepare cake mix
Picket Fence Cupcake Wraps or Basket Cupcake Wraps
1 can (16 ounces) White Decorator Icing
Leaf Green Icing Color
Royal Icing Nests with Jelly Beans, Pink and Purple Posies or Multi-Colored Flower Icing Decorations

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place baking cups in standard muffin pan.

Prepare cake mix following package instructions; place batter in prepared pan.

Bake 18-20 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean; cool completely. Insert cooled cupcakes into cupcake wraps. Tint icing green; pipe tip 233 "grass" over tops of cooled cupcakes. Arrange icing decorations on icing.

— Family Features



Celebrate Easter with a brunch or buffet

If you want to spend more time with family — and less in the kitchen — on Easter Sunday, April 8, make a reservation now and plan to eat out.

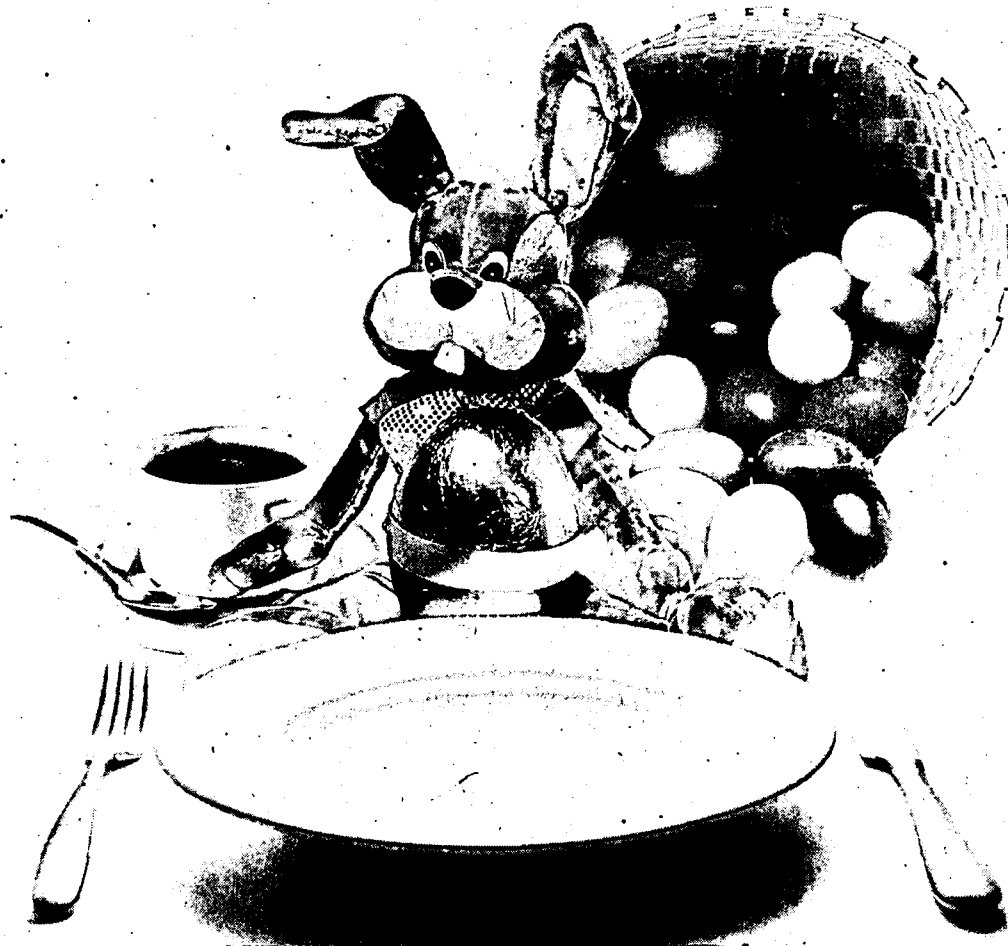
Many local restaurants offer brunch or lunch and dinner buffets on the holiday. Here's a sampling:

