




**POMPON GROUP
SET TO THRILL
THE BRITISH**
COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

Look inside for
**MONEY
SAVING
Coupons**

**SPIDER-
MAN'S
HOT
COUPLE**
USA WEEKEND



USA WEEKEND
AMAZING
ADVENTURE

Member Appreciation

Stop by the Wayne Community Center and try out the facilities at no charge 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday. It's Member Appreciation Day.

There will be tours of the facility which includes an ice arena, exercise club, pool, wet/dry saunas, whirlpools, indoor track and banquet rooms.

During Member Appreciation Day, guests can use all the facilities including wallyball and racquetball plus attend fitness classes such as water aerobics, core training, Zumba and Jazzercise.

There will be refreshments, chair massages, a kid karate demonstration and a free dance/gymnastics workshop for kids and adults.

There will be gift basket drawings for birthday party packages, massages, kid zone passes and more. A three-month membership will be available at half-price.

Anyone purchasing a yearly membership will have a chance to win four tickets to a Detroit Tigers game.

Under agreements between Wayne and Westland, Westland residents are charged resident rates for all Wayne recreation and fitness programs including the community center membership. Westland's Bailey Recreation Center will be closed by the end of the month.

The Wayne Community Center is located at 4635 Howe in Wayne. For more information, call (734) 721-7400 or visit www.ci.wayne.mi.us.

Police-Teen Matters

Westland Deputy Police Chief Dan Karrick and other officers will be on hand at the Police-Teen Matters program 6-8 p.m. Monday at the Dorsey Center.

It's an adults-only program for parents and guardians. The topics will include Internet safety and parents' responsibilities regarding their children's conduct.

Reserve a spot by calling Westland Youth Assistance at (734) 467-3156

The Dorsey Center is located on Dorsey just east of Venoy.

INDEX

Community Life..... B5
Crossword Puzzle..... C2
Education..... A4
Health..... B9
Homes..... C3
Jobs..... C1
Obituaries..... B8
Services..... C3
Sports..... B1
Wheels..... C4

© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 48 • Number 10

Home Delivery:
(866) 887-2737

Return Address:
41304 Concept Dr.
Plymouth MI 48170



10007 8
6 53174

WESTLAND OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

PRICE: \$1 • SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2012 • hometownlife.com

Couple to stand trial in abuse, death of infant

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

At the end of a lengthy hearing spread over three days, the parents of 2 1/2-month-old twins have been ordered to stand trial on charges of murdering one boy and abusing both infants.

Antonio Brandon, 22, of Inkster and Nicole Roberts, 19, of Westland are

charged in the Dec. 5 death of their son Kayden, who died of asphyxiation and blunt force trauma. Both are also charged with two counts of first-degree child abuse for injuries suffered by each baby.

An earlier hearing before 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell focused on the autopsy of Kayden. On Thursday, the focus was on the physical

examination of the surviving twin Cameron.

Defense witness Dr. Lisa Markman, an associate professor at the University of Michigan and member of the University of Michigan Hospital Child Protection Team, testified to healing and recent injuries found when she examined Cameron Brandon that indicated abuse.

Those injuries included

a variety of bruises, some abrasions, a broken femur and 15 rib fractures.

"There are very few causes of bilateral rib fractures in a child this age — a high-speed car accident, being struck by a car or abuse," Markman said, adding there was no indication the baby had been involved in some type of vehicle accident.

In her testimony, Mark-

man also rejected defense theories that the injuries to the baby were accidental, resulting from something being dropped or a kick from his twin in their crib or being hugged too aggressively.

"Force needs to be applied. These are not injuries that would happen in an accidental way,"

Please see TRIAL, A2



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Author, author

Kayla Fawley chats with Pete the Popcorn author Joe Kelley during the summer book swap recently at the Bailey Center. For the story and more photos, please turn to Page A15.

K2 outlawed by state, already off Westland shelves

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Legislation has been enacted to make all products containing synthetic marijuana such as K2 and Spice illegal but those products are apparently already gone from Westland businesses.

"I have no information about anyone selling K2 (or similar products) in Westland," said Westland Deputy Police Chief Dan Karrick. "We had a lot of compliance from businesses. I've heard some stores are repackaging it but we haven't seen that."

Initially, Westland police officers visited businesses likely to be selling K2 or similar products to request voluntary compliance.

The Wayne County Health Department subsequently issued an imminent danger order banning the substances, making it illegal to sell synthetic marijuana and bath salts.

"That health department order gave us something to fall back on," said Karrick. "It gave us some power to do something absolutely."

Please see K2, A2

Walk aids Alzheimer's Association

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The Miles for Memories Walk benefiting the Alzheimer's Association has become part of the annual Westland Summer Festival.

This year, Donna Stottleyer was unexpectedly unable to run the event as she has in past years due to health problems.

Cousins Kevin Coleman and Peter Herzberg, recent additions to the festival committee, have stepped up to take over the event on short notice.

There were 50-60 participants in the walk last year, raising approximately \$3,000 for the Greater Michigan chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

"We're shooting for \$2,000 this year. We got a late start on it," Coleman said.

Local businesses are being contacted for \$100 donations. Herzberg said businesses are also donating items to support the walk — they have plenty of water, but could use some snacks and pizza to feed walkers.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cousins Kevin Coleman (left) and Peter Herzberg have stepped in to run the annual Miles for Memories Walk to benefit the Alzheimer's Association on Saturday, June 30 in conjunction with the Westland Summer Festival.

An estimated 180,000 people in Michigan suffer from Alzheimer's disease, Coleman said, and it's the sixth leading cause of death nationally.

"I would encourage friends and family to come out. The walk is two miles, but you don't have to do the whole two miles if you don't want to," Coleman said.

The festival opens at 4 p.m. Friday, June 29, at the Westland City Hall grounds. Registration for the walk is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 30, with walkers hitting the streets from 11 a.m. to noon. The route takes walkers from the pavilion

Please see WALK, A2

Time for Westland Summer Festival

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A tradition marking its 42nd year, the Westland Summer Festival kicks off at 4 p.m. Friday, June 29, on Westland's municipal grounds.

It goes without saying that the biggest draw will be July 4, with the fireworks that wrap up the festival, but there is plenty of food, fun and entertainment throughout the six days of the festival.

It's an event organized and operated by volunteers and funded privately, including sponsorships by various local businesses.

"Volunteers are still needed, especially for the fireworks night. They just watch to make sure people don't


cross the firing line," said Ken Mehl, who chairs the festival committee.

Wade Shows will be providing carnival rides and the midway for the festival. In a change from past years, discount ride wristbands must be ordered in advance online by visiting www.wadeshow.com. The discount wristbands must be ordered by Thursday, June 28.

• Daily during the festival there will be a petting farm and pony rides. For more exotic animals, there will be the Royal White Tiger Discovery and Bird Encounter.

• Monday through Wednesday, July 2-4, there will be the

Please see FESTIVAL, A2



Parkside DENTAL TEAM
Family Dentistry • Orthodontics • Cosmetic Dentistry

New Patient Special
Includes regular cleaning, complete exam & x-rays
\$99
now only.....
Saving You OVER \$200!
With this ad • Expires 7/8/2012

**36444 W. Warren Avenue
Westland**
At the corner of Warren and
Central City Parkway
(734) 261-6060
www.parkside-dental-team.com
• Sedation Dentistry • Dental Implant
• Emergencies Welcome
Evening & Weekend Appointments

060878749

WALK

Continued from page A1

in Tattan Park on Carlson, just south of Ford, north to Warren Road and back on Central City Parkway.

For those interested in signing up in advance, visit www.milesformemories.kintera.org or call (734) 751-6321.

• For those interested in more walking/running, the Firecracker Classic Fun Run and 1,000 kids walk sponsored by Westland Firefighters will be held Sunday, July 1. For more information, visit RFTiming.webconnex.com/2012westland5k.

To fuel up for that event, stop by the Pancake Breakfast scheduled for 9-10:30 a.m. Sunday, July 2.

The breakfast will benefit Hope 4 Western Wayne County.

• A less strenuous activity will be the Horseshoe Contest, which will be held Friday and Saturday, June 29-30, with the finals Sunday, July 1. Call (734) 716-3656 for more information.

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

Live music daily at Westland Summer Festival

Along with a midway, carnival rides food concessions, beer tent and arts and crafts, the Westland Summer Festival offers daily entertainment.

Here are the scheduled performers:

• 8-11:30 p.m. Friday, June 29 - Impact Seven will perform Motown music.

• 8-11:30 p.m. Saturday, June 30 - Top 40 rock from Blackberry Brandy.
• 2-4 p.m. Sunday, July 1 - Toppermost, a Beatles tribute band.
• 8-11:30 p.m. Sunday, July 1 - Trilogy performs top 40 music.
• 8-11:30 p.m. Monday, July 2 - Country music from Annabelle Road.

• 9-11 p.m. Tuesday, July 3 - Escape, a Journey tribute band.
• 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, July 4 - Full Throttle Acapella.
• 7-11:30 Wednesday, July 4 - Second Wind performs classic rock.
All the live entertainment is free for festival goers.

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

TRIAL

Continued from page A1

Markman said. "Direct force has to be applied to the femur, in this case pulling. It's indicative of abuse."

Regarding the rib fractures, Markman said the injuries were caused by squeezing the infant.

"You have a baby with 15 rib fractures. There were repeated events of abuse," she said.

Kayden Brandon also had fractured ribs, which the defense argued were the result of CPR improperly done by Brandon in an effort to revive him. Markman testified those injuries weren't consistent with even badly done CPR.

Statements made to Westland police by both defendants were read into the court record.

Both agreed that Kayden had awakened about 4:30 a.m. and Brandon offered to give the baby a bottle while Roberts went back to bed.

When the babies cried, Brandon and Roberts each told police they would cover the infants' mouth and nose. The couple told police that the babies would stop breathing, so

Brandon would bite them to startle them into taking a breath.

In his statement, Brandon told officers that he was finding it difficult to deal with twins and conceded that he may have been too rough with the babies.

"I heard popping sounds when I was squeezing them, not knowing my own strength," Brandon wrote in his statement. "I'm very sorry, very, very sorry. I would have taken all the crying and nurtured them. I never thought I could do this much damage."

In one of her statements, Roberts described Brandon shouting "shut up" at the babies when they cried. The morning Kayden died, Roberts said she looked out of her bedroom and saw Brandon hit the baby three times in the stomach area. Other times, Roberts said she heard sounds of the babies being hit.

Defense attorney Kim Michon argued that Brandon didn't have the intent required for first-degree child abuse and as a result there also wasn't evidence of felony murder.

McCConnell disagreed, noting the significant and extensive injuries to both children and the long period of time over which the babies were abused. He ordered Brandon bound over to Wayne County Circuit Court to face charges of first-degree murder and two counts of first-degree child abuse.

Roberts was back in court as her attorney David Cripps unsuccessfully attempted to have her statements excluded, arguing that Roberts was incapable of knowingly and intelligently waiving

her Miranda rights.

Following lengthy testimony from two psychologists — what McConnell called the battle of the expert witnesses — Roberts' statements weren't excluded.

Roberts talked to police when Kayden was taken to the hospital and made statements after being taken into custody. She increasingly blamed Brandon for injuries to the babies. In one statement, Roberts indicated she hadn't intervened to avoid a conflict with her boyfriend and maintain their family.

"I'm sorry for protecting Tony (Brandon). I should have protected Kayden and Cameron," Roberts said in a police statement.

McCConnell agreed with Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Andrea Hutting's argument that Roberts aided and abetted the abuse of her children by failing to protect them against abuse.

"There was some physical abuse on the day of the child's death and other (older) injuries were discovered," McConnell said. "There was a duty to protect the children from further abuse. As she (Roberts) indicated in her statement, the child would still be alive and the other receiving no more injuries if she had acted."

Late in the hearing Friday, Roberts sat silently crying in the courtroom. Once the hearing ended, Roberts was taken back to the court holding cell and could be hearing sobbing loudly in the courtroom and nearby hallway.

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

FESTIVAL

Continued from page A1

Banana Derby, which features monkey jockeys riding on racing dogs.

• There will be performances of Cirque Amonus, hands-on circus arts, Saturday and Sunday, June 30-July 1, and Wednesday, July 4.

• New this year will be a Community Bake Sale

from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 1.

• A Car Show for Veterans will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 30. Call (313) 529-0953 for information or to register.

• Westland's Harvest Bible Church is hosting a non-denominational church service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, July 1.

Free shuttle parking for the festival will be available at Westland

John Glenn High School on Marquette or William P. Faust Library on Central City Parkway.

The festival opens at 4 p.m. weekdays, except July 4, when festivities begin at noon. The festival also opens at noon on the weekend. Admission is free, although rides and some activities may have a charge.

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

K2

Continued from page A1

On Tuesday, Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law a package of bills that makes all products containing synthetic marijuana such as K2 and Spice illegal Michigan.

"Our state legislators and the governor thankfully share and embrace both the City of Westland's and the region's goal to ensure safety for all citizens, especially our youth," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "Public Act 183 will hopefully lead to an improved quality of life for all Westland residents."

The City of Westland, especially the Mayor's Office and the Westland Police Department, were pleased to hear the news about the K2 ban, said Wild.

"We would like to sincerely congratulate and acclaim the Michigan Legislature and Gov. Snyder for completing this pertinent task in such a swift matter," said Wild.

The Westland Police Department will continue

to search store shelves to assure that these substances are not being sold or made available to the public.

The city is also encouraging both residents and businesses to continue to cooperate with this vital effort and contact the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600 if they have any information about these now-illegal products being sold in city limits.

The legislation provides the state with much-needed flexibility in scheduling controlled substances to prevent manufacturers and sellers of these synthetic drugs from using loopholes to stay ahead of the law, said state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland.

"K2, bath salts and these other over-the-counter synthetic drugs have been wreaking havoc on our communities, endangering our kids and causing violence and even death," said Anderson. "We all must act quickly to get these drugs that are harming our children out of the stores, gas stations and other retailers and

together, these laws and the local ordinance will go a long way toward that end."

The new laws create a mechanism by which a drug could be temporarily designated as a scheduled controlled substance. The Public Health Code is also amended to make it a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 93 days' imprisonment and/or a maximum fine of \$5,000, to sell a named product that contains or previously contained an ingredient designated as a Schedule 1 controlled substance.

"These drugs represent the same safety dangers for our community as any of the federally regulated Schedule 1 substances, and the people who sell them at this point are no different than drug dealers," Anderson said. "I know many stores have already proactively stopped selling these products, but we all need to work together to ensure they are not being sold anywhere."

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

THINKING ABOUT...
CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING
LENNOX
Free Estimates
Our 38th Year!
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA
734-525-1930
www.unitedtemperatureservices.com
CE0878997

JUNE 21 to JULY 4, 2012
FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM
St. Michael the Archangel Parish invites you to an
EVENING of PRAYER, EDUCATION & DISCUSSION
St. Michael the Archangel Parish invites you to an
on
Religious Freedom and the HHS Mandate
featuring
Attorney and Constitutional Law Expert,
Robert J. Muise
TUESDAY, JUNE 26th
7 PM
St. Michael's School Cafeteria
11441 Hubbard, Livonia
For information: 734-261-1455, ext. 207
www.livonia.stmichael.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!
CE0878047

Plymouth Rock & Supply
40111 Schoolcraft ~ (E. of Haggerty)
734-451-5500

TOP SOIL \$15 per yard
Expires 7-7-12

HALF OFF Any Local Delivery
within 5 miles
Expires 7-7-12

Wood Chips \$10 per yard
- Premium Hardwood Mulch - Enviro Mulch (Red-Black-Brown)
- Cedar Mulch - Flowers - Trees - Shrubs - Garden Accessories

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

CHECK US OUT DAILY ONLINE
hometownlife.com

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD
GANNETT

HOW TO REACH US

Home Delivery/Customer Service.....1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)
Newsroom.....(313) 222-2223 Fax.....(313) 223-3318
Classified Advertising.....1-800-579-SELL (800-579-7355)
Display Advertising.....(734) 582-8363

visit us online at hometownlife.com
615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

FIRING LINE
INDOOR GUN RANGE AND GUN SHOP

ADVANCE PERSONAL PROTECTION

1 SERIES
Extreme Close Quarter Shooting Class
Thursday, June 28
6-10:30 p.m.
Prerequisite: Holster Draw Class
\$120 pp

Join our text club - text 90210 & enter firingline for
1/2 hour FREE range time

Get the finest training in Michigan from instructors who are active or retired law enforcement with years of tactical firearm experience.
Call for upcoming class schedule.

\$50 OFF
Springfield XD Essential Pistol Package
Includes Pistol, Case, 2 Magazines & Trigger Lock.
Reg. \$465
NOW... \$415
In stock only. With this coupon. No layaway.

33000 Ford Road • Westland • 734-326-7320 • www.firinglineguns.com
CE0877952

"The Most Beautiful Place in America"
- Good Morning America

Is Only a Few Hours Away!

Homes, Cottages & Condos Near the Sleeping Bear Dunes
There is still time to book your 2012 Summer Vacation!
Lake Michigan and Glen Lake waterfront properties available

VisitUpNorth.com
VACATION RENTALS
of Northern Michigan
(800) 901-8922 • VisitUpNorth.com
CE0877952

Pros: Weigh options carefully on pension buyout

By Valerie Olander
Correspondent

Financial advisers are urging area salaried retirees from General Motors and Ford Motor Co. to consult an expert before making a pension buyout decision. What is good for one retiree may not be the best decision for another.

Retirees need to consider all assets, tax liabilities, current spending habits, as well as age and health before making the irreversible decision.

"I think we'll have some people who will blindly ignore (a buyout) and hopefully that won't be to their detriment. Others may have a lottery mentality and take the lump sum," said Mike Klassa, a certified financial planner from Klassa, Swaggerty and Associates, a practice of Ameriprise Financial Services in Livonia.

Remember that this money must last over your lifetime, he said. Making the right decision is crucial, he said.

Paul Benson of the Raymond James & Associates office on Main Street in downtown Plymouth agreed noting that whatever a retiree decides — the decision is irrevocable.

"It is so important to make the right decision," said Benson, a certified financial planner and branch manager

of the Plymouth office. "Sometimes it makes sense and sometimes it doesn't. It depends on the client's age, health and other factors such as personal resources," said Benson, who has already counseled several GM retirees. "Some took the buyout and others did not based on their personal situations."

"Every situation is unique," said Benson, who encouraged retirees to seek "unbiased advice from a competent financial planner" before making a decision.

GM announcement
GM announced a plan June 1 for salaried workers who retired between October 1997 and December 2011. They have until July 20 to make a decision to forgo monthly pension checks

in exchange for the lump-sum payment. Prudential Insurance will be taking over the pension plan.

A third option allows retirees to choose a new form of monthly pension based on the lump sum evaluation and marital status. Retirees who already decided on a single annuity or married with joint or survivor benefits can change that option, although it may require a former spouse to sign off.

Approximately 42,000 of GM's salaried retirees and surviving spouses are eligible.

Ford was first to announce a pension buyout plan affecting its 98,000 retirees in the U.S. on April 28, but has yet to send financial information. The packets will be sent out based on the last two digits of Social Security numbers later this year and into 2013.

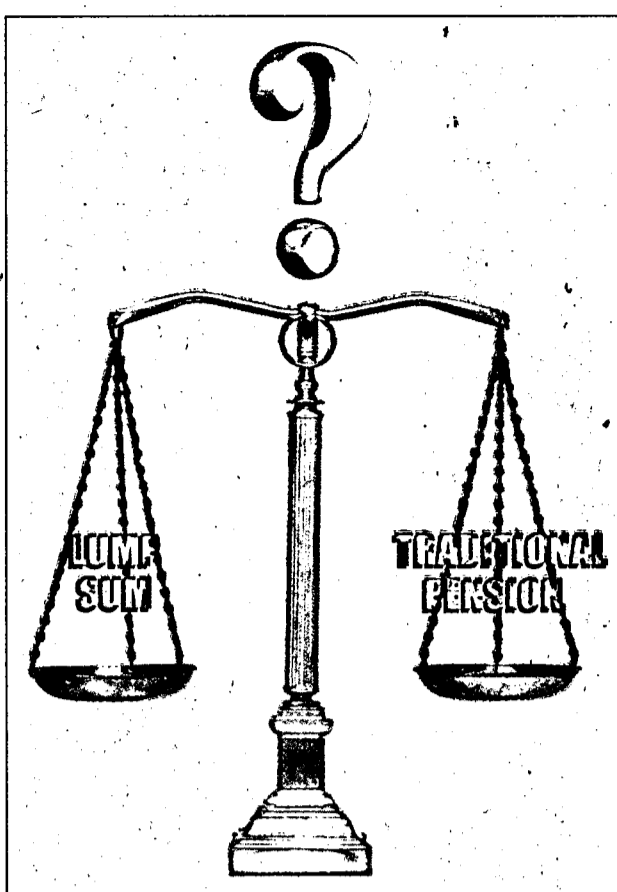
Robert Hardies, a certified financial planner at Financial and Portfolio Advisors in Livonia, said there seems to be mass confusion from GM retirees.

"They have to make a decision by July 20 and they just received the packet June 1. That's a short time frame and they need to be running to a financial adviser to do some calculations so they can make a decision," Hardies said.

Every retiree will have to make an independent decision because of so many variables, Klassa said.

"When (the retirees) get their numbers, they're going to be looking at numbers in the \$700,000 to \$800,000 range and maybe even up to \$1 million in some cases," Klassa said. "They're going to think it's a windfall right away. A lot are thinking about new cars, a cottage. But, wait, this is the same income stream needed to last for your entire life expectancy."

Phil Putney, an accountant and professional financial specialist at Advanced Financial Solu-



tions in Farmington, said some will think they can make better investments and multiply their nest egg.

"While having control over your own money has its benefits, there's no guarantee. You're personally taking on all the risk," he said.

His advice is for GM and Ford retirees to not fall victim to sales agents pushing investment products without having a long-term strategy, he said.

"(Retirees) need a plan first and then exercise your options," he said.

A true picture for retirement financial security is looking at all assets and whether the decision will be tax efficient.

"They should be looking at their overall retirement needs. You need a guaranteed income of 'x' to pay for housing, clothing, utilities. The income stream needs to be similar to the pension they're currently receiving," Putney said.

Even those who don't see the benefit of the lump-sum buyout need to run the numbers, he said. Determine if an investment product can offer

a similar income stream. "If you can, then it's a wise decision," he said.

In other cases, Social Security combined with a pension may be more than what a retiree needs to live on. Tucking some away for tax reasons might be a wise investment, Putney said.

Renato Jamett of Raymond James & Associates in Birmingham said the challenge will be "fast-forwarding 20 years to realize the cash flow will have a different set of problems, such as health care costs, rising prices of utilities, gas and other common expenditures."

"Taking the dartboard approach that worked in the 1990s is not going to work here," he said.

Expert advice
Charlotte Bewersdorff, vice president of annu-

ities at M and O marketing in Southfield, will be hosting a number of workshops in the near future to help GM and Ford retirees make sound decisions. The company is an umbrella organization for independent agents, providing training and product analyses.

"I've been advising people to get two or three opinions before deciding on what to do," she said.

One of those independent financial advisers, Vince Gauci of VFG Associates in Livonia, said the first thing a retiree needs to do is to get a complete needs' analyses. It's the first action he takes with a new client, gathering information to set goals and objectives for their financial future.

"The buyout itself is not for everyone and that's why it's important to go to a financial planner that has been in business for a while," he said. "What's good for one person is not for another."

One longtime client who was offered a \$400,000 pay out wanted to pay off a \$120,000 mortgage. But that only leaves less than \$300,000 to invest and use over a lifetime, Gauci said.

In addition, the money withdrawn and spent from the buyout will be taxed.

"A lot of them are really getting impressed when they see the lump sum and they are getting excited about it. They're going to have to watch their spending habits in the beginning," he said.

Gauci suggests retirees use three types of accounts, he calls buckets, for their nest egg. The first is liquid assets

to pay for living expenses. The second is long-term investments or a bucket where money can be accessed within five-10 days if needed in an emergency and the third is a qualified asset account for longer-term investments such as 401(k)s and IRAs.

Retirees not yet collecting Social Security benefits will have that supplemental income when it kicks in at age 62. Also, some retirees may be draining savings accounts now to supplement their current income.

Add up the cash in savings in the estate and at a 4 percent withdrawal rate the money should last a lifetime, Gauci said.

"It gets back to goals and objectives to make sure you don't outlive the assets," he said.

Be wise

The biggest issue is people ask friends what they're doing and make a decision on that. "What's good for your brother-in-law might not be good for them," Gauci said.

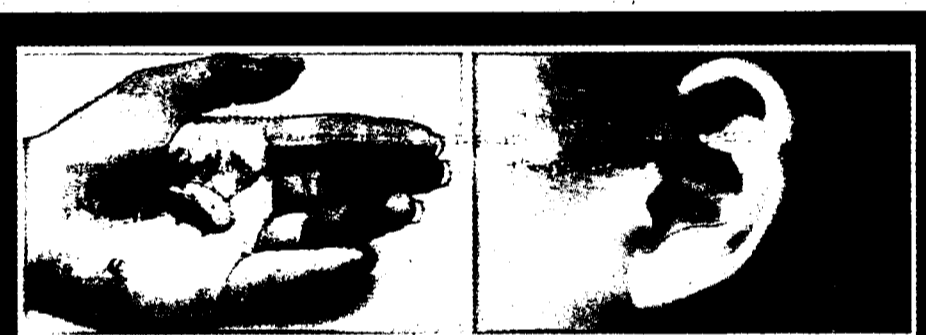
Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills said the numbers he has seen and calculated for GM retirees are fair.

"If retirees need other assets for living expenses or if they have no other assets, I'm telling them not to take the buyout," Bloom said.

Living on a fixed income or decreasing income is not feasible as prices of goods will naturally rise.

"This is the greatest country in the world, but even then, it's not known to be a good country for the elderly and poor," he said.

 FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@hometownlife



Now you see it... Now you don't.

 Miracle-Ear

Nearly Invisible Miracle-Ear® Hearing Aids Feature Superior Digital Micro-Technology

- Hear the right sounds, not every sound
- Reduces annoying background noise and whistling
- More natural sounding
- Customized hearing solution, precisely programmed to you
- Fit to ensure maximum comfort
- 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee*

#1 HEARING AID BRAND

"I've known about Miracle-Ear for decades, and I know they'll be there next month, next year, as they've been there for millions of people for over 60 years."

Patrick Duffy
-Actor

Call Today to Schedule Your **FREE** Hearing Test**

Hurry, Special Offer Ends

BUY ONE, GET ONE

50% OFF

a ME1 or ME2 Solution

Offer valid on ME1 or ME2 Solution when the first aid is purchased at the regular list price. Offer valid at participating Miracle-Ear® locations. Limit 1 coupon per purchase. May not be combined with other offers and does not apply to prior sales. See store for details. No cash value. Offer expires 7-7-12.

