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W-W auditors: Actions maintained district stability

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has continued to hold the line in spending and maintained its fund balance. But with the loss of its language in this year's State School Aid Act, the district will face bigger challenges going forward. That was the word from the district's auditing firm, Plante Moran,

which presented the results of its 2011-2012 audit to the school board this month.

"The district has made significant accounting changes to stem the tide and we certainly commend the board for taking the action to maintain the district's stability," said lead auditor Jeffrey Higgins, adding that the district received an unqualified or clean audit.

For the 2011-2012 fiscal year, Wayne-Westland came in under budget in revenue and expenditures. It had anticipated getting \$108.1 million in revenue but received \$106.3 million, a 1.7 percent decrease, and had projected expenditures of \$112.7 million, but spent \$108.8 million, a 3.4 percent savings. It ended up being \$1.5 million over budget with a fund balance of \$11.8 million.

"That's a better-than-expected result," said Higgins. "You were within 1.4 percent of budget, you were very close to being right on the money. You have to be over or you will be in violation of state law. You have to be close, but you have to walk the line."

By the numbers

The fund balance is \$653,900 less than in 2010-2011, when the district

had \$12.4 million in the bank. But with the loss of school aid language for millage not include in the funding formula, the district plans to use \$8.4 million to maintain programs and services this year. It's projected Wayne-Westland will finish 2012-2013 with a meager fund balance of \$3.3 million.

"A fund balance is essentially the difference

Please see AUDIT, A2

Last chance

It doesn't seem all that long ago that it opened, but the last day of the season for the Westland Farmers Market is here.

The market will open for the last time from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23, in the Westland City Hall parking lot at 36601 Ford Road, with a variety of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams and crafts available.

The Westland Farmers Market, which emphasizes quality and freshness, is the ultimate site for farmers, growers and producers to sell their own products directly to the public.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bottle Rockets, a wrestling club for ages 4-14, meets 5:30-6:30 p.m. for beginners and 6-7:45 p.m. for advanced wrestlers each Tuesday and Thursday, in the Wrestling Room of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland. Practice will begin Tuesday, Nov. 27, and run through March 2013.

Registration will take place 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, outside the Wrestling Room at the high school. The membership fee for the season is \$50 and includes a T-shirt.

More information and/or a copy of the registration form can be obtained by visiting the club link at glennwrestling.com. Questions can be directed to the coaches at brclubwrestling@gmail.com or call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Candy check

The 18th District Court will provide candy checks at the court building at 36675 Ford Road, behind the Westland Police Station, 6:30-10 p.m. on Halloween, Oct. 31. For more information, call (734) 595-8720.

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Wayne-Westland firefighters Brian James (left) and Nick Winrow model the pink T-shirts being worn to raise breast cancer awareness and sold to benefit the Pink Fund, which financially helps women being treated for the disease.

Firefighters 'Care Enough to Wear Pink'

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Starting today (Sunday), Wayne-Westland firefighters are adding some color to their uniforms — pink.

For a third year, firefighters will wear pink T-shirts for 11 days to show support for women fighting breast cancer and raise awareness in the community.

It's the "Care Enough to Wear Pink" campaign.

The T-shirts, provided at cost by Alley Cat Designs, are sold to benefit the local Pink Fund, which assists women with breast cancer meet their financial obligations accrued during their illness and treatment.

"The International Association of Firefighters came up with

the idea three years," said Mitch Tokarski, president of the Western-Wayne Professional Firefighters Union. "We sold 210 T-shirts last year and ended up donating \$1,800 to the Pink Fund."

The shirts, selling for \$20 each, have the name of the Western-Wayne Professional Firefighters Union, which purchased the shirts, along with Wayne-Westland Fire Rescue. On the back is a Maltese cross made of small ribbons.

"It's for a great cause to make the public aware. It's good to see the community get involved in it, too," Tokarski said. "We change the design each year."

The T-shirts are available at Fire Station No. 1

on Ford at Carlson next to Westland City Hall through Oct. 31. October is breast cancer awareness month.

"I am proud of the firefighters of the Wayne-Westland Fire Department for standing up for such an important cause as breast cancer affects more than just women, it affects everybody who cares for them, including their grandfathers, fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, etc.," Mayor William Wild said.

The firefighters also donated 30 shirts and \$1,000 to a fund-raiser being held for a long-time Garden City Hospital emergency room technician who is battling cancer.

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Town hall crowd evenly divided over new city hall plan

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The fourth town hall meeting to get input about a new Westland City Hall ran into some tough competition Thursday — Game 4 of the American League Championship as the Detroit Tigers completed a sweep of the New York Yankees.

About 25 people turned up for the town hall meeting at Edison Elementary School, including a number of city council meeting regulars. A total of five meetings are being held to help city officials find a consensus on where a new municipal building should be located and how it will be funded.

Mayor William Wild made a presentation on problems with the existing city hall, including \$513,000 spent for repairs since 2005.

"We have repaired issues related to the basement flooding, black mold, air quality, asbestos and other issues. That's money that didn't go to city operations," Wild said, offering photographs of the flooded

basement.

Additionally, Wild noted that repeated efforts to snake the basement drains have resulted in a sinkhole on the east side of the building.

The three options presented for replacing city hall included: a new building on the current Ford Road site, which would require additional millage approved by voters; construction of a new building behind the William P. Faust Library funded through Tax Increment Finance Authority money; or obtain a vacant commercial building for rehabilitation as a city hall or demolition for construction of a new building, also funded by the TIFA.

As Wild walked the audience through survey questions on city hall, those present were about evenly divided in supporting a new building on Ford and using a commercial site. About 10 people raised their hands to support additional millage — an estimated \$50 per year for 25 years on a home valued at \$100,000

Please see CITY HALL, A2

Pipe attack suspect to undergo exam

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A Westland woman facing an attempted murder charge in the Oct. 4 attack

on another woman at the Plymouth Township Kroger store will undergo a psychological examination as officials try to determine her competency.

The exam for Angel Viar, 48, was ordered Friday in 35th District Court by Judge James Plakas at the request of defense attorney David Lankford. Plakas scheduled

a review of the case for Friday, Jan. 18.

"There are clearly issues that are way outside my area of expertise," Lankford told Plakas.

Lankford said he had consulted with Viar's family members, some of whom were in court Friday.

Viar is accused of striking a 58-year-old employee with a pipe inside the Kroger on Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon just before 11 a.m. Oct. 4. She was arrested by a Plymouth police officer who was the first officer at the scene, and police recovered a steel pipe

Please see EXAM, A2



Viar

Holiday Taste Fest set for Dec. 4

The Westland Chamber of Commerce and Westland Rotary Club are joining forces to host the 2012 Holiday Taste Fest 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Hellenic Cultural Center. There will be food from the area's finest restaurants and culinary artists along with an opportunity to bid on auction items ranging from fabulous baskets, trips and services to golf. New this year will be live musical entertain-

ment by Westland's own Elvis impersonator Fred Wolfe. Ticket are \$25 per person with a cash bar. Sponsorships are available. Partial proceeds from the event will benefit Westland Rotary Charities, the Joseph Benyo Scholarship and the Westland Chamber of Commerce. For tickets or information, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222 or visit westlandchamber.com or westlandrotary.com.

EXAM

Continued from page A1

about 12 inches long. The victim, of St. Clair Shores, suffered a head wound and was treated at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia and released the same day. The two women did not know each other. Viar, dressed in blue jeans and a white sweatshirt, appeared composed in court Friday, speaking to Plakas in a clear voice. "You believe this is in your best interest?" Plakas asked as he explained to Viar that she would be waiving her right to a timely preliminary hearing in order to allow for the competency exam. "Yes, sir," Viar said.

Viar faces one count each of assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to do great bodily harm and assault with a dangerous weapon. She is being held in the Wayne County Jail on a \$200,000 cash bond. Conviction of assault with intent to murder carries a penalty of up to life in prison. Viar, police said after the attack, is known to people at Kroger for hanging around the Plymouth Square plaza and collecting returnable cans and bottles. But no displays of temper or incidents of violence by her had come to the attention of police, nor does she appear to have a criminal record, police said.

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AUDIT

Continued from page A1

between assets and liabilities, it allows the district to deal with the financial uncertainties," said Higgins. Higgins praised the district for making "significant changes" to maintain its fund balance, which represents 10.84 percent of expenditures and is close to the 2011 state average of 11 percent. The amount represents enough money to continue school operations for 39 calendar days or 18 school days, if the district lost its funding sources. However, when the \$8.4 million that is being used this budget year is taken out, the percentage drops to 3.11 percent, enough to operate for 11 calendars days or 5 school days. Of the money received in 2011-2012, 85.1 percent came from the per pupil money the district gets from the state. Money from the federal government was less than 1 percent, and other state and local revenue represented 14.7 percent. Of those revenues, 88 percent went for salaries and fringe benefits for employees, with purchased services, supplies, material and the like making up the remaining 12 percent.

Future challenges Going forward, the district faces a 3.7 percent increase in retirement costs. According to Higgins, the state had planned to cap school district costs

at 24.46 percent, but an actuarial analysis determined that the rate needed to be 26.36 percent after there was a delay in Gov. Rick Snyder signing the legislation. "The cost isn't just cash outflow," said Higgins. "These reforms also place a significant administrative burden on the district." Board Vice-President John Goci said that Wayne Westland is at the bottom in per pupil funding. "The kids in the Wayne Westland district are worth less to the state," he said. "We have to make our legislators aware that we are funded at the lowest level in the state." Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin pointed out that changes in school financing have not leveled out the per-pupil funding among school districts. "The people of this community are being penalized because they did not renew a millage 30 days before the proposal passed," he said. "We need to reach out and get that corrected. The loss of \$6 million is a devastating blow. We have a lot of challenges and it's not necessarily the fault of this board. It's state funding that we have no control over." "We came in under budget, we're headed in the right direction with our spending, but we keep getting cut in funding and no matter what we do we're playing catch up," added board President Carol Middel.

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CITY HALL

Continued from page A1

— to fund construction of a new city hall. One resident, who left before the survey questions, said he wasn't willing to pay for a new building so it could be located on Ford Road. "I understand the concern about the site (behind the library). I live behind the MJR Theater. I didn't get a say on it," said the man, who didn't give his name. A woman who was sitting with that resident commented, "Too few

people are making too much noise. I want you to make the city the best it can be so I can sell my house," she said, adding she moved into her home to raise her now-grown children near their school. Some residents seemed to be sidetracked by a presentation on a possible long-term plan to redevelop Central City Parkway. The final town hall meeting is set for 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Cooper Elementary School on Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

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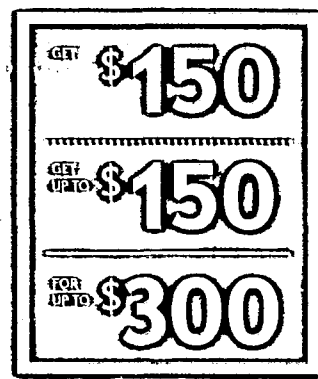
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'Thriller:' Zombies dance it at 'prom'

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Zombies will be taking over Westland's William P. Faust Public Library for Halloween. The Zombie Prom, including learning to dance to *Thriller*, is scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31. It's open to 12- to 18-year-olds. "It's our first year for the Zombie Prom. We

were brainstorming ideas for events for teens," said Andy Schuck, reference librarian. "I heard something about a similar program. When I said Zombie Prom, everyone loved the name." The zombies is evidenced by the popularity of *The Walking Dead* on television and books putting zombies in literary situations, including *Pride and Prejudice*. "Zombies are trendy

— really all the horror genres are taking off. That's another reason for us to jump on this," Schuck said. Those who need help with their costumes can come to the library 6-7 p.m. for Costume Creation. Members of the Westland John Glenn High School Art Club will do free face painting. The Spookiest Costume Judging will follow 7-7:30 p.m.

Learning the *Thriller* dance is scheduled for 7:30-8 p.m. with Dreadful Dancing to music by the Hyper Lytics, a Green Day Cover Band, and a Haunted Photo Booth closing the event 8-8:30 p.m. • For those who might need help looking zombified, the library is offering a monster makeup class 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24. It's open to youngster 12 years and

older. Instructor Russ Kennedy of The Magic Theatrics Co. will help participants learn which makeup to buy and watch the makeup artist transform members of the audience into vampires, zombies, demons and more. Anyone who plans to volunteer to have their face done as part of the demonstration, must bring a signed parent/guardian form to the pro-

gram. Forms are located at the Reference Desk and in the Teen Area or it can be downloaded from the library website www.westlandlibrary.org. The programs are free, but advance registration is needed, also on the website. Funding for the program is provided by the "Freaky" Friends of the Library.

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SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN EVENTS

Trunk-or-Treat

• Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church which will have Trunk-or-Treat and Other Halloween Fun (Cupcake Walk, Paint a Pumpkin and more) 2-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, at the church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Everyone is welcome with or without a costume. For more information, call (734) 728-1088.

• Grace Moravian Church which is hosting a Trunk or Treat 5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24. One prize will be awarded to the scariest trunk and one prize will be awarded to the friendliest trunk. Food and beverage will be available inside the church for a donation \$2 per person (children 5 years and younger are free). Everyone is welcome.

The church is 31133 Hively, off Fernwood, near the corners of Cherry Hill and Merriman in Westland. For more information or to RSVP, call Cheryl Hice-Hillon at (248) 756-3592.

Halloween Celebration

The Wayne Farmers Market will host a free

Halloween Celebration 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24.

Children of all ages are invited to go trick-or-treating at the market. There will be a costume parade and contests and prizes, Halloween bouncer, provided by Icon Computer Solutions, pumpkin painting from Noel Johnson/Century 21, face painting with Pookie the Clown and more.

The market is held in the parking lot next to the State Wayne Theater at 35310 W. Michigan Ave. in downtown Wayne. For more information contact the Wayne Chamber of Commerce 73 721-0100 or send an email to market@waynecchamber.net.

Trick-or-Treat

Westland Shopping Center is offering families a safe trick-or-treating experience. Between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m., youngsters are invited to trick-or-treat at participating stores in the shopping center. Look for the orange balloons outside the stores.

Westland Shopping Center is 35000 Warren Road at Wayne Road, Westland. For more



Children who visit the The Wayne Farmers Market on Wednesday, Oct. 24, will be able to go trick-or-treating at the market and enjoy a costume parade.

information, call (734) 425-5001.

Haunted O'Leary The theater department at Garden City High School is again staging their haunted house experience, Eerie O'Leary's Haunted Theater 7-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26-27. Tickets are \$8 per living soul.

Enter if you dare. Garden City High School is at 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road, Garden City.

Zombie Crawl

The Downtown Wayne's Zombie Pub Crawl starts at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26, at the U.S. 12 Bar and Grill of

Stockdale's on the Ave West and includes stops at Jake's and the Village Bar and Billiards. There will be lots of gift certificates and prizes. The event is for those age 21 and older.

Also on tap are a free Family Halloween Party at the Wayne Public Library (Free) on Thursday, Oct. 25th; Zebra Spooktacular at Wayne Memorial High School 6-7:15 p.m. and Trunk or Treat at First United Methodist Church of Wayne 6:30-8:30 p.m., both on Friday, Oct. 26, and Trick or Treating at downtown Wayne businesses, the third 3rd Annual Cos-

tume Craze at Avenue Downtown Wayne and Trunk or Treat at Wayne St. Mary Church 6:30-8:30 p.m., all on Saturday, Oct. 27.

Check out www.downtownwayne.org for details on other Halloween related events for all ages.

Haunted Hallows

Be prepared to be scared at the Bova VFW Post 9885's annual Haunted Hallows, a haunted forest being staged at the post at 6440 Hix, between Warren Road and Ford.

Hours of haunting are dusk to midnight Sunday, Oct. 21, and Friday-Tuesday, Oct. 26-30. Tickets cost \$15 per person, and \$1 off with student ID. For groups of 10 or more, the charge is \$13 per person.

For more information, call (734) 728-3231.

Candy Check

The 18th District Court will provide candy checks at the court building at 36675 Ford Road, behind the Westland Police Station, 6:30-10 p.m. on Halloween, Oct. 31. For more information, call (734) 595-8720.

Ice arena gets spooky for Halloween skate event

The popular Halloween skate at the Garden City Civic Arena is back. Lace up your skates put on your costume and head to the arena for some Halloween fun 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. The pre-sale tickets are \$7 and are available at the ice arena's main office until Oct. 26. Tickets will be \$10 at the door. Skate rental is \$2.

"There will lights and fog," said Dan Plamondon, recreation manager and rink manager. "Break in that Halloween costume early."

In addition to skating, there will be food, drinks, music, candy and games for all ages. All kids receive a free bag of candy. The arena will be decked out in the Halloween spirit.

Discount coupons are available at 200 Log Cabin at Cherry Hill, east of Merriman. Call (734) 793-1882 for more information.

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JROTC cadets kick off school year with activities

The Air Force JROTC Cadets of Garden City High School kicked off their school year and the month of September with several corps events, the first of which was an ice cream social. It was a chance for cadets to get to meet new cadets and see some old friends.

On Sept. 21, the cadets of MI-861 AFJROTC from Garden City High School kicked off their fourth annual Corps Field Day. The day's events were led by C/Col. Anthony Gonzalez and C/1st Lt. Jacob Noel.

The cadets were on teams based upon their class period, also known as their flight. There were three short ice-breakers that started off the day. It allowed the new and returning cadets to get to know each other, before the cadets moved onto the next activity, a 4x100 Relay.

After the running events and the ice-breakers the cadets ate a lunch of hot dogs, chips, cookies and pop, served by cadets and parent volunteers. Some of the other events included one-mile run, softball and a favorite among cadets, ultimate Frisbee.



Garden City AFJROTC Cadets and staff the annual bike ride include Joshua Sikes, Alex Gagin, Gary Hackett, Marisha Potter, Cait Feasel, Jake Noel, Anthony Gonzalez, Andrew Wasson, Haley Schneider, Alex Schwesing, Alex Denison, Bobby Coleman, Joseph Catton, Ken Reinhart, Melissa Green, Brandon Hunter, Breanna Barton, William Radics, Michael Fisher, Chaston Burke, Lt. Col Gilmour and Nathan Gilmour.

Ultimate Frisbee is a game where the goal of the players is to try to toss a Frisbee to one another until they cross the opponents goal in the end zone. For many cadets, these were the most intensely competitive games in a long time. Finally, at the end of the day was the jodie competition.

A jodie or cadence is a traditional song that is

sung by military personnel while running or while marching. Each flight had the chance to write one and they were judged on creativity and unity. After some tough judging, Field Day was over, and the cadets were dismissed.

Later, on Saturday, Sept. 22, MI-861 held a bike ride event at Hines Park in Westland. Sixteen cadets and five adults attend-

ed the 10-mile bike ride. Although it was almost cancelled due to inclement weather, all the cadets still had a good time.

Air Force JROTC doesn't only promote better citizens, it promotes a better physical well-being. First year cadet Michael Fisher had a very fun morning.

"It was tiring, and I was sore, but it was still a real-

ly fun ride," he said. "I enjoyed riding together as a unit and interacting with other cadets in the corps."

And finally a total of 20 cadets went on the Young Eagles trip at Mettatal Airport in Canton. The airport hosted MI-861 for the third year in a row for our annual Young Eagles trip. Pilots at the small airport donated their time

and planes to the high school students.

The cadets were given a small lecture about the planes and safety, then were led into the hangar to meet the pilots. They were shown how different features of the planes before they were allowed to get on the different planes one to two at a time for a 15-20 minute flight.

Cadets were shown how to control the planes and some were even allowed to take control of the plane.

"It was a really great experience," said first year cadet Kathryn Szpar. "It was so cool how when we were up in the plane, we could see all the houses and trees. The horizon was so beautiful. I was kind of scared before the ride, because I had never been on an airplane before. But it was really great and I hope I get to do it again."

The cadets are looking forward to the cadet oath ceremony, military ball and many other events from the 2012-2013 school year.

Compiled by C/2Lt. Alex Denison and C/Tsgt. Alex Zalgout.

W-W, city approve police liaison agreement

The Westland City Council approved the annual agreement between the City of Westland and Wayne-Westland Community Schools to provide match funding to continue the John Glenn High School Police Officer Liaison position for the 2012-2013 school year.

The agreement between the City of Westland and the Wayne-West-



Swope

land School District for the Police Officer Liaison has been in existence since 2007. Under the agreement, the cost of the officer is split between the city and the school system.

Officer Kevin Swope will fill this position for

the second time since the liaison program began. Swope was the Westland Police Department's first school liaison officer in 2007. Swope's training for the position included a TEAM school (Teach Educate And Mentor) at the Michigan State Police Academy. TEAM is a program that teaches students about safety in all areas of life and is the



preferred school liaison program of the Michigan State Police.