- **Courtyard Grille**, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth: The restaurant will serve plated brunch creations from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., including such items as "Design Your Personal Frittata," \$12; Eggs Benedict, \$12; Crab Cake Melt, \$14; and White Chocolate Strawberry Waffles, \$10. Dinner entrees will be served from 3-7 p.m. (734) 453-2002

- **Fiamma Grille**, 380 S. Main, Plymouth: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The four-course meal includes an entree choice of Marinated Flat Iron Steak, Panko Encrusted Alaskan Halibut, Baked Lamb Strudel or Roasted Chicken and Mac & Cheese. \$28, adults; \$10 for children, 9 and under; (734) 416-9340

- **Sive Restaurant at The Inn at St. John**, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth: Sive Restaurant offers a prix fixe menu from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost is \$47 for adults and \$14 for children, ages 5-12. The four-course meal includes a choice of two entrees. Entree selections include Rotisserie-style Chicken, Quick-Smoked Salmon, Braised Short Ribs, Shrimp Stir Fry, Seafood Crepe, Pork Tournedos, or Tomato-Zucchini-Chevre Clafoutis, and Mediterranean Omelet, Pork Belly Omelet, Green Eggs & Ham, Earl Grey Benedict, Bananas Foster Waffle or Lemon Pound cake French toast. Call (734) 357-5700 for reservations.

- **Flemming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar**, 17400 Haggerty, Livonia: 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. \$34.95 for adults; \$16.95 for children, 12 and under. Adult menu includes an appetizer; a choice of entrees, including



- **Filet Mignon Benedict**, New Orleans-Style French Toast, Fleming's Frittata, Steakhouse Filet Mignon Cobb, and Prime Rib of Beef; Potatoes O'Brien; a choice of desserts. The children's menu includes a fresh fruit salad, French toast, cheese omelet, chicken strips and fries, steak and fries and dessert; (734) 542-9463.

- **George Murphy's at The Creek**, 36000 Seven Mile, Livonia: Two seatings, 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. are available. \$19.95 for adults; \$8.95 for children, 4-10; free for children under 4. The buffet includes such items as English roast, spiral ham, roast turkey, mashed potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, breakfast favorites, salads, assorted breakfast breads, desserts. (248) 473-1300

- **Hickory Creek Golf Course**, 3625 Napier, just north of Ford Road, Ypsi-

- lanti: Seatings at 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Features prime rib, honey-glazed ham, walleye, mac and cheese, roasted chicken, red skin potatoes, vegetables, salads, fresh fruit, pasta, appetizers, desserts. \$21.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children, ages 5-10; free for children, 4 and under. Reservations at (734) 454-1850.

- **The Inn at St. John**, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth: The Inn at St. John will serve a buffet in the Atrium. The buffet will include a cheese and bread table, salad table, seafood table, stir-fry table, breakfast favorites, omelet and egg station, entree station, children's station and desserts. \$45, adults; \$38, seniors, 62 and up; \$12 children, 5-12; and free for children, 4 and under. Call (734) 357-5700 for reservations.

- **The Longacre House**, 24705 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills: 1 p.m. Reservation deadline is March 31. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$20 for children under 12, and free for 3 and under. For reservations or for more information, call (248) 477-8404.

- **1 Under Bar and Grill**, 35780 Five Mile, Livonia: Brunch buffet with seatings at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$21 adults; \$15.99 seniors; \$7.99 kids, 10 and under; free for age 6 and under. Buffet includes beef tenderloin, oven-roasted turkey, honey-baked ham, herb-roasted chicken, Parmesan-breaded whitefish, mashed potatoes, roasted potatoes, pasta, mac & cheese, chicken salad, chicken fingers and Tater Tots for youngsters, vege-

table medley, corn, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, assorted mini desserts, pies, cakes, tortes, and beverages. Omelet and waffle stations available at the 11 a.m. seating. Reservations at (734) 464-5555.

