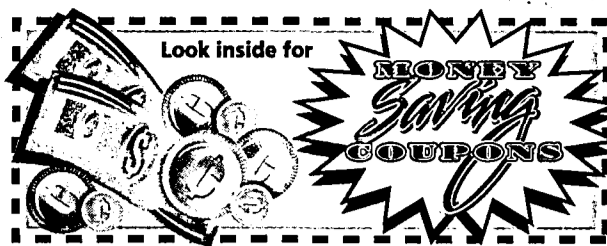


**AUTHOR LOOKS AT FAITH OF PRESIDENTS**  
COMMUNITY LIFE, B7



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## POW/MIAs

The Westland Viet Nam Veterans Association will host a ceremony remembering POW/MIAs at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 in front of Westland City Hall, Ford at Carlson. For more information, call (734) 634-4487.

## Culinary delight

Sample fine food, wine, pastries and beverages at the 21st annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23 in the VisTaTech Center, Livonia.

Tickets are \$50 per person (\$20 is a charitable contribution). Food and beverage vendors from Novi, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Plymouth, Livonia, Traverse City and more will be featured.

To purchase tickets call (734) 462-4518 or visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation). The event also includes a silent auction and a special raffle with a first prize of \$1,000 cash.

## UM tickets contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two great tickets to see the University of Michigan Wolverines homecoming game against Illinois on Saturday, Oct. 13, at The Big House.

Entering is easy. Just go to our website, [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com), and look to the right in our Don't Miss module for the Wolverines ticket contest. Fill out the short form and you are entered in the contest. Recommend the contest to a Facebook friend and get five extra entries for every person who also enters the contest.

The prize winner will be selected in a random drawing from among all eligible entries on Oct. 10.

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# Mayor to hold five town hall meetings about new city hall

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

What should be done to replace the current Westland City Hall will be getting plenty of discussion during a slate of five Town Hall meetings across town.

"We're going to all corners of the city. We want

to build a consensus, if we should keep City Hall on Ford Road, which requires millage, or on city-owned property," said Mayor William Wild.

The question of whether to replace City Hall on its current site on Ford Road at Carlson or at another location — possibly on city-owned prop-

erty located behind the William P. Faust Public Library on Central City Parkway — has gotten a lot of attention for several months.

The current location is located within the Downtown Development Authority District, but the DDA has insufficient recaptured tax reve-

nues to fund construction of an estimated \$10 million building. To build on the Ford Road city land would require additional revenue, such as a voter-approved millage.

An alternative included the recently amended Tax Increment Finance Authority plan which lists possible projects like

a new municipal building and fire station. The library property, which is expected to be the site of the Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland, is located within the TIFA district. Unlike the DDA, the larger TIFA district, which includes Westland

Please see MEETINGS, A2

# 'Greatest generation'



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At 90 years old, Elmer Hanninen is still trim enough to wear his World War II Army uniform to a luncheon at the Bova VFW Post.

# Bova VFW Post honors World War II vets

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

World War II veterans were the guests of honor Wednesday at a luncheon at Westland's Bova VFW Post.

"It's very nice of them to honor the veterans," said Elmer Hanninen, a 90-year-old veteran who was wearing his original Army uniform.

Originally from the Upper Peninsula, Hanninen enlisted in the Army in 1942 when he was 21 years old. He recalled that during his time serving in the Third Infantry Division he traveled through Italy, France, Germany and Africa.

"I got to ride — I was artillery. I had a 155 Howitzer — it was a short barrel," said Hanninen, a Canton resident who later worked for 32 years at Burroughs on Plymouth Road.

Another veteran, Roy Wolf, 85, also served in the Army infantry but he was a rifleman serving in the PTO — Pacific Theater Operations.

"I was in the Philip-

pines and Leyte Island. I was drafted in September 1944. I went overseas as an infantry replacement — that's the lowest you can be replacing someone killed or injured," said Wolf, a Westland resident originally from Highland Park. "It was definitely a significant event in my life. I served two years, one month and 29 days."

A tool and die maker,

Wolf also worked at Burroughs although it was Unisys when he retired. Wolf lost his wife of 64 years in April.

"I think this lunch is great. I belonged to the VFW but it was in Highland Park and it was too far to go with snow," Wolf said.

Wearing an Honor Flight T-shirt, Wolf said

Please see VETERANS, A2

# U.S. attorney dismisses charge against Goci

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

A charge of lying to federal agents filed against a Wayne-Westland Board of Education member has been dismissed.

John Goci, a Westland resident and Wayne business owner, had been charged in connection with a loan sharking case filed against Tomo Duhanaj, a Troy resident who owns Bray's Hamburgers.

"This doesn't mean the case is over. The charge was dismissed on a procedural motion," said Gina Balaya, spokesperson for the U.S. Attorney in Detroit. "The complaint is only good for 30 days (before indictment). It was dismissed without prejudice (meaning it can be refiled). The investigation will proceed. We do this all the time."

Goci had been freed on bond following his arraignment. A similar dismissal motion had been earlier granted regarding Duhanaj,

who had been accused of charging exorbitant interest rates to local Albanians — 45 percent or more — and threatening violence to ensure repayment.

Reached for comment, Goci said that his attorney would be drafting a response once the dismissal was official. Goci added that according to his attorney, the dismissal motion had been accepted but wasn't entered into the record yet.

Goci had been accused of lying to federal agents about the interest rate on a loan he obtained from Duhanaj and other statements which were picked up on a wire tap of Duhanaj's phone.

Both men denied the charges. Duhanaj was described as a former Albanian freedom fighter who entered the United States illegally. Duhanaj remains in federal custody and is in the process of being deported.

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(313) 222-5428

# Changes delay veterans memorial dedication

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

A change in location and a revised design are pushing back the completion date for the Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland.

Plans had been under way to construct the memorial garden on the east side of Central City Park, just off Carlson. The dedication was

to take place Nov. 11 on Veterans Day.

Now, it looks like the memorial garden will be located behind the William P. Faust Public Library, which is north of Ford off Central City Parkway.

"The decision was made in a two-fold manner," said Ken Mehl, president of the Westland

Please see GARDEN, A2

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# LPS board to ask voters to OK construction bond

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia school board will ask voters to approve a construction bond — but when and for how much still has to be decided.

A majority of board members have agreed they want to seek a bond, possibly in February or May of 2013.

"I'm in," board Secretary Mark Johnson said during an informal straw vote during a committee of the whole meeting attended by five of seven board members.

Trustee Eileen McDonnell said she's "willing to go forward" as long as the board hires an external manager to oversee the financing and construction.

"Under those terms, I would be in agreement," she said.

Trustees Dianne Laura and Randy Roulier were absent.

Neither Laura nor Roulier would comment on how they would have voted when contacted by the *Observer*.

"I'd like to hear what my colleagues have to say," said Laura, adding she is "definitely open" to a bond. Laura said she would be watching the video of the meeting and speaking to board members.

Roulier, who was out of town on business, said he didn't know the context of the board's discussion. "Unfortunately, I can't give an answer," he said. "I'm not privy to what was said."

The board will need to vote on a formal motion before a proposal can go on the ballot, with at least four members approving it.

Board President Patrice Mang said the straw vote was a major step toward meeting the board's goal of deciding on a bond proposal by the end of December. She said the board wanted to make a decision before one, possibly two, new board members take office in January. Mang is running for reelection; board vice president Gregory Oke is not. She said it wouldn't be fair to saddle new board members with the decision.

Mang said the board will go over its wish list of desired improvements

before deciding on a dollar amount.

In January, the district conducted a telephone poll of 480 registered voters to gauge their support for \$190 million in improvements in three areas: technology and equipment, fine arts and major facility renovations (not including roofs and parking lots).

A \$190 million bond would cost the owner of \$125,000 home about \$144 a year, or \$12 a month, for 30 years.

The majority of poll respondents said they believe voters would reject a \$190 million bond proposal because it would cost too much. However, the majority also said they personally would support it. The majority of respondents

also said they think most people would support technology renovations to help make the district competitive with current education practices.

In March and April, the board held five community forums to gather the public's input on what kind of projects a construction bond should cover and what they would be willing to pay.

Mang said most people who attended the forums "wanted to do a totally inclusive project," meaning all \$190 million in improvements on the district's wish list. Some said they wanted to do only what was absolutely necessary. Forum attendees overwhelmingly supported technology improvements, she said. Mang said the people

she met with were concerned more with the monthly cost to them than the total dollar amount of a bond. She said they were receptive to paying \$25 to \$30 a month, the cost of a couple of pizzas.

Mang said the time line to get a proposal on the ballot in February would be tight.

"I'm not saying it shouldn't happen or can't," she said. But she said she doesn't want to rush a decision on how much the bond should be for and what it should cover in order to make it on the February ballot.

Johnson said he wants the board "to do this right."

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## MEETINGS

Continued from page A1

Shopping Center, would be able to fund a new City Hall without any millage increase.

The TIFA board also studied potentially using currently vacant commercial property near the mall before moving to consider the site behind the library.

The potential construction of a new City Hall behind the library has spurred objections, primarily from nearby residents. Inclusion of a new City Hall in the TIFA plan was cited as a reason on petitions being circulated to recall five of seven council members who voted

to approve the amended plan.

Five Town Hall meetings to get input on proposals for a new City Hall are scheduled. All of the meetings would be held from 6-8 p.m.

Here are the scheduled meetings:

- Tuesday, Sept. 18 — Holliday Park Clubhouse, 34850 Fountain Blvd.
- Wednesday, Sept. 26 — Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church, 29124 Eton.
- Tuesday, Oct. 9 — P.D. Graham Elementary School, 1255 S. John Hix.
- Thursday, Oct. 18 — Edison Elementary School, 34505 Hunter.
- Wednesday, Nov. 14 — Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy.

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## GARDEN

Continued from page A1

Veterans Association. "We met with the OHM engineers a couple of times to try to get the initial work done."

One issue that arose was trying to build the memorial garden as planned with the fence installed around a pond on the park property. The contaminated soil in the park has been remediated, but access to the water wouldn't be permitted.

"We were asked to consider moving the site to build behind the library. I was told that another OHM engineer had come up with a proposed design," Mehl said. "I took that to the association."

Approved by veterans association members, the revised design includes much of the original concept with 12 coves, each focusing on an American war.

One improvement is that the coves will no longer be located along one large circle. The new plan has two circles similar to a figure eight, with a large gathering area in the center. It's called an infinite walkway.

"We won't have to worry about the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) involvement," Mehl said. "It's a quieter, more serene site. It will also allow plantings which we would not have been able to do at the park (due to the geotextile barrier installed as part of the contamina-

tion remediation)."

An addition to the plan is a special cove located off the walkway honoring POW/MIA's.

"That will be a little bit special. No one can walk into the cove — there will be a little decorative fence and couple of benches where people can sit," Mehl said.

The revised design for the memorial garden will allow room to potentially add surplus military equipment on the site, he added.

"The only negative thing is that this will delay us a year, I don't want people to get upset," Mehl said. "I've had a couple calls, not a ton of calls. I explained it and they were OK with it. We'll discuss signage and how we can let people

know where it is."

Fundraising for the veterans memorial garden is ongoing through sponsorships, sales of engraved brick pavers costing \$100-\$500, depending on size, and other efforts.

A Veterans Benefit Seminar is being hosted by the Westland Veterans Association at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.

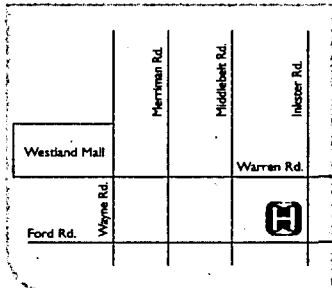
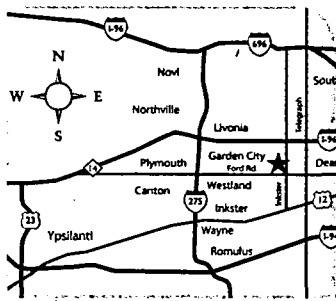
Veterans and their spouses can get information about benefits and how to apply, VA hospitals, financial planning, national cemetery benefits and other topics.

For information, call (734) 335-7943.

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## Men's Health Screening



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September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Please join Garden City Hospital for its annual Men's Health Event, which focuses on healthy living and preventing and detecting prostate cancer. This screening is for men between the ages of 40 and 70 or those older than 35 with a family history of prostate cancer or are African American or Hispanic descent. Exams will be provided by Gregory Weigler, D.O., our expert physician board certified in Urology, and staff.

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## VETERANS

Continued from page A1

he had flown to Washington, D.C., to visit the World War II memorial. "I did the Honor Flight a year or so ago. I put my name in. They called and said, 'Roy, we got a seat for you.' I said OK," said Wolf. "The memorial was fabulous. When we got off the plane, there were all these people with signs and waving flags. I asked who it was for and they said you. I couldn't believe it was for me."

That greeting was particularly meaningful to Wolf, who didn't get that warm of a reception when he returned from his military service.

"It was November 1946 when I got out of the Army. They (people at home) said, 'There are more of you over there,'" Wolf said.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Guests of honor at the World War II Veterans luncheon hosted by the Bova VFW Post included veterans Warren Mills and Mickie Kwasek from Canton.

This was the second time the Bova Post had hosted the luncheon organized by the Ladies Auxiliary honoring the World War II veterans.

"We're losing 1,000 World War II veterans per day. Collectively, we said we need to honor their legacy," said Garden City resident Brian Luther, the post commander who retired after

20 years in the Air Force. "We're the only post that does it."

Westland Mayor William Wild attended the luncheon and offered comments honoring the World War II veterans. Luther said he has been working with the city to have a veterans history month.

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<b>SAT. SEPT. 22</b> Festival Hours: 12-11 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00-4:00 p.m. Entertainment by... <i>Mass Transit</i></li> <li>• Petting zoo 1-4pm</li> <li>5:00-11:00 p.m. Vegas Games</li> <li>5:30 p.m. Dinner: (Catered by Halina's) City Chicken, Pork Chops, Mostacoli, Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad, Roll &amp; Butter</li> <li>7:00-11:00 p.m. Entertainment by... <i>Steve King &amp; the Dittilies</i></li> <li>8:00-11:00 p.m. Teen Dance &amp; Karaoke</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sat. BINGO 12-11 p.m.</b></p>
<b>SUN. SEPT. 23</b> Festival Hours: 12-6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 a.m. Polka Mass</li> <li>12:00-6:00 p.m. Vegas Games</li> <li>11:30 a.m. Polish Dinner: (Catered by Halina's)</li> <li>1:00-6:00 p.m. Dancing With The Kielbasa Kings</li> <li>2:00 p.m. PNA Centennial Dancers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sun. BINGO 12-6 p.m.</b></p>

# Former teacher sentenced in sex case

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Canton sex offender Brandon Tomblin, a former Wayne Memorial High School teacher sentenced Friday to four to 20 years in prison for having sex with teenage male students, apologized in court to the victims, their families, the Wayne-Westland school district and his friends and relatives, especially his parents "who taught me to do better."

Tomblin, 27, wore a yellow jail uniform as his family watched him face sentencing Friday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Margie Braxton after he earlier pleaded guilty to multiple criminal charges of third-degree criminal sexual conduct, fourth-degree CSC, child sexually abusive activity, using a computer to commit a crime and distributing sexually explicit material to children.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Brian Surma told Braxton the students didn't know Tomblin had HIV.

A former vocal music teacher, Tomblin stood in Braxton's third-floor courtroom and said he hopes his wrongdoing can serve as an example to students "what not to do in their adult life." Moreover, he indicated remorse for a scandal he said the Wayne-Westland school district didn't deserve.

Tomblin reserved his warmest remarks for his parents. "I'm so sorry," he said. "I love you so much."

Tomblin told Braxton he is willing to receive counseling and therapy after he engaged in criminal behavior as a teacher by having sex with two teens and exchanging nude photos by cell phone with a third male. One incident occurred in his Wayne Memorial office.

Defense attorney Robert Mullen, addressing Braxton, said Tomblin had been a steadily employed teacher who had no criminal history and who pleaded guilty to spare his victims the emotional ordeal of testifying during a trial.

Mullen called Tomblin a hard worker and Sunday school teacher who was "conflicted by his own sexuality."

"The actions of my client were wrong," Mullen said, adding later, "He will be labeled a sex offender for the rest of his life."

Three teens, ages 16, 17 and 18, testified during a preliminary examination in June in Romulus District Court that Tomblin never coerced them, though by Michigan law a teacher cannot have sexual relations with students. The students said Tomblin never indicated he had a sexually transmitted disease.

"The defendant used the school as a way to meet these children," Surma said Friday during sentencing.

During the June testimony, one teen said he

had sex with Tomblin in the teacher's office. He and another teen recalled sexual acts they said occurred at Tomblin's sister's house in Garden City and in a car parked off a Romulus road.

A third teen said he and Tomblin traded explicit photos on their cell phones, but never had sex. Charges against Tomblin arose earlier this year after one teen's mother notified authorities about inappropriate contact between Tomblin and her son.

"He didn't stalk or coerce any of the victims," Mullen said Friday. "In the words of one of the victims, they wanted something to happen."

Tomblin has been jailed with bonds totaling \$325,000/10 percent since charges unfolded against him earlier this year, meaning he could



FILE PHOTO  
Ex-Wayne Memorial High School teacher Brandon Tomblin, seen with his attorney Robert Mullen, was sentenced to four to 20 years in prison for having sex with teenage male students.

have been released with family post his bond. \$32,500. Mullen said Friday the former teacher had refused to have his

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## Leisure program offers free workshop

Garden City Public Schools Cambridge Leisure Program is offering a free workshop from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 19 in Room #122 at Cambridge High School, 28901 Cambridge in Garden City.

Anyone in surrounding communities can get more information on some of the non-credit courses offered this fall.

Bring a friend and discover programs on Personal Interest, Professional Development, Health and Wellness, Kids and Creative Art classes.

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# 9 grads receive foundation scholarships

Nine high school graduates will get help with their college education, thanks to the Westland Community Foundation.

The students, all Westland residents, are graduates of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and Livonia Public Schools. Each received a \$1,000 scholarship at the foundation's Christmas in July celebration held at the Dyer Senior Center July 25.

This year's recipients are:

- Alana J. Doe of John Glenn High School. A member of the National Honor Society, she plans to attend Washtenaw Community College to study custom painting and to be a make-up artist.
- Asia B. Duncan of Churchill High School. A tennis athlete, she plans to attend Oakland Community College to study to be a radiation therapist.
- Halee L. Endicott of John Glenn High School. A member of HOSA, she will attend Eastern Michigan University to pursue a career in the medical field, possibly as a physician's assistant or oncologist.
- Victor D. Johnson of John Glenn High School. He was a member of

the National Technical Honor Society, SADD/D.A.R.E. and I-Save Recycling while at Glenn. He plans to attend Washtenaw Community College to study auto body and graphic design.

• Drake C. Kitchen of John Glenn High School. He plans to attend Eastern Michigan University to study game design.

• Diamyn Lee of Wayne Memorial High School. She participated in the Healing Haiti community service project and The Champions Program for students who achieve their grade point average goal. She plans to attend Henry Ford Community College to study to be a medical assistant or radiologist.

• Dennis A. Picklo of Wayne Memorial High School. An ice and roller hockey athlete, he also was a member of the National Technical Honor Society. He plans to attend Wyo Tech on Long Beach, Calif., for automotive studies.

• Danielle L. Reynolds of John Glenn High School. She was on the honor roll, a member of the National Technical Honor Society and involved in the Healing Haiti project.

• Heather L. Smith



Daniell Reynolds



Drake Kitchen



Halee Endicott



Heather Smith



Alana Doe



Dennis Picklo



Diamyn Lee



Asia Duncan



Victor Johnson

of Wayne Memorial High School. She was on the honor roll, JROTC and Healing Haiti project and had perfect attendance. She plans to attend Schoolcraft College to study nursing.