"As a liaison, I have an office at John Glenn High School and I am able to respond quickly to any issues that the school may have," Swope said. "I also get to interact with teachers and students on a daily basis which is a proactive approach to avoid-


ing school incidents. It is important to show students that law enforcement officers care about them and their futures."

"The shared cost of the Police Officer housed at John Glenn High School is an excellent example of how schools and municipalities can work together and the Police Liaison in the school is invaluable in establish-


ing a good relationship with the students and helps resolve any potential problems that may attempt to come into the school," said Wayne-Westland Community Schools Superintendent Greg Baracy. "The working relationship between the Wayne-Westland Schools and the City of Westland and Mayor Wild is exemplary."

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McNamara joins Airport Authority Board

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Taking his oath in front of a bust of his father inside the terminal carrying his name, Kevin McNamara was sworn in Wednesday as a member of the Wayne County Airport Authority board.

"I don't do long speeches. I'm truly honored to be on the board. This is the hardest board to get on," said McNamara, a Wayne County commissioner. "I'm overwhelmed by all the family and friends who are here."

A Belleville Democrat, McNamara recalled getting advice from his late father Edward McNamara, who served as Wayne County executive.

"If my father was here, he would tell me to find good friends and keep them close or you'll work your butt off your whole life," said McNamara, who was appointed by the Wayne County Commission.

In the 1980s, Edward McNamara told his son that airports will be the "water ports of the 21st century," McNamara recalled. The Wayne County Airport Authority Board oversees both Detroit Metro Airport, including the Edward McNamara terminal, and Willow Run Airport.

"I look forward to collaborating with fellow board members to make the airport an even more significant economic hub," said McNamara. "I will also work to ensure that the quality of life is improved for residents living near both Detroit Metro and Willow Run



A bust of the late Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara inside the Detroit Metropolitan Airport terminal that bears his name.

airports."

As a commissioner for District 11, McNamara serves the western Wayne County communities of Belleville, Canton Township, Sumpter Township, Van Buren Township and Wayne.

Transportation infrastructure has been one of his priorities since serving as a commissioner. The redrawn District 11 will represent the communities of Belleville, Huron Township, Romulus, Van Buren Township, Wayne and southern Westland beginning Jan. 1.

Guests at the swearing in ceremony had to have advance security clearance and go through TSA screening to enter the terminal without being ticketed airline passengers.

"Today, Detroit Metro Airport is the primary doorway to every community in Wayne County and to Michigan for citizens across the United States and around the world," said McNamara. "It is a hub for business activity,

and its progress is a vital platform in our county's growth. Both Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports are considerable assets as we strive to make Wayne County an ideal place for families to live, work, learn and play."

McNamara is chair of the Youth Services Committee and vice chair of the Committee on Public Services. McNamara is a member of the Wayne County Head Start Board, representing preschool programs for 3,700 children. He is Finance chair for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, where he has led the organization to three consecutive balanced budgets.

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PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, D-Belleville, flanked by his wife Aida and son Cullan, poses with a bust of his late father Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

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Gordon Chevrolet holds tailgate party

The Detroit Lions will be making an appearance on Monday Night Football and Gordon Chevrolet is celebrating with the Ultimate Equinox Tailgate Party.

Come and celebrate 4-8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22, at the dealership at 31850 Ford Road, west of Merriman in Garden City.

The customer appreciation party is free of charge and open to everyone. It will feature Michigan-made food and snacks, including all-beef Dearborn hot dogs, chili dogs, Better Made chips, Fayo pop and chocolate chip cookies.

Enter for a chance to enter to win some great prizes, including the grand prize of a brand new 2013 Chevy Equinox, flat screen TV and a tailgating grill. First prize will be a flat screen TV with a surround sound system and second prize will be a Grill2Go Real-tree Portable Gas Grill. No purchase is necessary, however, an email address is required to register for the prize drawing.

Last year, the dealership's tailgate party attracted 300 people and many more are expected this year.

Inspire Theatre opens seventh season with 'Mousetrap'

Inspire Theatre, Westland's only live theatre, is presenting its version of the longest running play in history, Agatha Christie's comedy thriller, *The Mousetrap*, which opened in the West End of London in 1952, and has been running continuously since then.

The show opens Oct. 26 and runs for two weekends. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26-27 and Nov. 4-5, and 3 p.m. Sunday Oct. 28 and Nov. 6 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. Reservations can be made by calling (734) 751-7057.

Under the direction of Len Fisher of Wayne and assistant director Wendy Hardy of Livonia, Inspire Theatre's version has returned the murder mystery to the original flavor of being a comedy thriller. When asked about that, Fisher said, "Why does staged murder have to be dismal?"

"We know someone is going to die in the play, why not have fun along the way," he said. "Agatha Christie wrote it that way for a reason. That's why its run for 60 years."

Most of the cast are Inspire Theatre veterans. The only newcomer to the production is Jan Laurent of Canton as Miss Casewell. Returning to IT's stage are Richard Holland, Lisa Brawley and Bill Peterson, all of Livonia, John Donnelly of Redford, Toni Hammond of Farmington Hills, Nick Szczerba of Brownstown and Andrew Fisher of Wayne.

The Mousetrap opens the seventh season for Inspire Theatre. This is the second Agatha Chris-



Appearing in Inspire Theatre's production of "The Mousetrap" are Lisa Brawley, Nick Szczerba of Brownstown, Jan Laurent of Canton, John Donnelly of Redford, Andrew Fisher of Wayne and Richard Holland and Toni Hammond of Farmington Hills.

tie production, the first being *Ten Little Indians*, in 2008. Peterson and Donnelly were also in that production.

The Mousetrap has the longest initial run of any play in history, with more than 24,500 performances so far. It also is the longest running show (of any type) of the modern era. The play is also known for its twist ending, which the audience are traditionally asked not to reveal after leaving the theatre.

The play began life as a short radio play broadcast on May 30, 1947, and

was called *Three Blind Mice* in honor of Queen Mary, the consort of King George V. The play had its origins in the real-life case of the death of a boy, Dennis O'Neill, who died while in the foster care of a Shropshire farmer and his wife in 1945.

The play is based on a short story, itself based on the radio play, but Christie asked that the story not be published as long as it ran as a play in the West End of London. The short story has still not been published with in the United Kingdom but it has appeared in the

United States in the 1950 collection *Three Blind Mice and Other Stories*.

The play had to be renamed at the insistence of Emile Littler who had produced a play called *Three Blind Mice* in the West End before the World War II. The suggestion to call it *The Mousetrap* came from Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*. The *Mousetrap* is Hamlet's answer to Claudius's inquiry about the name of the play.

Begun out of a desire to bring quality community theatre to Westland, IT has endeav-

ored live up to this high standard in every show. Relying entirely on ticket sales for its operating costs, Inspire has not only mounted ambitious productions, but it also operates the Inspire School for Theatre Arts for children. The school's current production, Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, will open the second week in December. Hardy, Hammond, and Donnelly are assisting in small roles in that show.

Inspire Theatre is located at 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, in Westland.

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The University of Michigan Health System is expanding its presence in Southeast Michigan to give you easier access to our advanced cardiovascular programs. We welcome Dr. Hamid Ghanbari, Dr. Michael Thomas, Dr. Reema Hasan and Dr. Monika Leja, who will be joining forces with Dr. Kenneth Tobin and Dr. Michael Lehmann at our Livonia Health Center. Thanks to our new team of cardiologists, we're bringing even more U-M expertise closer to your home.

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Cuban Missile Crisis 50 years later

The United States and the Soviet Union were in the midst of the Cold War when the U.S. discovered the Soviet Union had secretly placed nuclear-tipped missiles on Communist-led Cuba. For 13 days, Oct. 15-28, 1962, a nuclear war or possibly World War III seemed on the brink of happening.

After failed American attempts to overthrow the Cuban government, the Cuban and Soviet governments secretly began to build missile bases in Cuba. On Oct. 14, 1962, a U.S. Air Force plane captured photographic proof of the bases.

The U.S. considered invading Cuba, but instead settled for a military blockade of the island. An agreement was made wherein the Soviet Union removed all weapons from Cuba and the U.S. declared it would never invade Cuba and would withdraw its own missiles from Turkey.

If you're interested in learning more about the Cuban Missile Crisis, the William P. Faust Public Library has the following titles that may be of interest: Roger Hilsman's *Cuban Missile Crisis*, Norman Polmar's *Defcon-2*, Max Frankel's *High Noon in the Cold War*, Carlos Lechuga's *In the Eye of the Storm*, Michael Dobbs's *One Minute to Midnight*, Robert F. Kennedy's *Thirteen Days*, Norman Finkelstein's *Thirteen Days/Ninety Miles*, Lawrence Freedman's *Kennedy's Wars* and A.V. Fursenko's *One Hell of a Gamble*. The documentary film *Fog of War* is an in-depth look at then-Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara. The movie *Thirteen Days*, starring Kevin Costner, is a fictional tale based on Kennedy's book.

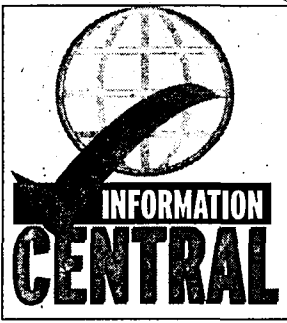
If you're more of an interactive history aficionado, you might want to visit www.foreignpolicy.com, where you can follow along on Twitter and read historians' blogs as they chronicle everything that happened 50 years ago. Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs has put together a site to commemorate this historical event — www.cubamissilecrisis.org.

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

Highlighted activities

NaNoWriMo Kickoff: 7 p.m. Oct. 24 at Biggy Coffee on Ford Road, Westland

We welcome all writers, nonwriters, improvisational wizards to join the craziness that is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo for short) as we celebrate with a kickoff party and a novel-making pep talk by one of the many friendly Municipal Liaisons who volunteer for NaNo. Since our kickoff will be at our awesome, local Biggy (37644 Ford Road), we're treating everyone in attendance to a free coffee drink. One lucky attendee will receive a Biggy gift card. If you can't make the kickoff, but want to learn more visit the library's Events page. The library will be hosting Write-Ins 6-8:45 p.m. every Thursday in November (except Thanksgiving). Check the library's Events page — westlandlibrary.org/events — for more info.

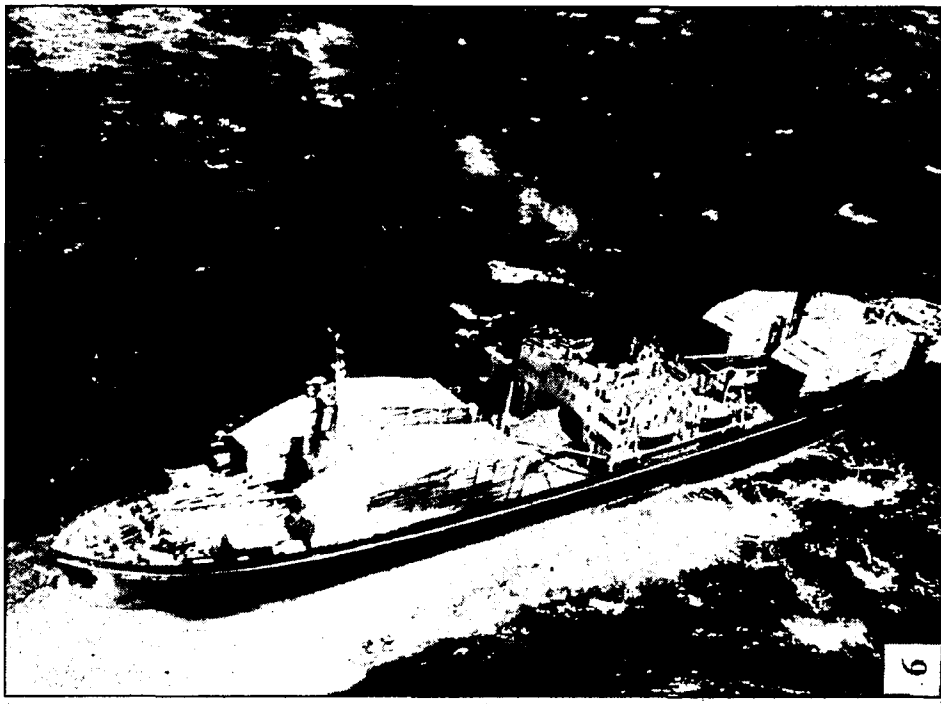


Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club: 7 p.m. Oct. 24

Join us for a discussion of Vernor Vinge's *The Children of the Sky*. Ten years have passed on Tines World, where Ravana Bergnsdot and a number of human children ended up after a disaster that nearly obliterated humankind throughout the galaxy. Ravana and the pack animals for which the planet is named have survived a war, and Ravana has saved more than 100 children who were in cold-sleep aboard the vessel that brought them. While there is peace among the Tines, there are those among them — and among the humans — who seek power ... and no matter the cost, these malcontents are determined to overturn the fledgling civilization that has taken root since the humans landed. Copies will be available at the Reference Desk.

Teens Monster Makeup: 7 p.m. Oct. 24

Looking to go all out with your costume this year? Learn to apply monster makeup from



An aerial photograph shows crates holding Komar guided-missile patrol boats on their way to Cuba in September 1962.

Russ Kennedy of The Magic Theatrics Co. Find out which makeup to buy and watch the makeup artist transform members of the audience into vampires, zombies, demons and more. If you plan on volunteering to have your face done as part of the demonstration, please have a signed parent/guardian form with you during the program. Forms are located at the Reference Desk and in the Teen Area or you can download. Once you learn, come back on Halloween for our Teen Zombie Prom.

Writers Club: 7 p.m. Oct. 25

Have you written sto-

ries or poems that you would like others to hear, but not critique, in a casual atmosphere? Looking to get back into writing, but could some support and/or exercises? Join us as Cheryl Vatcher-Martin leads the Westland Library Writer's Club. Refreshments provided.

ESL English as a Second Language Class: 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 26

Get help practicing your English skills in a class room setting with a conversation emphasis taught by Diane and Richard Goers. Classes run through Nov. 9. Students with children are welcome.

Halloween Babytime Storytime: 10:30 a.m. Oct. 27. Children up to age 2 with a caregiver

Babies (birth to 24 months), caregivers, and older siblings, we invite you to wear your costumes to this Halloween Babytime Storytime. Enjoy 15 minutes of spooky (but not too spooky) stories, rhymes and songs.

Then we invite you to trick or treat at several stations throughout the library. Open to all babies and their families. No registration required.

Saturday Matinee Movie: 1 p.m. Oct. 27

Join us for a Saturday matinee movie showing

of a recently-run movie. Today's movie, *Moonrise Kingdom*, is about a pair of teens who run away and the town that tries to find them (rated PG-13).

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

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

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

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

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

Information Central was compiled by **Marilyn Kwik**, head of adult services. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

Who Else Wants to Get Rid of Sciatica, Bulging Discs, Neck, Arm and Leg Pain...Once and for All?

Having Back and Leg Pain or Neck and Arm Pain Can Feel Like a Crippling Condition.

You might not be able to play golf, work, or even sit in the car for a 30-minute drive. It's almost impossible for anyone around you to understand how you feel. You can't remember the last time you even had a restful night's sleep.

Do You Have Any of the Following?

- Sharp pains in the back of the leg
- Lower back pain
- Neck pain
- Herniated/bulging discs
- Numbness in your arms or legs
- Shooting hip or thigh pain
- Muscle spasm, sprains & strains

If you've suffered from any of these annoying conditions, you may have Sciatica if the pain is in your leg, or Radiculopathy if the pain is in your arm.

Sciatica is a compression of the sciatic nerve, usually by the L4 or L5 disc herniations. Radiculopathy is the compression of the nerves coming off the neck. As you know, Sciatica and Radiculopathy can be a very painful problem, even crippling at times.

Nothing's worse than feeling great mentally, but physically feeling held back from life because your back or sciatica hurts and the pain just won't go away! Fortunately, if you are suffering from any of these problems, they may be relieved or eliminated by non-surgical spinal decompression.

"What is the Chance That This Will Work for Me?"

A medical study found patients went from moderately painful to almost no pain with decompression treatments. Those that took pain pills improved less than 5%. — *Am Society of Anesthesiologists, 2006, Chicago, IL*



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

Another study presented at the American Academy of Pain Management in 2007 showed:

"Patients reported a mean 88.9% improvement in back pain and better function...No patient required any invasive therapies (e.g. epidural injections, surgery)."

These are just two studies out of a dozen done in the last few years, all showing promising results. Here's the point of all these studies...

Spinal decompression has a high success rate with helping disc herniation, neck pain, Sciatica, Radiculopathy and back pain.

This means in just a matter of weeks you could be back on the golf course, enjoying your love life or traveling again.

The Single Most Important Solution to Your Sciatica, Back Pain, Neck Pain and Radiculopathy

In addition to decompression, we use Oxygen Therapy to increase fuel delivery to the body!

It's time for you to find out if Spinal Decompression with Oxygen Therapy (SDOT) will be your pain solution. For 10 days only, \$27 will get you all the services I normally charge new patients \$257 for!

What does this offer include? Everything. Here's what you get:

- An in-depth consultation about your health and well-being where I listen...really listen... to the details of your care.
- A complete neuromuscular examination
- A thorough analysis of your exam and x-ray/MRI findings so we can start mapping out your plan to being pain free
- You'll get to see everything first hand and find out if this amazing protocol will be your pain solution, like it has been for so many other patients

I will answer all of your most probing questions about our free pain evaluation and what it can do for you.

The appointment will not take long at all and you won't be sitting in a waiting room all day either. And the best part about it is...

No Dangerous Drugs, No Invasive Procedures and No Painful Exercises

Spinal Decompression with Oxygen Therapy protocols are very gentle. In fact, I even catch a few of my patients sleeping during sessions every once in a while.

You'll simply lie on your stomach or back (whichever is comfortable) and then a specialized belt is gently put around your waist. We'll set the machine to focus on

your problem area, then the advanced decompression computer system will do the rest.

"But I feel fine...as long as I take my pain pills."

There's a time to use pain medications, BUT not before seeking a natural way to correct the CAUSE of the problem!

Spinal Decompression with Oxygen Therapy could be the answer you've been looking for. Ask yourself...after taking ALL these pain medications and playing the WAIT AND SEE GAME, maybe for years... are you any better off?

Perhaps you have had neck or back surgery and you did not respond. Now, you suffer from a new malady called "Failed Surgery Syndrome." Spinal Decompression with Oxygen Therapy could help you, too!

Call **248-615-1533** anytime between the hours of 10:00 am and 6:30 pm Monday through Thursday. Tell the receptionist you'd like to come in for the special Spinal Decompression with Oxygen Therapy Evaluation before Sunday, October 28, 2012.

We can get started with your consultation and exam as soon as there's an opening in the schedule. Our office is called Kramer Chiropractic and we are at 34441 Eight Mile Road in the Charles Towne Office Center, Suite 116 and again, our phone number is **248-615-1533**.

I look forward to helping you get rid of your pain so you can start living a healthier, more joyful life.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gregory Kramer

P.S. The only real question to ask yourself is this...

"What Will My Pain Feel Like One Month From Today?"

One of the biggest myths about pain is that it goes away by itself, without treatment.

A May 1998 study in the British Medical Journal proved this myth false, showing that 75% of back pain sufferers who do nothing about it will have either pain or disability 12 months later.

Let's face it, if the pain hasn't gone away by now, it's not likely to disappear on its own.

Life's too short to live in pain like this. Call today and soon I'll be giving you the green light to have fun again.

KRAMER CHIROPRACTIC

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www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com

Spaghetti dinner

Good Hope Lutheran Church, at 28680 Cherry Hill Road in Garden City, is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner and silent auction on 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26.

The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 4 to 11, and free for those under three years

of age. Tickets can be purchased at the door. For further information, call (734) 427-3660.

Craft show

American Legion Auxiliary Post 396 will hold a Vendor/Craft Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012 at Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church,

9600 Lucerne, Redford. Admission is \$1. Food will be available for purchase, and there also will be a bake sale.

Financial aid

Parents and students who are thinking about college or are in the process of applying for college can get help at a Col-

lege Financial Aid Night being held at Garden City High School Tuesday, Nov. 13.

The program will start at 6:30 p.m. and provide information on such things as the elements of financial aid, free application for federal student aid (FAFSA), including how to receive personal

assistance when completing the application, recommended financial aid resources and the next steps in securing financial assistance.

Garden City High School is at 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road. For more information, call the high school at (734) 762-8350.

Wine tasting

Some of the finest wines in the world can be sampled Friday, Nov. 9, during the Wine Tasting Benefit and Auction in Livonia, sponsored by Community Opportunity Center (COC).

