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COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

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See more information in a special advertisement (Look for Paws) inside today's edition.



**Shopping
spree**

Christmas in July is back this year inside Hometownlife *INSPIRE*, which will be published Thursday, July 19.

List the pages where you spot the holiday icon and enter with the form inside the print edition of *INSPIRE* or online at hometownlife.com.

All entries must be received by midnight July 31. Winners will be selected at random from all correct entries. You could win \$250, \$125 or \$75 to go on a Christmas in July shopping spree.

**Salvation
Army**

It's Christmas in July as donations will be collected for the Salvation Army 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, July 21 and July 28. Look for volunteer bell ringers at Wayne and Warren roads.

INDEX

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

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**Court ruling
could affect
murder sentence**



Jean Pierre Orlewicz was 17 when he was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life without the possibility of parole for the November 2007 murder of Dan Sorensen.

Orlewicz was under age 18 when convicted

By Brad Kadrach
Observer Staff Writer

James and Kim Sorensen have endured countless sleepless nights in the nearly five years since their son, Dan, was killed by Plymouth Township teenager Jean Pierre Orlewicz in the Canton garage of Orlewicz's grandfather.

Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court made another decision that's keeping the Westland couple up nights.

The court, in a 5-4 decision written by Justice Elena Kagan, effectively struck down Michigan's sentencing scheme, ruling it's unconstitutional for children under the age of 18 to be sentenced to a mandatory term of life in prison without any chance of parole.

The decision invalidates statutes in 29 states, including Michigan, that justices decided violate the Eighth Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

"I'm not surprised they did what they did ... that's fine, I can understand them wanting to get rid of mandatory sentences," Jim Sorensen said Friday. "The problem is, if they act too hastily, it could create a situation where (Orlewicz) comes up before a sympathetic parole board that might let him out."

Young defendant

Orlewicz was 17 in November 2007, when he lured Dan Sorensen

Please see **RULING, A2**

FILE COMPLAINTS ONLINE

Instead of calling to report an issue, residents can file their complaint at www.cityofwestland.com.

**Westland goes
high-tech with
ordinance
enforcement**

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Since the Westland Fire Department took over ordinance enforcement duties a year ago, the reporting and response process has increasingly taken advantage of technology — there's even an app for smartphones.

"We're moving forward with technology, and it's helping customer service in the community," Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal John Adams said. "We started last year. We're perfecting the process."

The fire department has been working close-

ly with IT Director Dan Bourdeau and his staff to use technology to streamline the ordinance enforcement program and make it easier to track once a concern has been filed.

Instead of calling to report an issue, whether high grass or blighted buildings, residents can file their complaint electronically through the city website, www.cityofwestland.com. Just go to fire department listing, then find Ordinance Helpdesk on the pull-down menu.

There is a form in which the resident can

Please see **ONLINE, A2**

**City promos Helpdesk at
community gathering**

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Westland's ordinance enforcement was taken over the by fire department a year ago, but apparently some residents didn't get the memo.

"A lot of times when I see residents in the store or on the street, a misconception is that we no longer have ordinance enforcement or that we need more ordinance officers," Mayor William Wild said.

Those are such common misconceptions that Wild said there will be a display and demonstration of the Ordinance Helpdesk electronic reporting system during the Community Gathering set for 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 25, at Corrado Park.

"It's going really well. I actually think it is one of best things, but no one knows about it," Wild said. "I use it myself. They probably jump on it

when they see my name. I'm really proud of it."

With concerns filed and tracked electronically, Wild said the Fire Marshal Division is able to handle ordinance enforcement more efficiently than enforcement officers who had other building department duties.

"It really works well, we will try to promote it. We are getting better compliance," Wild said. "One of the things in talking with the (18th District Court) judges is that tickets were down. Our goal is never a ticket. It's compliance."

One thing residents might not like about the Ordinance Helpdesk, Wild said, is that complaints can't be filed anonymously. That lets city staff track the complaints, he said, but personal information about who complained isn't shared with the subject of the complaint.

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Park celebrates summer with antique car show

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

It won't be your father's car show Saturday at Westland's Historic Village Park — more like your grandfather's car show.

"We're limiting it to Model A Fords from 1935 and older. There will be cars from all over the place," car show organizer Don Nicholson said. "I'm looking for 30 to 40 cars to come out." Part of the Summer

Bonanza from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the car show will attract different cars than might usually be seen at classic car shows and cruises, Nicholson said.

"There are literally thousands of cars this vintage in metro Detroit," he

said. "The Model A's T's, N's, and S's don't show up for classic car nights. This is different. With an historic license plate, you can only drive to and from shows."

There are lots of stories about the Model T's

— 15 million were built by Ford.

"They had 10-gallon fuel tanks that were gravity fed. If you were below half a tank, you couldn't drive up hill," Nicholson

Please see **CAR SHOW, A2**

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ONLINE

Continued from page A1

fill in the location and type of concern. The form requires the name and contact information of the person making the complaint, but that isn't shared with anyone outside city staff.

When a concern is filed, Adams is notified immediately on his smartphone and adds that Fire Chief Michael Reddy also is copied. The resident gets an immediate email response and six-digit reference number.

"We want to reduce the number of telephone calls and increase the Internet usage. It's quality control," Adams said. "It's time-stamped, like when you call 9-1-1. We know what time you called and what time we responded."

It's that core value of 9-1-1 quick responses and customer service that firefighters bring to ordinance enforcement, Adams said.

"We want a win-win solution. Some people need education, other people have a history of violations in their file," Adams said. "Your concern no longer goes into a black hole like in the past."

Whether residential or commercial property, the Westland Fire Marshal Division is tasked with ordinance enforcement. A staff member will investigate and, if there is a violation, contact the responsible party to get compliance.

High grass and blight issues

are the most common complaints for ordinance enforcement, Adams said. Blight might be debris or furniture left at the curb or dealing with rodents.

"That becomes an issue that has a domino effect, if a property is in distress and not secured," Adams said. "Animals will take shelter — rats, mice, raccoons or feral cats. We need to be proactive."

While there will be a quick response to someone reporting a concern, Adams said he would never give someone a hard deadline for getting compliance. That timeline can vary depending on the situation.

"If the solution is going to cost 'X' amount of dollars and the homeowner says he doesn't get paid until Friday, I'll work with him," Adams said.

Conversely, he said there are other properties in which the city will take quick action to resolve the problem by sending out a contractor and billing the property owner.

"We're not issuing the number of tickets we issued in the past. There is direct relation to how we talk to residents and deal with them," Adams said. "If you're adversarial, the person becomes adversarial. Professionalism is the word we need to keep in mind."

The Ordinance Helpdesk also provides a way for residents to ask questions, Bourdeau said, along with access to city ordinances "so they can look things up themselves."

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RULING

Continued from page A1

to his grandfather's garage, stabbed him to death, then dismembered and disposed of his body. Orlewicz and his accomplice, Alex Letkemann, stood trial in the spring of 2008; Letkemann eventually pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 20-30 years in prison. Orlewicz was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.

Orlewicz has appealed his conviction because the original trial judge, Annette Berry, didn't allow some psychiatric testimony Orlewicz's lawyers contend was relevant. The case is currently in the Michigan Supreme Court, which hasn't yet chosen to take it up.

Orlewicz's attorney, Elizabeth Jacobs, didn't return a call seeking comment, but has reportedly already petitioned the Michigan Supreme Court, where Orlewicz's case sits awaiting appeal, to add the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling for consideration in Orlewicz's case.

Maria Miller, spokesperson for Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, said the prosecutor's office wouldn't be commenting on the ruling at this point.

"We are not addressing what will happen in any individual cases yet," Miller said. "Currently our office is working with the Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council and the Michigan Prosecuting Attorneys Association to formulate a uniform policy that will be applied by the 83 elected prosecutors across the state."

Case by case

The court's ruling, which effects more than 300 cases in Michigan, doesn't mean every juvenile defendant will automatically be re-sentenced. According to Raymond Cassar, the Farmington Hills attorney who represented Letkemann, cases such as Orlewicz's will be taken up on a case-by-case basis. Attorneys will have to



FILE PHOTO

James Sorensen of Westland, with wife Kim in court, are concerned that the Supreme Court ruling could open the door to a "sympathetic parole board" releasing Jean Pierre Orlewicz, who was convicted of killing their son, Daniel.

make their arguments, presumably before the original sentencing judge, before decisions are rendered.

Cassar, a veteran defense attorney, said the ruling doesn't mean juveniles sentenced to life without parole will automatically be back on the streets any time soon.

"It's not a matter of 'oh, you get to go free,'" Cassar said. "You have to go back before a judge and make the case it was cruel and unusual punishment. Since there is no case law, judges can say, 'I need to review this.' Judges are going to worry about all these cases. I think the ruling is a very good step in the right direction. But if you read it carefully, there's good caution."

The issue for the Sorensen family, whose son was just 26 when he died, is what judge will hear sentencing arguments. Orlewicz's case has been adjudicated by two Wayne County Circuit judges, Berry and Bruce Morrow.

Berry heard the original case and cast the no-parole life sentence, and spoke harshly of Orlewicz's deeds when she did it. Morrow heard the appeal based on Berry's denial of psychiatric testimony, and immediately drew the wrath of the victim's family and the media by banning everyone from the courtroom. He was eventual-

ly forced to allow spectators but, according to Sorensen, showed "a real bias" toward the defense.

"We know (Berry) would do the right thing. ... She made it clear he belonged in prison the rest of his life, and that's where he should stay," Sorensen said. "(Morrow) is the one who violated our constitutional right to be in the hearing. He seems to have a propensity to not follow the law and go his own way."

No trust

"In (Morrow's) hearing, there was an obvious bias toward the defense. The treatment of the prosecution and the prosecution witness was appalling," Sorensen added. "If it came up before him, I'm not sure he would confirm the life sentence with parole, let alone without parole. I don't trust him."

In any case, defense attorney Cassar doesn't think Orlewicz would benefit from the ruling.

"The violence involved, and the premeditation involved, in (Orlewicz's) actions was such that they're not going to let him out," he said.

While the ruling doesn't do his client in this case any good — Cassar said Letkemann will be eligible for parole in 2029 — Cassar agrees with the general principle of the ruling.

"In many circumstances, I absolutely agree with the court," Cassar said. "Many juveniles should not be subject to life without parole, because they're juveniles. They clearly don't think like an adult would, because they don't have adult experiences. Yet they're committing adult crimes ... and they're looking at life in prison."

"There's some wonderful language about the inability of a juvenile to completely understand the rationale behind their actions," he added. "I believe many juveniles do not have the mental ability to comprehend the wrongs they commit. I think it's an interesting, important decision."

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CAR SHOW

Continued from page A1

said. "People learned to drive uphill backwards. I love the anecdotes about the older cars."

Along with the car show, there will be old-fashioned games offered during the Summer Bonanza. Admission is free. Refreshments will be available for purchase, with proceeds benefitting the Historic Village Park.

"Last year, we had an ice cream social. With the heat, we

decided not to do that this year," said Jo Johnson of the Westland Historical Commission. "Don't want to do a car show. We've never done a car show before."

Located on Wayne Road south of Marquette, the Historic Village Park has historic buildings, including the Octagon House and the Rowe House. A barn is being added to the property.

Parking is available at Westland John Glenn High School on Marquette. For more information, call Nicholson at (734) 658-5296.

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The members of the Toppermost Beatles tribute are co-founder Ron Lockhart of Farmington as George, co-founder Tom Diab of Dexter as Paul McCartney, Tony Iadipaolo of Livonia as John and Ray Steinberg of Farmington Hill, as Ringo.

Committee hosts concert to rally support for library

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Seeking support for an upcoming operating millage request for the William P. Faust Library, the Save Our Westland Library Committee is hosting a concert Thursday.

The play list hasn't been announced, but when Beatles tribute band Toppermost performs, but concert goes just might hear Help!

"It's just a little rally before people go to vote. We hope people will support the library," library board member Antoinette Martin said. "Everyone is invited."

On the Aug. 7 primary ballot, voters are being asked to approve a 0.99-mill increase that is expected to generate \$1.3 million in revenue the first year. The millage would cost the average homeowner — with a \$58,600 property value — less than \$25 annually.

The millage request comes after several years of reductions at the library, which like the city itself, has seen reduced revenues as property values have declined.

The ballot question comes before voters just over a month after budget cuts have resulted in the reduction of library hours to 40 hours over five days per week. A dozen employees, full and part time, were laid off and a number of programs were reduced or

eliminated.

The volunteer Save Our Westland Library Committee raised funds to get campaign signs and a recent mailing to absentee voters. The committee also has a Facebook page.

"We've been getting a positive response from people. We haven't had any real issue," Martin said. "We haven't heard of any organized opposition."

The committee rented the pavilion behind the library to hold the Toppermost concert, which is scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. and is free to everyone. The library is on Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road.

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KNOW THE SCORE

CHECK OUT THE NUMBERS IN TODAY'S SPORTS SECTION

Crews closing Ford Road ramps to I-275

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Drivers already frustrated trying to get around I-275 and Ford Road in Canton aren't going to be feeling any better next week.

The Michigan Department of Transportation, which has been working for weeks now on bridges along I-275 from about I-94 through Ann Arbor Road, announced further lane and ramp closures sure to snarl traffic more than usual and frustrate drivers already dealing with one of the most congested roadways in the area — the I-275/Ford Road interchange.

Construction crews will put up double lane closures on both northbound and southbound I-275 between Ford Road and Palmer, causing traffic shifts on Ford Road, Fellows Creek and Palmer.

The southbound lane closures will take place Tuesday, the northbound closures Wednesday. Those closures are expected to last some four hours each. But that's just the first,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Traffic is expected to get even more snarled than usual in the Ford Road/I-275 area, as MDOT crews plan to close the ramp from westbound Ford Road to southbound I-275 and the ramp on eastbound Ford Road to northbound I-275 for nearly three months beginning Tuesday.

and by contrast perhaps the easiest, part.

At about 9 a.m. Tuesday, crews will shut down the ramp from westbound Ford Road to southbound I-275 (detouring drivers to Ann Arbor Road using I-275) and the ramp from eastbound Ford Road to northbound I-275 (with a detour to Ann Arbor Road using Haggerty).

Those closures are expected to last through Oct. 1.

While township engineer Bill Serchak said drivers will eventually find their

way around the work, he acknowledged, "It's going to be a difficult summer."

"What happens usually with a traffic shift like this is that within a few days to a week, traffic patterns will modify, and people will find a different route," Serchak said. "That's just a fact of how these projects run. The people who typically use those areas will eventually find a new way."

Serchak said local traffic has already been affected by the bridge-work, so drivers are

already finding their way onto roads like Haggerty and even Lilley to the west, and roads like John Hix are available to the east, though they're a little farther.

"It appears Haggerty and Lilley are both taking a considerable amount of traffic, so the patterns have already shifted," he said. "Further congestion on the local road network is likely. I think that's fair to say."

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Wayne High students shine in JROTC

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Thirty minutes or so of standing tall and straight and doing commands is definitely not the easiest thing to do.

Just ask Crystal Fletcher.

A cadet staff sergeant in Wayne Memorial High School's JROTC Zebra Battalion, Fletcher placed first in the nation for the unarmed knockout drill at the 2012 U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC Drill Championships in Louisville, Ky.

"It feels pretty great to win, I was very surprised," said Fletcher. "It takes a lot of discipline. If you mess up, you can't fix it."

Fletcher competed against more than 1,000 cadets from around the country. Judges looked at how cadets execute commands over the course of a half hour. The cadets were eliminated one by one until only one cadet remained. They were allowed two short breaks.

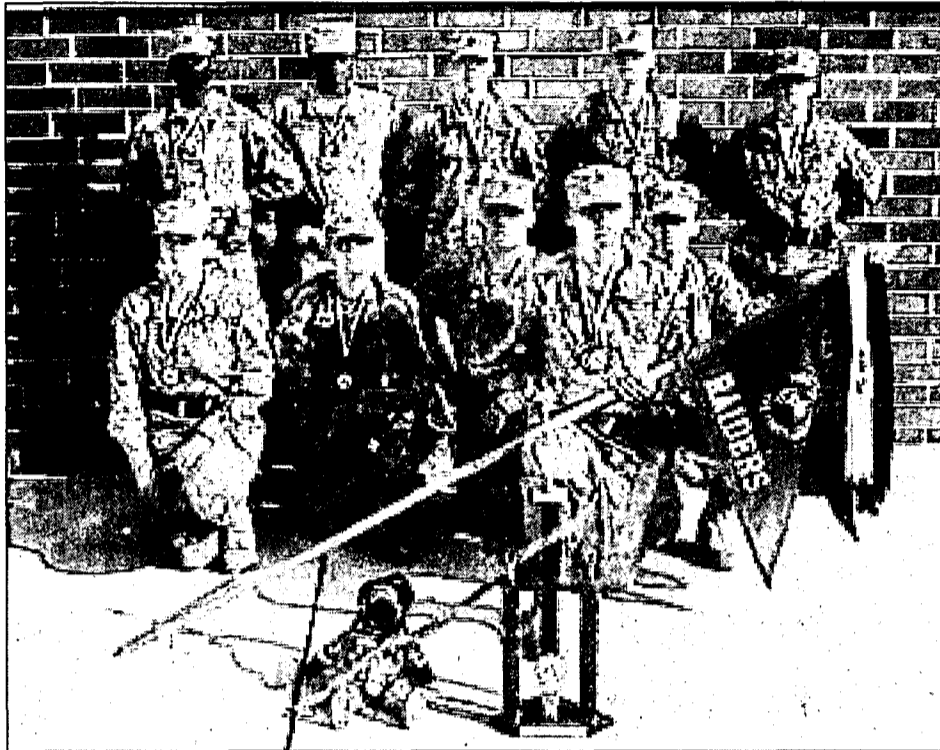
Teams from more than 1,600 schools from around the country competed in nationals. The Zebra Battalion competed in four events - Armed Platoon, Platoon Exhibition, Inspection and Color Guard - and achieved its goal of being in the top 50 percent of the finalists by placing 16th overall.

Fletcher has been in the JROTC after hearing from friends that it was a good program. She decided to give it a try and found it was "a great program." But she is leaving it. After two years of doing JROTC, playing soccer and volleyball and working, she's decided to leave.

"I won't be back, I need to focus on sports," she said. "I plan to go to college and play soccer."



Crystal Fletcher does a salute on her way to winning the unarmed knockout drill at the 2012 U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC Drill Championships.



The Zebra Battalion's Raider team made it two in a row by winning this year's Michigan Competition with first places in all events.

"She picked a good time to be involved, we won a lot of honors," said JROTC instructor retired 1st Sgt. Steven LaHaine. "It was a good experience for her."

The end of the school year meant a change in command for the battalion with Donte Burton

taking over as battalion commander.