The Westland Community Foundation is made up of community and business leaders and raises money through its annual Spring Ball and Christmas in July events to sponsor scholarships. It also donates money and matching grants to local organization's such as the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, the YMCA and the Family Resource Center's Empty Bowls Food Bank.

# What about harassment in person and online?

By Stanley Szcotka  
Guest Columnist

Let's talk about harassment. Much like bullying, harassment can range from unintended consequences of joking to deliberate efforts to debase another person. While each individual's experience is unique, if the actions of a person make another feel uncomfortable or threatened, it is a problem that is best proactively managed and not privately tolerated.

Too often the victim of harassment is unwilling or unable to confront the harasser and ironically, the harasser is often unaware of the discomfort they inflict.

Harassment is an exchange between two parties, either individual or groups. It can take on many forms, Physical, nonverbal, verbal and modern electronic venues. Harassment exchanges range in content from disparaging the way you look to how you behave, and in the most extreme forms, a person is dehumanized and treated like an object.

Whether you feel someone is standing too close, purposely invading personal space, staring, gesturing or making statements that threaten or insult, it is potentially harassment, if it makes you uncomfortable, whether or not the discomfort is intended.

Recent advances in social media and technology have created tremendous opportunity for people to remain socially connected via the internet, but this opportunity comes with great risk and vulnerability. Technology is a tool that ought to make life easier, but

unfortunately can be wielded for one's advantage over another. Often people lack the experience and skill needed to protect themselves from the risks of participating with social media venues.

This is particularly true with regard to young people and their unsupervised internet use. Facebook, for instance, may be an exciting social tool of interconnectivity with the world, but like any tool, training and supervision are necessary steps toward mastery. Too often young people find themselves the victim of intended or unintended emotional turmoil as the result of their inexperience with these social media tools.

The world is opened to them, but much like a parent's aversion to giving a 14-year-old the keys to the family car, we are often guilty of overestimating and under-supporting our youth as we give them access to the world. The electronic venue often provides distance and possibly anonymity that can bring out of the worst of human nature at the expense of another. Remember, if the actions of person make another feel uncomfortable or threatened, it is a problem.

### What to do?

Where there is smoke there is fire ... That is to say, if you are wondering if you may have harassed someone, or if they could be feeling uncomfortable in response to something you did, said or inadvertently implied, then you probably have.

When assessing your own behavior, think about whether you would act the same way in front

of a person of authority, a parent, grandparent, teacher, boss, or perhaps law enforcement officer. Would you behave the same way toward a beloved family member, a mother, father, or younger sibling? Would you behave the same way in public?

If you are a victim or witness to harassment, you are encouraged to talk about it. Talk about it with the person who has caused you discomfort and/or talk to someone who can bring attention to this for you, particularly if you are unable or it would be unsafe to do so yourself. It is common to feel afraid, shame, and helplessness as a result of harassment, but suffering privately is unhealthy and unnecessary. Keeping it private may actually encourage further harassment.

As a witness to discomforting behavior of others, please offer support to the victim; just having someone else become aware of the experience can be quite powerful. Never dismiss it as "child's play" or "just joking." The goal is to make the exchange less private and more public. Silence in response to your witnessing harassment may be interpreted as you supporting the harassment. In general, whether you are a friend, older sibling, or parent, you are a member of a community that can set a good example with regard to how to treat everyone with respect.

Dr. Stanley Szcotka is a clinical psychologist, licensed counselor and school counselor currently working as director of Student Services for the Garden City Public Schools.

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# Tying one on

## Teal ribbons raise awareness about ovarian cancer

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Sections of three roads in Wayne and Westland are a bit more colorful this month, thanks to the efforts of the workers at a Westland carpet store.

Led by Catherine Buchanan, employees at Independent Carpet One Floor and Home have put teal ribbons on poles along three different roads to help raise public awareness of ovarian cancer and its symptoms through the Turn the Towns Teal campaign, started in 2007 by Gail MacNeil of Chatham, N.J.

"We want people to know we're not just here selling flooring," said Buchanan. "We want people to know we have business that cares about the community and cares about women. Ovarian cancer is a silent killer."

Buchanan was in Ann Arbor last September and saw the teal ribbons. She looked into what they were for and decided to bring the message to Wayne and Westland. With the permission of Westland Mayor William Wild and Wayne Mayor Al Haddous, she and her fellow employees put up teal ribbons along four miles of roadway in Westland — Wayne Road from Cherry Hill to Warren Road and Ford Road from the civic center to Wildwood — and along Michigan Avenue and Wayne Road in Wayne.

Buchanan estimates they used 12 bolts of the biodegradable ribbon they obtained from Turn the Towns Teal. The ribbon are displayed dur-



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Catherine Buchanan of Independent Carpet One Flooring and Home in Westland shows off the teal bracelets and pins the store is selling to support Turn the Towns Teal, a campaign to raise awareness about ovarian cancer.

ing September which has been designated as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

The campaign aims to make people aware of ovarian cancer and its often silent symptoms. Ovarian cancer is the leading cause of death from gynecologic cancers in the U.S. There is no early detection test and the symptoms are subtle and often misdiagnosed which is why knowing the symptoms is so very, very critical, according to Buchanan.

MacNeil battled ovarian cancer for 10 years and realized that not enough was being done for ovarian cancer awareness. The Turn the Towns Teal Campaign not only consists of volunteers tying ribbons in and around town centers across the country but also distributing symptom cards.

"The ribbons are the visual," said Jane MacNeil, president of Turn the Towns Teal. "The symptom cards are key in educating people about the disease and its symp-



Independent Carpet One is decked out in teal ribbons in a show of support for Turn the Towns Teal campaign.

toms as when ovarian cancer is detected in the early stages, the survival rate is 90 to 95 percent successful."

According to Jane MacNeil, Gail MacNeil's gynecologist dismissed her classic symptoms on three separate occasions. Had she known the symptoms of ovarian cancer, she would have immediately sought the advice of a gynecological oncologist.

"What happened to Gail, unfortunately, is not uncommon," Jane MacNeil said. "Most women are not diagnosed until it's too late. Knowing the symptoms and being personally proactive are critical in fighting this disease."

### TURN THE TOWNS TEAL

Turn The Towns Teal® was founded by Gail MacNeil who realized firsthand that not enough was being done to publicize the symptoms of the disease. She wanted to spare others what she and her family endured.

MacNeil was fastidious about her health and went to her gynecologist on three separate occasions complaining of classic symptoms; however, her doctor dismissed these symptoms as merely the onset of middle age. On Dec. 23, 1997, she was diagnosed with Stage IIIc ovarian cancer. MacNeil laid the foundation of Turn The Towns Teal® and set forth certain guidelines for the campaign including the requirement that ribbons be put up in the beginning of September and taken down at the end of the month. She also required that volunteers receive written approval from their towns about placement of the ribbons.

Today, the campaign is being carried forward by the MacNeil Family and a group of dedicated volunteers. It is their collective goal to make Turn the Towns Teal a national campaign in the foreseeable future. For more information about Turn the Towns Teal, visit its website at [www.turnthetownsteal.org](http://www.turnthetownsteal.org).

The idea of supporting Turn the Towns Teal appealed to Buchanan. Teal is the business's signature color and Independent Carpet One has been actively involved with the fight against breast cancer for five years. Employees have been involved in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

The business has fliers and posters in the store and is including symptom cards in folders giving to customers when they close on sales. Buchanan also is selling teal bracelets and pins in the store. Proceeds will be donated to Turn the Towns Teal.

"I thought it could be something we could do," Buchanan said. "We have to start somewhere with this, so we started in Wayne and Westland."

Buchanan said 135 cit-

ies in 36 states are participating in Turn the Towns Teal. She would like to grow that number next year by adding more western Wayne County communities.

"Hopefully, we can get Garden City and Canton involved," she said. "Maybe other businesses will get involved. The more people who get involved the better."

"Turn The Towns Teal is giving ovarian cancer survivors a voice that they've never had," said Jane MacNeil. "Many of our volunteers have lost a loved one to the disease, and they now can do something proactive in memory of their loved one. Women's lives are being saved through the work of this volunteer effort."

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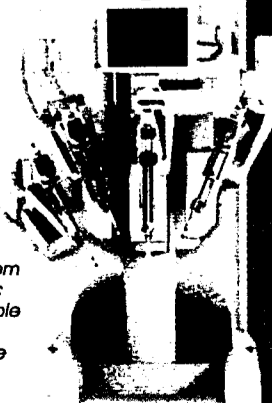
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# Costumed characters tell stories of city's early families at Cemetery Walk

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

David Ryder was a Livonia settler who fought in the War of 1812.

His son, George, had two sons who fought in the Civil War. One son died on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg; the other died two weeks later from his injuries, but George was able to make it to Pennsylvania to see the injured son before he died. He brought both boys' bodies back home to be buried at Newburgh Cemetery in Livonia.

The Ryders' family story will be among those told by costumed characters portraying historical Livonia figures during a Cemetery Walk 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, at Newburgh Cemetery.

Cost is \$10 per person if tickets are purchased before the event; \$15 the day of.

Proceeds will be used to restore, upright and clean old headstones at the city's four historic cemeteries.

"It's a sad story," Kathie Glynn, vice chair of the Livonia Historic Preservation Commission, said of the Ryder family's tale. "But it's a very human story. We're trying to tell their life stories so they won't

## 2012 CEMETERY WALK SEPT. 23

**What:** Costumed characters will tell the stories of several historical Livonia families

**When:** 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23. Tours will start every 20-30 minutes.

**Where:** Newburgh Cemetery on Ann Arbor Trail east of Newburgh Road

**Why:** Funds raised will be used to upright, restore and clean tombstones in Livonia's four historic cemeteries.

**Cost:** \$10 in advance, \$15 the day of. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling Greenmead Historical Park at (248) 477-7375.

**If you go:** Park at Newburgh United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail. A shuttle bus will take participants to the cemetery. Cider and doughnuts will be served following the tours.

be forgotten and they (attendees) can identify with the history because it's all there."

The Cemetery Walk is being put on by the Livonia Historic Preservation Commission, Livonia Historical Commission, Livonia Historical Society and the 17th Michigan Volunteer



Livonia Historical Commissioner Linda Trewin, dressed in period clothing during a rehearsal at Newburgh Cemetery, said the focus of the Cemetery Walk will be on "how people lived back at that time."

Infantry (Civil War reenactors).

Sue Daniel, chair of the Historical Commission, said organizers held their first Cemetery Walk last year at Livonia Center Cemetery. It was so successful, they decided to do it again.

"We were amazed at how many people came," she said, adding they raised \$1,400.

This year, they hope

the interest generated by the headstone preservation work they've done so far at Newburgh will bring more people to the Cemetery Walk. Residents around Newburgh Cemetery have noticed the activity, she said.

"The more money we take in, the more tombstones we can repair," Daniel said. There are 1,400 grave sites in Newburgh Cemetery alone.

"They continue to deteriorate and there is some vandalism," Glynn said. Newburgh Cemetery was chosen for this year's walk because it has four War of 1812 veterans buried there, and this year is the 200th anniversary of the war, she said. (Newburgh also has four Revolutionary War soldiers.)

But the focus will be on "how people lived back

at that time," not just the soldiers, said Linda Trewin, a Livonia Historical Commissioner.

Other historical figures who will be portrayed include:

- Mary Robinson, who died at age 14. "We don't know a lot about Mary," Glynn said. "But this is what happened back then. You just never knew, a simple illness like measles or pneumonia (could take a child's life)."

- Sol Kingsley, a Revolutionary War soldier, and his son, Joseph, who fought in the War of 1812. Sol Kingsley was the first person to be buried in Newburgh Cemetery, which was part of his son's property at the time.

- Ira Wilson, founder of Wilson Dairy and an early pioneer in the pasteurization of milk. He had a daughter who died at a young age, which was attributed to drinking unpasteurized milk. He was among the first to use glass-lined tanks for milk storage.

- Marcus Swift, a Methodist circuit rider preacher and early abolitionist who, with about 30-40 members of his congregation, withdrew from their church's synod because they were not doing enough in the church to work against slavery. "He was firm in his beliefs," Glynn said.

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# Woman rams truck into Biggby front

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Employees and customers of the Biggby Coffee shop at Ford and Canton Center roads had quite a scare on Friday morning when a woman accidentally drove her Ford Explorer

through the front of the building.

Even though owner Richard Zuniga said his store had about 15 customers, no one was injured.

"It was a scary moment for all involved," Zuniga said.

Biggby resumed serv-

ing coffee later in the morning.

Canton Police Sgt. Jim Harrison said the driver, a 51-year-old woman, accidentally hit the accelerator.

"She stomped on the gas thinking it was the brake," he said.

The woman was issued

a traffic citation.

Fire Chief Tim Dunn said the incident was reported shortly after 8 a.m. Friday.

"We had a call that somebody drove through the front of the building," he said.

Police and firefighters found the largely

glass front of the coffee shop in shambles, though structurally the building remained sound.

"We didn't have to transport anyone (to a hospital)," Dunn said.

Zuniga said Belfor, a property restoration company, "cleaned everything up."

The front of the coffee shop had been boarded up Friday though it remained open for business, even as Zuniga was awaiting further repairs such as replacing the front windows.

dclem@hometownlife.com  
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## AROUND WESTLAND

### Game night

Grace Moravian Church is hosting a Game Night 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26. There will be board games, outdoor and indoor games for all ages (no gambling).

A full meal is available for \$2 per person, children 5 years and younger are free. This is a time to relax and enjoy a meal and have fun with friends or family. Everyone is welcome.

The church is located at 31133 Hively, near Cherry Hill and Merriman in Westland.

For further information or to RSVP, contact Cheryl Hice-Hill on (248) 756-3592.

### Holiday craft show

The Westland Friendship Center is hosting its first Holiday Craft Show 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28, and 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, as a fund-raiser for the Christmas Special, being held at the center on Friday, Dec. 7.

This year, the Friendship Center will celebrate its 35th Anniversary at Christmas time, and will provide special entertainment to commemorate the occasion and the contribution the Friendship Center has made to the lives of many senior residents.

Crafters will show off their items, so those who want a jump on the holiday shopping can purchase home made gifts early. An annual craft show may be in the works, if the residents are receptive to this one.

"We are very excited to do something different, and would like to see it become a tradition in Westland," said Senior Resources Director Barbara Schimmel Marcum.

There is no charge for entrance, and there will be food available during lunch hours for purchase. The Westland Friendship Center is a 1119 Newburgh, south of Ford Road.

### Craft show

Applications are being accepted for St. Damian's annual Fall Arts and Craft Show planned for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at the parish, 30055 Joy Road, Westland. Table space is \$25 to \$40, depending on size.

For more information,

call the parish at (734) 421-6130 or download an application at [www.stdamian.com](http://www.stdamian.com).

### 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, Sept. 17, 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 Oct. 8, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

### Toastmasters

The Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club is now meeting at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, south of Ford Road, Westland.

Toastmasters is a world leader dedicated to helping people develop their public speaking and leadership skills, in a mutually helpful and friendly atmosphere.

Westland Easytalkers meets 7-8:30 p.m. every

Thursday. For information please call Doug at (248) 417-0195 or Curt at (734) 525-8445 or go online to [westland-easytalkers.toastmasters-clubs.org/](http://westland-easytalkers.toastmasters-clubs.org/).

### Monday Madness

Visit the Westland Municipal Golf Course at 500 S. Merriman, south of Cherry Hill every Monday from noon to 5 p.m. for the Monday Madness Lunch and Golf Special.

For \$20, or \$15 for seniors, patrons will enjoy nine holes of golf, electric cart, hot dog, medium soda and a bag of chips.

For more information, call (734) 721-6660 or visit the city's website at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com).

### 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 ongoing 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 [jpgalat@cchnet.net](mailto:jpgalat@cchnet.net) or call (888) 983-9050.

### 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, 32001 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.

### Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another.

Meetings are 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Donations only.

For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, by e-mail at [bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com](mailto:bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com) or visit [www.hope4healinghearts.com](http://www.hope4healinghearts.com).

### Free workshop

Westland residents at risk of losing their homes can attend a free Loan Modification and Short Sale Workshop held 6-7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of

the month at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, east of Venoy.

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

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

To register for the workshop, call (313) 378-5418 or send an e-mail to [lindamiller@nationalfaith.org](mailto:lindamiller@nationalfaith.org).

### Higher Rock Cafe

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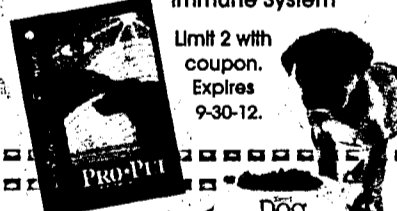
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# For those who played for him Gordon was more than a coach

By Kurt Kuban  
Staff Writer

What's the old saying — time flies when you're having fun. Well, I'm here to report it does whether you have a smile on your face or not.

I was reminded of the fleeting nature of time last week-end when I

attended a ceremony honoring the career and life of Chuck Gordon, the legendary Westland John Glenn football coach. Somehow

a quarter century has evaporated in what sometimes seems a blink of an eye since I played linebacker for him at Glenn. Wasn't it just yesterday? Heck, I can almost still hear him yelling, "Get 'em up" — something he did often when it was time to do the dreaded down-ups in practice. For those of you who don't know, a down-up consists of a player jogging in place and, when the whistle blows, hitting the ground and popping back up, and repeating ad nauseam until the coach quits blowing that dang whistle.

And Gordon blew the whistle countless times during the three decades he roamed the sidelines for John Glenn. Coach Gordon had one of the greatest runs in the history of Michigan high school football, compiling a 211-64 record as head coach, and leading the team to 15 playoff appearances (many before the "six-win and you're in" rule change that greatly expanded the number of playoff teams). For his efforts and success, he was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

So it comes as no surprise that Wayne-Westland Commu-



Former Westland John Glenn coaches Chuck Gordon and Lloyd Carr walk into the stadium which was named Irma Kionka-Chuck Gordon Field last week.

nity Schools officials decided to name John Glenn's football field after Gordon, which they did Sept. 7 at a nice ceremony before the team's home game against Livonia Franklin. Dozens of ex-players, including me, showed up to pay homage to him, as did former University of Michigan coach Lloyd Carr, who actually hired Gordon as an assistant coach at Glenn in 1973. Gordon served as an assistant under Carr from 1973-75 and became the head coach for the Rockets in 1977, serving in that capacity with dignity and pride for the next 27 years. I was fortunate enough to play for him during two of those seasons.

Despite all of his success, Gordon never won a state championship, which I'm sure probably gnaws at him a bit. As one of his former play-

ers, and someone who knows how good a coach he was and how much time he put into the job, it bothers me a bit. In my junior year, we were about a minute away from going to the state championship game and a trip to the Silverdome, but we got beat by a late pass that ended our season. I still have nightmares about the play.

However, after seeing Gordon again and a lot of the guys I played with, I realized the other night that state championships, and wins for that matter, shouldn't be the measuring stick when it comes to high school football coaching careers. Looking back on it all now, I understand a coach (in any sport really) should be evaluated by the way he influences the young men who play for him. Sure, Gordon coached the X's and O's, but he also

taught us the value of loyalty and hard work, how we are judged by the way we conduct ourselves, how there is no "I" in team. Those are lessons I still carry with me today, and try my best to instill in my own children.

Sitting in the stands last week, I looked out at the field now bearing Gordon's name where so many memories were made. Yes, I thought about all the games we won out there, but I also thought about those down-ups. Yes, they were hard at the time, but they are kind of a metaphor for life. When life drags you down, you have to pop up. Hard work and perseverance are the trademarks of a successful life.