More than 100 wines from all over the world, ranging in price from \$10 to \$150 a bottle, can be sampled at the event that will benefit COC, which provides housing and supportive services to people with developmental disabilities in western Wayne County.

The Wine Tasting Benefit and Auction is sponsored by The Fine Wine Source of Livonia on behalf of COC and will be held 6:30-10:30 p.m. in the Aspen Room of Laurel Manor on the north I-96 service drive west of Newburgh Road in Livonia.

The event also includes a silent auction, live auction, and an array of hors d'oeuvres in addition to wine tasting. Tickets at \$65 per person or \$120 per couple. They can be reserved by calling Diane or Larry Janes at (734) 422-5525.

Tutoring

Members of the Key Club are once again offering tutoring 3:30-4:40 p.m. Wednesdays.

Any middle school and elementary students can get some much-needed help with their studies at tutoring, offered 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday in Room 118 at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt. For more information,

contact Myrna Hathaway at the high school at (734) 762-8350 or at hathawm@gardencityschools.com.

Cougars Cafe

The Garden City Public Schools holds its monthly the Cougars Care Cafe on Saturdays at Henry Ruff School. Upcoming cafe dates are Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20 and May 18.

The free hot lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gymnasium of the school, located at 30300 Maplewood at Henry Ruff. The goal is to serve to serve a hot lunch once a month throughout the 2012-13 school year.

For more information or to donate, call Dorothy Wood at (734) 762-6311.

In the book

The Lathers General Store, located inside the Straight Farmhouse at 6221 Merriman in Garden City, is currently selling the recently released book *Michigan's Haunted Legends and Lore* by Kristy Robinett, a Livonia-based psychic medium and author.

The book includes a chapter detailing her findings during recent paranormal investigations of the Straight Farmhouse. Robinett will host her annual Halloween program, "A Gathering of Souls Seance," at the farmhouse 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30. The program offers a great opportunity to have her autograph her new book.

Visit www.tangledwishes.com for more information on Robinett's program and to purchase tickets.

Her book costs \$19.99 during regular store hours, from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. For more information, contact the Straight Farmhouse at (734) 838-0650 or go online to www.sfhonline.org.

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Women dominate high court ballot

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Area women are making a place for themselves this fall in the annals of Michigan's judicial history.

Four women are running the state's highest court — three who were nominated by the Democratic Party and one nominated by the Republican Party.

Connie Marie Kelley of Redford, Bridget Mary McCormack of Ann Arbor and Southfield's Shelia Johnson are all running for seats on the state's Supreme Court, marking the first time ever that three women have been nominated by the Democratic Party for Michigan's highest court. Republican nominee Colleen O'Brien of Rochester Hills rounds out the group of female candidates.

"This is a very important moment in history, not only for our state, but for our entire country. It shows that women have really reached a pinnacle level. It really speaks volumes to a level of equality women have achieved," said Johnson, a judge in Southfield's 46th District Court since 2002.

McCormack, a law professor and dean for clinical affairs at the University of Michigan Law School, also discussed the significance of the nominations.

"This is the first time one of the parties has nominated three women for the state Supreme Court and I am honored to be part of that," she said. "This may not have been possible even a generation ago."

The nominations are notable on many different levels, noted Mark



Kelley

Brewer, chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

"While it is true this is the first time the Michigan Democratic Party has endorsed a slate of three women candidates, what is truly historic about the occasion is the fact that we have nominated these three women — Judge Connie Marie Kelley, Judge Shelia Johnson and Bridget Mary McCormack. These three women come from different backgrounds, but they all have devoted their lives to protecting Michigan children and families. Michigan deserves a Supreme Court that protects our kids, and that's the real historic opportunity we have in 2012," he said.

Connie Marie Kelley

According to Kelley, the nominations "seem to have energized people — both men and women — across that state."

Kelley is used to making history.

As the second of six children in an Irish-Catholic family, she was the first child in her family to attend college, paying her own way through the University of Michigan then law school at Wayne State University.

As an attorney in the Troy law firm of Powers, Chapman, D'Agostino, Meyers & Millia, P.C, she was only the second woman to be appointed partner since 1929.

Kelley current-



Johnson



McCormack

ly serves as a judge in Wayne County's Third Circuit Court.

"It is really exciting — it's an historical moment. As I travel the state talking to people, they seem really energized by it. It's not just women, either; it's the men, too," Kelley said.

Despite the significance of the achievement, it is Kelley's work with litigants within the circuit court system's Family Division, as well as her efforts with at-risk young women in Detroit, that she finds most rewarding.

Kelley has been a circuit court judge since 2009, after a 27-year career as an attorney dealing with everything from family law and sexual harassment to wrongful termination and personal injury — "and everything in-between."

The mother of two grown sons, Andrew and Kyle, she is married to Kevin Kelley, director of senior and veteran services for Wayne County and a former Redford Township supervisor.

Shelia Johnson

The first African-American female to serve as a district court judge in Oakland County, Johnson is currently serving as chief judge pro tem of the court, presiding over a variety of cases ranging from ordinance violations and traffic matters to criminal preliminary examinations and misdemeanors.



O'Brien

A Southfield resident for more than 23 years, Johnson was born and raised in Detroit, graduating from Cranbrook Kingwood High School before attending Dartmouth College, where she majored in history. A 1984 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, Johnson was the first African American in history to be elected as president of the Law School Student Senate.

A two-term district judge, Johnson also has 18 years' experience in private practice focusing on civil and criminal litigation.

The 2008 recipient of the Powerful Woman of Purpose Award from the Rhonda Walker Foundation for professional achievement in the legal field and for commitment to community service, Johnson has also been recognized by a variety of organizations for her leadership and community service.

Bridget Mary McCormack

McCormack graduated from New York University Law School and spent the first five years of her legal career trying cases in New York City's trial courts with The Legal Aid Society.

In 1996, McCormack became a faculty fellow at the Yale Law School, where she taught advocacy and professional responsibility. She joined the University of Michigan Law School faculty in 1998.

For the past 14 years, McCormack has con-

ducted and supervised many types of civil and criminal litigation at all levels of state and federal courts in Michigan.

McCormack has been recognized by a variety of professional organizations for her work with the university's clinical programs, including the Michigan Innocence Clinic, in which students represent the wrongfully convicted and resulted in the exoneration of six people as of June 2012.

Colleen O'Brien

Currently serving as judge of the Oakland County Circuit Court, a position she has held since winning election in 1998, O'Brien was born in Pontiac and attended college at the University of Michigan.

A 1981 graduate of the Detroit College of Law, she spent 17 years in private practice, gaining experience in both civil and criminal matters.

O'Brien said she is honored to be a part of this historic group.

"I have always been excited about Michigan's rich history of women in the law," said O'Brien.

"There has been a woman on the Michigan Supreme Court every year since 1973, and we have had five female chief justices since then. In fact, in 2010, Michigan was one of only three states in the country with a female majority. So I'm not too surprised by the fact that we have so many women on the ballot this year, and I'm proud to be one of them."

As a practicing attor-

ney, O'Brien served on the Rochester Hills Zoning Board of Appeals, and received the Oakland County Bar Association Pro Bono Award for providing volunteer legal services. She has also served as a circuit court mediator in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne Counties, as well as serving as president of the Oakland County Women's Bar Association.

O'Brien also serves as an adjunct professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and in 2011 received the Frederick J. Griffith III Adjunct Faculty Award from Cooley Law School, which is awarded to faculty members who best display excellence in teaching, passion for advocacy and compassion for law students. O'Brien is also on the Advisory Board for Baker College. She also serves on the boards of both the Restore Foundation and Crossroads for Youth.

In 2011, O'Brien was the recipient of the Oakland County Bar Association's Distinguished Public Servant Award.

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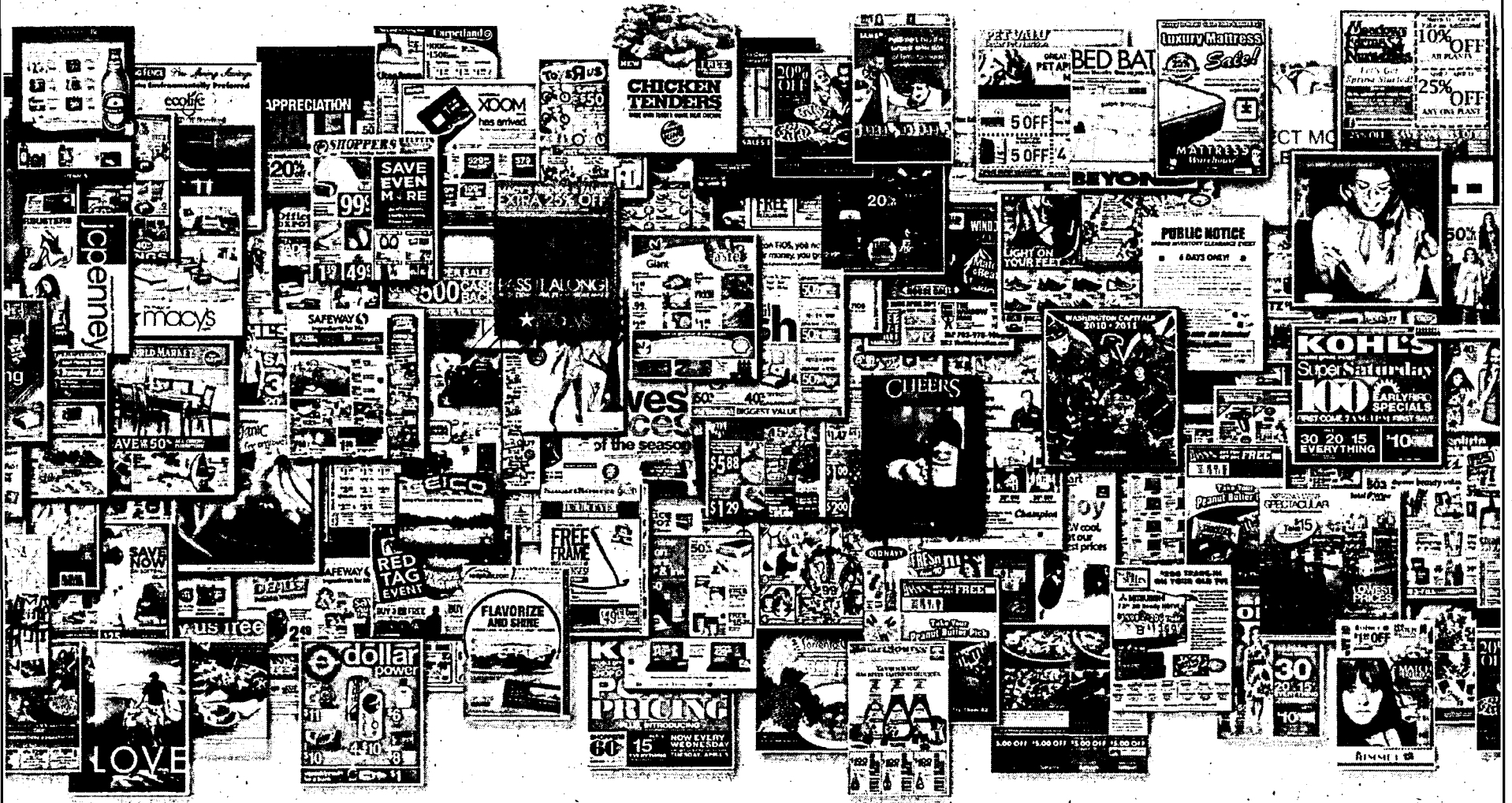
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Library kicks off annual novel writing month

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

It has been said that everyone has one novel within themselves and Westland's William P. Faust Public Library is hosting a program aimed at getting that book written in 30 days. November is National Novel Writing Month - NaNoWriMo, for short - with write-ins scheduled at the library 6-8:45 p.m. each Thursday in November except Thanksgiving Day. The writers need to bring lap top computers for the write-ins.

A kick-off meeting and sign up is scheduled for 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, at Biggy Coffee, 37644 Ford just west of Newburgh.

"In the past, we've had anywhere from eight to 15 different writers participate," said Reference Librarian Andy Schuck. "Not everyone finishes their novel. It's kind of a daunting task."

Not everyone who participates in the program ends up with a published novel, Schuck said, so the process of actually writing the book is the important part of the program.

NaNoWriMo draws both frustrated novelists and non-writers who have something to say or want the challenge of writing a novel.

"Some people are struggling with an idea or jumping off point for a novel," said Schuck. "They want a group to interact with. It's pretty attractive to finish a novel in a month."

The library offers monthly writers groups for those 18 years and older. The less formal Writers Club will meet 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25.

"The club is just a kind of place to share your writing with other writers. They talk about writing and share it," said Schuck.

The Writers Workshop, which will next meet 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, has a more formal structure with writers submitting their work for critiques by the members.

"There is a good camaraderie in the group, it's very positive," said Schuck.

To sign up for the writing groups, visit www.westlandlibrary.org.

rogers@hometownlife.com
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Light Up a Life benefits Angela Hospice

Angela Hospice is inviting supporters to attend its annual Light Up a Life Benefit Friday, Oct. 26, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

The theme of the evening will be sports, and guests are encouraged to come representing their favorite team. There will be an open bar, gourmet dinner, appetizers and dessert, fishbowl raffle and a silent auction with items ranging from a Steve Yzerman memorabilia package, a Pandora bracelet, a Tamarack Lodge getaway, art glass vases and tailgate trailer rental.

"Our committee members have been hard at work all summer preparing for this event - and



Angela Hospice president Sister Giovanni, Events coordinator Barb Iovan, and Executive Director Mary Beth Monning show off a few of the items up for auction at the Light Up a Life Benefit: an autographed Greg Monroe jersey, the "Party in a Basket" package, and a Coach handbag.

it's going to be a memorable one," said Angela Hospice Events Coordinator Barb Iovan. "So many of our long-time supporters have pur-

chased tickets already and we are thrilled to have many new friends join us as well!"

Dancing is just one of the draws of this event and promising another slam dunk performance is the Rick Lieder Band.

"Even if you're not a dancer, they are great to listen to," said Iovan.

Tickets are \$100 per person, and raffle tickets are \$1 each. Cash donations are being accepted as well. All proceeds from the event help the programs of Angela Hospice, including direct care for hospice patients.

For more on this fun event, call Barb Iovan at (734) 953-6045, or visit www.AskForAngela.com.

Home Depot hosting veterans' job fair

In an effort to assist the Detroit military community as they transition into the civilian workforce, The Home Depot will host a Civilian Career Workshop Saturday, Oct. 27 at the company's regional office in Livonia.

The Home Depot, which employs more than 35,000 veterans and active duty military, recognizes the strong skills the military community has to offer - as well as the challenges that many service men and women face in mar-

keting these abilities to the civilian workforce.

The company's human resources professionals, in collaboration with veteran associates, will conduct half-day sessions focused on job search strategies, resume optimization and interview tips that are applicable to a search in most any industry or with most any employer.

The workshops are open to any member of the military or veteran transitioning to any

civilian career. They are part of a larger initiative, dubbed Mission: Transition, aimed at arming U.S. service men and women with the knowledge and resources they need to successfully transition into the civilian workforce. The Home Depot will host more than 100 Civilian Career Workshops across the country on Saturday, Oct. 27.

Additional information and event registration is available at careers.homedepot.com/military.

Spokespeople available for interviews during the event include The Home Depot Human Resources team members, Home Depot Associates with a military background and Civilian Career Workshop attendees.

The Home Depot Regional Office is located at 17197 Laurel Park Drive, Suite 400, in Livonia. Attendees must register online in advance of the workshops at careers.homedepot.com/military.

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TAKING MEDICINE

Each medical tablet or capsule has its own pattern of usage. For example: if a person is taking a steroid such as prednisone, the proper time to take the medication is in the morning. The reason for this timing is because prednisone is closely related to the body's adrenal hormone, cortisone. Taking prednisone in the morning brings the medicine into the body's production of the same chemical and allows integration of the medicine into the body's chemical cycles.

Other drugs are best taken two times a day because of the way the body handles the medicine. A patient on salicylate will take the medicine in two separate doses because the kidneys flush the salicylate out of the body in 6-12 hours. Dosing in the morning and again in the evening allows an adequate concentration of the drug in the bloodstream at all times.

In other instances, as when a patient takes a medicine such as Imuran, 3 x a day, the only dosing rule is that the tablets need to be separated by at least 4 hours. In this case the liver and kidneys rid the medication from the body fast enough to prevent a buildup from close dosing that could result in a toxic concentration of the Imuran.

The types of medicine that physicians like best are injections such as Methotrexate and Enbrel. The medication is completely absorbed so the patient receives 100% of the intended dose, and there is no chance the medicine will cause an upset stomach since none of the medication is absorbed by the intestinal tract.

If a patient has any question on the timing of a medicine, he should check with his doctor on this matter.

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PROPOSAL 2: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

CON: Voting 'no' protects students

By Kathy Hayes and William Mayes
Guest Columnists

When we think back to our time in elementary school we quickly recall our friends, our teachers and principals and may be even a life-changing experience or two. Of course we also recall many of the lessons we learned, from our ABCs to those pesky multiplication tables and the importance of doing our homework before completing a project or taking a big test.

While most Michigan voters completed school some time ago, we still face a big test this Nov. 6 when we head to the polls to elect individuals to represent us in Lansing and Washington, D.C., and to have our say on a half dozen different ballot proposals. While we tend to pay more attention to presidential politics, these ballot proposals can be every bit as important in determining the direction of our state.

That's why nearly 3,000 local Michigan school boards, principals and superintendents have come together to stand up for our kids, stand up for our local schools and to urge parents to vote NO on Proposal 2.

Proposal 2 would have devastating negative effects on Michigan schools, making it more important than ever to do our homework before the test. While our "grades" might not depend on getting the answer right or on defeating Proposal 2, our kids' futures certainly do.

You've probably seen the ads for Proposal 2, which talk about collective bargaining and protecting government employee jobs. But what these ads don't tell you is just how sweeping, overreaching and dangerous Proposal 2 is for Michigan's public schools.

Because of the confusing way the proposal is worded, it could literally reach in and overturn hundreds of laws on the books that strengthen our public schools, give our students the best public school teachers and save our local districts hundreds of millions of dollars each year.

Let's be clear — nowhere will Proposal 2's negative impact be felt more severely than in our public schools.

According to the opinion of many legal experts and policy analysts, if Proposal 2 is approved, it will likely repeal laws that help your local public school keep good teachers in the classroom and overturn desperately needed and common sense health care reforms for public employees. According to the teachers union itself, Proposal 2 would also erase the law that fines teachers for striking illegally, the only law on the books deterring Michigan from sliding back into the days of teacher strikes.

Educators, just like parents, want our students to receive the best education from the best teachers, but Proposal 2 would eliminate teacher evaluation systems and force us back into a seniority system that makes time on the job more important than performance with our students. It would also negate the law that allows public schools to determine which teachers teach which subjects.

Proposal 2 would cost school districts \$400 million in potential health care savings alone. Should it pass, districts will be forced to eliminate educational programs and cut staff just to balance the books. That is the last thing parents want and the last thing our children need.

So do your homework. Stand up for our Michigan schools and stand up for Michigan kids by voting NO on Proposal 2. If we don't get this answer right we won't simply be failing a test — we will be failing our children.

Kathy Hayes is executive director of Michigan Association of School Boards. **William Mayes** is executive director of the Michigan Association of School Administrators.



Hayes



Mayes

PRO: Workers' rights need protection

By Jillian A. Bogater
Guest Columnist

Why do we have unions? Here's the simple answer: Because employers notoriously have taken advantage of employees, who traditionally have lower bargaining power.

Is it under threat right now? I believe there is a national trend of anti-union activity. Wisconsin is destroying the rights of unions. Indiana just passed a right-to-work law, joining 22 other states. The right wing, which controls Michigan's legislative and executive branches of government, clearly does not support unions.

This is why voters should approve Proposal 2, which would enshrine the rights of workers to collectively bargain.

While I normally cringe when people suggest adding constitutional amendments, passing Proposal 2 is essential to preserving unions in the state. Constitutions are for giving rights. I believe collective bargaining has an important place in our state's history.

From the official Vote Yes on Proposal 2 website, protectworkingfamilies.com: "The constitution is the place where fundamental rights reside, rights that should not be subjected to the political whims of corporate special interests. The right to bargain collectively for fair wages, benefits and working conditions is a fundamental right."

Michigan is the heart of the nation's union movement, so we need to keep it vibrant.

The people who support Proposal 2 do so because historically they have been taken advantage of. It's unrealistic to believe a company's management is going to put their employees' needs next to the bottom line. The people who are against Proposal 2 are the same people who want a superior bargaining position.

Collective bargaining means just that: it involves two sides coming together to discuss an issue and engaging in a give-and-take dialogue. This proposal protects a level playing field, and keeps union-represented employees on fair footing. It also prevents politicians or the governor

from dictating workers' rights.