LINCOLN PARK
In Sears, Lincoln Park Shopping Center
(313) 383-5587

WESTLAND
35735 Warren Rd.
Btw. Party City & Petco
(734) 729-3810

ANN ARBOR
In Sears, Briarwood Mall
(734) 769-8226

DEARBORN
In Sears, Fairlane Town Center
(313) 441-5393

LIVONIA
In Sears, 7 Mile & Middlebelt
(248) 471-5909

*Fitting fees may apply. **Hearing tests are always free. Not a medical exam. Audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences vary depending upon severity of hearing loss, proper fit, and ability to adapt to amplification.

www.miracle-ear.com

OE08779148

SWITCH TO GOOD BANKING AND GET MORE THAN JUST A GOOD RATE.

MONEY MARKET PLUS

0.90% APY

\$10,000 NEW MONEY & ACTIVE CHECKING REQUIRED. AVAILABLE TO NEW AND EXISTING CUSTOMERS* FOR BALANCES OF \$10,000 - \$2,999,999

- In addition to a competitive rate, we're committed to:
- Listening to you and understanding your needs
 - Valuing your time by offering you a complimentary financial review
 - Putting you in control with online and mobile banking, 24/7 phone support, and Sunday hours
 - Earning your trust by resolving any inquiries or updating you within 24 hours

CALL: 1-888-333-2373
CLICK: charterone.com
COME IN: Any Charter One

GOOD BANKING IS GOOD CITIZENSHIP™ Charter One®

Available with money not currently on deposit at Charter One. \$10,000 new money & active checking required to open an active checking account is defined as having 5 qualifying payment transactions that post and clear your account per statement period. Qualifying payments from your account include ATM withdrawals and payments made in our branches, payments made using our Online Banking service, Debit Card purchases, checks paid and automatic electronic payments to a third party. Transfers to your checking, savings, and money market accounts are excluded. Online Banking transfers to Business loans or credit lines do not qualify. Personal accounts/select markets. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) may vary before or after opening. As of 06/01/12 - APY 0.90% tiers \$10,000+, \$25,000+, \$50,000+, \$100,000+, \$250,000+, \$500,000+, \$1,000,000+; APY 0.30% tier \$3,000,000+; APY 0.05% below \$10,000. Monthly maintenance fee of \$20 may be waived with minimum daily balance of \$5,000. Fees may reduce earnings. Member FDIC. Charter One is a brand name of RBS Citizens, N.A.

Cap and gown: Burger East celebrates with graduation

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Cap and gowns, the sounds of the *Trumpet Voluntary* and the applause of family and friends ... it was graduation at its best as five students received their certificates of completion during a commencement ceremony at Burger East Center for Students with Autism.

One by one, Gregory Coleman of Inkster; Brian Corrigan of Garden City; Carmela Dean of Dearborn Heights; Michah Keschull of Canton; and Jasmine Knighten of Detroit stepped forward to receive their certificates, signaling their "move on to new opportunities."

"Thank you for this," said Corrigan, who had prepared a speech to read to the crowd. "It has been a privilege and honor to be at Burger East. It's been fun being a student and to be able to use what I have learned along the way in the future."

"This was a surprise, he didn't even tell us about," Kathy Corrigan said of her son's acceptance speech. "He's been talking about graduating for ages."

"I've never done that before," Corrigan said during a reception following the ceremony. "I was very excited."

Corrigan has been at Burger Center for Students with Autism in Garden City for 13 years and is the "eyes and ears of the program," according to teacher Leslie Suchy Kuclo.



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jasmine Knighten (from left) of Detroit, Michah Keschull of Canton, Brian Corrigan of Garden City and Carmela Dean of Dearborn Heights wait to enter the gym at the Cambridge Center for the Burger East commencement ceremony.

"Brian gives me daily reports on the status of the hallways and what building activities are on the day's agenda," she said. "He's well-mannered and friendly. I'm proud of him."

During his time with the program, he has worked at Barson's Greenhouses in Westland, Viscount Pools, Goody's Pet Store and Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. He now is working with Michigan Rehabilitative Services.

Also sharing his views was Knighten, who told the audience that he had come to Burger "as a little boy."

"Many teachers helped me along the way and now I'm ready to conquer the world — that's my teach-

er Miss (Suzan) Samaan's words," he said. "I want to thank the people who have helped me accomplish my goals."

In introducing Knighten, Joseph Valdivia, assistant director, described him as smart and motivated, adding that "it will be difficult to replace him on the Burger East basketball team. It's going to be hard to replace our power forward."

Like Corrigan, Knighten has worked at a number of places, including the Social Security office, IHOP and Marshall's. He also will receive more assistance through Michigan Rehabilitative Services.

"The skills he has developed will assist him in his

search for future employment after graduation," Samaan said.

Dean has been a student at Burger since 1990. She's known for her smile and enjoys wearing her hair in different styles and wearing fancy sunglasses.

"She's known as the movie star of Burger East," Valdivia said in presenting her with her certificate.

Coleman has been at Burger since 2002 and is known for having "a great smile and for his charm."

"He can smooth out the day with his charm," Valdivia said, adding that he enjoys singing, especially Motown songs, "even if it's off-key."

According to teacher Stan Bialach, Keschull is his "go-to guy."



Jasmine Knighten and Michah Keschull walk out of the ceremony to the applause of their teachers, family and fellow students.

"Michah is very helpful in class and with the students and staff," Bialach said. "He's an excellent visual learner and enjoys staying busy. Thanks to Michah, Burger East is a greener campus. He's very organized and works independently, sorting items for recycling and shredding."

For the parents, the graduation was a milestone for their children. For the students, it was a learning experience. According to Kuclo, the Burger East students put everything together.

"They set up the tables, put out the decorations ... we make everything a learning experience for them," she said. "We teach them all the social skills."

Kuclo, along with Lee Ann Dye and Madonna Bernard, organizes the graduation ceremony each year. Bialach coordinated the music and handled a video presentation

about the graduates. The Burger Choir also performed two songs, *Stand By Me* and *On My Way*, for the graduates.

"This is a celebration meant for the parents as much as it is for the students," Dye said. "This is a milestone for our parents."

In addition to the five graduates, 13 other students are leaving the program. Many are returning to their home district or going to less restrictive environments. And many are going on to high school, Valdivia said.

Also acknowledged during the ceremony were Storm Mann, Jacob McCorry, Tami Terry, Vincent Webb, Geoffrey Trudeau, Jason Cadotte, John Henderson, Julian Lanning, Jadon Mills, Chris Skowronek, Travis Stacey, Allan Moe and Christina Wallace.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

A FREE K-6 Hands-on Education Near You!

Come See What Our Students Are Doing

At American Montessori Academy, we offer a tuition-free Montessori education, blended with Michigan grade level expectations.

By focusing on a variety of developmentally appropriate hands on materials, practical life skills, independent learning, nutrition, peace/character education, and the child's physical, social, emotional and academic needs, our students develop into lifelong learners.

- **Totally Tuition FREE**
- **Before and After School Kidz Time**
- **FREE Tutoring**
- **Highly qualified teachers and assistants in every classroom**
- **Two campuses - Redford and Livonia**

SPACE IS LIMITED

CALL TODAY!



For more information visit www.americanmontessori.net

Livonia Location
Lower Elementary (K-2)
14800 Middlebelt Rd.
Livonia, MI 48154
734-525-7100

Redford Location
Upper Elementary (3-6)
17175 Olympia
Redford, MI 48240
313-533-0000

Join Us in Celebration!

25 YEARS
...ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

LSTI
Life Support Training Institute
Better Patient Care. One Student at a Time.

For more information or to register, please visit us on the web at www.lifesupporttraining.org or call us at **866-FOR-LSTI (367-5784)**
PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE
Now Accepting Registrations!

Upcoming 2012 Course Offerings

Course	Start Date	Days	Location
• EMT Evening Class	6/18/12	M thru Th	Taylor
• EMT Day Class	6/19/12	T-Th	Southfield
• EMT Saturday Class	6/23/12	Sat	Southfield
• EMT-S Bridge Class	7/8/12	Sun	Taylor
• EMT-S Bridge Class	7/10/12	T-Th	Southfield
• EMT Saturday Class	7/21/12	Sat	Taylor

Late Registrants Accepted

Care & Love are the greatest things we provide

STATE LICENSED

Full Assistance with Bathing, Dressing & Hygiene in a Small Home-like Setting

for Active/Alert, Memory Impaired, Frail/Recovering & Alzheimer's residents

- Highly Competitive Inclusive Rates
- 24 Hour Professional Staffing
- Private/Semi-Private/Barrier-Free
- 3 Home-Cooked Meals a Day
- On-Call Nurse Practitioner
- Medication Management
- Daily Housekeeping & Laundry
- Beauty & Barber Shop
- Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard

Crystal Creek Assisted Living

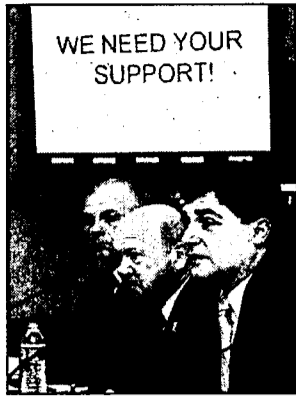
8121 Lilley Road
Canton, Michigan 48187
(Located between Joy & Warren Roads)

(734) 453-3203
www.CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com

Fourth time not the charm for TIGER grant

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

For a bruising fourth time, Canton learned Friday it has lost its fight to secure an \$18 million federal transportation grant for road improvements to ease congestion along Ford Road near I-275, billed as Michigan's most accident-prone corridor. "Obviously, I'm disappointed because we worked hard on trying to get it and we didn't," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Friday. He remains hopeful the Michigan Department of Transportation will identify a solution and find the money to pay for it, barring a new round of federal dollars. MDOT already has initiated a new traffic and environmental study in Canton. MDOT project



Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas (from left), Supervisor Phil LaJoy and state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, have all fought for the TIGER grant, but their requests have thus far fallen on deaf federal ears.

manager Gorette Yung has indicated a phased-in solution to traffic woes could come by early next year, though preliminary

proposals could be identified even earlier. U.S. Department of Transportation spokesman Bill Adams confirmed that Friday's announcement of some \$500 million in road projects marks the end of funding this year through a program dubbed TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery. "This is the announcement for 2012," he said. MDOT spokesman Rob Morosi said more TIGER grants still are possible for next year. "Hopefully by this time in 2013, we'll be celebrating," he said. Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said he was "deeply disappointed" Canton was snubbed yet again, considering the Ford Road area has been identified as

Michigan's highest-crash area. Like LaJoy, Faas said he is hopeful MDOT's new study could eventually usher in a solution. MDOT has widened the scope of its traffic study to an area bordered by Warren to the north, Cherry Hill to the south, Sheldon to the west and Lotz to the east. Once the study is done and solutions are identified, Faas said, "at least we'd be ready to go" if funding becomes available, whether from the state or federal government. Studies have indicated that during the last six years, more than 2,378 crashes have occurred along Ford Road between I-275 and Canton Center. Officials such as state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, have said they fear traffic bottlenecks

could begin to take a toll on the corridor's economic health unless a solution to gridlock is found. One possible solution has been to reshape the I-275/Ford interchange to divert traffic away from Ford Road, by adding new ramps directly to Haggerty Road and a service drive along the east side of the interstate from Cherry Hill to north of Ford Road. The latest round of TIGER grants included money for two Michigan projects: • A so-called Link Detroit project won a \$10 million grant toward a \$25 million plan to improve pedestrian and bicyclist connections between downtown Detroit and places such as the Riverwalk, Eastern Market, Midtown and Hamtramck. • Muskegon is to receive

\$1.3 million for a rural bus service to reach areas lacking service, the U.S. Department of Transportation said. "It's hard to imagine how those projects would be more important than the funding for the Ford Road/275 area with all the accidents and crashes," LaJoy said. Over the years, Canton has received support from communities such as Westland, the Plymouths and Livonia for efforts to improve the I-275/Ford Road area. Officials consider the traffic problems regional in scope. This summer, Ford Road congestion has even worsened due to local projects such as the closing of the Warren Road bridge over I-275 for repairs.

dclcm@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238

School board approves contract, appoints administrators

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia school board on Monday approved a contract for its day care and preschool employees, appointed four new assistant principals and a human resources director and adopted a \$143.2 million general fund budget for the 2012-13 school year. The two-year agreement with the 56 members of the Livonia Community Education Association — effective July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2014 — continues a pay freeze and makes minor language clarifications, such as the option of using available sick days for some snow days. Previously, members were not paid for snow days. They do not receive health care coverage, said Don-

na McDowell, the district's administrator of communications. Superintendent Randy Liepa said the contract, ratified by the union June 13, "helps us continue to move forward." The employees work throughout the district, including in before-care and after-care programs and at the Jackson Early Childhood Center. Sarah-Jane Tait Aherne, an intervention specialist for Wayne-Westland Community Schools, was appointed assistant principal at Cooper Upper Elementary; Lora L. Boka, an elementary program specialist who's worked for Livonia Public Schools since 1992, was promoted to assistant principal at Riley Upper Elementary; and Robert A. Witherpoon, who's worked as a

literacy leader and fifth-sixth-grade teacher at Hull and Johnson Elementary schools for LPS since 2000, was promoted to assistant principal at Johnson Upper Elementary. In addition, Peter Mazzoni, a teacher at Frost Middle School and a hockey coach at Churchill High School, was appointed assistant principal at Stevenson High School to replace Lou Fox, who retired. Liepa said it's always bittersweet hiring new school administrators, "We're losing some outstanding people due to either retirement or moving on," he said. "Certainly these days it's not the easiest of jobs, but I have to tell you with the enthusiasm that people brought forward in these interviews, it bodes very well

for our future." The upper elementary appointments take effect Aug. 15, Mazzoni's on Aug. 8. DeAnn Urso, principal at Kennedy Elementary, will be principal at Johnson, replacing Richard Steele, who is retiring. Danielle Daniels, principal at Randolph Elementary, will move over to Kennedy; Tammy Spangler-Timm, principal at Cooper Upper Elementary, will move over to Randolph. Dana R. Whinnery, assistant city manager for the city of Farmington Hills and the city's former director of human resources, was appointed director of human resources, effective July 23. Whinnery has 26 years experience in human resources and labor relations with Farmington

Hills, where he bargained more than 50 contracts, Liepa said. "The respect that he has in the Farmington community is probably second to none. I just could not find anybody to say a negative thing about him." Whinnery said he is looking forward to his new position. "Likewise your reputation precedes you as well so I can't tell you how honored I am to be a part of the team," he told board members. Whinnery replaces Dorothy Chomicz, who retired in August 2011. The position was temporarily filled part time during the 2011-12 school year by Chomicz and Michael Fenchel, another former administrator, McDowell said. Students will see no cuts in programs or servic-

es under the \$143.2 million general fund spending plan the Livonia school board approved. That was administrators' goal, Liepa said. The \$138.2 million in anticipated revenue will be augmented with the \$6.6 million in fund equity left over from the 2011-12 budget for a projected \$1.7 million in fund equity at the end of the 2012-13 school year. The board also set tax rates the same as last year: 18 mills for non-homestead property, 6 mills for commercial personal property, 1.2 mills for all property for the sinking fund and 2.2 mills for all property for debt retirement.

ksmith@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2098

No Road Blocks Here!

CELEBRATING OVER 70 YEARS SERVICE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

COME FIND OUT WHY YOU ARE MILES AHEAD AT TENNYSON CHEVROLET!

Chevy Runs Deep

Michael Johnson
New & Used Consultant
10 Years

Scott Rama
New Car Sales Manager
20 Years

James Thomas
Financial Director
Over 40 Years

734-425-6500 NOW OPEN SATURDAY 9AM - 3PM

www.TennysonChevy.com

32570 Plymouth Rd. • Livonia • Just East of Farmington Rd.

GLUTEN FREE SEMINAR

Dr. Greg Kramer, DC
is holding a
Gluten Free Seminar
at the Livonia
Charles Towne Office Center
34441 Eight Mile Road
Suite 116

Greg Kramer, D.C., D.A.A.M.L.P.
Diplomat American Academy of Medical Legal Professionals. Studies under nation's leading Chiropractic Neurologist.

Wednesday, June 27th • 6 pm

Topic To Be Discussed: Dr. Kramer's

What You Are Eating May Be Killing You!

If you or a loved one is suffering from:

1) Celiac Disease	6) Fatigue
2) Irritable Bowel Syndrome	7) Crohn's Disease
3) Bloating or Cramping	8) Ulcerative Colitis
4) Constipation or Diarrhea	9) Fibromyalgia
5) Brain Fog	10) Thyroid Dysfunction

You may be suffering from GLUTEN SENSITIVITY!

To find out more, attend our **FREE Gluten Workshop**

Call (248) 615-1533
Seating Is Limited!

www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com

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. Bieske 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 Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

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 Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

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

Upcoming Events

INDOOR MARKET

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, June 27-28

Location: Eton Senior Center, 4900 Pardee, Dearborn Heights

Details: Eton Senior Center is currently in search of people to take part in their indoor flea market. The cost to rent is \$15 for an eight-foot table. Table position will be based on first come basis. Vendors are welcome. Deadline for table rentals is Thursday, June 7. Proceeds will go towards the Eton Senior Center Building Fund. Contact: Call (313) 277-7765 for more information.

DOO WOP SHOW

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Friday, July 13

Location: Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall, 33550 Ford Road, Westland

Details: The WhatAbouts will present a Doo Wop Dinner Show at Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets

cost \$27 per person. Dinner includes a tossed salad, rigatoni, roast beef with gravy, Italian sausage saute, green beans almondine, red skinned mashed potatoes, bread and butter, coffee, tea and pop. A cash bar will be available.

Contact: For tickets, contact Kathy at (734) 216-9451 or at www.angelos1958.com.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29

Location: St. Mel's Church, 7506 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights

Details: St. Mel's Women's Club is looking for crafters for its craft fair. More than 50 eight-foot tables available. They cost \$25 each. A table with electricity is \$30. Helpers provided.

Contact: Call St. Mel's Church at (313) 274-0684 or send an e-mail to stmels-craftfair@yahoo.com for applications.

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13

Location: Perrinville Early Childhood Center, 28201 Lyndon, Livonia

Details: Crafters and vendors are wanted for the Perrinville Early Childhood Center fall craft show.

Contact: Tami at holidaycraftfair@yahoo.com or Brenda at wjob2010@yahoo.com.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Thursday of the month

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

Details: - Westland

Details: A support &



Cheerleading excellence

Westland Elite Cheerleaders, who took a national championship last year in Las Vegas, recently won their second state championship after competition at the Breslin Center in East Lansing.

education group for family caregivers is available for residents of southern and western Wayne County. The group, for people who are caring for family members 60 and older, or who are 60 years and older themselves, is offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Call Helen Streett at (734) 629-5004 to confirm time and date, if attending for the first time.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. second Wednesday of the month

Location: Lower level

Classroom 2 of the Allan Breake Medical Office Building at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City

Details: Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association, family members, friends and caregivers of persons afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders are invited to join the free monthly support group. The group will provide mutual aid, support and the opportunity to share problems and concerns.

Contact: Call (734) 58-4330 for more information.

Education

WILLOW CREEK

Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland

Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.

Contact: (734) 326-0078

ST. DAMIAN

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland

Details: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.

Contact: (734) 427-1680,

www.stdamian.com.

YWCA PRESCHOOL

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.

Contact: (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Location: St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne

Details: St. Mary School is currently is currently registering students for the 2012-2013 school year. Openings are available in pre-K 3 and 4 and kindergarten-eighth-grade. St. Mary has been recognized as a School of Distinction.

Contact: For more information, call the school office at (734) 721-1240.

Organizations

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.

Contact: Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or by e-mail at pibbotso@aol.com or Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

WESTLAND ROTARY

Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays

Location: Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland

Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meetings, programs and events.

Contact: Jeff at (734) 261-5010

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - SPOUSES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

Please see CALENDAR, A7

ATTENTION:

Important Information for GM & Ford Pension Owners

Did you recently receive a letter about your GM or Ford pension buyout offer?

Do you know there are *other* options? There are products that offer:

- Inflation protection
- Control & access to your money
- Guaranteed income for life*
- The ability to preserve your legacy

Uncertain about what lies ahead?
What questions should you be asking?
Who can you talk to and get answers?

A licensed independent insurance professional has the experience to help. The deadline is quickly approaching.

(877) 251-2669

www.knowyourpensions.com

*Guaranteed lifetime income available through annuitization or the purchase of an optional lifetime income rider, a benefit for which an annual premium is charged. 19134 171372

Let the SALE BEGIN!

Now is the time to clean out those closets, basements and garages and turn those items into cash! Place your ad in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Hometown Weeklies to reach thousands of bargain hunters and receive some FREE items too!

Clip & Save Coupons!

\$2.00 OFF the purchase of any **LARGE COMBO** at our Concession Stand. One coupon per purchase. Not valid with other coupons. No cash value. Offer expires 11-01-12.

EMAGINE
EMAGINE CANTON
36535 Ford Road • Canton
EMAGINE NOVI
44425 W. 12 Mile • Novi
EMAGINE WOODHAVEN
21720 Allen Road • Woodhaven
EMAGINE ROCHESTER HILLS
200 Barclay Circle • Just N. M59
Rochester Hills
CINEMA HOLLYWOOD
12280 Dixie Highway • Birch Run
EMAGINE ROYAL OAK
200 N. Main, Downtown Royal Oak
www.emagine-entertainment.com
Movie Line: 888-318-FILM (3456)

\$3.00 OFF ANY 8 SQUARE PIZZA!
*Not valid with any other coupon or discount. **One coupon per person, per pizza, per table. No cash value. Offer expires 11-04-12.

Buddy's PIZZA
Restaurant/Bar/Carry-out
Detroit 313-892-9001
Warren 586-574-9200
Farmington Hills 248-855-4600
Livonia 734-261-3550
Dearborn 313-562-5900
Auburn Hills 248-276-9040
Carry-out/Cafe
Pointe Plaza 313-884-7400
Carry-out Only
Royal Oak 248-549-9000
Bloomfield Hills 248-645-0300
Join Our E-mail club at www.buddyspizza.com

OUR GARAGE SALE KIT Includes:

- Signs • Price Stickers
- Inventory Sheets
- 2 pages of great advice for a successful garage sale
- 1 pass for 2 to Emagine Theatres
- Free 4 Square Buddy's Pizza
- Buddy's Food Discount Card
- Ad placed on hometownlife.com with "Map It" capabilities

Place your ad online at hometownlife.com & receive **2 PASSES for 2 to Emagine Theatre & Buddy's Pizza!**

hometownlife.com
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
1-800-579-7355

Yesterday's Treasures and
CONSIGNMENT & OUTLET

STORE CLOSING!
Total Liquidation...
EVERYTHING MUST GO!
This Week Only

- Dining Room Sets
- Furniture
- China Cabinets
- Antiques
- Store Fixtures
- Collectibles
- Mattresses
- Glassware
- Appliances
- Desks
- Electronics
- Chairs

• And MORE!

Over 50,000 Items!
Check out our 4 for \$1 Room and our \$1 Items

CONSIGNMENT & OUTLET
15700 Middlebelt • Livonia
(Between 5 & 6 Mile Roads)
Open Sun. 12-6 • Mon.-Thurs. 10-6

All Sales Final • Everything Sold As-Is and Where-Is

CALENDAR

Continued from page A6

CAREGIVERS - WESTLAND

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Street at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

AMERICAN LEGION

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month

Location: Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: American Legion Westland Post 251 meets at the VFW hall the first Tuesday of each month. The post welcomes all veterans male and female who have been honorably discharged.

Contact: Bill Acton at (734) 326-2607, Ron Nickels at (734) 455-3415 or visit the website at www.post251.org or www.post251.org.

LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month

Location: Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland.

Details: The Westland Lions Club holds lunch and dinner meetings on Mondays.

Contact: For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

WRITING GROUP

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month

Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road,

Wayne

Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.

Contact: www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo.com

TOASTMASTERS

Location: Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center, located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

Details: Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.

Contact: For information, call Bill at (734) 306-3980 or Curt at (734) 525-8445.

FISH DIAL-A-RIDE

Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with our volunteer drivers one day each week from the comfort of their home. Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive and

have no alternative transportation.

Contact: For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

EARTH ANGELS

Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.

Contact: www.earthangelsonline.org or by e-mail to eangel1986@comcast.net

TOPS 869

Time/Date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.

Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.

Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

TOPS M128

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland

Contact: Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

CITIZENS FOR PEACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month

Location: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.

Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

MICHIGAN'S FINEST FRACTIONAL OWNERSHIP RESORT!

TAMARACK LODGE

Escape to Traverse City

Located on Beautiful East Grand Traverse Bay
U.S. 31 North at 4 Mile Road
Traverse City, Michigan







Summer 2012 Special Promotion

Own your Traverse City vacations forever! Tamarack Lodge, located on the sparkling waters of East Grand Traverse Bay, can show you how surprisingly affordable Fractional Ownership can be. For a limited time only, all new Tamarack owners will receive a Four Season Activity Package.



- Entertain your friends with a weekend winery tour
- Shop till you drop

Let Your Imagination Run Wild... Create Your Own Activity Package

- Parasail over Lake Michigan
- Take a hot air balloon ride
- Dine in the finest restaurants
- Hang glide over the sand dunes
- Charter a salmon fishing excursion
- Pontoon boat rides
- Downhill skiing and snowmobiling
- ATVs and trails

Restrictions apply. Call an Owner Representative at 888.938.3950.

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact us at 888.938.3950, or email us at Sales@TamarackLodgeTC.com.

WWW.TAMARACKLODGETC.COM

Red hot rate.

1.02% APY*

13-Month Certificate of Deposit

Choose from a 13-month traditional or IRA CD.

- No checking account required
- Deposits can range from \$500 to \$10 million

Open an account today.
(800) 642-0039
flagstar.com/nostringsCD
Personal • Business



*Stated Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 6/19/2012. Account fees could reduce earnings. Withdrawals may result in imposition of applicable early withdrawal penalties. \$500 minimum balance required. Maximum deposit is \$10,000,000. Additional deposits not allowed during CD term. At the time of renewal, account will move to a 12-month CD or IRA CD at the current posted rate. Not available for public units. IRAs are available for personal accounts only. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer subject to change or cancellation at any time without notice. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Please contact your local Flagstar branch for more information. Limit one account per customer.

Member FDIC



Women's Services



WOMEN AND PELVIC HEALTH

Thursday, June 28, 6-8 p.m.
The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth
or
Thursday, July 12, 6-8 p.m.
Summit on the Park, Canton

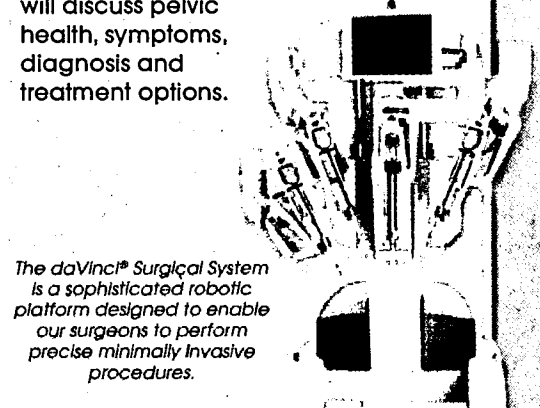


Featured Speaker:
Paul R. Makela, MD
Medical Director,
Gynecological
Robotic Surgery,
St. Mary Mercy Hospital

REGISTER NOW!
Registration is required.
Please call
734-655-1980.