And that is at the root of coach Gordon's true success. His players knew what was

important — playing for each other and for the program. Winning was just the cherry on top.

During the ceremony to rename the field to Irma Kionka-Chuck Gordon Field, Gordon spoke and deflected the attention away from himself, which was no surprise to those who know him. He spoke at length about Kionka, who was a long-time physical education teacher for Wayne-Westland Schools, about Carr, about his parents, his wife, his daughters, and, of course, about all of his players over the years.

"It's really a tribute to you guys," he told us. "You worked so hard and did the best you could in everything you do. I had and opportunity to coach some good college players, but I also had many good high school players. The highest compliment you can give a player is to say, 'You were easy to coach.' I loved every second of it — teaching and coaching. I didn't do it alone, I had a lot of help along the way."

That statement pretty much sums up Chuck Gordon. In a day when there seems to be so much focus on individual success, it was refreshing to be reminded that it's not always about the individual. In fact, it rarely is.

As Gordon said on Friday, "it was a great run." Yes, it was, coach. Those of us who played for you were all fortunate to learn from such a great coach, and more importantly a good man. The time I spent playing for you sure did fly by and, yes, it was fun. Well, except for those darn down-ups.

**Kurt Kuban** is community editor of the Northville Record, and a 1988 graduate of John Glenn High School. He welcomes your feedback at [kkuban@hometownlife.com](mailto:kkuban@hometownlife.com) or (248) 437-2011, Ext. 245.

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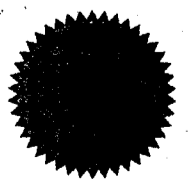
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# Japanese students visit Stevenson as part of exchange program

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Stevenson High School held a reception Tuesday for two students from Japan who are attending classes there for two weeks.

The students, Rika Hirano and Sayaka Mori, both 16, are part of the Michigan-Shiga Student Exchange Program. Michigan and Shiga are sister states.

Rika is staying with Stevenson junior Brigit Culkeen and her family, and Sayaka is staying with Stevenson junior Megan Briegel and her family.

This summer, Brigit and Megan went to Japan for two weeks and stayed with Rika and Sayaka.

The program, run by Michigan State University, is designed to promote friendship and understanding among Japanese and American high school students.

Melisia Taylor, World Language department head at Stevenson, said 15 students from Michigan participated this year, including the two from Stevenson. She said the students must meet certain requirements for grades and standardized tests and pay to participate, but they do not need to have taken any Japanese classes.

'All worthwhile' Brigit is a third-year Japanese student at Stevenson. She described her trip to Japan this summer as awesome.

"I really enjoyed being able to use my Japanese language skills in a real-life setting," she said. "It made it (studying Japanese) all worthwhile."

Rika's mother knew no English so they communicated better non verbally, she said, like when Rika's mother showed her the proper way to wear a summer kimono. She also enjoyed experiencing the culture firsthand, including attending a festival and visiting shrines and temples.

She said everyone at Rika's school "wanted to be there to learn" and got along well, unlike in American schools where there are cliques.

"It was very encouraging," she said.

Rika found walking the



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brigit Culkeen and Rika Hirano have spent time learning about each other's countries and culture. Brigit went to Rika's school in Japan for two weeks this summer; now Rika is attending classes at Stevenson with Brigit.

hallways between classes "a little scary" at Stevenson, which has 2,100 students. In Japan, the students stay in their classrooms while the teachers do the switching. "I'm afraid to lose her," Brigit said.

Rika said she was impressed by the size of Americans' yards — and Americans' hospitality. "America has more nature," she said. "America's very kind to me."

Brigit's family took Rika to a Native American festival at Nankin Mills Nature Center as well as Greenfield Village and planned to take her kayaking in Ann Arbor this weekend.

Quick study Megan is a global education student at Stevenson who has never taken Japanese, but she wanted to participate in the Student Exchange Program because she went to Japan as a baby but doesn't remember the trip. Her mother used to tutor Japanese families.

She said she quickly learned two phrases in Japanese: "I'm fine" and "Don't do that."

She toured a Ninja house in Japan and the Golden Pavilion, a Buddhist temple in Kyoto covered in gold leaf.

Megan's family took Sayaka to their cottage in Coldwater, where they went boating, as well as Mexicantown and Greektown in Detroit. "It's huge," Sayaka said of

America.

Sayaka said she liked eating tacos in Mexicantown, but didn't care for the refried beans.

They had plans to carve a pumpkin and go tubing this weekend.

Stevenson Principal James Gibbons had his own visitors to host Tuesday. Chaperones of the Japanese students toured Stevenson, including Yoshinobu Aoyama, a principal at a



Megan Briegel didn't know a word of Japanese when she went to visit Sayaka Mori in Japan this summer; Sayaka had never eaten refried beans until she went to Mexicantown in Detroit with Megan. (She didn't like them.)

school with 600 students in Shiga.

Aoyama was impressed with the variety of classes offered at Stevenson, Gibbons said, including theater, computer-assisted design, Advanced Placement courses and global education classes. "All the classes were engaged; everyone was very welcoming," Gibbons said.

Gibbons said Taylor have him a quick lesson in Japanese etiquette before the visitors arrived. He was instructed to exchange business cards and read them, but not write on the cards or put them into his pocket, especially his back

pocket.

"No great international incident was caused by me (not adhering to protocol)," Gibbons said.

The visitors were at Stevenson when the school had a moment of silence to remember the victims of 9/11 on the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

Gibbons said student exchange programs are important, especially as the world becomes smaller. "They offer a perspective that's good for everybody," he said. "We're all becoming one."

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# Miracle worker

## Hometown is where it's at for Deb Madonna

By Joanne Maliszewski  
Correspondent

The Plymouth community and Deb Madonna are practically synonymous.

But it's not just her name that speaks to Plymouth. It's the energy and commitment she has always given to a roster of projects and activities that continue to energize the community.

"A lot of the programs would not be done without her. A lot of my success is in part due to her," said Jeff Burda, executive director of the Plymouth Community Arts Council. "She makes it easier for everyone to come to work. When you're local to the community, you put time into your community."

The arts council, of which she is the president, is just one of the many successes that are publicly associated with Madonna. Her resume describes a woman on a mission. It also shows her passion for creating a nurturing community, especially for children.

In addition to her years of hard work with various school-related efforts, Madonna serves on the fundraising and development committee of 88.1 The Park (formerly WSDP) student-operated radio. She also hosts her own 88.1 radio show, aptly titled, "Community." She is the immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. and chair of the Music in the Park series.

### Miracle League passion

Her latest project, and one that has truly captured her passion for children, is the Miracle League of Plymouth, of which she is president and commissioner. More importantly, Madonna is the locomotive who made organized baseball for children with disabilities a reality.

"It is gratifying. It is

fun to have worked on something and then to be out there at the field watching the kids," Madonna said. "It is a great project and once we started fundraising for it, I realized we were on the right track because it had meaning for so many people. You can want something all day long, but your idea has to have an appeal to other people."

Madonna's effort to help others goes beyond community activism. As a massage therapist at her business, QuixWorks Therapeutic Massage in Plymouth, her goal is to help people help themselves with their aches and pains. She also works with children who have special needs, such as autism, to learn how to manage the unwanted stimulation that can negatively affect them.

"I try to give people tips for taking care of themselves," Madonna said. "When you work with people, you are the rock. You have to be with them right then and there."

That's why setting personal and professional boundaries is essential for Madonna. Knowing what she can and will do and when, allows her to tackle goals with a positive and fresh approach. She has learned to draw the line between working and living her personal life.

### Setting boundaries

"I try to be more aware and to make time for my life. I have learned to set boundaries. It takes the fun out of things if you don't," Madonna said. "When I'm out, I'm active. When I'm home, I'm like my kitties. I get in my pajamas and relax."

Madonna's personal life includes her husband, Marcel, an independent computer technology professional, and three grown sons who have moved out and started their lives. All three sons graduated from Canton High School and the Uni-

versity of Michigan.

Andrew, 29, is married and works in computer technology. Like Andrew, Mark, 23, a tax auditor, lives in Michigan. John is a teacher and now lives in Chicago.

"We are really proud of them," Madonna said, adding she is busy cleaning out their bedrooms to make more room in the house. "I miss them. As I am cleaning, I can sit and enjoy the photos of them when they were kids. I am learning how to be the parent of adult kids."

Madonna spent the first day of school this week looking at all the "first day of school" photos posted on Facebook. "I 'Liked' them all. I had my time when my boys were that young."

### Reaching out

While her sons are the light of her life, Madonna's heart also goes out to all kids, especially those with special needs. Her passion for helping people found a path when she joined the staff at the former Plymouth State Hospital at Five Mile and Sheldon, following her 1969 graduation from Plymouth High School, now Central Middle School.

"I worked with kids who at the time were my age. I saw what happens when you do nothing (to help improve a life)," she said.

Her experience at the state hospital drove Madonna to Schoolcraft College for more education. Today, she is an occupational and massage therapist, as well as a women's health educator and parenting class teacher at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

"I worked in occupational therapy at the hospital. I knew how to do it and then I went to school for it," she added.

Hometown is where it's at for Madonna because she understands the importance of providing a nurturing community for the younger gen-



Deb Madonna, the driving force behind the Miracle League of Plymouth, talks with Channel 4's Chuck Gaidica on the field's opening day.

eration. She grew up on her paternal grandfather's farm, Good's Nursery on 22 acres of what is now I-275. Twenty years ago, Madonna and her family moved back to the remaining 3.5 acres of the land her grandparents — C.W. and Flora — kept after the freeway went in.

### Growing up

"It was a great place to grow up, so much to do and explore," Madonna said. "It makes me very happy to be living on a spot where I grew up."

Her grandfather, who at one time also owned a 75-acre farm in Canton, had a large greenhouse system and nursery, as well as a seven-car, two-story garage, sawmill and reservoir with an irrigation system near Ann Arbor Road.

"One surprise I had when I moved (back) in was the wild blue irises that my grandmother planted years before. They still bloom. The trees from my grandfather's nursery are planted at houses all over the area, so there's a little of him everywhere."

Her maternal grandparents, Bill and Blanche Davis, also lived in Plymouth and Canton and eventually moved to Tonquish Creek Manor.

Madonna believes the kindness and nurturing she received growing up is what keeps her connected to the community. "When I was little, I'd get free food samples at Johnny's Market or Terry's Bakery in downtown Plymouth," she said. "You couldn't be a bad kid because everyone knew who you were."

And they still know who she is.

### Connecting with people

Her ability to connect with people amazes Bill Keith, manager for the 88.1 The Park radio station.

"She has always been willing to share ideas and introduce us to new people," said Keith. "She is a dedicated booster for our community. I'm always amazed by how many people she knows. Most importantly, her inquisitive spirit helps her create interesting radio shows."

Knowing a lot of people has helped Madonna in her latest passionate effort, the Miracle League of Plymouth, an organization dedicated to encouraging, supporting and creating the barrier-free Bilkie Family Field for children with special needs to play organized

baseball is one of those passions.


"She was the driving force behind the project. Deb came to me and said, 'This is what I want to do.' She is committed to community improvement. She does not take no for an answer and she has a record of success," said Bob Bilkie, Miracle League co-chair and CEO of Sigma Investment Counselors.

Madonna gathered community members whom she knew would support creating a ballpark for children with special needs. She naturally tapped fellow Rotarians, such as Bilkie and his wife, Shari, to follow her passion.

Beth Stewart, fellow A.M. Rotary member said Madonna has "extraordinary powers of persuasion and drive to see something through from start to finish."

"With her favorite saying, 'It's for the kids,' she makes people want to be involved, give money and do it all with a smile," added Stewart, a Plymouth Township resident and executive director of the Michigan Philharmonic.

"It's kind of fun to do the impossible," Madonna said, quoting Walt Disney, one of her favorite creative minds.



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### 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 **September 24, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

**Demolition of Condemned Residential Buildings:**  
33516-33518 Berville  
33581-33583 Berville  
28351 Eton

Pre-bid meeting: September 18, 10:00 a.m.  
33581 Berville, Westland 48186

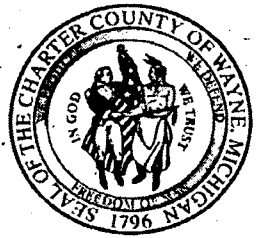
Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com). Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Rick Gowen at (734) 595-0288 x 2635. Proposals 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: September 16, 2012 AT087150\_3x3.5

## NOTICE

The Offices of the Wayne County Clerk  
Vitals Statistics Division  
and  
Westland Satellite Office  
Will Be Closed On the Below Dates  
Due to Mandatory Furlough Days



September 17, 2012  
October 8, 2012  
November 5, 2012  
December 3, 2012

**Services Affected By These Closings:**  
Birth and Death Certificates  
Marriage Licenses  
Assumed Names  
Notary Publics  
Concealed Weapons

# Proxy statement is a wealth of information

**Q: Dear Rick:**  
I've been a mutual fund investor for years and the other day I received a call from a company and they basically were encouraging me to vote my proxy statement. I've never voted in the past and I was surprised that I received a phone call. My first question is why do you think they contacted me and, second, what should I look for when I vote my proxy?



Money Matters

**A: Dear Beth:**  
I've noticed more and more companies are becoming very proactive in encouraging investors to vote their proxy statements. Therefore, the fact that you received a call is not that unusual. Proxy statements are required when a publicly held company seeks shareholder approval for a corporate matter. With mutual funds, typically the proxy statement is to vote for the board of directors, approving investment advisory agreements, or to raise fees. In addition, there may also be other items to vote on. I believe some companies have begun contacting shareholders and encouraging them to vote so that they don't have to repeat the process. If the company does not receive a suffi-

cient number of votes, it has to repeat the proxy process, which is expensive and time-consuming. That is why companies have begun calling shareholders and encouraging them to vote.

One thing that I have discovered over the years is that proxy statements generally contain a wealth of information about the company and its management. Contained in proxy statements is information on executive compensation, credentials and affiliations of members of the board of directors and, in addition, you can see who inside the corporation owns stock.

When I get a proxy statement, particularly from a mutual fund company, what I tend to focus on the most is fees. I generally don't want to see a company raising their fees. Therefore, in most cases if a mutual fund is attempting to raise its fees, I always vote against it. Of course, there is the exception to the rule and that is, if in the proxy materials, it provides a good reason for the fee increase. In the great, great majority of situations, I always vote no when it comes to fee increases. It is the very rare case where I will vote for an increase in fees.

Over the last number of years, companies have made voting proxy state-

ments easier than in the past. In the past, the only way to vote was to mail the ballot in. In today's world, in many situations you're allowed to vote over the phone and also on the Internet.

Whether you decide to vote or not is totally up to you. However, I would recommend that you do review the proxy statement. As I mentioned earlier, a proxy statement contains a wealth of information about your investment and the more you know about your investment, the better is it for you. Therefore, the next time you receive a proxy statement, as opposed to throwing it out, at least take some time to review the materials sent to you. Even if you decide that you are not going to vote, reading the materials will help you be a more informed investor. The more informed investor you are, the better investor you will be. Should you vote your proxy statement? Of course you should; however, what's even more important is to review the information so you can stay current on what's happening with your investment. Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email Rick at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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# Local home featured in solar tour

Michigan-based Srinergy will host a free bus tour of residential and commercial solar installations on Saturday, Oct. 6. The tour will begin at Srinergy's headquarters located at 24371 Catherine Industrial Drive, Suite 231 in Novi.

The Srinergy Solar Tour 2012, which runs from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., will start with information and refreshments in Srinergy's offices, followed by a bus tour showcasing a variety of Srinergy-installed solar PV systems including projects in Novi, Farmington Hills, Canton, Detroit and Ann Arbor.

The event is open to the public. There will be a requested donation

of \$10 each for Srinergy's Solar4Schools Campaign, which promotes the education of solar energy throughout schools in the area. Registration is required and details are available at <http://srinergytour.eventbrite.com>.

Srinergy is joining the American Solar Energy Society and hundreds of solar-savvy installers and grassroots organizations throughout the United States to showcase more than 5,000 solar-powered homes, schools and businesses—in Michigan and across North America—for the 17th Annual National Solar Tour, the world's largest grassroots solar event.

The event offers the

opportunity for participants to visit solar-powered homes and businesses in the Detroit metropolitan area and introduces the public to solar technologies that friends and neighbors are using to reduce monthly energy bills and improve property values as they assert their energy independence and create a cleaner community.

Last year's National Solar Tour attracted more than 150,000 people in 49 U.S. states and Puerto Rico. Tours afford participants the direct perspectives of homeowners and installers about the costs, processes and economic and environmental benefits of going solar.



Michigan-based Srinergy will host a free bus tour of residential and commercial solar installations, including this one in Canton, on Saturday, Oct. 6.

## GARDEN CLIPPINGS

### 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, Sept. 17, 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 Oct. 8, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

### 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.

In its fourth year, the program 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 events taking place within the state parks this summer. Passes are valid for seven days from checkout and are good for day use only. Park and Read runs now through Oct. 1.

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

### Golf outing

Albert's on the Alley and Fleming Financial Services will sponsor the first annual Golfers Against Diabetes Golf Outing Saturday, Sept. 29, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 S. Lotz Road in Canton.

Tee time is 9 a.m., and all proceeds from the outing will go to the American Diabetes Association.

The outing will be in a four-person scramble format with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. The cost is \$85 per person and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, hot dog at the turn, awards luncheon at Albert's on the Alley afterwards and goody bags, games and prizes.

People interested in becoming involved as a golfer, hole sponsor or volunteer, or giving a donation can go online to [www.AlbertsontheAlley.com](http://www.AlbertsontheAlley.com) and [www.FlemingFinancialSvcs.com](http://www.FlemingFinancialSvcs.com) for more information, or contact John Fleming at (734) 604-0227 or by email at [John@FlemingFinancialSvcs.com](mailto:John@FlemingFinancialSvcs.com).

Hole Sponsors are \$100 and registrations are due by Sept. 15. Checks should be made payable to the American Diabetes Association.

Golfer registrations also are due by Sept. 15 with checks made payable to John Fleming. Payments can be sent to ADA Golf Outing, P.O. Box 819, Garden City, MI 48136.

### Challenge Grant

The Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum have received financial commitments again this year from several individuals who will match up to \$10,000 in donations to the organization.

The deadline to submit pledges for the dollar-to-dollar matching grant is Oct. 31. If you donate \$25, the total donation to the Friends is \$50. FGCHM is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and does not receive financial support from the City of Garden City for its operation and maintenance. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

This is the third and final year of a three-year matching grant campaign to help preserve the Garden City Historical Museum. Donations can be made payable to FGCHM and sent to the Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriam Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

### 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 and email to [gcfmm@gmail.com](mailto:gcfmm@gmail.com).

### Pet-a-Pet

Pet-A-Pet, Inc. is looking for enthusiastic, friend-

ly pets and their owners to visit facilities one hour a month at the Garden City Hospital Rehab. Pets must be up to date with vaccinations, proof required. Visits are at 3:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

Call Mickie Hickey at (734) 522-0036 for more information or to sign up.