The proposal would preclude legislative interference in labor negotiations and restore a sense of balance. This also removes special interests, and prevents an overregulation of the employee-employer relationship. I say let both sides sit at a table and try to come to an agreement. Most times, one will be reached. And if that doesn't happen, other remedies are available.

More importantly, passage of Proposal 2 could bar implementation of any future right-to-work law, which would prevent employees from being required to join a union. While our governor says he doesn't want a right-to-work law right now, partisan members of our legislature are ready to attack those rights. Proposal 2 would provide much-needed worker protection.

As someone who has both benefited from direct involvement with collective bargaining, and worked without union protection, I personally understand the importance of this proposal's passage. I have been lucky enough to take part in collective bargaining for my health care and other workplace conditions. While we didn't get exactly what we aimed for, the collective bargaining process left me confident in the process. We brought our concerns to the table, our voices were heard and we came to a collective agreement.

I've also worked in non-union shops, where we were at the mercy of management. We experienced increased health care costs, a slip in working conditions and a lack of job security. And without meaningful job security, it is nearly impossible to dedicate one's entire career to an employer that could take that job away for no cause.

I would rather unions fade into history because an overwhelming number of employers treat their workers well, by providing fair wages, safe workplaces and adequate health care. But until that day comes, I firmly believe unions and collective bargaining must stay in place.

If you don't believe in unions, and want to end a perceived union stranglehold, treat workers well. Believe me, I would love to see the day that unions and collective bargaining are no longer necessary.

Veteran journalist **Jillian Bogater** is editor of the *University Record*, the faculty/staff newspaper at the University of Michigan.



Bogater

PROPOSAL 5: LIMIT NEW TAXES BY STATE GOVERNMENT

PRO: Language will level playing field

By Charles Owens
Guest Columnist

Among the six ballot proposals appearing on the November ballot this year is one that deserves a "Yes" vote. Proposal 5, known by its supporters as the 2/3 Amendment, would require a two-thirds super majority vote of the state House and the state Senate, or a statewide vote of the people at a November election, to impose new or additional taxes, expand the base of taxation or increase the rate of taxation.

While the current state legislature and administration have shown restraint and responsibility in fiscal management, the option to raise taxes or create new ones is an ever-present temptation to any future group of lawmakers. History teaches us that, when faced with the choice of cutting the size or growth of government or raising taxes to balance a budget, the latter is usually the first option.

Politicians in Lansing from both parties are often susceptible to the lobbying pressures of the numerous interest groups that directly benefit from the relentless growth of government. These groups run the gamut from social welfare agencies, government labor unions and even many business organizations. They have a permanent presence in Lansing, while the average taxpaying citizen is too busy trying to make a living to camp out in the Capitol lobby and persuade elected officials to their point of view. Small businesses and families cannot easily raise their own incomes and doing so should be harder for government as well. Proposal 5 levels the playing field in favor of working families and taxpayers.

Opponents of Proposal 5 are attempting to cloud the issue by dis-

tracting voters from the common-sense, plain meaning of the ballot language. They say that it would mean that a two-thirds majority would be required to lower taxes, not just raise them. This is Lansing-speak for simply shifting taxes from one party (getting a lower tax) to another (funding the other's tax cut). Yes, Prop 5 would make that kind of "musical chairs" tax policy more difficult and that is a good thing. Nothing in Prop 5 would prevent an across the board tax cut for all with a simple majority vote. Opponents also claim that if this proposal would have been in place before the recent changes to our business tax, those changes would not have been possible. By that logic, if Prop 5 had been in place before, then the flawed business tax in question would likely not have been created in the first place. Finally, Prop 5 opponents like to "dangle the shiny object" of the financing by Ambassador Bridge owner Matty Moroun to distract voters from the core value of Proposal 5. If Proposal 5 came from Mars it still wouldn't change the fact that it is a sound proposal and a rare opportunity for Michigan citizens to have more say in how tax policy is crafted.

If there's an overwhelming need for higher taxes then there should be overwhelming bipartisan support in the Legislature or in a statewide ballot election. If the need for higher taxes is as urgent as Lansing lawmakers and interest groups claim, then they should be able to make a successful case to the people. The point of Proposal 5 is that raising taxes should always be a last resort, not the first. Citizens would do well to vote "Yes" on Proposal 5.

Charles Owens is the state director for the National Federation of Independent Business, a small business advocacy organization in Lansing and Washington, D.C. Find out more at www.NFIB.com/MI.



Owens

CON: A prescription for gridlock

By Roger Martin
Guest Columnist

Of the six ballot proposals on the Nov. 6 statewide ballot, one of them is broadly opposed by labor and business, nonprofit organizations and top elected officials such as Gov. Rick Snyder, the head of the Southwest Michigan Tea Party, Democrats and Republicans, the Michigan Catholic Conference, the Michigan Farm Bureau, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Business Leaders for Michigan, and many more.

That's Proposal 5, the proposed constitutional amendment that would allow one-third of one chamber of our Legislature to control all tax reforms policies in Michigan.

Even grade school children learn pretty quickly that government works on majority rule. Proposal 5 on the Nov. 6 statewide ballot would turn Michigan's majority-rule democracy on its head in our state Legislature. Proposal 5 would forever enshrine in our Michigan Constitution the inherently anti-democratic position that a minority — a super-minority — should prevail on tax policy votes.

Proposal 5 is deceptively called the "supermajority proposal" because it would require a two-thirds vote on tax increases. Just 13 members of the Michigan Senate would gain the power to overrule the will of the Michigan House and the other senators when it comes to state tax policies. It's a prescription for gridlock, inaction, and the death of Michigan's reinvention.

This proposal is now before Michigan voters because a lone Detroit billionaire named Matty Moroun paid circulators more than \$2 million to collect signatures. He's fighting to keep tax breaks that benefit him, at the expense of the rest of Michigan. How will that happen? When the state is unable to provide vital services, local governments have to step in — and raise their taxes. In states that have super-

minority rule, local taxes tend to go up.

It's instructive to look at the handful of states with this requirement. Mississippi is one — the poorest state in the nation, the state with the highest poverty rate, and one of the poorest education systems. Nevada is another — the state with the nation's highest unemployment rate. California is another, a state that failed in 16 out of 20 years to balance its budget by the legal deadline because of legislative gridlock.

Super-minority states have lower bond ratings. It costs more to replace aging schools, to build laboratories at universities, and to make long-term investments at the state and local levels. Gov. Rick Snyder has made improving Michigan's bond rating a priority. His budget director warns the state's credit rating will drop if Proposal 5 passes.

Because Proposal 5 is so extreme, a broad range of Michigan citizens and interests — many of whom often strongly disagree with one another — are opposed to Proposal 5. They have spent a lot of time examining the impact of this proposal, including unintended consequences that, for instance, would make it harder to force out-of-state companies doing business in our state to pay taxes Michigan companies pay. Besides Moroun, the only other major backer of Proposal 5 is a Washington, D.C., lobbyist named Grover Norquist, who has pledged to use his out-of-state super PAC to fund the supporters' campaign. So bottom line: our coalition opposed to Proposal 5 is made up entirely of Michigan citizens and organizations from all corners of the state. Supporters are bankrolled by a lone Detroit billionaire and a Washington, D.C., lobbyist.

Join us in voting NO on Proposal 5. Don't vote for a permanent change to the state constitution that gives fewer Michigan citizens a real say in their government. For more, please visit www.voteNOonprop5.com.

Roger Martin is a Lansing business owner and former award-winning journalist and is spokesman for the VOTE NO on 5, Defend Michigan Democracy coalition.



Martin



NorthRidge Church members (from left) Rita Thompson, Cathy Jordan and Kristen Hare run the Chicago Marathon to raise money to bring clean water to Zambia.

Ed Ollie, a pastor, was among the 228-member NorthRidge Church team to run the Chicago Marathon.

Marathon team shatters fundraising goal

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A NorthRidge Church marathon team has shattered its \$500,000 goal of raising money to bring clean water to two villages in Zambia, a landlocked nation in southern Africa where people are becoming sick or dying because they drink and use dirty water hauled miles from polluted ponds.

New figures show the Ridge Runners team from Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Westland, South Lyon, Novi, Northville, Detroit and other communities has raised \$544,274 — outstripping a goal that was set prior to the Oct. 7 Chicago Marathon.

Bryan Amann, a Canton resident and NorthRidge director of spiritual formation, shifted much of the credit away from the Ridge Runners and toward donors all across metro Detroit who supported the team's efforts to help Zambia through World Vision, a Christian relief organization.

"It's more a reflection of the people in our area who made the contributions," Amann said.

Child sponsors

NorthRidge members also sponsor nearly 3,000 African children every month through donations to World Vision.

World Vision President Rich Stearns, in a video address to NorthRidge senior pastor Brad Powell and his congregation, said the Plymouth-based church has set the bar high for others.

"I could never have imagined what this church body was capable of," Stearns said in the video, posted on the NorthRidge website.

In one revealing statistic, the 228-member Ridge Runners team accounted for 14 percent of World Vision's 1,600 runners in the Chicago marathon. Yet the church's \$544,274 in donations, at last count, generated more than 30 percent of the \$1.7 million raised for the Christian relief organization.

World Vision and other marathon charities were amazed at metro Detroit's generosity, con-

sidering this area has been much harder hit by tough economic times than many other places, Amann said.

Ridge Runners co-captain Billy Downs of Novi said he and co-captain Tony Hobart had set the \$500,000 goal because they believed NorthRidge could attain it.

"We never gave up on that goal, but certainly the team blew past it," Downs said. "We're so proud of everybody for all the efforts they gave. It was just an amazing thing."

New plan

Already, Downs said, the Ridge Runners team has begun to plan to run the Detroit Marathon

next year partly for Life Remodeled, a nonprofit organization that builds houses for struggling families in Detroit and suburban communities such as Redford, Westland, Farmington Hills and Southfield.

"We think it will be a great project," Downs said, saying anyone interested may contact him at tribillydowns@gmail.com.

Meanwhile, Ridge Runners had begun training last January for the 26.2-mile Chicago Marathon, though injuries forced some to sit out the actual event. In all, 228 team members made the starting line.

"We only had two people who did not make it

across the finish line," Amann said. "We trained and we worked hard, and thank God people really took it seriously."

Aside from helping bring clean water amenities to the Zambia villages of Moyo and Hamaundu, NorthRidge runners had personal reasons for raising money and running the marathon. Some did it in memory of family members they have lost; others who have young children wanted to help youngsters much less fortunate than their own.

Prior to the marathon, Canton mother Sarah Miller had summed up how many Ridge Runners felt when she said her family didn't get to

choose where they were born — and neither did the people of Zambia.

"I don't have to worry about dirty water killing my children," she said.

Before the race, Amann, Miller and a small group of the NorthRidge team had gone to a Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting to discuss their participation in the Chicago Marathon. Supervisor Phil LaJoy commended the Ridge Runners for "doing good work."

NorthRidge's philanthropic efforts have stretched from Detroit to the post-Hurricane Katrina Gulf Coast to countries such as Colombia, India, Croatia, Haiti,

Nicaragua and the Philippines. The church's initiative to bring wells and other clean-water amenities to Zambia came after Hobart, the Ridge Runners' co-captain, had a conversation last year with a World Vision representative while visiting Zambia.

Now that NorthRidge runners have proved they can meet a goal as large as the one for Zambia, they say they are motivated to continue their efforts to change the world, both close to home and oceans away.

"This is a beginning," Amann said, "not an ending."

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Oakwood Healthcare prepares for regional crisis

Health systems and governmental agencies throughout metropolitan Detroit took part in a region-wide crisis drill on Oct. 4, but officials at Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. took the training exercise to a new level. At Oakwood, it was all systems go.

Oakwood activated its crisis response plan at all four acute-care hospitals as well as its ambulatory sites, setting up command centers at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center, Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, Oakwood Heritage Hospital, Oakwood Southshore Medical Center and at the Oakwood Healthcare Center-Canton.

Additionally, Oakwood activated command centers in the Oakwood Physicians Integrated (OPI) department, at the Corporate Services and Muirhead buildings and at Oakwood Common and Oakwood Skilled and Home Care.

Oakwood Physician Network (OPN) sites, along with the Oakwood Infusion, Oakwood Laboratories, Oakwood Care Connection, Senior Care Solutions and Oakwood DME and the executive offices at the Parklane building in Dearborn and the Center for Exceptional Families also took part.

Participants included physicians, clinical and non-clinical staff as well as senior leadership and executives.

"We took this exer-



Oakwood paramedics Jim Ursitti (left) and Brian Houle assist Megan Rehbein of Dearborn, a mock casualty, into the Emergency Department at the Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn.

cise a step further than most other organizations," said Maureen D'Agostino, senior vice president of organizational excellence, accreditation and compliance. "We wanted to evaluate not only how well our clinicians responded to the situation, but how well we communicated with each other and how the system operated, as a whole."

Named "Operation Shared Burden," the drill tested the ability of regional health facilities and local governments to respond to the aftermath of a fictitious detonation of an Improvised Nuclear Device. Objectives tested included evacuation of victims, radia-

tion release, shelter-in-place activities, medical supply management and distribution, communications, emergency/trauma triage and treatment, command center management, radiation response and decontamination and treatment.

There were nearly 200 simulated victims to test the ability of an over-taxed emergency department to handle a major catastrophe.

"It was the largest exercise I've ever been involved with," said John Cargill, emergency and trauma coordinator at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, where 60 volunteer "victims" tested the skills of an already busy emergency department.

The objective, from the executives to the non-clinical staff who took part, was to practice Oakwood's established crisis management plan and look for ways to improve it. All participants took their role very seriously, D'Agostino said.

"The communities we serve expect us to give the highest level of care no matter what the situation is. This wasn't just practice for anybody. Every participant was focused on solving problems," she said. "We're more prepared now than we ever were. We gained a lot of knowledge through this drill, and we hope we never need to use it in a real-life situation."

AROUND WESTLAND

Diabetes check

The Westland Friendship Center at 1119 Newburgh, will host "Diabetes Unchecked" as part of the journey to better health 1-2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25.

Senior Madonna University Nursing students will be guiding a presentation and discussion on diabetes and its potential impact on health and quality of life. Information will be brought to light regarding borderline diabetes and the progression of the disease, if it goes "unchecked." A question-and answer period will follow presentation.

Call (734) 722-7632 to sign up. Light refreshments will be served.

Hunter safety

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Wayne County are offering a hunter safety class 5:30-9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22, Wednesday, Oct. 24, and Friday, Oct. 26, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

Hunter safety classes are required by the state to purchase a Michigan hunting license. The state requires 10 1/2 hours of instruction over three days. A test also is required to receive certification.

The deadline for registering is Thursday, Oct. 18. For more information or to register, call Jakleen Ochsalek at (313) 225-0755 or send an email to jochsalk@wayne.mi.us. More information about hunting requirements can be found online at www.

michigan.gov/huntereducation.

Halloween fun

Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church will host Trunk-or-Treat and Other Halloween Fun (Cupcake Walk, Paint a Pumpkin and more) 2-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, at the church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

Everyone is welcome with or without a costume. For more information, call (734) 728-1088.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bottle Rockets, a wrestling club for ages 4-14, meets 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for beginners and 6-7:45 p.m. for advanced wrestlers, in the Wrestling Room of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland. Practice will begin Tuesday, Nov. 27, and run through March 2013.

Registration will take place 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, outside the Wrestling Room at the high school. The membership fee for the season is \$50 and includes a T-shirt.

More information and/or a copy of the registration form can be obtained by visiting the club link at glennwrestling.com. Questions can be directed to the coaches at brclubwrestling@gmail.com or call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Town hall meeting

Mayor William Wild will hold his final town hall meeting to discuss with the public the City Hall project 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, at Cooper Upper Elementary at 28550 Ann Arbor Trail.

Appraisal Clinic

Gather up those items you've always thought might be a valuable and get an answer as the Westland Historic Village Park hosts an Appraisal Clinic by DuMouchelle Galleries. The clinic will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Octagon House.

The cost is \$10 per item for verbal appraisals with a maximum of three items per person. Appraisal items must be able to be brought inside the building.

Call (734) 522-3918 with the number of items to be appraised and get an estimated time slot for the appraisal. Walk-ins will be accepted at the end of the scheduled appraisals.

Octagon House is located in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road south of Marquette.

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Bomb sniffing canine, Nina, mourned by her handler, friends and family

By Susan Steinmueller
Observer Staff Writer

Nina, a bomb-sniffing detection dog, did more than save lives — she made people smile. “She used to put people at ease,” said Stuart Rich, reserve executive commander with the Wayne County Sheriff’s Department, for whom Nina was a work partner by day and member of his family in Farmington Hills at night.

“She had a goofy side,” he said of the Czechoslovakian German shepherd. “If she saw somebody that was sad, she would do something special to make them smile.”

Yet when it came to her job with the sheriff’s department, she was all business.

“She was so gentle, but still did the work that was required,” Rich said. “She was exceptional. She truly was one of a kind.”

Nina, 8½, passed away suddenly Sunday, Oct. 14. “None of us saw it coming,” said Rich, who’s been a canine handler for more than 30 years. “Basically, she had a cardiac issue.”

She received a clean bill of health only days before, Rich said.

A tribute

To honor Nina’s memory, friends and family will gather at Sunrise Cafe in Farmington Hills the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 23.

The tribute gathering is being arranged by Wayne County Sheriff’s Deputy Emmanuel “Mike” Parashos, who owns Sunrise Cafe, and Wayne County Sheriff’s Deputy Steve Katz, who owns the neighboring Bake Station Too, at 13 Mile and Orchard Lake.

“They said we need to do something for her because we all loved her,” Rich said.

Parashos, who works for Rich in the Mountain Bike Unit, said people may not realize how much police dogs do. Nina was like a sworn officer, he said. “If there’s a bomb threat, she’ll be there,” he said.

“She was awesome,” he said of Nina. “We worked together a lot on details that require security, like Tigers games and concerts. She was very calm and she was real nice with the kids.”

Nina didn’t like to be apart from Rich, however.

“They were very bonded,” Parashos said.

Perfect fit

Rich said that he received Nina when she was a young dog because she became too large for her previous owner to take care of her. German shepherds from Czechoslovakia are very tall, Rich said.

“It was perfect,” he said. “She took to the work right away.”

Nina served in various departments over the years, including the explosive detection division, the Canine Urban Response Team and the Homeland Security department.

Rich and Nina were also deputized in Oakland County; Rich is also a pilot for the Oakland County Sheriff’s Department.

Rich said that some might remember Nina from the Woodward Dream Cruise, which they worked for the last



Stuart Rich, Wayne County Sheriff’s Department Reserve executive commander, worked on the job with his canine partner, Nina.

seven years.

Others might remember her from the Detroit auto show charity preview night, where she allowed herself to be dressed up for pictures, and other charitable events.

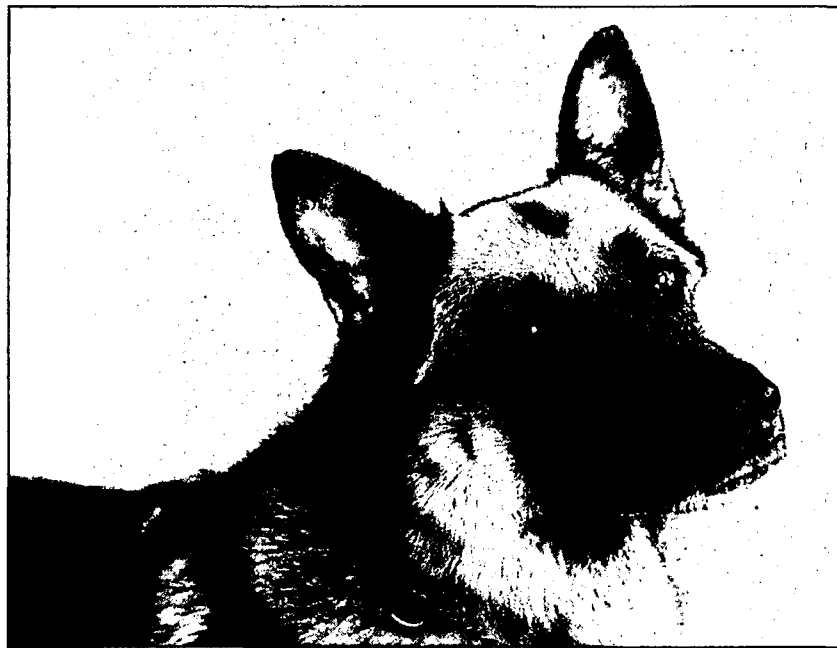
Nina is mourned by Rich’s wife, Kimberlie, and two grown children. Rich said his neighbors will also miss her.

Rich said that last weekend, they took Nina to an emergency vet, but it was too late.