Refreshments and giveaways.

Approximately one-third of U.S. women will have a pelvic health problem by age 60. This includes stress urinary incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, abnormally heavy menstrual periods and uterine fibroids. These conditions become more common with age. Pregnancy, childbirth or being overweight can stretch and weaken muscles that support your pelvic organs. Dr. Makela will discuss pelvic health, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment options.



The da Vinci® Surgical System is a sophisticated robotic platform designed to enable our surgeons to perform precise minimally invasive procedures.

stmarymercy.org



Children eat up cream pies at competition

For more photos, see online photo gallery at hometownlife.com.

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

The children took on the heat Wednesday night, all for a little sweet.

Under a tent in 90-degree temperatures, approximately 60 children and a few adults competed at Livonia Spree for the annual Pie Eating Contest, sponsored by the Livonia Observer, Livonia Family YMCA and Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland.

First-place winners received a prize package from the Livonia Y, including a jump rope and candy; plus movie passes, pizza coupons and a Scoop the News-hound T-shirt from the Observer. Second-place winners won a water bottle, movies passes, pizza coupons and a T-shirt. Third-place winners received swim goggles, T-shirts and movie tickets. All contestants received bowling passes from the Y.

Children and their parents lined up 90 minutes before the contest began. Daniel Lapointe, 11, of Ypsilanti thought he would enter "just for the fun of it."

"I just like pies," Daniel said with a smile.

Contestants had one minute to eat as much pie as they could. They were treated to cream pies from Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe. The pie-eating heats were divided by age: 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Another open heat was added for anyone who wanted to par-



Jesse Overstreet, Gabriel Gjernes and Andrew Wozniak took first, second, and third in the 9- to 10-year-old competition.



Alyssa Ebejer and Lillian Sweetman dive in.

ticipate.

No hands allowed
Judges from the Livonia Y and Livonia

Observer kept an eye on the contestants. They were not allowed to use their hands to assist in eating the pies.

Once given the word by Observer Publisher Susan Rosiek to begin, the youngest contestants began the competition, burying their little faces into pies that covered their cheeks with white cream and sprinkles. Parents stood over their children, taking photos or videos with cell phones and smart phones.

Caroline Sexton of Livonia cleaned up her pie, leaving practically a bare crust, to win the 7- to 8-year-old category. Second-place went to Michael Beyrand of Livonia, while Leah

Blazoff of Livonia won third.

"I just started with the sprinkles and kept on eating," Caroline said, when asked what the key was for her to win first place. "I like the cream."

The 9- to 10-year-olds followed. Jesse Overstreet of Hale, Mich., won first place, followed by Gabriel Jonas of Milan in second and Andrew Wozniak of Livonia in third. "You just lick it and eat the crust," Jesse said about his efficient consumption of the pie. He, too, ate the cream and some crust to win his heat.

Melissa Beyrand of Livonia won the 11- and 12-year-old competition. Rebecca Olds of Livonia placed second and Alana Robinson of Livonia finished third.

"I just start to lick the pie and ate it all up," Melissa said. "You have to eat that crust."

Another heat of all ages was added. Margie Olds of Livonia won first place, Andrea Ostrowskie of Livonia took second and Haley Kozub of Westland earned third.

Olds said she thought about a St. Bernard she once owned. "I thought of him and how he ate everything in his bowl in a couple of minutes," Olds said.

"My kids said I couldn't do it," she said, smiling through her cream-covered cheeks. "It was great!"

Ostrowskie tried her hand at winning the open category after her pie flipped over on the table in the previous heat. She admitted she was determined to win. "I just like pie," she said.

Her father, Al Ostrowskie, smiled and added: "Her dad won two years ago, and she just wanted to take after me."

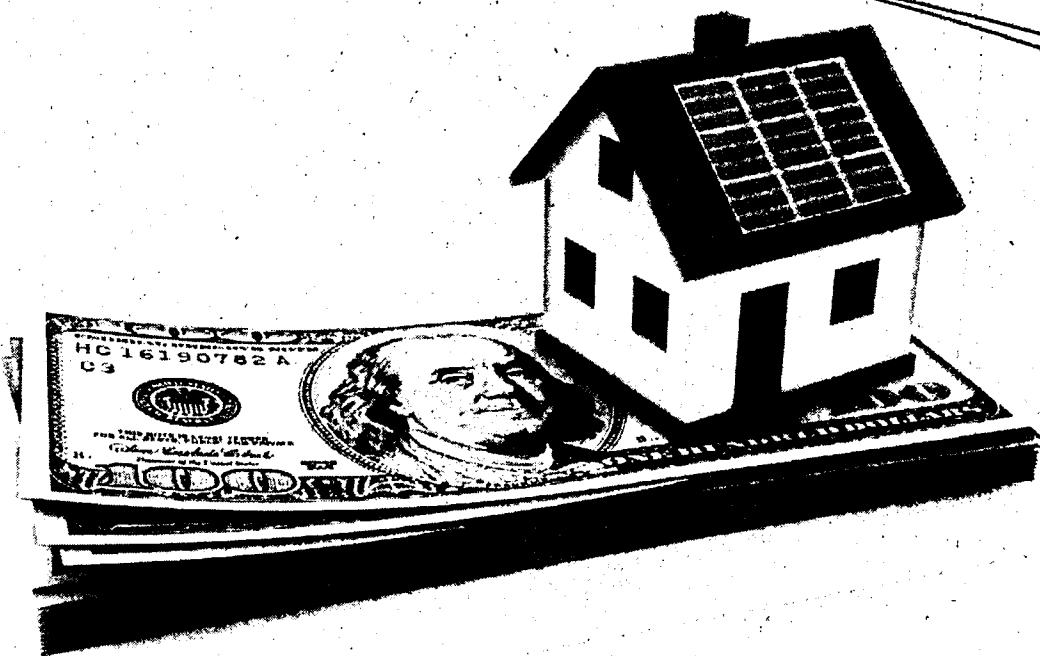
kabramcz@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2591 | Twitter: @Ken-Abramcz

Editor's note: Any staff photo is available for purchase online. Simply click on the "buy photo" button and a new browser window will open to the photo store. Anyone who needs help should contact Web Editor Larry Ruehlen at lruehlen@hometownlife.com or by calling (313) 222-8730.

TEN and DONE!

Do something else with your money.

Ask us how you can refinance
and get a low rate
10-YEAR MORTGAGE



Catholic  VANTAGE FINANCIAL

where You matter most



follow us on
twitter

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA



MORTGAGE CENTER

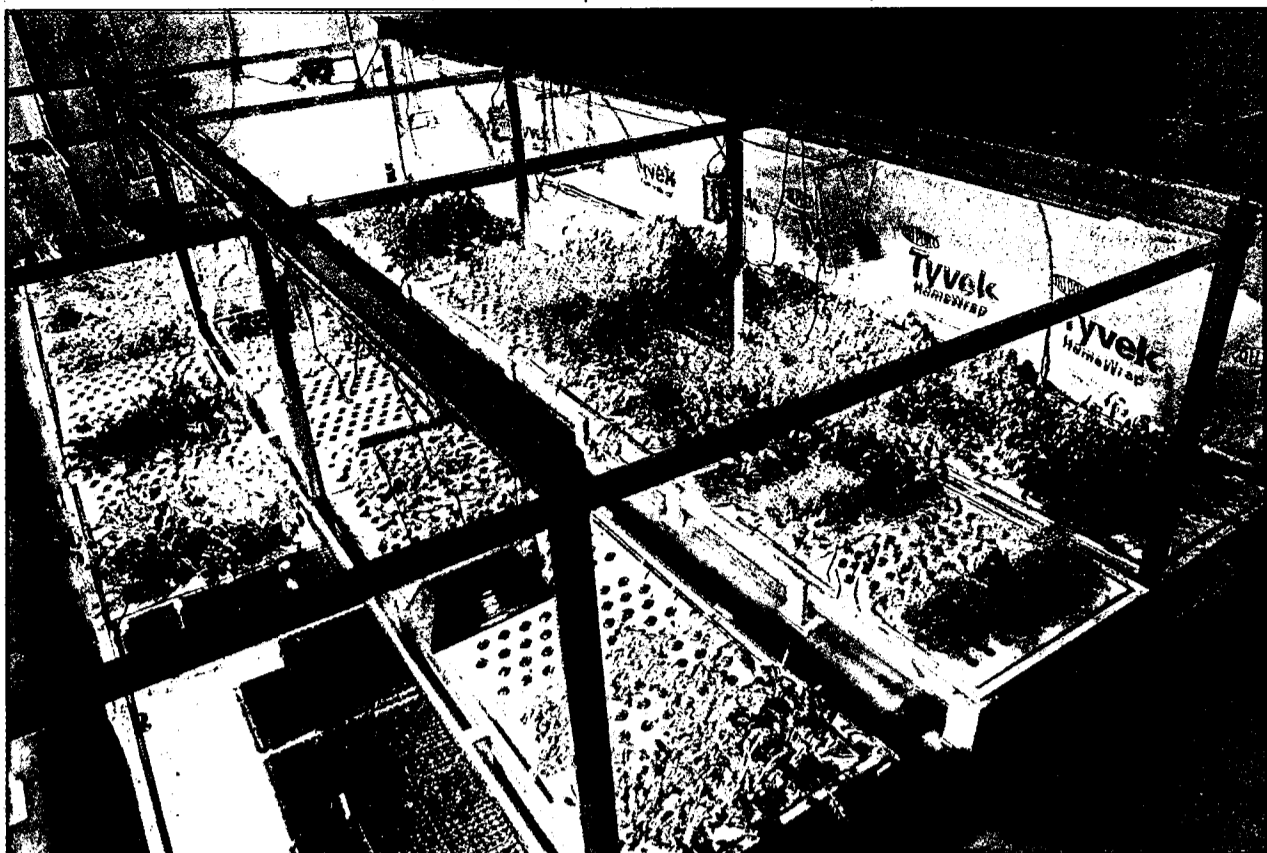
NMLS# 282701

For members. For life.

Aqua-based farm opens in Livonia warehouse



They grow several different types of basil.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Fish waste feeds plants

Jim Gill of Northville, Ken Chio of Brighton and Jamie Langan of Canton sought a more efficient way to grow vegetables and farm raise tilapia.

So they combined two technologies into one system to create Aqua Growers.

Aqua Growers takes the science and applications of aquaculture (the farming of fish) and hydroponics (the growing of plants in water) and creates an aquaponic system. Opened in November 2011, Aqua Growers is the largest aquaponics farm in the Detroit area, inside a 1,056-square-foot building at 12089 Merriman in Livonia, the owners said. There is room to expand, too.

Tilapia swim in tanks. A few feet away, bok choy, basil varieties and lettuce varieties flourish.

The owners believe they have found a niche to help sustain the environment with an organic environment, free of pesticides and pollutants, and higher yields of crops grown in a weatherproof system.

Fish are fed food pellets. Water containing the fish waste flows from the tanks into the hydroponic plant beds. Nutrients feed the root systems of the plants. The effluent-rich water would become toxic to fish if left alone, but instead it nourishes the plants.

"The water acts as a fertilizer for the plants, and when the plants consume that waste, it cleans the water," Chio said.

Chio said aquaponically-grown crops use 80 percent less water than soil-based crops. They can grow 200 different varieties of vegetables, Chio said.

"You can grow about 5,000 plants in a 1,000-square-foot system," Chio said. "These grow beds have a 2 percent of an acre footprint, but can grow the equivalent of a quarter of an acre of leafy lettuce crops. We can harvest one-quarter of an acre 10 times in one month."

Crops that are planted in an aquaponics farm grow higher quantities per square foot, mature faster, have a longer shelf life and use significantly less energy than crops planted on a soil-based farm, the owners said.

In a warehouse in Livonia, herbs and vegetables grow indoors, without pesticides or herbicides. The plants grow on the water from large tanks used to raise Tilapia.

"It's a healthy natural low-tech way to grow," Langan said.

"We can't use pesticides in it because you will kill the fish," Chio said. "It is nutritious, quality food and it's also local, all year round."

Chio said tilapia was chosen to farm because it is a healthy fish. "It sustains better than perch or walleye," Chio said.

One male breeds with six females. The fry are moved into a 100-gallon tank once they hit the one-pound range. Once they reach three pounds, they are moved into a 150-gallon tank, then relocated to a 300-gallon tank for five-pounds.

Water to feed the plants is piped into a gravity-based system run by a small pump. Oxygen lev-

els and temperatures are checked to ensure the water keeps the fish healthy.

Several varieties of basil, such as cinnamon, lime and lemon, line the beds, along with spring lettuces. One jalapeno is just about as large as a banana pepper.

The system helps resolve many of the problems facing farmers. It eliminates the reliance on weather, the need for equipment and pesticide sprays, and the calories used to produce output, the owners said.

Growing season never ends

The growing season lasts all year.

"In Michigan, you can't grow 365 (days)," Gill said. "We can grow it inside 365

days with less water, less heat and less electricity than outside."

They've already completed four cuttings of basil since January, Gill said.

The beds can be set up vertically, which allows growers to conserve space, Gill said.

The process holds a distinct advantage to restaurateurs. They plan menus out months in advance without worrying about farmers losing crops to weather, Gill said. The owners grow everything ranging from tomatoes, eggplant and squash to peppers, greens such as swiss chard, and herbs.

"Next month I may want celery and some cinnamon basil, and can plant it, and in one month I have what I want," Gill said.

That can change con-

ventional thinking toward food availability, Gill said. "It won't be us telling them what we grow, but what they want us to grow," he said.

The company plans a training seminar Aug. 17-21 with an aquaponics research analyst, Charlie Shultz of the University of the Virgin Islands. Anyone interested can call (248) 921-6213.

Potential customers range from restaurant owners and farmers, to schools, businesses and homeowners, Chio said. Aquaponics can add an ambience to a workspace or educating children.

"It really is a lot of fun," Chio said.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591 | Twitter: @Ken-Abramcz



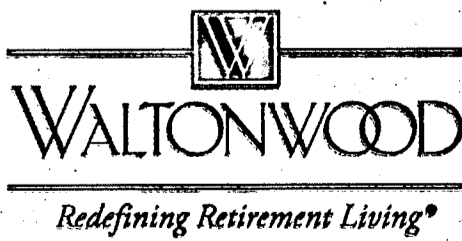
Waltonwood Senior Living

Because you deserve a carefree retirement

Residents enjoy the independence they desire with the support they need.

- Spacious apartments • Housekeeping & maintenance • Delicious, home-cooked meals • Activities and transportation
- Personal care services delivered by our own Licensed Assisted Living caregivers • Pet friendly

Two locations in Canton. Call and schedule your personal tour today.



SINCE 1958

CARRIAGE PARK
Independent Living & Licensed Assisted Living
(734) 386-0811
2250 N Canton Center Road

CHERRY HILL
Independent Living, Licensed Assisted Living & Memory Care
(734) 335-1554
42600 Cherry Hill

Waltonwood Cherry Hill's
8th Annual
**Cars for a Cure
BBQ & Silent Auction**
Friday, June 22nd
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Benefitting the Alzheimer's
Association
RSVP today



www.Waltonwood.com

Always smiling

Local girl boasts positive attitude despite numerous health problems

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

No one could blame Emily Hauser for frowning once in a while, considering the numerous health challenges she deals with on a daily basis.

Medication helps with many of her symptoms, but for a child who has ulcerative colitis, esinophallic disease, asthma, epilepsy and scoliosis, some days are harder than others.

Still, the soon-to-be Novi Middle School student cannot help but portray happiness on her face. "I just like smiling," she

said.

Her mother, Michelle, said that is how her daughter always has dealt with her health problems, no matter how bad the news.

"She is a strong little person," she said.

And in Royal Oak on June 23, Emily and her smile will lead the Take Steps Metro-Detroit Walk to benefit the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America Michigan Chapter.

Emily was named the Honored Hero for the event because of her courage and the positive attitude she has shown dealing with the digestive

diseases. Her team, Team Emily-Ann, has raised more than \$1,000 so far.

The walk, open to the public, starts at 10:30 a.m. at Meining Park, located by Catalpa Drive and Maxwell Avenue. Walkers will head through downtown Royal Oak for a 1.5- or 3-mile walk and return to the park to celebrate.

Mojo in the Morning of FM channel 95.5 will emcee the event, and lunch will be provided for all participants. Activities include a kid's corral with games, stage and talent presentations, and the event sponsors will be on hand to greet event par-



Novi resident Emily Hauser was named the Honored Hero for the June 23 Take Steps Metro-Detroit event in Royal Oak which benefits the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America Michigan chapter.

ticipants with information and prizes.

While the diseases are often hidden within the person affected, the purpose of the walk is to let people know of impact and raise awareness. "We want to get people's

attention," Emily said.

Michelle said she is "proud" of her daughter and humbled by her positive demeanor.

"She is like my little warrior, my hero," she said. "She doesn't let it bother her."

For more information about the event, or to sign up to participate, visit www.cctakesteps.org or call (248) 737-0900.

nmueller@gannett.com
(248) 437-2011, ext. 255
Twitter: @TheNoviNews

AROUND WESTLAND

Book sale

There's bargains to be had at the summer book sale in the Friends Shop at the William P. Faust Public Library.

Stock up on hardcover fiction books only with the shop's buy two get one free. Hardcover books are \$1 each, so get three hardcover fictions for just \$2.

The sale doesn't include hardcover biographies, nonfiction and large-print books.

Rocket Camp

The Glenn Wrestling Program will hold its annual Rocket Camp 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 23-27 in the Wrestling Room of John Glenn High School, on Marquette, west of Wayne Road.

The camp is open to

high school students and costs \$100, including a T-shirt. Registration is at 12:30 p.m. Monday, July 23.

There will also be a Youth Camp 4:30-6 p.m. July 25-27 for kindergarten through eighth-grade students in the Wrestling Room. The cost is \$50 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is at 4 p.m. Monday, July 25.

Registration forms are available at glennwrestling.com. For more information, contact Coach Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Golf outing

The John Glenn High School Wrestling Program will hold its 15th annual golf outing fundraiser Saturday, Sept.

15, at the Idyl Wyld Golf Course in Livonia. The cost is \$85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn and steak dinner after golf.

Contact Coach Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at 74 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. Further information also is available at glennwrestling.com. Hole sponsorship and raffle donations also are being accepted.

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.

American Legion

The American Legion, Westland Post 251, meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. All veterans, male and female with an honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

Free workshop

Westland residents at risk of losing their homes can attend a free Loan Modification and Short

Sale Workshop held 6-7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey east of Venoy.

Annette Compo of WJR Real Estate 411 and Linda Miller, an MSHDA-certified foreclosure counselor with National Faith Homebuyers, will be on hand to meet with residents one-on-one to do an overview of the foreclosure process and present them with various options for their situation.

The city of Westland is working with developers to assist residents that lose their home to foreclosure to try to remain in the same neighborhood.

To register for the workshop, call (313) 378-5418 or send an e-mail

to lindamiller@national-faith.org.

Doo Wop Show

The WhatAbouts will do a Doo Wop Dinner Show Friday, July 13, at Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall, 33550 Ford, Westland.

Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$27 per person. Dinner includes a tossed salad, rigatoni, roast beef with gravy, Italian sausage saute, green beans almondine, red skinned mashed potatoes, bread and butter, coffee, tea and pop. A cash bar will be available. Only 100 tickets will be sold. No tickets will be available at the door.

For tickets, contact Kathy at (734) 216-9451 or at www.angelos1958.com.

LaVida massage

for a healthier body • mind • life

Affordable Therapeutic Massage for Everyone.
Services Customized to Your Needs
Licensed Male & Female Therapists
Full Line of Facial Services
Open 7 Days a Week
Walk-ins Welcome

Signature Facial
\$49.95
For New Clients

Couples Massage
\$79.95
For New Clients

One Hour Custom Massage Session
\$39.95 For New Clients

Now Offering Colon Hydrotherapy In Plymouth

4214 Ford Rd.
Canton, MI 48184
734.844.1402
canton.mi.lavidamassage.com

15175 Sheldon Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
734.207.1400
plymouth.mi.lavidamassage.com

Gift Certificates Available

Ladies Night Out

Clearly You is celebrating 10 years of business
with an **OPEN HOUSE!**
Join us on Wednesday, June 27th from 6-9pm

Ladies: Pamper yourself this Wednesday at our Open House

Bring a friend and enjoy chair massage, express facials and palm readings for \$10-\$25. The event is free to attend, visit various vendors for "retail therapy".

Raffle prizes - proceeds to benefit Great Lakes Rabbit Sanctuary, refreshments and more. Teens welcome!
The first 40 guests will receive goodie bags.

Clearly You

Professional Skin Care Center

44633 Joy Road, Suite 100 • Canton, MI 48187
(734) 453-7475

www.clearlyyouonline.com • clearlyu@aol.com

Practical Luxury

SHARER

DESIGN GROUP, LLC

sharerdesigngroup.com

975 W. ANN ARBOR TRAIL, PLYMOUTH, MI | 734-582-9660

EXPERT HEATING & COOLING

7320 N. Haggerty Rd.
Canton, MI
734-459-3971

Don't Loose Your Cool

Be prepared for the hot summer.
Call us today to schedule an appointment!

\$89

A/C Maintenance

\$99 VALUE

FREE ESTIMATES!

EXPERT HEATING & COOLING 734-459-3971

\$1,250 OFF

ON NEW INFINITY FURNACE & A/C INSTALLATION

Must present coupon at time of service. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

COUPON

EXPERT HEATING & COOLING 734-459-3971

\$25 OFF

SERVICE REPAIR

Must present coupon at time of service. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

COUPON

turn to the experts

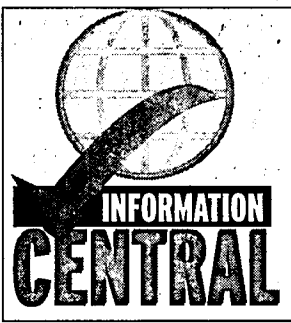
www.expertheatcool.com

Behind your favorite foods

Can you be counted on to bring paper plates and plastic ware to family get-togethers? Do you cringe when asked your opinion about selecting hors d'oeuvres to be served at a special luncheon? Does scanning through recipe books bore you? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions maybe your interest lies in the history of specific foods and the feelings they invoke rather than the recipes. Whether it is spices, fruits, meats, or indulgences like chocolate and wine, all food has a story to tell.

Throughout history food has impacted the cultural, environmental, social and economic landscape of the world. Wars have been fought over food. So it's no surprise that people find themselves drawn to the stories that surround food.

However, before exploring individual foods and their place in history, it's worth tracking information behind the woman who best exemplifies food to generations of Americans, Betty Crocker. Susan Marks' Finding Betty Crocker: the secret life of America's first lady of food, traces the history of this most recognizable figure and sheds light on those questions that often puzzle us such as, who is responsible for



Betty Crocker's signature, how many faces of Betty Crocker exist and what makes chiffon cake "the 1st really new cake in 100 years"?

When exploring the real story behind the food we eat today, what better place to start than with pizza? A look into the origin of the pizza originated in Naples, Italy during the 19th century is overshadowed by the evidence of the "pizza" of the ancient Greeks, Egyptians, and Roman. For those interested exploring even earlier records of "pizza", archaeologists have confirmed that "Neolithic tribes cooked batter on hot stones." This information and more about pizza can be found in Carol Helstosk's, *Pizza: a global history*.

Sushi anyone? Trevor Corson's, *The Zen of Fish: the story of sushi, from samurai to supermarket* explores yet another popular food choice by tracking its provocative cul-

tural history. The Secret Life of Lobsters is another memorable book by Corson worth picking up.

Delving into the world of peppers: chile species; origin, terminology, cuisines and agriculture, medicinal uses and chile folklore is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of what you can expect to find in Dave DeWitt's, *Chile Pepper Encyclopedia: everything you'll ever need to know about hot peppers, with more than 100 recipes*.

Exploring the history of rice is not complete without the mention of rice empires, the feminine rice spirit and rice rituals. These topics along with information regarding the influence of rice on governments and industries are highlighted in Sri Owen's, *The Rice Book: the definitive book on the magic of rice, with hundreds of exotic recipes from around the world*.

Perhaps one of the most memorable foods examined in depth in recent years is chocolate. Though chocolate brings to mind a delicious indulgence, several books tackle the blemished history of this sweet treat. Deborah Cadbury's, *Chocolate Wars: the 150-year rivalry between the world's best chocolate makers*; Sophie D. and Michael D. Coe's; *The true history of Choco-*

late and Carol Off's, *Bitter chocolate: the dark side of the world's most seductive sweet, take on chocolate's shocking history*.

Stop by the library if you want to learn more about the foods you love or stop by and pick up Benjamin Wallace's, *The billionaire's vinegar: the mystery of the world's most expensive bottle of wine; it's better than a nightcap*.

You can contact the library by calling (734) 326-6123, stopping by 6123 Central City Parkway, or checking us out online at westlandlibrary.org

—Marilyn Kwik

Highlighted Activities

• **Noontime Book Club**, June 27, Noon, In The Art Student's War, award-winning author Brad Leithauer tells the story of Bianca "Bea" Paradiso, a young artist living in 1943 Detroit. Bea takes a job sketching injured soldiers at a local hospital—a position that opens her eyes to the realities of war and the uncertainties of the times. Eventually, Bea meets two very different men who compete for her affections. All the while, tempers in her house flare as Bea's mother and aunt argue and feud. Lat-

er in her life, Bea reflects on the experiences she had, the people she knew, and the memories she made as a young woman. Copies are available at the Reference Desk.

• **Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club**, June 27, 7 p.m. Join us for a discussion of Joe Haldemann's *Forever War*. The Earth's leaders have drawn a line in the interstellar sand—despite the fact that the fierce alien enemy they would oppose is inscrutable, unconquerable, and very far away. A reluctant conscript drafted into an elite Military unit, Private William Mandella has been propelled through space and time to fight in the distant thousand-year conflict; to perform his duties and do whatever it takes to survive the ordeal and return home. But "home" may be even more terrifying than battle, because, thanks to the time dilation caused by space travel, Mandella is aging months while the Earth he left behind is aging centuries... Copies will be available at the Reference desk a month before the meeting.

• **Healthy Recipe Substitutions**, June 27, 7 p.m. Don't be limited by the offerings of vegan, vegetarian, low-fat or raw cook books. Carolyn Simon, raw food restaurateur, will show us simple ways

you can convert many existing recipes into delicious dishes that fit your dietary desires. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org or call (734) 326-6123 to reserve your seat today!

• **Writers Club**, June 28, 7 p.m. Have you written stories or poems that you would like others to hear, but not critique, in a casual atmosphere? Looking to get back into writing but could some support and/or exercises? Join us as Cheryl Watcher-Martin leads the Westland Library Writer's Club.

• **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 sign-up required.