- **Panache 447**, 447 Forest, Plymouth: The restaurant will begin serving a plated Sunday brunch, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. April 1. Look for items such as an oversized baked pancake topped with drunken berries, candied pecans and whipped cream, spinach and goat cheese frittata; and stuffed French toast. The restaurant is open to requests from its guests, too. Call (734) 386-8447 for reservations.

- **Station 885**, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth: Offers brunch from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and dinner from 2-6 p.m. Both are buffets. \$21.99 for adults and \$10.99 for children, 3-10. The brunch buffet includes breakfast favorites, made-to-order omelets, salads, a carving station and chocolate fountain and desserts. The dinner buffet features a carving station, pasta, salads, sides, other dinner items and a chocolate fountain and desserts. Call (734) 459-0885 for reservations.

- **Sweet Lorraine's**, located in the Livonia Marriott Hotel, 17100 N. Laurel Park Dr., Livonia: 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. \$32.95 for adults; \$9.95 for children, 12 and under; free, children 5 and under. Buffet includes soup, carving station with Herb Roasted Prime Rib and Slow Baked Dearborn Ham, omelet and waffle stations, salads and sides, main course with such entrees as Oven Roasted Atlantic Cod Piccata, Butternut Squash Ravioli Farmhouse Quiche and more, desserts and child's mini buffet; (734) 953-7480.

— Compiled by Sharon Dargay

Is it time for an ADVENTURE?

Women are on the move — especially women of the Baby Boomer generation.

If you've felt the urge to see different places and experience a new adventure, you're not alone. The Travel Industry Association estimates that 32 million single American women traveled at least once last year — and a lot of them were Boomers.

"I'm in my early sixties, and in the last year, I traveled thousands of miles — with my husband and children, with girlfriends and alone," says Harriet Lewis, Vice Chairman of Grand Circle Corporation. The company specializes in international travel and adventure for Americans aged 50 or older.

Lewis says that travel can make a difference in our lives as individuals, and in the lives of those we come in contact with.

"During a recent trip to Egypt, I climbed Mount Sinai late at night in order to see the sunrise. The experience changed my life," says Lewis. "The Middle East was an area of the world I had explored before, but not in such depth, and spending time with people in Syria, Jordan, Israel and the Sudan in the past year has shifted my worldview. Travel changes us. It makes us more curious, more thoughtful, more tuned in to our world."

Lewis advises other women who are considering traveling to ask themselves some questions as part of their preparation:

- What do you want to gain from your travel experience: Adventure? Culture? Relaxation? Inspiration?

- Which destinations, countries or regions interest you most? Make a list, put them in order, and outline the steps you need to take to make your "bucket list" a reality. Do you need to schedule vacation time or start saving?

- Do you want to travel with friends, family, or go it alone? Do you want to make your own travel plans or go with a tour operator that will handle the planning for you?