“In true form,” he said, in her last moments, “she smiled at me.”

Rich said that donations in her memory can be made to the Michigan Humane Society.

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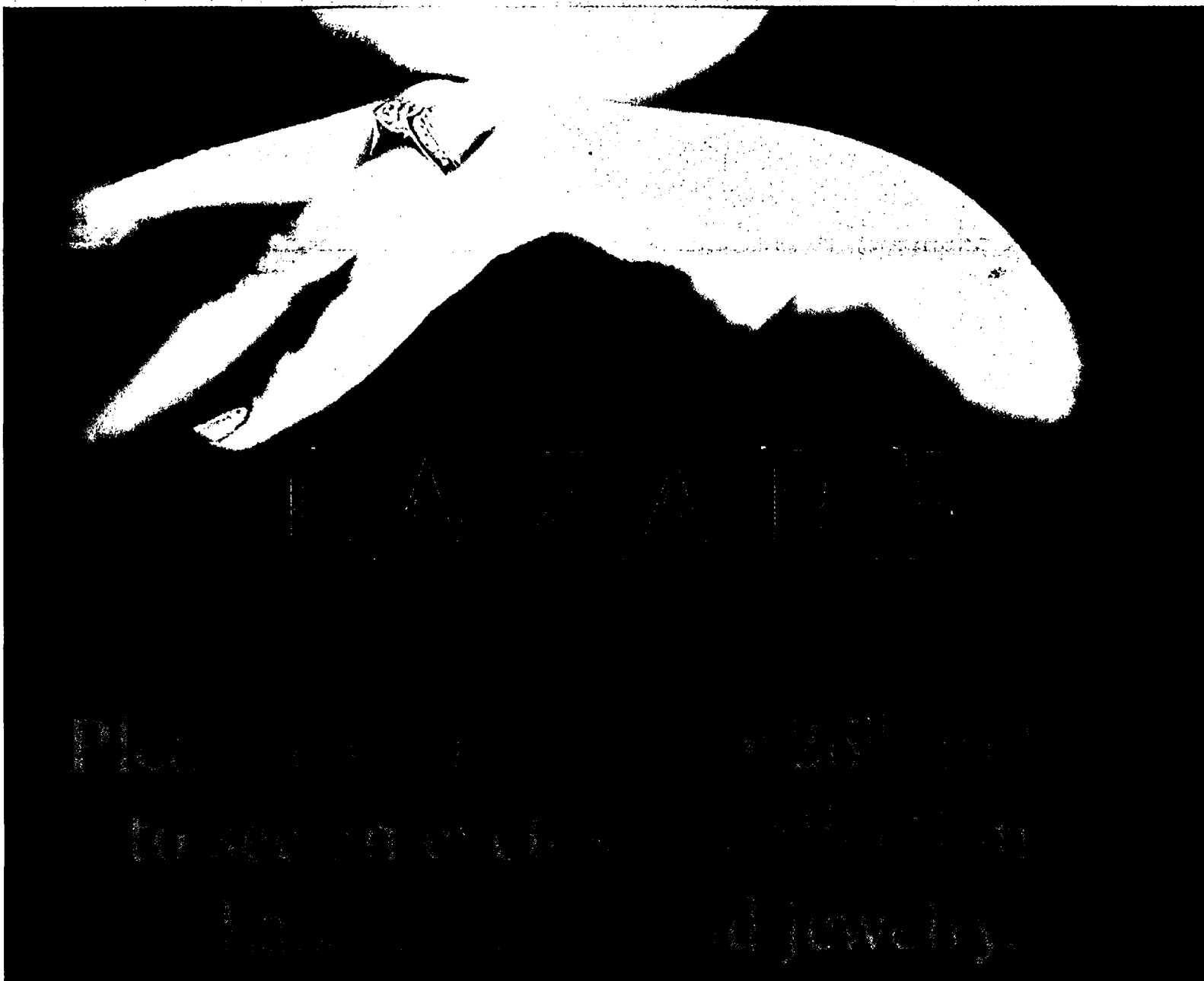
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Look to other options rather than new 10-year annuity

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I'm in my 70s and I have a few fixed annuities in my portfolio. One of those annuities will mature in mid-November and I need your advice. The salesperson has been contacting me and wants me to re-up for another 10 years. Because of the rate of return and the guarantee on that annuity, I'm not interested in re-upping. He has told me that unless I renew the annuity or transfer it into a new one, the annuity will be cashed out and I will be forced to pay the taxes —



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

something I'm not interested in doing. I feel I'm between a rock and a hard place. Do you have any suggestions?

A: I agree that it doesn't make sense in this environment to re-up for another 10 years. The guarantee on fixed annuities is very low and, therefore, a 10-year period doesn't make any sense. Of course, it makes sense for your annuity salesperson as he/she will receive a substantial commission if you do roll it over.

In your situation, I have a couple viable options. The first is to shop around fixed annuities with other companies that have shorter terms. For example, there are some good fixed annuities that only have a five-year term. In this environment with

low interest rates, five years would be the maximum length of time that I would want to commit to any fixed annuity. Down the road when rates and guarantees are higher, I may commit to a longer period, but not in today's low interest rate environment.

Another alternative — and one I believe makes the most sense for you to pursue — is to directly transfer the money into an annuity that has no time period. If, for example, you go into a 10-year annuity, if you decide that you want out after year two or three, you're going to have to pay a penalty. However, there are annuities where you can withdraw money whenever you choose and there would be no penalty. You can take

out as little or as much as you want whenever you want. Therefore, you have the flexibility to control your taxes. You don't have to worry about paying your taxes in one lump sum — you can spread it out over a period of time.

There are many companies that offer these types of annuities. The reason you don't hear much about them is because all too often annuities are not bought, they are sold. These types of annuities don't pay commission and so commissioned salespeople don't want anything to do with them.

My goal is always to make sure you have more money in your pocket because I believe money looks better there

than anywhere else and that's why I talk about these types of annuities.

Companies that offer these types of annuities are Vanguard, Fidelity and Charles Schwab. They are very easy to purchase and there is no tax consequences when you directly transfer the money from your old annuity into one of these annuities.

All the annuities I've mentioned do have multiple investment options. In these products, you can be conservative by selecting a fixed income investment option or you can be more aggressive by using equities. One of the benefits of these annuities compared to others is they have very low costs. Unfortunately, too many annuities are

stuffed with high fees, which mean low returns. After all, when they give your annuity salesperson free trips if they sell so many annuities, who do you think is paying for that trip?

If you have an annuity and it is maturing and you don't want to commit to another annuity where you have to lock your money up for years, remember, despite what the annuity salespeople tell you, you do have options and those options are viable. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Panel makes recommendations on state parks, recreation areas

Encouraging greater connections between communities and their recreational assets can help promote the long-term viability of Michigan's state parks, according to a blue ribbon panel's recommendations that has been presented to Gov. Rick Snyder.

The finding is one of seven core recommendations offered by the Blue Ribbon Panel on State Parks and Outdoor Recreation, appointed last year by Snyder.

Created by Executive Order 2011-10, the 16-member panel considered the entirety of Michigan's system of parks and outdoor recreational opportunities at the local, state and regional level - not just state-managed facilities - to recognize their collective role in growing the state's economy and improving residents' health and well-being. The report highlights opportunities for these natural resources assets to more creatively meet the needs of current and future generations of residents and visitors.

"We are fortunate to have a well-run, quality network of inviting state parks that add to Michigan's appeal as an attractive travel destination," said Snyder. "My goal for this panel was to create a blueprint to help state parks adapt for 21st Century growth and investment. This report points the state in the right direction."

In order to meet its goals, the panel said the state should collaborate with public agencies, nonprofit organizations and the private sector to plan, manage and invest in natural resources and recreation programs to drive several key outcomes, including:

- Demonstrating the value of the state's investment in parks and outdoor recreation.
- Driving Michigan's economic prosperity.
- Inspiring greater regional identity.
- Protecting and creating opportunities for the public to experience and learn about Michigan's natural, cultural, historic and prehistoric



A popular destination in Michigan's Upper Peninsula is Tahquamenon Falls State Park.

resources.

"Michigan's parks and outdoor recreation areas are iconic, and represent a portfolio of assets that should be viewed by the state as critical to advancing Michigan's prosperity. They return dividends - social, ecological, and economic - that far exceed the investments made by the state and its local public and private partners," said panel co-chairs Jon Allan and Erin McDonough in the report. "These assets provide a place to recreate and, at their best, they help make our communities cohesive, connect people to their places and to each other, engender civic engagement, and remind us of our connection to the natural world and to our history."

Last year, the Department of Natural Resources and Michigan state parks and recreation areas earned the National Recreation and Park Association's Gold Medal Award for

operating as the best-managed state park system in the country, excelling in long-term planning and resource management and for its ability to address the needs of customers through creative partnerships.

Building on those strengths, the Blue Ribbon Panel made the following recommendations:

- 1) Identify and protect important natural, cultural, historic and prehistoric resources for the enjoyment and education of Michigan's residents and visitors, and expand stewardship of these resources.
- 2) Diversify funding and use new criteria to target investments. This includes a recommendation that the state move the Recreation Passport to an "opt-out" system of funding and pursue expanded revenue bonding authority to address a backlog of priority maintenance and improvement needs at outdoor recreation facilities.

In addition, the report recommends re-establishing the State Parks Foundation to accept private donations toward parks projects.

3) Give high priority to investment in the development of regional connected trail networks. The report urges development of a comprehensive trails database available through an easily accessible platform.

4) Encourage greater connections between communities and their recreational assets to strengthen regional identities.

5) Create four to five "signature parks" in Michigan's core urban areas as a tool for revitalizing those areas, and integrate green infrastructure in Michigan's urban redevelopment.

6) Integrate tourism and economic development marketing to fully leverage the economic and social benefits that parks and outdoor recreation

resources can provide. 7) Prioritize investment in safety and maintenance of, and access to, parks and recreation spaces.

The report also includes 19 supplementary recommendations, including creating a follow-up panel to address overall natural resources funding; developing a Michigan state park pilot design competition; and enhancing cooperation among health care companies, the DNR and the state Department of Community Health to pilot a health and wellness program centered around outdoor resources.

The panel was comprised of representatives from nature conservancies, trails and marine groups and environmental agencies, as well as other acknowledged experts in recreation, parks and tourism issues. These individuals brought a broad range of perspectives and ideas to the panel.

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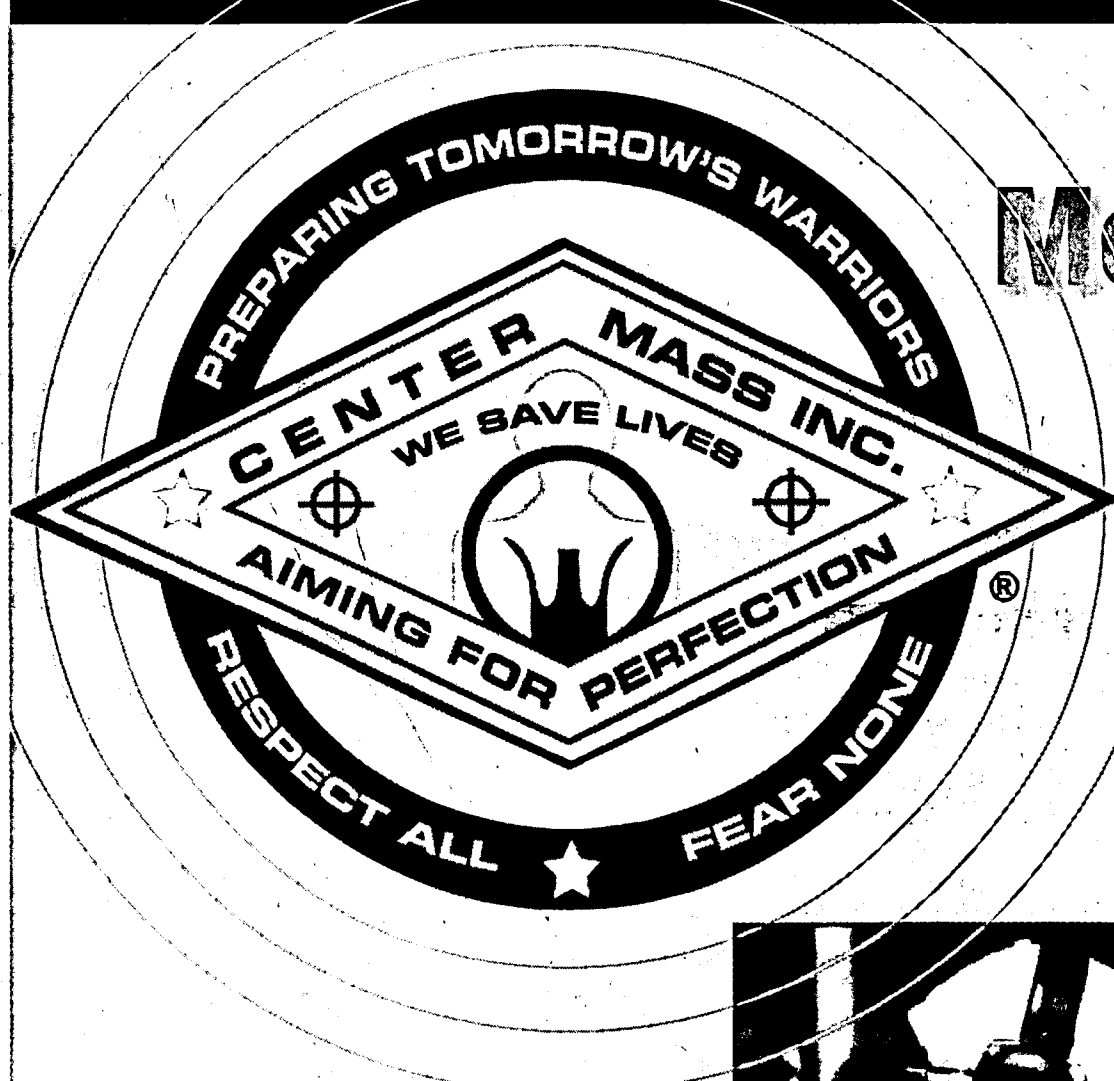
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SPORTS

Chargers cap 9-0 season

Stevenson is stymied, 49-10

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill put an exclamation point on its most successful regular season in football since 1978 with a resounding 49-10 victory Friday night at home over Livonia Stevenson.

The Chargers, now 9-0 overall, will host a first-round Division 1 playoff game next Friday; the pairings are announced on Fox Sports Detroit at 6 p.m. Sunday.

"I told them right after the game on the field the big challenge now is to refocus and reset your goals," Churchill coach John Filiatraut said. "Last year when we made the playoffs (35-6 loss to Detroit Cass Tech), I think it surprised us a little bit. I think this year we'll be a little more ready for that first game and kind of have the mindset to play more than one week."

The Chargers were certainly ready for Stevenson (6-3), which will also await its playoff pairing fate Sunday night.

The Chargers scored all six of their possessions of the first half as senior Romello Brown scored touchdowns on first-quarter runs of 9 and 14 yards, while Stevenson got a 25-yard field goal from Tom O'Brien to make it 14-3.

After O'Brien missed a 35-yard field goal wide left with 9:23 remaining in the second quarter, Churchill marched 80 yards in 10 plays, capped by quarterback Seth Suida's 27-yard draw for another TD and a 21-3 lead.

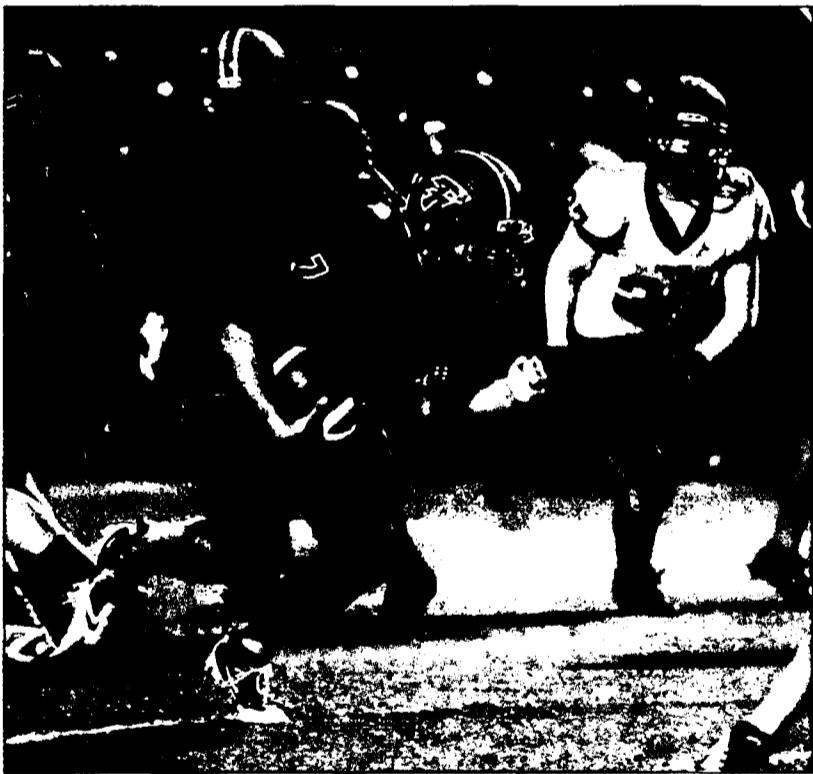


Churchill's tackler Romello Brown (right) wraps up Stevenson ball carrier C.J. Weiss in Friday's 49-10 victory for the 9-0 Chargers.

DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Please see CHARGERS, B3

Looking for paydirt



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin's Jimmy Mazaris (2) carries the ball to within the goal line before teammate Joe McRobb scored a touchdown in the Patriots' 31-17 loss Friday night in the season finale to Ann Arbor Pioneer. See story on page B2.

Trojans punch playoff ticket with 38-20 win over Durand

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It was a joyous bus ride back from Durand Friday night for the Livonia Clarenceville football team.

The Trojans notched their ninth postseason playoff berth in school history and the first since 2008 with a come-from-behind 38-20 win over the host Railroaders.

Jalen Bryant scored three touchdowns to key the rally on runs of 1, 4 and 5 yards as the Trojans improved to 6-3 overall.

"It's a great feeling, the kids are excited and it's good for everybody," Clarenceville third-year coach Ken Fry said. "They played really well tonight after being down by 14 points.

"They really showed their character. It was nice and I'm really proud of them. I'm happy for them and happy for Clarenceville. It was really an

overall team effort in the second half."

Durand (2-7) jumped out to a 14-0 first-quarter lead on a 1-yard TD run by Kyle Graham and a 14-yard scoring pass from quarterback Jimmy Phillips.

But the Trojans fought back to take an 18-14 halftime lead after senior kicker Ma Sambou Jatta booted a 34-yard field goal, followed by two Bryant TDs.

Jawan Nelson put the Trojans up 25-14 with a 65-yard kickoff return to offset a 95-yard kickoff return for a TD by Graham.

Leading 25-20 going into the final quarter, Clarenceville put it away on a 6-yard scoring pass from quarterback Zach Kubiak to Austin Douglass.

The Trojans will find out who their upcoming playoff opponent will be when Fox Sports Detroit announces the MHSAA pairings beginning at 6 p.m. Sunday.

MU spikers split matches

The 19th-ranked Madonna University women's volleyball team split a pair of matches in the BLT Sportswear & Apparel Crusader Classic.

Taylor Martin and Jordan Holcomb each had 17 kills as No. 7 Embry-Riddle (Fla.) beat MU at home, 27-25, 18-25, 25-23, 25-20.

Embry-Riddle (19-6) got 38 digs from Hannah Gray and 48 assists from setter Adriana Vasquez in the win.

MU (26-6) got 18 kills from Nastija Baranovska and 15 from Samantha Geile, while Emilie Freeman (Lutheran Westland) and Stacey Catalano had 12 each.

Setter Evia Prieditis had 56 assists, while Brenna Geile finished with a team-best 24 digs.

Earlier in the day, MU coach Jerry Abraham notched his NAIA 996th victory as the Crusaders outlasted Daemen (N.Y.) in five sets, 25-21, 24-26, 25-13, 22-25, 15-10, as Samantha Geile and Catalano each had 17 kills, while Freeman added 15. Prieditis also had 51 assists, while Brenna and Samantha Geile combined for 47 digs.

Daemen (16-6) got 15 kills from Jenn Karan.

On Wednesday, the Crusaders swept visiting Lawrence Tech, 25-12, 25-17, 25-15, in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference match.

Baranovska led MU with nine kills, while Freeman and Catalano added eight apiece. Prieditis finished with 30 assists.

Brenna Geile posted a match-best 12 digs, while Catalano contributed 10 as the Crusaders improved to 8-0 in the WHAC.