Burton has been in JROTC for three years and views the experience as an opportunity to "be in so many places and meet so many people."

Good program
"I've also learned some

cool skills," he said. "I got a recommendation from my friend that it was a good program. I've been on drill for three years. It's a lot of effort, determination and sacrifice. I'd recommend this to my friends, it's that good of a program."

Burton headed up the

2011-2012 drill team and said the unit has set a goal of being in the top 10 in the country next year.

"The first sergeant helps us out," he said. "It's about precision and how sharp we are. It's about showmanship. I look forward to winning competitions, being in the top 10 and teaching the cadets."

Junior Darren Hombirg is commander of the Raider Team which repeated as Michigan champions this year. The team finished sixth in the nation in 2012 and like the drill team is setting its sights on finishing in the top 10.

"Raider is about exercise, it's not as much precision as it is speed," said Hombirg who is spending his summer in basic training at Ft. Leonardwood. "I plan on bringing back everything I learn, but it'll be less abusive."

The Raiders already are in training with a voluntary summer running program, and Devin Person is handling it while Hombirg is out of town. However, Hombirg planned to write him letters to keep the team training for next year's nationals.

"I'm not ready for getting up at 5 o'clock, but in training for nationals, this will be like having a third instructor," said Hombirg who also is the battalion's operations officer. "I have to plan and execute all the training schedules for the battalion."

"These cadets get real world experience, they get real world leadership experience," said LaHaine. "The things the cadets learn here, they take with them."

Like Fletcher, Hombirg is glad he made to decision to join JROTC which for him "is like family."

"I wouldn't have friends, if I didn't have ROTC," he said. "JROTC

is like family, we're here to encourage each other." Hombirg brought in Jillian Matheson who liked the scholarship option. It's turned out to be "more than I ever hoped for."

"I thoroughly enjoy it," she said. "I joined the drill and Raider teams. They were hard, but I realized they were for me. I've already met my goal of being the public affairs officer."

As the public affairs officer, Matheson provides articles about the battalion for use in the school newspaper and media, and takes photos at all JROTC events. She replaces Morgan Boyd

"I have friends outside of here, but I know they (cadets) are going to be here to give me support," Boyd said. "It's going to be hard coming in here and not taking pictures. I plan to join the Navy, I want to be a public affairs officer."

Matheson also has her career plan in place. She plans to enter the Army as a nurse right after she's out of school. She'll go to an eight-day camp and be certified as a nurse assistant. She took classes at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center and believes that puts her ahead of the other enlistees.

"I've been in ROTC so long that I can't see me doing anything else," she said.

Nineteen cadets graduated in June, and LaHaine is proud of them. Going through the program has prepared them for their future.

"They all have a plan," he said. "We have successes out there because of what we teach them in here."

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July 16, 2012
August 6, 2012
September 17, 2012
October 8, 2012
November 5, 2012
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Birth and Death Certificates
Marriage Licenses
Assumed Names
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In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

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

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

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

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CE07/20218

Westland girl attends D.C. conference

An 11-year-old Westland girl was in Washington, D.C., earlier this month as a Michigan representative to the 2012 Junior National Young Leaders Conference.



Olweean

Ariel Olweean was nominated to attend the conference by her fifth-sixth-grade teacher at the American

Montessori Academy. Junior National Young Leaders Conference was July 1-6 and was for middle school students. According to her mother, Evon Gibson, the recommendation was based on her "exceptional grade point averages in her academic studies and by obtaining high scores in the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and the Northwest Evaluation Association tests.

"Ariel is an outstanding young lady, who has been an active member at her school, by being selected as an AMA Link Crew and Peer Mediator Leader for the 2011-2012 year," her mother said.

She added that her daughter was "very excited" and a little nervous since this was the first time she traveled out of state by herself, and the first time traveling by plane.

"We are so proud of her, and feel this unique opportunity will enhance her college portfolio, but more important, teach her skills that will help her in continuing to grow and be an exceptional person," she said.

Legion Riders stop in Garden City as part of Scholarship Fund Run

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Hundreds of American Legion Riders from across the country will roll into Garden City at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 22.

They will have lunch at the founding chapter of the American Legion Riders at Post 396 on Middlebelt for a few hours before moving on to Coldwater and then Indianapolis, the site of the national convention.

A three-mile escorted procession is expected north on Middlebelt from I-94 in support of the riders volunteering for the American Legion Scholarship Fund Run, which gives scholarships to children whose parents have died on active duty since 9/11.

Kim Dold, who is a co-chairperson of the event, hopes that Garden City families will line Middlebelt to greet the arriving veterans.

"One hundred percent of the funds raised go into the scholarship fund," Dold said. "It starts from a different point each year. This year they are stopping at our post, the founding chapter. They keep telling us it's to honor us, but we are looking at it the other way around. They are honoring us by coming to our post. We are looking forward to it."

The scholarship run begins in New York. Fang Wong, national commander of the American Legion, is expected to be in Garden City. He is chief executive officer and official spokesman of the American Legion.

Born in Canton, China, Wong immigrated to the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kim Dold, secretary of the American Legion Riders, speaks to Garden City Kiwanis Club members about the American Legion Riders Legacy Run. The national scholarship fund raiser is scheduled for Aug. 22.

United States as a 12-year-old in 1960. He attended New York City public schools and became a naturalized citizen in 1963. Wong volunteered for the U.S. Army in 1969, served 25 months in Vietnam, and retired from the Army as a chief warrant officer in 1989.

Through his American Legion post in Chinatown, Wong helped direct relief efforts in the aftermath of 9/11.

As an unfortunate consequence of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the global war on terror, many children of active-duty military personnel are now members of single-parent families. The

funds raised by the scholarship fund ensure that higher education will be a reality for these families.

It is estimated that more than 11,000 children have lost a parent in the war overseas, according to Legion information. And that number continues to grow each day.

The Legion is actively working to ensure that all those children who want a post-secondary education will be provided one.

Students who qualify and are interested in the scholarship apply in their senior year. Donations go into the Legacy Scholarship Trust Fund, which earns interest to be used for scholarships. Cur-

rently, the fund's principal is \$5.7 million. In 2012, \$49,950 in aid was distributed to students.

The trust fund's principal remains untouched and grows with each donation. Scholarships are funded by the interest. The fund has awarded \$291,895 in aid since 2004.

The Garden City American Legion Riders hope to make a monetary donation to the scholarship run when run participants arrive Aug. 22.

A special comedy night is planned at Albert's on the Alley, on Middlebelt, north of Ford. The adult comedy night is 7 p.m. Sunday, July 29, and will be hosted by Kevin Kra-

mis and will feature Mike Green, an award-winning Fox sportswriter and performer.

Tickets are available at American Legion Post 396 or at Albert's on the Alley.

To make a donation to the fund, make checks payable to American Legion Riders Post 396 or American Legion Legacy Fund and send it to American Legion Riders, Garden City Post 396, 6860 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI 48135

For more information about the comedy night or the fund, call Dold at (734) 536-0373.

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Sewing group makes blankets for troops overseas

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Heartfelt letters of thanks from U.S. soldiers who receive the fleece blankets Sandi Knight makes is what pushes her forward to do more.

The goal of Sewing Angels, a group that meets in Brighton, is that each American soldier at the U.S. Medical Transient Detachment in Landstuhl, Germany, receives a blanket whether they're injured on the battlefield or being treated for any other medical issue.

Knight, a South Lyon resident, is one of about 20 active members of the volunteer, non-profit group of women who began sewing for soldiers in August 2007 with 11 members.

"We are so thankful for all the brave heroes who sacrifice so much to keep America free," Knight said. "Sewing and sending our blankets is a way for us to show our support and gratitude to these courageous men and women."

In the last five years, 2,825 blankets have been sent. Of

that, 713 were made in 2011 and 511 were sent so far in 2012.

The largest blanket is 60 inches by 80 inches and the smaller size is 54 by 70 inches. Postage for 2011 was \$1,005 and that cost is expected to be much higher this year, because fleece recently donated from a Massachusetts company is heavier than the usual material the group buys. Postage, fabric and thread are covered by volunteers with the help of private donations and fundraisers. A tag is attached to each fleece that says, "Made with love and hope for your recovery ..."

Knight said it's a "real tear-jerking experience to get" letters of thanks, like the two below, from soldiers who found comfort in a blanket:

"Ma'am, I am a soldier that was deployed to Iraq," one letter said. "I just arrived at Landstuhl Medical Regional Hospital, Germany, for recovery of injuries sustained in Iraq. I was issued a very comfortable quilt and noticed the card attached. I just wanted to thank you for the time and effort you put into



HAL GOULD
SOUTH LYON STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sandi Knight, a member of Sewing Angels, shows off some of the blankets made for U.S. military personnel who are sent to a German hospital.

making this very fine quilt. I really do appreciate your contribution, your thoughts and your prayers."

"Sandi — thanks so much

for the blanket. I was sent to Germany for rehab and used your blanket (field of stars) every night. I loved it so much that I took it to my family state-side — and of course my cats nestled into it immediately. Thank you very much for what you do. I know the soldiers really appreciate the work. Thanks again."

Sewing Angels meets once a month for three hours at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brighton, but attending meetings isn't required of anyone who is interested in helping out. Members also work on fundraisers. Knight, for instance, recently spoke to the South Lyon American Legion and the VFW posts and "within a few days we had checks from both," she said the retired first-grade teacher who taught for 39 years in Ann Arbor. She retired in 2007 and started volunteering with Sewing Angels in 2008.

"It's a group of women who get together monthly and sew and most of us sew in our homes between monthly meet-

ings," Knight said.

The art of sewing was nurtured in her as a young girl, but as she got older other commitments pulled her away from the hobby. Now, she keeps getting drawn back to her machine with the hope of helping someone she has never met before in a hospital far away.

"I started going to the meetings once a month and then I got so involved with the cause," she said. "The more I read and the more letters of thanks I get, the more I'm pushed to do."

The only requirement to be a member of Sewing Angels is a need to know how to operate your sewing machine and how to hem.

"Members can do as much or as little as fits their desire," Knight said. "There's all kinds of ways of volunteering. The individual results are all the same."

Anyone who would like to volunteer or donate money should call Knight at (248) 437-5907.

dandreassi@hometownlife.com
(248) 437-2011, ext. 262

Statewide essay contest looks at importance of voting

Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson and Patriot Week co-founder Oakland Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren are introducing a statewide essay contest for kids to encourage them to learn about the importance of voting.

"We really want to encourage young people to look at what makes America great, our founding principles and how the right to vote - to have your voice heard - is so critical to maintaining our freedoms," said Johnson, who is a member of Patriot Week's advisory board.

The essay contest is open to Michigan students in grades six through 12. In 400 words

or less, students are asked to answer this question: "How does a citizen's right to vote help make America the greatest country in the world?"

Warren and his daughter, Leah, 13, co-founded Patriot Week in 2009 as a means to celebrate America's core principles and history in a meaningful way. Today, many state institutions, from courts to schools, now recognize Patriot Week (www.patriotweek.org) and the celebration of Patriot Week is marked in several other states. Patriot Week is anchored by two key dates in American history - Sept. 11, the anniversary of the terrorist attacks, and Sept. 17, the anni-

versary of the signing of the Constitution.

"Secretary of State Ruth Johnson's sponsorship of a Patriot Week essay contest is a great way for our students to learn more about the blessings of liberty," said Warren. "This is an important step in furthering the cause of Patriot Week and renewing the spirit of America."

Ernestine Sanders, president and CEO of the Cornerstone Schools Association in Detroit, said the contest is a "wonderful" educational tool.

"As a school that is deeply dedicated to America's founding First Principles, Cornerstone Schools Association has

supported Patriot Week from its inception," she said. "This essay contest is another wonderful way to educate our students about the importance of the right to vote in our Republic."

Leah Warren said she's looking forward to the day she can vote.

"This Patriot Week essay contest will help my fellow students understand how important and special the right to vote is, and make us all better appreciate our freedoms in America," the teen said.

Essay winners will be announced during Patriot Week celebrations in September. Winners will receive a cer-

tificate of recognition, a small patriotic-themed gift and be featured in statewide news releases.

Essays, limited to 400 words or less, must include a title, the student's name, grade (as of September 2012), address and contact information, including phone number and email address. The deadline for entries is midnight on Friday, Aug. 10. Students can submit their essay on the Secretary of State website at www.michigan.gov/SOS or by mail at Michigan Secretary of State Essay Contest, Office of Communications, Richard H. Austin Building, 4th Floor, 430 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48918.

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Special election draws interest from candidates

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

So, who wants to run for Congress?

Michigan residents who are at least 25 years old and a U.S. citizen for seven years can run for Thaddeus McCotter's old seat and serve the final few weeks of his term. They cannot run if they are a felon convicted of a crime involving deceit or fraud in the past 20 years.

Interested office seekers can file petitions with 1,000 signatures of registered voters before July 20, if they want to run in the Sept. 5 special election for the 11th Congressional District. Candidates without party affiliation can file petitions by Aug. 7.

Residents in the current 11th District will be voting in a special election Wednesday, Sept. 5, and again Nov. 6 to fill the unexpired term. All of Westland and Garden City are included in the current 11th District, but have been shifted to the new 13th District for the upcoming elections.

State election officials estimate the cost of the special election to local communities will be \$650,000. Westland's cost is estimated at \$60,000 and Garden City's about \$17,000.

That separate special election muddles the waters for voters in the new 11th District, who in the Aug. 7 primary election will decide between a Republican candidate listed on the ballot (Kerry Bentivolio), two write-in Republican candidates (Nancy Cassis and Drexel Morton) and two Democrats (Dr. Syed Taj and Bill Roberts).

McCotter resigned July 6, ending his term six months early after what he called a "nightmarish month and a half" in apparent reference to his duplicated signatures on petitions turned into the Secretary of State that resulted in an investigation by state Attorney General Bill Schuette. The duplicate signatures were invalidated, so he fell short of the minimum signatures required to run.

Last Tuesday, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, acting in Gov. Rick Snyder's absence, called for a special election in the current 11th Congressional District to fill the vacancy created by McCotter's resignation.

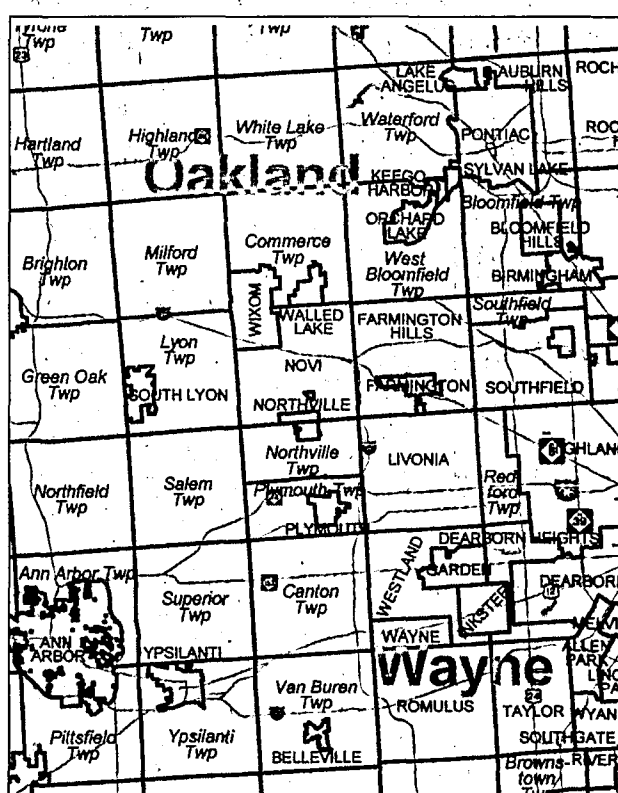
Both Republican candidates in the Aug. 7 primary election said Thursday that they are running in the Sept. 5 primary election.

Bentivolio, who is listed on the ballot as a Republican candidate, said he will run as a write-in, according to his campaign spokesman Robert Dindoffer.

"We have more than 50 unpaid volunteer circulators mobilized to get the petitions," Dindoffer said.

Cassis, who is running as a write-in in the Aug. 7 Republican primary, announced she will run in the special election to represent the current 11th Congressional District.

"As a fiscal conservative, I'm extremely disappointed at the cost this election will incur for the taxpayers," Cassis said in a prepared statement. "And I'm especially disheartened that the cost and extra burden are being placed on the local clerks. However, the gov-



The shaded portion represents the 11th Congressional District as it is currently drawn. Voters in this district will cast ballots in the Sept. 5 special election.

ernor made the decision and this special election is going to take place."

One candidate in the Democratic primary said he is not running.

Taj said he while he appreciated the encouragement and enthusiasm shown by people in the current district since the governor's announcement, he would not be a candidate in the special election.

"Instead I am maintaining my focus on talking to voters throughout Michigan's new 11th Congress-

sional District in an effort to ensure that their views and values are represented for a full term in the next Congress," Taj said.

Roberts, who is also listed on the Democratic primary ballot, has not decided whether he will run in the special election, according to Emma Reuter, campaign manager.

"We're still on the fence," Reuter said.

k.abramcz@hometownlife.com
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AROUND WESTLAND

Furlough day

The Offices of the Wayne County Clerk's Vitals Statistics Division and its Westland Satellite Office on Henry Ruff north of Michigan Avenue will be closed on Monday, July 16, due to a mandatory furlough day.

The services affected by these closing are birth and death certificates, marriage licenses, assumed names, notary publics and concealed weapons.

Other furlough days scheduled for this year are Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

Fun Day

Community Free Will Baptist Church will hold at Community Fun Day 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 28, at the church at 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland.

There will be free food, bounce houses, Westland fire truck, face painting, games, silent auction and more. For more information, call (734) 536-1210.

Open House

Westland Free Methodist Preschool is holding an open house 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, July 23, at the preschool, 1421 S. Venoy, between Palmer and Cherry Hill, Westland.

The preschool offers classes for three- and four-year-olds, and parents can save \$25 off the enrollment fee at the open house.

For more information, call (734) 728-3559 or go online to preschool.lives-

arechanging.com.

Informational program

The public is invited to attend a family information night at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 18, at American House Westland-Joy.

The guest speaker will be Rick Lemanski from Simasko of Simasko & Simasko, who will share information on Veteran's Aid and Attendance Benefits. Refreshments will be served.

American House Westland-Joy is at 39201 Joy, west of Hix, in Westland. For information, or to reserve a spot, call (734) 454-9838 or send an email to jagrusa@american-house.com.

Cheer Tryouts

Tryouts for the fall cheer teams at John Glenn John Glenn High School will be held 1-3 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 1-2, and 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Aug. 3 in Gym 4 (enter in back of building)

Students must have a current physical on file or in your possession to try-out. Bring or wear shorts, T-shirt and gym shoes. Be ready to participate and be active.