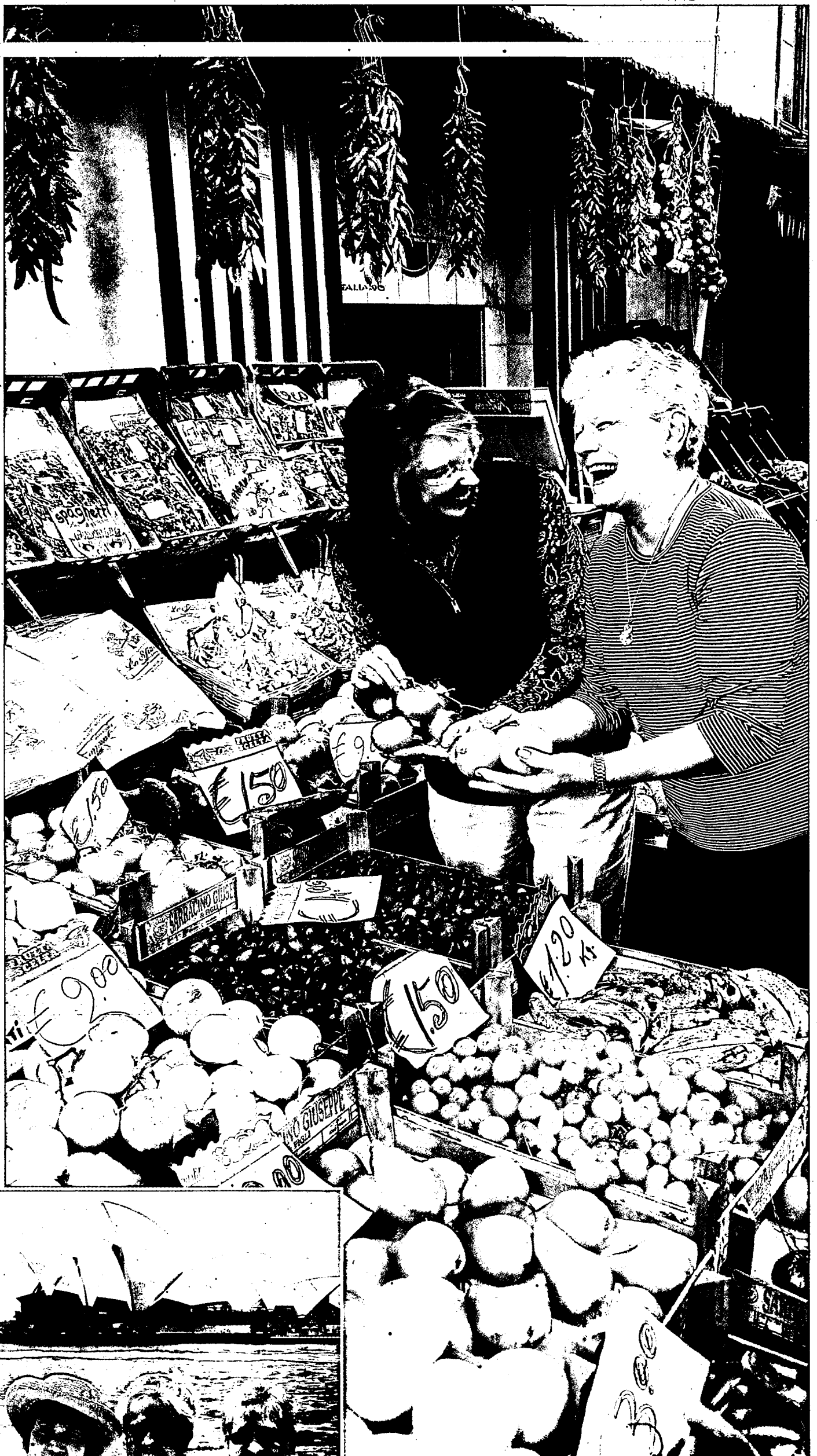
- If you choose a tour operator, consider the size of the groups (the smaller the better), your cost per day and what you are getting for your dollar. Are the guides local, knowledgeable, and able to connect you with local homes, schools and communities so that you get a real taste of local life?

- If you are traveling with a tour as a solo traveler (popular among women these days regardless of marital status), ask what the company offers solo travelers in terms of making them feel comfortable. Will they help match you with a roommate of the same gender? How will they break the ice? What do they do when it comes to meal times to ensure that solos have partners or friends to eat with?

- How can you get the best value for your dollar? Compare what a tour operator can offer you vs. what you can find on your own. Can you use your airline miles to save costs? If you choose a tour, are the single supplement fees free or reasonable? Are there certain times of the year where costs are lower based on seasonality?

Lewis believes that taking the time to ask these key questions will ultimately give you a much more fulfilling experience.

"Travel is the best way I know to enhance your life," she says. "I really believe what Mary Anne Radmacher said about travel is true for women: 'I am not the same having seen the moon shine on the other side of the world.'"



Friends enjoying la dolce vita at an open air market in Italy.