Karlene Foisy and Kasey Clark recorded 11 and 10 kills, respectively, for Lawrence Tech (9-18, 0-8).

OCC trips up Lady Ocelots

On Thursday, Oakland Community College wrapped up sole possession of second place in the MCCA Eastern Conference with a 25-12, 25-21, 25-20 victory over host Schoolcraft College.

OCC improves to 17-6 overall and 10-2 in the conference, while the Lady Ocelots fall to 19-12 and 9-3.

Mott clinched the Eastern Conference crown with an 11-1 record.

Photo of former Glenn gridder is taken down

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The parents of a former Westland John Glenn football player Quavon Smith, who transferred just before the season started to Ann Arbor Huron, have accused the Glenn coaching staff of targeting their son for Friday's regular-season finale.

The accusations came after a poster-sized photo of Smith was taped to a glass partition which adjoins the coaches office and the school's football locker room.

In an interview Wednesday night with Detroit's WXYZ-TV (Channel 7), Wayne-Westland Super-

intendent Dr. Gregory Baracy stated it was a "poor choice" by the coaches.

Baracy, who reportedly is on a medical leave, could not be reached for comment.

John Albrecht, executive director for student and legal affairs for the Wayne-Westland Schools, sent the *Observer* a link of the Detroit television report.

"We felt we were really decisive in dealing with them," the superintendent told Channel 7. "Taking the picture down, talking with the coaches — the coaches are assuring us that their students will play professionally and that's

our expectation of everybody and if that doesn't happen, we will deal with it."

That photo was removed Wednesday after Greg Ambrose, who serves as dual athletic administrator for Wayne Memorial and John Glenn highs, met with Glenn varsity coach Tim Hardin.

Terance and Angie Smith said that their son, now a junior at Huron, was unfairly targeted after he received a text showing the photo. He had been alerted to it by two different Glenn players, along with a female student.

Please see PHOTO, B2

Rockets blast off, rout Huron, 37-0

Westland John Glenn's football team ended the 2012 season on a high note Friday night with a 37-0 triumph over winless Ann Arbor Huron.

The Rockets, who recovered from a 0-6 start, finish the season at 3-6 overall.

Glenn scored three times in the opening quarter to take command as Devon Spalding, who rushed for a game-high 163 yards on nine carries, scored on a 52-yard touchdown run with 9:36 left.

Senior DaMario Jones followed with a 79-yard TD dash with 3:44 to go, followed by Chris Scheffer-to-Jones scoring pass with 36 seconds remaining in the first

quarter as the Rockets led 21-0.

In the second quarter, Tyler Clemons added a 1-yard scoring run to give Glenn a 28-0 half-time advantage.

After a scoreless third quarter, Thomas Carter scored on a 4-yard run after he set up the TD with a 39-yard dash. Alex Isaevski converted his fifth straight PAT to make it 35-0.

And with only 10 seconds remaining in the game, Glenn's Trevon Gee made the tackle on a River Rats running back for a two-point safety.

Glenn racked up a total of 486 yards,

Please see ROCKETS, B4

Golf update: First round

Livonia Churchill's Jackie Burdette fired an opening-round 84 of the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 girls golf finals Friday at Michigan State University's Forest Akers (East) Golf Course.

Burdette was second among individual state qualifiers behind only Madison Smith, who shot an opening-round 82.

Livonia Stevenson's Laura Shureb, another individual state qualifier, shot a 94.

KLAA Kensington Conference champ Plymouth, led by Laura Murphy's 73, had the team lead with 331, with Utica and Farmington Hills Mercy in second and third with 338 and 343, respectively.

PHOTO

Continued from page B1

"To me, it's all the (coaching) staff," Terance Smith said. "There's no reason for that picture to be hanging in the locker room. For what reason other to hurt this guy and get him? Some of his friends sent him text messages and one said, 'I hope you get hurt' when they play each other. This is something I cannot or will not take laying down."

Ambrose confirmed Wednesday that he requested Hardin to remove a picture in the football locker room.

"All I can say is, yes, there was a picture of him (Smith) in the locker room," Ambrose said. "I was alerted about it (Wednesday). (Athletic Director) Dottie Davis at Huron called me and said, 'Hey, this is what I'm hearing from here.' I was over at Wayne, went over to Glenn. I was in the locker room, took it down, went down to talk to coach Hardin. I told him, 'I don't want this up, why is it here?' He just said, 'OK,' and we were done with it at that point. "There were no targets, there were no bull's-eyes or mustaches on the picture, or anything else. It was just a picture on the wall next to the locker room in the coaches' office."

Why was the poster of Smith hanging in the locker room?

"My coach told me, 'Of our opponents, we find key players in games that are people we need to key on, then we're going to identify them and make sure our kids know who they are,'" Ambrose said. "From what I understand is that he (Smith) is their

starting tailback, that's what my coach said. "He (Quavon Smith) still has some friends, I guess, over at John Glenn. But he was basically dismissed from our team earlier in the year and he landed at Ann Arbor Huron. He was part of the program and then he wasn't. He didn't start school, but he started practice with the John Glenn team."

Terance Smith said he called John Glenn High administrators along with the Westland Police Department and various area media outlets.

"The coaches allowed his photo to be hung up in the locker room and the lecture hall of the football team," Terance Smith said. "The police department said it's a form of bullying, not only just that. To me, it's being he's a former athlete, it's almost like a bounty to go out and hurt this guy. It's almost like a wanted poster to me. The verbal part is, 'We need to hurt him and get him' because he used to play for them, and he moved out of the area and attended another school. The coaches are saying this to the athletes to hurt this guy."

Ambrose said he did not find any photo of Smith hanging near the lecture hall where Glenn players normally watch film that adjoins Hardin's football office.

Hardin, via an email early Friday, told the *Observer*: "All I can say is that all questions must be directed toward the superintendent's office."

Quavon Smith, meanwhile, told Channel 7 that he would not play in the game against Glenn.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ann Arbor Pioneer's Bradley Koenig draws a roughing the kicker penalty on Franklin's Alejandro Castillo (right).

Pats fall in season finale, 31-17

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It was a frustrating way to end the 2012 football season, but Livonia Franklin coach Chris Kelbert said his team can hold their collective heads high. The Patriots dropped their season finale Friday night at home to Ann Arbor Pioneer, 31-17, which punched its ticket to the state playoffs with its sixth win of the season.

"Our kids always played hard," said Kelbert.

Spartans, Churchill struggle at 'states'

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Points were hard to come by Friday for both Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Churchill in the MHSAA Division 1 tennis tournament held in Midland.

Stevenson, the Woodhaven regional champion, finished with three points on the day, while Churchill garnered two. Ann Arbor Huron and Birmingham Brother Rice led the team standings with 24 and 22 points, respectively, heading into Saturday's final round.

The only Stevenson player to come away with points in singles was Johnson Yang (No. 4), who defeated Cory

bert, whose team finished 2-7 overall. "It was never an effort thing. We ran into a ton of adversity, but they never gave up and from a coaching standpoint that's a big part of it."

Franklin led 3-0 after one quarter thanks to a 28-yard field goal by Alejandro Castillo.

But Pioneer led 17-10 at the half getting touchdown runs of 1 and 77 yards by Marquise Thomas, along with a 33-yard field goal by Eric Kristensen.

Franklin, meanwhile, got a 4-yard TD run from senior Joe McRobb.

After a scoreless third quarter, Pioneer put it away in the fourth when quarterback KeSean Hagan hurled a 77-yard TD pass followed by Bradley Koenig's 15-yard interception return for a score.

The Patriots got a 2-yard touchdown run in the final period from senior Jimmy Mazaris, who led Franklin with 118 yards on 19 carries. (McRobb added 62 yards on 11 attempts.)

Pioneer had a total of 312 yards including 160 passing as Hagan was 7-of-8. The Patriots finished with 244 total yards, including 192 on the ground.

Quarterback Ryan Taranich was 3-of-12 for 52 yards and two interceptions. Anthony Radu also had an interception for the Patriots, who were missing three players and head coach Paul Test, all of whom were suspended following a postgame brawl the previous week in a 35-6 win over Ann Arbor Huron.

over Andre Hijaouy and David Killian of Novi-Detroit Catholic Central before losing to top seeds David Weatherford and Brendan Dillon of Rice, 6-0, 6-1.

Stevenson's No. 1 doubles team of Aaron Dziobak and Jeff Frederick fell to Cade VanRooyen and Thomas Hall of Rockford, 6-3, 6-4, while Chase Tinham and Jason Wysocki (No. 2) lost to Connor Dubay and Alex Balte of Troy, 6-2, 6-3.

The Spartans' Ahmed Hussain and Joe Osmialowski (No. 3) fell in straight sets to Caleb Taylor and Josh McKenzie of Grand Blanc, 7-6, 7-3, 6-1.

Churchill's Jonathan Martin (No. 1), Joe Mulka

got a 4-yard TD run from senior Joe McRobb.

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Churchill's Jonathan Martin (No. 1), Joe Mulka

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Flying high

HVL's Hawks remain in MIAC White race

The Westland Huron Valley Lutheran girls volleyball team is trying to build some late season momentum before heading into the postseason.

On Thursday, the Hawks improved to 24-12-5 overall and 6-2 in the White Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference with a 22-25, 25-21, 25-22, 28-6 victory at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

That victory came on the heels of a 25-12, 25-16, 17-25, 25-14 MIAC White Division win Tuesday at home over Birmingham Røeper.

"It was nice to see the girls come back and beat a couple of good teams that we lost to in the first round of the conference," HVL coach Mike Dest said. "With the two wins this week, we put ourselves in a position to have a chance at capturing another conference championship."

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Over the last four MIAC matches, Lexus Medina paced the Hawks by averaging 20 kills and seven blocks, while Madison Dest averaged 17 kills, nine aces and was 25-of-27 in serve reception.

Other leaders based on four-match averages included Dayna Schroed-er (11 kills, five blocks, 21-of-27 serve receive) and Anne St. John (40 assist-to-kills, five kills, seven aces).

"We also have been getting some great play from Sarah Setian, Julie St. John, Bethany Schaffer, and Nikki Alcini," Dest said. "It will take our whole team coaches and players as one to help accomplish our end of the season goals."

Meanwhile, it will be a busy upcoming week for

the Hawks who will play Tuesday in the Lutheran Westland Quad and Wednesday in the Livonia Ladywood quad before finishing the regular season Saturday in a tournament at Saline Washtenaw Christian.

Rockets downed

In a Kensington Conference crossover Tuesday, host South Lyon East defeated Westland John Glenn in four sets, 25-18, 20-25, 25-20, 19-25.

Hannah Staples led the Rockets (10-23-3) with 10 kills and nine digs.

Other standouts for Glenn included Val Ernat (10 aces, 16 digs), Claire Truskowski (24 assists) and Courtney Schrabber (nine digs).

"It was nice to have Hannah back, she's been out two weeks sick and Claire played a very tough match," Glenn coach Krista DePoy said.

Cheer for Pink



The Livonia Stevenson cheerleading team held its second annual "Pink Out" during an Oct. 5 home football game against Salem. A total of \$925 was raised for the St. Mary Mercy Cancer Center. Students, staff and supporters participated throughout the day wearing their "Keep Calm and Fight On" pink T-shirts. Donations were collected during the game, which featured a special halftime ceremony to honor cancer survivors and remember those who have passed away.

Northville harriers sweep the field

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Northville took center stage Thursday afternoon in the KLA A Kensington Conference boys and girls cross county meets held at Huron Meadows Metropark in Brighton.

The Northville boys, led by individual winner Dan Sims' first-place 5,000-meter time of 15 minutes, 55.2 seconds, captured the team title with 47 points with Salem (87), Plymouth (100), Livonia Stevenson (116), Livonia Churchill (133) and Novi (152) rounding out top six in the 12-school field.

Rachel Coleman's first-place finish in 18:29.3 also carried the Mustangs to the girls title.

Northville took first with 36 points followed by Salem (52), Churchill (91), Canton (136), Stevenson (150) and Plymouth (154).

Churchill senior Sydney Anderson earned first-team All-Kensington honors (top seven) by placing fifth in 18:57.0. Kerigan Riley added an eighth to make second-team (19:12.1), while Michelle

Azar placed 20th (19:48.3) to gain third-team accolades.

"I was very proud of how my girls raced today, especially against two of the best teams in the state," Churchill coach Sue Tatro said. "Sydney (Anderson) and Kerigan (Riley) proved they were capable of running with some of the top runners in the state and I'm happy with the way that they executed their races. They definitely ran with a lot of confidence and desire."

Stevenson's top girls finisher was Lindsey Gallagher (second-team), who placed 12th in 19:19.4, while Livonia Franklin freshman Natalie Douglas placed 19th (third-team) in 19:47.9.

On the boys side, Stevenson had two runners gain second-team honors in eighth-place finisher Stephen Fenech (16:35.6) and 11th-place finisher Jacob Colley (16:41.5). But Stevenson coach Chris Inch said his team left a little too much on the table.

"We didn't execute the way we need to in a cham-

pionship meet," he said. "Our spread needs to be 30 seconds or better. We were closer to 45 seconds today. I would rather stumble at conference meet than regionals. I am confident the guys will bounce back next Saturday."

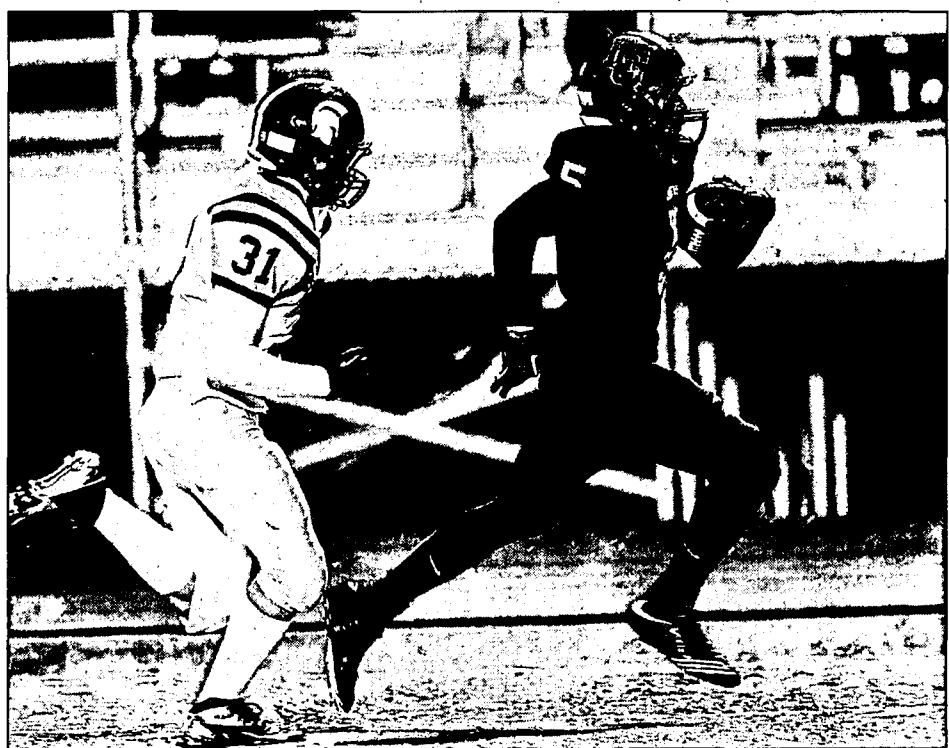
Two Franklin sophomores turned in impressive showings as Ross Cecil made first-team after taking fifth in 16:30.1, while Keenan Jones gained a spot on second-team with a clocking of 16:44.5.

Churchill boasted a second-teamer in Ben Yates (13th, 16:44.8) and a third-teamer in George Bowles (16th, 16:52.5).

Churchill, Franklin, Stevenson, Westland John Glenn will all compete in the MHSAA Division 1 regional Saturday at Willow Metropark in New Boston. The boys race starts at 10:30 a.m. followed by the girls at 11:45 a.m.

Wayne Memorial, meanwhile, will travel Saturday to the Division 1 regional Lake Erie Metropark.

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DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Churchill's Andre Abram (5) gets loose down the sideline from Stevenson tackler Devin Kelly during Friday's regular season finale.

CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

"We got three, but with a team like that I would have liked to have scored," Stevenson coach Matt Fielder said. "We had to take advantage of every possession and we didn't do that. We couldn't match their scoring. When we decided to spread out and do some other things, we got out of rhythm and never really found it again and they ended up defending us pretty well. They made us work for everything. And, obviously, defensively they're pretty good."

"Romello is very good, but it's balanced team. The quarterback (Suida) is very good and they have more than a handful of skill guys that are play-makers, too."

Suida also hit Jeremy Lewis on a 27-yard post route for another score and the Chargers continued their first-half assault by recovering the ensuing kickoff at the Spartans' 24.

Five players later, Suida connected with Lewis again for an 8-yard TD with 3:01 to go.

The Chargers got the ball back with 1:41 remaining and scored again, going 80 yards in just seven plays with 246-pound Brown bouncing in from 4 yards out.

Brian Alsobrooks converted his sixth straight PAT to make it a commanding 42-3 advantage with only 25.1 seconds left in the half.

"We were sharp," Filia-τραut said. "Last Sunday, when we were preparing for this game, we talked about making this a week where we concentrate on the little things. We were precise today when we got the ball. I think we were good."

"Stevenson showed us a few wrinkles on offense that we didn't necessarily prepare for. And they hurt us in a couple of drives, but once we got that under control, we were in good shape."

Suida was 12-of-17 passing for 235 yards in just two quarters, while Brown rushed 12 times for 114 yards.

With the 35-point mercy rule in effect and a running clock going in the third quarter, Stevenson got on the board again on the first play of the fourth quarter on a Joe

Mims 17-yard TD toss to Billy Bonanno.

But Churchill came right back behind the running of Malik Johnson, who darted through the Stevenson defense 37 yards for a TD with 9:43 remaining.

"I liked our leadership and our seniors," Filia-τραut said. "I thought Seth played great, and Jeremy Lewis and Hunter Rimatzki. We weren't able to get Bobby Foster going tonight ... he had a little ankle injury. Guys stepped up and did a fantastic job."

Meanwhile, Stevenson could conceivably wind up playing Churchill again in the first round of the playoffs, depending on the pairings.

"We've just got to get back to the drawing board," Fielder said. "You've got to control the ball and keep them off the field and try and get them to turn the ball over, or give it up on downs. But they're a good offense. They're going to score points. You've got to get some breaks and try and control the ball."

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BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE CROSS COUNTRY MEET
Oct. 18 at Huron Meadows

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 47 points; 2. Salem, 87; 3. Plymouth, 100; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 116; 5. Livonia Churchill, 133; 6. Novi, 152; 7. South Lyon, 167; 8. Canton, 178; 9. Livonia Franklin, 218; 10. Wayne Memorial, 246; 11. Westland John Glenn, 340; 12. South Lyon East, 360.

Individual winner: Dan Sims (Northville), 15:55.2 (5,000 meters).

TEAM-BY-TEAM RESULTS

Northville (47): 1. Sims, 15:55.2; 4. Nick Noles, 16:27.3; 7. Drew Kanya, 16:33.6; 14. Sean McCullough, 16:47.0; 21. Jason Ferrante, 17:00.7; 22. Conor Naughton, 17:01.1; 26. Jimmy Castellano, 17:07.0.

Salem (87): 6. Steve McEvilly, 16:31.9; 9. Chaz Jeffress, 16:38.0; 20. Michael Karizat, 16:57.0; 27. Riley Doxtader, 17:09.2; 25. Evan Bruyere, 17:05.6; 38. Donovan Drouillard, 17:21.3; 44. Jeremy Drouillard, 17:27.6.

Plymouth (100): 2. Zane Berlanga, 16:24.4; 18. Liam Cardenas, 16:53.8; 19. Brandon Dalton,

16:55.8; 28. Jonny Dalton, 17:11.8; 33. Max Rogowski, 17:15.7; 46. Matthew Pahl, 17:32.3; 51. Nicholas Williamson, 17:45.6.

Stevenson (116): 8. Stephen Fenech, 16:35.6; 11. Jacob Colley, 16:41.5; 31. Michael Sopko, 17:15.0; 32. Peter Valkuski, 17:15.3; 34. Luke Green, 17:17.2; 35. Andrew Stratton, 17:19.1; 44. Erik Grisa, 17:27.2.

Churchill (133): 13. Ben Yates, 16:44.8; 16. George Bowles, 16:52.5; 29. Jonathan Hovemale, 17:13.4; 36. Sean McKeon, 17:19.5; 39. Andrew Malik, 17:21.7; 50. Jonathan Alessandrini, 17:43.3; 52. Matt Cohan, 17:46.0.