For more information, contact Ashli at (586) 876-9035.

Car show

Livonia-based Roush will be participating in a charity car show 6-9 p.m. Monday July 16, to benefit the Livonia Public

Schools Foundation.

The Roush display will include classic vehicles restored by Roush's Specialty Vehicle group. As a nod to Roush's motorsports heritage, the display will also include high performance engines produced by the Roush Competition Engines group.

The car show will be held from at Bill Brown Ford, 30400 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Volunteers needed

Compassionate Care Hospice seeks caring, compassionate volunteers to help with office tasks or to serve as friendly visitors for its patients. Their service area includes the counties of Oakland, Monroe, Wayne, Washtenaw and Livingston. Volunteers set their own schedules and typically donate one-two hours of their time per week.

Compassionate Care Hospice is a community-based hospice organization committed to the highest quality of hospice care for patients, their families and other loved ones. Volunteers receive training and on-going coaching, and social opportunities are available as well.

The next new volunteer orientation will take place at the Compassionate Care office at 5730 N. Lilley Road, Suite A, Canton. Contact Justine Galat, volunteer coordinator, to apply for a brief interview at jgalat@cchnet.net or call (888) 983-9050.



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Grady: True concern for the community

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Dorothy Webb Grady, a mother of three, knows what it is like to balance living expenses when there isn't a lot of money.

Underneath her candidacy as a Democrat for state representative in the new 11th District is an understanding of poverty. An Inkster resident for four years, Webb Grady is raising her children alone because she is a widow. Her husband died at age 48.

"Nobody understands the magnitude of poverty until you live it," said Webb Grady, 48. "With five jobs we fought past the threshold, but we didn't win. I have true concern for the community. A lot of the issues people face, I have lived through them."

She talked about young people today, saddled with college debt, who have to wait to get a good job to get married and start families of their own.

Lack of health care and boarded up houses are some issues she is focusing on.

"I've been talking about it with people," she said. "We want people in those houses."

She is against cuts to public safety.

"We want our police

DOROTHY WEBB GRADY

Age: 48

Hometown: Inkster

Employment: Secretarial work

Family: Widow with three children, ages 25, 23 and 17

Education: Attended Auburn University at Montgomery, Ala., majored in economics; attended Henry Ford Community College, studied elementary education

Community involvement: Worked on fundraisers for her daughter's school, chaperoned field trips and participating in community events

force intact," she said.

While she lives in Inkster, she said that she has been going door to door to learn how people in the other communities she would represent view their priorities.

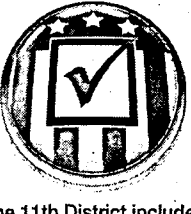
The new 11th District includes northern Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Garden City, three precincts in Livonia and five precincts in Westland.

She also has a position on the end of the personal property tax which has been put on hold by state lawmakers.

"I'm not in agreement for more taxes," she said. "We already are overtaxed."

She suggested placing a deposit charge on bottled water bottles and non-carbonated drinks, just as consumers pay on

11th State Representative District



The 11th District includes Garden City, Inkster and portions of Livonia, Westland and Dearborn Heights.

ELECTION 2012

soda pop and beer.

"Put that money into a fund and see how it can be properly distributed," she said.

Webb Grady is an Alabama native. She attended Auburn University in Montgomery and majored in economics. Locally, she has attended Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, but is campaigning full time at present. She wants to complete the requirements for a bachelor's degree in economics.

"I'm a community-oriented person," Webb Grady said. "I just want to make things right."

Webb Grady is enjoying her campaign, including the media interviews. She has limited funds, but is embracing everything as a total learning experience.

"I am really enjoying this campaign," she said.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2249

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Computer classes

The Garden City Library will offer Computer Basics for Beginners classes 11 a.m. to noon Monday-Tuesday, July 16-17, at the library, located in the Maplewood Center.

No previous computer experience required. This class will give participants the basic computer skills needed to use a mouse, opening files, becoming comfortable using Start Menu items, access the Internet, understand web addresses, open email accounts and other useful tips.

Registration is required. For more information, call the library at (734) 793-1830.

The library also has 13 public internet computers available to all library users with a valid library card. All computers have filtered Internet access except the computer labeled Adults 18+ which has unfiltered Internet access. Session length is one hour. Black and white printing also is available from all computers for 10¢ cents per page.

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.

Outdoor Flea Market

An outdoor flea market will be held the second

and third Saturday of the month now through September in the field across Elmwood Street side of the Garden City Historical Museum on Merriman Road. Reserve a spot by calling Diane, the manager of the Garden City Craftique Mall, at (734) 765-7999.

Farmers Market

Come out and support the new Farmers Market 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday through Oct. 31 at the northeast corner of Ford Road and Middlebelt in the Town Center Plaza. Also visit its new Facebook page at <http://gardencityfarmersmarketmichigan>.

Interested vendors can call (775) 303-1169 or (734) 422-4448 or send an email to gcfmm@gmail.com.

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.

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

Community Chat

Join your host Kerry Partin along with co-hosts Kelly, Tom, Derek and Ben 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>.

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Redford Parks and Art Conservancy | www.rpaconservancy.org





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Humans cause most wildfires

A wildfire is considered to be any fire burning out of control in natural vegetation, such as grass, weeds, crops, brush or forests. The recent wildfires in Colorado show how destructive and dangerous such fires can be.

More than 80 percent of wildfires started in the United States are caused by humans, mostly arson or carelessness. Lightning strikes and extremely dry weather can also contribute to the start of these fires. More than 1.2 million acres woodland are burnt every year in the United States.

Michigan firefighters respond to between 10,000 and 12,000 wildfires each year. These fires typically burn thousands of acres, and millions of dollars are spent on firefighting and property damage. In Michigan, burning debris, such as grass, leaves, brush and trash, cause the most wildfires. Yard cleanup chores, when mixed with dry, warm, windy weather, result in about one-third of all wildfires each year. Bonfires and campfires account for 10 percent of Michigan wildfires.

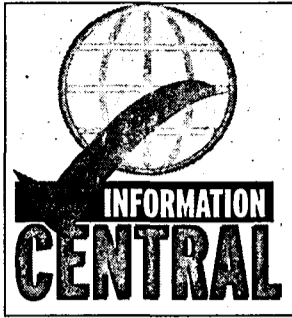
So far this year, the Department of Natural Resources has responded to 339 fires that have burned a total of 23,122 acres - including the recent 21,069-acre Duck Lake Fire in the eastern Upper Peninsula. That fire was started by lightning and destroyed 136 buildings.

With summer in full swing with campfires, fireworks, and barbecues, the DNR has the following tips to remind people of wildfire hazards:

- Remember that consumer fireworks that explode or fly into the air, when improperly used, are the cause of many wildfires each year. These types of fireworks can now be purchased in Michigan.

- Be aware that fireworks will easily ignite grass or wooded areas and should only be lit in areas free of vegetation.

- Understand that setting off fireworks on public property is prohibi-



ed without proper authorization.

- Keep campfires small and do not leave them unattended at any time, for any reason.

- Be certain all fires and barbecues are completely extinguished. Use plenty of water, stir and add more water until everything is wet and no steam is produced.

- Turn over unburned pieces of wood left in a fire pit and wet the underside.

- Soak unburned pieces of BBQ charcoal in a bucket of water before disposing of them.

- Do not simply cover a campfire with soil. This is an inadequate way to put a fire out, disguises the heat smoldering beneath and often becomes a hazard for anyone that may accidentally step in the coals.

For more tips, guidelines and home-preparation suggestions for wildfire prevention, visit the DNR's website at www.michigan.gov/preventwildfires. Remember Smokey Bear's slogan: Only you can prevent for-

est fires.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, noon-9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and closed Sunday and Monday.

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

Adult Books Discussion Group: 7 p.m. July 18

Join us for a discussion of *The Believers* by Zoe Heller. After lawyer Joel Litvinof collapses in the courtroom and goes into a coma, his family is shocked by a revelation about his infidelity. The members of the family fight their demons and each other while they try to make sense of their lives. A limited number of available copies will be available at the Reference Desk.

Writers Club: 7 p.m. July 19

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 Vatcher-Martin leads the Westland Library Writer's Club.

Own the Night Movie Showing - Teen Summer Reading Program: 1 p.m. July 18

Every Wednesday during the Teen Summer Reading Program, we'll be showing scary movies. In today's movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, after an encounter with UFOs, a line worker feels undeniably drawn to an isolated area in the wilderness where something spectacular is about to happen. Pop and popcorn provided. Rated PG.

Meditation: 7 p.m. July 19

Join us for a free program on ISHA Meditation. In this program, you will learn a simple meditation which you can easily practice on your own.

Jennifer Giordano, a certified ISHA instructor, will lead the program. This is part of our "Think Again"-themed Summer Reading Program (participants can receive slips for our weekly SRP drawings).

Ghost Hunters of Southern Michigan - Teen Summer Reading Program: 2 p.m. July 21

The Ghost Hunters of Southern Michigan will be here talking about their experiences with the paranormal.

New summer hours - Job Seekers Lab: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays

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

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

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

Computer classes are offered all year long. Contact the library to find out more. The library offers One-on-one computer classes. Call (734) 326-6123.

Children, teens, adults: There's still time to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge. Stop by the library today.

Information Central was compiled by Susan Hanson, Technical Services Librarian. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

CITY OF WESTLAND STATE AND FEDERAL PRIMARY ELECTION August 7, 2012

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND, County of Wayne: Notice is hereby given that a State and Federal Primary Election will be held in the City of Westland on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at which time the following Local, County, State and Federal offices will be voted upon - U.S. Senator, U.S. Congressman, State Representative, County Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk, Treasurer, Register of Deeds, 3rd Circuit Judges, Commissioner and Local Precinct Delegates; a millage question for the William P. Faust Public Library which shall read as follows: Shall the City of Westland levy new additional millage of .99 mill against all taxable real and tangible personal property for a 10 year period beginning with tax year 2012 and ending with tax year 2021, for the William P. Faust Public Library, for the purpose of providing funds for all Library purposes authorized by law? .99 mill are equal to \$0.99 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable value. If approved, the additional millage levied will raise approximately \$1.35 million the first year it is levied. The millage will be levied on the Annual Winter Tax Bill. YES or NO a millage question for residents in Precinct 31 residing in the Garden City Public School system which shall read as follows: Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 19.8320 mills (\$19.8320 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in the School District of the City of Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan be renewed for a period of 6 years, 2013 to 2018, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2013 is approximately \$2,600,000 (this is a renewal of millage which will expire with the 2012 tax levy)? YES or NO a Wayne County Jail millage question which shall read as follows: To renew the millage authorized in 2002, shall Wayne County be authorized to continue to levy this millage at the 2011 rollback rate of .9381 mills (about 94 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation) for ten more years (2012 through 2021) for any of the following previously authorized uses: To acquire, construct, and/or operate jail, misdemeanor, or juvenile incarceration or detention facilities, and for adult penalty options such as work release, home detention and community restitution, with at least one-tenth of the millage used to acquire, build and operate a juvenile offender work/training institution? This renewal is estimated to generate at least \$38,859,493 in property tax revenue in 2012. YES or NO and a Tri-County Detroit Institute of Arts millage question which shall read as follows: The Wayne County Art Institute Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 296 of 2010 and formed to allow for continuing support of art institute services for students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax or not more than 0.2 mill (20 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on real and personal property to provide revenue to an art institute service provider for this purpose. Accordingly, to continue providing art institute services to benefit the residents of the County, shall a 0.2 mill on all of the taxable property located within the County be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2012 through 2021? It is estimated that if approved and levied, this new millage would generate approximately \$8,284,722 in 2012. YES or NO.

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of January 10, 2012 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

Wayne County Wayne County, Michigan		Voted Increases	Years In Effective
Taxing Authorities	Date of Election		
County of Wayne	12-2-2010	1 mill	2015
Wayne County Jail	8-6-2002	1 mill	2011
Wayne County Parks	11-2-2010	0.25 mill	2015
Wayne County Comm. Coll.	11-6-2009	1.25 mills	2020
Garden City Schools	6-2002	18 mills	2012 (non-homestead)
Garden City Schools	8-2011	2 mills	2015
Inkster Schools	May, 2006	21 mills	2015 (non-homestead)
Inkster Schools	May, 2006	6 mills	2015
Livonia Schools	11-2009	18.4568 mills	2015 (non-homestead)
Livonia Schools	11-2009	1.12 mills	2014
Taylor Schools	Jan. 2008	18 mills	2013 (non-homestead)
Wayne-Westland Schools	May, 2010	18 mills	2025 (non-homestead)
Wayne-Westland Schools	2-2012	.9922 mills	2022
Detroit Zoological Park	Operating	0.1 mill	2017
City of Westland	Operating	6.4834 mills	
City of Westland	Pol. & Fire Ret.	4.50 mills	
City of Westland	Act 359	0.0302	
City of Westland	Sanitation	2.0 mills	
City of Westland	Other	6.5302 mills	
City of Westland	Gen. Fund	13.0136 mills	
City of Westland	Library	0.9477 mill	

Dated June 27, 2012

Raymond Wojtowicz /s/ Treasurer

The places of voting for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2012, will be as follows:

Precincts	Locations
1, 13, 18 & 19	Schweitzer School, 2601 Treadwell
2, 11, 23 & 32	Elliott School, 30800 Bennington
3 & 7	Stottlemeyer School, 34801 Marquette
4, 5, 8 & 29	Edison School, 34505 Hunter
6, 9 & 10	Adams Middle School, 33475 Palmer
12, 25 & 35	Cooper School, 28550 Ann Arbor Trail
14	Marshall Middle School, 35100 Bayview
15	Greenwood Villa, 7600 Nankin Ct
16	Holliday Park Club House, 34850 Fountain Blvd.
17 & 37	P. D. Graham School, 1255 S. John Hix
20	Wildwood School, 500 N. Wildwood
21 & 42	Johnson School, 8400 Hix
22	Westland Meadows Club House, 30600 Van Born
24	Lutheran High School Westland, 33300 Cowan
26 & 33	Hamilton School, 1031 Schuman
27 & 36	Western Wayne Skill Center, 8075 Ritz
28	Church of Christ - Annapolis Park, 30355 Annapolis
30 & 31	Hayes School, 30600 Louise St.
34 & 38	Dyer Social Service Center, Senior Wing - 36745 Marquette
39	Landings Apartment Club House, 7000 Lakeview
40 & 41	Hellenic Cultural Center at St. Constantine Church, 36375 Joy

The polls for said election will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on said day of election. Every qualified elector present and in line at the hour prescribed for the closing thereof shall be allowed to vote. Voting sites are ADA compliant.

Eileen DeHart, CMC
Westland City Clerk

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Livonia officer continues diabetes mission with second annual 'Dominic's Dream Ride'

Classic cars will join motorcycles in Dominic's Dream Ride through the western suburbs on Saturday, Aug. 4, a second-annual event that benefits the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

In the inaugural event last September, more than 40 people rode and more than 50 people gathered at a post-ride picnic along Hines Drive to raise more than \$5,000. Organizer Jim Green said "it is not unrealistic" the second annual event will double its performance this year.

Green, a sergeant and veteran officer for the Livonia Police Department, created the local event with his wife Kelly in honor of their 8-year-old son who suffers with Type One Diabetes, an autoimmune disease that struck him suddenly at age 3 and has no cure.

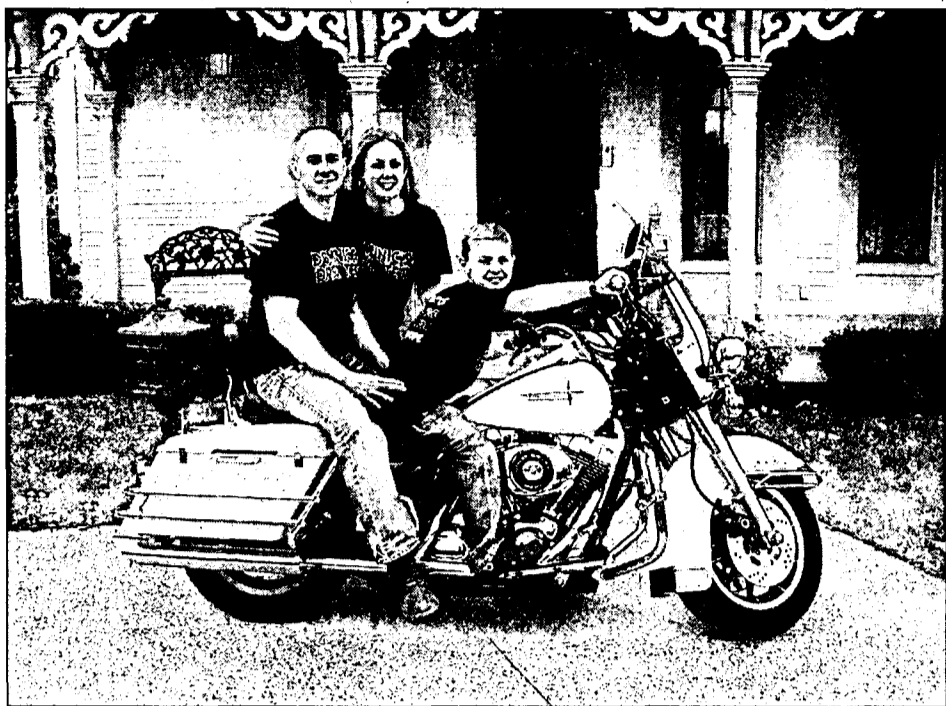
Dominic presses ahead to live a normal life as he prepares for third grade this fall, but he will be dependent on insulin for the rest of his life.

He constantly wears an insulin pump to keep him alive. His finger is poked six times a day for a blood-sugar check. He needs multiple doses of insulin each day - either by his insulin pump or injection. And anyone who cares for Dominic must know how to handle these tests and injections, along with other diabetic needs.

With the thousands of finger pokes and shots he has taken already in his short life, "it is a constant challenge to maintain correct glucose levels for him and is overwhelming for anyone - let alone a child," Jim Green said.

According to the national research, 1 in 400 youngsters under the age of 20 has diabetes, which elevates other health risks such as heart and kidney disease, stroke, blindness and nervous system issues.

In addition to raising money to support those dealing with diabetic patients, the Livonia couple hopes Dominic's Dream Ride boosts com-



Dominic and his parents, Jim and Kelly Green, are ready to ride in their second annual fund-raiser benefitting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

munity awareness of the disease, particularly the intensity required to treat diabetics.

Last year's event was gratifying for Green because there was so much support from people who were not directly

impacted by diabetes.

"It was just nice to see something so positive," he said. "In the media, we see so much bad news and negative things going on in the world, so it was really nice to see this event come together last year. Now, we hope to make it even better this year."