Healthy Play For Kids!
Great Kickoff To Summer Vacation!
Play Sets From \$749
Trampolines From \$659
Sale Ends 6/30/2012
Backyard AlleyOOP Sports JumpSport
www.DollHospital.com 3947 W. 12 Mile, Berkeley 248-543-3115 Mon-Sat 10-5:30, Thu 10-8:30, Sun12-4
The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop

Specializing in Residential & Commercial Restoration & Custom Brick Work
Dan's Custom Brickwork
882 York St. • Plymouth, MI 48170
Call or Visit our Website
www.dansbrick.com
for a Free Estimate
Chimneys & Porches
Repaired and Rebuilt
Tuck Pointing &
All Other Brick Work
Historical Restoration
1.734.416.5425
Licensed and Insured

Fun is just a bus ride away.
Pontiac • Sterling Heights • Warren • Madison Heights • Fraser
Roseville • St. Clair Shores • Livonia • Westland • Dearborn • Taylor
Southgate • Lincoln Park • Clio • Flint • Burton
MotorCity Casino Hotel
A MILLION MILES AWAY.
RIGHT DOWN THE STREET.
For locations and reservations call
Blue Lake Charters & Tours
866-2-ROLLE (866-276-5536)
MotorCityCasino.com

If you bet more than you can afford to lose, you've got a problem. Call 1-800-270-7117 for free, confidential help.

NORTHVILLE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
(Formerly Millstream Animal Clinic)
Medical • Surgical • Dental • Orthopedics
Completely Renovated
Full Service Pet Hospital
State of the Art Facility
Grooming • Boarding • Day Care
ONLINE SPECIAL
FREE EXAM
\$30 Value
For coupon go to
www.northvillevets.com
June Specials!
15% Off Any Diagnostic/Medical Services
20% Off Spay/Neuter/Dental/Any Surgery
Discounted Vaccine Packages
16795 Northville Rd. Northville
248.348.2220
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-7, Sat 8-5
We offer Senior & Military Discounts

Home Accents
Categories Listed
DOES NOT INCLUDE SEASONAL
50% OFF
• Mirrors WALL & TABLE
• Lamps, Nite Lights & Lamp Shades
• Ceramic Sale FEATURING TABLE TOP, PLATES, SERVING DISHES, PITCHERS, CUPS, SALT & PEPPER & OTHER CERAMIC DECOR
• Knobs, Drawer Pulls & Handles ALWAYS 50% OFF THE MARKED PRICE
• Pillows, Rugs & Throws
• Decorative Balls
• Framed Art, Canvas Art & Adhesive Vinyl Wall Art
• Bird Houses & Wind Chimes
• Men's Resin & Ceramic Decor
• Candles, Flameless LED Candles, Fragrance Warmers & Diffusers
ITEMS PRICED \$4.99 & UP
DOES NOT INCLUDE TEALIGHTS, VOTIVES, VASES, FRAMES, FRAGRANCE WAX & OILS
• Clocks WALL & TABLE
• Polyresin & Pottery Sale
FEATURING FINIALS, CANDLE HOLDERS, BOXES & BOWLS
INCLUDES FLORAL PLANTERS, VASES & OTHER POLYRESIN & POTTERY DECOR

"THE SPRING SHOP", SUMMER, 4TH OF JULY, FALL & CHRISTMAS ITEMS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN SALE UNLESS SPECIFIED

Home Accents
All Items Labeled
SPRING 50% OFF
• Garden Mobiles
• Garden Wall Decor
• Bird Feeders
• Spring Toys
• Statuary
• Decorative Garden Planters
• Nylon Flags & Wind Socks
• Gazing Balls & More
• Potted Trees & Floor Plants 4ft. - 8ft. Always Marked... 30% OFF
• Flowering & Greenery Bushes
• Stem Flowers
• Stem Naturals
• All 4th of July Seasonal Items
30% OFF
• Decorations
• Party Supplies
• Home Decor
• Crafts & More!
• Select Group of Home Accents
New Marked...
80% OFF
SELECTION WILL VARY BY STORE
• All Items Labeled
SUMMER! 50% OFF
• Summer Crafts
• VBS Crafts
• All Foam Products
30% OFF
• Artiste Cotton Floss & Craft Thread Packs
30% OFF
• "Anology" Knit & Crochet Tools & Notions
25% OFF
• I Love This Cotton!
2.66 3.85 OZ.
• All 2 oz. Acrylic Paint
FEATURING AMERICAN CERAMICART, FOLK ART & ANIAS
30% OFF
• Children's Activity Kits, Paint & Pencil by Number Kits & Fuzzy Posters
ITEMS PRICED \$4.99 & UP
• Mosaic Tile, Gems, Chips & Stones
• T-Shirts
YOUTH XS-L & ADULT S-3X
INCLUDES ADULT LONG SLEEVED T-SHIRTS & HOODED SWEATSHIRTS
• Rubber Stamps & Sets
INCLUDES CLEAR & CLING STAMPS
OVER 900 TO CHOOSE FROM
40% OFF
• Scrapbook Ribbon & Fibers
by the Paper Studio*, includes Ribbon Trends*
NEARLY 300 STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM
• Scrapbook Papers
Packs, Pads & Single Sheets
OVER 1400 TO CHOOSE FROM
DOES NOT INCLUDE PAGE KITS & ART DEPARTMENT
• Punches & Punch Sets
40% OFF
• Stickers by the Paper Studio*
CHOOSE FROM NEARLY 1000 STICKERABLES*, ALBERT, CALISTOCK, STICKER PRICES &
DOES NOT INCLUDE 3D EMBELLISHMENT STICKERS
• 32x40 Matboards
48 COLORS
• Art Pencils & Pencil Sets
ITEMS PRICED \$9.99 & UP
• Promotional 2 Pack Canvas
8x10 11x14 16x20
3.99 5.99 7.99
• Home Decor Fabric
CHOOSE FROM PRINTS, SOLIDS & SHEERS
ALWAYS
30% OFF
THE MARKED PRICE
• Home Decor & Apparel Trim By The Yard
30% OFF
• Fashion Fabric
• Calico Prints & Solids
INCLUDES APPAREL PRINTS
ALWAYS
30% OFF
THE MARKED PRICE
• Warm & Natural or Warm & White
Batting
by Warm Products
8.99 ym.
• Broadcloth & Batiste
ASSORTED COLORS
45" WIDE
POLY/COTTON
2.99 ym.
• Fleece
CHOOSE FROM PRINTS, SOLIDS, MICROFIBER & NO SEW
FLEECE KITS
ALWAYS
30% OFF
THE MARKED PRICE
HOBBY LOBBY
STORE HOURS: 9-8 MONDAY-SATURDAY • CLOSED SUNDAY
Canton
Ford Road at Lilley, west of Ikea
734-983-9142
www.hobbylobby.com
mobile.hobbylobby.com
FOLLOW US ON: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram
PRICES GOOD IN STORES ONLY FROM 9:00 AM THROUGH 11:00 PM. SALES SUBJECT TO SUPPLY IN STOCK. SELECTION MAY VARY BY STORE. THIS AD DOES NOT APPLY TO PRE-REDUCED ITEMS.
COUPON FOR STORE OR ONLINE USE
40% OFF
One Regular Price Item
Valid through June 26, 2012
Offer may be used for any one item of regular price only. A single dollar off item to the total purchase amount. Must present original coupon to the cashier at the time of purchase. Offer not valid with any other coupons, discounts or previous purchases. Excludes certain brands and items. Some items may be excluded. Offer good in participating stores only. *Special orders, orders in excess of \$100, and items in the Clearance, Sale, and Buy One Get One sections are excluded. ©2012 Hobby Lobby, Inc. Coupon Value 11/22

Area swimmer heads to Olympic trials

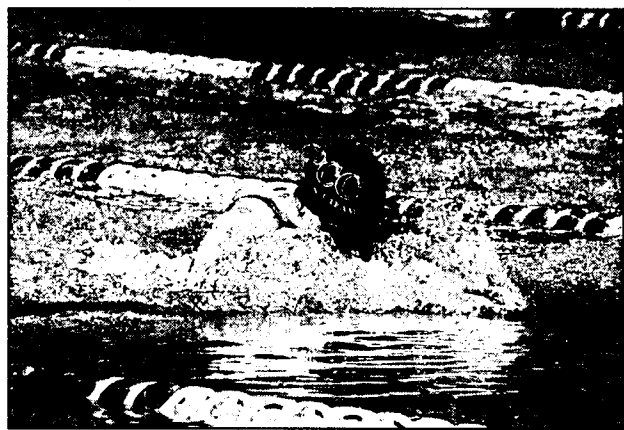
By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Miranda Tucker has always dreamed of being an Olympic swimmer. This week, the Plymouth-Canton Cruiser will find out whether she gets the chance to reach that dream.

Tucker, a Plymouth resident and the daughter of Jay and Diane Tucker, is in Omaha, Neb., this week, where she will swim both the 100- and 200-meter breast stroke events at the Olympic trials.

Finish in the top two, she heads to the Olympics. If not, she comes home.

"I've always dreamed of it, and when I made it my goal the past year, I was really happy," said Tucker, who qualified for the trials at a meet at Oakland University last



Plymouth-Canton Cruiser Miranda Tucker qualified for the first time for the Olympic swimming trials. She's in Omaha, Neb., this week to swim the 100- and 200-meter breast stroke.

weekend. "I was ecstatic when I found out I got my cuts."

Tucker swims in preliminary events starting Tuesday. She isn't sure, but figures "maybe 150" other swimmers will be there. She's got to finish in the top 16 to reach the

semifinals, and then the best eight of those reach the finals.

The top two go on to become members of the Olympic team.

Diane Tucker won't be surprised if her daughter is one of them.

"She has worked real-



Miranda Tucker (center) with Plymouth-Canton Cruisers coaches Josh and Z Morgan.

ly hard to earn this, and she deserves it," Diane Tucker said. "She's done everything possible to make this dream happen for herself. I'm extremely proud and happy for her."

"Everything possible" includes twice-daily training, including getting up often at 4 a.m. She does dry-land training at Barwis Methods — "It helps

me with my strength and balance," she said — and avoids junk food.

Tucker qualified for the trip to Omaha by swimming the 100 breast stroke in 1:11.75 (qualifying time is 1:12.19), and clocked a 2:35.0 in the 200 breast stroke (qualifying time is 2:35.99).

"I was pretty surprised to see my times, and to

see how much I beat (qualifying times) by," she said.

No one else on the Cruisers qualified, but Tucker said there are "a couple" of Michigan swimmers going. Since there's no telling what kind of times she'll need to qualify, Tucker is just concentrating on taking it all in and doing the best she can.

"I just want to go for the experience and see how I do," said Tucker, who qualified for the trials at a meet at Oakland University last weekend. "You never know what's going to happen. The Olympic trials is one of those meets where you can go your exact time, and go up 50 places or down 50 places in the rankings."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

New artists highlight summer jazz series

The Canton Downtown Development Authority, in cooperation with Canton Leisure Services and the Canton Chamber of Commerce, presents the seventh season of the popular Canton Color Tour Summer Jazz Series.

This eight-week summer jazz concert series will be held 7-9 p.m. Fridays, July 6 through Aug. 24.

These free concerts take place in the parking lots of various shopping centers located in the color blocks on Ford Road in Canton. To find the locations, just look for the colored banners on the decorative street lamps on Canton's Ford Road. The banners are color coded

by blocks and numbered.

"Over 500 people come out each Friday of the series to enjoy great live music," said Kathleen Salla, Canton Downtown Development coordinator. "Since the Canton Live! Stage moves each week to a new location, the concerts help introduce concert-goers to the wide variety of shopping and restaurants located along Canton's Ford Road."

Each week, a commemorative gift is offered to the first 25 people who turn in receipts for a minimum of \$25 from a Canton merchant. Plus, be sure to look for the Shop Canton bags containing coupons and special offers at the Shop Canton

Gazebo each week at the Jazz Concert.

Additionally, many restaurants offer carry-out specials so you can grab dinner and enjoy the concert.

"The Canton Color Tour Summer Jazz Series is the perfect end to a work week," said Mark Waldbauer, vice chair of the Canton DDA. "Bring a comfortable chair and a carry-out meal and enjoy two hours of unbeatable relaxing entertainment. We have assembled eight individual concerts each containing high caliber talent and each with an individual flair within the Jazz idiom. People will not want to miss a single event this year."

Four new artists are included on the schedule this year. This year's artists include:

- July 6 — Penny Wells, New Towne Plaza at Kohl's, located in the Purple Block at Ford and Sheldon.

- July 13 — Nate Harasim, Sam's Club, located in the Orange Block at Ford and Lotz.

- July 20 — Alexander Zonjic, Centre Village at Kroger, located in the Yellow Block at Ford and Canton Center.

- July 27 — Demetrius "Krayon" Nabors, Lowe's, located in the Green Block on Ford between Sheldon and Morton Taylor.

- Aug. 3 — John E. Law-



Alexander Zonjic plays July 20 at Centre Village at Kroger as part of the Canton summer jazz series.

rence, Willow Creek Shopping Center, located in the Blue Block on Ford between Lilley and Haggerty.

- Aug. 10 — Kimmie Horne, Super Bowl, located in the Purple Block on Ford Road between Can-

ton Center and Sheldon.

- Aug. 17 — Randy Scott, IKEA, located in the Blue Block at Ford and Haggerty.

- Aug. 24 — Lin Rountree, Home Depot, located in the Orange Block at Ford and Lotz.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!



...and here's our GIFT to advertisers!

We are offering a special advertising rate for our July Hometown Life Inspire. You'll save BIG as Santa himself, and reach over 125,000 readers when you purchase a full or half page ad in our July Hometown Life Inspire.

Unique Feature...

Included in this section will be a readership contest. Readers will be encouraged to look throughout the section for a special Christmas logo to enter to win prizes. This will entice more interaction from readers and increase readership of your ad!

Rates & Dates:

Page Size	Complete Full Run
Full Page 10.25" (w) x 10" (h)	\$419
Half Page Vertical 5" (w) x 10" (h)	\$289
Half Page Horizontal 10.25" (w) x 4.88" (h)	\$289

Full color and online included in all rates!

Deadline:
Space Reservation and Ad Copy
5 p.m. Friday, June 29, 2012

Publication Dates

Observers & Hometown: Thursday, July 19, 2012 | Eccentrics: Sunday, July 22, 2012

To advertise please contact: **Lisa Dranginis** at (248) 437-2011 Ext 238
Frank Cibor at (734) -582-8361

Reach Over 125,000 Readers!

All prices INCLUDE FULL COLOR

OUTSTANDING VALUE!

hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
A GANNETT COMPANY

GM pension offer requires careful consideration

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I read a couple of articles that you've written about the General Motors buyout. I also went to the General Motors seminar and I'm still confused. I am a widower and between my deceased spouse's pension and my Social Security, it more than covers my living expenses. I haven't been using the money I receive from my GM pension. I have been putting the money in the bank and getting a nothing rate of return. From your previous article it would appear that you would be in favor of me taking the lump sum. The one thing that is holding me back is my family has a long life expectancy. My parents both lived into their late 90s and I know that when General Motors did its calculation it based it upon a shorter life expectancy. Do you think the fact that my family has a long life expectancy should cause me to take the pension?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

A: What's nice is that you are in excellent financial shape and no matter what decision you make, you'll be in good shape. The fact that at the present time you don't need the General Motors pension, and are saving that money, shows that no matter what decision you make you will not have any financial issues down the road. However, even though your family does have a long life expectancy, I still like the idea of you taking the lump sum.

I recognize that when GM did the calculations, the company factored a much lower life expectancy than your family's history. However, one thing to keep in mind is that there is no inflationary adjustment in these pensions. In other words, whatever amount you receive you'll be receiving that for the rest of your life. Therefore, the pension today that looks like a lot of money will not be that much 10-20 years down the road. The fact that you are saving the money and that you can let the money grow tax-deferred until you are required to withdraw it leads me to favor taking the lump-sum option.

One key ingredient that people need to factor into the equation is the fact that if you do take the lump-sum distribution, that money will be directly transferred into an IRA. That is not a taxable event. You can allow that money to grow tax-deferred until you are required to start withdrawing at 70½. When you receive your monthly pension, that money is subject to current income taxes. Therefore, since you do not need the money from the General Motors pension, and you can afford to let it grow tax-deferred, it will provide you with some additional savings.

You may also want to consider investing the money differently than just putting it into the bank. We all know the low rates of return banks are paying and that doesn't appear to be changing anytime soon. Although you consider yourself a conservative investor, that doesn't mean that

you should not have some stock mutual funds in your portfolio.

Most people think that when you add stocks into the portfolio it automatically makes the portfolio more aggressive; that is not the case. In fact, what it does is manage your risk more. After all, money in the bank that is hardly getting any return has purchasing power risk, something that I've addressed many times in the past. Remember, our costs go up much more than the stated inflation rate.

Based upon all the factors in your particular case, I recommend that you take the lump-sum distribution. It will allow you to have more money down the road and that may allow you to do different things and have more options. Whether you take the buyout from Ford or General Motors, it is one of the most important financial decisions you can make. In other to help you make the right decision, the *Observer & Eccentric* and I are sponsoring a free educational seminar on the buyouts. This seminar will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday, July 12, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. For more information, you can either contact my office at (248) 932-5200 or email to seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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.

Always community.



Always here.



In your corner, around the corner.

When a nearly 100-year-old paper mill faced closure, they turned to mBank to restore financial stability. mBank's innovative and decisive actions saved not just a company but over 100 jobs in a local up north community. What can the power of mBank do for your business?

Birmingham 260 E. Brown St. | 248.290.5900

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender.

OE08779490

Quick Lane
TIRE & AUTO CENTER

Dealership Quality at Aftermarket Prices

GOODYEAR Continental TIRE FIRESTONE HANKOOK DUNLOP YOKOHAMA

Why go anywhere else for tires?

JUNE TIRE EVENT

Low Price Tire Guarantee
on all name-brand tires we sell.

Get up to **\$100****

Buy 4 tires and receive up to \$100 Owner Advantage Rewards. See dealer for details.

*Requires presentation of competitor's current price ad on exact tire sold by dealership within 30 days after purchase. See Service Advisor for details through 12/31/12.
**Quick Lane-installed retail tire purchase only, limit one per customer. Purchase tires between 6/1/12 and 6/30/12.
†Subject to credit card approval. Complete purchase must be made on Quick Lane Credit Card. On qualifying purchase of \$250 or more, before tax.

Use our **FREE Wi-Fi** to check out the competitor's price right here at **Quick Lane**

The Works.
An Oil Change **\$39.95** and Much More.

No Appointment Necessary
Oil Change • Tire Rotation
Brake Inspection • Filter Check
Multi-Point Inspection • Fluid Top-Off
Battery Test • Belts & Hoses Check

Up to five quarts of Motorcraft® Premium Synthetic Blend oil and Motorcraft® oil filter. Taxes, diesel vehicles and disposal fees extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. See Service Advisor for vehicle exclusions and details. Offer valid with coupon. Expires 6-30-12.

Motorcraft® Complete Brake Service. \$179.95

Brake Pads or Shoes
Machining Rotors or Drums
Labor Included

Per axle price on most cars and light trucks. Taxes extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. See Service Advisor for vehicle exclusions and details. Offer valid with coupon. Expires 6-30-12.

- We service all makes and models.
- Our technicians are factory-trained and use Motorcraft® parts.
- Service while you wait and no appointment necessary.
- Quick Lane® offers evening and weekend hours.

Quick Lane at Bill Brown Ford
TIRE & AUTO CENTER

32230 Plymouth Road
Livonia, Michigan 48150
734.744.0400
www.quicklanelivonia.com

Quick Lane Hours:
Mon-Fri 7am-7pm; Sat 8am-5pm

Motorcraft® Tested Tough® MAX Batteries \$109.95

Starting at **\$109.95**
With 100-month warranty.

With exchange. Taxes and installation extra. Warranty includes FREE towing on Dealer-installed battery. See Service Advisor for vehicle applications and limited-warranty details. Offer valid with coupon. Expires 6/30/12.

A/C Performance Check \$25

Most Cars and Light Trucks

*Available on most cars and trucks. Valid only at Quick Lane. May not be combined with any other offer. Please present coupon when service order is written. Taxes extra. Air condition performance check includes visual inspection of cooling/heating system, AC discharge temperature and air filter. Does not include refrigerant. See participating Quick Lane for details through 6/30/12.

Life is better in the Quick Lane®

quicklane.com

Quick Lane and Motorcraft® are registered trademarks of Ford Motor Company

Safety tips shared on trails at Walk with a Doc event



Judy and Richard Merrell attended the Walk with the Doc program at the Heritage Park.



The nature trails were filled Thursday with participants in the Walk with a Doc program.

PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Injury prevention and pedestrian safety were the topics of the monthly Walk with a Doc program, held Thursday at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

Special guests Rhonda Thompson, EMT, R.N. trauma injury and outreach coordinator, and Farmington Hills Fire Department Lt. Denny Hughes were on hand to offer tips on how to stay safe.

A group, led by Farmington Hills Nature Center staff, walked the nature trails at Heritage Park as the experts shared advice and answered questions.

The Walk with a Doc program happens every month, and is a partnership between the city of Farmington Hills, the Nature Center and Botsford Hospital. Participants in this free program can discuss health and wellness topics with a medical professional at the Nature Center, then head out for a casual walk on the trails to experience the healing powers of nature.

Join these upcoming Walk with a Doc events:

- Stress Management — July 19
- Healthy Feet — Aug. 23
- Memory Loss and



Botsford nurse Rhonda Thompson and FHF D Lt. Denny Hughes walked and talked with participants in Thursday's Walk with a Doc program at Heritage Park.



Naomie Edwards keeps cool in the shade during the walk.

Dementia — Sept. 20
Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required for the walks. Please dress for the weather, as the walking

portion is held outdoors. Walk with a Doc events meet at the Farmington Hills Nature Center at 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11

Mile. Call the Nature Center at (248) 477-1135 or visit www.walkwithadoc.org for more information. Register for Walk with a Doc and other Nature Center programs at <https://recreg.fhgov.com>.

DICK SCOTT CHRYSLER • DODGE • JEEP • RAM

TENT EVENT

Chance to WIN \$1,000 GAS CARD
With Car Purchase

FREE WITH EVERY TEST DRIVE

A Collectible Aerial Poster of Tiger's Final Game on September 27, 1999 by Rick Dinoian

Dick Scott

Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram

<p>2012 CHRYSLER 200 LIMITED STK# C122154</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,334</p> <p>BUY FOR \$181* LEASE \$170* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>	<p>2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING STK# C12T18</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$23,147</p> <p>BUY \$277* LEASE \$212* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>
<p>2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING-L STK# C12T109</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$25,843</p> <p>BUY FOR \$226* LEASE \$261* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>	<p>2012 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO STK# J12GC121</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$25,584</p> <p>BUY FOR \$312* LEASE \$288* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>
<p>2012 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4 STK# J12L099</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,808</p> <p>BUY \$202* LEASE \$172* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>	<p>2012 RAM 1500 4X4 ST CREW CAB STK# R127078</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$24,813</p> <p>BUY \$299* LEASE \$114* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>
<p>2012 DODGE JOURNEY SXT STK# D12J095</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,651</p> <p>BUY \$185* LEASE \$140* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>	<p>2012 DODGE CHARGER R/T STK# D124083</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$24,943</p> <p>BUY \$299* LEASE \$234* /Mo. 24 Mos.</p>

MORE GREAT GRAND OPENING DEALS!

Dick Scott Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram

We Service All Makes & Models

684 W. Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170

Open Mon. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Tues. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Wed. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

1-877-350-4633 • www.DickScott.com

DICK SCOTT CHRYSLER • DODGE • JEEP • RAM

Gary is 40 years old, but running marathons makes him feel like he's still 20.

Do you know what makes Gary go?

(We do.)

With our audience expertise and targeting, we can help your business reach more Men like Gary. Find out how the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspaper Group's solutions — enhanced by partnerships with companies like Yahoo! — make us the local leader in digital marketing.

Call Observer & Eccentric at 734-582-8363 and Hometown Weeklies at 248-437-2011

Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS WEEKLIES
www.hometownlife.com

In partnership with

YAHOO!

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Summer tutoring

Parents have until Friday, June 29, to sign their children up for a summer math and reading tutoring program being offered by the Garden City Public Schools.

The tutoring for kindergartners through eighth-graders will be done by certified teachers the weeks of July 8-11, 15-18, 22-25, July 29-Aug. 1, Aug. 5-8, 12-15 and 19-22. Instruction will be in small groups - two-three children in the same grade level - and available between 9 a.m. and noon and 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. The cost will be \$12 for each 45-minute session and a minimum of two days per week per subject is require.

The tutoring will be done at the Lathers Early Childhood Center at 28351 Marquette. For more information about registering, call Suzanne March at (734) 762-8490.

Fall Kick-Off

Save the date - Saturday, Aug. 25.

That's when Garden City High School will host a Community Fall Kick-off, showcasing its activities, clubs and sports in a spirited fun family atmosphere. Aspiring athletes will have a chance to meet the high school athletic teams and coaches and find out about the Student Council, Key Club, National Honor Society, DECA, PTSA, band and JROTC.

The kick-off will be held 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the high school parking lot at 6400 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road.

Park and Read

Stop by the Garden City Library at the Maplewood Center for popular Park and Read program, sponsored by

the Department of Natural Resources and the Library of Michigan.

The program, now in its fourth year, offers library card-holders the option of checking out a one-day pass that waives the Recreation Passport entry fee into any of Michigan's 101 state parks and recreation areas.

The one-day pass, a \$10 savings, also provides free, one-time access to any of the more than 500 events scheduled to take place within the state parks throughout the summer. Passes are valid for seven days from checkout and are good for day use only. Park & Read runs now through Oct. 1.

The Park & Read pass is also valid at any of the 11 museums or historic sites within the Michigan Historical Museum system.

East reunion

The Garden City East High School reunion of the classes of 1968 through 1973 will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Sept. 22, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, west of Inkster Road, Livonia.

Tickets cost \$60 per person and include appetizers, dinner buffet, open bar, DJ and dancing, pizza and coffee bar at 11 p.m. and memory book. Only 450 tickets will be sold. The deadline to purchase tickets is Aug. 25. People who reserve tickets will receive a confirmation of payment within 10 days, which will serve as entry to the reunion.

The a link to the reunion information and reservation sheet can be found on the Garden City (East) High School reunion page on Facebook. Checks should be made payable to Class

Reunion 68-73 GC East.

Graduates from 1968 and 1971 can send their reservations to Pat Lyon Kubert, 6907 Kings Mill Dr., Canton, MI 48187.

Graduates from 1972 and 1973 can send their checks to Sue Cook Tasselmyer, 11901 Algonquin Dr., Pinckney, MI 48169.

Graduates from 1969 and 1970 can save a spot through Debi Cassidy Haller, 2108 Copley Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Community Chat

Join your host Kerry Partin along with Kelly and her real estate tips and tricks, Doppler Tom's weather, Derek with sports and much more every Thursday night at 9 p.m. This is an internet talk show recorded live where the residents and surrounding communities are welcome to participate. Share your events, promotions or comments with your fellow residents and the communities.