Novi (152): 10. Brian Barnes, 16:40.2; 15. Nathan Hall, 16:47.4; 40. Michael Dickmann, 17:22.1; 42. Ben Jenkins, 17:26.2; 47. Tim MacPherson, 17:33.7; 55. Cameron Richman, 17:49.7; 58. Allen Potter, 17:57.1.

South Lyon (167): 3. Andrew Thomas, 16:26.5; 23. Bryce Van Aselt, 17:01.6; 41. Spencer Ruggiero, 17:25.6; 46. Billy Cooney, 17:39.9; 54. Travis Burnette, 17:48.6; 68. Andrew Janos, 18:18.1; 69. Justin Pearson, 18:25.1.

Canton (178): 17. Billy Toth,

16:53.2; 30. Evan Dunklee, 17:13.8; 37. Tom Walkinshaw, 17:19.9; 48. Josh Joy, 17:35.5; 56. Andrew Stephens, 17:54.1; 60. Evan Childs, 18:01.8; 64. Owen Ash, 18:07.6.

Franklin (218): 5. Ross Cecil, 16:30.1; 12. Keenan Jones, 16:44.5; 65. Calvin Hilt, 18:11.6; 66. Tony Floyd, 18:13.8; 70. Alex Perelli, 18:30.5; 72. Jacob Forgacs, 18:31.9; 73. Nick Robertson, 18:53.7.

Wayne (246): 24. Devin Gibson, 17:04.0; 45. Daniel Malcolm, 17:28.3; 57. Tim Flores, 17:54.5; 59. Michael Gibson, 18:01.1; 61. Zack Williams, 18:03.5; 76. Uriel Figueroa, 19:09.7; 84. Jordan Whitehouse, 22:40.6.

John Glenn (340): 53. Micah Orr, 17:46.4; 62. Eduardo Maya, 18:03.9; 71. Jesse Osoria, 18:31.3; 75. Nick Dodson, 18:59.4; 79. Ayrton Franka, 19:58.7; 82. Austin Hickerson, 20:28.8; 83. Darian Reilly, 20:57.7.

South Lyon East (360): 64. Jack Hardy, 18:07.1; 67. Alex Hoorn, 18:14.3; 74. Ryan Tedd, 18:55.3; 77. Paul Domanico, 19:28.3; 78. Ethan Novilla, 19:29.0; 80. Jon Kessler, 20:13.8; 81. Aaron Hoorn, 20:25.1.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE CROSS COUNTRY MEET
Oct. 18 at Huron Meadows

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 36 points; 2. Salem, 52; 3. Livonia Churchill, 91; 4. Canton, 136; 5. Livonia Stevenson, 150; 6. Plymouth, 154; 7. Livonia Franklin, 175; 8. South Lyon, 184; 9. Novi, 213; 10. Westland John Glenn, 293; 11. South Lyon East, 309; 12. Wayne Memorial, 389.

Individual winner: Rachel Coleman (Northville), 18:29.3 (5,000 meters).

TEAM-BY-TEAM RESULTS

Northville (36): 1. Coleman, 18:29.3; 3. Erin Dunne, 18:41.4; 9. Alison Robinson, 19:14.0; 10. Nicole Mosteller, 19:14.6; 13. Erin Zimmer, 19:20.2; 16. Emma Herrmann, 19:38.7.

Salem (52): 2. Kayla Kavulich, 18:31.1; 7. Lauren Arquette, 19:05.5; 11. Anya Cho, 19:16.5; 14. Natasha Stevens, 19:24.5; 18. Alejandra Beltran, 19:47.5; 21. Emily Bizon, 19:51.3; 22. Alexis Foley, 19:53.0.

Churchill (91): 5. Sydney Anderson, 18:57.0; 8. Kerigan Riley, 19:12.1; 20. Michelle Azar, 19:48.3; 24. Vivien Okchekwu, 20:24.0;

34. Elyssa Hofmann, 20:48.3; 36. Jenna Hickson, 20:54.1; 38. Alexis Lombardo, 20:57.6.

Canton (136): 4. Mary Galm, 18:48.7; 30. Jessica Siegler, 20:43.3; 31. Samantha McGrath, 20:43.7; 32. Olivia McIntee, 20:44.0; 39. Laura Murphy, 21:02.9; 56. Keara Sullivan, 21:57.5; 59. Marissa Campbell, 22:05.8.

Stevenson (150): 12. Lindsey Gallagher, 19:19.4; 27. Karlie Gallagher, 20:38.1; 28. Barbara Scupholm, 20:39.8; 40. Emily Kwasnik, 21:06.9; 43. Natalie Moore, 21:15.6; 54. Maggie Lav, 21:52.7; 74. Emily Chapski, 23:37.7.

Plymouth (154): 6. Marina DeBiasi, 19:03.7; 29. Brianna Lax, 20:41.9; 33. Alexa Chicon, 20:46.2; 42. Renae DeBrito, 21:15.2; 44. Charlotte Clark, 21:18.6; 45. Allison Morren, 21:20.2; 52. Shannon Shaver, 21:51.6.

Franklin (175): 19. Natalie Douglas, 19:47.9; 25. Natalie Martinez, 20:35.6; 37. Anna Snider, 20:55.3; 46. Mandy Pokryfky, 21:20.7; 48. CC Shoemaker, 21:37.1; 49. Katelyn Kovach, 21:38.8; 61. Tina Oltar, 22:26.5.

20:37.6; 35. Gretchen Gorman, 20:49.8; 47. Madison Swaitowski, 21:21.1; 53. Brady Covert, 21:52.0; 57. Kaylie VanOrd, 22:01.1; 60. Kristen Bronson, 22:20.4.

Novi (213): 15. Jackie Mullins, 19:33.2; 17. Hannah Loneran, 19:40.8; 50. Karissa Koomey, 21:44.6; 64. Summer Mitchell, 22:38.9; 67. Melanie Murphy, 23:11.9; 70. Carrie Subject, 23:13.8; 72. Samantha DeLisle, 23:20.2.

John Glenn (293): 42. Barb Messis, 21:11.9; 51. Sheline Johnson, 21:50.7; 63. Caroline Michalak, 22:36.7; 65. Courtney MacQuarrie, 22:49.8; 73. Hannah Mitchell, 23:23.2; 78. Bailey Paddock, 26:53.8; 79. Carissa Root, 27:22.1.

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Monday, Oct. 22 (Catholic League Finals at Madonna University) Sacred Heart vs. Lakes, 5 p.m. Mercy vs. Marian, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 23 Clarenceville, Huron Valley at Luth. Westland Quad, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 24 Ladywood Quad, 5 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 25 Cranbrook at C'ville, 7 p.m. Inter-City at L. W'sld, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 27 Bedford Inv., 8:30 a.m. Wash. Christian Tourney, TBA.
PREP CROSS COUNTRY
MHSAA REGIONAL MEETS
Saturday, Oct. 27 (Division 1) at Willow Metro, 10:30 a.m. at Lake Erie Metropark, TBA.

(Division 2) at Woodhaven, TBA.
(Division 4) at Hudson, 10 a.m.
GIRLS SWIMMING
Tuesday, Oct. 23 Lady. at Cranbrook, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 25 Ladywood vs. Marian at Liv. Comm. Rec. Ctr., 7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 26 KLA A South at Glenn, 4 p.m. KLA A Central at Novi, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 27 KLA A South at Glenn, noon. KLA A Central at Novi, noon.
COLLEGE MEN'S SOCCER
Wednesday, Oct. 24 N'western Ohio at MU, 1 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 26 (NCAA Region 12 Playoffs) S'craft vs. 1st-round winner at Grand Haven H.S., TBA.

Saturday, Oct. 27 MU at UM-Dearborn, 3 p.m. (NCAA Region XII Finals) at Grand Haven H.S., TBA.
COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL
Wednesday, Oct. 24 MU at N'western Ohio, 7 p.m.
Friday-Saturday, Oct. 26-27 (MCCAA Tournament) Schoolcraft at Jackson CC, TBA.
COLLEGE WOMEN'S SOCCER
Wednesday, Oct. 24 Indiana Tech at MU, 3 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 27 MU at Cornerstone, noon. (NCAA Region XII Playoffs at Jackson CC) S'craft vs. Delta College, TBA. Owens vs. Muskegon, TBA.
Sunday, Oct. 28 Region 12 final at Jackson, TBA. Madonna vs. Purdue-Calumet at Munster (Ind.) H.S., 2 p.m.

Season over

Second-half goals send Plymouth past Glenn

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

A three-goal second half Thursday lifted Plymouth to a 3-0 victory over Westland John Glenn in a Division 1 varsity boys soccer district semifinal match.

The Wildcats (10-7-0) advanced to face Salem in Saturday's district final at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park soccer field.

Getting Plymouth on the scoreboard about five minutes into the second half was junior forward Viet Nguyen — who later set up senior forward and co-captain Chandler Olah to open up a 2-0 edge.

"He (Nguyen) definitely got us going," Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich said. "John Glenn, they just kept getting better as the year went on and they really gave us a match tonight."

"Chandler was a big spark for us again tonight and I think our defense held up and played a very strong game."

Olah tacked on another goal late in the half and senior goalkeeper Mario Gruszczynski held the fort to preserve the shutout.

"Mario was solid," Neschich added. "He didn't make a mistake."

On Plymouth's first marker, off a scramble in front of the Rockets' goal, Nguyen said he was "just looking to

DISTRICT SOCCER

play the ball to our key player Chandler. He's always going up in the box and he's our main guy to get the ball in the air to. I was fortunate enough that it deflected in."

Nguyen's corner kick led to Plymouth's next goal, with Olah in front to chip it in.

Olah then drove a shot into the top-right corner with about 9:26 left for an insurance tally.

That gave him five goals in the first two games of the districts. He scored all three goals in Tuesday's 3-2 overtime victory over Livonia Churchill.

"We actually played a great game tonight," Glenn coach Brian Tomlinson said. "We made very few mistakes, but Plymouth was able to capitalize each time. They are a very good team."

Goalkeeper David Issacs made 13 saves for the Rockets, who close out one of their most successful seasons in school history on an 11-8 overall record.

"We can end our season with no regrets," Tomlinson said. "Our players left it all on the field. Every game didn't go the way we wanted, but the guys believed in each other and sacrificed a lot to not let each other down. The Glenn players showed a lot of character this season. They made their city, school, and me proud."

Schoolcraft wins MCCA men's title

Ahmad Jawad's scored a header off a Romario Georgis corner kick just one minute into overtime as Schoolcraft College captured its seventh consecutive Michigan Community College Athletic Association men's soccer title with a 1-0 victory Wednesday over host Jackson CC.

MEN'S SOCCER

Goalkeeper Tom Duquette made two saves as the Ocelots, ranked No. 8 in the latest NJCAA Division I poll, improved to 13-2-1 overall and 5-0 in the MCCA.

The loss drops Jackson to 9-6-1 overall and 2-2 in the MCCA.

On Friday, Schoolcraft downed host Ancilla (Ind.), 2-1, to improve to 14-2-3 overall and 6-0 in the MCCA.

The loss dropped Ancilla to 3-7-3 and 0-4-1.

MU postponed

Heavy rains made the field unplayable on Wednesday night and

forced the Madonna University men's soccer match at Indiana Tech to be moved to 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22 in Fort Wayne.

The Crusaders, 5-7-1 overall and 1-4-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, returned to Saturday at home against Marygrove.

Parent bags five goals in MU win

It was a day to remember for Madonna University sophomore striker Ashley Parent.

The Amherstburg, Ontario native racked up five goals and added one assist for a school-record 11 points in a 6-0 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference women's soccer victory over host Lawrence Tech.

Parent's five goals breaks the previous mark of four set by All-Americans Kelly Japowicz in 2005 against Indiana Tech and by Sarah Pack — who turned the trick twice — against both St. Francis and William Woods during the 2003 season.

The 11 points is the most since Japowicz tallied nine points against the Warriors seven years and 12 days prior to Parent's feat.

The six goals are the most by a Madonna team since the 2009 squad

WOMEN'S SOCCER

defeated Concordia, 7-0, on Oct. 31.

Parent, who now has 14 on the season, scored in the 11th (from Jennifer Jurcak), 28th (from Amanda Jenaway), 35th (from Kelsey Littman and Jenaway), 66th (unassisted) and 90th minutes (from Liliana Serratos).

She also assisted on Morgan Himanek's goal in the 85th minute.

Goalkeeper Blaire Schmalenberg did not have to make a save as the Crusaders improved to 8-5 overall and 4-1 in the WHAC.

The loss drops Lawrence Tech to 2-10 and 0-5.

DETROIT 3, MADONNA 0: Madonna University (8-6) had its five-match winning streak come to a halt on Friday afternoon at NCAA Division I foe University of Detroit

Mercy (8-6-1) in a match at Titan Field.

Freshman Blaire Schmalenberg made five saves for the Crusaders, who trailed 2-0 at half-time.

Detroit scored a pair of goals in the first half starting with a tally from Jennifer Borawski in the 26th minute before Haley Burtraw added another in the 42nd minute. Mary Leone tacked on an insurance goal at the 63:23 mark for the 3-0 final.

S'CRAFT 2, JACKSON 0: Second-half goals by Samantha Jarrett and Kayla Szado (Livonia Churchill) propelled MCCA champion Schoolcraft College (12-4-2, 6-0-1) to a come-from-behind victory Wednesday at home over Jackson Community College (4-9-2, 1-5-1).

Sommer Groendyk's goal in the 65th minute staked the Jets to

a 1-0 lead, but Jarrett answered with her seventh of the season on a play set up by Blackney and Erin McKay in the 72nd minute.

Szado then scored the game-winner in the 75th minute off an assist from Lauren Badalamente.

Alexis Smith (Livonia Franklin) played 89 minutes in goal and made two saves as the Lady Ocelots improved to 8-1-2 in NJCAA Region XII play.

Danielle Purgar had seven stops for Jackson, which slipped to 2-7-2 in Region XII. "Despite the win, we were not satisfied with our performance," Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman said. "There were lot of areas where we need to improve. Our composure and confidence in the offensive area has to increase. We create numerous chances, but that vital last piece still eludes us often."

Novi PKs end Spartans' year

Livonia Stevenson's 2012 boys soccer season ended Wednesday night on the dreaded penalty kicks in Wednesday's Division 1 district semifinal.

The host Spartans and Novi battled to a 2-2 draw through 80 minutes of regulation and a pair of 10-minute overtimes before the Wildcats won the battle of PKs, 5-4, for a 3-2 aggregate victory.

Novi, now 12-3-3 overall, marches on to the district final beginning at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Stevenson to face Farmington Harrison, which also advanced with a 1-0 OT semifinal win over North Farmington.

Novi's Ryan Kobakof opened the scoring in the ninth minute, but Stevenson's Austin Rynick answered with a header off a corner kick from Billy Werthman in the 27th minute to square the match at 1-all.

Novi's Don Nakashima then scored in the 55th minute to put the Wildcats on top again, 2-1, but Stevenson senior John D'Agostino responded in the 77th minute when he finished a long throw-in from Tom O'Brien.

Stevenson held the edge in shots, 13-7. Spartan goalkeeper Zack Verant made four saves, while Andy Netter had six stops for the Wildcats.

"Obviously it's a difficult way for your season to end," said Ste-

venson first-year coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team bowed out at 11-4-5 overall. "But I am extremely proud of the way we kept battling back."

"This was one of the most enjoyable seasons of my career. Great senior leadership and a group that played their hearts out every game."

PCA 4, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 1: Lucas Albrecht tallied goals in the third and 73rd minutes Wednesday to give Plymouth Christian Academy (5-14) the victory over Lutheran High Westland (4-16) in the Division 4 district semifinal hosted by Allen Park Inter-City Baptist.

The Eagles, who led 2-0 at halftime, also got goals from Jacob Bailey (19th minute) and Adam Pawlus (77th minute).

Lutheran Westland's Ernie Babon cut the deficit to 2-1 in the 54th minute off a through ball from Brandon Wyman.

The Warriors got eight saves from freshman goalkeeper Jordan Williams, while PCA's Jamie Putney made nine stops.

"We were competitive, we played well and kind of carried the play in their end most of the game," Lutheran Westland coach Bob Regan said. "We didn't always have a lot of shots to show for it, but we limited their chances pretty well despite how the score ended up."

Youth wrestling

Registration for the Westland Bottle Rockets Wrestling Club (ages 4-14) will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6 at the John Glenn High School (wrestling room), 36105 Marquette, Westland.

The membership fee is \$50 (includes T-shirt).

Beginners meet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and advanced wrestlers from 6:15-7:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Nov. 27.

To obtain a copy of the registration form, visit www.glennwrestling.com.

For more information, e-mail brclubwrestling@gmail.com; or call Judy Lawrence at (734) 634-4595.

Livonia wrestling

The Livonia Wrestling Club, a unified wrestling club serving Livonia and surrounding communities for grades K-8, will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 27 through March 28, at the Franklin High School wrestling room.

All coaches and volunteers will be under direct supervision of the Franklin coaching staff.

Registration can be done at the first practice or throughout the season. The cost is \$100 (includes T-shirt and registration into MyWay).

For more information, call Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340; or e-mail chiola44@yahoo.com.

Men's basketball

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will hold its men's winter basketball league managers meeting for new teams at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard Road (at Five Mile Road).

The registration deadline for returning teams is 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26. The league projected starting date is Jan. 7, 2013.

ROCKETS

Continued from page B1

including 451 on the ground, as Clemons added 89 yards on 10 carries and Carter contributed 51 yards on five attempts.

The Rockets defense, led by linebacker Keith Kraning and tackle Jeremy Gysel, held Huron to 169 total yards.

The Rockets had 13 first downs to Huron's seven and there were no turnovers in the game.

Tigers rout Wayne

LaDale Combs rushed for 122 yards on 11 carries and two touchdowns Friday as Belleville downed host Wayne Memorial in the regular season finale, 47-0.

The Tigers (5-4), eyeing an at-large playoff spot, jumped out to a 20-0 first-quarter advantage and never looked back.

Combs got the ball rolling on a 64-yard TD run and, only five seconds later, Omar Russell scooped up one of four Wayne

fumbles on the night and raced 18 yards for another Belleville TD.

Wendell Ulmer followed with an 18-yard scoring run.

The Tigers then put it away with a pair of third-quarter scores, thanks to a 5-yard run by Zachary Lazar followed by a 19-yard run from Jeff Walker, who finished the night with 90 yards on nine carries.

Belleville tallied two more TDs in the final quarter on a 29-yard run by Shaquille Mobley and

a 25-yard run by Combs. All of Belleville's total offense (403) came on the ground.

The Tigers had 12 first downs to Wayne's eight.

The Zebras were limited to 148 yards, all on the ground.

Abdullah Myles was Wayne's leading rusher with 56 yards on 13 carries. He also recovered a fumble.

It was Wayne's third straight 0-9 season and the Zebras have now lost 30 in a row dating back to the 2009 season.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

The fee is \$400 per tam (plus non-resident and official fees of \$28 per game).

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

Girls lacrosse

Tryouts for the 2015 Westside Women's Lacrosse Club under-14 through under-17 teams will be from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28 at ITC Community Sports Park, located at Eight Mile and Napier roads in Novi.

The tryout fee is \$25. To register, visit www.miwvwc.com.

For more information or interest in coaching, call Beth Donovan at (734) 231-7766; or e-mail bethd@miwvwc.com.

Turkey Trot

The seventh annual Livonia Turkey Trot, a 5-kilometer run-walk, will be at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 at Bicentennial Park, located at Seven Mile and Wayne roads.

Late registration and T-shirt pickup will be at 9 a.m.

The \$10 fee includes T-shirt (if registered prior to Oct. 24), snacks and refreshments.

All proceeds and canned food donations will go to the Livonia Goodfellows (and automatically be entered in a prize raffle).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410; or visit www.ci.livonia.mi.us.

CHS 5K 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, respectively. Family of four can pre-register for \$45.

To ensure a race T-shirt, register by Oct. 21 online at www.chs-cap.com.

com. For more information, call (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

Rosedale 5K run

The Rosedale Area Neighbors will observe Veterans Day with its annual Red, White and Blue 5-kilometer run-walk starting at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 10 at Rudolf Kleibert Park in Livonia.

Registration will be from 9-10:30 a.m. at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia.

Proceeds will go to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra. Participants are also encouraged to bring canned good for the Boy Scouts' annual Can-Do drive.

Long-sleeved T-shirts will go to the first 150 registrants. Pizza and pasta feast, along with prizes, will follow at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian. Patriotic apparel is encouraged.

Pre-registration fees are \$15 (adult); \$10 (middle school and high school); \$5 (younger); and \$40 (family). Race day fees are \$20 (adult); \$15 (middle school and high school); \$10 (younger); and \$50 (family).