Dominic's Dream Ride was initially created as

a motorcycle poker run, but organizers are adding cars to the ride as some supporters want to cruise in their classic vehicles. Registration on Aug. 4 will begin at 10:30 a.m. at Motor City Harley Davidson, 34900 Grand River Ave., in Farmington Hills. The last vehicle out will be at 12 noon.

A minimum \$20 donation is requested to par-

ticipate in the event, which is also sponsored by the Superior Township Warthogs.

For those not riding, there are other ways to support the cause. People can attend the event-ending picnic at 4 p.m. which will take place at Plymouth Riverside Park on Hines Drive near Haggerty. Prizes will be raffled off at 5 p.m., including a separate raffle for a go-kart, sponsored by Keith's Muffler and Brakes in Westland. Tickets for the go-kart raffle can be purchased now at the shop located on Wayne Road near Marquette Road.

For more information, call Jim or Kelly Green at (734) 432-2610.

Those who cannot participate in any of the Aug. 4 festivities, but wish to make a tax-deductible donation to the cause, can visit website www.jdrf.org, and click on donate at the top of the page, then select the green sneaker to donate to Dominic's Dream Team, or donations can be made out to JDRF and mailed to: Dominic's Dream Team, c/o Superior Township Warthogs, 37637 Five Mile Road No. 124, Livonia, MI 48154.

CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before the date of **July 25, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

Vehicle Repair Services

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at www.cityofwestland.com. Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Sergeant Norm Brooks, Police Department at (734) 467-7914. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
City Controller

Publish: July 15, 2012

OE08782000 - 3-3

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

CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **July 24, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Tree and Stump Removal

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204 or @ www.cityofwestland.com. Questions may be directed to Kevin Buford @ (734) 467-7906. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
City Controller

Publish: July 15, 2012

OE08781968 - 3-3

CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before the date of **July 25, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

Collision Repair Services

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at www.cityofwestland.com. Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Sergeant Norm Brooks, Police Department at (734) 467-7914. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
Controller

Publish: July 15, 2012

OE08782002 - 3-3

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 2012-2013

Regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District shall be held at 7:00 p.m. on Mondays (except where noted), in the Board of Education offices, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 734-744-2500, on the following dates:

July 9, 2012	November 19, 2012	March 18, 2013
August 20, 2012	December 17, 2012	April 15, 2013
September 17, 2012	January 22, 2013, Tuesday	May 20, 2013
October 15, 2012	February 25, 2013	June 3 & 17, 2013

There are two regular meetings in June in order to cover all end-of-the-year school business. The Board regularly holds Committee and Subcommittee meetings throughout the year. Additional Special Meetings and/or Board Workshops may also be scheduled as needed.

Special meetings of the Board of Education may be called by the President of the Board, or any two members thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the day, time, location and purpose of such meetings. Service of the notices shall be made in accordance with Board Policy BCAC and with the provisions of P.A. 267 and the General School Laws of the State of Michigan, and may be made by a member of the Board or any employee of the Board.

The Secretary of the Board shall cause public notice to be given of all meetings of the Board of Education in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Proposed minutes of Board meetings will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Board of Education offices, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, not more than eight business days after the date of each meeting, and approved minutes of each meeting will be on the LPS Web site and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same location not more than five business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved.

The President and/or Secretary of the Board shall be authorized to sign all contracts and legal documents on behalf of the Board of Education following approval by resolution of the Board, unless the Board specifically designates other members of the Board or administration in its resolution to approve the contract or legal document.

Publish: July 15, 2012

OE08781901_3-5-5

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OE08781971

Country singer/songwriter Anita Cochran to perform New Hudson show

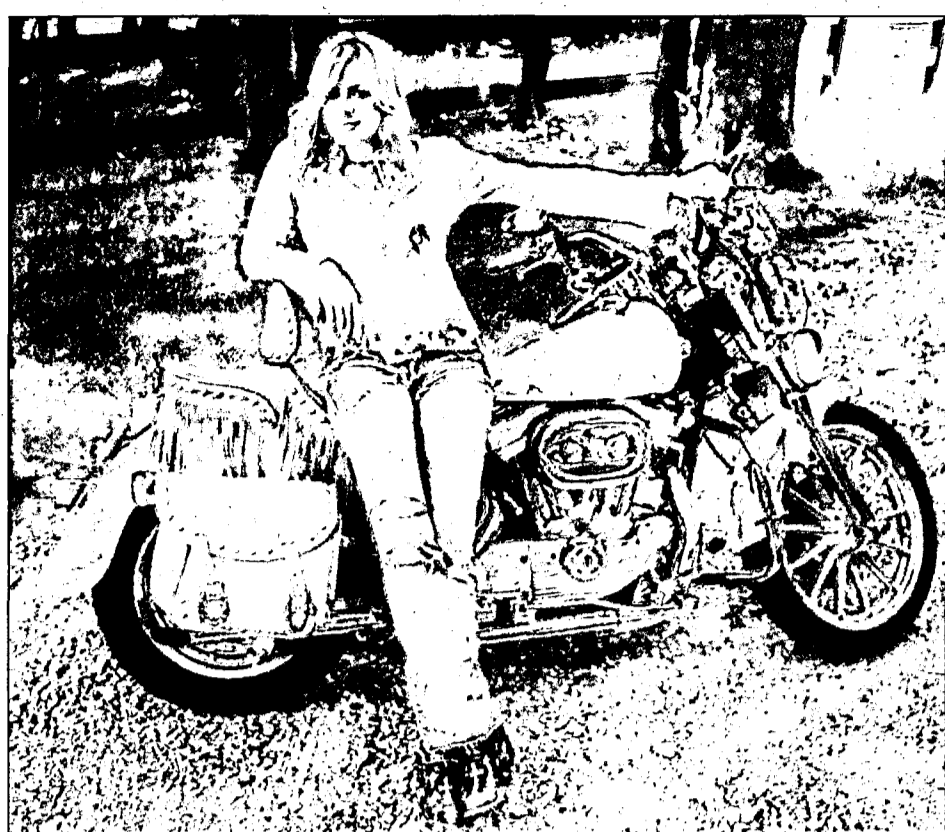
By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer,

In just the last month country music singer/songwriter Anita Cochran has toured all over the globe. Performing with country star Terri Clark, Cochran's musical talents have been on display in Norway, Germany and Italy, before coming back to North America for a small tour in Canada this week. She says she has loved all of the shows, but she is really looking forward to one very special performance at the end of this month — at James Atchison Memorial Park in New Hudson.

Cochran, who moved to Nashville in 1994 to kick start her musical career, grew up in Lyon Township, just a few miles from the park where she will perform on July 21 at 7 p.m. In fact, it will be the first time she has performed in her hometown since leaving for Nashville.

"I'm very excited. It's always nice to come back and play in Michigan, especially five minutes from where I grew up," said Cochran, best known for her hit duet with Steve Wariner, "What If I Said", which climbed to number one on the country charts in 1998.

"I grew up in New Hudson. Our family still has a home there. Although I'm happy living in Nashville, I still miss my time



New Hudson native Anita Cochran will bring her band — and her Harley — to the annual Operation Injured Soldier Lyon Ride and Picnic in the Park on July 21.

there. It will always be home to me."

Another reason Cochran (born Anita Renee Cockerham) is so excited about the show is the fact it is a fundraiser for Operation Injured Soldiers, a local non-profit that funds hunting, fishing and recreational trips for injured troops all over the country. It is the second time Cochran has come home to play a fundraiser for the group — she also played a Christmas show in Novi in 2010. Cochran

said it's an honor to play for the group.

"This is such a great cause. Our troops risk their lives for us. Many have suffered terrible injuries. Their lives have changed so much. This organization gives them something to do, whether it be hunting or fishing, that they wouldn't be able to do otherwise. It's the least we can do to come out and support them by playing, or buying a ticket for the show," Cochran said.

Al Hogan of Operation

Injured Soldiers said he is hoping Cochran will draw a big crowd. After watching her performance for the group in 2010, he said he has no doubt it will be a great show.

"She was just great at our Christmas show. She really had the crowd going. I know she's going to put on another great show," Hogan said. "I know a lot of locals remember her growing up. It will be a real homecoming."

In addition to touring

with Clark, who is a long-time friend, Cochran continues to work on her solo material. Her last record, *Serenity*, came out two years ago. She is currently writing new material, and hopes to record in the near future.

The New Hudson show will be a 90-minute performance, which means she will not only play her own music, but she plans to throw in a few of her favorite cover songs as well. She will bring a five-piece backing band, and says the show will have a lot of energy.

"We will bring the crowd up to the beat and have a lot of fun," she said.

Cochran's performance is actually the second part of a day full of activities to raise funds for Operation Injured Soldiers. Earlier in the day, the organization will host its annual Lyon Ride and Picnic in the Park. The motorcycle cruise leaves Atchison Park at noon, makes its way around Oakland County before returning to the park, where the picnic will take place. The event includes a motorcycle rodeo (at 2:30 p.m.), and a fire department "hose down" for the kids.

Cost for the ride is \$20 per rider, and includes lunch and a T-shirt, along with a ticket to Cochran's show. If you don't want to participate in the ride, but still want to attend the show, tickets will be \$15. All proceeds go

to helping soldiers who have been injured while protecting America.

Jay Jolley, an up and coming country crossover artist who hails from Michigan and has several songs being played on stations across the country, including "Stop and Think of Me" and "It's a Friday Thing", will be the opening act. For more information, visit www.jjolley.com.

In addition, Operation Injured Soldiers is still looking for show sponsors, which can help cover some of Cochran's travel expenses. Sponsors will receive tickets to the show, advertisements in the event brochure and a meet and greet with Cochran. For more information about being a sponsor, contact Operation Injured Soldiers at (248) 437-1144.

Cochran said not only will she be performing July 21, she also plans to ride her Harley in the ride earlier in the day — the first time she has ridden her motorcycle in Michigan.

"I'm just really looking forward to the whole day," she said. "When Al Hogan called me, I just jumped at the chance. I'm so happy to help out. Unfortunately, I think too many of us take our troops for granted. This is a great way to thank them for their service."

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(248) 437-2011 ext. 245

Church reaches out to community with Wow Jam

A Wayne church is looking to transform the lives of people in need by hosting with an outreach event on Thursday, July 19.

Called Wow Jam, the event will be held 4 p.m. in the parking lot of Cornerstone City Church, 39390 Michigan Ave., east of Wayne Road.

"Every weekend I see people in my congregation dealing with the recession, foreclosure and unemployment," said Cornerstone's Pastor Andrew Kennedy. "Seeing so many sad faces made me want to do something."

Wow Jam is an outreach event that includes a party for the local community to restore hope in humanity by handing out food, providing haircuts and manicures, taking family photos, repairing bikes and counseling. Live, inspiring and uplifting music will be provided by Stephen and Linda Tavani, formerly Peaches of Peaches and Herb singing duo.

The event is free and open to anyone who wants to attend. There will also be games and prizes for the kids and a barbecue.

"We want to show people love, hope and a sense of faith, as well as put a smile on their faces," Pastor Kennedy said.

Volunteers and donations are needed. For more information, send an email to info@cornerstonecitychurch.us, visit Pastor Kennedy's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=home#/andrew.kennedy.140 or visit the church's website at www.cornerstonecitychurch.us.

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Westland's 'Elvis' to rock Farmington Idol stage

This year's Farmington Idol competition promises to be "All Shook Up" as a very special guest takes the stage while the judges deliberate the Idol performances.

Don't miss the action as Fred Wolfe of Westland, AKA Elvis, brings his award winning impersonator act to the Idol stage at the preliminary round at 6 p.m., Thursday, July 19, at Drakeshire Lanes on Grand River, east of Drake, and again at 6 p.m. on Friday, July 20, on the Meijer Family Stage, in the area of Riley Park and the Sunquist Pavilion during Founders Festival in



Fred Wolfe has all of the Elvis moves down pat.

downtown Farmington.

"His commitment and devotion to his Elvis tribute is clear. He believes in enthusiastically pay-

ing tribute to Elvis Presley. He realizes the passion that lives within the hearts of Elvis fans everywhere because he's a fan, too," as stated in a promotional summary online.

For those who would rather portray their own personality on stage, there's still time to register as a contestant for Farmington Idol. Applications are available at Drakeshire Lanes and at Mentobe Cafe, next to the Civic Theater on Grand River. Contestants must be 16 and do not have to live in Farmington or Farmington Hills to enter.



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fred Wolfe does a professional Elvis impersonation and will be a special guest at next week's Farmington Idol competition. On a recent day, he was spotted in downtown Farmington, walking by Starbucks, where people, including Peter Artemas, of Royal Oak, grabbed their cell phones and took photos of "Elvis" walking in Farmington.

Ouch! Taking the sting out of bug bites

Insect bites and stings for the most part, are no more unpleasant than housework. They are kind of annoying but basically harmless. Occasionally, however, an insect bite or sting can "bee" (pun intended) a serious problem. You should know if all you need for relief is an ice pack or when a visit to the emergency room is in order.

Bites or stings?

Many patients confuse an insect bite with a sting and may use the terms interchangeably. A bite is usually from the insect's mouth and occurs when it is agitated to defend itself or when an insect seeks to feed. Bites from mosquitoes, fleas, bed bugs and mites are more likely to cause itching than pain. Of the many diseases

spread by insects, very few are actually caused by the insects themselves, but rather by other organisms passed on when they feed or bite.

A sting is usually inflicted by a sharp organ of offense or defense, especially when connected with a venom gland, and adapted to inflict a wound by piercing. The stinger is typically located at the rear of the animal. Most stinging insects are of the order Hymenoptera, which includes ants, bees, wasps, hornet and scorpions, and whose stings result in more fatalities than those from any other arthropod. An interesting fact: Did you know wasps can bite and sting at the same time?

Since their introduction into the southern United States in the 1920s,

imported fire ants anchor themselves to a person and inflict a sting. Fire ants often pivot or re-anchor themselves only to sting again and again resulting in a sensation of fire at the site. When fire ants swarm, they often position themselves on their victim and sting simultaneously in response to an alarm pheromone released by one or several individuals. Immobilized or elderly patients can become rapidly covered by swarms of these ants, resulting in severe stings and even death.

Insects are capable of spreading diseases caused by many different types of microorganisms including bacteria and viruses. In these instances, it is the microorganism that is the pathogen

(cause of disease) and the insect involved is known as the vector.

While some biting insects prefer different times of the day, most are active day and night. For example: mosquitoes that spread malaria are mainly active after dark but the mosquitoes that spread yellow fever and dengue fever are active during daylight hours.

So, how do you know it's time for medical attention?

Chills, fever, muscle aches and pains mean you need to see a doctor because the site may be infected. Or if you experience wheezing, shortness of breath, chest pain/tightness or feel like your throat is closing after a bite or sting, always head directly to the nearest emergency room.

Insect borne diseases include:

- Lyme disease caused by ticks. Found in the USA, Europe, Australia, China and Japan.
- West Nile Virus caused by mosquitoes. Found in the USA, Africa, Western Asia and the Middle East.
- Malaria caused by mosquitoes. Found globally in tropical and subtropical areas.
- Typhus caused by ticks and lice. Found world-wide.
- Plague caused by fleas. Found world-wide.

Garden City Hospital provided this information. For it current ER wait time go online to gchosp.org. For Garden City Hospital's Find a Physician Information call (877) 717-WELL or visit www.gchosp.org.

AROUND WESTLAND

Support groups

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency has formed a new support Caregiving Support Group for those people who care for someone with dementia, Alzheimer's Disease or other chronic conditions.

The group meets 6-7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Village of Westland, 3201 Cherry Hill, west of Merriman.

Wayne Metro also facilitates a Caregiver Support Group on 10 a.m. to noon the third Tuesday each month at the Kay Beard Building, 30712 Michigan Ave., in Westland.

Call Nancy Coman at (734) 955-6752 for more information.



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SPORTS

BOYS HOCKEY

Reynolds to coach Chargers

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It's Jason Reynolds' turn to carry the torch for the Livonia Churchill boys hockey program.

The 31-year-old Reynolds, who served as an assistant last year under Gerry Vento at Plymouth and the previous three seasons at his alma mater Livonia Stevenson, was named Monday to replace Pete Mazzoni.

"It's a tremendous honor to be part of a such a rich history of high school hockey," Reynolds said. "It's amazing that such a great program that's just been around for over 40 years already - I'm very proud and humbled to be a part of the program."

Mazzoni, who spent 12 seasons at Churchill, stepped down last month to take an assistant principal position at Stevenson - his alma mater as well.

Mazzoni's 2011-12 squad finished 21-7 overall and captured a regional title for the second straight season before being ousted in the MHSAA Division 1 quarterfinals Grosse Pointe North, 3-0. In his 14 years of coaching high school hockey, including two seasons at Redford Union, Mazzoni went 233-97-47.

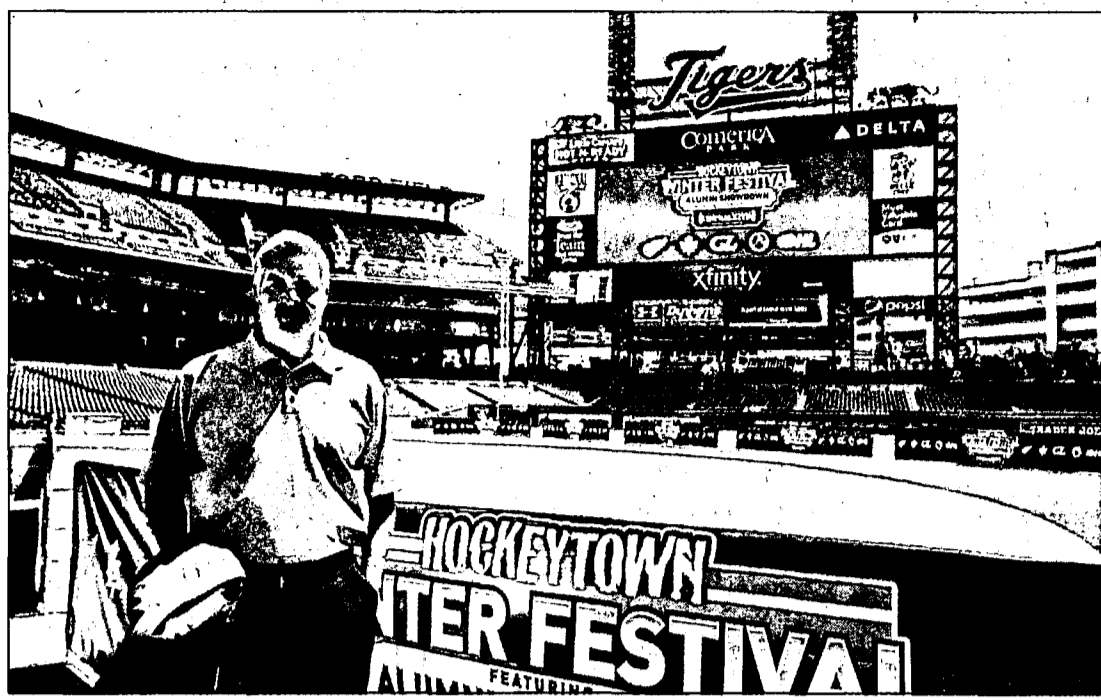
Reynolds said he had several conversations with Mazzoni during the interview process and met briefly Tuesday night with the returning Churchill players.