Listeners can call in live at (724)444-7444 and enter the call ID 82757, or go to the chat room at <http://talkshoe.com/tc/82757>.

Glass Slipper

Operation Glass Slipper is looking for donations to help girls in need attend the prom.

The group is currently accepting dresses, accessories (shoes, purses, jewelry, etc.) and any monetary donations. Donations can be dropped off 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday at Henry Ruff School, 30300 Maplewood at Henry Ruff.

For more information, contact Dee Lilla at dee-lilla@yahoo.com or at (313) 999-7769 or Michele Bosen at kmmmbosen@aol.com or at (734) 578-7563.



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Riley Porter enjoys a hot dog during the summer book swap at the Bailey Recreation Center.

Kids get a boost on summer reading

Free books and hot dogs — a great start to summer combination for local youngsters recently at the Bailey Center.

Local authors Nick Rokicki and Joe Kelley hosted the book swap to provide children with a chance collect some gently used books to sharpen their reading skills all summer long.

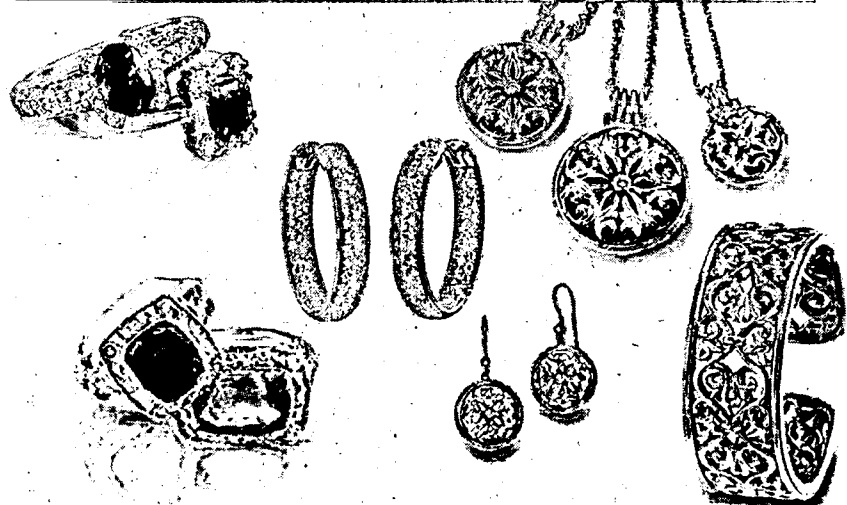
Hot dogs and other refreshments were provided to youngsters and adults who turned out for the book swap. The authors had obtained a large number of surplus books from an elementary school that was closing.

Authors of *Pete the Popcorn*, Rokicki and Kelley used the book swap as an opportunity to reveal their latest book, *Clipper the Comet*, which has an appropriately automotive theme.



Shelby Garee picked out a book about the human body during the summer book swap at the Bailey Center.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com



SIZZLING SUMMER SALE!

This is the sale you've been waiting for!
3rd Annual Summer Sale

6 Days Only

Monday, June 25th thru Saturday, June 30th

25% Off All Fine Jewelry

Limit one item. Some exclusions apply. See store for more details.



MASTERCRAFT JEWELERS

37643 Six Mile Road Livonia, MI • 734-464-3555
Across from Laurel Park Place-1/4 Mile East of I-275

Hours: Monday -Wednesday 10-6, Thursday 10-8 Friday, Saturday 10-6

The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers

in partnership with the

Plymouth Downtown Merchants, The Wilcox Foundation

and

Grand Traverse Pie Company

presents

AN AMERICAN SALUTE

featuring

The Michigan Philharmonic,
conducted by Nan Washburn

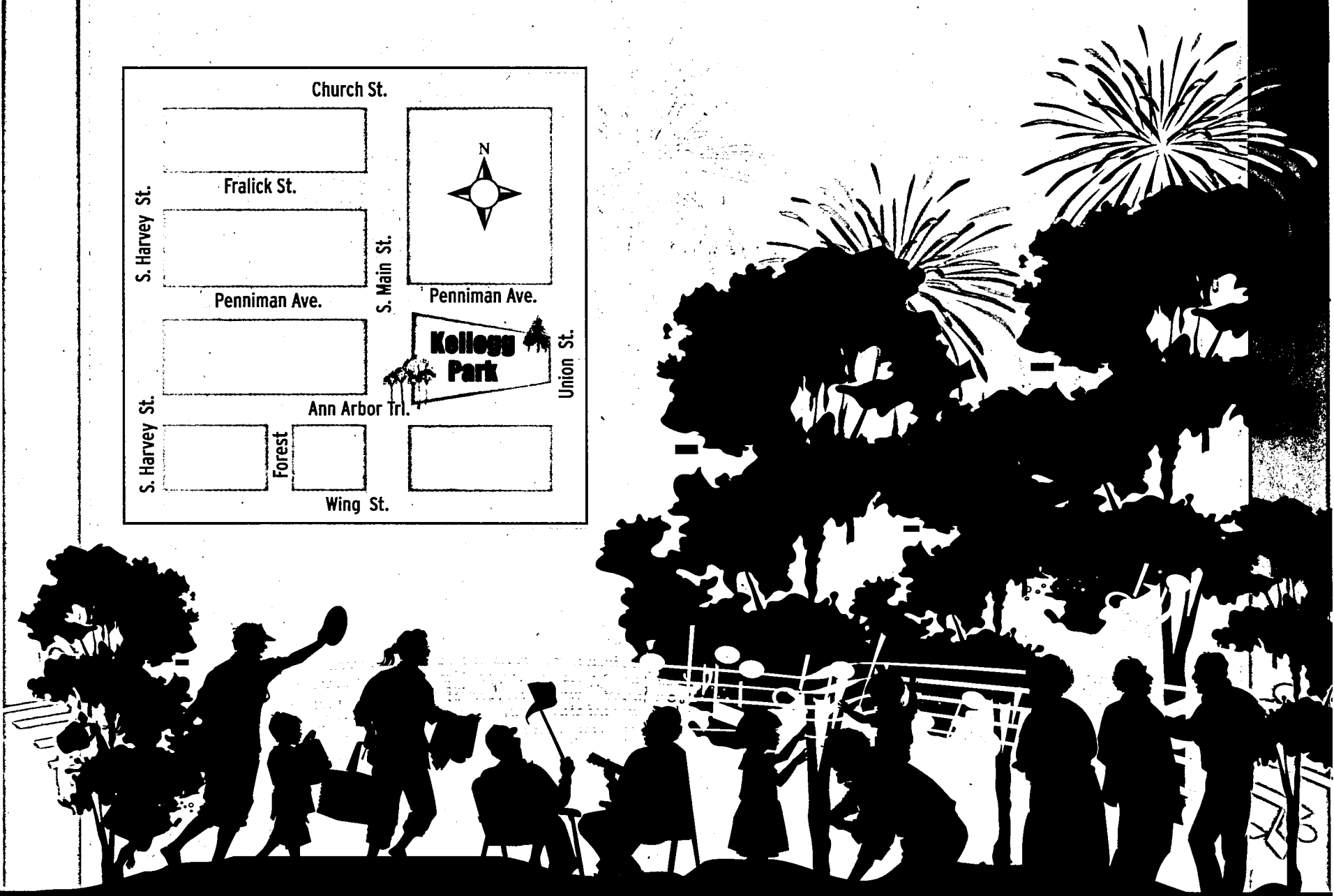
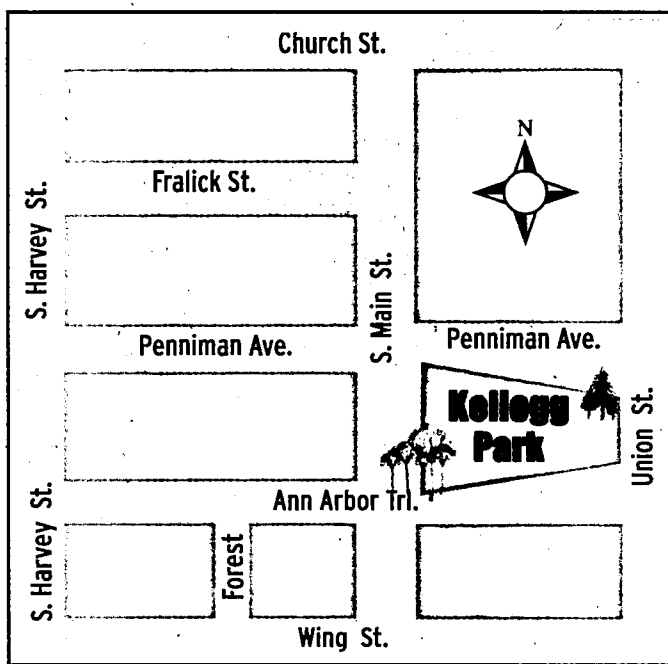
7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 30

Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

This fun, family-friendly concert showcases popular American composers and will conclude with the traditional classic, Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

**Concert is FREE in Kellogg Park,
downtown Plymouth!**

Bring a blanket or lawn chair to beautiful downtown Plymouth and enjoy this not-to-be-missed concert in celebration of our nation's birthday.



hometownlife.com
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN
WEEKLIES
 A GANNETT COMPANY

The Wilcox Foundation
 Benefiting the Plymouth Community
 Established 1980
 www.wilcoxfoundation.com

Downtown PLYMOUTH
 1st Step a Walk in the Park

PIE COMPANY
 BAKERY CAFE

P-CEP stars set to shine at Comerica

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The bright lights of Comerica Park will shine down Tuesday night on 36 of Michigan's best young baseball players.

That big-league environment awaits top high school seniors who just graduated in the annual Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association's East-West All-Star Game.

Local products amped up for the opportunity (7 p.m. Tuesday) include catcher Rich Guglielmi and third baseman-pitcher Ryan Bazner — recent grads of Plymouth and Canton, respectively. Both will suit up for the East team.



Guglielmi



Bazner

Other area players in the game include: West players Zach Leimbach (Walled Lake Central), Logan Regnier (Novi), Matt Stojkov (Northville); East players John Balicki (Birmingham Groves), Gabe Bertram (Bloomfield Hills Andover), Tommy Eng (Troy Athens)

and Randy Kuzdak (Dearborn Divine Child).

"Everyone I have talked to that has been involved in the MHSBCA All-Star Game have said it is an experience of a lifetime," Guglielmi said. "I am really looking forward to the opportunity to meet some new ballplayers, coaches and other people over the two-day event."

"Being able to step in the same batter's box (used by) Miguel Cabrera is a nice perk too."

Festivities actually begin with Monday night's MHSBCA Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremony at Zuccaro's Country House in Chesterfield Township.

Among six to be inducted is longtime Salem varsity baseball

coach Dale Rumberger. That program begins at 6:30 p.m.

A lofty honor

According to Plymouth head coach Bryan Boyd, each coach belonging to the association can nominate one senior for the all-star game.

Coaches then select from the pool of candidates, representing all four divisions.

"A nomination to participate in the all-star game is one of the highest honors a coach can give to a player," Boyd said. "This nomination not only represents talent and success on the diamond, but also the hard work

Please see **COMERICA, B2**

Bucks set 2 team records

Tommy Catalano had a goal and three assists as the Michigan Bucks set two more team records Thursday night with a 5-0 Premier Development League victory over the Cincinnati Kings at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

The win gives the Bucks their best season start in the PDL with an 8-0-1 record (25 points) in the Great Lakes Division of the Central Conference.

It was also their record sixth consecutive shutout.

Other Bucks goal scorers included Justin Sass, Kevin Cope (Salem/Michigan State), Nermin Crnkic and Nate Boyden.

Goalkeeper Sean Teepen recorded his third shutout in five starts.

"We have had some great teams here and some incredible runs, but we have never started a season undefeated after nine games so that is something these guys should all be very proud of," said Bucks team owner and Livonia native Dan Duggan. "I reminded them all that they don't hand out trophies in June. We have a ton of work to do in the next six weeks to achieve all of our team goals for the season."

The first-place Bucks begin a three-match road trip with a 7:30 p.m. start Tuesday in Chicago against the host Fire at Toyota Park.



Caroline Arakelian, who recently graduated from Livonia Stevenson High, will compete in the 200 individual medley on Wednesday and the 200 backstroke on Saturday at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb.

SPEEDY SIBLINGS

Livonia's Arakelians stroke toward Olympic berths



The Livonia brother and sister combination of Nick and Caroline Arakelian, who will compete in this week's U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials, stand tall nationally among age-group swimmers.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It might be a bit premature to compare themselves with the Michael Phelps, Ryan Lochtes, Natalie Coughlins and Allison Schmitts of the swim world, but Caroline and Nick Arakelian could be names to remember in the future.

The sister and brother duo from Livonia have already established themselves as two of the top age-group swimmers nationally and are just getting their feet wet when it comes to going head-to-head against some of the world's best.

Caroline, 17, who recently graduated from Stevenson High and is headed on a full-ride scholarship to Queens University (Charlotte, N.C.), will compete this week in the U.S. Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb.

Meanwhile, 16-year-old Nick, who just completed his sophomore year at Stevenson, has also qualified in two events and has long-range aspirations as well.

Caroline earned a spot in the 200-meter backstroke where she is seeded 55th with an entry time of 2:15.73. She also will compete in the 200 individual medley where she ranks 85th with a clocking of 2:18.68.

"I think personally to drop time would be a big achievement, maybe even a semifinal (heat) would be nice," said Caroline, who trains under coach Brad Brockway at Kingfish Aquatic Club in Waterford. "I'm feeling really good in the water right now, I'm hitting all my times and my coach is happy. The 200 backstroke is my higher ranking and

Please see **SWIMMERS, B3**

In the Cards

Ex-Falcon Mitchem signs with St. Louis

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Any disappointment Burny Mitchem felt at not being drafted by a Major League baseball team quickly disappeared when he got a call from the St. Louis Cardinals.

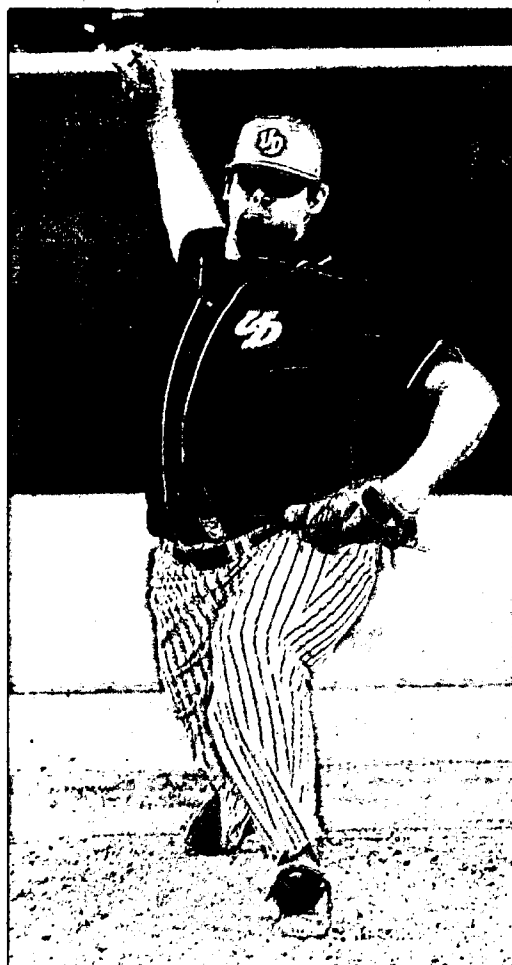
The right-handed pitcher from Farmington and the University of Dayton signed a free-agent contract with the National League ball club just over a week ago.

"I did (expect to be drafted), but it's just one of those things," Mitchem said. "Getting into the organization is the hardest part about pro ball."

"Getting that call on the day I got picked up was just like being drafted. I'm super excited and pumped to continue playing the game I love."

There were only 40 rounds in the draft — 10 less than past years, which contributed to Mitchem not being drafted. The Cardinals and Texas Rangers had shown the most inter-

Please see **MITCHEM, B2**



JOHN CASTINE

Burny Mitchem pitches against the University of Massachusetts on Senior Day at Dayton. He retired the side in the top of the 10th to finish a shutout relief appearance.

Vardar wins Premier Cup

The Vardar Soccer Club will represent the U.S. in the 2012 World Final of the Manchester United Premier Cup, July 20-23, in Shanghai, China, after going 6-0-1 in the MUPC qualifier, May 26-28, in Beaverton, Ore.

Jimmy Todd (Clarkston) tallied the game-winning goal in the 1-0 championship victory over Real So Cal.

Vardar, coached by Morris Lupenec and Eric Pogue, also scored elimination round wins over the Fullerton Rangers, 2-1, on a pair of goals by Golden Boot winner Nash Popovic of Rochester Hills, and the Nomads of Southern California, 2-0, on goals by Livonia's Jake Rosen and Royal Oak's Tommy Dokho.

Other wins came against the San Diego Surf, 2-1 (both goals by Travis Harrington of Macomb Township) and St. Louis Scott-Gallagher, 3-0 (on two goals by Popovic and one by Todd).

Goalkeeper Jake Townsley (Sterling Heights) posted four shutouts and gave up only one goal in five games.



Finance Your Summer Fun!

Our low rate loans can help you save money all summer long!



www.cfcu.org
(877) 937-2328

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL

right here right for you

PLYMOUTH CANTON NORTHVILLE NOVI

*Rate as of 5/30/2012 for secured closed end credit; assuming strong credit history, 10% down and auto pay from Community Financial checking. Subject to credit approval. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. ©2012 Community Financial

All-area netters play sweet string music

FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

Winnie Karoub, Mercy: Karoub compiled a 21-9 record while playing No. 1 singles for the Marlins, who tied for fourth place at the Division 2 state meet. The freshman won the Grand Blanc and Grosse Pointe tournament titles, and she was the Catholic League runner-up. Karoub was a regional finalist and state semifinalist.

"Winnie has great skills and is a tremendous athlete," coach Joe Stafford said, adding Karoub is a national USTA and all-state player. "She won a lot of games for a freshman. She's very, very experienced."

"Winnie is committed to taking her game to the next level. She's going to be a force to be reckoned with when we move up to Division 1 next year."

Aimee Moccia, Stevenson: The sophomore finished with a 24-7 record and earned her first state qualifying berth while reaching the round of 16 after finishing runner-up in the Division 1 regional.

The first-team all-stater was also runner-up in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association 'A' tournament and was the outstanding player at the Public Schools of Livonia Invitational. She also took Howell Invitational title and placed third in the highly competitive Grosse Pointe South Invitational.

"Aimee has been a pleasure to coach in her second year at Stevenson," coach Don McCathney said of his No. 1 singles player. "For a young player, she has an outstanding skill set, which gives her great potential in the next two years. She is very focused and motivated to improve and become the best player she can, which includes fitness, diet and private instruction."

Erica Ley, Ladywood: The senior captain finished with a 16-6 record at No. 1 singles including first-place finishes at the Howell Quad and Monroe Classic.

Ley, who plans to attend Michigan State, also took third in the Catholic League and Division 3 regional tournaments.

"Erica was very respected as a great team leader and was very respected in the Catholic League," coach Linda Brennan said.

Akanksha Vaishnav, N. Farmington: Vaishnav played No. 1 singles for the second



Winnie Karoub
Mercy



Aimee Moccia
Stevenson



Erica Ley
Ladywood



Akanksha Vaishnav



Carolyn McCullen
Franklin



Carmen Gaddis
Harrison



Jessie Guindi
Mercy



Margaux Kabodian
Mercy



Anna Hinrichs
Mercy



Christy Snyder
Mercy

2012 ALL-OBSERVER

GIRLS TENNIS

FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

Winnie Karoub, Fr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Aimee Moccia, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Erica Ley, Sr., Livonia Ladywood
Akanksha Vaishnav, Sr., N. Farmington
Carolyn McCullen, Soph., Liv. Franklin
Carmen Gaddis, Jr., Farm. Harrison

FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES

Jessie Guindi, Jr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Margaux Kabodian, Sr., F.H. Mercy
Anna Hinrichs, Jr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Christy Snyder, Soph., F.H. Mercy
Sarah Tobin, Jr., N. Farmington
Maria Vicini, Jr., N. Farmington

SECOND-TEAM SINGLES

Morgan Spencer, Sr., Salem
Ashley Walker, Jr., Salem
Nicole Kruse, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Quincy Banini, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Stephanie Wagner, Jr., Farm. Harrison
Caroline Hay, Soph., Liv. Stevenson

SECOND-TEAM DOUBLES

Laura Williams, Sr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Julie Flanagan, Soph., F.H. Mercy
Kenzie Kettner, Sr., Liv. Ladywood
Jenny Rhodes, Sr., Liv. Ladywood
Lexie Ranski, Sr., Liv. Stevenson
Laura Shureb, Jr., Liv. Stevenson

HONORABLE MENTION

Canton: Maddison Johnson; **Plymouth:** Miranda Cerny, Lindsay Stemberger; **Salem:** Sushmi Diraviam; **Churchill:** Rylie Fallu; **Ladywood:** Mary Beth Ruona, Christina Ilitch; **Stevenson:** Kathryn Malkowski; **Harrison:** Allison Ronan; **Mercy:** Morgan Hellwig, Mackenzie Zierau, Gia Toler, Marisa Jonna, Margaret Reaume; **North Farmington:** Rachel Gringlas, Noelle Visser; **Harrison:** Allison Ronan, Mackenzie Franke; **Garden City:** Vanessa Hardrick, Nhu Do; **Redford Union:** Sarah Walters, Becky Walters; **Redford Thurston:** Jazz Little.

straight year and had a 12-11 record while facing tough competition in the OAA White Division. She was the division runner-up, and her only loss in the OAA White was to Rochester Adams all-stater Halle Hyman.

"Akanksha did a phenomenal job of leading our team at (the first sin-

gles) position while also playing varsity soccer for North Farmington, starting in nearly every game," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "She managed to do all of this and still earn a 4.0 GPA."

Carolyn McCullen, Franklin: The sophomore finished 23-4 overall while earning a trip

to the Division 1 state finals (losing 6-4, 6-4 to Northville's Erin Doud) after capturing the Woodhaven regional title.

McCullen won a total of four tournaments including the KLAA 'B' Tournament title at No. 1 singles.

"She was really peaking at the end of season and was playing her best tennis at 'states,'" coach Rick Clack said of the honorable mention all-stater. "Carolyn has a tremendous arsenal of shots including power on both sides, coupled with the ability to slice effectively. Opponents have a hard time against a player like that."

Carmen Gaddis, Harrison: Gaddis made the all-area first team for the second straight year after posting a 13-5 record at No. 1 singles. She finished third in the OAA White Division tournament and was a Division 2 regional semifinalist. Gaddis had major wins over Groves, Athens and West Bloomfield.

"Every year we've seen improvement," coach Janice Maxey said. "Her game continues to mature. She's very consistent; she sees the court very well. She's able to use a wide repertoire of shots, depending on the situation."

"She still has her senior year to grow, so we're really looking forward to next year. She's extremely focused and works incredibly hard to get better and better."

FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES

Jessie Guindi, Margaux Kabodian, Mercy: Kabodian and Guindi posted a 25-3 record as Mercy's top doubles team. That included wins over the divisions 1 and 4 state champions from Clarkston and Sacred Heart, respectively. The Marlins were Catholic League finalists, regional champions and Division 2 state semifinalists.

"They represent what we want Mercy doubles to be like," Stafford said. "They always play with a lot of energy and heart. I couldn't be more proud of those two. They represent Mercy with class, dignity and honor. They played together; they supported each other and played the right the way."

Anna Hinrichs, Christy Snyder, Mercy: The Marlins were Division 2 state runners-up, finishing the season with a 25-3 record. Hinrichs and Snyder were seeded No. 2 at the state meet and lost to the Grand Rapids Forest Hills North-ern duo in the final, 6-3, 7-5. They won the Catholic League championship and took second place in the regional.

"They had a tremendous year," Stafford said. They were powerful together. Pretty much every coach (whose team opposed Mercy) said: "That's a No. 1 doubles team playing No. 2 without a doubt." Both have big serves and are real athletic. They play very offensive tennis.

"We're so proud of



Sarah Tobin
N. Farmington

them. They fell just short of a state championship. They were close. They want to win it next year. Their resolve is great and they're hungry to win it. We're counting on them big for next year."

Sarah Tobin, Maria Vicini, N. Farmington:

The Raiders had a 17-6 record at the top doubles flight and won the OAA White Division championship. Tobin and Vicini had big wins over Adams, Lahser, Athens and West Bloomfield. They lost a three-set, super tiebreaker to Birmingham Seaholm's all-state team, and they also had two close matches with all-staters Kabodian and Guindi from Mercy.

"Sarah and Maria were a great No. 1 doubles team for North Farmington," Wasielewski said. "They had an outstanding record, and all of their losses were to very good teams. They were consistently an aggressive and dominant team. Their success at No. 1 doubles was definitely a huge asset to the team."

MITCHEM

Continued from page B1

est in him beforehand.

The hard-throwing Mitchem got the call from the Cards on the afternoon of June 15, and he was on a plane at 7:30 the next morning for Jupiter, Fla.

He was expected to make his first mound appearance Saturday for the St. Louis rookie team in the Gulf Coast League.

"We're only three games in; we just started," Mitchem said. "Because I was a college guy, they're trying to give me a little rest. They've been easing us into it. I've just been throwing bullpens and long tosses, getting ready."

Mitchem said the minor league experience has been different than he thought it would be thus far.

"It's going back to the basics of learning the game," he said, adding his team is split evenly between players who speak English and Spanish. "They're treating us well. We're living at a hotel for the summer."

"It's definitely going to be fun. There are a lot of good players. You can tell everybody deserves to be here."

Mitchem ended his college



JOHN CASTINE

Burny Mitchem is pictured with his parents, Robert and Teresa Mitchem, and brother, Clay, before his final game at Dayton.

career in late May by leading Dayton to its first Atlantic 10 Conference championship and being named the Most Outstanding Player in the tournament.

Mitchem had a win and two saves in three games on consecutive days as the Flyers defeated St. Joseph in 13 innings, 4-3, and Richmond twice, 9-5 and 3-0.

"Coming back for a fifth year, that was a huge goal and the way I wanted to be remembered at my school," he said. "I had an opportunity to throw all three days — back-to-back-to-back, which is kinda unheard of."

"The first night I threw close to 70 pitches in an extra-inning

game, which was probably the most important game because, if you lose the first one, you're fighting from behind the whole time.

"I looked at the opportunity (of the three appearances) like, 'It's my senior year and I'm not going to hold anything back from us winning these games.' It was awesome to accomplish something the school had never done."

The 6-foot-6, 260-pound Mitchem is Dayton's all-time strikeout king with 320. He broke Cam Hobson's record of 256 back in April. He ended his career with just 95 walks by comparison, a 24-19 record, 14 saves and 3.56 ERA. Mitchem is second in career wins and innings pitched (324).