### 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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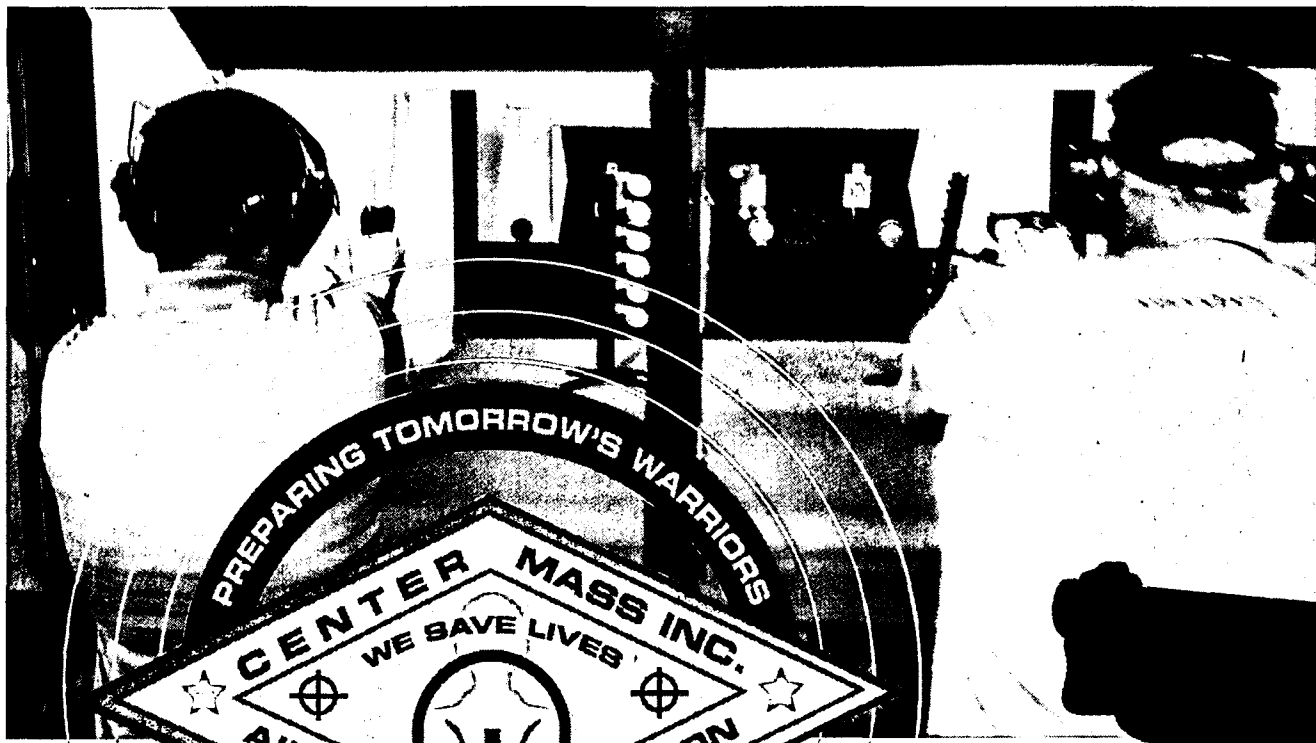
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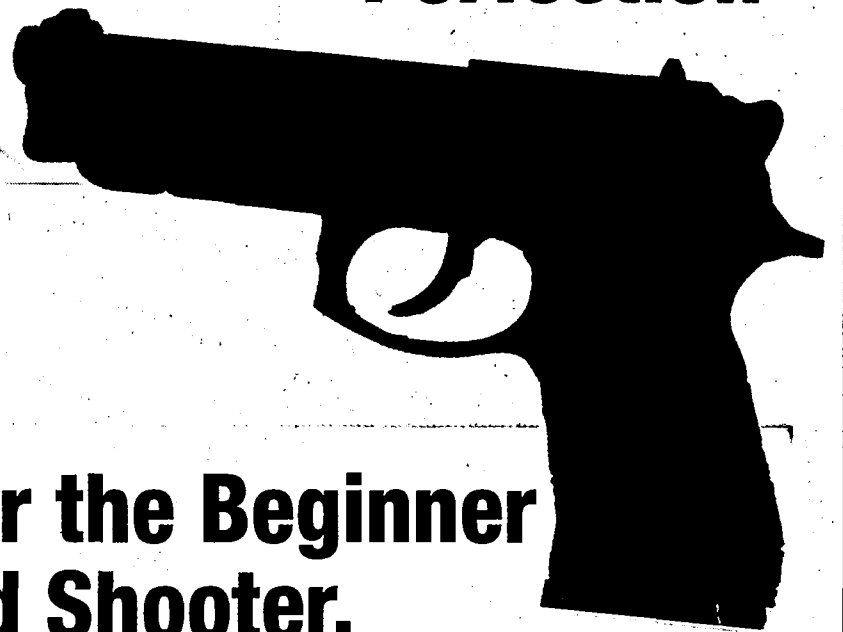
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Another unique feature you will find at CMI is a courteous and friendly sales staff that is completely at your service. We go out of our way to make you feel comfortable and welcome in our facility. We have been in business since 1996 serving the law enforcement and military industries. Our success came from proprietary products and training services, but the single most important thing we have learned in that time is that superior customer service is what brings customers back. We know that our success is dependent on our clients' satisfaction. We value all clients and will treat you and your family with the utmost respect and

professionalism. CMI is Michigan's first commercial battle focused reactive target shooting range. We offer five lanes of steel reactive targets and five lanes of standard paper targets. The



battle focused steel reactive range allows customers to engage targets that move, pop back up and swing back and forth as you race your family and friends to see who is the fastest, most accurate shooter on the block. It is one of the very few ranges that allow shooters to shoot across lanes as quickly and accurately as possible in order to beat your opponent, or simply test your skills against yourself. CMI also offers five lanes of the more traditional "paper" target range with a variety of targets available, including full color Zombie targets. Training saves lives and CMI gives every citizen the opportunity to train on a range like no other in-door facility in Michigan.

Center Mass is recognized as one of the nation's leading authorities on firearms and tactical training. It is our mission

to provide training that helps save lives. We are excited and proud to bring that mission to the citizens of Metro-Detroit. Our focus on teaching students how to effectively fight with a firearm has saved numerous lives

around the world. We believe that virtually anyone can learn how to safely shoot a gun, but we know that effectively fighting with a gun is an entirely different animal. This is what separates CMI from all competitors and gives our students the edge that they need to win in a deadly force encounter.

One thing that everyone should consider when choosing a firearms training provider is their qualifications. The thing that CMI does better than any training provider in the country is preparing the student for the aftermath of a deadly force encounter. You must remember that surviving a deadly force encounter is only half of the battle. The second half is surviving everything that comes afterward... If you survive the first, and fail the second, your life can literally be ruined. The criminal investigation, civil

process and emotional stress are factors that anyone who carries a gun had better be well versed in or the consequences can mean your freedom, financial independence and emotional stability could be taken away.

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# Trail walk teaches buddies some lessons

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

Far from the comforts and convenience of suburbia, Ricky Thiele and Kyle Bondy learned about their world — and themselves — during a four-month summer adventure, picking up lessons that, they say, will shape the rest of their lives.

Thiele and Bondy, long-time friends who grew up in Plymouth Township, on Sept. 1 ended a hike of about 2,000 miles on the 2,184-mile Appalachian Trail, traveling through 14 states, crossing mountain ranges, national parks and town squares and meeting dozens of other hikers. Their trip began May 6 at Springer Mountain, Ga., and ended Sept. 1 in Augusta, Me.; they had hiked it each carrying about 35 pounds of clothing, food and gear, sleeping in their tent or in crude trail shelters, with the occasional night at a hotel or hiking hostel.

"You learn that you just don't really need much to live," Bondy, 20, said by phone on Friday. "You can get by on just a little bit."

Bondy, who had finished two years of college and worked three jobs before the hike, said he learned to appreciate the simplicity of nature.

"It heals the soul. It brings you back," he said.

"I just wanted to see what it's like to live without anything, and so did Kyle," said Thiele recently at a Plymouth coffee shop. "It's really relieving to have so little stuff."

#### People are good

Thiele said the experience reaffirmed for him the basic goodness of people. "It helped renew faith in everyone," he said.

The two graduated from Plymouth High School



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ricky Thiele holds a map of the Appalachian Trail.

in 2010 and, after that, attended different community colleges. They also worked, Thiele in the service department at an automobile dealership and Bondy in the restaurant industry, including at the Daydream Cafe in Canton Township.

Their trip was inspired by a National Geographic documentary they saw on the Appalachian Trail, or AT, as it's called in hiking lingo. "Yeah, let's go do that," Bondy remembers he

and Thiele saying to each other after watching the show. "It was as simple as that. We just told each other we were going to do it and we did it."

Their friends and families thought they were crazy.

"Everyone told us not to go there. Everyone told us it was a stupid idea," Bondy said. "We pretty much said ... 'We're going to live a life of adventure.'"

They did prepare, however, for about a year and a half, reading books and



Ricky Thiele and Kyle Bondy at the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire.

websites about the AT and regularly hiking Powell Road while wearing backpacks, each with two 20-pound dumbbells in them.

Their dads, Rick Thiele and Tim Bondy, traveled with them to the trailhead in Georgia, hiking with them for the first mile.

"I was nervous as heck the first day," said Ricky Thiele, remembering how he contemplated the trail ahead from a Georgia motel room the night before they set out. "What the heck have I gotten myself into?" he thought.

#### Rock climb

The hike took them over mountains, rock formations and rivers, and sometimes straight through towns along the way. Thiele said he got a sense of how tough it would be when they crossed from Georgia into North Carolina and faced "an endless rock staircase."

"That's when it dawned on me that this probably wasn't going to be easy," he said.

Nevertheless, they averaged 20 to 25 miles a day, sometimes taking "mile-free days" to relax and enjoy the trail. They had

to restock their food supply every week or so, walking into towns when they could, generally in more densely populated areas, and sometimes hitching rides from locals, who are used trail folk.

"You look like a hiker. You smell like a hiker," Thiele said. "People know what you want."

Thiele spoke of "trail angels" who would leave food and drink along the way, or in one case, put them up in a motel.

"When people do good to you, you just want to do good generally," he said.

They also met Thiele's mother, Karen Thiele, relaxing in a hotel in Pennsylvania, and spent some time with a hiker they met, Vinny, at his home in the Philadelphia area.

There were some dangers, such as punishing rock formations, ticks, 100-degree-plus heat, and their encounter, in New Jersey of all states, with a black bear, about 10 feet away.

"You're not supposed to run but we ran," Thiele said.

#### All-state hike

The hike ended badly after Bondy, who had

hurt his right foot on the mountains in New Hampshire, was diagnosed with stress fractures in two toes in Gorham, N.H. Still, they pushed on for several days, determined to make it to Maine so they could say they had been to all the AT states. They did.

"Probably not the best idea. The doctor said it wasn't," Bondy said. Their daily mileage dropped dramatically, and with money running low and Bondy's foot swollen and painful, they called it quits, and Bondy's father, Tim Bondy, picked them up in Augusta, Me. They have 100 or so miles to go — and are determined to finish that on a return trip.

The hike inspired Thiele and Bondy to seek further adventure — Bondy said he wants to tackle the 2,663-mile Pacific Crest Trail — and not settle, at least not now, for a life focused on comfort and material possessions.

"Nothing really compares to hiking with 40 pounds on your back from sunup to sundown," said Bondy. "It's kind of given me a new work ethic."

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## SPORTS

## Wildcats pounce on Pats

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Nate Emminger always seems to come with clutch plays for the Plymouth High football team.

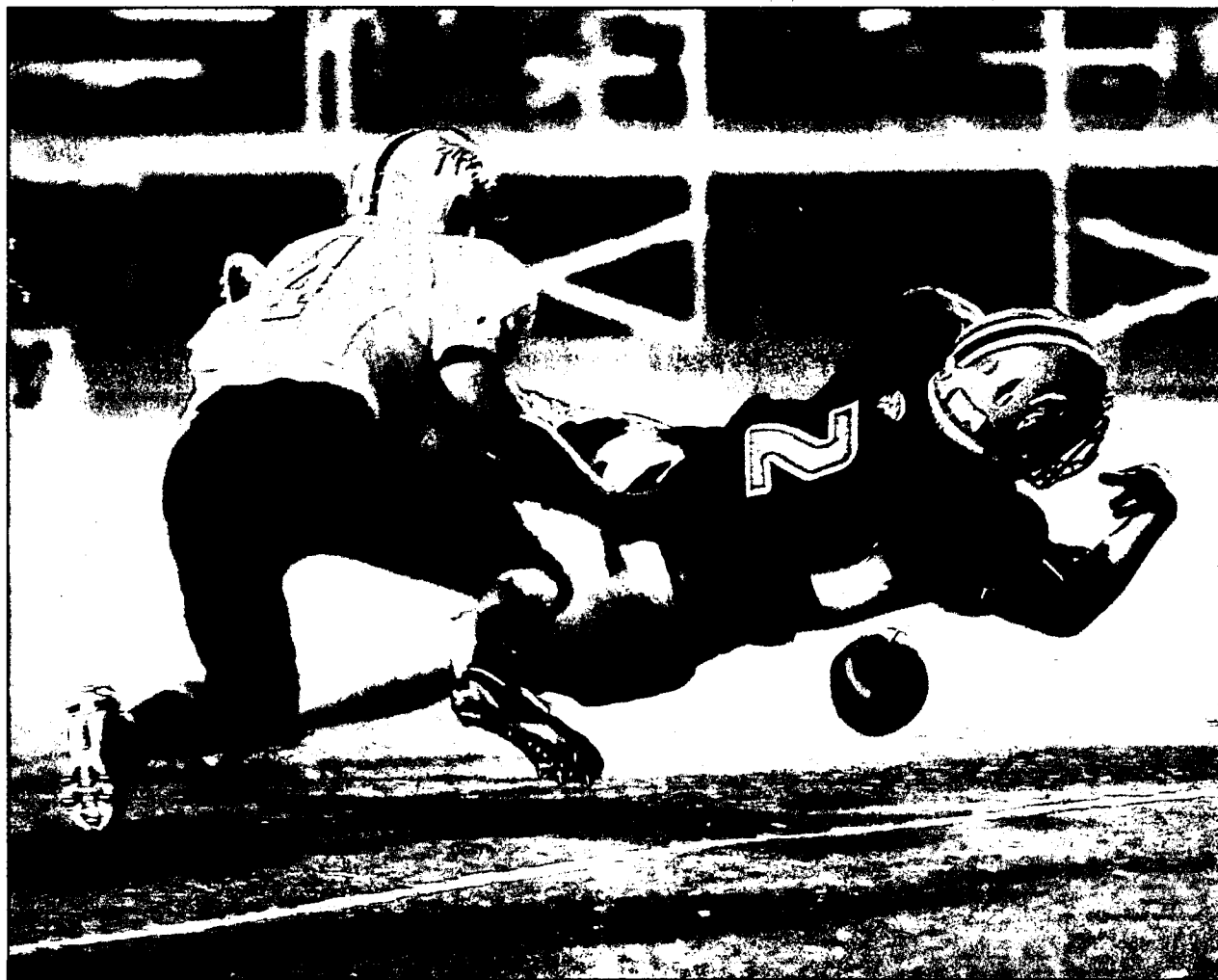
The senior defensive back and wide receiver was up to his old tricks again Friday night as the Wildcats scored 23 unanswered points during the second half to pull away from host Livonia Franklin, 37-10.

The win pushes Plymouth's record to 3-1 overall and 2-1 in the KLAA's South Division, while Franklin falls to 1-3 and 1-2.

Ironically, Emminger's two biggest plays came in the opening half while the Wildcats were scuffling.

Plymouth got on the board on the fourth play from scrimmage when Nate Emminger turned the right corner and sprinted 63 yards for a touchdown with 9:43 left in the first quarter.

Franklin then answered with a 28-yard field goal by Alejandro Castillo with 2:07 to go in the first after



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin's Jimmy Mazaris (2) gets across the plane of the goal line for a touchdown with only 13 seconds left in the first half to cut the Plymouth deficit to 14-10. Plymouth's Matt Janke (4) goes for the loose ball.

Please see PATS, B3

Kroll wins  
MSU invite

Michigan State's Sara Kroll (Livonia Churchill), running unattached, captured Friday's Spartan Invitational women's cross country 6-kilometer race with a time of 21 minutes, 10 seconds.

Kroll averaged 5:41 per mile to edge Northwestern's Audrey Huth by six seconds.

MSU senior Rachel McFarlane (Churchill) placed 10th overall with a clocking of 21:38.

Madonna University's top finisher was Bianca Kubicki (Canton) in 138th (24:03) followed by Jaclyn Sawasky, 184th (24:52); Brittany Slicker, 240th (26:55); Kimberly Ader, 256th (27:32); and Kayla Daugherty, 262nd (27:56).

Schoolcraft College's top finishers included Layne Marinski in 231st (26:26) and Adrianna Beltran (Salem) in 278th (29:00).

MU men boot  
Spring Arbor

Goalkeeper Adrian Motta (Livonia Churchill) made nine saves to earn his first clean sheet of the season Wednesday as the host Madonna University men's soccer team blanked Spring Arbor, 2-0.

Goals by Dane Laird (Farmington Harrison) and Joe Carver (Schoolcraft College) improved MU's overall record to 3-2 overall.

Doug Beason assisted on Laird's fourth goal of the season in the 28th minute, while Carver scored unassisted off a free kick in the 75th minute as the Crusaders won their third straight.

Billy Irvine made four saves for Spring Arbor (6-2).

## Stevenson nips Lions to stay unbeaten

By Jeff Theisen  
Gannett News Service

Livonia Stevenson football coach Matt Fielder was thrilled to escape with a 12-7 win Friday night at South Lyon's Jungle.

A final gasp by South Lyon on fourth-and-20 was almost answered in the final minute.

Lions quarterback Andy Garcia lofted one in the middle of the field, a Stevenson defender tipped the ball before it fell just off the fingertips of a diving Lions receiver, and the ball fell

harmlessly to the ground for the Spartans victory.

"We seem to find a way to make it interesting," said Fielder, whose team is 4-0 overall and 2-0 in the KLAA's Central Division. "That's a good team, though, and we did enough to win. It was a battle right down to the end. It's how it's been the last three years, it more or less comes down to the last series."

"I'm glad to be on the winning end of it."

The first three quarters was all about the Stevenson defense.

## PREP FOOTBALL

South Lyon had just one three-and-out in the first quarter, but Stevenson couldn't capitalize as a fourth-and-one situation was stuffed at the Lions' 10 on the first play of the second quarter.

The first score of the game came with 1:19 to play in the first half, when quarterback Joe Mims sent a pretty fade pass to Adam Wheeler for a 16-yard connection. The key play came on a short pass to running back Devin Kelly. He broke a couple of tack-

les before rumbling 61 yards to set up camp at the South Lyon 15.

The Lions had just two first downs at the half.

Stevenson went up 12-0 a little less than four minutes into the third, when Dom Ferrera blasted in from the 3-yard line. The conversion pass was knocked away.

South Lyon finally got the offense going through the air in the fourth. Starting a drive in Stevenson territory for the first time on the night at the 48, it

Please see SPARTANS, B5

Wayne takes out  
rival Rockets in 4

Wayne Memorial claimed temporary bragging rights in girls volleyball Thursday night with a 24-26, 25-5, 25-22, 25-22 KLAA South Division win

over rival Westland John Glenn.

The Zebras, who improved to 4-8-1 overall and 1-

2 in the division, got 18 kills, 11 blocks and eight digs from senior 6-foot-1 senior Katie Horton.

Samantha Hershey served a run of 12 straight points in the second set to help propel the host Zebras to victory.

"Tonight the girls were

fired up to play their rivals," Wayne coach Samantha Dye said. "The first set of the match we were flat and getting frustrated with ourselves. After that first game we came together and united on the court. We finally became a unit, which is stronger than six individuals on the court. The girls were able to adjust and step up."

"Katie Horton was once again the motivator for us on the court. She leads the girls and they follow."

Crystal Fletcher had a team-high 11 digs, while Hershey and Danielle Robbins added seven each.

"Crystal stepped up for us in the back row," Dye

Please see SPIKERS, B3

Crush groove  
Norscia's 30 kills lift Chargers by ChiefsBy Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia Churchill-Canton girls volleyball rivalry has become one of the best in the Kensington Lakes

Activities Association and Thursday night's South Division match-up was no exception.