"My plan is to challenge the players with a very high tempo style of play," said Reynolds, a 2002 Michigan State University grad who works as a retail marketing manager for Warrior Sports, Inc. "My goal is to carry on the foundation that coach Mazzoni has left behind as well as bringing some new and fresh ideas to table and continue to carry on the excellence."

"I'll be communicating to all the families involved in the Churchill program the next couple of days. It's been a whirlwind 24 hours needless to say. We're just getting our feet wet."

Reynolds played forward for Ste-

Please see NEW COACH, B3



RENA LAVERTY

Standing outside a makeshift boundary where the Hockeytown Winter Festival's ice rink will be located at Comerica Park is Plymouth Whalers coach, general manager and president Mike Vellucci. The Whalers and three other OHL teams will play an outdoor doubleheader on Dec. 29.

Comerica calling

Whalers to play in OHL twinbill at Winter Festival

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Mike Vellucci can hardly wait until late December rolls around, when his Plymouth Whalers will skate onto an outdoor hockey rink at Detroit's Comerica Park as part of the once-in-a-lifetime Hockeytown Winter Festival.

"I'm just excited standing on the field right now," the Whalers coach/GM said during Wednesday's press conference at Comerica officialy announcing the two-week festival, which will include an Ontario Hockey League doubleheader Saturday, Dec. 29. "We had all the talk about it before, but now it's coming to realization when you stand here and look at all the seats and how it (rink) is going to be designed."

The Whalers, Saginaw Spirit (featuring goalie and 2012 Red Wings draft pick Jake Paterson), Windsor Spitfires and London Knights will compete in a doubleheader.

Also outlined at the press conference were details about



Mike Vellucci of the Plymouth Whalers discusses the Hockeytown Winter Festival during Wednesday's press conference at Comerica Park.

another doubleheader, set for Dec. 30 between alumni players of the Red Wings and Toronto Maple Leafs.

Those games are part of the buildup to the 2013 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic between Detroit and Toronto, New Year's Day at Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor.

Also expected to skate earlier in December at Comerica will be the Canton and Plymouth varsity boys hockey

teams (Dec. 18 or 19).

Future stars

Vellucci said fans of all four OHL teams will flock to Comerica, but he would like more casual hockey fans to come out and watch future NHL players get after it.

"I think it's great for awareness, it's just going to showcase the talent that actually

Please see COMERICA, B3

Roth in Senior Open

Jeff Roth, a 1975 graduate of Salem High School and one-time prep state champion, led a group of golfers with Michigan ties after the first round of the U.S. Senior Open at Indianwood Golf & Country Club in Lake Orion.

Roth finished the opening round Thursday tied for 50th place with 1-over 71. He shot 35 in the opening nine, followed by 36.

The tournament concludes today.

Reeling and reading

It's not all about getting ready for another hockey season for members of the Plymouth Whalers. Consider 3-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, when goaltender Matt Mahalak of Monroe will be reading to youngsters at the Canton Public Library as part of the Summer Reading Program.

Bucks blank Hamilton

The Michigan Bucks went into Canada for the third time this season Wednesday night and came away with a 5-0 win in Hamilton (Ontario) to remain on top of the Premier Development League with a record of 12-0-2 and 38 points.

The regular season ends with two games this weekend against the River City Rovers, including the finale set for 2 p.m. Sunday at Ultimate Soccer Arenas.

The PDL's all-time leading scorer, Kenny Uzoigwe, came to life with two goals (87th and 88th of his career) and an assist in jump-starting the Bucks. On defense, goalkeeper Adam Grinwis notched his seventh PDL win on the campaign to go with his one tie and five shutouts.

The Bucks - who clinched the division with a 5-1 win July 7 against Cincinnati - will face the visiting Rovers at 2 p.m. Sunday on fan appreciation day. Tickets (\$10, adults; \$7 16 and under) will be available at the door.

The PDL playoffs will begin July 20-22, with the Bucks taking on the Real Colorado Foxes and the Thunder Bay Chill taking on the Great Lakes Division second-place survivor. For more on the playoffs, visit the league website at www.uslsoccer.com.

'Dynamic' times for ex-decathlete

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

It must be incredibly tempting these days for Chad Smith to take a stroll or two down memory lane.

After all, the Canton resident competed in three U.S. Olympic Trials as a decathlete - and the 2012 Summer Olympic Games are just a few weeks away - and he served a successful two-year stint as the head strength-and-conditioning coach for the Los Angeles Kings, who captured their first Stanley Cup last month.

But Smith has little time to reminisce. He's too busy helping area athletes - from proven NFL stars to elementary-aged kids with NFL-sized dreams - compete in their respective sport's fast lane.

As the hands-on owner of Dynamic Athlete Performance, a state-of-the-art training facility located on Michigan Avenue in Canton, Smith shares

his athletic-enhancement expertise with a wide range of clients.

One hour he could be guiding Green Bay Packers linebacker Frank Zombo and Detroit Lions safety Ricardo Silva through an off-season workout - as he did Thursday morning - an hour later, he could be leading a youth soccer team in an agility-building exercise.

"The best part about this job for me is seeing the athletes excel and learn," Smith said. "I love seeing them take in all the information I give them, apply it and then seeing the results. That's exciting. It also makes me feel good when a parent tells me their young child woke up that morning and said, 'Are we going to DAP today?'"

Following a stellar prep football and track and field career at Ypsilanti Lincoln High School, Smith trekked north to Ferris State University with a football scholarship.

Please see DYNAMIC, B3



ED WRIGHT

Chad Smith (left) oversees a workout by Green Bay Packers linebacker Frank Zombo Thursday morning at Smith's Dynamic Athlete Performance facility in Canton. Zombo is one of several professional athletes who have teamed up with Smith for his strength-and-conditioning expertise.



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By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

A chip shot away

After missing shot at Masters, Johnson to focus on pro career

Chad Johnson's bid to land a spot in the 2013 Masters tournament came up short last week at the 87th U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship in Midway, Utah.

But the 26-year-old Plymouth resident and Canton High School graduate came away from the experience at mammoth Soldier Hollow Golf Course (7,717 yards) more determined than ever to crank up his game and hopefully turn pro later this year.

First up will be Wednesday's U.S. Amateur Qualifier at Bay City Country Club. After that, he will start rounding up sponsorship money with hopes of turning professional in the fall.

"I was hitting the ball good," said Johnson, about shooting a 71-73 in 36 holes of stroke play last Monday and Tuesday to put him into match play. "I was the only one from Michigan to make it through to match play."

"There were 156 guys and they cut to the top 64. It's pretty difficult to make it to match play and I knew I was hitting the ball good."

On Wednesday against Kyle Beversdorf of Plymouth, Minn., Johnson finished with an even-par 71. But Beversdorf prevailed, winning 2-up.

The ultimate champion at the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship receives an automatic invitation to the Masters.

Nearly did it

Johnson — who also golfed at Schoolcraft College and Wayne State University — nearly pulled off the comeback that



Chad Johnson, a Plymouth resident and Canton High School grad, made it to Wednesday's Round of 64 at the 87th U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship in Midway, Utah. Johnson then lost out by a stroke to Kyle Beversdorf.

would have kept his dream alive at least for another day.

But although he scored par at the 589-yard 16th and 464-yard 18th holes, his opponent tallied birdies each time.

"It was back and forth and I just couldn't get any birdie putts to drop. I was hitting it close all day and just couldn't get anything to drop."

Despite his disappointment, Johnson said it helped to be bolstered by the encouragement of his family (parents Steve and Margaret; brothers Jeremy and Jon) and friends.

"People at home were refreshing the (tourney Web) page every minute to see what was happening," he continued. "So it's great that people

are supporting me like that at home."

Two of his friends happen to be golf pros — Dearborn's Joe Juszczyk and Grosse Pointe South's Ryan Lenahan.

"I talked to Joe quite a bit and Ryan quite a bit," Johnson noted. "I got some support from them this week. My buddy Ryan called me and

said 'Hey man, great week, keep your head up. It looks like you're playing some solid golf.'"

Juszczyk and Johnson were teammates in 2007-08 at Wayne State. In 2008-09, Johnson was part of the first-ever Wayne State team to reach the NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championship. He averaged 73.6 his senior year, the fifth best in WSU history.

Big accomplishment

Johnson excelled just to get to match play at Soldier Hollow. There were 2,800 applications to take part in the tournament.

He then scored rounds of 73 and 68 at a sectional qualifier in June at Purgatory Golf Club in Indianapolis to make the 156-golfer cut.

"To make it in was the big accomplishment in my career," Johnson said. "And to play as solid as I did, to make it into match play was really tough."

"The cut to get into match play was plus-4. And the course is 7,700 yards so I got seeded. I tied for 33rd after stroke play and just to do that was an accomplishment in my mind."

But now he'll hit the reset button "and see if I can make it into the U.S. Am when I get home."

If all goes well, he said he hopes to turn professional in November and go to Arizona or Florida to play in some mini tours.

That hopefully would make his "big accomplishment" just the first of many to come in his career.

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 469-4128



Westland resident Kirsten Smith qualified for the National Junior Olympics track-and-field meet in just her second full year of hurdling.

Westland teen hurdles her way to National Jr. Olympics

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Kirsten Smith's introduction to hurdling was a little humbling and a little painful.

"My first day I was learning how to three-step between hurdles — that's the goal of every hurdler," reflected Smith, a 16-year-old senior-to-be at Westland John Glenn. "I went for it, but I was too far back. I caught a hurdle and tumbled on my back. I got up and told my coach, 'Oh my gosh, I don't know if I can do this.' He told me to just keep trying and that I'd get better."

Did she ever. On July 23, Smith will travel to Baltimore, Md., the site of the 46th USATF National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships.

She qualified for the prestigious event by placing in the top-five in the "Young Women's" age group (16-18 years old) in the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles races at a regional meet held last month in Dayton, Ohio.

Smith's ascension in the sport has been as smooth

and rapid as her stride. She didn't compete in an official race until her sophomore year at John Glenn — just 16 months ago.

"I competed in gymnastics for eight years before deciding I wanted to try track," she said. "Being a gymnast probably helped me in some ways when it came to track, but I had picked up some bad habits, too. For one thing, I tried to leap over the hurdles instead of running over them."

"But it clicked pretty fast for me. I've always liked sprinting more than long-distance running, so it was exciting for me right from the beginning."

Standing 5-feet-11 with long limbs, Smith has the classic frame for a hurdler. Her mind-set is also top-notch, according to Chad Smith, her DAP Elite Track Club coach.

"Kirsten's attitude is amazing," said Smith, a former world-class decathlete. "She doesn't like to lose, which is what you love to see in an athlete. During an indoor meet, she lost to one of the fastest girls in the

country and she was mad at herself. She always wants to get better and she'll do what it takes to get better. What more could you ask from an athlete?"

A loyal fan of Olympic hurdler Lolo Jones, Smith has invested a ton of sweat equity to shave time off a second from her 100-meter personal-best time and more than two seconds off her 300 best.

This summer's journey to the Junior Olympic Nationals required her to compete in the 400 hurdles — 100 meters longer than she was used to running in high school meets.

"I was nervous about it at first, and I was tired at the end, but I liked it," she said.

Smith has set her goals high for her trip to Baltimore.

"It will definitely be intimidating, competing against the best girls from throughout the country," she said. "But I know I earned my spot, so I'm excited. I really want to make it to the finals."

ewright@hometownlife.com
(734) 578-2767

Rams take thumping

After a two-run double by J.P. Maracani propelled the Michigan Rams to a 2-0 lead in the top of the third inning Wednesday, the Motor City Pride answered with a four-run surge and went on to post a 7-2 victory at Birmingham Seaholm.

The host Pride (14-12) were paced by Mike Milligan (3-for-3, two RBI) and A.J. Dokey (2-for-

4, two RBI) while Chase Poindexter homered and scored three runs.

Maracani was the bright spot for the Rams (12-14-1) in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League tilt. He finished with two doubles in four at bats along with his two RBI. Donnie Eaton and Miles Sorise collected the only other hits as the Rams finished with just four for the contest.

Taking the loss was starter Josh Payzant, who gave up four runs (two earned) in 2.1 innings. He was followed on the mound by Keith Paslean and Colin Gerish.

Earning the victory was starter Josh Wedesky, who went six strong innings. Closing it out was closer Tyler Haggerson, who loaded the bases via walks but managed to escape the jam.



12U Predators prevail

The 12U Predators of the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association won the North Farmington West Bloomfield Summer Classic Baseball Tournament held on June 24 in Farmington Hills. Members of the team included: (front row, from left) Zach Ziroll, Derek Goderis, Kevin Amell, Jake Semik, Alex Nealey and Chase Nealey; (middle row, from left) Owen Korff, Aaron Kelly, Ryan Lambrix, Cody Tapp, Noah Hayden, Andrew Putlock, Max Korff and Evan Lambrix; (back row, from left) coaches Tom Korff, Mark Goderis, Clifton Nealey and Dave Lambrix.



Coach-pitch champs

The Westland Youth Athletic Association Red Sox, bouncing back from a first-round playoff loss, captured the WYAA Coach-Pitch League title on June 30 including two wins on the final day to cap a 5-0 tournament run at Marshall Upper Elementary School. Members of the Red Sox, who also captured the regular season title, include (front row, from left): Chase Lindon, Donovan Cullen, Brock O'Connell, Brooklyn Beglau, Connor Hagerman; (second row, from left) Dominick Price, Ryan Smeltzer, Adin Sumner, Jacob Winn, and Kam Kuban; (back row, from left) coaches Brian Sumner, Kurt Kuban, Ken Smeltzer, John Winn and Bryann Elliott. (Not pictured is player Alexis Mackey.)

DYNAMIC

Continued from page B1

He later transferred to the University of Tennessee, where he lived in the same dormitory as Peyton Manning and broke the school's record in the decathlon.

Smith's first brush with international competition came in 1996 when, as a senior at UT, he qualified for the U.S. Olympic Track and Field trials.

He advanced to the Olympic trials two more times — in 2000 and 2004 — before retiring from the sport following the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece.

In 2002, Smith was ranked No. 2 in the United States and No. 16 in the world after he registered 8,133 points in the decathlon.

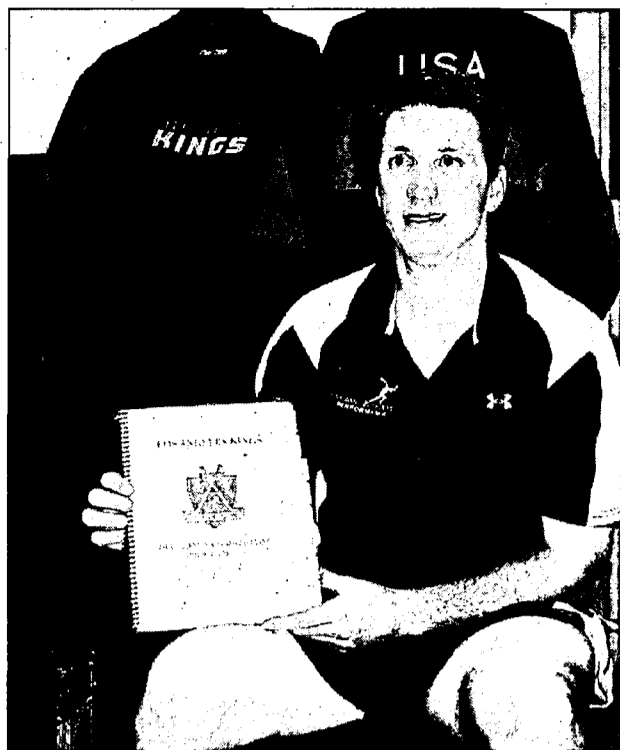
Injuries hampered him during the Olympic-qualifying years.

"I was great in the years between the Olympics," he said, smiling.

"I was kind of like Dan Marino with the Dolphins. I had a pretty good career, but I never won the Super Bowl. Even though I never made it to the Olympics, it was an unbelievable experience."

New opportunities

Shortly after he stepped away from competitive



ED WRIGHT

Canton resident Chad Smith holds a notebook that includes the 2007 workout regimen of Los Angeles Kings star Dustin Brown. Smith, a former world-class decathlete, was the Kings strength and conditioning coach for two seasons.

track and field, Smith accepted a position at a fitness store in San Diego.

"I was selling treadmills and stuff like that," he said. "It was there that I got a chance to work with a fitness guru who worked with a lot of pro athletes — guys like LaDainian Tomlinson and Adrian Gonzalez. I started training local college kids on the side and really enjoyed it."

A few years later — out of the San Diego blue — he received a phone call that forever altered his life.

"The L.A. Kings called out of nowhere and asked me if I'd like to interview for their strength coach position," Smith said. "My uncle, who lives in Brighton, knew Ron Hextall's brother, and Ron Hextall was the Kings assistant GM. My uncle told them about me and they called



GETTY IMAGES

Chad Smith was a world-class decathlete, qualifying for three U.S. Olympics trials.

me in for an interview."

During the summer of 2007, he was hired as the Kings strength and conditioning coach.

"Marc Crawford, who was their head coach at the time, understood that the decathlon demands speed and power — and you had to be able to go back to back to back to back with the events," Smith said. "It was a lot like hockey: shift after shift after shift."

During Smith's stay in

L.A., the Kings improved from the most-injured team in the National Hockey League to the least-injured team.

Along the way, he befriended several young players, including current standouts Dustin Brown and Drew Doughty.

"Dustin just send me a picture of him with the Stanley Cup at his home," Smith said.

A head coaching change — Terry Murray replaced Crawford — eventually

led to Smith getting let go in the summer of 2009.

"I decided then that I was going to head back home and live and work closer to my family," Smith said.

In November 2010, he purchased Velocity Sports Performance and later changed the name to Dynamic Athlete Performance.

"Canton is such a huge sports community," he said, when asked about his choice of destination. "The Olympic skaters train here, the high school hockey teams play here and people love sports in this area. It's a great community to be a part of."

Thanks to Smith's extensive knowledge of fitness and his impressive resume, business is thriving. DAP recently entered into a partnership with Henry Ford Health Systems.