"I've always been a strike-out guy, even in high school," Mitchem said. "Striking people out is one of my favorite parts of pitching. It's something that can save you when you're about to give up a big inning, and it can help to intimidate the other team."

"It's definitely something I'm proud of. I passed a lot of good people on the way to the record — some of whom are in the Major Leagues now — and put in a lot of good innings at Dayton." Mitchem's best year was 2011

when he posted an 8-2 record with three saves, 88 strikeouts and 23 walks in 104 innings. He was 6-8 the past season with seven saves, 72 strikeouts and 32 walks.

"It would have been hard to match last year," he said. "I had a slow start. Once I got settled in for the year, I had close to 28 scoreless innings; that really helped me out."

"I was battling every day just to give my team a chance to win. We had a slow start as a team. We really picked it up as a team and I did myself when the conference (schedule) started."

Mitchem was an all-stater and helped Farmington High reach the final game of the Division 1 state tournament in 2007. He earned a degree in criminal justice at Dayton and has begun work on a masters in public administration.

"Right now, I'm just looking forward to throwing the way I've been taught and know I can," he said, adding he hopes to move up in the Cardinals organization as quickly as he can and one day be on a Major League roster.

"It feels good to come from Farmington and to keep the Falcons spirit alive. We have a pretty strong tradition at Farmington of playing good baseball."

COMERICA

Continued from page B1

that goes into being successful.

"To be nominated, someone must be a leader, coachable, and a good teammate. Rich is all of those things."

"We are very honored at Plymouth that he has been chosen to represent our school and our program."

Canton head coach Mark Blomshield said he nominated Bazner for his consistent excellence over his prep career, which included a 19-3 pitching record and strong junior season when he batted over .500.

"Much of Ryan success as a player was also attributed to the success of our team," Blomshield added, "which in his four years accumulated 100 wins and 39 losses in which he played a major role and was a big contributor."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128



PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT

A Garden City Red Sox player takes a serious cut at a letters-high fast ball Wednesday night.



A Garden City Pirates player (left) is greeted by a joyful teammate after scoring a fourth-inning run Wednesday night.

BOYS OF SUMMER

GC's Moeller Park offers perfect setting for national pastime

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The five-foot-high cyclone fence that separated the outfield grass from "Home Run Land" on Moeller Park's field 7 Wednesday night didn't stand a chance against the bomb that exploded off the bat of Garden City Pirates player Brad Russell.

With his team entrenched in a tight Garden City Youth Athletic Association Bronco League playoff game against the Wayne Diamondbacks, 12-year-old Russell sent a third-inning blast way over the left-center field fence, sparking an eruption of applause from the fans who were lined up tightly along the third-base line. "It felt good," Russell reflected, a few minutes after the Pirates' 13-7 setback. "I just tried to act like I'd hit one before. I

figured I could celebrate it after the game." The often-intense, always-fun Pirates-Diamondbacks clash was just one of several games unfolding on the Garden City acreage that sits just north of Ford Rd. and a couple blocks west of Merriman.

Despite a furnace-like heat wave that put a premium on shade, umbrellas and ice-soaked water bottles, fans were abundant at Moeller — creating a down-home atmosphere that would have made Abner Doubleday proud.

"It's such a positive experience out here," said Diamondbacks coach Kerry Johnson, who's team improved to 19-0 with Wednesday's come-from-behind triumph. "All the parents are great — on all the teams; there's nothing negative. The leagues are set up really well. The commis-



Wayne Diamondbacks player Michael Beckert cruises around the bases to score a run during the fifth inning of Wednesday's 13-7 victory over the Garden City Pirates.

sioners do a really good job of putting the teams together so that it's competitive. And the kids



Hundreds of youth-baseball fans braved scorching heat to watch their favorite players' games at Moeller Park Wednesday night.

love playing under the lights when they get an 8 o'clock game."

Although the games are played with traditional baseball guidelines, the GCYAA Bronco League is unique in that it includes teams from Garden City, Dearborn Heights, Wayne and other nearby communities.

"Most of our players are from Garden City," said Pirates head coach Dan Santhony, "but we also have kids from St. Clair Shores, Westland and Wayne. Even though our season ended tonight, it's been a great experience, getting to know all the kids and teaching them how to play ball."

With Wednesday's victory, the 19-0 Diamondbacks advanced to Monday's semifinal round of the GCYAA playoffs. They earned a No. 1 seed by cruising through the regular season with a 13-0 record.

"I love the rules — they're just like the big leagues," said Diamondbacks catcher/pitcher Justin Johnson, who will be a seventh-grader at Wayne's Benjamin Franklin Middle School in the fall. "This is a lot of fun. The pitchers throw fast, so it gives us a challenge."

ewright@hometownlife.com
(734) 578-2767

SWIMMERS

Continued from page B1

that's always been my stronger stroke."

Caroline will swim Wednesday in the 200 IM and Saturday in the 200 backstroke.

"I'm really excited," she said. "It's different than any of the other meets because this is it, it's like the biggest meet ever."

Meanwhile, Nick Arakelian goes Monday in the 400 IM where he ranks 51st overall with a time of 4:26.25 and competes again Friday in the 200 IM where he is seeded 103rd (2:06.12).

In a March meet in Indianapolis, Nick narrowly missed by two-hundredths of a second from qualifying in the 1,500 freestyle (15:53.59).

Expectations

"I'm definitely expecting to drop time and there are a few other 16-year-olds that I'd like to compete against," said Arakelian, who is the third seeded among ten 16-year-olds who have qualified for the Trials in the 400 IM. "There aren't many going to the Olympic Trials, but there are still a few I'd still like to beat, guys who I have competed against at nationals."

Nick has set 36 individual state records dating back to his 11-12 age group days. He has also achieved 57 national top ten age-group rankings throughout the years with 18 of those times ranking him No. 1 nationally. He also ranked first nationally as a 14-year-old in the IM Xtreme Challenge and has been invited to attend USA Swimming's Zone, National and Open Water select camps.

Nick has an eye on making the Junior National team, which follows in early August with a national qualifying meet in Indianapolis.

Standing 6 feet, 4 inches tall, Nick may be mistaken for being

a basketball player when he walks the halls of Stevenson High.

Ironically, he tried hoops as a youth, but quickly switched to swimming where he has opted out of competing for his high school team in favor of sticking with the same coach and same club 12 months a year.

"People are generally surprised before they figure out that we're nationally ranked and going to the Olympic Trials, and all this stuff," Nick said. "There's a lot more advantages training with the same coach all year-round and just a little more consistent with me."

Caroline blazed the trail in the pool for the Arakelian family, which also includes two younger sisters who are accomplished swimmers as well.

Swim family

Maria, 10, who is home schooled, set an age-group state title in the 400 freestyle in 4:54.36 (shattering the previous mark of 5:07), while Rebecca, 14, who will be a sophomore this fall at Stevenson, was a state age-group champion in the 200 breaststroke and 400 IM.

"We're very competitive with each other, Nick and I especially, and really all four of us are competitive," Caroline said. "Even if we're doing stuff as a family — family games, like outside — we always have to have some competitive game going on."

Like all young girls starting out, Caroline was first exposed to soccer.

"I could see she was not the aggressive type of girl," mother Carol Arakelian said. "She took her first swim lessons at the Livonia Y and she enjoyed it, and like competing."

Caroline, who now stands 5-11, quickly developed as competitive swimmer and has never looked back.

In 2010, she was a top eight finisher at the USA Swimming Short Course Junior National

Championships. That same year Arakelian was the Speedo Sectional Championships high-point winner and repeated her performance the following year in Indianapolis, Ind.

Arakelian's efforts in the pool earned her invitations to the USA Swimming's Zone Select Camp in May 2009 and the USA Swimming's National Select Camp in October 2010.

The standout swimmer, who turned down an offer from Ohio State to take advantage of a smaller school atmosphere, has performed just as well in the classroom earning Cum Laude recognition upon graduation. She was named Stevenson Student of the Month twice along with earning a spot in the National Honor Society. She plans to major in nursing at Queens.

Dedication

In 2007, Mike and Carol Arakelian decided to make the ultimate sacrifice for their children after Brockway took a new coaching position with Kingfish Aquatic, which is based out of Mott High School in Waterford.

During the past five years, the Arakelians drive 40 minutes each way for practices during the school year. And during the summers, it's double sessions, back-and-forth twice (including Sundays).

"I said as long as you give 100 percent and be the best you can, I'll make the commitment, but I made it clear it was their choice and their sacrifice, too," said Carol, who estimates the family's Toyota Prius has hit the 90,000-mile mark already. "By the time they leave the door and come back it's five hours a day, and in the summer it's nine hours."

After the Olympic Trials, Caroline said she'll be taking "a little break" before heading down to North Carolina where she'll continue her swimming career.

Among her long-range goals are to win an NCAA (Division II)

individual title and set her sights on the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

But a good showing in this year's Trials could be a springboard.

"My coach (Brad Brockway) kind of had the whole year structured differently," Caroline said of her 2012 training. "We went harder at the beginning of the year and now we're tapering down for Trials when usually in summers past we start our heavy training now for nationals in August."

That left little social time for Nick and Caroline.

"At the end of the day it's still worth it," Caroline said. "I still love the sport."

And Nick would also concur.

Busy schedule

"Pretty much any free time I get is spent trying to maintain a social life, hang out with friends that I really don't get to see that much because of swimming," he said.

Nick, an honor roll student at Stevenson, plans to continue his swim career in college after he graduates from high school in 2014.

"I really have to figure out my major before I lean toward a specific school," said Nick, whose favorite subjects are history and science. "There are a few schools down south or out west that I'm interested in. None of them can talk to me until July of my junior year."

Brockway, who has been coaching club swimming for 33 years, said swimming on the same stage as Phelps, Lochte, Schmitt and Coughlin can only be a benefit in the long run for the Arakelians.

"We're really looking forward to it," the Kingfish Aquatic coach said. "The kids have worked really hard to achieve at this level and it's really an honor to be able to participate in such a meet at this to be able to compete on a world stage, a

world-class meet that they'll be competing in.

"We have reasonable expectations. To make the Olympic team you pretty much have to be able to set a world record. Both of them are 18-and-under, so we're looking more toward the Junior National team.

There is a trip to Hawaii for the top two 18-and-unders to place at this meet. And at the end of the summer there's two other meets where they can qualify for Junior Nationals team membership and some other upcoming trips, so we're realistic in our approach. If we can get a second swim or a semifinal swim, that would be great. But to make the finals is going to be pretty, pretty tough."

Nick Arakelian believes he is also peaking at the right time and gives Brockway all the credit.

"It's a good relationship," Nick said. "You've got to really trust your coach, especially when you're tapering, you're not doing as many yards as you're used to... more technique and sprint work, and pace. So you've really got to have that trust relationship with your coach."

Brockway, who began coaching club swimming in 1979, said the Arakelians are a special breed.

"The main thing is their dedication to the sport," he said. "They really carve time out of their day to make sure they get their workouts in all the time. They watch their diet to make sure and all their extracurricular activities are all taken care of. They have real good time management skills. They came in did the work every day, day-after-day on a consistent basis. That's what is really key to the sport being consistent and establishing good habits all the time on a daily basis."

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

Walk-off homer sinks Michigan Rams, 5-4

Chris Webberly belted a walk-off homer in the bottom of the ninth Wednesday night to give the Red Sox a 5-4 Livonia Collegiate Baseball League win over Michigan Rams in a game played at Birmingham Seaholm High School.

Webberly's blast came off Rams reliever Jake Baldwin, who entered the ninth with one out after taking over for Keith Paslean.

The Red Sox improved to 5-6 in league play, while the Rams fall to 8-6-1.

Jake Baldwin, who pitched three scoreless innings in relief of starter Chris Renaud, picked up the victory. Baldwin allowed just one hit and struck out three.

Renaud worked the first six innings, allowing four runs on five hits. He

struck out four, walked one and hit two batters.

Jeff Sorenson (Livonia Stevenson/Wayne State) pitched the first 4.1 innings for the Rams. He gave up three earned runs on five hits and a walk while striking out eight before handing it over to Paslean, who was not charged with a run in three innings.

Brook Vosler went 3-for-4 with an RBI to lead the Red Sox ninth-inning attack. Ben Matigan (Livonia Churchill/Madonna University) added a solo homer, while Nolan Nunez also contributed two hits.

Trent Drumheller went 2-for-4 with two RBI, while J.P. Maracani also knocked in two runs for the Rams, who have dropped five of their last six games.

Brewin' up a title



The 10-and-under Redford Brewers recently finished off a 17-0 championship season in the Redford Little League. Pictured are (top row from left) manager Jason Cantrell, assistant coach Eric Thompson, assistant coach Steve Rakowski, (middle row from left) Domenik, Shane, Alstone, Jason, Owen, (bottom row from left) Ronald, Justin, L.J. and Jordan.

Guide to Employment

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

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

Help Wanted-General

ASSISTANT CREDIT MANAGER
New Hudson Supply Company is looking for a full-time Assistant Credit Manager. Applicant must have strong communication, negotiation and problem resolution skills. Applicant must be able to handle multiple tasks, maintain confidentiality and be able to maintain excellent public relations with external and internal customers. Qualified applicants can send resume to: sdueweke@leewholesale.com or mail to: Lee Wholesale Supply Attn: S. Dueweke P.O. Box 299, New Hudson, MI 48165-0299

AUTO USED VEHICLE SALES
Experience Required Great Pay/Benefits Email Resume to Bob Jeannotte Jr bob@jeannotte.com Bob Jeannotte Buick GMC Plymouth MI

Automotive Service Technicians
Hines Park Ford is seeking ambitious and motivated individuals to join our Service Team. We are in need of individuals to fill a Heavy Engine Tech and Diesel Tech positions. Individuals must have prior Automotive Service Technician experience, technical automotive knowledge, organizational skills, and a strong work ethic. We offer a great work environment, medical, dental, and life insurance, as well as paid vacations and a 401K plan.
Email resume to: jobs@hinespark.com

CAD/DETAILER
Contractors Steel Co. in Livonia is seeking a CAD/Detailer. Good math and communication skills are required. Applicants must be Functional in AutoCAD 2000. We offer a competitive pay and benefit package for qualified individual. Fax resume to CSC @ 734-452-3919.

CAREGIVER
For autistic boy in Farmington area. Afternoons. Weekends, \$8.50/hr. (248) 636-2461

CASHIER FT & PT
Southfield. Call Sid: (248) 860-4499

Classic Automotive Parts Sales
Full & Part-Time positions. Must have a positive attitude. Must be available to work nights & weekends. High plus commission. Please fax resume: 734-397-4683 Attn: Mgt. or email: jfein@pdlink.com Or fill out application at counter. You can visit us at nationalpartsdepot.com

CLEANING - RESIDENTIAL
Must have flexible day shift hours. Start immediately. Call (734) 834-7066

Commercial Asphalt Contractor
Looking for experienced help for Forman, Operator, Roller, Packer, and CDL Driver needed. If interested please contact Ken Kimmel at: Kimmel@aspaving.com or fax at: 248-332-7030

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phneworkinfo@aol.com

Help Wanted-General

Customer Service/Clerical
Professional firm in Livonia seeks self starters with good communication skills and problem solving ability. Must have phone exp. Full time.
Fax resume to: 734-591-3029

Cylinder Head Technician
Ilmor Engineering, a manufacturer of racing engines and high performance components seeks an experienced technician for our cylinder head dept.
Position involves assembly and rebuild of racing and high performance cylinder heads and associated parts to exacting standards. Candidates should be experienced with Sunnen V6S20 & Serdi type equipment and capable of working with both 4 valve OHC and 2 valve heads. Great work environment, uniforms and tool provided, competitive salary with excellent benefits.
Only qualified candidates should apply. Send resume to hr@ilmor.com

DELI COUNTER PERSON
Good pay. Southfield. Sid: 248-860-4499, 248-352-7377

Diesel Bus Mechanic
Needed in West Bloomfield & Redford Union, MI. Great Pay / Benefits
APPLY ONLINE: www.durhamschoolservices.com

DIRECT CARE
Part-Time for our Group Homes in Wayne County. Call: (248) 814-6714

DIRECT CARE: Make a difference!
Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 09

Driver TST Expedited Service

ATTENTION OWNER OPERATORS!!!

Cargo Van, Straight Truck & Tractor positions available immediately Great mileage rates + FSC Lease Purchase Program
877-878-9911
www.TS7911.com

DRIVER: PT Van Driver
For senior community. Chauffeurs license req. Exc. driving record. Apply: Ashford Court, 37501 Joy Rd. EOE

DEDICATED RUN

\$62,000 Per Year!

HOME WEEKENDS

Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401K Class A CDL + 1 Yr. OTR Exp.

Landair Transport

Call Today!
1-866-640-5996
www.landair.com

DRIVERS Full & Part Time.

Chauffeurs license & medical card req. South Lyon area. Email: johnsanli@yahoo.com or fax: 248-437-0330

DRIVERS, CDL A
with Hazmat. Intermodal experience a plus. For local deliveries. No weekends. Paid medical & dental. Fax resume: 734-722-9587 or email: divcarriage@aol.com

Help Wanted-General

BLACK HORSE CARRIERS

has openings in the Plymouth area. Dedicated routes. Home daily. 5 day work week. Average \$900 plus a week. Driver unload. These full-time positions come with full benefits, 401k and paid vacation. If you have 3 yrs. Exp. and a Class A CDL with a clean MVR.
Call 630-299-9956 or email to: navi.korbal@blackhorsecarriers.com EOE. Drug Testing is a condition of employment

DRIVERS: Recession proof, no layoffs. New Pay Package & Awesome Benefits. Sign On Bonus. Newer Trucks. Local/Regional. CDL-A, 3 yrs Exp. 888-784-8959

Engineers for Racing Trakside Program

Ilmor is a leading IndyCar engine supplier and currently seeks qualified applicants for Trakside Support Engineer positions.

Trakside Support Engineers must understand all aspects of internal combustion engine technology and are responsible for customer field support of the Indy V-6 engines and completion of shop-based engineering projects such as development of mechanical or electrical systems for other engine programs. Position involves extensive travel with race team, all with a common passion for motorsports.

Duties include engine calibration and data analysis, direct customer support, engineering component failure diagnosis, hands-on issue resolution and prevention on engine mechanical and electronic systems, sensors and software. Trakside Engineers develop electronics and software, calibrate engines, design engine parts, create test rigs and test products. Applicants typically have a professional or hobby-level motorsports background.

4-year engineering degree is required.
Send resume & cover letter to: hr@ilmor.com

Heating & Cooling
Experienced Residential Installers & Sub Contractors (610) 832-9022

HOTEL HOUSEKEEPERS
Five Star Allied is now hiring applicants to work in Novi. Must have transportation. Will train.
Call: 877-635-9400, Ext #2 www.fivestarallied.com

HOUSEKEEPER Full & Part time Days

Apply within at Independence Village of Plymouth, 14707 Northville Rd

HOUSEKEEPER Full Time Position
For Garden City Tower, M-F, 8am until 5pm. Exp preferred but not required, detail-oriented, able to meet deadlines on housekeeping of 10-story high rise and vacant apartments. EOE. Onsite confidential interviews: 6120 Middlebelt Garden City MI

PROPERTY MANAGER
Grand Sakwa Management a premier commercial property management company located in Southeast Michigan is seeking a Property Manager for commercial retail and office developments. A Bachelors Degree in Business with strong accounting, finance or real estate background and commercial property management experience is preferred.
Email resumes to: jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com

Help Wanted-General

Jamestown JAMES TOOL MACHINE & ENGINEERING, INC.
IS SEEKING QUALIFIED CANDIDATES For both our Columbus, North Carolina & Morganton, North Carolina Facilities. Minimum of three (3) years experience is required with competitive pay and benefits.

COLUMBUS FACILITY POSITIONS:
Job Shop Manager
CNC Machinist
Programmer
Prototrap Mill/Lathe Machinist

MORGANTON FACILITY POSITIONS:
Solid Works Fixture Designer
CNC Machinist
Programmer
Prototrap Mill Machinist
CNC Boring Mill

Email Resume to: bhietner@jamestool.com
Fax Resume to: 828-584-8778
Mail to: James Tool Machine & Engineering, Inc. P O Box 1665 Morganton, N.C. 28680 Attn: Brenda Hietner EOE

CALL PAT RYAN (734) 591-9200 PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

SALES
Tire and Automotive Repair facility looking for reliable, motivated sales person. Exp necessary in automotive service & tire sales. Plymouth/Canton area. Email resume to: autosales@sales@gmail.com

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Experienced maintenance tech needed full-time for an apartment community in Westland and Novi. Knowledge in all aspects of maintenance a must. Competitive salary and benefits included. Westland Fax: 734-251-4811 Novi Fax: 248-348-9210

MANUFACTURING OPENINGS
at Star Cutter Company, Farmington Hills. Positions available are 2nd or 3rd shifts. Manufacturing experience necessary. Previous manual equipment operation experience on machine tool equipment experience a plus. Position is for Grinding, Tool, OD, Surface, Cylindrical.

We offer a competitive wage and benefit package. Please send resumes to HR@starcutter.com or to Star Cutter Co Human Resources 4210 Doyle Drive Lewiston MI 49756.

MATERIAL HANDLER
Livonia Steel Service Center is looking for experienced material handler, crane or saw experience preferred but not required. We offer a competitive pay and benefit package. Please send resume to: (734) 452-3919

Mill Operator/ Prototrap
Gage experience needed. Excellent benefits. (248) 474-5150 sales@birdsalltool.com

PAINTERS, Full-Time.
Starting at \$10-\$12/hr based on exp. Reliable, Responsible. Good Transportation. Call after 7pm. 248-933-8954

RECREATION FACILITATOR
Non-Profit working with special needs population is looking for an individual with experience or related degree to facilitate and actively participate in recreational program for the disabled. Salary range \$10-\$15/hr. Degree preferred. Call: 734-419-5002 EOE

Sales Position: Real Estate Sales
Licensing Classes Now Forming
A 24 month Paid Internship that may lead to a Six Figure Income.
• Be your Own Boss
• Work When You Want
• Never-Ever be laid off again
• Own Your Practice
• You Determine Your Income
• 100% Commission Income
• Bonus Programs
• Health/Life/Disability Insurance
• Retirement and Savings
• Full Time Support Staff
CALL PAT RYAN (734) 591-9200 PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

WAREHOUSE PERSON
Restoration Co./Contents Division seeking qualified warehouse person. Job will entail heavy lifting, must have CDL & forklift certification; previous supervisory and moving experience is a plus. Must have organizational skills. Fax resume: 734-994-7794 or email: chuck.eisenberg@us.balfor.com

TECHNICIAN
Experienced in servo motor and amplifier repair. Part time. Send Resume to: 37511 Schoolcraft Road Livonia, MI 48150 Email: estromski@sanyo-denki.com

ACCOUNTING/ GENERAL OFFICE
4-5 hrs/day. Quickbooks and Microsoft Excel, Real Estate Management, 13/Telegraph. Fax resume: 248-647-1039

Administrative Assistant
Farmington Hills based real estate development company seeks Administrative Assistant with 2 plus years experience. Must be highly organized, self-starter and proficient in Microsoft Word. Offers competitive salary and benefits package. Please forward your resume to: jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com

Administrative Coordinator
The Novi Educational Foundation is looking for a part-time, contracted employee to provide administrative support to the foundation and coordinate fundraising initiatives. Requirements include completion of a Bachelors Degree, proficiency with computers applications, organizational skills and marketing experience. Visit www.novi-educationalfoundation.org for more information. Send resume by June 29 to: Novi Educational Foundation, 25345 Taft Road Novi, MI 48374

It's all about results!
Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers
1-800-579-7355
www.hometownlife.com

RECEPTIONIST - PART TIME:
30 hrs per week, 9:30-4pm. Experienced in drapery office work. Call: 734-421-1600 or Fax: 734-513-8540

RECEPTIONIST
Farmington Hills law firm has an opening for a part-time (afternoons) receptionist/billing clerk. Responsibilities include answering phones, entering billing, light typing, processing mail and filing. Office experience required. No phone calls please. Send your resume via fax to 248-489-1725 or via e-mail to info@jtrial.com

Help Wanted-General

CLERK Department of Public Works
Part Time
The City of Berkley is accepting applications for a part-time Department of Public Works (DPW) clerk. Under the general supervision of the DPW Director, the part-time clerk performs a variety of clerical tasks with emphasis on customer service, computer skills, utility billing and file/record maintenance.
A high school degree is required. Salary is appropriated at \$11.35/hour and the typical work schedule will be for 4 hours per day, 5 days a week starting at 10:00 AM (no lunch break). Longer hours may be required when other office staff is out of the office.
Applications and a complete job description can be obtained online at www.berkleymi.org or by contacting: Derrick Schueller DPW Director, 3333 Coolidge Highway, Berkley, MI 48072 or dschueller@berkleymi.net.
Application deadline is 3pm on Monday, July 2, 2012. EOE

COMMUNITY NURSE
Tamarack Camps is looking for a year round Community Nurse! 3 days/week in school year, and full time at Camp Maas in Orionville during the summer. RN required, exp in public health, comm. health, school or pediatric nursing preferred. For more information, visit: hysed.org. Please e-mail resumes to Melissa Morot: mmorot@hysed.org.

OFFICE POSITION
House of Bedrooms, Bloomfield Hills. Permanent, part time office position. 27 hours per week. Great company! Great life! Incl: Sat & Sun. Call for appt: 248-334-4593

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full time needed for OBGYN office in Bloomfield. Email resume, Ref Box 1902 oeresume@hometownlife.com

MEDICAL BILLER & ADMIN ASSISTANT:
PT, exp'd. Berkley area. Knowledge of Genesis System is a PLUS. Minimum 2 yr. exp. Email resume to: medicbiller2012@aol.com

MEDICAL BILLER
For a growing medical billing co. At least 5 yrs. exp. needed. Email: Bma123@comcast.net

Nursing Secretary/Scheduler
Livonia Skilled Nursing Facility in need of an experienced Nursing Secretary. Must be eager to work in a fast paced, highly demanding but pleasant work environment. Experience with employee scheduling for a large nursing department for all shifts. Must be detail oriented, well organized and able to multi-task while working with strict deadlines. Strong communication skills and the ability to work well with others are necessary to be successful. Must have strong Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.) skills. Knowledge of ADP Time & Attendance and scheduling tools are beneficial. Please apply in person at Marywood Nursing Care Ctr 35975 Five Mile Livonia, MI 48154. No phone calls please.

WAITSTAFF
Apply: Mason's Bar & Grill, 13490 Farmington Rd. 734-427-0650

FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS...

Bringing you the best in Classified Advertising

1-800-579-7355

hometownlife.com

Recycle This Newspaper

Now is the best time to buy a new car

Best of all, credit is available.

Look to your local dealer to find a high quality, fuel efficient vehicle. Your dealer knows your market and can help you get financing to meet your needs. If you need a car, now is the time.

Visit your local dealership or cars.com to find a car today.