State-ranked Churchill, playing before a spirited home crowd, got 30 kills from senior outside hitter Emily Norscia to beat the defending division champs in four sets, 25-17, 25-16, 21-25, 25-16.

Churchill improves to 22-3 overall and 3-0 in the KLAA South, while Canton slips to 11-7-1 and 1-2.

The 6-foot Norscia got plenty of support on the defensive side from teammates Audrey Durocher (29 digs) and Julia Szuba (18 digs).

"We pride ourselves on a little ball

control and defense," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "We have a slew of kids that really did a nice job — Durocher being one of them, Julia Szuba, Krystyn Niescier, Casey Bias — the whole slew of them that come in really buy into ball control."

"I think the difference between this year and last year is that ball control and having a couple of kids that can terminate. We've had some success."

Norscia certainly put the ball on the floor including eight kills in the fourth set after Canton pulled to within, 2-1.

Senior setter Katie Chartrand was the main feeder with 47 assist-to-kills, while 6-1 senior middle hitter Marissa Pomaville (headed to Northwood University) added 13 kills and 5-10 junior outside hitter Mackenzie Hamill contributed eight kills.

But the Chiefs simply had no answers for Norscia.

"We knew coming in that we at least would try and slow her down," Can-

Please see CHARGERS, B3

Pioneer nips  
Blazers, 1-0

Ann Arbor Pioneer scored with just under three minutes remaining Wednesday to earn a 1-0 girls field hockey victory at Livonia Ladywood.

Senior goalie Stephanie Mackley made 17 saves to keep the Blazers in it.

"We battled the entire game and matched their skill until the end," said Ladywood coach Kris Sanders, whose team slipped to 4-2-1 overall and 1-2-1 in the division. "Our goalkeeper was phenomenal, which was the reason we stayed in the game for so long."

Pioneer stands 3-0-2 overall and 2-0 in the division.



Horton



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**BOYS TENNIS RESULTS**

**DUAL MATCH RESULTS**  
**PLYMOUTH 6**  
**LIVONIA CHURCHILL 3**  
 Sept. 12 at Churchill  
**No. 1 singles:** Jonathan Martin (LC) def. Jordan Lu, 6-2, 6-4; **No. 2:** Joe Mulka (LC) def. Charlie Hou, 7-6 (7-4), 3-6, 6-4; **No. 3:** Kevin Hou (P) def. Rishabh Arvikar, 7-5, 6-4; **No. 4:** Jon Conn (P) def. Aditya Venulapati, 6-0, 6-3.  
**No. 1 doubles:** Mark Denstead-Riley Prince (LC) def. Cameron Earls-Dylan Grant, 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4); **No. 2:** Joe Klotz-Danny Sinnott (P) def. Mayuresh Iyer-Steven Van Wormer, 6-4, 6-7 (1-7), 6-3; **No. 3:** Akash Yerakola-Praveen Loganathan (P) def. Mit Patel-Shantam Ravan, 6-0, 6-3; **No. 4:** Jared Hopf-Tyler Smith (P) def. Cooper King-Raymond Peters, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; **No. 5:** Charlie Anderson-Bryan Caragay (P) def. Joe Healy-Aditya Agrawal, 6-1, 6-3.  
**Churchill's dual match record:** 9-4 overall, 2-1 KLAASouth Division.

**LIVONIA CHURCHILL 9**  
**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0**  
 Sept. 13 at John Glenn  
**No. 1 singles:** Jonathan Martin (LC) defeated Mike Woodard, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 2:** Joe Mulka (LC) def. Chris Sabel, 6-1, 6-0; **No. 3:** Rishabh Arvikar (LC) def. Ian Villaroman, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 4:** Aditya Venulapati (LC) def. Wes Lawrence, 6-0, 6-2.  
**No. 1 doubles:** Mark Denstead-Riley Prince (LC) def. Dre Black-Charlie Messic, 6-2, 6-1; **No. 2:** Mayuresh Iyer-Steven Van Wormer (LC) def. D.J. Mayo-Kody Diaz, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Mit Patel-Shantam Ravan (LC) def. Herb Taylor-Travis Trigg, 6-1, 6-2; **No. 4:** Cooper King-Raymond Peters (LC) def. P.J. Wright-Kyle Nikula, 6-1, 6-0; **No. 5:** Joe Healy-Aditya Agrawal, 6-2, 6-0.  
**Dual match records:** Churchill, 10-4 overall, 3-1 KLAASouth Division; John Glenn, 2-2 overall, 1-2 KLAASouth.

# On lockdown

## Charger defense stars vs. Wildcats, 3-0

By Tim Smith  
 Observer Staff Writer

The defense didn't rest Thursday night, and that suited Livonia Churchill's varsity boys soccer team just fine. Host Plymouth could not solve Chargers' junior goalkeeper Colton Robison — not to mention the back line in front of him — as Churchill earned a 3-0 KLAASouth Division win. Scoring in the first half was senior Michael Murphy with second-half markers by juniors Andrew Smutek and Patrick Adegbite-Martins completing the victory. "They really out-worked us tonight," said Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich, whose team falls to 2-7-2 overall and 2-2 in the division. "They really fought hard and deserved the victory. I thought they came off a tough game and responded by really sticking it to us tonight. Hats off to them." Churchill (2-4-2, 2-2) grabbed a 1-0 lead with

about 16 minutes to play before halftime. Starting the game's first scoring play was a re-start from sophomore Brendan Dilloway, up from the junior varsity. The ball was played into the 18-yard goal box by junior Tyler Piotrowski and senior Michael Murphy subsequently booted a low drive inside the right post past Plymouth senior goalkeeper Mario Gruszczynski. "Restart goals are killers for the opposing team, and they jump-start the team that does it," Churchill coach Matt Grodzicki said. "Those goals are so important and it really got our guys going." Despite Grodzicki's halftime talk to players not to give Plymouth players extra chances, the Chargers fouled Chandler Olah just 1:40 into the second half to set up a free kick at the top of the semi-circle. The foul took place to stop Olah from streaking into scoring territory after having received a perfectly fed pass from


freshman Michael Blake. But Olah laced the ball right into a wall of Churchill defenders. "We were fortunate that he hit the wall there," Grodzicki said. "But if you give Plymouth enough chances, they're going to get one." Churchill came close with about 33 minutes to play when sophomore Daniel Jones drilled a hard shot from 15 yards that Gruszczynski threw his hands up to deflect away. A savvy play by Chargers' senior defender Nathan Bradford helped preserve the slim lead, with about 21 minutes remaining. Olah's direct kick from about 30 yards out traveled high toward the goal area, but Bradford jumped high enough to head the ball out of trouble. Churchill's edge grew to 2-0 when junior Smutek blasted an 18-yarder inside the left post. Capping off the scoring was the first varsity goal of Adegbite-Mar-

tins' career, with 5:02 left. He launched a 35-yard shot that hit the middle of the crossbar, dropped down and over the goal line. "Patrick, he worked hard, he earned that one," Grodzicki said. "He worked to get the ball from that defender, turned him around and shot the ball in a perfect spot. He got rewarded for it. It hit the post, hit the keeper, rolled around for a little bit and went in. I'm happy for him." Meanwhile, Grodzicki said the key to the win was stifling Plymouth's creative, offensive threats (such as Olah and senior DK Kim) throughout the tilt. "Our motto this season, our theme, the way we're going to win games, is we need total team defense," Grodzicki said. "That's how we gotta do it. These guys buy into that and this is the result when we play total team defense, from the top all the way to the back."

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# John Glenn trips Pats, 6-2; Stevenson, Novi deadlock

Westland John Glenn scored four unanswered goals during the final 26:22 to earn a 6-2 KLAASouth Division boys soccer victory Thursday night over host Livonia Franklin. The Rockets, who improved to 7-2 overall and 3-1 in the division, got a pair of goals from Alex Isaevski. Other Glenn goal scorers included Bobby Mason, Tyler Simpson, Jimmy Merdani and Justin Sanders, the latter whom tallied the game-winner. "Justin Sanders played like a boss tonight," Glenn coach Brian Tomlinson said. "Not only did he work hard to help dig the ball out of the back and get an incredible assist, but he scored an absolute screamer of a goal off a full volley when the game was tied in the second half. It was such an

**KLAASOCCER**  
 awesome hit that it boosted our team's spirit and all the guys started playing inspired ball." Akshay Komanna, Merdani, David Isaacs, Isaevski, Sanders and Simpson also drew assists. "I was very encouraged by the fact that so many different guys got assists," Glenn coach Brian Tomlinson said. "We want to improve our combination play on attack and that stat is a signal that our efforts are paying off. Tyler Simpson is a savvy playmaker who doesn't do a lot of work that doesn't show up on the score sheet." Franklin (2-6-2, 1-3), which trailed 2-1 at halftime, got goals from Jordan Bickham and Robert Jiga. "There were six goals they shouldn't have had, but they deserved to win,"

Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said of the Rockets. "If you give Alex (Isaevski) and (Bobby) Mason space, they'll take it." Franklin goalkeeper Spencer Lewandowski made eight saves, while Isaacs had nine stops for the Rockets. "Again, our defense showed up and played tough," Tomlinson said, "and along with our starting defenders, some of our younger guys stepped up and played big. Jacob Damien (sophomore) closed out the game in the back and looked great." **STEVENSON 1, NOVI 1:** On Friday, host Livonia Stevenson (4-1-4, 2-0-2) and the Wildcats (4-3-2, 1-2-1) battled to a draw in a KLAASouth Division encounter. Both goals came in the first half with Tom O'Brien heading home a pinpoint cross from Dominic Sabatini in the 10th minute for Stevenson. Novi's Don Nakashima then tapped home a goal off a scrum in the box with Tony Asimadu getting credited with

the assist. "Novi's style allows them to be dangerous in their attack, but you can generate some counter attacks against them," Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We needed to be a cleaner when making that final pass when those counter attacking moments presented themselves." Stevenson goalkeeper Zack Verant made five saves, while Novi's Tony McMaster had two stops. "Zack had another excellent game in goal," Shingledecker said. **CANTON 8, WAYNE 0:** On Thursday, the defending Division 1 state champion Chiefs (8-2-2, 4-0) defeated Wayne Memorial (1-7, 0-4) in a KLAASouth Division match that was called at halftime due to the MHSAA mercy rule. Junior Griffin Parks had two goals and one assist, while Carter Schenck, a JV call-up, also scored twice. Other multiple point scorers for Canton included senior co-captain Scott Piwowar, one goal and two assists; senior co-captain Dan Ovesea, one goal and one assist; Bobby Budlong, two assists. Cody Widlak and Aiden Shennan also added single goals.

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# C'ville secures tie vs. Monroe CC

Ma Sambou Jatta's late goal off an assist from Dave Vandekerckhove enabled host Livonia Clarenceville (1-5-1) to earn a 1-1 boys soccer tie Thursday against Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central. Clarenceville goalkeeper Evan Gregg made seven saves, while the Trojans also received strong play from Cam Fyffe and Alec Jones. Clarenceville stands 1-5-1 overall. **GREENHILLS 1, LUTH. WESTLAND 0:** Michael Vanek's penalty kick goal in the 16th minute proved to be the difference Thursday as Ann Arbor Greenhills (3-2, 3-2) edged host Lutheran High Westland (1-6, 1-6) in a MIAC Blue Division match. Vanek was awarded the PK after Lutheran Westland goalkeeper Jordan Williams (nine saves) was called for tripping after stopping a Gryphons breakaway attempt. First-year Lutheran Westland coach Bob Regan singled out the play of center-backs Noah Huffman and Walter Gembarski, along with backline Nick Flanery. "They all stepped up and blocked a lot of Greenhills shots," Regan said. **CHAVEZ 1, C'VILLE 0:** On Wednesday, Ricardo Lopez scored the lone goal in the second half as Detroit Cesar Chavez Academy defeated host Livonia Clarenceville (1-5). Goalkeeper Evan Gregg played a strong game with nine saves with help defensively from Ma Sambou Jatta, Cam Fyffe, Alan Baumgardner, Collin Orchard and Jake Immonen. "The boys held a very strong Chavez team scoreless for 65 minutes with extremely tough, physical defense," Clarenceville coach Trevor Johnson said.

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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

said. "She moved her feet and was able to give us option three passes. Danielle performed well all the way around."

The Zebras also got a boost from Karley Buford, who had four blocks, while Deja Tamlin finished with four kills and three blocks. Ashley Carey also contributed three kills.

"Karley started playing volleyball tonight," Dye said. "She really stepped up at the back side of the net for us blocking Glenn's outside."

Hannah Staples paced Glenn (8-10, 0-3) with 10 kills and nine digs.

Chealyn Maracle added nine digs, while Emily McNally and Val Ernat each served four aces.

Ernat, filling in for injured starting setter Claire Truskowski, also had 11 assists.

The two teams meet again Tuesday, Oct. 2, at Glenn.

Wildcats top Pats

In a KLAA South Division match Thursday, Plymouth came away with a 25-17, 23-25, 26-24, 25-21 triumph at Livonia Franklin.

Setter Mikayla Sienkiewicz had 27 assists and libero Kelly Newton 22 digs for the Patriots, who slipped to 8-11 overall and 2-1 in the KLAA South Division.

Other leaders for the Patriots included Mackenzie Lukas (10 kills, 10 digs); Afton DeWyse (15 digs, three aces); Kelly O'Brien and Maggie Leins (seven kills apiece).

"Plymouth's offense was quick and they played great defense," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said of the Wildcats. "Our defense, serve receive and serving allowed us to compete with a very good team."

Spartans fall

On Thursday, host Salem won in straight sets to beat Livonia Stevenson in a KLAA Central Division match, 25-18, 25-18, 25-21.

Junior Katie Tomasic led the Spartans, who dropped 8-10-1 overall and 1-2 in the division, with 10 kills and seven assists. She was also 15-for-15 serving.

Amanda Hawkins and Morgan Copperstone each added five kills, while Taylor McLaud had two. Setter Sarah Soave added 10 assists. Holly Mossoian was the digs leader with 12.

Norscia is to them. She's an all-around player. She leads in digs normally and leads in kills. She's a force to be reckoned with."

Setters Madison Kielty and Chelsea Janice combined for 25 assists, but the Chiefs had no answers in the fourth set as Churchill pulled away with a 12-3 run after it was tied at 13-all.

"den Boer is a heckuva athlete, a heckuva player," Grenier said. "We give her a lot of respect and they've got a couple of other really nice players. That's the reason why it was really a competitive match."

But it was the offensive onslaught by Norscia hitting primarily from the left side that kept the Chargers in command.

"Thirty kills is a lot," Grenier said. "She (Norscia) is a beast. That's what we've come to expect from her. She's our horse."

It was Churchill's second victory this season over Canton. The two teams will meet again on Tuesday, Oct. 2, at Canton.

"We faced them earlier in the preseason, so we knew what to expect from them," Johnson said. "What we come away with is knowing when we're on our game, we can run right with them."

CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

ton first-year coach Steve Johnson said. "We weren't attempting to stop her. That wasn't our goal. That would be an unachievable goal to try and stop her. We were hoping to slow her down and obviously the first two sets we were no where close. As it wore on we were starting to get her number a little bit better, but she's still a force to contend with."

Canton rallied in the third set behind the ferocious hitting of senior outside hitter Erica den Boer, who registered five of her team-high 14 kills along with two blocks.

Junior Sasha Cruz also added five of her nine kills as the Chiefs went on an 8-4 run to close out the set.

"Our blockers really started to come along," Johnson said of the third set. "And when they (Churchill) go to a hitter (Norscia) that many times, she probably gets a little tired, too. Us blocking better and her getting a little tired helped us get more blocks."

Senior libero Becca Middleton paced the Canton defense with 19 digs, while den Boer and Dia Jackson contributed 17 and 15, respectively.

"She (den Boer) is our answer," Johnson said. "She is to us what

Crusaders romp in WHAC opener

The Madonna University women's volleyball team opened Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference action Wednesday with a 25-18, 25-16, 25-23 triumph over host Lourdes University at Tam O'Shanter in Sylva, Ohio.

Taylor Dziewit paced a balanced MU hitting attack with nine kills, while Nastija Baranovska and Samantha Geile added eight apiece.

Setter Evia Prieditis chipped in with 27 assists as Madonna improved to 12-4 overall and 1-0 in the WHAC.

Breanna Geile led the 17th-ranked Crusaders defensively with nine digs, while Prieditis, Samantha Geile and Sta-

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

cay Catalano contributed eight apiece. Katie Bartlett had nine kills, while setter Michi Jimenez added 26 assists and Kirstin Kirk 20 digs for Lourdes (5-10, 0-1).

Ocelots fall in 5

On Thursday, host Flint Mott Community College ousted Schoolcraft College in five sets, 26-24, 23-25, 21-25, 25-23 15-12, to improve to 5-0 overall and 1-0 in the Eastern Conference of the MCCA.

The loss drops the Lady Ocelots to 3-6 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

Churchill rolls vs. Wayne, 52-0

Unbeaten Livonia Churchill tuned up for its big KLAA South Division football showdown next week at Canton by rolling to 52-0 victory Friday night at Wayne Memorial.

The Chargers, now 4-0 overall and 2-0 in the division, jumped out to a 24-0 first quarter lead and never looked back against the Zebras, who have lost 25 straight dating back to the 2009 season.

Junior Malik Johnson rushed for a team-high 124 yards on nine carries, including touchdown runs of 40 and 11 yards.

Senior Romello also scored a pair of TDs on runs of 5 and 3 yards. He finished with 60 yards on

13 attempts. Senior quarterback Seth Suida completed 8-of-11 passes for 110 yards, including a 22-yard TD pass to Robert Foster, Jr.

Suida also scored on a 12-yard run, while Foster added an 11-yard TD run. Sophomore kicker Brian Alsbrooks booted a 25-yard second-quarter field goal.

The Chargers had a total of 352 yards, including 240 on the ground. Wayne (0-4, 0-2) was limited to 28 net yards and lost three fumbles. The Zebras had minus-34 yards rushing.

Defensively, Mike Tanana led the way with 10 tackles, while Dwayne

Scott added two interceptions and a fumble recovery. Johnny Shatter chipped in with a pick and a fumble recovery as well.

Wayne quarterback Rashad Haley was 3-of-10 for 62 yards.

Rockets routed

Devon Spalding had the lone Westland John Glenn touchdown in a 51-6 KLAA South Division setback Friday to visiting Canton.

Spalding scored on an 80-yard run in the second period to cut the deficit to 28-6.

Canton, which jumped out to a 44-6 halftime lead, racked up a total of 404 yards including 356

yards on the ground. Charles Turfe scored three TDs for the Chiefs (3-1, 3-0) including runs of 7, 31 and 8 yards. He finished with 140 yards on 12 carries.

Malcolm Hollingsworth, who added 128 yards on 19 attempts, added TD runs of 16 and 5 yards.

Quarterback Greg Williams also hit tight end Scott Gring with an 11-yard TD pass and Connor Shennan added a 37-yard field goal to end the half.

Glenn had a total of 174 yards with 170 coming on the ground led by Spalding (3-for-86) and Thomas Carter (4-for-49).

PATS

Continued from page B1

it was set up by a 39-yard third-and-long run by Joe McRobb.

With the Patriots driving on their first possession of the second quarter, Emminger came up with a huge play when he scooped up a Franklin fumble and raced 68 yards for the Wildcats' second TD.

Josh Dennard created the turnover when he popped the ball - and the helmet - loose from Franklin ball carrier Jesse McCall. Bobby Deeg's second straight extra point made it 14-3 in favor of the Wildcats with 3:38 left.