"Chad knows what he's talking about," Zombo said, when asked why he chose to train during the off-season with Smith. "My first two weeks here, he improved my 40 (-yard dash) time. I never realized I was breaking on my steps and he changed the way I was planting my foot. He knows the little things that can help you improve."

ewright@hometownlife.com
(734) 578-2767

COMERICA

Continued from page B1

comes out of our league," Vellucci said. "We have four first-round picks on our team, London's got a few, Windsor's got a few."

"It's exciting to showcase the talent. And I think the rest of the Detroit area is going to see how passionate the Windsor fans are and the London fans are."

"They both sell out their buildings and they're all going to be here plus more of them. So it should be a great crowd, hopefully a capacity crowd watching OHL hockey."

The OHL, one of three Canadian junior circuits, is a longtime pipeline of talent to the NHL.

Among recent Plymouth Whalers to reach the NHL is Boston Bruins standout forward Tyler Seguin.

Vellucci laughed when asked if people still are surprised to learn Seguin played two seasons at Compuware Arena, located some 25 miles west of the center of Hockeytown.

Vellucci, also president of the Whalers, echoed what Saginaw Spirit President Craig Goslin said during the press conference.

"Yzerman, Shanahan, Ciccarelli, Gretzky, Lemieux, all of those guys played in the Canadian (junior) league," Vellucci said. "So it's pretty exciting that if (fans) come to the game, they're going to see a future NHLer."

On sale soon

Whalers fans will want to visit www.plymouthwhalers.com for information on how to purchase tickets for the OHL outdoor games, communications director Pete Krupsky said.

"I know this, if you buy

WHALERS IN THE 'D'

What: The Plymouth Whalers will be one of four Ontario Hockey League teams to participate in a single-admission hockey doubleheader at Comerica Park, part of the 2012 Hockeytown Winter Festival.

When: Saturday, Dec. 29, against the London Knights. Also that day will be a game between the Windsor Spitfires and Saginaw Spirit. Actual details about times for the games soon will be finalized.

Tickets: Whalers season-ticket holders automatically land tickets to the twinbill. Other fans can purchase tickets Aug. 1, with more details to come. Prices have not yet been announced.

Web: Go to www.plymouthwhalers.com or www.DetroitRedWings.com/2013WinterClassic for further information. Keep checking periodically for updates leading to the OHL's first-ever outdoor games.

a season ticket, you definitely will get a ticket to this," Krupsky said. "If not, you'll have to go through other means."

Krupsky said details about ticket prices and how to purchase them will "all be formulated in a very short period of time. But I can tell you, buy a season ticket, you're coming to this game."

"We're going to work along with Olympia Entertainment here and Tom Wilson and the Ilitch family," Vellucci said about ticket availability to Whalers fans.

According to Wilson (no relation to the Whalers player of the same name), tickets for the OHL twinbill will go on

sale Aug. 1.

Also that date, tickets will be available for the Great Lakes Invitational (Dec. 27-28) and the American Hockey League game Dec. 30 between Grand Rapids and the Toronto Marlies.

Wings' alums pumped

Detroit Red Wings season-ticket holders will have first crack at Alumni Showdown tickets Aug. 1, with the general public sale set to begin in mid-August. Red Wings alums slated to play include Plymouth resident Chris Osgood and Farmington Hills resident John Ogradnick.

Among ex-players on hand at Wednesday's press conference was Red Wings Alumni Association president Joe Kocur, who also lives in metro Detroit.

Kocur said having the chance to host two alumni games instead of one speaks to the unbelievable tradition that the Wings and Leafs enjoy as Original Six teams in the NHL.

"It's all about the alumni players and to get together, to experience coming out here," Kocur said. "One hundred alumni skating at Comerica Park, getting together, seeing old friends, meeting players that you got to play against or even never got to play with. I'm so excited I can't wait for the day to drop the puck."

Kocur added that Detroit will get a unique opportunity to show the world how much hockey means to the region.

"It's one of the greatest hockey cities in the world," he said. "We claim it's the best. There's a lot of good ones. But Hockeytown's just going to be rocking all month."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

NEW COACH

Continued from page B1

venson from 1996-98 and also spent time coaching in both the Canton Amateur and Livonia Hockey Association youth programs before becoming an assistant under at Stevenson under David Mitchell during the 2007-08 season.

Churchill athletic direc-

tor Marc Hage said 11 applied for the vacant hockey position and four were interviewed.

"He's very enthusiastic, he's got some LHA (Livonia Hockey Association) ties, he's been a board member, which will be nice for that relationship," Hage said of Reynolds. "He wants to keep a lot of stuff that Pete had in place, a lot of his principles and core values. In a nutshell, I see him as a

young Pete Mazzoni when we hired him 12 years ago, a guy who has a lot of the same teachings and thinkings, along with ideas he can bring to Churchill.

"He's a Livonia guy, a Stevenson guy and I'm always appreciative of someone who is from our school system and wants to apply. It's nice to have that extra connection."

bemons@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6851

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Salem wrestling

Assistant varsity coach and former state champion Jeremy Henderson will conduct a summer wrestling camp from 5:30-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 16-19, at Salem High School.

The camp is open to all incoming seventh- through 12-graders that are attending or going to be attending Salem High. All current Salem wrestlers are required to attend the camp, which will concentrate on technique and conditioning.

Included in the \$25 cost is a camp T-shirt. For more information, e-mail Henderson at jhendy189@gmail.com; or visit www.wrestling.salemrocks.com.

Wildcats baseball

The annual Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic is slated for 12:30-3:30 p.m. both Tuesday-Wednesday, July 17-18, at the Plymouth High School varsity baseball field.

The clinic is for "young aspiring athletes" looking to "improve their baseball fundamentals by receiving age-appropriate instructions from the 2012 Plymouth Wildcats baseball coaching staff and varsity players."

There will be individual stations for pitching, hitting, catching, infield and outfield play and radar gun readings.

Boys and girls entering grades 2-5 are invited to register. The camp is limited to the first 100 to sign up. Register ASAP at www.baseball.plymouthwildcats.com.

Camp cost is \$20 if pre-registered and \$25 the day of the clinic. Cost includes a snack. T-shirts will be available for purchase at the clinic.

Wayne football

Wayne Memorial will be staging summer football camps.

For more information, call new varsity football coach Lee Grizzell at (313) 408-8765.



National champions

The Michigan Elite Volleyball Academy's Mizuno 18 Black team won the USA Volleyball national championship July 1 in Columbus, Ohio. Mizuno 18 Black won all 11 of its matches but was tested along the way, winning six in the third set. In its final three matches, Mizuno 18 Black defeated Rage Red 18 (Northern California), CVA 18 Silver (Ohio Valley) and Pocatello Elite 18 (Intermountain). Maddy Doyle of Farmington Hills was named the most valuable player in the tournament, and teammates Mary Henry and Kate Pretty were selected for the all-tournament team. The members of the Mizuno 18 Black team are (kneeling, from left) Henry, Marian; Jenny Rhodes, Ladywood; Aly Dowdall, Davison; Kari Fidelholtz, Marian; (standing, from left) head coach Ed Ruhl, Angelique White, Sacred Heart Academy; Amy Zimmer, Port Huron Northern; Marisa Aiello, Avondale; Pretty, Midland Dow; Victoria Pretty, Dow; Doyle, Mercy; and assistant coach Jason George.

Quite a year for PCA track

The summer can't go fast enough for Plymouth Christian Academy track and field coach Jennifer Lemieux, who oversaw a talented squad that featured 12 athletes qualifying for the Class D state finals.

Lemieux said the Eagles also set a dozen PCA records along the way.

Individual records were set by Jimmy Parks (200-meter run, 23.48 seconds; 400 run, 51.76), Mick Noel (110 hurdles, 16.63), Eric Jipping (shot put, 44-feet,

.075-inches; discus, 132-01), Karen Windle (800 run, 2:28.56; 300 hurdles, 53.20) and Terra Crown (mile run, 5:39.2; two-mile run, 12:28.8).

Also setting records were the boys' mile- and two-mile relay teams of Trevor Baloga, Ethan Levack, Parks and Jacob Bailey and the girls' two-mile relay of Rachel Smith, Sydney Carpenter, Crown and Windle.

Qualifying for the finals from the girls side were Megan Lemieux (dis-

cus), Windle (800 run), Smith (400 run), Crown (mile-, two-mile runs) and the two-mile relay team (Smith, Carpenter, Crown and Windle).

For the boys, qualifiers were Jipping (discus), Noel (high jump), Parks (400 run) and the two-mile relay of Baloga, Levack, Parks and Bailey.

PCA also had success at the MIAC league meet, where Jipping, Noel, Parks, Lemieux, Windle and Crown were named all-conference recipients.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Maybury run

The 2012 Roadrunner Classic, sponsored by the Northville Road Runners, will be Saturday, July 21 at Maybury State Park (use the Eight Mile Road entrance one mile off Beck Road).

The 1-mile run-walk on a paved trail will be at 5 p.m. followed by the 8-kilometer run-walk on dirt and paved trails at 5:30 p.m. Registration and packet pickup will be 3 p.m. race day.

The family fun event includes story hour, face painting and hands-on activities. Post race activities include pizza, live music, libations and homemade baked goods.

Cash awards will be to the overall male and female, along with the male and female masters winners. Five-year age-group awards also included.

Registration fees are \$25 (8K) and \$5 (1-mile) before July 21. Race day fees are \$30 and \$5, respectively.

For more information, visit www.northvilleroadrunners.com; or call Bart Gregoroff at (734) 748-2555.

GCYBSA tryouts

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association will be hosting several tryouts for travel and competitive teams in the coming weeks. All of the tryouts will be held on Saturdays at Canton High School's varsity field and a \$10 fee will be required.

The tryout schedule is as follows: July 28: 12-13U (4-6 p.m.), 14U (6:15-7:35 p.m.); Aug. 4: 9-10U (noon-2 p.m.), 11-12U (2:15-4:15 p.m.), 13-14U (4:30-6:30 p.m.); Aug. 11: 9-10U (noon-2 p.m.), 11U (2:15-3:35 p.m.); Aug. 25: 9-14U players will take part in a makeup session between 9 a.m. and noon. Times will be assigned.

Pre-registration is strongly suggested and info can be found at www.gcybsa.com. For more information contact dankrafft@hotmail.com or cott@cantonmi.org.

Hawks golf outing

The Farmington Harrison Football Boosters Club will host its annual fundraising golf outing 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5 at Cattails Golf Club, located at 57737 Nine Mile Road in South

Lyon.

Cost is \$100 per player and \$400 per foursome in the Texas Scramble format.

There will be a steak dinner following the golf.

Registration forms are available at www.gohawks.org or those who are interested can contact David Race at (248) 376-1535.

WYAA football

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association football will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at the WYAA Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington (north of Ford).

The WYAA offers two football units, the Comets and Meteors. Each unit has four squads divided by age and weight restrictions for Junior Freshman (7-8), Freshman (8-10), Junior Varsity (11-12) and Varsity (13-14).

In addition, both units have four cheerleading squads (ages same as football). For more information, call the WYAA at (734) 421-0640.

CYO volleyball

Registrations are being accepted for the Livonia St. Edith fall volleyball program (grades 2-8).

Members of St. Edith, St. Kenneth, St. Aidan and St. Colette are eligible to play in the Catholic Youth Organization.

To register, e-mail Gary Smart at smart5959@sbcglobal.net; or call (734) 432-5959.

Coaches wanted

Livonia Ladywood is seeking varsity golf and varsity pom pon coaches for the fall of 2012.

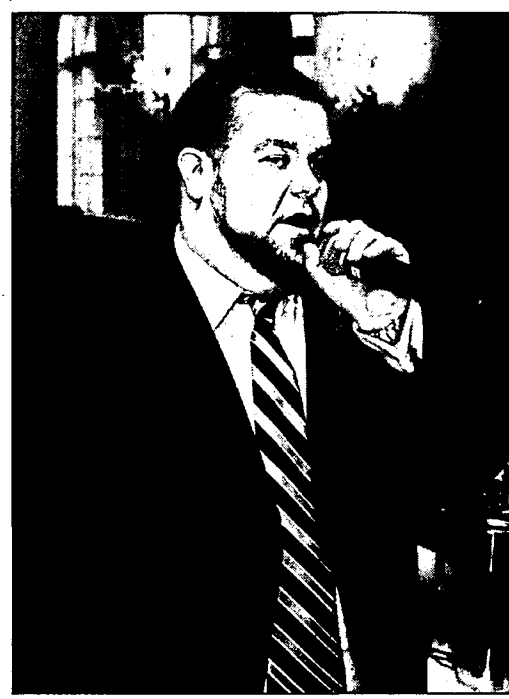
An afternoon and weekend bus driver is also wanted to take teams to games.

If interested, fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

Divine Child jobs

Dearborn Divine Child High School has head coaching vacancies for girls golf and boys ice hockey.

Resumes and letters of interest should be sent by June 10 to: Tony DeMare, athletic director, 1001 N. Silvery Lane, Dearborn, MI 48128; or e-mail demare@divinechildhighschool.org.



WHAC's top SID

For the third consecutive year Madonna University's Patrick Moore has been named the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Sports Information Director of the Year.

Moore serves as the primary contact for MU's 11 varsity sports programs and oversees all communications for the athletics department including media guides, game programs, special event programs, camp brochures, media personnel and Madonna-Crusaders.com. "Patrick is a true professional who allows Madonna and the WHAC to reach higher standards through his passion and willingness to help," WHAC commissioner Rob Miller said.



Talladega signs Whatley

Recent Plymouth High School graduate Craig Whatley has signed to play golf at Talladega College in Alabama. Here Whatley (left) is pictured with Talladega head coach Kevin Jennings. Whatley, a co-captain for the state-meet-qualifying 2012 Wildcats, came through with several highlight performances. In addition to helping spark Plymouth to the KLAASouth Division title with a 10-0 record, he posted the squad's first hole-in-one (at Mystic Creek) and had a career round of 74 at an invitational at The Legacy Golf Club. "Craig has been an outstanding student-athlete during his tenure at Plymouth," coach Chris Moore said. "His leadership will be missed. He leads by example with his strong desire to improve and with his honesty both on and off the course."

Guide to Employment

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BENCH HAND

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Truck drivers needed for local transportation company for Michigan and interstate shipments. Must have car hauling experience, CDLA with air brake and clean driving record. Good benefit package. Send resumes to: Observer & Eccentric, Box 1906, 6200 Metro Pkwy, Sterling Heights MI 48312

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For Livonia Insurance Agency. Duties include certificate issuance, computer rating and general processing. 3 days/week. Send resume or qualifications along with hourly rate to: P.O. Box 511106, Livonia, MI 48150. ccesane@hometownlife.com

IRRIGATION TECHNICIAN

White Lake based Co. Minimum 5 yrs. exp. in Servicing & Repairs of Systems.

Email resume

HRProLand@yahoo.com

or Fax to: 248-889-9068

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Position available for an experienced, dependable maintenance person at a residential community in Farmington Hills. Some weekends and evenings required. Duties include routine HVAC, plumbing, electrical, light carpentry, painting, landscape maintenance, snow removal and other.

Personal fax resume or personal data sheet with salary requirements to (248) 355-8849 or email areigh@bergerrealttygroup.com. Phone calls are not acceptable. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Apartment community in need of skilled maintenance technician. Must have exp. with apartment turnovers, general maintenance, plumbing, heating & cooling, basic electrical. Must be able to take on calls 24/7 as needed. Pay determined based on exp. Fax resume to: 248-737-0524 or Call: 248-737-9200

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Metro Cars, is seeking an entry level porter/mechanic helper. Knowledge or experience working in a commercial garage would be helpful. Your own tools would be a plus. Some responsibilities include but limited to: ensuring the garages and grounds are clean, supplies are stocked, etc. Must have flexibility in work scheduling as weekends and holidays may be included. Interested candidates should forward resume to: (734) 946-6040 or mail to:

METRO CARS

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EOE

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4-5 yrs legal experience required. Seeking a sharp, reliable candidate with good computer skills and good knowledge of WP12 (ability to edit legal briefs/motions, etc.). Manage and maintain office/personal calendars and atty. legal billing, handle electronic court filings, ability to open/close legal cases, legal case management and legal filing. Please email resumes to: rhampton@dawson-clark.com or fax (313) 256-8913

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Help Wanted-General

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We are currently accepting applications for full/part time employment in the Plymouth, Livonia, Farmington Hills & Southfield areas. Requirements: HS diploma or GED, drug free, no criminal history, computer proficient, strong customer service skills, valid driver's license. Benefits: free individual health insurance, tuition assistance, free uniforms. Please call to schedule an interview at: 248-553-9900

FRONT DESK CLERK

Part time position available for experienced front desk clerk at a busy Physical Therapy clinic in Livonia. Afternoons & evenings. Please call for more info @ 248-888-0077, fax resume to: 248-888-0071, or email to: perform@livonia@sbcglobal.net

PHONE RECEPTIONIST

For busy law firm; experience necessary Farmington Hills. Excellent salary. Email resume: michiganlawyer45@yahoo.com

RECEPTIONIST:

For Birmingham salon. Must be able to work 20 hrs plus. Computer exp. a must. Looking for someone long term. Email resume: cecclawton@comcast.net

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

SECURITY RECEPTIONIST

We are currently accepting applications for full time employment in the Farmington Hills area. Requirements: HS diploma or GED, drug free, no criminal history, computer proficient (especially in Excel & Lotus), previous reception experience required, strong customer service skills. Benefits: free individual health insurance, tuition assistance, free uniforms. Please call to schedule an interview at: 248-553-9900

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL HYGIENIST - FT
For top dentist in metro Detroit. Fax resume: 248-473-9286 or email: higsmiles@provide.net

Help Wanted-Medical

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Must be MORG or TTI trained. PM avail. Fax: 888-740-2050 orchards.nov@gmail.com

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Needed for care of 23 quadriplegic residents at adult care home in Brighton, Midlands, 6p-6a. Call Shana at: 517-404-8975 or email: stetley@oaklanemanor.com

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RECEPTIONIST

For medical office in Plymouth. Fax resumes Attn: Christy to (734)451-1583

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FRONT DESK CLERK
Part time position available for experienced front desk clerk at a busy Physical Therapy clinic in Livonia. Afternoons & evenings. Please call for more info @ 248-888-0077, fax resume to: 248-888-0071, or email to: perform@livonia@sbcglobal.net

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RECEPTIONIST:

For Birmingham salon. Must be able to work 20 hrs plus. Computer exp. a must. Looking for someone long term. Email resume: cecclawton@comcast.net

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Local charity works with second African tribe

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Sidney Bonvallet of Farmington Hills says she doesn't question where God sends her — even if her mission gets a bit waterlogged.

"We were on a peninsula and almost had to be evacuated by helicopter because of a storm," Bonvallet said, recalling her trip to South Africa earlier this year. "I wasn't afraid until toward the end. Our tents were on stilts and hung over the river. When the water came up to the tents and into the tents, we got to higher ground. When the water started coming up there, then I got scared. In addition to snakes and insects and animals, that was touch and go."