TIPS FOR THE SAVVY FEMALE TRAVELER

Lewis has compiled a host of travel tips gleaned from her lifetime of travel and from the many women who have taken trips with Grand Circle over the years. "Women with a passion for travel are resourceful — I'm always amazed by their expertise and ingenuity."

To share this wealth of knowledge, she put together the book "101 Tips for Women Travelers," which is full of practical advice on making the most of your journey. Here are five key tips:

- **Prepare two essential lists — for packing and for medical emergencies.** Make an itemized list of everything in your checked luggage. Carry it in your purse. If your luggage gets lost, you can quickly reconstruct the information for the airline and insurance company. The other list should cite all your medications, what they're for, the name and phone number of your doctor, and prescription numbers.
- **Minimize what you pack.** A good rule of thumb is to pack one outfit for every three days of travel. If you're not planning on wearing something at least three times, leave it out.
- **Stay healthy with sleep and hydration.** You can bring an inflatable or down pillow to give you added comfort for sleeping. If tap water is unsafe, try a portable water filter or a collapsible water bottle that can be refilled from a clean source.
- **Bring gear that serves more than one function.** Dental floss can be used to repair jewelry or hang laundry. Duct tape holds suitcases together, repairs eyeglasses or cameras, and can serve as a bandage in an emergency. Wrap duct tape around a pencil to a one quarter inch diameter, so you don't have to bring a whole roll.
- **Carry a purse, not a satchel.** Some museums have size restrictions on purses allowed, so make sure yours is no larger than 8 x 11 inches. To get your free copy of "101 Tips for Women Travelers," call 1-800-248-3737, or visit www.gct.com/tips.

— Courtesy Family Features



Visiting iconic sites like the Sydney Opera House is on many travelers' bucket lists. Make a list of the places you'd like to go.

DREAM DESTINATIONS

The style of travel you choose is just as important as your destination.

- **River and small ship cruises currently top many travelers' wish lists.** They allow you to unpack once and enjoy a leisurely pace, while your small ship can access ports that larger ships cannot, opening up small cities, towns, and villages for you to explore. Most popular for 2012 are river cruises in Europe and Russia, and small ship Mediterranean cruises.
- **Meeting local people and experiencing local cultures** are very important to travelers, especially women. Connecting with people in their homes, schools and communities is much easier to do when traveling in small groups, which is why small group adventures are another extremely popular way for women to travel today. Top destinations include Burma, Botswana, India, Turkey, Kenya, Tanzania, Peru and Costa Rica.

To learn more and start planning, please visit www.gct.com and www.oattravel.com.



Traveling in small groups allows you to take center stage, like at this community dance in Nepal.

Clinical trial treats heart failure

DMC Cardiovascular Institute has become the first hospital in Michigan to participate in the INOVATE-HF (INcrease OF Vagal Tone Heart Failure) clinical trial.

INOVATE-HF is a global clinical study to determine the safety and efficacy of the CardioFit system, an investigational implantable device designed to stimulate the vagus nerve in the neck, which may lessen the workload on the heart, alleviating failure symptoms. The study will explore the system's ability to reduce heart failure morbidity and mortality and will also investigate whether combined treatment with CardioFit and medical therapy is more effective than medical therapy alone.

"We're obviously very pleased to be the first health care provider in Michigan to participate in this clinical trial," stated Dr. Randy Lieberman, principal investigator



Lieberman

of the INOVATE-HF clinical trial at DMC Cardiovascular Institute.

Heart failure is a serious condition in which the heart is unable to provide adequate blood flow to the body. Affecting approximately 23 million people worldwide, heart failure is the leading cause of hospitalization in people over 65. It is also the most rapidly growing cardiovascular disorder in the United States.

Heart failure is caused by a variety of factors that result in a damaged heart muscle. The most common are coronary artery disease, prolonged high blood pressure, alcohol or drug abuse, and heart valve disorders.