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

CLERK Department of Public Works
Part Time
The City of Berkley is accepting applications for a part-time Department of Public Works (DPW) clerk. Under the general supervision of the DPW Director, the part-time clerk performs a variety of clerical tasks with emphasis on customer service, computer skills, utility billing and file/record maintenance.
A high school degree is required. Salary is appropriated at \$11.35/hour and the typical work schedule will be for 4 hours per day, 5 days a week starting at 10:00 AM (no lunch break). Longer hours may be required when other office staff is out of the office.
Applications and a complete job description can be obtained online at www.berkleymi.org or by contacting: Derrick Schueller DPW Director, 3333 Coolidge Highway, Berkley, MI 48072 or dschueller@berkleymi.net.
Application deadline is 3pm on Monday, July 2, 2012. EOE

COMMUNITY NURSE
Tamarack Camps is looking for a year round Community Nurse! 3 days/week in school year, and full time at Camp Maas in Orionville during the summer. RN required, exp in public health, comm. health, school or pediatric nursing preferred. For more information, visit: hysed.org. Please e-mail resumes to Melissa Morot: mmorot@hysed.org.

OFFICE POSITION
House of Bedrooms, Bloomfield Hills. Permanent, part time office position. 27 hours per week. Great company! Great life! Incl: Sat & Sun. Call for appt: 248-334-4593

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full time needed for OBGYN office in Bloomfield. Email resume, Ref Box 1902 oeresume@hometownlife.com

MEDICAL BILLER & ADMIN ASSISTANT:
PT, exp'd. Berkley area. Knowledge of Genesis System is a PLUS. Minimum 2 yr. exp. Email resume to: medicbiller2012@aol.com

MEDICAL BILLER
For a growing medical billing co. At least 5 yrs. exp. needed. Email: Bma123@comcast.net

Nursing Secretary/Scheduler
Livonia Skilled Nursing Facility in need of an experienced Nursing Secretary. Must be eager to work in a fast paced, highly demanding but pleasant work environment. Experience with employee scheduling for a large nursing department for all shifts. Must be detail oriented, well organized and able to multi-task while working with strict deadlines. Strong communication skills and the ability to work well with others are necessary to be successful. Must have strong Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.) skills. Knowledge of ADP Time & Attendance and scheduling tools are beneficial. Please apply in person at Marywood Nursing Care Ctr 35975 Five Mile Livonia, MI 48154. No phone calls please.

WAITSTAFF
Apply: Mason's Bar & Grill, 13490 Farmington Rd. 734-427-0650

FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS...

Bringing you the best in Classified Advertising

1-800-579-7355

hometownlife.com

Recycle This Newspaper

Now is the best time to buy a new car

Best of all, credit is available.

Look to your local dealer to find a high quality, fuel efficient vehicle. Your dealer knows your market and can help you get financing to meet your needs. If you need a car, now is the time.

Visit your local dealership or cars.com to find a car today.

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

CLERK Department of Public Works
Part Time
The City of Berkley is accepting applications for a part-time Department of Public Works (DPW) clerk. Under the general supervision of the DPW Director, the part-time clerk performs a variety of clerical tasks with emphasis on customer service, computer skills, utility billing and file/record maintenance.
A high school degree is required. Salary is appropriated at \$11.35/hour and the typical work schedule will be for 4 hours per day, 5 days a week starting at 10:00 AM (no lunch break). Longer hours may be required when other office staff is out of the office.
Applications and a complete job description can be obtained online at www.berkleymi.org or by contacting: Derrick Schueller DPW Director, 3333 Coolidge Highway, Berkley, MI 48072 or dschueller@berkleymi.net.
Application deadline is 3pm on Monday, July 2, 2012. EOE

COMMUNITY NURSE
Tamarack Camps is looking for a year round Community Nurse! 3 days/week in school year, and full time at Camp Maas in Orionville during the summer. RN required, exp in public health, comm. health, school or pediatric nursing preferred. For more information, visit: hysed.org. Please e-mail resumes to Melissa Morot: mmorot@hysed.org.

OFFICE POSITION
House of Bedrooms, Bloomfield Hills. Permanent, part time office position. 27 hours per week. Great company! Great life! Incl: Sat & Sun. Call for appt: 248-334-4593

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full time needed for OBGYN office in Bloomfield. Email resume, Ref Box 1902 oeresume@hometownlife.com

MEDICAL BILLER & ADMIN ASSISTANT:
PT, exp'd. Berkley area. Knowledge of Genesis System is a PLUS. Minimum 2 yr. exp. Email resume to: medicbiller2012@aol.com

MEDICAL BILLER
For a growing medical billing co. At least 5 yrs. exp. needed. Email: Bma123@comcast.net

Nursing Secretary/Scheduler
Livonia Skilled Nursing Facility in need of an experienced Nursing Secretary. Must be eager to work in a fast paced, highly demanding but pleasant work environment. Experience with employee scheduling for a large nursing department for all shifts. Must be detail oriented, well organized and able to multi-task while working with strict deadlines. Strong communication skills and the ability to work well with others are necessary to be successful. Must have strong Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.) skills. Knowledge of ADP Time & Attendance and scheduling tools are beneficial. Please apply in person at Marywood Nursing Care Ctr 35975 Five Mile Livonia, MI 48154. No phone calls please.

WAITSTAFF
Apply: Mason's Bar & Grill, 13490 Farmington Rd. 734-427-0650

FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS...

Bringing you the best in Classified Advertising

1-800-579-7355

hometownlife.com

Recycle This Newspaper

Now is the best time to buy a new car

Best of all, credit is available.

Look to your local dealer to find a high quality, fuel efficient vehicle. Your dealer knows your market and can help you get financing to meet your needs. If you need a car, now is the time.

Visit your local dealership or cars.com to find a car today.

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Exp'd. Plymouth/Canton area. Email resume: janice@cantondentists.com or fax: 734-981-2583

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full-time for busy Novi dental office looking to hire a skilled, friendly, team-oriented assistant. Dental exp. is required. Hours may vary and are flexible but include some evenings & Saturday's. Please email or fax resume: progressivesmile@yahoo.com or fax to: 248-349-2015

DENTAL RECALL POSITION
Open for an immediate, part-time position. Fax resume: 734-427-8311

COMMUNITY NURSE
Tamarack Camps is looking for a year round Community Nurse! 3 days/week in school year, and full time at Camp Maas in Orionville during the summer. RN required, exp in public health, comm. health, school or pediatric nursing preferred. For more information, visit: hysed.org. Please e-mail resumes to Melissa Morot: mmorot@hysed.org.

OFFICE POSITION
House of Bedrooms, Bloomfield Hills.

Pompon performers set to thrill the British

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

A Farmington Hills-based team will bring the sport of pompon to the world stage next month at the international "Big Dance" festival in London, England.

Mid American Pompon All Star Team is one of four U.S. groups invited to perform at the biennial festival that consists of more than 12,000 dance events and performances.

It's also likely to be the only pompon team that will participate in Big Dance, which is a part of pre-Olympic Game hoopla this year.

"All of the other groups that will be there are dancers. We are traditional pom, which is very specific to Michigan. What we do is unique," said Julie Hobbs-Julian, a Northville resident and the team director. "They've asked us to do additional performances."

An invitation

Kidance produces performance events, including Big Dance, around the world. A staff member had seen the All Stars perform in conjunction with the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Ga., and invited the group to the international festival.

"It's the first international performance we've done and one of the largest," said Karen Blazaitis, who founded the All Stars 26 years ago. "Typically we perform at a bowl game, a parade and then we're done. But this is multiple performances over a week. I hope it will gain more exposure for the



Jumps are a part of the group's routine, as are high kicks and precision dance moves.

PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

sport of pompon and put a positive spin on how hard they work and on the beauty of their performances."

The 68 All Stars who will head to England on July 7 practiced their high kick routine, set to Coldplay's *Viva la Vida*, and their pompon number, backed by Adele's *Rolling in the Deep*, repeatedly last Monday as Hobbs-Julian and her staff watched and tweaked. It was the last of several six-hour rehearsals before both summer camp and the overseas trip.

Girls who hope to remain an All Star — or become a member — must audition for the troupe each summer at a Mid American Pompon

camp. They also must maintain membership on their high school's pompon team.

Enthusiastic response

The All Star Team has approximately 200 members from across the state. Hobbs-Julian hoped at least 30 girls would be interested in the trip to England, which costs \$3,800 per participant. She was surprised and elated when 68 girls responded.

The group includes students from as far away as Midland and Bay City and as near as Plymouth, Livonia and Farmington Hills.

Please see POMPON, B7



Abby Dillatha, 16, of Plymouth rehearses a pom routine with the Mid American Pompon All Star Team.



Megan Crawford of Livonia rehearses a routine that Mid American Pom Pon All Star Team will perform next month in London, England.

Humphrey Bogart & Ingrid Bergman
 AT THE HISTORIC **REDFORD THEATRE**

CASABLANCA
 June 29 - 8:00 p.m.
 June 30 - 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Enjoy our 1928 Barton Theatre Organ played 30 minutes before each show!

- Doors open 1 hr. before the show
- Real butter on your popcorn
- Affordable candy & beverages

Tickets: \$4.00 "Here's looking at you, kid."
www.redfordtheatre.com

Park in one of our FREE supervised parking lots!

Located at 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit, MI 48219.
 The theatre is on the east side of Lahser, just north of Grand River.
 24 hour information phone number: (313) 537-2560

Andiamo

Tribute Series from Las Vegas
 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi, Mi. 48375
 248-348-3838

The Rat Pack with Liza
 July 13, 15, 20, 22,
 27, 28, 29, 2012

Barbra Streisand & Cher
 Sept. 7, 8, 9,
 14, 15, 16, 2012

Special Package:
 2 Dinners, 2 Show Tickets,
 2 Soft Drinks only \$69.99
 Dinner 6:00pm - Show will follow!
 Free Photo Opportunity - Free Greet & Meet

Great Father's Day Gift!
 Free Public Parking

To order tickets call: 248-473-7777

TOWN 'N' COUNTRY HARDWARE

True Value
 START RIGHT, START LIFE!
EasyCare® Ultra Premium Interior Paint
 \$22.99 Flat
 Lifetime warranty

Gal. Flat	\$22.99	K 670 0913
Gal. Flat Enamel	\$24.99	K 670 1017
Gal. Eggshell	\$27.99	K 670 0912
Gal. Satin	\$27.99	K 238 844 F4
Gal. Semi-Gloss	\$28.99	K 670 078 F4

Lawnmower SALE!
 Models starting at \$299

ECHO
 Gas Powered Equipment

Largest Grill Parts Department in Michigan!!

Large Selection of Grills
 Gas Grills Priced from \$119 to \$3,999

weber Genesis EP Series
 New front-mounted controls!
 38,000 BTU's
 Many styles to choose from!

MHP In-Ground and Deck Mount, Post Style
 All cast aluminum grill.
 Lifetime burner & cook grids.
 Installation available.

LP and Natural Gas Models

SCREEN REPAIR AVAILABLE

5 Pc. Patio Set 50% Off
 \$99
 Some items may have to be special ordered. See store for details. While supplies last!

TOWN 'N' COUNTRY
 FIREPLACE • PATIO • GRILLS
TNC
 SPECIALISTS IN GRILLS & CUSTOM FIREPLACES.

We are a Full Service Hardware Store with a Huge Inventory of Parts and Personal Service to Keep Your Home Equipment Running Smoothly

True Value
 Help is Just Around The Corner

www.ETOWNNCOUNTRY.com
 Store Hours:
 Mon. - Thurs. 27740 Ford Rd. • Garden City
 9-7; Fri. & 3 1/2 blocks W. of Inkster Rd.
 Sat. 9-6 734.422.2750
 Sun. 11-4

Find us on Facebook

Bad operators: Do appliance rip-offs still occur?

By Joe Gagnon
Guest Columnist



Appliance Doctor
Joe Gagnon

I recently watched a television replay of a crook operating in Atlanta, Ga., and surrounding counties and it sure reminded me of the way it used to be in Michigan.

An appliance repair technician working under three different business names has ripped off six different customers and is suspected in many other cases. His name is Jonathan Davis, 37, who went to the home of Jennifer Cialotta to repair her dishwasher. He had to order a part and needed the money up front to proceed with repairs. He collected \$240 and never returned to finish the repairs. At Claudia Morace's home he collected \$500 for the ordered part to repair her expensive kitchen range. Some days later he had the nerve to return and

ask for another \$124.00 to order another part. Claudia paid this amount as well and never heard from the service technician again.

Cases like this are coming out of the woodwork in the area and Mr. Davis is wanted by the law. He goes under the names of Apex Appliance, Atlanta Appliance and Triple Crown Movers. I'm sure he won't be coming to the State of Michigan because we have a law to protect us. It's called The Appliance Repair Act signed into law in 2002.

The above reminds me of years ago beginning in 1985 which seems so long ago. At that time the Attorney General

was receiving many complaints from homeowners who felt they were ripped off by service companies. A major newspaper wrote front page news stories on the subject with four full pages relating fraud cases perpetrated on consumers. These were horrible tales which absolutely killed the image of the appliance repair industry. On top of this, the local television industry jumped on this interesting subject and you would see the hidden camera scenario catching some crooks in the act.

For the following 15 years I was kept quite busy being the consumer advocate and helping with all the technical advice necessary to get the job done. It was exciting, nerve racking and dangerous, but I stayed the course until we had the law signed to help protect consumers from being ripped off.

Although long ago those days are still fresh in my mind. I remember my first meeting with Fred Hoffecker who was then the right hand of Frank Kelly the Attorney General. He wanted me to act as a witness in a court case filed against a service company. He informed me that the AG's office suspected this company was part of organized crime. That was enough to make any consumer advocate a nervous appliance repairman.

Then came my first stand up meeting with former state Rep. Lyn Bankes' committee on a new proposed law in draft form. I stood in front of several state legislatures with cameras rolling and told of what average people were going through when they had appliances repaired. I was filled with emotion and my eyes welled and I prayed that a tear wouldn't roll down my

checks. My knees seemed to be weak and the change in my pocket was jingling all by itself. I went through many more meetings with different committees and each time I was less nervous. It took 17 years of gathering information and evidence to prove the facts and in 2002, John Engler signed the Appliance Repair Act.

Someday when my granddaughters answer to inquiries of their own children on the history of their great grandfather, I'm sure they will advise them to use the computer and look up The Joe Gagnon Appliance Repair Act. It will give them a description of why I stayed the course. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

School marks 40 years with events

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, New Morning School in Plymouth will offer special programs over the next 12 months, beginning with "brain-friendly" learning activities in July.

Brain-friendly learning was established by Jean Piaget, a Swiss developmental biologist, and is the cornerstone of New Morning School's preschool through 8th grade educational curriculum.

The goal of brain-friendly learning is to ensure sense and meaning in what children are learning so that information and educational activities are more likely to be stored in long-term memo-

ry and applied over one's lifetime.

Brain-friendly learning activities for children, along with information for parents, are free and open to the public. Sessions are 7:45 p.m.

July 9 at the Novi Library, 45255 10 Mile, Novi; 7 p.m. July 10 at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia; and 2 p.m. July 19 at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth.

New Morning School has taught 1,548 students over 40 years. An anniversary reunion for alumni, family and friends is planned for spring 2013.

REUNIONS

BELLEVILLE

CLASS OF 1957
55-year reunion, Sept. 21-22, at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, I-94 and Belleville Road. Informal gathering starts at 6 p.m., Friday. Social time, followed by dinner, starts at 5 p.m. For more information call Donna (Watkins) Gotts at (734) 331-9180 or e-mail to donnagotts@aol.com for more details.

CENTERLINE

CLASS OF 1977
35-year reunion, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at Ernie's in Clinton Township. \$25 per person. E-mail to chs1977@hotmail.com.

DEARBORN FORDSON

CLASS OF 1948
The January and June classes will hold a 64-year reunion lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 20, at the American Legion, Carl E. Stitt Post, 232 Warren Road, Dearborn. For more information call Rose Marie Listwan Kopelkin at (734) 421-1485.

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 dianeschofield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godo-fouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

ROBICHAUD

CLASS OF 1962
A 50th class reunion is set for Sept. 29 at the 1-Under Bar & Grill Banquet Facility in Livonia. The committee is looking for classmates and contact information. All classes are welcome to attend. Check out "Robichaud 50th Reunion Class of 62" on Facebook and on classmates.com. Send names, contact info and questions to robichaud62@yahoo.com. Invitations will be sent soon.

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.

1950S, 1960S

Annual Cody 50s-60s picnic, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, located at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. Music, camaraderie, memorabilia, door prizes, hot dogs, chips, bottled water, baseball hats, T-shirts,

sweat shirts, tassels, beads, music CD's are all available. Special parking for classic cars. Bring chairs and pop-ups. No need to register. Questions? Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or e-mail to Pvarilone@wowway.com; Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134 or e-mail to jmarsares@sbcglobal.net.

DETROIT MUMFORD

CLASS OF 1962
50-year reunion, 6:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at the Somerset Inn, Troy. Make reservations at www.mumford62.com.

DETROIT WESTERN

ALL CLASSES
Friday, Sept. 14 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Family-style luncheon plus prizes and plenty of school spirit. \$25 per person. Phone Mildred (Lois) Carpenter at (248) 427-0673 for tickets. Deadline is Aug. 25.

CLASS OF 1962
Looking for classmates from January and June classes for 50th class reunion Saturday, Sept. 22 at Western Golf and Country Club, Redford. Cost is \$62 per person. Other weekend activities include tour of school, evening icebreaker and Sunday brunch. For information call Judy Alegnani Murray, (313) 399-0507, Judy Hull Rakowski, (734) 459-3832, Helen Knight Tucker, (734) 285-4927 or Ralph Brighton, (734) 513-7499.

DONATE YOUR CAR

MAKE-A-WISH

Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes benefiting Make-A-Wish Michigan

Michigan

*Free Vehicle/Boat Pickup ANYWHERE
*We Accept All Vehicles Running or Not
*100% Tax Deductible

*Share the Power of Wish

WheelsForWishes.org Call: (313) 451-9471

WANT CASH FLOW?

Create multiple income streams without interfering with your job, business or career.

This is not multi-level or network marketing. **THIS IS IT...AND SO EASY!**

Listen to message...leave message.

1.313.748.9010

ARE YOU RUNNING ON EMPTY?

RESTORE

- POWER
- PASSION
- PERFORMANCE

...WITH PROGENE

Call NOW to try for **FREE** a \$49.95 RETAIL VALUE!

progene

877.500.6298

Thousands Are Saying "Good-Bye" to Joint & Muscle Pain Who Thought THEY NEVER COULD!

Introducing Hydraxflexin:

Thousands report end of pain and inflammation, new flexibility and NO side-effects.

VOTED "Top Ten Natural Pain Reliever, Consumer Health Digest"

2 Capsules Daily Is All That It Takes To Get The Relief You Deserve!

"I no longer wake up stiff!"
"Hydraxflexin means I no longer wake up stiff or with pain in my knees."
—Lillian R., Palms Heights, FL

Call today to find out how you can get a FREE bottle of Hydraxflexin. You have nothing to lose but your pain. Not available in stores.

866-967-6445
24 hours - 7 days a week

MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Statewide Ad Networks

Just Imagine

reaching 3,500,000 readers with just one phone call.

Contact your newspaper's advertising representative or call 517.372.2424

MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.

RHEUMATOLOGY

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

ANKLE SPRAINS & STRAINS

When doctors talk about joint problems, they usually discuss pain and swelling occurring in the hands, shoulders, hips and knees. Little discussion centers on the ankles. The reason is not because the ankle is free of joint problems, quite the contrary. Because the whole weight of the body rests on the ankle and foot, the ankle is more prone to pain and injury.

The reason that physicians talk less about the ankle than other joints is because the medical profession finds it difficult to deal with ankle problems.

The ankle includes the ankle joint, called the mortise joint, tendons on both sides of the mortise, and ligaments which bind the ankle joint to the back part of the foot. Each of these sites may experience distinctive injury but present the same picture of a swollen and painful ankle.

The best way to assess if osteoarthritis of the ankle is the cause of the pain is to obtain an x-ray of the ankle. But the x-ray is special. It needs to be done with the patient standing and is called a weight bearing ankle film. When the imaging captures the way the patient walks, the doctor can see what stress is on the joint during ordinary ambulation and climbing stairs.

Doctors also need a great deal of experience in palpating the ligaments and tendons that surround the ankle because being able to feel that a peroneal tendon is boggy, or a deltoid ligament is torn.

There is the problem of treatment. In most instances therapy for ankle injuries is time in a boot or cast. Making time and rest the major tenants of treatment often is as stressful to the modern physician as for the patient.

Subscribing has REWARDS...

The following subscribers have won a complimentary pass for two to any of the area's Emagine Theaters just for being a subscriber.

- Frank Meida Birmingham
- Richard Keeling Canton
- John Lucas Farmington Hills
- Thomas Sokoloski Garden City
- Keri Blough South Lyon
- Connie Combs Livonia
- Peggy McVea Milford
- Adam Zielke Northville
- Gloria Stopp Plymouth
- June Bunker Redford
- Fern Katz Southfield
- Pat Fischer Novi
- Marti Miller Westland

SUBSCRIBE NOW...

Start enjoying the rewards of being a subscriber to your local Hometown, Observer or Eccentric Newspaper!

Call or log on today and save up to 20% and receive a \$10 Gift Card!

Click: hometownlife.com/bestoffer or call: 866.887.2737 and ask for the REWARDS offer.

hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

New subscriber only.
Offer Expires: 9 - 30 - 12

POMPON

Continued from page B5

Kristen Walczak, 16, of Farmington Hills, a Farmington High School junior, auditioned for the All Star Team after hearing about the trip. She has taken pom and dance classes since she was 8 years old, and joined her high school's pom team as a freshman.

"I thought it was an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experience and oh, I'm so excited about it," she said. "I love this because it's a huge dance festival happening just before the Olympics. But London, I'm really excited to go there."

Lauren Johnson, 17, a Southfield resident and a student at Birmingham Groves, said she cried when she heard about the trip.

"I was really excited. They told us at the beginning of camp we had the opportunity to make All Stars and that they were going to be very selective," she recalled.

Lauren enjoys the parades, games and other performance opportunities that come with All Star Team membership.

Big events

The group has performed at the Thanksgiving Day parade in Detroit for several years. Its resume includes the Citrus Bowl, Fiesta Bowl, Detroit Red Wings and Detroit Pistons victory parades, Detroit Tiger's pre-game show, Epcot Center and Sea World, as well as on Carnival cruises and other venues.

"When you come onto the Mid American Team there are a lot more people," said Megan Crawford, who will start her fourth year on the pompon team at Livonia Franklin in the fall. She has been an All Star for



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Leah Sheffield of Plymouth strikes a pose.

two years.

"All of these girls from a lot of different teams come together and it's great to see how when we're at (school) competitions we're against each other, but when we come here we're one big team," Megan said. We all come together nicely and we're all here because we love pom."

Callie Lehr, 18, of Plymouth, loves pom so much that she plans to join a collegiate level team this fall when she begins classes at Schoolcraft College.

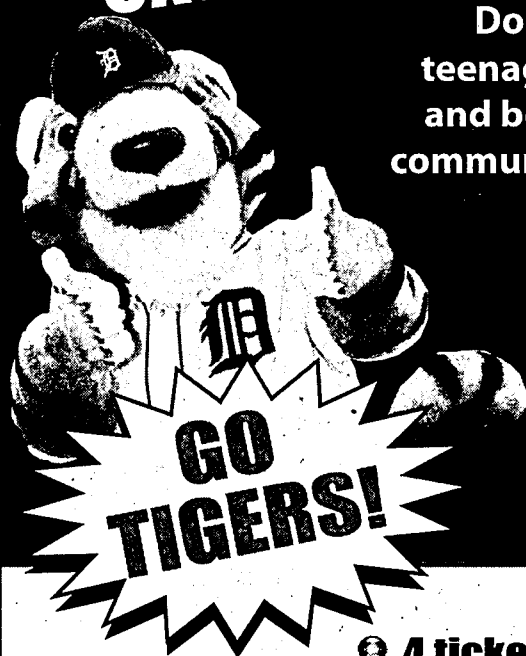
"When you are performing you get this adrenalin rush," she said,

adding "Doing routines over and over builds your stamina."

The All Star Team will combine high kick and pompon routines into one six-minute number for Big Dance. They'll perform the piece at several locations. They also will be part of a mass dance routine promoting Olympic sports at Trafalgar Square and involved in dance workshops with the London Ballet Theatre.

"I think if we do our job and do it well, KI will remember us," Hobbs-Julian said. "If people are impressed, I think it absolutely will open other doors for us."

Let's PAWS to applaud extraordinary kids!



Do you know a child or teenager who goes above and beyond to make your community, neighborhood, or family better?

Tell us your story in 500 words or less.

One winning essay will be chosen each month to receive:

Game Dates

Sunday, July 8

Sunday, August 5

Sunday, September 2

4 tickets to a Detroit Tigers Game

Autographed Detroit Tigers Item

Little Caesars® Gift Card

Pre-Game recognition at a Detroit Tigers Game

Email your essay to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Subject line: "PAWS FOR APPLAUSE"

Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.

hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

WHO'S YOUR TIGER?

Contest is open to kids up to 18 years old.



Rick Bloom

Rick Bloom has served clients in the area of financial planning since 1984. He gives numerous seminars and speeches on financial planning and investments for a variety of professional, civic and business organizations. Rick has been selected as one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth Magazine, and currently writes a financial column each Thursday and Sunday in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Rick has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal and other national publications on financial planning and the Stock Market. He is also a frequent spokesperson on financial matters on local TV and radio shows.



Ford and GM retirees:

Should you take the

LUMP SUM OPTION?

Bloom Asset Management and

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers are offering a **Free Lump Sum Pension Option Seminar**

Featuring Observer & Eccentric Financial Columnist Rick Bloom

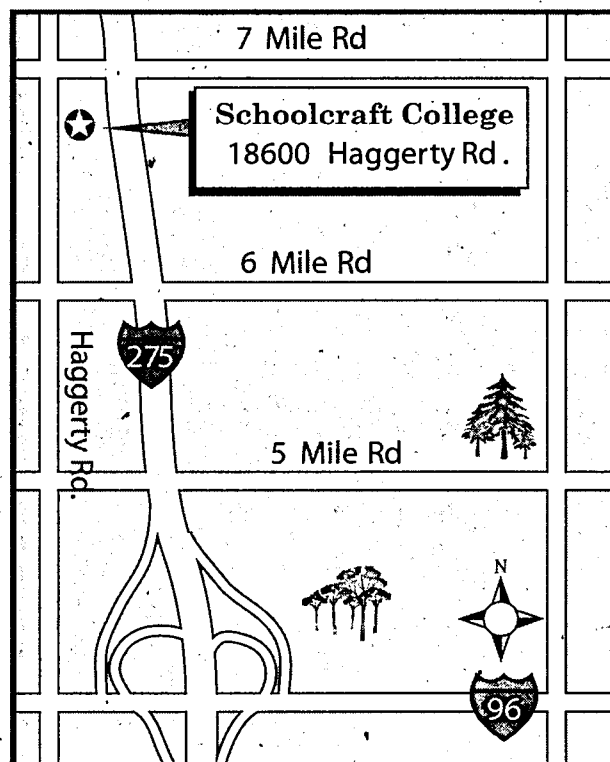
Thursday, July 12

9:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast served at 9 a.m.