The experience won't deter her from taking her fourth trip to Africa next year to build classrooms for a secondary school, latrines for villagers, distribute shoes and other essential items and teach villagers to sew, garden and raise chickens.

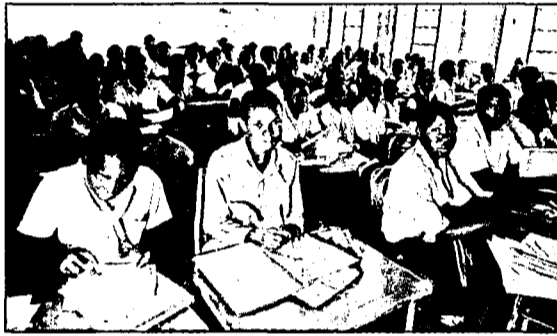
Bonvallet and other members of her charity, Helping Hands, Touching Hearts, this year achieved a three-year goal to help residents of the remote Shangaan Village of Massingir Velho, in Mozambique. While the government prepared to move the villagers from the path of migrating wild animals, Bonvallet and other Helping Hands volunteers, supplied them with shoes, clothing, mosquito nets, school supplies and more during three annual visits.



Sidney Bonvallet shows villagers how to use a sewing machine.

New tribe

After wrapping up its mission in Mozambique this year, the group moved on to South Africa in February and met with a chief, a council and the "headmen" of five villages that members of the Venda Tribe call home. Volunteers helped erect a tent at the tribe's primary school, creating two covered classrooms for groups that had been meeting outdoors. They also distributed sanitation products, school and medical supplies, clothing, shoes, multi-purpose tubs and wheelbar-



Students of the Venda Tribe in South Africa attend large classes in secondary school.

rows to impoverished families.

The South African villages are a step up, by U.S. standards, from the remote Shan-

gaan Village in Mozambique. "They have electricity. So that will be easier. I'll be able to hold sewing classes. That (sewing) will become an

income for them," said Bonvallet, Helping Hands founder and president. "My daughter is very creative and she wants to teach them crafts they can sell. They seem very motivated to help themselves. That excited me."

"There are five village, so we will work at a higher level with sanitation and education. We'll still do things like shoes and clothes because my personal belief from the Bible is that when you see someone hungry you feed them and clothe them. So, we'll do some of both."

She said the organization will help villagers build small businesses by supplying farm implements, seed, fencing and poultry. The high school needs computers, a copier and other supplies.

"Our big thing is we'd love to build them a building that would contain two classrooms," Bonvallet said. The additional space would allow teachers to split large classes — with 86-98 students each — into two smaller groups. "They are very aware that education is freedom from poverty."

Buying overseas

Bonvallet figures it will take a year of fundraising before the volunteers can return to South Africa.

"Almost all the money goes toward our goals. We do not take a salary. The money translates into wheelbarrows, clothing, shoes, medical and school supplies."

Please see AFRICA, B6

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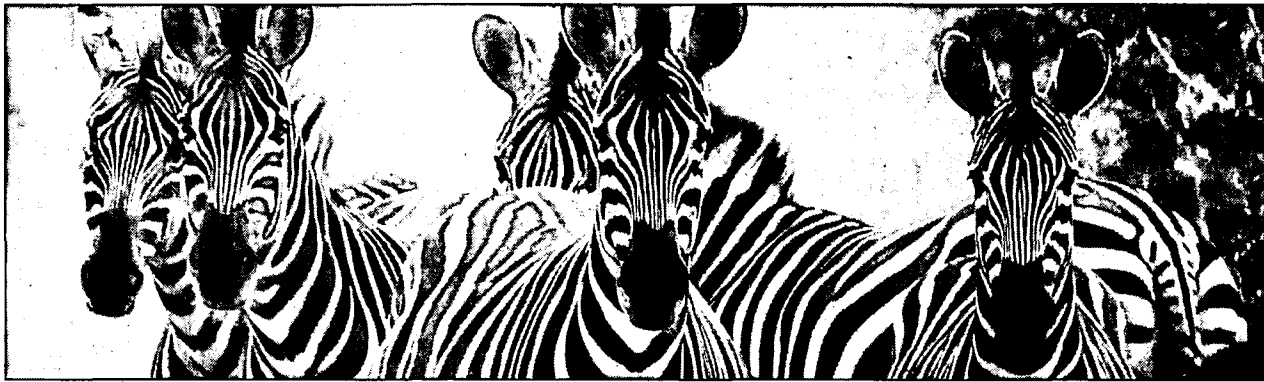
[Http://Faxonacademy.com](http://Faxonacademy.com)

Call 866-606-2721
or 248-702-6272

Faxon Academy is located in the same building as

The International School

28555 Middlebelt Road
Farmington Hills, MI
(Between 12 & 13 Mile Roads)



AFRICA

Continued from page B5

Bonvallet shipped donated goods to Africa for her first mission trip, but the method was costly and became entangled in red tape overseas. Since then she has fundraised and buys all goods in Africa.

She's available to speak with civic groups, churches, businesses and private gatherings about her mission. She has a 20-minute DVD that shows volunteers in action.

Bonvallet's church, Kenwood Church of Christ in Livonia, has chosen Helping Hands Touching Hearts as a Vacation Bible School mission this year. "Adventures on Promise Island" is open to all ages — from nursery to adult — and runs 9:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, for five weeks beginning July 15. The church is located at 20200 Merriam.

The organization also welcomes donations to Helping Hands Touching Hearts Charity, 27565 Spring Valley Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Call Bonvallet at (248) 514-3022.

"There's a joy in helping someone who can't pay you back. If I help one person and lift them up, in a small way, I've lifted up the entire world."



Girls carry water on their heads. They are members of the Shangaan Tribe, which Helping Hands Touching Hearts assisted for three years.



Women won't have to carry items on their heads after receiving wheelbarrows from Helping Hands Touching Hearts.

Garden clubs dedicate marker

Members of three Farmington area garden clubs will dedicate a Blue Star Memorial marker, noon, July 20 at Memorial Park, located on Grand River Ave., and Oakland in Farmington.

The brief ceremony will begin with a flag ceremony presented by Farmington Hills Girl Scout Troop 44149 and will conclude with taps played by Chuck Wilder.

The dedication, which is open to the public, coincides with Founders Week in Farmington.

Participating garden clubs are Farmington Garden Club, Hill and Dale Garden Club and North Farmington Garden Club.

The Blue Star Memorial markers are a program of National Garden Clubs. Memorials are installed in public places throughout the United States. The concept of a Blue Star memorial harkens back to World War II when families of service members hung a blue star in their windows to honor their loved ones in the war.

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 starts at 5 p.m., Saturday, followed by dinner. For more information call Donna (Watkins) Gotts at (734) 331-9180 or e-mail to donnagotts@aol 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 clhs1977@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 godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ROBI-CHAUD

CLASS OF 1962
50th class reunion, 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 at-

tend. Send names, contact info and questions to the reunion committee website, robichaud62@yahoo.com. Check out "Robichaud 50th Reunion Class of 62" on Facebook and on classmates.com. Or call Paula (McGue) at (517) 304-9755.

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@wow-way.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 Merriam, 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.

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TWO PROBLEMS AT ONCE

It is possible for a car to slow down because of tires with no tread, while at the same time, the brake pads are worn, and the spark plugs are covered with carbon and soot. The auto won't run right until all the problems are identified and fixed.

The same can happen to the human machine. For example, if a patient presents with a sore neck and a painful shoulder, does he have an arthritis of the neck and a tendinitis of the shoulder, or is the neck pain a reflection of strain on surrounding muscles trying to splint a damaged rotator cuff?

Or is a pain in the leg the result of a knee with damaged menisci and calf muscles attempting to splint the knee? Or, does the patient have both a damaged knee and at the same time, a sciatic nerve problem?

Fundamental to a physician's decision if he is dealing with two problems or one is the nature and timing of the pain. If the neck ache and the shoulder ache come on at the same time and if both pains are aggravated by activity and both are relieved by rest, then the likelihood is that the two pains are determined by the same cause.

In contrast, if one leg pain is at the knee, and the other pain is a tingling pain down the leg, and if the knee pain is relieved by rest, but the leg pain disrupts sleep, then the physician knows he is dealing with two problems.

The key for the physician is to ask the right questions and listen carefully to what the patient says.

Farmington gears up for Founders Festival, July 19-21

By Susan Steinmueller
Observer Staff Writer

The 48th Downtown Farmington Founders Festival will pack old and new activities into a two-day event this year.

Farmington's largest annual event will start with a pre-glow Thursday, July 19, and continue with the festival, July 20-21.

Although the festival doesn't run through Sunday this year, Downtown Development Authority director Annette Knowles said she expects as many people to be there as in previous years.

The Downtown Farmington Founders Festival is the city's biggest annual event, bringing in 150,000-200,000 people.

The festival takes place in and around the downtown Sundquist Pavilion and Riley Park, on Grand River east of Farmington Road.

With the theme "Go Play in the Streets," it features events for all ages.

They include a Go Green area, a parade starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, a crafters marketplace, Movie under the Stars, a Go Playground Kids area, a beer tent and entertainment for kids and adults.

The festival is a showcase for the city as well. Shops will hold sidewalk sales and city and community groups join in the celebration.

Salem Church on Oakland Street will hold a rain barrel/composter workshop on Friday and Saturday. The city's historic mansion on Grand River has a kid's day on Friday with a petting zoo and pony rides, and a storyteller on Saturday and Victorian lawn games among other features.

Shuttles for parking
The Farmers Market

will be open on Saturday. Instead of being in the Sundquist Pavilion, it will be set up in the Downtown Farmington Center parking lot south of Starbucks.

Knowles said that something new this year will be a pet adoption group, Home FurEver, in the Go Green area, behind the Masonic Temple at Grand River and Farmington roads.

The City of Farmington will hold its annual Founder's Festival Parade and Fun Run on Saturday, July 21. The Fun Run will begin at 9 a.m. with the parade following. Grand River will be closed between Orchard Lake and Shiawassee from 8:45 a.m. until approximately 12 p.m.

The parade starts at Grand River and Power Road and proceeds west on Grand River to Liberty Street, one block west of Farmington Road.

Visitors may use municipal parking lots or a shuttle system.

"Given the number of folks we anticipate coming, we always encourage them to park in a designated lot and take the connecting shuttle downtown," Knowles said.

Shuttles are available at Sellers Buick GMC, 38000 Grand River Ave. between Halsted and Haggerty, Farmington High School, 32000 Shiawassee Road off of Orchard Lake Road, and the Village Commons, on Grand River between Power and Farmington Roads.

Shuttle service is from 9:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

For more information on the festival, go to: FoundersFestival.com.

steinmueller@hometownlife.com
(313)222-2241



Kiddie rides are thrilling in the Kids Zone at Riley Park during the Farmington Area Founders Festival.

Walking in circles



Life Coach Kathy Igoe will lead a meditative walk through an outdoor labyrinth, 8-10 a.m., Saturday July 21 and Saturday, Aug. 18 at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills. A labyrinth is an indirect path to a clear destination and is intended to be a reflective and relaxing experience that slows the heart rate, quiets the mind, and inspires creative thinking. Participants will meet near the North Shelter at Heritage Park and should dress for the weather in comfortable clothes, and bring a pen and journal if desired. In case of inclement weather, the labyrinth will be held inside the Nature Center. The cost for each labyrinth event is \$15 per person, \$10 for residents. Pre-registration is available online at <https://recreg.fhgov.com>. Heritage Park is located at 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Call the Nature Center at (248) 477-1135, visit www.igoecoach.com or e-mail asimons@fhgov.com for more information about the Outdoor Meditation Labyrinth.

GARDEN & NATURE

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Butterflies

Learn how to maintain a butterfly garden at the next meeting of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA), 7 p.m., Wednesday, July 18, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Get tips on how to improve your butterfly plantings and increase the number of the creatures you attract to your yard. \$3 for non-members. Parking on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or www.sembabutterfly.com.

Belleville Walk

The Belleville Area District Library will present its seventh annual Garden Walk, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday,

July 22. The theme is "The Decorated Garden" with an emphasis on using art and other objects as focal points in the garden. Each of the five gardens on the tour artfully incorporates handmade objects. The Garden Market Place returns to the library lawn this year. A Garden Walk ticket is not necessary to shop the Market Place. Advance tickets are available for \$10 each at the Belleville Area District Library, Antiques on Main, and Garden Fantasy Greenhouse & Florist until July 21. On the day of the Garden Walk, tickets are \$12 and available only at the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth St., Belleville. Addresses with maps are available at the library on the day of the walk. Call (734) 699-3291 for additional information or visit www.belleville.lib.mi.us for a copy of the brochure. All proceeds from the garden walk benefit the library.

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Laird-Giovanni

Melissa Jean Laird and Sean James Giovanni announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Dorothy Laird of Novi, is a 2004 graduate of Novi High School. She graduated from Central Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in human resources and legal studies. She is employed as a Human Resources Manager by Nashville Skin and Cancer, while also pursuing a master's degree in Dietetics.

Her fiancé, son of James and Colleen Giovanni of Farmington Hills, graduated in 2004 from Detroit Catholic Central High School. He is a record producer and owns and operates the Record Shop recording studio in Nashville, Tenn.

An October 2013 wedding is planned at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.



Bailey-Weidner

Timothy Bailey and Joan Smykowski of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Theresa Bailey, to Nathan Weidner, son of Wayne and Sandra Weidner of Florissant, Mo.

The bride-to-be received a B.F.A. in industrial design from Wayne State University in Detroit. She is employed by BMW Motorcycles Southeast Michigan in sales, marketing and social media.

Her fiancé is completing a Ph.D. in industrial psychology from Wayne State University.



He plans to complete the degree in summer 2012. He has accepted a faculty position with Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, Mo.

The couple resides in

Dearborn, but will move to Rolla at the end of July 2012.

Although the final arrangements have not been made, a wedding tentatively is planned for October 2013.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

July

ADULT ACADEMY

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Monday-Thursday, July 30-31 and Aug. 1-2

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: The Rev. Paul Stunkel will lead adult learning. The series is "Theology for the Fearless: Who is God? What do we mean by 'incarnation?' and Other Conversations"

Contact: (734) 422-1470

BIBLE TALK

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, July 15 and 22

Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: These one-hour meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Christ. No collections will be taken. Ministers are Matthew Jensen and Jason Mcdnally

Contact: (515) 851-2939

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 28

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need

Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480.

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, July 28

Location: Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Free food, bouncy houses, Westland Fire Truck, face painting, games, silent auction and more

Contact: (734) 536-1210

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. July 19

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church & School, 3003 Hannan, Wayne

Details: Spoke Folk Christian music concert; free will donation

Contact: (734) 728-3315

FAMILY AND FRIENDS NIGHT

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 18

Location: Grace Church, 31133 Hivley, Westland

Details: Beverages and a light meal (sandwiches or pizza) and outdoor games such as volleyball, ring toss, and water balloons, and indoor board games such as dominos, Scrabble, Monopoly, and cards will also be provided. Participants may bring their favorites. All are welcome. Adults, 18 and up, pay \$2; children, 6-17, pay \$1 each; and children, 5 and under, are free.

Contact: Cheryl at (248) 756-3592

MOVIE NIGHT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 18

Location: Bixman Hall at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: "The Way" will be screen. A brief discussion will follow the film. Admission is free and refreshments will be served

Coming up: See "Monsignor Quixote" at Summer Movie Night, 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 25 at the church

Contact: RSVP at (734) 425-5950

SEEKING CRAFTERS

Time/Date: Show is Oct. 6

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: An 8- by 10-foot space can be rented for \$30. Tables are available for \$5 and electricity for \$5. Crafts must be handmade; no resale. Profits will go to mission work in the community

Contact: (248) 478-4708 or e-mail jsinc2436@yahoo.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. July 23-27

Location: St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School, 3885 Venoy, Westland

Details: The theme is "IncrediWorld Amaze-ment Park." Kids will experience the wonder of God's creation made in six days. As they travel back to the beginning, they will put on their "Bible glasses" and get a closer look at God's design features in animals. Kids will make crafts, play water games, relays and more. Aimed at age 3 to 6th grade.

Contact: (734) 425-0261

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-noon, July 30-31 and Aug. 1-2

Location: Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: "Sky - Everything is Possible with God" is the theme. Aimed at children, age 3-5th grade. Preschoolers must be potty-trained. Free CD of music from the week. Cost is \$10 per child, \$25 for families with

three or more children. Registration forms are available in the church office. Church office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call ahead to assure someone can help you

Contact: Pam Gunderson at (734) 422-0494, Ext. 14, or visit rgpc.children@yahoo.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-noon, July 30-Aug. 3

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "VBS Olympics" is aimed at children, age 3 through 5th grade and will include story time and lesson, music, crafts, recreation and snack. Cost is \$5 per child and registration is available now

Contact: (734) 422-1470, ext. 17 or e-mail to christianeducator@sppc-email.org

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Saturday, July 21

Location: St. Valentine Church, 14841 Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Mass followed by social hour and snacks. Sign up to bring food items such as veggie tray, dip, chips, salad, cheese and crackers. RSVP by July 12 to let organizers what dish you'll make.

Contact: Ann Marie at (248) 477-6167, Donna at (734) 420-0461 or Laura at (734) 942-3866

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

Time/Date: 11 a.m., July 15, 22 and 29

Location: at the Cherry Hill Schoolhouse, located at Cherry Hill and Ridge Road in Canton

Details: St. Michael Lutheran Church hosts the service. Bring a lawn chair to the event

Contact: (734) 459-3333

August

CROP WALK MEETING

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 1

Location: Genevya Presbyterian Church, 5835 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Individuals, faith communities and other organizations interested in participating in the Plymouth/Canton CROP Hunger Walk on Oct. 7 may send a representative to this orientation meeting. Attendees will receive Walk materials and strategies for recruiting walkers

Contact: Donna Gray at (734) 812-7698; dgrayce@sbcbglobal.net

SUMMER RETREAT

Time/Date: 8:30-11 a.m. Aug. 1

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia

Details: The retreat is aimed at moms and will begin with Mass, followed by a continental breakfast and a program. The theme is "Whole and Holy: The total Catholic Woman." A children's ministry is available at \$2 per child per meeting. The retreat will discuss spirit, looking to St. Teresa of Avila and St. Francis de Sales for ways to integrate women's daily lives with a heart for holiness. The series is open to all and registration is required

Contact: (734) 261-1455 Ext. 207 or www.livoniastmichael.org

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Aug. 6-10

Location: Emanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: SPLASH VBS is for kids entering preschool (potty-trained) through 6th grade in the fall of 2012. Registration fees are \$5 for one child, or \$10 per family and will include crafts, games, singing, Bible stories, science, snacks, and more. Pick up an application at the church or register by phone

Contact: Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822

ONGOING

CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Nicole's Revival

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday

Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer

Contact: (313) 531-1234

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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



BUZUVIS, MARTHA I.