In patients with heart failure, the nervous system is out of balance, and this imbalance increases workload on the heart. The CardioFit system is intended to restore this imbalance by stimulating the vagus nerve in the neck to treat a specific part of the nervous system that is not treatable with current medical therapies. The CardioFit system consists of a stimulator, a sensor lead and a stimulation lead, which are implanted under the skin of the chest. Once activated, the stimulator's electrical pulses are transferred via the stimulation lead to the vagus nerve in the neck. Like a pacemaker, the CardioFit System can be programmed on and off

via external wireless communication with the device.

Patients who may be eligible for enrollment in INOVATE-HF include those who are 18 and over, have been diagnosed with heart failure and are being treated with a combination of medicines, but who continue to have symptoms such as shortness of breath and fatigue.

Developed by medical device company BioControl Medical, CardioFit was first implanted in patients in 2005. Results of a European pilot clinical study suggest there may be a therapeutic role for vagus nerve stimulation in the treatment of heart failure symptoms in patients already on standard medical therapies.

For more information on BioControl Medical and the INOVATE-HF trial at DMC Cardiovascular Institute, contact INOVATEHF@BioControl-Medical.com or call (877) 494-8770.



Oddo



Johnston

NEW FACES

At St. Mary Mercy

Dr. Anthony J. Oddo is a new medical staff member at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. Oddo received his D.O. degree from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Erie, Pa. He completed a physical medicine and rehabilitation residency and pain management fellowship at Detroit Medical Center, Detroit. He specializes in pain management.

At two hospitals

Dr. William K. Johnston has joined the medical staffs at both St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia and Botsford Hospital in Farmington.

Johnston holds an M.D. degree and specializes in urology. He received his degree from Albany Medical College, Albany, N.Y. and completed his residency at University of California Davis, Davis, Calif. He completed his fellowship at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Johnston sees patients at three locations of the Michigan Institute of Urology, including in Livonia. He specializes in adrenal, kidney and prostate cancer and disorders. He has a U.S. patent on a new surgical instrument used for kidney cancer and has developed two iPhone applications, Kidney Stone App and Uroflow, that can be downloaded to help patients keep track of their fluid intake and to help patients assess problems that may be caused by an enlarged prostate.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

April

BALANCING HORMONES

Dr. William Civallo will hold a free workshop, "Balancing Women's Hormones Naturally," at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 12, at 34441 Eight Mile, Suite 116, Livonia. Learn about the five major culprits of hormone chaos and what you can do naturally to feel and look better.

Seating is limited. Call (734) 525-9588 for reservations; www.drcivello.com.

MENTAL HEALTH

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Metro family support group will meet from 7-9 p.m. April 10 at the Providence Hospital Heart Institute, located at 47601 Grand River Ave., in Novi. The meetings are free and open to the public. Family support group meetings are held the second

Tuesday and Thursday of the month.

MICHIGAN BARIATRIC INSTITUTE

The Michigan Bariatric Institute offers a free educational seminar, from 6-7:30 p.m., April 5 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, located at 36475 Five Mile in Livonia. For more information call (877) 949-9344.

Sinus relief
Dr. Warren L. Brandes, D.O., will present a free com-

munity lecture on breakthrough technology that helps those suffering from chronic sinus symptoms, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 at Botsford Hospital's Administration & Education Center Community Room, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. The presentation will include information on balloon sinuplasty. Call (877) 477-3621 and select option 1 for more information or to

register for the event.

THYROID FUNCTION

Dr. William Civallo offers a free workshop, "How to Get Your Thyroid Functioning" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at 34441 Eight Mile, Suite 116, Livonia. Learn what you can do naturally to feel your best again. Reservations at (734) 525-9588; www.drcivello.com

WALK WITH A DOC

Annie House, registered

dietitian and certified diabetes educator at Botsford Hospital, will lead the discussion and will provide helpful nutrition tips at this free wellness event, noon, Thursday, April 19, at the Heritage Park Nature Center, on the west side of Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For more information or to register, call (877) 477-3621 and select option 1.

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