**Schoolcraft College
Vis TaTech Center**

This free seminar is designed to provide retirees with information needed to make an informed decision before the deadline.



Admission is free but guests are required to pre-register.

Call: 248.932.1379

or Email Seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com



hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Pianist to perform at Schoolcraft

Pianist Julia Siciliano will perform 7 p.m. Monday, June 25 in the Forum Building Recital Hall at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

She'll play music by Beethoven, Kirchner, Liszt and Chopin. Siciliano recently was invited by the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra and Andrews University Symphony Orchestra to perform as a solo artist. She has won many local and international piano competitions including the National MTNA Competition, Heida Hermanns International Competition, Iowa International Competition, Eastman Concerto Competition, and Uni-



Siciliano

versity of Michigan Concerto Competition. Active as a chamber musician, Siciliano was invited to perform with ensembles in the 2009 Fischhoff International Chamber Music Competition, and won prizes in the International Altenberg Piano Trio Competition. She recently performed on WFMT classical radio station in Chicago, Ill., as soloist, and as chamber musician along with Eric Owens, a bass-baritone with Metropolitan Opera, Barbara Haffner, assistant principal cello of the Chicago Lyric Opera, and Yuan-Qing Yu, associate principal violin of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

GARDEN & NATURE

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Trailwood Garden Walk

"Flowers are Forever Garden Walk" sponsored by the Trailwood Garden Club in Plymouth runs noon-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 26. Cost is \$8 before the walk; \$10 the day of the walk. Tickets for children, 12 and under are half off. Strollers will not be permitted in the gardens. Buy tickets at Saxton's Garden Center, 587 Ann Arbor Trail, Backyard Birds,

627 S. Main, and from Darlene Rinke, (734) 455-6867.

Country Garden Club The 19th Annual Garden Walk, sponsored by the Country Garden Club of Northville, Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, July 11. The tour includes six gardens. Other unique attractions include a garden market, live music, and refreshments at historic Mill Race Village. Proceeds from the event support charitable contributions to local and national horticultural causes. Tickets are \$10 at Gardenviews, 117 E. Main, Northville; (248) 380-8881. Limited tickets will be sold the day of the event and will cost \$12 at Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold Ave., Northville. Visit the Country Garden Club

of Northville website at <http://cgcnv.org>

English Gardens

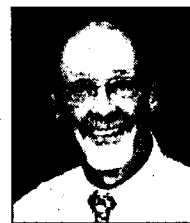
• See free in-store presentations about growing perennials at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 27, at all stores except Ann Arbor and Brighton locations and 10 a.m., Saturday, June 30, at all stores. • Learn to create a water garden at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 7. • Learn how to care for your summer garden at a free presentation 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 11 and 10 a.m., Saturday, July 14. 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.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

View Online www.hometownlife.com

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



ANTHONY, Ph.D. JAMES L.

Age 65, passed away May 21, 2012 at his home in Northville, MI. He maintained his private practice of clinical psychology for 31 years in Canton, MI. Dr. Anthony is survived by his wife of 43 years Marilee, by three children and their spouses, Jason (Teresa) Anthony, Jessica (Ryan) Tye, Aimee (Lucas) Simpson and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter Leah. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, June 30th at 11:00am with visitation to follow, at Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes Road in Ann Arbor. Memorials may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church of Trenton, MI or the National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation.

CORWIN, WILLARD MILO "BILL"

Age 76 of Coldwater MI died Friday June 15, 2012 in Coldwater. Bill was born August 20, 1935 in Plymouth MI to Lester and Mary (Mauck) Corwin. A Memorial service will be held 1:00 p.m. Wed. June 21, 2012 at the Gillespie Funeral Home, Coldwater, MI. Memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Branch Co. MI. Visit www.gillespiefh.com to leave a message or condolences to the family.

DEKROUB, JOESPH CASSEM

Passed away June 17th surrounded by his large, loving family. Born June 25th 1918 in Highland Park, Michigan, Joe graduated from Plymouth high school in 1936 and received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Texas Chiropractic College in 1938. He served in the United States Air Force during WWII, as a pilot trainer. After the war he worked for Ford Motor Company until 1976 when he retired and resumed his chiropractic practice. A generous and devoted family man, Joe was also a terrific dancer, an enthusiastic golfer and an avid hunter and fisherman. Preceded in death by his parents Cassem Solomon DeKroub and Agnes Mandry DeKroub, sister Dorothy Sala, and first wife, Francis Dunn, he is survived by his wife Sheila DeKroub, daughters Paula Marie (Smith), Michele Ann (Monson), Linda June (Darwish), Lori Ann (Karides), and son Joseph Cassem DeKroub, Jr., as well as nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. Donations to Henry Ford Hospice would be gratefully accepted. Services will be private.

DREWS, THOMAS M.

June 16, 2012, Age 66 of Plymouth. Beloved son of the late George and Georgia Drews. Dear brother of Gerald (Phillis), Dennis (Patricia), Steven (Carrie) Drews and the late Gloria (Terry) Johnson. At Mr. Drews' request, cremation has taken place and there will be no visitation or services. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

GELDER, MARTHA JOANN (SKIP)

Age 78; of Bingham Farms, Michigan died June 17, 2012. She was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan on December 18, 1933 to Helen (Price) and Joseph Kindleberger. She was predeceased in death by her husband of 58 years, John W. Gelder. Surviving are her children William (Josephine), Mark (Carol Ann), Carolyn (Kevin), Cathryn, Kirsten - Denmark, Jan - Belgium; grandchildren are Adam, Matthew, Angela, John, Amanda, James, Matthew, Jacob, Amanda, Jessica, James (Bo); great-grandchildren are Mya, Addison, Briana, Nolan, DeLaney. Mrs. Gelder was a long-time member of the DAR, Michigan Performing Arts and the Birmingham Musicale. She devoted her life, love and gifts to her husband, children of all ages and needs and senior citizens. Skip loved to sing, garden, travel and spend time at Dream's End. Visitation and funeral services will be held at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road (between Maple & Big Beaver). Visitation is Wednesday (June 20) at 4-8 p.m. Funeral Service is Thursday (June 21) at 11 a.m. Memorials may be made to Birmingham Musicale - Music Therapy Award, 3106 Harvard, Royal Oak, MI 48073 or First Presbyterian Church of Farmington Hills, 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

HADY, CARL J.

Of Leslie, MI; passed away June 19, 2012 age 70. Survived by his wife of 24 years, Gwen; one daughter, Michelle Hady; two granddaughters, Krista and Samantha; his mother, Marjorie Hady; one sister, Carole (Peter) Rochon; two nieces, Amanda and Jennifer; brother-in-law, Michael LaLonde. Carl served in the U.S. Coast Guard, worked for the Livonia Police Department and retired from Ford Motor Company. Per his wishes cremation has taken place and a memorial gathering will be held at the Holiday Inn of Jackson (2696 Bob McClain Dr., Jackson, MI) Saturday, June 30, 2012 from 4-7 P.M. Arrangements by Patience-Montgomery Funeral Home, 406 First St., Jackson, MI. www.patience-montgomery.com



HORDE, EDWARD C.

Age 91 June 21, 2012 of Garden City. Beloved husband of the late Elizabeth. Loving father of Troy (Rose), Boice (Deborah), the late Edward, the late Wayne and the late Knute. Dear brother of Bob Walker and Roy Walker. Visitation Monday 12 Noon until 5 PM Funeral Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh (between Ford & Cherry Hill) Westland. Interment Glen Eden Lutheran Memorial Park in Livonia. Memorials to the Disabled American Veterans would be appreciated. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



HENDERSON, SCOTT PHILLIP

Aug 28, 1946 - Jun 16, 2012 Scott Phillip Henderson was born in Detroit, MI to Francis (Bill) Phillip and Mary Jane Henderson; and went to be with his Heavenly Father at the age of 65. He enjoyed his childhood with his parents and grandparents in Birmingham, MI. Scott attended grade school in Birmingham and graduated from Seaholm High School in 1965. After High School, Scott attended Michigan State University (he remained a true Spartan fan, wishing to be cremated in his Spartan jersey) and Oakland Community College, where he majored in Broadcasting. He started his Broadcasting career at the age of 22. If you lived in the Midwest you may have heard his amazing radio voice. He retired in 2011 after 43 years in the broadcasting business. Scott's great loves were his dogs, Red, Sweetie, and Pepper, model railroading, trains ("the real kind"), and music, playing his guitars, piano, and keyboards. Also singing and his car. Scott was a champion for sheltered animals and volunteered many hours helping to get animals adopted. He was also active in politics as a citizen, always writing and be-friending politicians to help make the county, state, or nation a better place. He also volunteered at the Union Pacific Museum. He leaves behind to remember him, his daughter Angela Wirbiczcas; his "heart" sister, Deb Swenson, her husband Bob, their daughters, Rachael Mitchell, and Kati Christensen, and their families; and some very special friends. A MEMORIAL GATHERING will be held Wednesday, June 20, at 11:30am in Scott's backyard at 16318 Josephine Street. Dress casually and bring a lawn chair. Lunch will be provided. Memorials can be made to Scott Henderson to help defray his medical expenses.

JOHN A. GENTLEMAN MORTUARIES PACIFIC STREET CHAPEL 14151 Pacific St., 402-391-1664 www.johngentleman.com

JURGENSEN, CHRISTINE

Age 89, of Farmington Hills, recently of East Lansing, died June 16, 2012, surrounded by her family. She was born on July 11, 1922 in Winchester, IL, the daughter of Albert and Mary Elizabeth Hosking. She was the beloved wife of the late Thor Jurgensen; loving mother of Karen (Robert Parks) Jurgensen, Karla (Shirdel Welsh) Jurgensen, and Lisa Jurgensen (Eric) Herman; devoted grandmother of Thor (Kerry) Sandell, Kierstin (Nicholas) Drzal, and Kelsi Herman; proud great-grandmother of Annika Drzal, Allison Drzal, and Ross Thor Sandell; aunt of many nieces and nephews. Other survivors include a sister, Clara (Gordon) Mathie, brother, William Hosking, brother-in-law, Robert Wade, and two sisters-in-law, Gerd Allor and Else Mercer. She was preceded in death by two of her sisters, Alberta (Robert) Wade and Mary (Gene) Kress. Christine made many dear friends as an active member of the Nordkap Lodge of the Sons of Norway, Scandinavian Women's Society, Swedish Club, Finnish Center Association, Scandinavian Symphony, League of Women Voters, Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, and numerous committees in the Farmington Village Cooperative. She was a former employee in the Trust Department of Comerica Bank. She graduated at age 65 with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Michigan. There will be a gathering of family members at her daughter's home. As Christine wished, no funeral services are planned.

NESBITT, CAROLYN KIRK

June 17, 2012, age 86. Loving wife of the late Keith for 60 years. Devoted mother of Stephen, Teresa and the late Suzanne and David. Cherished grandmother of Robin. Funeral Wednesday 11 a.m. at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile). Family will receive friends Tuesday 4-7 p.m. Memorial tributes to Multiple Sclerosis Society or the American Diabetes Association. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com

AJ DESMOND SONS



PEMBER, DOROTHY

Of Portage, MI. Dorothy Pember, age 93, formerly of Birmingham died on Friday, April 20, 2012. Members of her family include her daughter, Karen Doubleday of Portage; 2 grandchildren and a great grandson. She was preceded in death by her husband, Russell Pember. Graveside service was held on May 11 at the Acacia Park Cemetery. Funeral services will be held at 4 pm on Saturday, June 30, 2012 at the Life Story Funeral Home, Betzler-Kalamazoo, 6080 Stadium Dr. (800-822-7594). Please visit Dorothy's personal web page at www.lifestorynet.com, where you can archive a favorite memory or photo and sign online guestbook.



SCHADE, RUTH E.

Age 83 of Farmington Hills. Died June 19, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Robert C. for 54 years. Loving mother of Robert II (Laura), Peter (Gerald), and Stephen (Debbie) Schade. Cherished grandmother of Kathryn, Brittany, Sarah, Raymond, and Samantha. Dear sister of Margaret Connor. Funeral services will be on Tuesday, June 26th at 11:00 a.m. (in state 10:30) at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. Visitation Monday 1-9 p.m. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home 33603 Grand River Ave., (1blk W. of Farmington Rd.) downtown Farmington. Memorials may be directed to the American Cancer Society. www.thayer-rock.com

In memory of JOHN R. HENSLEY JUNE 16, 2009

John, Three years have passed without you. No one to share my thoughts, morning papers and coffee with. Now our son will be with you. I pray that there is life after death so I can join you and await our family reunion. Take care of each other. My love always, Joan

Milestones



Madeline Raine Noechel

Madeline Raine Noechel was born April 21, 2012 at Providence Park Hospital in Novi. She joins her parents, Jeffrey and Maryn Noechel, and siblings, Zoe, 6, and Ellie, 3, at home in South Lyon. Grandparents are Bob and DJ Noechel of Livonia and George Emmert of Atlanta, Ga. Great-grandparents are Elly June Eaton of Flowermound, Texas and Marilyn Schrottenboer of Lake Placid, Fla.



Nuccitelli-Sanker

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Nuccitelli of Farmington Hills happily announce the marriage of their daughter, Dana Noelle, to Kevin Sanker, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Albert Sanker of Northville.

Dana graduated from Farmington High School in 2005 and from the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business in 2009. She is employed by Ally Financial in Detroit as a senior financial analyst.

Kevin graduated from Brother Rice High School in 2004 and from Michigan State's Board College of Business in 2008. Kevin is employed by Quicken Loans in Detroit as an underwriter.

Their wedding is planned for August 2012 at St. Hugo's of the Hills Catholic Church, followed by a reception at Meadowbrook Country Club.



Repoz-Osdras

Kelly Jeanne Repoz and Stanley Robert Osdras announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Larry and Nancy Repoz of Livonia, graduated in 2003 from Livonia Stevenson High School and in 2007 from Michigan State University. She is employed by The Bank of Holland.

Her fiancé, son of Stanley T. and Cathie Osdras of Brighton, graduated in 2003 from Hartland High School and in 2007 from Grand Valley State University. He is employed by Enterprise Rent A Car.

An August 2012 wedding will be held in Grand Rapids.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

Survey says: Adults name top four child health concerns

Obesity and bullying are among adults' top child health concerns, according to a national poll taken by the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

In a survey of more than 2,100 adults, participants selected the single most important child health issue from a list of 24 common child health concerns. Overall, they said they want presidential candidates to address childhood obesity, bullying, drug abuse and child abuse and neglect.

In the poll, about one in six adults — 17 percent — ranked childhood obesity first, and one in 7 — 15 percent — identified bullying as the top concern. Drug abuse was ranked highest by 11 percent and 8 percent chose child abuse and neglect. Together, these four priorities were the choice of over half of the adults polled.

Answers did not differ based on the respondents' political party affiliation or race/ethnicity.

"Healthcare reform is a major topic during this election season, but much of that focuses on uninsured adults and the costs of healthcare. The health of children usually is not the focus of the political talk," said Dr. Matthew M. Davis, director of the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health. But many serious health problems for adults stem from behaviors and patterns that begin in childhood, such as obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and depression, reinforcing the need for policies of early intervention, Davis said.

"By asking about children's health and health policy, we hope to bring the public's voice to the policymakers. We found that no matter their politics or race/ethnicity, adults in the US agree on these top child health priorities."

Davis is an associate professor in the Child Health Evaluation and Research Unit and the Divi-



sion of General Medicine at the U-M Medical School, and associate professor of Public Policy at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

He said the high ranking of childhood obesity is consistent with previous poll results and other national data, and reinforces the need for policies to help children and parents.

"The federal government is currently responsible for many programs that may have an impact on childhood obesity, like school lunches, encouragement of physical activity and subsidies for specific food items. But the pub-

lic is aware that more may be needed, and seems eager to hear from presidential candidates that they've made this a priority."

He said the public also recognizes that bullying, whether on the playground, at school or even online, also can lead to both immediate and lasting health problems for children.

"These are common issues that we can agree on, no matter your choice of presidential candidates. These four issues — childhood obesity, bullying, drug abuse and child abuse and neglect — were the choice of more than half of the adults that we polled.

Hospital offers recipe from health fair

What's so good about beans?

Visitors to the Senior Health & Fitness Fair last weekend at St. Mary Mercy Hospital learned about healthful ingredients — like beans — during a cooking demonstration.

Hussein Ammar, manager, food and nutrition services, showed seniors how to make Cumin-Lime Black Bean and Avocado Salad, a meal high in fiber and low in fat and salt.

"Nutrition at any age is important, but for seniors, healthy eating is the first step in preventative medicine and reversing the onset of ailments that comes with aging," said Mary Cuevas, a registered dietician at the hospital.

She said individuals tend to lose muscle mass as they age, which is why the bean and avocado salad is a healthful choice for seniors. Beans contain protein that helps maintain muscle mass.

Nutrition was just one of many topics that physicians, experts and exhibitors explored with seniors at the fair. The event on Saturday, June 16 drew approximately 200 individuals.

Cuevas said the Cumin-Lime Black Bean and Avocado Salad is "packed with flavor and nutritional value."

Here's Ammar's recipe:

Cumin-Lime Black Bean and Avocado Salad

Servings: 4
 Preparation time: 10 minutes
 Cooking time: 0 minutes
 Level of difficulty: Easy

Ingredients:
 ½ small uncooked red onion, thinly sliced
 ¼ cup fresh lime juice
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 ½ teaspoon table salt
 ½ teaspoon cumin seeds

15 ounces canned black beans (rinsed and drained)
 1 medium avocado, diced
 1 cup grape tomatoes, halved
 8 cups lettuce, green leaf, roughly torn

12 items baked low-fat tortilla chips, very coarsely crumbled

Instructions:
 In a large bowl, combine onion, lime juice, oil, salt and cumin seeds; let stand 10 minutes, tossing occasionally, until onion starts to wilt.

Add beans, avocado and tomatoes to bowl; gently toss to mix and coat.

Line each of 4 plates with 2 cups of lettuce; top each with ½ cup of bean salad and 3 crumbled chips. Yields 1 salad per serving. Nutrition Facts per serving: 215 calories, 11 g fat, 16 g carbohydrates, 320 mg sodium, 8g fiber, 6 g protein.



Thanks to the support of so many, our 21st Annual Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure® locally presented by Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute was a big success. The community grants we will announce in September will make a big impact on the breast health of our community. This year, more than ever, we are grateful for your generous support in the fight to end breast cancer.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Absopure
ACCESS
The Active Network
Aditya Birla Minacs
Allegra Print & Imaging
American Airlines
American Black Journal - Detroit
Public Television
American Laser Skincare
American Polish Cultural Center
Arrowhead
ArtsCorpsDetroit - Wayne State
University
AstraZeneca | Garden Fresh Gourmet
Governor Business Solutions
Stuart Frankel Development
Company
Genentech
Guy Gordon - WDIV Local 4
Rick Greenwell

HP
HER Detroit
Home Depot
HOUR Detroit Magazine
Andrew Humphrey - WDIV Local 4
Independent Carpet One Floor &
Home@-Westland

Siham Jaafar - WDHT TV
Paula Kaye
Sean Keenan
Kelly Services, Inc.
Bill Kern
Kids Kicking Cancer
Susan G. Komen 3-Day
Komen Detroit Cure Leaders
Komen Mid-Michigan Affiliate
Kroger

Lila Lazarus
League of Women Voters
Lenny's Sub Shop
The Honorable Senator Carl Levin
and Barbara Levin
Family of Denise Lowe
Lucido Fine Jewelry

MadCap Productions
Maingate
Marathon Petroleum Company, LLC
McCann-Erickson
Carolyn McCarthy
Tracey McCaskill - WMXD Mix 92.3
McDonald's
Meijer
Michigan Association of CPAs
(MACPA)
Michigan Association of Nurse
Anesthetists (MIANA)
Michigan CAT
Michigan Chronicle
Michigan Institute of Urology- Men's
Health Foundation
Michigan Recreation & Park
Association
Midtown Café
MOH Riley Foundation
Mom's Clean Air Force
Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney
Moroch
Motor City Striders
MSU Detroit Center | Olympia Entertainment
Panera Bread
Performance Staging
Peteet's Famous Cheesecakes
Deborah Powell
PrintMasters Printing Co.
Quicken Loans
Quilted Northern Ultra Plush

Rally for the Cure®
Rapid Response
RE/MAX
Republic Services
RNE Concepts, LLC
Robin Aire Heating & Cooling, Inc.

Stephanie Rozner
S.P.I.R.I.T Drummers
Salon Grafix
SELF® Magazine
Alicia Smith - WXYZ Channel 7
The Honorable Governor Rick
Snyder and Sue Snyder
Smugmug
Sodexo at Ford WHQ
St. John Episcopal Church
The Honorable Senator Debbie
Stabenow
Stanley Steemer
Sun Belt Rentals - Canton
Synergies Plus Solutions, LLC

Team Detroit
Tecumseh Trolley & Limousine
Service Inc.
Testimony - Hope United Methodist
Church
Thunder Audio
Jay Towers - WJBK FOX 2
Paula Tutman - WDIV Local 4
UAW Local 245
Under the Radar Michigan
UPS

Variations Salon
Visions Spa Salon
Renee Vitale - Fresh 100.3
Community Volunteers
Rhonda Walker - WDIV Local 4
Walgreens
Warrior In Pink Drummers Powered
by Ford - Community Volunteers
Wayne State University
WDIV Local 4
The Whitney
Whole Foods Market
WHFR FM 89.3
WWJ Newsradio 950
WXYZ Channel 7
Yoplait
Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity |
|--|---|--|
- Eddie's Pizza
Prof. Holly Feen-Calligan - Wayne
State University
Foolish - WJLB FM 98
Ford Motor Company
FOX 2 WJBK
- New Balance
New Balance Farmington Hills & Troy
Nordstrom
The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers/Hometown Weeklies
- PLEASE VISIT**
 karmanos.org/
 detroitraceforthe cure for
 all Komen Detroit Race
 for the Cure® updates.



"I Want the Best"



Senior ERs™

The Nation's Leading Senior ER™ Program

"The Senior ER team was there to help me when I needed them most." Our unique team approach combines physicians and nurses certified in geriatric emergency medicine. Every patient receives a personalized treatment plan, which includes resources from case managers, a pharmacy review of medications and additional support for physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Isn't it time you Discover Remarkable?

stjoeshealth.org • 800-231-2211

DISCOVER
 REMARKABLE

FORD HAS 47 MODELS THAT GET OVER 22 MILES PER GALLON!

LIFE on FULL

NOW'S THE TIME TO SAVE ON A FUEL-EFFICIENT FORD!

2012 FOCUS SE FWD
MSRP: \$20,775³



28 city / 38 highway MPG²

\$159 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$1,976 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

- 2.0L Ti-VCT I-4 Engine
- AM/FM Single Disk CD Player with MP3 Capability
- AdvanceTrac® Electronic Stability Control System • MyKey™

2012 FUSION SEL FWD
Great Lakes Value Package
MSRP: \$28,985³

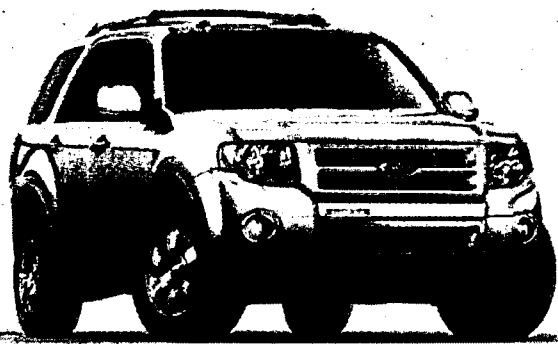


23 city / 33 highway MPG²

\$169 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$510 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine
- Heated Leather Driver/Passenger Seats
- Moonroof, Blind Spot Information System
- Reverse Sensing System • Rear View Camera
- Sync® Voice-Activated Communications and Entertainment System • MyKey™

2012 ESCAPE LIMITED FWD
MSRP: \$29,445³



20 city / 27 highway MPG²

\$169 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$1,180 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine
- Heated, Premium Leather Trimmed Front Seats
- Power Moon Roof, Reverse Sensing System
- 6-speed Automatic Transmission
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™

2012 FLEX SEL FWD
MSRP: \$34,025³



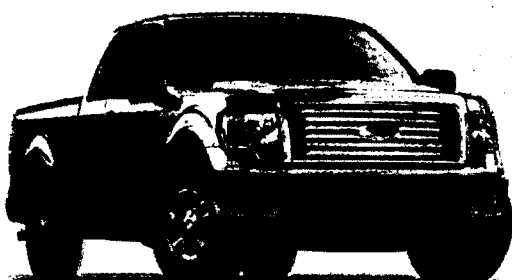
18 city / 28 highway MPG²

\$209 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$3,388 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

OR

0% FINANCING PLUS: **\$1,750⁵ CUSTOMER CASH!**
EQR 60 MONTHS!

2012 F-150 SUPERCAB
XLT 4X4
MSRP: \$38,660³

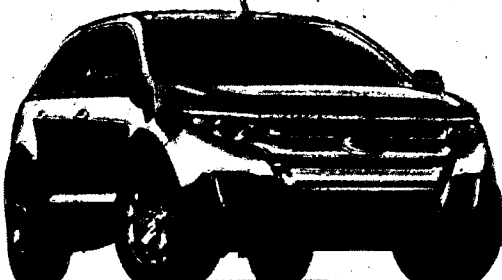


14 city / 19 highway MPG²

\$189 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$3,810 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

- 5.0L V-8 Engine
- Sync, Tow & Chrome package
- 18" Chrome-Clad Aluminum Wheels
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™
- Trailer Sway Control

2013 EDGE
SEL FWD
MSRP: \$36,020³



19 city / 27 highway MPG²

\$219 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$3,850 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

- 3.5 Ti-VCT V6 Engine
- 6-Speed Automatic Transmission
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™
- AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with MP3 Capability • Personal Safety System
- 18" Painted Aluminum Wheels

2013 EXPLORER
XLT FWD
MSRP: \$36,140³



17 city / 24 highway MPG²

\$269 PER MONTH LEASE
For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees!
\$2,486 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

- 3.5L Ti-VCT V-6 Engine
- Sync with My Ford Touch
- Reverse Sensing System
- Rear View Camera • Trailer Sway Control
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™



Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers
thinkfordfirst.com



Go Further

(1) Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low mileage lease. Residency restrictions apply. Some payments higher, some lower. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. You must currently lease a Ford product through Ford Credit and re-lease through Ford Credit. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash on all vehicles with the exception of the Focus. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 7/2/2012. (2) MPG-EPA estimated with equipment as shown. (3) MSRP, A-Plan price is for qualified, eligible A-Plan customers and excludes document fee, destination/delivery charge, taxes, title and registration. Optional equipment not included. (4) Not all customers will qualify for 0% APR Ford Credit Financing, \$16.67 per month per \$1,000 financed for 60 months. (5) For purchases only. (6) Source: fueleconomy.gov.