Age 96, of Plymouth, passed away with her family at her bedside on July 8, 2012. Born in Richmond, Virginia to parents Charles and Nora Anderson. Moved to the Plymouth from Detroit in 1968. Loving wife of the late John. Beloved mother of the late Barbara Williams, John (fiancée Cynthia King) Buzuvius Jr., Dennis (Esther) Buzuvius and Deborah (Mark) Stevens. Proud grandmother of Timothy Williams, Gregory (Kathleen) Williams, Donna (Peter) Lee, Natalie (Bill) Farrell, John (Shannon) Buzuvius III, Dennis (Jamie) Buzuvius Jr., Esther (Doug) LeMaster, Joseph (fiancée Shannon Bishop) Buzuvius, Scott (Jen) Stevens and Jennifer Stevens. Great-grandmother of ten. Dear sister of Monty (June) Anderson. Also survived by son-in-law Richard Williams. Preceded in death by daughter-in-law Betty Buzivus. Martha enjoyed cooking, working in her flower garden and she especially loved to travel. Funeral service Wednesday 11:00am from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main St., Plymouth. Visitation Tuesday from 1-9pm. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 24445 Northwestern Hwy, #100, Southfield, MI 48075. Share memories at schrader-howell.com

KREVSKY, DR. SEYMOUR

Beloved husband of 31 years of Margery Krevsky. Cherished father of Joseph Leland (Elizabeth Bagby) Stearns. Loving brother of David (Kathleen) Krevsky, Jay (Nancy) Krevsky, the late Ethel Shapiro, the late Marcia Levine, the late Pearl Scher, the late Herman Krevsky and the late Harold Krevsky. SERVICES 2:00 P.M. SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT THE DAVIDSON/HERMELIN CHAPEL AT CLOVER HILL PARK CEMETERY. ARRANGEMENTS BY THE IRA KAUFMAN CHAPEL. 248-569-0020 www.irakaufman.com.



MATTE, FRANK J.

Born February 12th 1923 in Port Blanchard, Luzerne Co. Pa., and died July 7th 2012 in West Bloomfield, Mi., age 89. After High School he enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942. He trained in various fields around the U.S. and while in training in Alabama he met Eleanor Stevens. Upon completion of his training and his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and B-24 Pilot he married Eleanor in 1944. He shipped off to War and served in the European Campaign in Italy flying B-24s in the 15th Air Force, 459th Bomb group. When he returned from War he enrolled at Cornell University and graduated as a Mechanical Engineer. His son was born in 1956. He later moved to Federal Mogul Corporation in Southfield, Mi. and rose to be the Regional Sales Manager of the National Seal Division. He was an active member in the Boy Scouts when his son was involved. He has been a member of North Congregational Church since 1964 and served two terms on the Board of Trustees. He was a member of Ingleside Bridge Club and held master's points. He enjoyed golf, woodworking and bridge. He was predeceased by his Brother Clem. He is survived by his wife of 68 years Eleanor and his son Jeff. A memorial service will be held at 11am on Thursday July 12th 2012 at the North Congregational Church, 36520 West Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331. (248) 848-1750 Donations to the Church in lieu of flowers is requested. Please share memories at www.cremationmichigan.com

McCREERY, VIOLET W.

Age 85, formerly of Detroit and Canton, died July 8, 2012, in Newport News, VA. She taught English at Cody High School and retired from the Detroit Board of Education in 1992. Survivors include a daughter, Roslyn McCreery of Hampton VA; a son, Scott (Melissa) McCreery and two grandchildren, Cameron and Max McCreery, all of Bellingham WA; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul E. McCreery in 1996 and daughter, Julie Lynelle McCreery-Moon in 2006. Funeral services will be held Friday, 11:30 AM, at Westminster Church of Detroit where the family will receive friends from 10:00 AM until time of service. Burial will follow in the Hawley Cemetery, Mason, MI, at 4:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, Westminster Church of Detroit, or the charity of your choice.

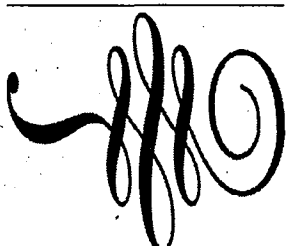
McKENZIE, RONALD E.

75; of Farmington Hills; July 12, 2012. Ronald was the beloved husband of the late Sonja (d.1981). Loving father of Michael (Patricia), Matthew (Tracy) and the late Mark (d.1998). Cherished grandfather of R.J., Amber (Adam) Vieder, Aaron, Mark and Heather. Dear uncle of Andrea, Carol (Tim) and Denise (Jeff). Devoted companion of Judi Stein. Funeral service Monday, July 16th, 10:00 AM at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Visitation Sunday 1:00-7:00PM. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorial tributes suggested to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, www.lls.org. heeney-sundquist.com



POLICE, FRANK L.

Age 83 of Livonia, passed away on June 30, 2012. Loving husband of the late Louise B. Beloved father of Frank Police, the late Daniel Police, Eva T. Police, Maria (Anthony) Kraska and David Police. Proud grandfather of Shannon*Police, Steven and Angela Kraska. Funeral service Tuesday, July 10, 2012 from St. Michael's Catholic Church 11441 Hubbard Rd, Livonia, Mr. Police will lie in state beginning at 10:00am until time of mass at 10:30am. Friends may visit the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth on Monday, July 9, 2012 from 1-9pm with a Rosary service at 7:00pm. Frank will be buried next to his beloved Louise at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital -Tribute Program P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142 Memphis, TN 38148-0421. Share memories at schrader-howell.com.



CHAPPELL, GERTRUDE

Age 95, July 2, 2012, of Birmingham and Bloomfield for over 60 years. Beloved wife of the late Harold Chappell, Sr. Loving mother of Carolyn (David) Chappell Lougee and the late Harold Chappell, Jr. Dear grandmother of Trug, Brooke, and Katie Chappell, Ellen and Lisa Lougee, and the late Charlie Chappell. Also seven great-grandchildren. Interment in Oak Grove Cemetery in Napoleon, MI. A memorial gathering was held at Gertrude's home on Thursday, July 12, 2012 from 4-6pm. Memorials to Salvation Army appreciated.



KERNEN, PATRICK "PAT"

July 9, 2012, age 68, of Plymouth. Loving husband of Barbara. Beloved father of Julia (Colin D'Aiello) Kernen. Proud grandfather of Brian and Gabriel. Dear brother of Richard, Tom, John, and Jim Kernen and Janice Redinger. Visitation Thursday 3-9 PM, with the Funeral Service at 7:30 PM Thursday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (btwn. Sheldon & Beck). Memorials may be made to the American Stroke Association or the Alzheimers Association. To share a memory, please visit www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

Top 10 tech tips for a healthier heart

The message that a healthy lifestyle helps protect your heart isn't new. If you want to do more to take care of your heart, here are 10 ways technology can make that easier:

1. Stop Smoking

Apps such as Smoke Reducer for Android, and iQuit for iPhone can help you wean off tobacco. You can also use the Firefox add-on Quitomzilla, which shows you how much money you save by not smoking, the number of cigarettes not smoked, and the overall time since your last smoke.

2. Stay Within a Healthy Weight Range.

Make it easier to monitor your weight-loss progress with the iHealth Wireless Scale. You can track your weight over time, and see results in relation to daily activity, time of day, diet, exercise, and more. The scale lets you set a milestone and share your results with doctors, fitness buddies and family. The free companion iHealth Scale app works with iPod touch, iPhone and iPad. Learn more at www.ihealth99.com.

3. Limit Alcohol and Caffeine.

Keep track of how much you're drinking with the DrinkControl or Alcohol Monitor apps for iPhone, or the SoberApp for Android. They estimate your blood alcohol content and let you know whether or not you

should drive. To monitor your caffeine intake, try the Caffeine Zone 2 for iPhone and iPad, or the Caffeine Monitor app for Android.

4. Take Care of Your Teeth.

Research suggests that there may be a link between periodontal disease and heart disease. Go online and check the American Dental Association's database at www.ADA.org to find oral health care products that have the ADA seal of approval. At the ADA website, you can also watch videos on a variety of oral health care topics.

5. Keep Tabs on Your Blood Pressure.

The Mayo Clinic recommends you monitor

your blood pressure at home and visit your doctor regularly. With the iHealth Blood Pressure Dock, (www.ihealth99.com), you can accurately measure your blood pressure, track your readings over time, and share that information with health-care providers, friends and family members. The Dock comes with a blood pressure arm cuff and doubles as a charging station for your iPod touch, iPhone and iPad. The companion iHealth app is available for free.

6. Reduce Stress.

Try a portable bio-feedback device, like the StressEraser, to help you relax by synchronizing your breathing and your heart rate. If having

too much on your plate and too many interruptions causes you stress, try Quiet Hours. It lets you shut down your computer's communication apps, like instant messaging, for a specified period of time.

7. Exercise Regularly.

The Online Activity Tracker from the American Heart Health Association lets you create a personalized walking plan, log time or distance traveled, plot and save walking routes, and more. Check it out at www.startwalkingnow.org. You can also use the AHA Walking Paths app for Android and iPhone.

8. Eat Right.

Tracking the foods you consume helps you

better understand your caloric and nutritional intake. The Lose It! app for the iPhone allows you to enter and track your meals and snacks, and keep track of your weight loss progress and goals via the app, as well as access your account online. Visit www.loseit.com for more information. Offering many of the same capabilities, Android phone users can use the Diet Assistant app at www.dietassistantapp.com.

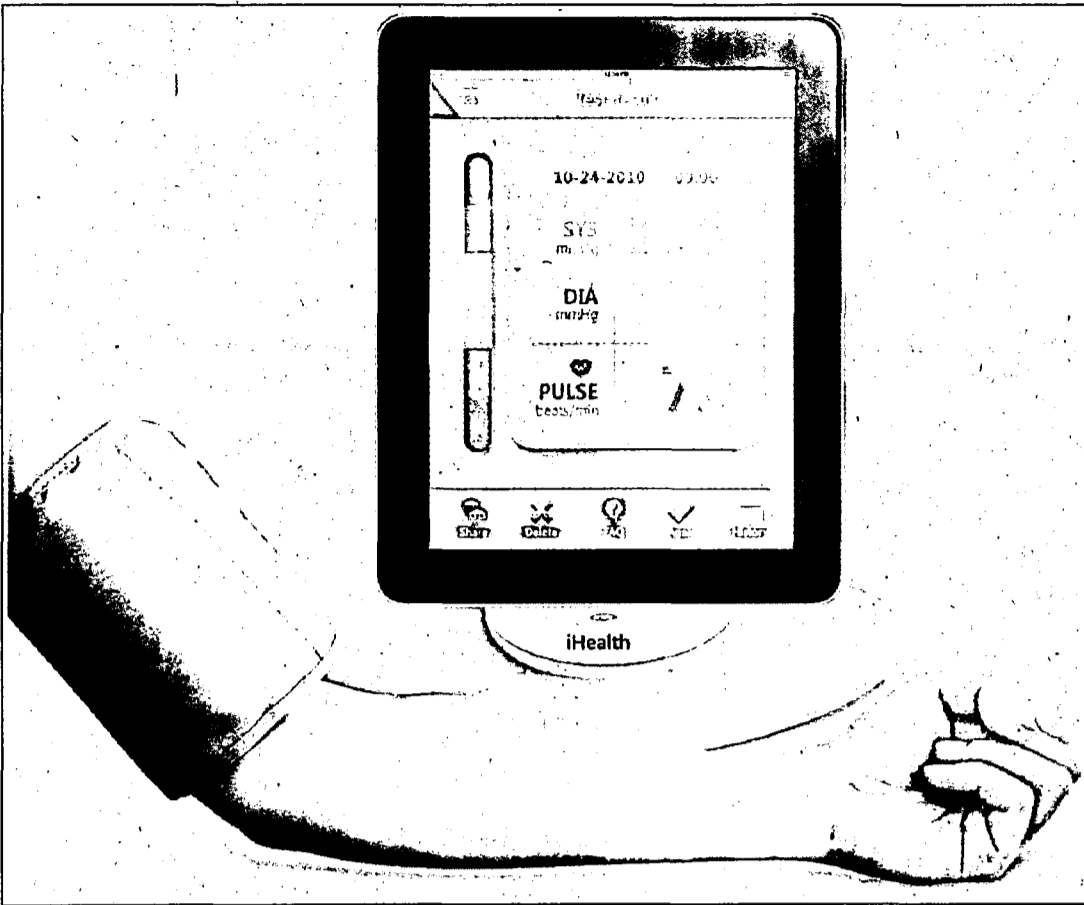
9. Make Sleep a Priority.

Not getting enough sleep can raise your blood pressure and make it more likely you'll have a stroke or heart attack. Learn more about your sleep patterns with a sleep monitor. You can try a headband monitor, such as the Zeo, (www.myzeo.com), or an arm-band monitor such as the SleepTracker, (www.sleeptracker.com). Each keeps track of your sleep cycle and helps you wake up at the optimal time.

10. Know Your Family History.

Knowing your family's medical history can help you identify patterns that might be relevant to your own heart health. There are a number of online tools such as My Family Health Portrait at <https://familyhistory.hhs.gov> to help you gather and store that information.

Courtesy of Family Features



MEDICAL DATEBOOK

July

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

Here's a sampling of offerings:
• Eating Disorders Support Group meets 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 18 and 25.
• Diabetes Summer School is a two-hour class with a speaker presentation and discussion each month during the summer. The session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 17 is "A Look Backward and Forward at Diabetes Medications."
• Breastfeeding class runs 6-9 p.m. Monday, July 23 and is aimed at expectant mother. There is a fee for this one-time session.
The Diabetes Summer School will be held in the community room at Westland Shopping Center, located at Central City Parkway and N. Wayne Road. Other classes are held at the hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City; (734) 458-4330.

HEALTHY SUMMER GRILLING

Keep your barbecue healthy and zesty by making easy substitutions, tweaking your grilling technique and combining fresh ingredients in surprising ways. Botsford Hospital and Busch's Fresh Food market will present a cooking demonstration from 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 19 at Busch's, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$10. Includes recipes, samples, cooking tips and a \$10 Busch's coupon. For tickets visit Busch's Guest Services counter or call (734) 779-6100.

NUTRITION WORKSHOP

Botsford Hospital and Busch's Fresh Food Market are working together to offer "Diabetic Friendly Shopping," a free nutrition workshop from 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 26. This workshop will be led by a Botsford registered dietician and take place at Busch's, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. Call to register (248) 427-7400.

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Course	Start Date	Days	Location
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• EMT Day Class	8/7/12	T-Th	Taylor
• EMT-S Bridge Class	8/7/12	T-Th	Taylor
• Paramedic Evening Class	9/4/12	T-Th	Southfield
• Paramedic Evening Class	10/9/12	T-Th	Taylor

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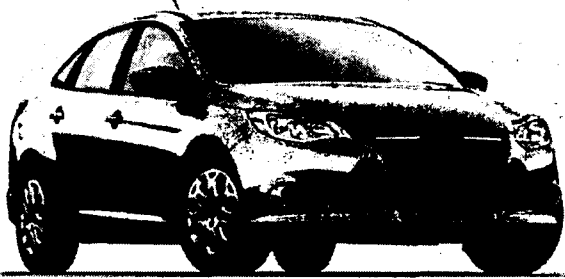
*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Balance Transfer: 0% introductory APR for the first 6 billing cycles from account opening on balance transfers. This introductory rate is subject to change if any payment is received after the due date, you make a payment that is not honored by your financial institution or you close your account. This introductory rate does not apply to purchases or cash advances. Rate based on individual creditworthiness. Rate subject to change without prior notice. After the 6 billing cycles the rate for the Platinum Preferred Premium card is 9.99%, the rate for the Platinum Preferred card is 13.99%, and the rate for the Platinum card is 17.99%.

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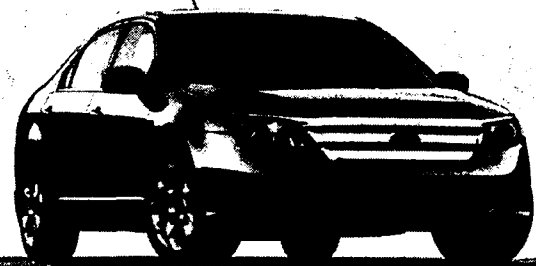
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\$159 For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees¹
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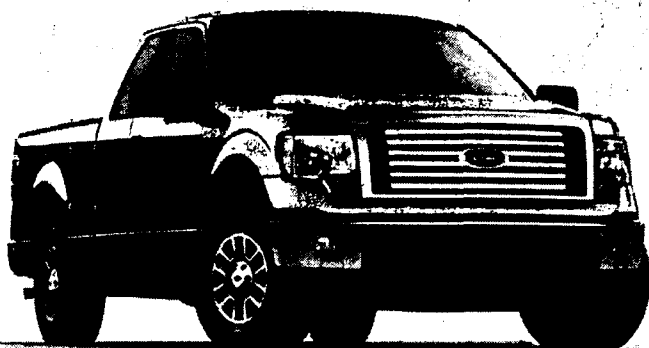


23 city / 33 highway MPG²

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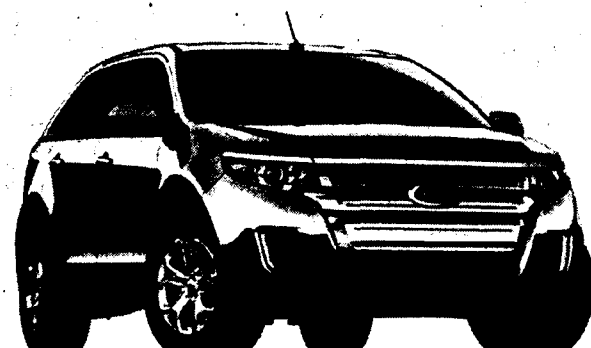


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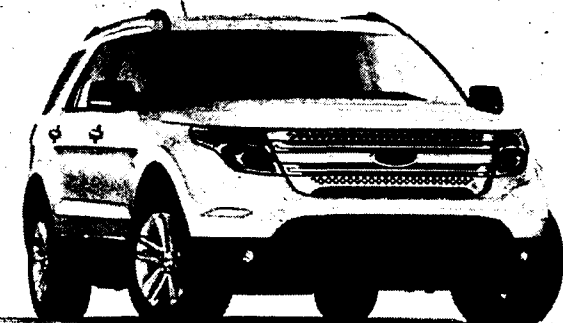


19 city / 29 highway MPG²

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17 city / 24 highway MPG²

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