"I was just playing my reads on defense," said Emminger, who is a three-year varsity starter. "I got a good block from my friend Josh (Dennard). I saw it out of the corner of my eye and I was gone after that."

"It was laying on the ground and I just saw it and just picked it up. My buddies came to me after and said: 'You always seem to be in the right spot at the right time.' It's like a joke, but it's true."

Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk has grown accustomed to seeing big plays from Emminger.

"I know we hit the back real hard and his helmet popped off," the Plymouth coach said. "Any time he (Emminger) is around the ball that's a good thing."

Franklin, however, got the ball back and marched 80 yards in 10 plays capped by a Jimmy Mazaris 3-yard TD run with only 13 seconds left in the half.

Plymouth aided the drive with three untimely penalties including roughing the passer, defensive holding and a blow to the head - all resulting in Franklin first downs.

Despite leading 14-10, the Wildcats had the ball during the first half for only 4 minutes and 8 seconds. They



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Franklin's Joe McRobb (28) stiff-arms Plymouth tackler Mike Kennedy (2) during first-half action.

ran only eight first-half offensive plays, including just one in the second period.

Meanwhile, the Patriots had a total of 37 plays.

"We usually average three or four penalties a game and apparently we had a lot of penalties in the first half that kept their drives going," Sawchuk said. "We played sloppy. I'll evaluate the film and see what went on. We talked about the adversity, keeping your cool and your composure, coming back in the second half and playing Wildcat football."

The pivotal play of the second half came with 8:41 to go in the third quarter when Franklin coach Chris Kelbert elected to go for it on fourth-and-three from his own 42.

But the Patriots fumbled the snap and Dennard recovered lifting the Wildcats to 23 straight points, which started with a 1-yard TD run by Mike Kennedy followed by a two-point safety (when the snap sailed over Castillo's head) - both coming in the third period.

The Wildcats put it away with a

pair of fourth-quarter TDs on runs of 5 yards (by Emminger) and 9 yards (by Stefan Turrentine).

The Franklin coach refused to second-guess himself about going for it again on fourth down inside his own 50.

"They hadn't stopped a run all first half," Kelbert added. "It was there. We just didn't execute that play. It was the short yardage (play) we've been running all year long. The quarterback fumbled the snap, just poor execution."

But it was the fumble return by Emminger that helped keep Plymouth ahead for keeps. Franklin was called for offensive holding on the play, but Kelbert thought it was a face mask flag.

"They ripped his helmet (McCall's) off," the Franklin coach said. "When the helmet comes off, the ball is dead. Who knows? We thought they were calling a face mask and the play should have been dead ... whatever. That's the way it goes."

Franklin had 206 yards rushing with the tandem of McRobb and Mazaris gaining 98 and 95, respectively. The Patriots only completed 1-of-7 passes for eight yards with one interception (by Jared Davis).

"Too many mistakes," Kelbert said. "We didn't take advantage of some opportunities in the second half. Just critical, critical mistakes. They got the momentum and it just kind of snowballed. And we just kept making mistakes in the second half that we didn't make in the first half."

Plymouth quarterback Jamarl Eiland was 5-of-8 for 66 yards. The Wildcats had a total of 165 on the ground.

"We've got a lot of kids on this team that are starting to grow up and be unselfish players," Sawchuk said. "And if we can play together as a team, who knows?"

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**SPORTS ROUNDUP**

**Pom pon clinic**

The Livonia Churchill varsity pom team will host a clinic for girls ages 6-14 from 9:30 a.m.-noon Saturday, Sept. 29 at the high school gym.

The cost is \$30 (includes T-shirt, music C.D. and snack).

Registration begins at 9 a.m. Participation is limited and you must register by Sept. 12.

For more information, or to register, call Sherri Carpenter at (313) 268-3302; or Gina Barden at (734) 891-5401.

**Run, bike, golf**

Tami's Tri, a 5-kilometer run, 20K bike and 9-hole scramble golf event will be from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier Road, Superior Township.

The cost is \$65 (through Sept. 15) or \$75 (through race day). Included in the cost is a free golf clinic conducted by PGA professional Tami Bealert at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, at Hickory Creek. Tami's Tri includes gift pack, prizes and lunch included. Space is limited to 144 golfers.

Proceeds will go to the non-profit organization Growth Works, Inc. of Canton and Plymouth.

To RSVP, e-mail TrainWithTami@yahoo.com. For more information,

call (734) 731-0238; or visit [www.TrainWithTami.com](http://www.TrainWithTami.com).

**Churchill Softball**

The Livonia Churchill girls softball program will stage a benefit golf outing Sunday, Sept. 30 at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 Seven Mile Road, Livonia.

Check-in for the four-person scramble is 7:30 a.m. with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start.

The cost is \$75 (includes golf, cart, lunch and dinner). Dinner only is \$20. Also included are longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests, 50-50 raffle, door prizes and silent auction.

For more information, call George Salloum at (734) 558-1150; or email [gasal2112@yahoo.com](mailto:gasal2112@yahoo.com).

You can also call Roger Garvin at (248) 890-4506; or email [raragar@aol.com](mailto:raragar@aol.com).

**Churchill Fun Run**

The Churchill Family 5-Kilometer Fun Run will be at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 10 with the start at the high school parking lot.

There will also be a 1-mile 10-and-under fun run. (Donation is a can of pet food.)

The pre-register cost is \$12 (ages 13-18) and \$15 (adults). Race day fees are \$15 and \$20, respec-

tively. Family of four can pre-register for \$45.

To ensure a race T-shirt, register by Oct. 21 online at [www.chs-cap.com](http://www.chs-cap.com).

For more information, call the Churchill athletic office at (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

**Archery range**

Registration to obtain a pass for the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation archery range is under way at the Parks and Recreation desk, located at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia.

The range will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays (through October); 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays (through October); 4 p.m. until dusk, Tuesdays and Thursday, September-October.

Resident season pass rates are \$25 (individual); \$35 (two members); \$45 (three members); and \$55 (four or more members).

Non-resident season passes are available for \$40 (individual); \$50 (two); \$60 (three) and \$70 (four or more).

Daily resident rates are \$4 (adult) and \$2 (17-and-under). Non-resident daily fees are \$6 (adult) and \$4 (17-and-under).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

**COLLEGE SOCCER**

**Lady Ocelots settle for 2-2 draw**

The Schoolcraft College women's soccer team couldn't hold a 2-0 halftime advantage Wednesday as host Jackson Community College earned a 2-2 draw in a double-overtime match that lasted 110 minutes.

The Lady Ocelots jumped out to a 2-0 lead on goals by Anthoula Papaioannou, on a beautiful shot from 25 yards out, followed by Sydney Popiel's 20-yard blast.

The Jets stormed back on goals by Sommer Groendyk and Taylor Richardson with both assists going to Brenna Williams.

"We became complacent in the second half and ended up making mistakes in the back and Jackson to their credit took full advantage," said Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivrarnan, whose team stands 4-3-1 overall and 1-1-1 in NJCAA Region XI. "We were able to keep the pressure all through double-overtime

periods, but came up short."

Schoolcraft goalkeeper Tara Gessler made four saves.

"It is an maturity issue with our players," Shivrarnan said. "Collectively we have to do better in holding the lead and not make errors that are costly. This is definitely something that we will learn from and move forward."

Jackson is 2-2-1 overall and 1-1-1 in the Region XII.

**ROBERTS WESLEYAN (N.Y.) 2, MADONNA 1:** In Friday's opening round of the Lady Cougar Classic in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Brittany Kinmond scored a pair of goals as Roberts Wesleyan University (6-2) got past Madonna University (2-3).

Kinmond broke a 1-1 tie when she scored the game-winner with only 11:20 remaining. She also added a penalty kick in the 32nd minute.

MU's Ashley Parent tied the game 2:15 into the second half off an assist from Amanda Ferrick.

Roberts Wesleyan goalkeeper Breana Maggio made eight saves, while MU's Blaire Schmalenberg had seven stops.

**Kubiak engineers 28-7 C'ville victory**

It was a big night for the Livonia Clarenceville football team and quarterback Zach Kubiak.

The Trojans compiled 478 yards in total offense Friday in a 28-7 victory over visiting Rochester Hills Lutheran North-west.

Kubiak, a senior, connected on 10-of-16 passes for 227 yards and two touchdowns including a 10-yard toss to Austin Douglass in the first quarter and a 56-yard strike to Kimani Dooley in the third period.

Kubiak also rushed for 66 yards on nine carries as the Trojans improved to 3-1 overall.

James Hill added TD

runs of 2 yards (second quarter) and 33 yards (final period) to cap the Clarenceville scoring.

Hill finished with a game-high 108 yards rushing on 14 carries.

Clarenceville's top receivers on the night were Douglass (3-for-59) and Dooley (2-for-65).

Northwest (2-2) averted the shutout late in the final quarter when Nathan Drews threw a 35-yard scoring pass.

The Crusaders had 280 yards in total offense with Drews hitting 13-of-32 passes for 149 yards and one interception (by Devin Howell.) Northwest added 131 on the ground.

**GIRLS GOLF RESULTS**

**DUAL MATCH RESULTS**  
**SOUTH LYON EAST 187**  
**LIVONIA STEVENSON 188**  
Sept. 13 at Links of Novi

**East scorers:** Elena Moore and Abbey Bullock, 44 each (tri-medalist); Molly Young, 49; Sydney Jones and Kyleigh Marshall, 50 each; Zoe Brown, 55.

**Stevenson scorers:** Laura Shureb, 44 (tri-medalist); Kelsey Duntley, 47; Jessica Crachiola, 48; Alyssa Blaszkiewicz, 49; Danielle Marzec, 51; Mary Peltz, 53.

**Dual match records:** East, 2-4 overall, 2-4 KLA Central Division; Stevenson, 2-4 overall, 2-4 KLA Central.

**CANTON 195**  
**LIVONIA CHURCHILL 218**  
Sept. 12 at Hilltop G.C.

**Canton scorers:** Madelyn Mans, 46; Kelsey McDougall, 47; Chloe Luyet and Rachel Pisano, 51 each; Alyce Krumm, 53; Kayla Lagola, 61.

**Churchill scorers:** Jackie Burdette, 44 (medalist); Maggie McGowan, 53; Katie Shereda, 60; Claire Rose, 61; Taylor Cutting, 64; Maddie Spooner, 65.

**Dual match records:** Canton, 3-1 overall, 3-1 KLA South Division; Churchill, 2-2 overall, 2-2 KLA South.

**PLYMOUTH 188**  
**WESTLAND GLENN 252**  
Sept. 12 at Fox Hills G.C.

**Plymouth scorers:** Katie Chipman, 43 (medalist); Ariana Strzalka, 46; Aliana Strzalka, 49; Justine Berry, 50.

**John Glenn scorers:** Olivia Cabildo, 47; Haley Arai, 51; Lindsey Croskey, 73; Jaret Allen, 81.

**Dual match records:** Plymouth, 9-0 overall, 5-0 KLA South Division; John Glenn, 0-4 overall, 0-4 KLA South.

**SPARTANS**

Continued from page B1

ended with Garcia finding Brock Oostmeyer all alone as coverage broke down for a 35-yard score. The point-after was good, leaving South Lyon down five.

After a Stevenson field-goal attempt fell short, South Lyon took over at its own 20 with 2:51 to play.

The Lions roared to the Stevenson 20 in six plays. A sack on second down by Ferrera left South Lyon with third-and-20. One play later, the tipped

ball dropped South Lyon to 2-2, 0-2.

Ferrera finished with 16 carries for 87 yards and a score. Mims connected on 11-of-21 passes for 162 yards. Kelly was the hot receiver with six catches for 111 yards.

"We've been working hard to stay in games and win games and it's been close pretty much every time," Fielder said. "The first thing I said to the group (after the game) is that was the defense's game. The offense moved the ball, but couldn't put it in the end zone. The defense had a very good game, to say the least."

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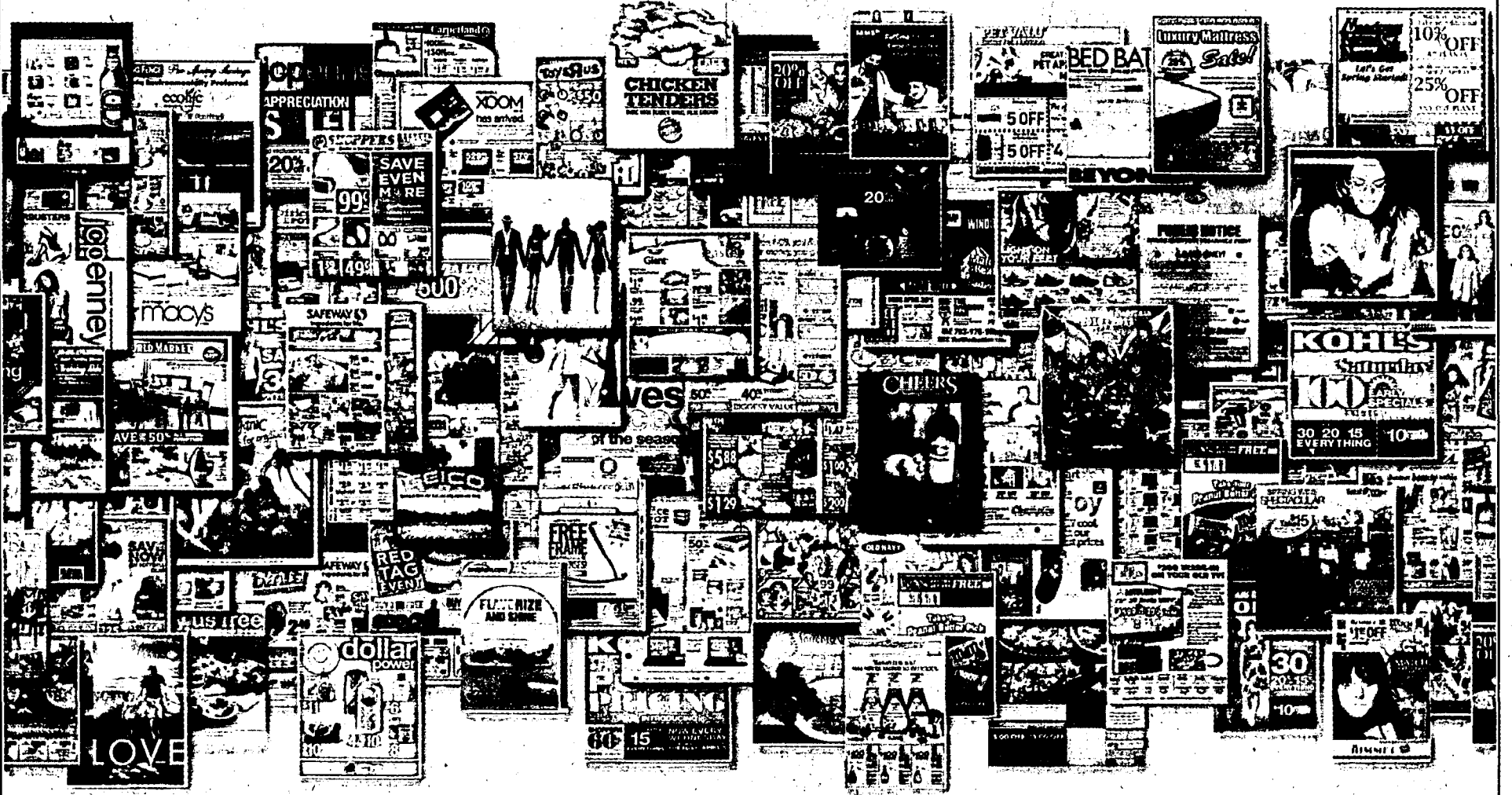
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## Politics and religion

### Author examines faith of 12 presidents

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Gerald Ford was the most spiritual of the post-World War II presidents. Richard Nixon and John F. Kennedy ranked dead last.

And although President Barack Obama attends church infrequently, he's inarguably a Christian — not a Muslim.

At least, that's the way author David Holmes sizes up a few of the most recent 12 commanders in chief. Holmes, who visited several libraries in the Detroit Metro area last week, devoted six years of research to the presidents' religious views, upbringing, education, church-going habits and influence of their faith on policy, for his new book, *Faiths of the Postwar Presidents*.

Lynn Ehrle of Plymouth, who calls the book a "must read for history buffs and presidential scholars," introduced Holmes, his childhood friend and fellow Redford High School graduate, to an audience of approximately two dozen individuals Wednesday at the Plymouth District



Holmes

#### Library.

Holmes, 80, who holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Princeton, recently retired after 40 years of teaching and is the Walter G. Mason Professor of Religious Studies Emeritus at the College of William and Mary, in Virginia. He has won numerous awards, including the Outstanding Faculty Award of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Graves Award for Sustained Excellence in Teaching, the Society of the Alumni Teaching Award and the Thomas Jefferson Award, the highest award given to an administrator or professor at William and Mary. His books include *A Brief History of the Episcopal Church*, *A Nation*

*Mourns, The Life of the Reverend Devereux Jarratt and The Faiths of the Founding Fathers*, which looked at the spiritual beliefs of Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and other early Americans.

#### Three more sessions

Holmes wraps up his book tour for *Faiths of the Postwar Presidents* with a lecture and signing at 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17 at the Ypsilanti City Library, 5577 Whittaker Road Ypsilanti Township; 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17, at the Ann Arbor Public Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor; and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lake Shore Drive, (Jefferson Ave.)



between Cadieux and Moross in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Holmes focused on Harry Truman, Nixon and Obama's 20-year relationship with the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, pastor of the Trinity United Church of Christ, for the Plymouth audience. He summarized his research on the other nine leaders and said he preferred to stay away from religious issues relating to the current election.

But, when John Eason of Ann Arbor asked about the role of religion in the 2012 presidential campaigns, Holmes said "Religion has not played a role in it that church historians at one time thought it would."

"Why do so many people continue to believe Obama is Muslim?" asked Elaine Hovey of Plymouth Township.

"They don't use primary sources. They deal in hearsay. They don't want to study both sides of the issue. They don't like

Obama," he responded. "But I put blame also on Obama's plate. We rarely see him going to church."

He added that Obama's "faith advisors send him daily devotions and he says he reads them."

While working as a community organizer in Chicago, Ill., Obama attended Trinity United Church of Christ, heard Jeremiah Wright preach and was introduced to Christ.

"Wright's sermon and his church transformed Obama from being a secular humanist to becoming first a fellow traveler for several years in Christianity and then a baptized member of the Trinity congregation," Holmes noted.

Holmes said Mormonism — Mitt Romney's faith — clearly is not a Protestant denomination.

"While there's nothing in Mormonism that is threatening to people, there are some beliefs that Mormons hold that most Americans don't know

about that would cause them to scratch their heads about what Romney believes."

Holmes said opinions vary on Mormonism's relationship to Christianity.

"You have to start with saying it's true Christianity, because that is the claim it makes. If we don't call it the true church, then we call it either Heretodox Christianity — that means sloped to heresy, that it has introduced new doctrines that Christians maybe should have known about but they didn't — or it's a world religion."

When George Lovich of Canton asked which president Holmes would choose if he had to pick one "forever," the author paused and reflected on the 12 profiled in his book.

"The one person who came to my mind I don't agree with some of his policies," Holmes said. "I wouldn't want to make that choice. I guess that's why we don't have kings."

## A quick look at faith and 12 presidents

Here's some of what David Holmes told an audience at the Plymouth District Library about post-World War II presidents and their faith:

• Harry Truman — "Truman described himself as ... a Baptist that is not adverse to dancing, or card-playing or theater-going or drink-

ing or swearing." Holmes said Truman liked church and believed in going to church, but began to

Please see FAITH, B9

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# Get samples, prizes at Ladies Night Out

Mark your calendar for Thursday Sept. 27, for Ladies Night Out in downtown Plymouth. The event, which runs 5-9 p.m., is designed for women to enjoy an evening on the town with friends. They will visit participating stores and enjoy shopping, gifts, samples, prizes and refreshments. Several restaurants also will offer special drinks, appetizers and more.

Participating stores this year include: Agio Spa; Basket Kreations; Bella Mia; Bed & Boutique; Candy Trail; Creatopia Pottery Studio; Cupcake Station; Dazzling Daniela; Dearborn Jewelers; Delta Dia-

mond Setters & Jewelers; Eclectic Attic; Genuine Toy Co.; GiGi's Mode; Hands on Leather; Home Sweet Home; Isabella's Copper Pot; Kilwin's; Lolaryan; Maggie & Me; Magnolia Fresh Flower Market; Merle Norman; Old World Olive Press; Opndohr; R.S.V.P.; Sharer Design Group; sideways; Simply the Best; Sun & Snow; Sunny J's Lingerie; That's Awesome/Primp and TranquilTea.

Back by popular demand, Mr. 48170 will hand out roses to the first 500 women, courtesy of Ribar Floral.

For more information about Ladies Night Out call (734) 453-1540.



A family finds a new member at Meet Your Best Friends at the Zoo, an annual adoption event presented by the Michigan Humane Society, the Detroit Zoological Society and other animal rescue organizations.

## TOUR FOLLOWS HISTORIC RAILWAY'S ROUTE

The Oakland County Historical Commission, Oakland County Parks and Recreation, and the Farmington Historical Society will present "Oakland County Rode the Rails," a bus tour retracing two main routes of the Detroit United Railway, Saturday, Oct. 6.

The tour will run from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and costs \$30 per person, including lunch at Dick O'Dow's Irish Pub in Birmingham. Reservations are required.

Participants will travel two of the main routes of the interurban line that once served thousands of rail commuters in Oakland County. They'll hear from authors and railway historians about the interurban and its importance to local communities and will learn about the historic buildings that served the railway and the communities that thrived along the rail

routes.

The tour will begin and end in Farmington at the site of the historic Botsford Inn, travel north through Royal Oak to Pontiac and back through the lakes area of central Oakland County.

Brian Golden, a member of the Oakland County Historical Commission and author of *Farmington Junction, a Trolley History* will be joined along the route by Helen Jane Peters, who will talk about the Sylvan Lake Inn, and Kenneth Schramm, author of *Detroit's Street Railway*, who will share his extensive knowledge of the D.U.R. Ticketholders will receive a tour booklet providing additional, supplemental information about the railway system.

For more information or to buy tour tickets, call Golden, tour conductor, at (248) 701-8112.

## Find a new furry friend, get one vaccinated

It's almost time to "Meet Your Best Friend" at the Detroit Zoo.

The Detroit Zoological Society and Michigan Humane Society, in collaboration with more than 20 local animal welfare organizations, will present the annual fall adoption event — now in its 20th year — from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 22-23 at the zoo, located at 10 Mile (I-696 service drive) and Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak.

Hundreds of dogs, cats, puppies and kittens will be available for adoption to loving homes. Also, a number of additional breed-specific rescue groups will be on-hand providing information to potential adopters about the breeds they represent. For a full listing, visit [www.michiganhumane.org/zoo](http://www.michiganhumane.org/zoo).

Puppies are often in high demand and can lead to tent overcrowding, which is why special MHS "puppy passes" will be given each morning to the first 25 adoption event guests who are looking specifically to adopt a puppy. Those with a puppy pass will be allowed to enter the adoption tents at 9:45 a.m. A get acquainted area will be offered to give guests an opportunity to spend time with an animal.

There is no charge for admission or parking for the event. Adoption fees and policies are set by each participating group and not by event hosts or sponsors. Animals will be adopted only to qualified homes. Adopters must present a valid driver's license or state ID card. All dogs and cats will have received a medical check-up and age-appropriate vaccinations. For health and safety reasons, visitors should leave current companion animals at home.



For more information, visit the MHS website at [www.michiganhumane.org](http://www.michiganhumane.org) or call (866) 648-6263.

**Low-cost vaccinations**

Livonia-based Tail Waggers 1990 will vaccination clinics in Inkster, Beverly Hills and Ypsilanti this month.

Distemper, rabies and bordetella vaccines are \$12 each or \$30 for all three. Microchipping also will be available. No appointment is necessary.

Clinics will be held 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Sept.

16, at Pet Suite Retreat, 26245 Michigan Ave., Inkster; 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, at Premier Pet Supply, 31215 Southfield Road, Beverly Hills; and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at Norton's Flower and Gifts, 2900 Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti.

RSVP by calling Tail Waggers 1990 at (734) 560-4660 or e-mail to [vaccinationclinic@yahoo.com](mailto:vaccinationclinic@yahoo.com).

Tail Waggers 1990 also offers a low-cost spay/neuter program. All dogs and puppies, regardless of weight, cost \$85 and cats and kittens cost \$45. The group recommends that all animals be at least six months of age. Spay/neuter services are done at a local, private veterinarian hospital with arrangements being made through the Tail Waggers office at (734) 855-4077. The Tail Waggers office is located at 28402 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster; [www.tailwaggers1990.org](http://www.tailwaggers1990.org).

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## GARDEN & NATURE

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com).

**Butterflies**

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA) will show the film *The Monarch, a Butterfly Beyond Borders*, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 19, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. This presentation shows what still is unknown about the Monarch's various habitats. Parking on Hines Drive. or Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 for non-members. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit [www.sembabutterfly.com](http://www.sembabutterfly.com).

**English Gardens**

Create a spring garden that you'll force into bloom at a "Make It & Take It" workshop for kids, 11:30 a.m., Sat-

urday, Sept. 22. Fee is \$5. Register at [englishgardens.com](http://englishgardens.com).

- Learn about landscape design, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. Free
- Get tips on pruning, 10 a.m. Saturday Oct. 6. Free
- Find out about the latest trends in seasonal indoor decorating 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 13. Free
- Youngsters, 3-12, can make a terrarium filled with tropical plants in a "Make It & Take It Workshop" 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13. Fee is \$10. Sign up online at [englishgardens.com](http://englishgardens.com).

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506.

# SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

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

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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# Lupus, vet care walks in works

The Lupus Alliance of America's, 18th Annual Metro Walk for Lupus is set for Saturday, Sept. 29 at Lake St. Clair Metro Park in Harrison Township.

Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the walk will begin at 11:15 a.m.

The route is designed for people of all ages and abilities. Walkers with more than \$75 in pledges will receive a T-shirt. Participants can build their teams at mlupus.org.

The event will include food, giveaways, and the Red Wings Experience.

Proceeds from the walk will enable the Lupus Alliance to provide monthly support groups, community outreach programs, patient advocacy at state and national levels and research advancements.

For walk, pledge or sponsorship information call The Lupus Alliance office at (800) 705-6677 or visit online at www.mlupus.org.



### Vet care

Run Wild for the Detroit Zoo kicks off with a 5K run at 8 a.m., followed by a 10K run at 8:45 p.m. and an untimed 1.5-mile fun walk at 9 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 16, at the Detroit Zoo.

Register outside the Detroit Zoo admission gates at the event. For more information, visit www.detroitzoo.org/run-wild.

# Authors to sign books at annual luncheon

The Metro Detroit Book & Author Society will offer humor, drama and athletic competition at its fall luncheon at Burton Manor in Livonia.

The book lunch will be held at noon, Monday, Oct. 15 at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft at I-96, in Livonia, and features lunch, book sales and the opportunity to have books signed by the authors.

The authors are: Chris Elliott — The Emmy-winning actor, comedian and writer has penned three books spoofing history or pseudo-history, including Jack the Ripper. His new book, *The Guy Under the Sheets: An Unauthorized Autobiography*, is a behind-the-scenes memoir "so personal, so provocative, that Elliott nearly sued himself to halt publication."

Chris Cleave — An English newspaper columnist, he is the author of the #1 international bestseller *Little Bee*, which is being adapted for the movies by Nicole Kidman. His new novel, *Gold*, set around the 2012 Summer Olympics, pits two female athletes, close friends, in a test of their physical and emo-

tional limits. Stewart O'Nan — The author of more than a dozen novels, screenplays and nonfiction works, his new novel is "The Odds." It is the story of a man and woman standing at the edge of divorce and bankruptcy, trying to decide if the difficulty of the unknown outweighs the pain of the familiar.

Joanne Harris — Born to a French mother and an English father in her grandparents' sweet shop, her family life was reflected in her international bestseller *Chocolat*. Her new novel *Peaches for Father Francis*, returns to the scene of *Chocolat* with a tale centered on a mysterious Muslim woman.

Scott Lasser — A Detroit native and novelist, his new novel is *Say Nice Things About Detroit*. It is both a love story and a tale about the complicated urban politics of the 21st century and finding hope in a ravaged city.

Tickets are \$30. Books sales open at 11 a.m. To buy tickets see the ticket request form at the society's web site, bookand-author.info.



## FAITH

Continued from page B7

avoid it when he became president because tourists would attend services just to watch him.

• Dwight Eisenhower — He was baptized upon becoming president, joined the Presbyterian Church, and led a national religious revival. "There is every indication that his faith was genuine."

• John F. Kennedy — "Research revealed him to be even more secular than I assumed," Holmes said. "One story ... it turns out Jackie complained to a reporter during the 1960 campaign that she felt it unfair people were holding her husband's religion against him. After all, she told the reporter, he's such a poor Catholic."

• Lyndon Johnson — His background was Southern Baptist, although he chose to go to the Disciples of Christ church as a youngster. He rarely attended church until he became president. "Then he started attending regularly, sometimes three times a Sunday," Holmes noted. "LBJ needed to be around people and church was where people could be found."

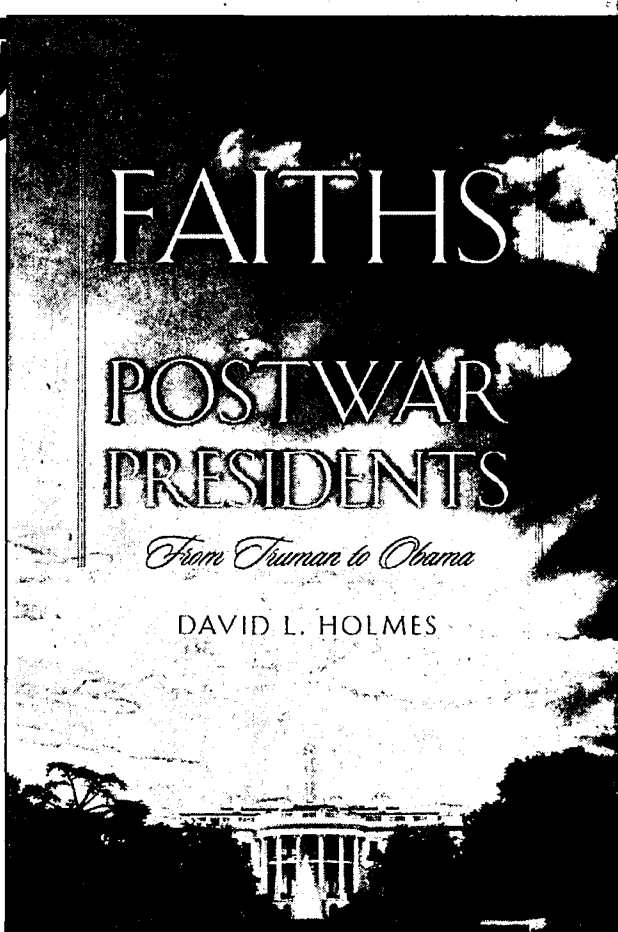
Richard Nixon — He became known for holding Sunday services in the White House, but in a college paper, at age 21, he wrote that he no longer believed in the Biblical miracles or divinity of Christ. Years later, he reaffirmed that view saying "One can be a good Christian without necessarily believing in the physical resurrection of Jesus. Holmes called him a "closet Unitarian."

• Gerald Ford — "A major surprise was that he turned out to be such a deeply religious man." He was raised as an Episcopalian.

• Jimmy Carter — "No surprises. The progressive Evangelical Southern Baptist we saw, was the progressive Evangelical Southern Baptist we got."

• Ronald Reagan — "I found Reagan's religion, to my surprise, to be absolutely authentic. He was the youth leader in his church in Illinois... he (dated) for 13 years the daughter of his pastor," Holmes noted. "In later years he retained the faith of his Protestant mother but adopted the poor church attendance of his lapsed Catholic father."

• George H.W. Bush — He was raised in a highly



David L. Holmes, author of "The Faiths of the Postwar Presidents," is speaking at area libraries.

religious home and never departed from that path.

• Bill Clinton — "There seem to be two Bill Clintons. The first is the hedonistic Bill Clinton and the second, the Sunday morning Bill Clinton. These two men don't seem to know each other and if introduced, they would deny the other existed."

• George W. Bush — Holmes said Bush read evangelical material and surrounded himself with

evangelical advisors, but attended "main line Protestant" churches because his wife "is not all that comfortable with evangelical churches."

• Barack Obama — "After research I have little doubt that Obama's conversion to Christianity in his mid-20s was authentic. He was baptized. He had his two children baptized. Today, his half-sister, a Buddhist, says flatly, 'the man is a Christian.'"

## REUNIONS

### DEARBORN HEIGHTS ROBICHAUD

**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 attend. 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.

### DETROIT MACKENZIE

**CLASSES FROM 1950-69**  
Second annual picnic noon-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines park, located at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive in Westland. Bring your own picnic or purchase Michigan-made hot dogs, chips, pop, water and ice cream at the event. Seating will be available under the shelter, or bring your own chairs. No need to pre-register. Call Janet Cable at (734) 377-4009 or e-mail mackenzie50s-60s@hotmail.com.

### DETROIT WESTERN

**CLASS OF 1962**  
Looking for classmates from January and June classes for 50th class reunion Saturday, Sept. 22, at Western Golf and Country Club, Redford. Cost is \$62 per person. Other weekend activities include tour of school, evening icebreaker and Sunday

brunch. For information call Judy Alegnani Murray, (313) 399-0507, Judy Hull Rakowski, (734) 459-3832, Helen Knight Tucker, (734) 285-4927 or Ralph Brighton, (734) 513-7499.

### FARMINGTON HARRISON

**CLASS OF 1982**  
Saturday - Nov. 24 - 7 p.m. - 1 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 24, at Uptown Grille, in Commerce Township; www.hhs1982alumni.info

### FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

**CLASS OF 1962**  
The 50th class reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 22, at Farmington Hills Holiday Inn, 37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills; (248) 477-7800. The \$60 per person cost includes a welcome reception from 2-5 p.m. and an evening dinner dance with cash bar. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7

p.m. Reservations deadline is Sept. 1. For more information call Michele Cook Hoffmeyer at (602) 290-6006 or e-mail to russmichele@yahoo.com. Check Classmates and Facebook FHS Class of 62 Reunion pages for more information.

### GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST

**CLASSES OF 1968-1973**  
Reunion Sept. 22. Looking for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on facebook. Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wowway.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stas-selmyer@charter.net, Suzie Wright Rogiero at suziewright@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalfut at jackiedeson@gmail.com or Jeff Fordell at jeffreyfordell@comcast.net.

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Of course, in time, strain on the other joints becomes intolerable and the patient must come to the physician for therapy for the elbow. The doctor has several options. One is to put the arm in a sling and rest the elbow; the problem is that such treatment renders the whole arm useless. Another alternative is to increase the patient's arthritis medicine, but often only one elbow is involved and more anti-arthritis medicine may disrupt what is otherwise equilibrium between the body, the medicine and the fluid under treatment.

A third choice is to aspirate any excess fluid from the elbow joint and then inject a cortisone preparation to forestall the return of inflammation. Doctors usually turn to this option as experience indicates that in most instances the elbow recovers its utility and pain is slow to return or does not rebound at all. In short, doctors can treat elbow arthritis just as ably as they do arthritis of the shoulder, wrist, hand, knee or foot.

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**ALLEN, DOUG**  
11/4/1970 - 9/9/2012  
Doug is survived by his brothers, Michael Allen and Tim Allen. His sister Donna Young and his son Kyle Allen. Much laughter and love!!!!

**HOUSEMAN,  
WALTER R.**

Age 85. September 10, 2012. Survived by sons Guy Derek and Brian Clay and long time companion Isabelle Trynovich. Services were private and entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Redford, MI. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



**MILLER (HYDE),  
MARGARET  
MARIANNE**

90, died peacefully in the night Sept. 12. She was born in Detroit, Michigan, on July 14, 1922, the eldest child of Harold and Annie Claire (Jessop) Hyde. Margaret grew up in Detroit, graduating from Mackenzie High School in 1940. In 1944 she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Wayne University, where she was a reporter and editor for The Collegian campus newspaper. She married Joe Ted Miller on March 27, 1953, and they made their home in Farmington, Michigan, raising four daughters. Margaret participated actively in her children's school and social activities, and their home was one of security, encouragement and love. Margaret and Joe retired to Sarasota, Florida, in 1983, and spent many years walking the beach, enjoying the area's cultural activities, and traveling. In 2004, they moved to Bryan, Texas, to be near family, and Margaret came to Washington seven years later. Margaret worked for the Associated Press in Detroit before her marriage, and as her last child entered school she joined the staff of the Farmington Enterprise, later a part of Observer Newspapers. During her 16 years at the Observer, a chain of weekly newspapers, she worked as a writer and as women's editor, beginning "Woman on the Go," which featured women in interesting careers and volunteer work, and creating "m.m.memos," a column about her own family life. During her retirement she did free-lance writing for several publications. Margaret was a member of the Women of Wayne alumni association, and the Sarasota Branch of the American Association of University Women, editing the AAUW newsletter and participating actively in its fundraising, educational work and social groups. She also led an award-winning macrame and basket-making class for the visually-impaired in Sarasota for many years. Her faith communities included Brewster-Pilgrim and Mayflower Congregational Churches, First United Methodist of Farmington and Newburg United Methodist Churches, all in Michigan; Trinity, United Methodist and First Presbyterian Churches in Sarasota; and First Christian Church in Bryan. Margaret enjoyed playing bridge and attending plays, sewing and quilting and needlepoint, talking politics and playing Scrabble. She sang in church choirs and community choruses, and listened to classical music throughout her life. She participated in Campfire Girls as a child, and cheered for the Detroit Tigers far into retirement; she hosted dinner parties in Michigan, helped save turtle nests in Florida, and sang with the Ukus music group in Texas. Her mind stored long poems and all the verses of many hymns, her heart carried family histories and stories. She enjoyed watching Big Ten football, swimming and playing tennis, and reading good novels and biographies. She was a remarkable writer. She made and kept close friendships all through her life, and especially treasured times spent with her grandchildren, in whom she took tremendous pride. Her generous spirit, her integrity and open mind and commitment to social justice, her joy in life and her love for her family, will always be remembered. Margaret leaves four daughters, Mary Miller and her husband Mike Swallow, of Oakfield, Maine; Barbara Staniszecki and her husband Gary, of Shelby Township, Michigan; Katherine Miller and her husband James Stiff, of Phoenix, Arizona; and Ann Anderson and her husband Gary, of Covington, Washington. She also leaves five grandchildren, Katherine Staniszecki of Novato, California; Daniel Staniszecki and his wife Lauren, of Clawson, Michigan; Samantha Anderson and her fiancée Lyle Bush, of Renton, Washington; Monika Anderson of Bellingham, Washington; and Kalena Miller of Northfield, Minnesota. She also leaves several nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her husband, Joe Ted Miller, in 2006; and by her brothers, James Hyde in 2008 and John Hyde in 1983. A memorial service will be held in Michigan at a later date. Donations may be sent to Habitat for Humanity, or the charity of one's choice. The family thanks the staffs of Aegis Living of Kent and Franciscan Hospice Care for their help and care over the past year. Final arrangements are with Edline-Yahn & Covington Funeral Chapel.



**SCHAEFER, EDNA P.**  
Age 81, September 6, 2012. Loving wife of the late Randolph. Beloved mother of Lois (Phil) Pfefferle and William Schaefer. Grandmother of Eric and Steve Pfefferle. Sister of Agnes Frost, Nadine Abshire, Glenda Thomas and Joedith Vincent and the late Lillian Ferrel and Kenneth Vincent. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Humane Society. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



**Abkowitz-Cendrowski**  
Alyssa Kate Abkowitz and Scott Alan Cendrowski plan to wed in September 2012. Ava Chappell will officiate at Granby Ranch mountain and resort in Granby, Colo. The bride-to-be, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Mark D. Abkowitz of Nashville, Tenn., is a reporter at *The Wall Street Journal* in New York City, N.Y., is a graduate of Emory University with a B.A. in anthropology. She earned an M.S. degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.  
Her fiancé, son of Dwight Cendrowski of Ann Arbor and Nancy Migrin of Livonia, is a writer-reporter at *Fortune Magazine* in New York City, N.Y. He graduated with a B.A. in public policy and public administration from Michigan State University, where he received an Evans Scholarship.  
He is the stepson of Greg Migrin of Livonia, and Victoria Cendrowski of Ann Arbor.  
Alyssa, a former *Fortune Magazine* contributor, met her future husband while working at the publication.  
Following the wedding, they will honeymoon in Italy.

**BOCK, JAMES R.**

Age 67. Beloved father of Kelly (Frank), Dear brother of Robert Oakes and Norman Lee Bock. Loving uncle of Kelly Brejak and Tracy. Cherished grandfather of Jonathan Staisil and Samatha Baas. Uncle of Cindy, Lee, Don, Craig, and Catherine. Retired truck driver for Roush.



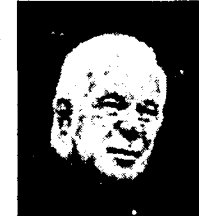
**LEITH,  
(NEE NESWOLD)  
(LOIS) JUNE**

Died peacefully on September 9, 2012 in San Jose, CA of complications from Alzheimer's Disease, age 84. She was the daughter of the late Maynard Neswold and the late Olga Neswold (nee Stoeffhaas), wife of the late Professor Emmett Leith of the University of Michigan, dear mother of Kim Leith of Baltimore and Pam (David) Wilder of San Jose; dear sister of the late Russell Neswold, Nancy Wojcik, and Gerald Neswold; grandmother of Remy, Dana, and Steven Wilder; sister-in-law of Geraldine Burgin, Donna (Don) Maxwell, and Roberta Hagman; aunt to many beloved nieces and nephews. June grew up in Chicago where she attended Funston Elementary School and enjoyed visits with her aunts, whom she missed when her family moved to the Detroit area. She graduated from Northwestern High School in 1946, and later worked for the Jordan Printing Company. She met Emmett Leith in an Arthur Murray dance class; they married Feb. 17, 1956 and lived in Plymouth and Canton with their two daughters, orange tree, turtles, dogs, and holograms. June was very dedicated to raising her daughters and tirelessly transported them to piano and ballet lessons. In her spare time, June enjoyed bowling, quilting, baking, walking with neighbors, playing old time music on her player piano, reading about Norwegian pioneers, and researching the family history. She loved dogs and small children. She worked at Country Corners Nursery School for twenty-two years, and loved to care for her former students. A Funeral Service was held on Saturday, September 15, 2012, from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Graveside were held at Forest Hill Cemetery in Ann Arbor.  
Memorial donations may be made to either the Newberry Library in Chicago (<http://www.newberry.org>) or the Alzheimer's Activity Center in San Jose (<http://alzdaycare.org>).  
Share memories at [schrader-howell.com](http://www.schrader-howell.com)



**FLUEHR,  
JANET M.**

Died September 8, 2012. Age 81, of Traverse City and formerly of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, passed away peacefully Saturday, September 8th, in Traverse City. Janet was born on June 24, 1931 to the late Roy and Janet "Jay" (Slaght) Deucher in Bay City, Michigan. Janet was brought up in Bay City and graduated from T.L. Handy High School. During her High School years she met Kuhlman Fluehr at the Bay City Players drama productions in which both had acting roles. Janet went on to Monticello College in Illinois before attending the prestigious Pasadena Playhouse, California where she earned her degree in acting and directing. She and Kuhlman were married in Carmel, California on April 22, 1955 and enjoyed 56 years of harmonious marriage. Following several years living in Salinas and Pebble Beach, California, they returned to Michigan where they resided in Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills before moving to Traverse City in January 2011. Janet was an imaginative and accomplished artist mostly in oils and acrylics, creating many quality paintings. She was an avid reader and she and Kuhlman enjoyed extensive world travel. She will always be remembered for her ready willingness to help others - sharing her talents and giving of herself in the culinary arts and setting an elegant table. She had a flair for exquisite interior decorating. Janet was a member of the Bloomfield Women's Antiques Group and one of her many interests was the study of antiques. Her home reflected her love of culture. She was a member of the Village Club and a long-time Christian Scientist. Janet was a loving mother, and devoted wife. She is survived by her loving family; her daughter, Janet "Jandy", son-in-law, James T "Jim" Cooley; son, Glenn Fluehr; daughter-in-law "Paulina"; four grandchildren, Paige and Tanner Cooley, Heather "Tiffany" and Victoria Fluehr; brother and sister-in-law, David and Janet Meynell Fluehr and many nephews, nieces and friends. She was preceded in death by the love of her life, her husband Kuhlman Fluehr on September 27, 2011. No public memorial service is planned. Memorial contributions may be directed to First Church of Christ, Scientist, Traverse City or The Village Club, Bloomfield Hills, or the charity of one's choice. Please share your thoughts with the family at [www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com](http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com). The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.



**GRAY, GARY H.**

Age 68, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on September 13. He is survived by his loving wife, Peggy. Beloved father of Jeff (Trina), Kelly (Brian Kessler), Cassandra Smith, Gary "Buck" (Bethany), Clancy (Jeremy Horgan). Cherished grandfather of Jade, Colt, Levi, Cooper, Harvey, Clark, and baby Horgan, beloved brother of Gail, and uncle to several nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind his BFF Roscoe. Family will receive friends Sunday 4-7 pm and Monday 4-8 pm with a Rosary service at 7:00 pm at Neely-Turovski Funeral Home, 30200 Five Mile Road in Livonia. A Mass of Christian burial will be held Tuesday 11:00 am at St. Michael's Catholic Church; instate 10:30 am until Mass begins. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. [www.neely-turovski.com](http://www.neely-turovski.com)



**MOELLERING,  
PAUL C.**

Age 91. Beloved husband of 63 years to Evelyn. Loving father of Tom (Dianne) Moellering, Michelle (Gene) Walker and the late Michael Moellering. Dearest grandfather of 8 and great grandfather of 8. Paul was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana and was a World War II veteran. Founder of Arrow Moving and Storage of Livonia. Long time Livonia Rotarian. Retired to Marco Island, Florida before returning to Michigan. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills, Friday at 1:30pm. Memorial contributions may be directed to Concordia Lutheran School, 20805 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Please share a memory at: [www.rggharris.com](http://www.rggharris.com)

**RICHEY,  
VIRGINIA BELL,**

Age 89, formerly of Bradenton Florida, passed away September 10, 2012 at Kingston Residence, Hickory NC where she had lived for the last four years. Virginia was born February 13, 1923 in Detroit Michigan the late Paul Brown Bell and Josephine Morrison Bell. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Collier Richey and a sister Nancy Cavanaugh. Surviving are her two daughters, Diane Hanson of Asheville, NC and Joan Margaret Shea (Joseph) of Lake Orion Michigan, son James Craig Richey (Elise) of Clarkston Michigan, six grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and two great great granddaughters. Memorial service arrangements are pending at this time. Condolences may be made online at [www.hickoryrh.com](http://www.hickoryrh.com). Hickory Funeral Home, Hickory NC is in charge of arrangements.

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you find  
comfort  
in Family  
and  
Friends

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## Milestones

**Abkowitz-Cendrowski**

Alyssa Kate Abkowitz and Scott Alan Cendrowski plan to wed in September 2012. Ava Chappell will officiate at Granby Ranch mountain and resort in Granby, Colo. The bride-to-be, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Mark D. Abkowitz of Nashville, Tenn., is a reporter at *The Wall Street Journal* in New York City, N.Y., is a graduate of Emory University with a B.A. in anthropology. She earned an M.S. degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.  
Her fiancé, son of Dwight Cendrowski of Ann Arbor and Nancy Migrin of Livonia, is a writer-reporter at *Fortune Magazine* in New York City, N.Y. He graduated with a B.A. in public policy and public administration from Michigan State University, where he received an Evans Scholarship.  
He is the stepson of Greg Migrin of Livonia, and Victoria Cendrowski of Ann Arbor.  
Alyssa, a former *Fortune Magazine* contributor, met her future husband while working at the publication.  
Following the wedding, they will honeymoon in Italy.

**Antoniotti-Padfield**

Kate Padfield and Steven Antoniotti were married June 30, 2012, in Twinsburg, Ohio. The Rev. Mark Evans officiated.  
The bride, daughter of Nick and Rosie Padfield of Hudson, Ohio, attended Hudson High School, Miami University, and Logan College of Chiropractic of Missouri. She is employed at Gallagher Chiropractic Group of Indianapolis.  
The groom, son of Steve and Alice Antoniotti of Farmington Hills, attended Brother Rice High School, Miami University and Logan College of Chiropractic of Missouri. He owns PEAK Chiropractic in Fishers, Ind.  
The bride's attendants were Kate Berry of Indianapolis, Ind.; Mary Boland Roberts of Austin, Texas; Laura Boland of Chicago, Ill.; Cara Wagner of London, U.K.; Lidia Sirbu of Indianapolis, Ind.; Aimee Prevallet of Blacksburg, Va.; Ashley Petak of Washington D.C.; and Angela Delaney of San Francisco, Calif. Katelyn, Bella and Sara Antoniotti, nieces of the groom, were flower girls.  
The groom's attendants were Dan Leonard of Westerville, Ohio; Chris Niro of Little Rock, Ark.;



Jeff Day of San Jose, Calif.; Nate Halm of Chicago, Ill.; Chris Antoniotti of Royal Oak, and brother of the groom; Sean Padfield of Indianapolis, Ind. and Ross Padfield of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., both brothers of the bride; and James David Mynhier of Chicago, Ill. Josh and Zach Antoniotti of Royal Oak, nephews of the groom, were their ring bearers.  
A reception was held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Twinsburg, Ohio.  
The couple also took a honeymoon trip to Maroma Beach, Riviera Maya, Mexico.  
They reside in Indianapolis, Ind.

**Mooney-Mayer**

Dennis and Nanci Mooney of Lisle, Ill., formerly of Farmington, announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison Mooney, to Robert Mayer, son of Dennis and Ann Mayer of Okemos.  
The couple met during their time at Michigan State University. Allison, who graduated in 2010 with a degree in early childhood education, teaches first grade near Denver, Colo. Robert, a 2009 graduate with a degree in communications, is employed in the seminar development



unit at Jackson National Life.  
A July 2013 wedding will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, in East Lansing.

## RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com).

**September**

**BETHANY**  
Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 29  
Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east of Inkster Road, Redford  
Details: Admission to this Bethany Together Dance is \$13  
Contact: Loretta at (586) 264-0282

**BIBLE CLASS**  
Time/Date: 10:45 a.m.

Sunday, beginning Sept. 23  
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford  
Contact: (734) 968-3523 or (313) 532-8655.

**BREAKFAST**  
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, Sept. 16  
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland  
Details: French toast, pancakes, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, apple-sauce, coffee, tea, juice and mile. All-you-can-eat breakfast costs \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10  
Contact: (734) 425-4421



## Managing pain

### Wayne State prof researches health of African Americans

By Julie Brown  
O&E Staff Writer

April Vallerand of Novi, an associate professor in the College of Nursing at Wayne State University, is researching pain management in African American cancer patients.

In this study, all are cancer patients, said Vallerand, 55, who received her Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She earned a master's in nursing from California State University at Los Angeles and her bachelor's degree in nursing from Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles.

Vallerand and colleagues did a study in home care, how to manage cancer pain, approximately from 2000-05. They lost a lot of patients, with less reimbursement for home care coming in.

"My thought was 'Where are these patients getting care now?'" Outpatient clinics are most common.

Vallerand has found patients who can manage their pain do better.

#### Sense of control

"It's that sense of knowing what to do to control your pain. If they didn't have that they were more distressed and less functional. Our African Americans had significantly higher levels of pain, more distress and significantly less function."

The patients are followed for 12 weeks, with intervention five weeks of that time.

At week 12, researchers want to see if changes have lasted.

Medication management is one component. "It's much more effective if you take it earlier. That's one of the pieces we're helping them understand." Nurses can help with side effects and issues of addiction.

They also train the patient and caregiver to support each other in interacting with doctors. "That validation is really important. That's our second component which we call pain advocacy."

Living with Pain is the third component, not eliminating all pain but letting patients do what's important to them. That could include a hot-cold pack to put in microwave or freezer. Some use prayer, "those types of issues to help them continue their life. Sleeping because you're continually in pain" is not a good coping mechanism, she said.

#### Help with pain

"I do believe this type intervention will work for most any kind of pain." She would like to use it on non-cancer and other populations as well.

There was an article in *The Michigan Chronicle* on their study, with a woman from the study interviewed. "She talked about what the intervention did for her. It was wonderful," said Vallerand, who also recently spoke to the Novi Rotary about her work.

Caregivers aren't all fami-

ly members.

"It could be anybody." Spouses as caregivers are less likely for African Americans, many are friends or neighbors "or they have no one."

One man said when asked if he needed a hospital ride, "I'd call a cab." Many of them are alone in dealing with this," she said.

Researchers found that African American cancer patients experience chronic pain more severely than others and tended to believe that nothing would help them, making them vulnerable to depression.

Vallerand's \$1.1 million study funded by the National Cancer Institute, "Improving Functional Status Among African Americans with Cancer Pain," is testing counseling as a way to help these patients. The research study currently has 109 participants enrolled in the Detroit area, half of whom receive in-home visits from a nurse who counsels patients and their caregivers. The study will enroll 256 patients, half in a control group and half in the counseling intervention group, prior to completion in 2014.

This study is the only one focusing on African American cancer patients with chronic pain. It's a three-year study, about half-way through. They're beginning to publish information, and applying for other grants to look at other populations.

"There's not a good knowledge of what the survivors



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi resident and Wayne State University associate professor April Vallerand is working on a National Health Institute grant to study the effectiveness of pain management for African Americans going through cancer treatment. She coordinates the study through the Karmanos Cancer Center in Detroit.

go through," she said of cancer survivors.

#### Access is key

"I think that anything that provides more of our patients with access to health care is a good thing," she said. One patient had an insurance plan, with doctor who prescribed 60 Vicodin a month.

"He's spending at least half his day in pain. The insurance company said, 'No, we'll only give you 40.'" Because the study patients have cancer, Karmanos social workers will help to identify assistance.

"But it's a real struggle," said Vallerand, who hasn't found any negative reaction to nurses as researchers.

"It may be because I'm a Ph.D. I'm pretty good at making it clear I'm a nurse." Patients are comfortable with nurses.

"They have been incredibly welcoming. They watch out for us. We go into neighborhoods that are not wonderful." They may not expect their physicians to do this kind of research, she said.

Patients are sad to see them leave. One man with

prostate cancer couldn't wash dishes at his sink initially. For the second visit, he was waiting at the door and said, "You guys have changed my whole life." He could walk a mile a day in the park.

"So it's been very gratifying to see we are able to make enormous changes in some of these patients," she said. "That's exactly what we're talking about giving them their life back. What did that pain keep you from doing and can we help you get back to it?"

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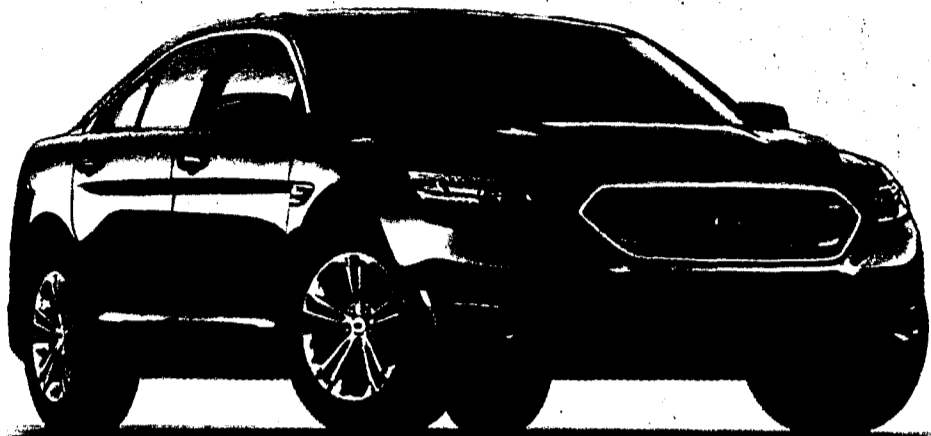
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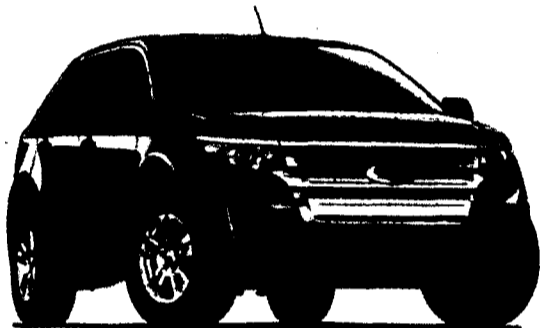
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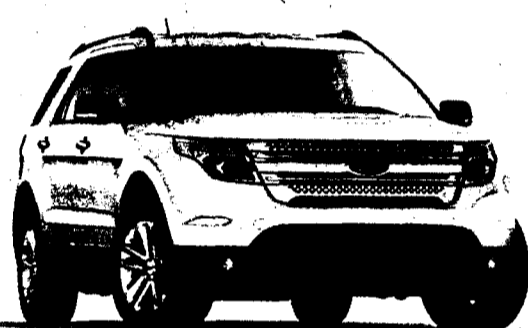


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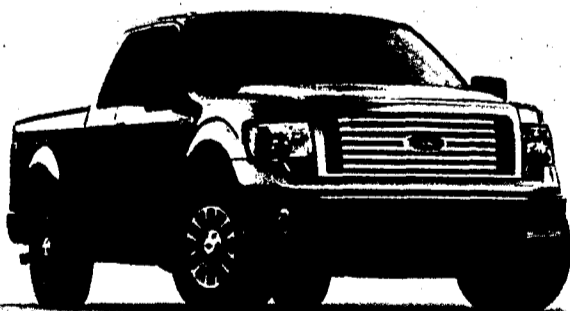


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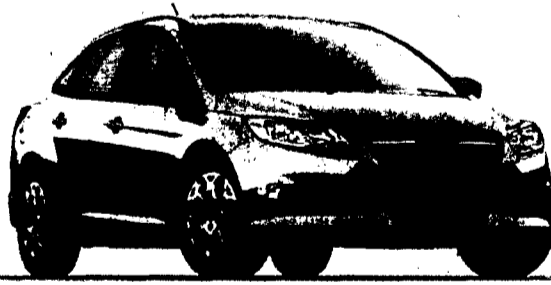
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