To download a registration form, visit www.rosedalegardens.com. Online signup will be at: <http://rosedale5k.eventzilla.net>.

For more information, call Jeff at (734) 367-0260.

Travel baseball

The Kensington Valley Baseball Softball Association will stage its first travel baseball meeting for 2013 from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5 at Brighton High School, 7878 Brighton Road (west of Grand River).

The meeting is for any new or returning under-8 through under-18 teams. Openings exist in all age brackets.

For more information, visit www.kvbsa.com; or e-mail Jeff David at jeff.david@kvbsa.com.

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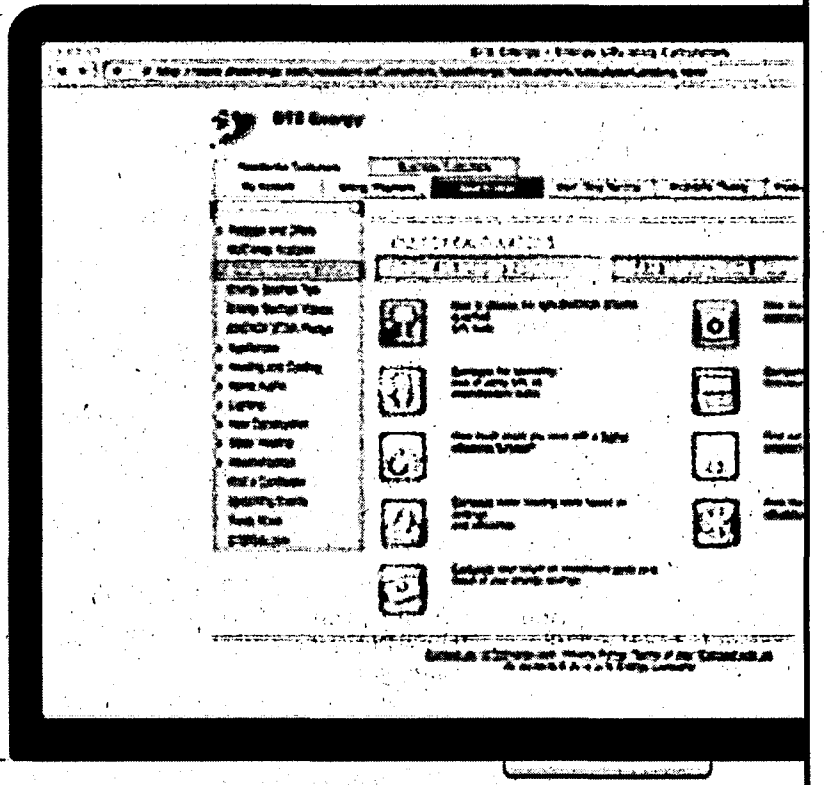
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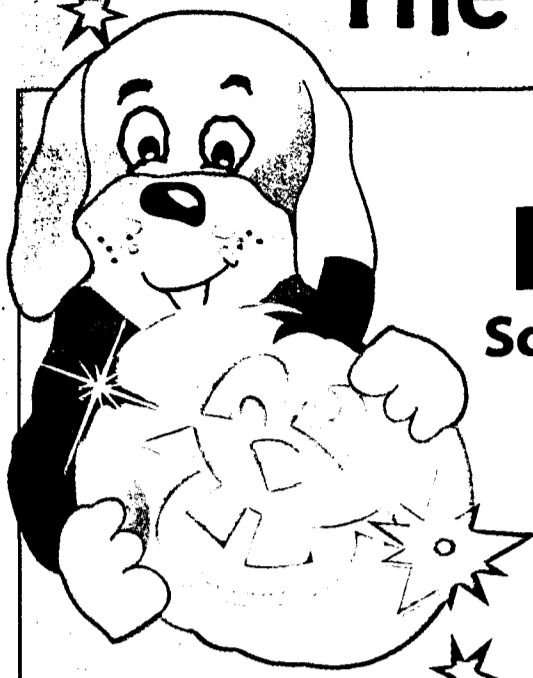
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Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

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Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Scoop loves to decorate pumpkins. Send a picture of you with your decorated pumpkin and you could win a \$25 gift card to Toys R Us.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Youth Name: _____

Youth Age: _____

Youth Community: _____

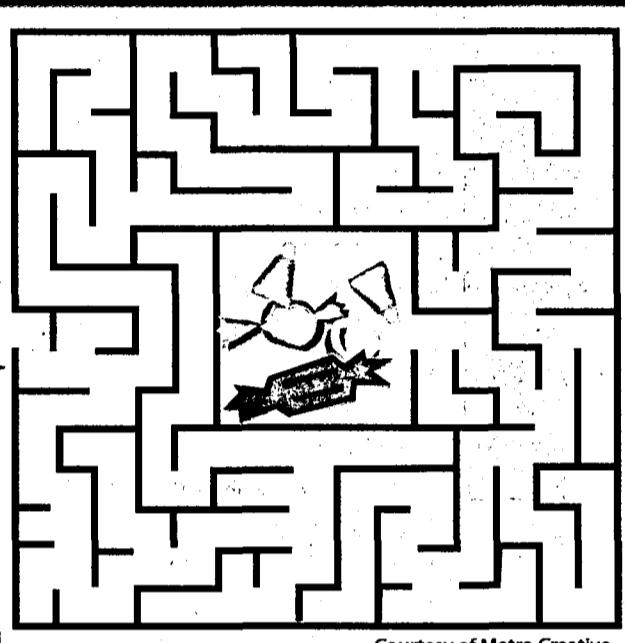
Parent's information to contact winning entry: (Phone, email, home address)

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On Tuesday, **October 30th**
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Grace Ho	Farmington	Oct. 28
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Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about?

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- Painted Pumpkin
- Witch Halloween Costume
- Fairy Halloween Costume
- Attend Halloween Party with friends
- Have Halloween fun with the family

Mail in your ballot. Results will be published in the next Scoop the Newshound Highlight.

Each submission will receive a gift. One submission per household.

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Your story continues here...

Deadline for submissions: Mail all entry forms to: Scoop the Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170. All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on November 26th, or email your form to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com Winners to be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

Enduring Love

Senior couples reaffirm their wedding vows in Livonia

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

After 60 years of marriage to her husband, Ron, Donna Sipperley finally got the chance last week to wear a bride's gown and veil.

"We knew each other three weeks and we got married. I had a short, white eyelet dress. I didn't have a wedding gown. That's why I am so excited," said Sipperley, as she waited to renew her vows, along with 22 other women at the Civic Park Senior Center in Livonia.

The makeshift bride's room at the senior center buzzed with talk about the impending ceremony, Wednesday afternoon as the women, some wearing street clothing and others, like Sipperley, formal attire, adjusted their veils, donned garters and selected bouquets.

Their husbands waited in a separate room down the hall for the cue to join Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey in the center's lunchroom where family members had already gathered to watch their moms and grandmothers walk the aisle to *Here Comes the Bride*.

Plans for the celebration, complete with Kirksey officiating, an appetizer buffet, formal photos, complimentary flowers and accessories, decorations and individu-



June Dore, married to Al Dore, shows off her garter. Marge Stuebben, who is behind Dore, didn't offer to show her garter to the photographer.

al wedding cakes, began taking shape as seniors collected fine china tea cups last summer.

"The tea cups were the start of it," said Patri-

cia Wachtel, recreation supervisor. "We asked everyone to go into their personal collections and

Please see VOWS, B10



The grooms meet their brides for the ceremony. Nelson and Pat Taylor show that not much has really changed through all of the years.

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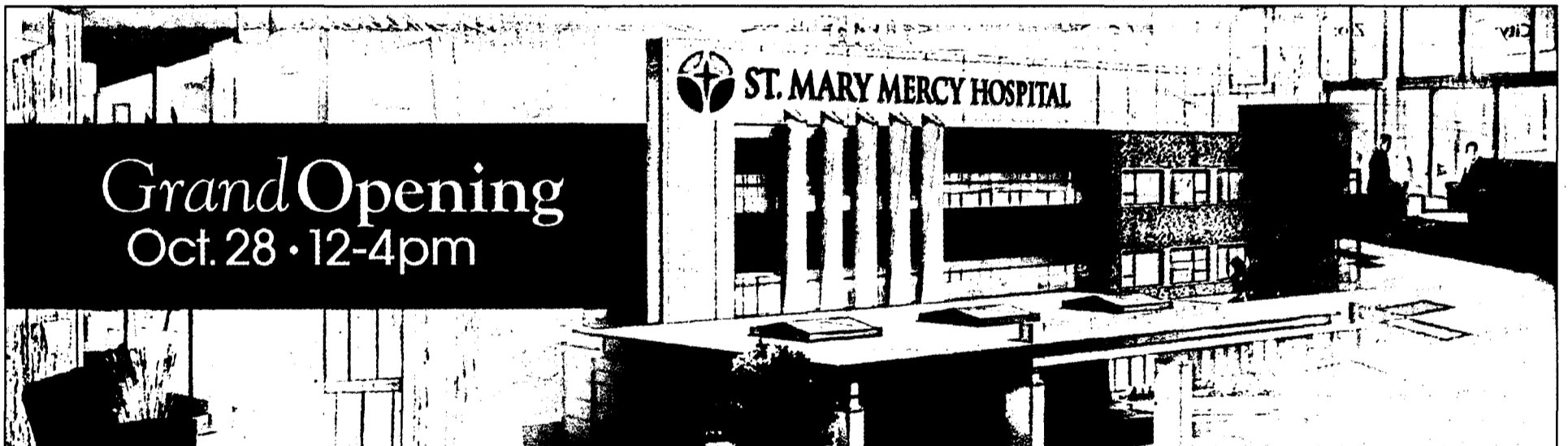
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- Music by *Steve King & the Ditties*
- Meet Blaine Fowler, 96.3 WVD morning show host 12-2 p.m.
- Photo opportunities with a National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Dragster Team driver and car (bring your camera)
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For more information, visit stmarymercy.org/grandopening or call 734-655-1590.

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DIABETES DAY AGENDA

9 a.m. - Welcome and Introductions

- Opada Alzohaili, MD, Endocrinologist
Diabetes Management Today and Tomorrow
- Daniel Harber, DO, Cardiologist
Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease
- Sharon Goodsell, RN, Certified Diabetes Educator
Evolution of Diabetes Care
- JoAnn Henderson-Collins
Learn from a real patient how to take control of your life
- Linda Main, CDE, Registered Dietitian
Healthy Eating From Food Exchanges to Carb Counting

11:30 a.m. Lakeshore Grill Lunch Special

- (Plan for 30-45 grams of carbohydrates)
- Health Screenings: Cholesterol, Foot, BMI, Flu Shots and more
- Diabetes and other health care information
- Door Prizes and Giveaways

Your registration includes all lectures, passport for health screenings and lunch. Limited seating available, please call 734-458-4330 to reserve your space. Registration cost is \$20 per person or \$30 for two people.

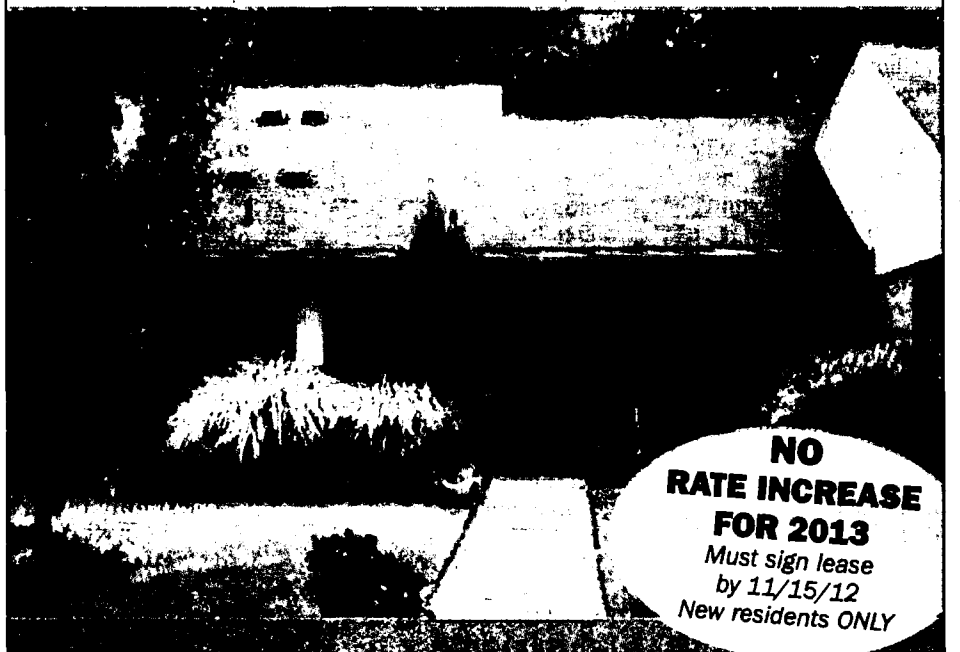
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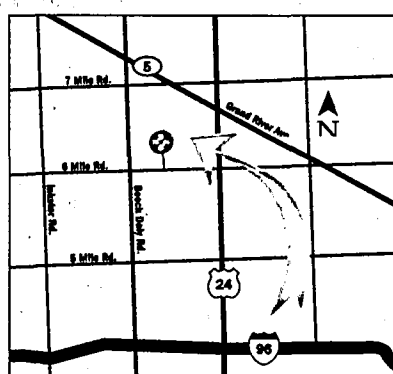
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Lisa Swanson (left) and Janice Reissenweber of Chicks for Charity donned scary costumes to encourage participation in their upcoming Fright Night Road Rally through Canton, Plymouth and Northville.

Fright Night

Compete for prizes, help charity at road rally

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Flashlights, a smart-phone and a knack for solving puzzles.

That and a little knowledge of the Plymouth-Canton-Northville area will make life easier if you hit the road Saturday, Oct. 27, with Chicks 4 Charities Fright Night Road Rally.

"You have to solve clues. Some are hard and some are kind of easy," said Janice Reissenweber of Plymouth, who is co-chairing the event with Chicks' president, Lisa Swanson, of South Lyon. "I think it's going to be fun. It's been a lot of fun planning it."

Competing teams will follow the rally route — which takes two-three hours to complete — by deciphering clues and solving puzzles along the way. Correct answers point to the next stop on the route. The game will begin at 5 p.m. at Karl's Cabin in Plymouth and return to the site later that evening for a Halloween party.

"One thing we didn't like about other road rallies is you work and work and then come back and find out someone has already won. We wanted to figure out a way to change that," Reissenweber said.

Their Fright Night Road Rally is based on a point system. The team winning the most points

— not necessarily the one that finishes first — will win the \$500 first prize. Second place prize is \$250 and third place will win \$100.

"There are ways to earn extra credit," Reissenweber explained. "And even if you didn't win the road rally, you could still win the costume party."

Party-only tickets cost \$15 and include the costume contest, chances to win prizes and music by Dale Hick's Band. The road rally and party costs \$30 per person or \$110 for a four-person team. The rally is open to families, although the party is more appropriate for adults.

Proceeds will benefit the No Kid Hungry campaign, which is dedicated to ending childhood hunger in America.

Giving back

Chicks 4 Charities has raised thousands of dollars for a variety of causes since Swanson's mother-in-law, Pat Swanson, founded it in 2008.

"She was looking for a way to give back to the community," Reissenweber said. "She had a group of friends and everyone talked about how, yeah, we'd like to do something. We've been so blessed and we wanted to do something to give back."

The friends formed an organization and attained nonprofit status. Their first event,

for a cancer care center at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor, raised \$15,000 and bolstered the group's confidence in their fundraising abilities. A bowling event to support patients with ovarian cancer drew another \$15,000.

"We've done many things, for breast cancer, ovarian cancer. We did a benefit for Ellie's Place, which is a center for grieving children. We usually do one large event a year and lots of small things," Reissenweber said. "We usually take a family or two and try to make a better Thanksgiving or Christmas for them."

Swanson said other "Chicks" groups have spun off of the Wayne County-based organization — or simply taken a cue from their work — and now "give back" in their own communities.

"At first I thought, oh, they're copying us. But when you think about it, it's great to think about how many people have blossomed and are helping out their community in their own way," Swanson said.

Chicks 4 Charities meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, in private homes. For more information about joining the group — or to buy tickets to the Fright Night Road Rally — visit www.chicks4charities.net or call (248) 719-4687.

Senior citizens show their art in style

Residents at Botsford Commons Senior Community in Farmington Hills will display more than 200 paintings at their 3rd annual Watercolor Exhibit and Sale.

The event will run 2-6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2 and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 in the Botsford Town Commons, 21300 Archwood Circle. The community is located between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake Roads, north of Eight Mile and south of M-5 and Grand River Ave.

The paintings are the result of Botsford Commons' watercolor class, which meets every Monday. The class was the brainchild of resident Berta Villarreal, who enlisted the help of Karin Phillips, a well-known local artist, to lead the class.

"I am so impressed with how everyone has progressed," said Villarreal, in a press release. "Everyone should be proud of what they have accomplished."

In addition to Villarreal,

resident artists include Jane Langa, Bill Waddell, Betty Gilbert, Tom Burnowsky, Joe Thomas, Florence Ptak and others. They will show their works alongside visiting artists Phillips, Marilyn Lynch and Doreen Buier. In addition, Farmington retailers Framery One and Miller's Art supply will have displays with donated door prizes.

Admission to the art show is free. For more information call Barb Smith at (248) 615-2898.

Wine tasting benefits residents with disabilities

The Community Opportunity Center will sponsor a Wine Tasting Benefit & Auction 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 9, at Laurel Manor, located on the I-96 service drive, west of Newburgh, in Livonia.

Ten vendors of fine wine, including several international wines, will be available for sampling. The event also will include a silent auction, live auction, and an elaborate array of hors d'oeuvres. Auction items include a Napa Valley wine tour, a vacation home stay in Frankfort, hot air balloon ride, dinner for six prepared in a private home by Chef Larry Janes, and a wine tasting party for 24 individuals featuring 15 wines from around the world.

In addition to the live auction, many items will be available for bidding at the silent auction tables. They include

Detroit Pistons and Plymouth Whaler tickets, massage certificates, paintings, a house cleaning service, restaurant certificates, wine baskets, and assorted gift baskets. Live music will be performed during the event.

Tickets are \$65 per person or \$120 per couple and are available by calling Diane or Larry Janes at (734) 422-5525. All major credit cards are accepted. Credit cards also will be accepted the night of the event to pay for live and silent auction items.

Community Opportunity Center, based in Livonia, is a non-profit management corporation that provides leadership and oversight to nearly 100 individuals with developmental disabilities who live in western Wayne County. Homes and apartments are in Plymouth, Livonia, Garden City, Westland and Redford.

Hands-on compassion



Myrna Woods of Farmington recruited her niece, Heather Mott, and her children to help Helping Hands Touching Hearts pack boxes for shipment to South Africa. Mott said she wants to teach her children to have compassion and help others in need. Sidney Bonvallet (center) of Farmington Hills founded the charity to help African communities obtain clothing, shoes and equipment and supplies needed to improve their lives. Bonvallet's helpers packed seven boxes. The Mott children are Marinin (left), Eamen, and Liam. Woods is seated in the background and Mott is at right. Visit Helping Hands Touching Heart's website at clotheavillagenow.com.



Shiranthi Desilva, director of Montessori Center of Our Lady, (left) and Sister Paulita Bikowski, along with children from the center, show the collection of pet food they donated to the Humane Society of Livingston County.

Schools collect food, rescue offers wellness clinic

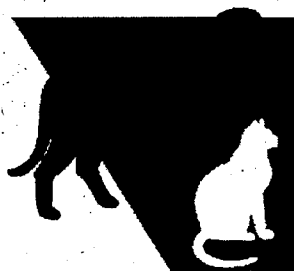
Filling tummies
Montessori Center of Our Lady, St. Mary Child Care Center and Ladywood High School, all in Livonia, recently collected pet food for the Humane Society of Livingston County.

Kayla Dempster, a junior, is spearheading the project at Ladywood. The collection will continue through the end of the month as a school-wide community service project.

So far, Ladywood has collected 78 cans and bags of food.

Kayla also sparked food drives at the Montessori school, where her mother, Janet, works as a teacher's aide, and at the child care center. The two centers collected 75 bags and cans of food, which Kayla and her mother delivered to the Humane Society.

While collecting food for the cause, the campaigns at the Montessori center and the child care center also offered a learning opportunity.



PET PROJECTS

According to Sr. Juanita Szymanski, youngsters learned about St. Francis of Assisi as a model of kindness to "all of God's creation."

Students at the Montessori Center of Our Lady range in age from 3-6. The St. Mary Child Care Center's charges are from two weeks to six years.

"The Felician Sisters have always been a big proponent of giving back," said Elizabeth Raetz, who handles marketing and development for the Felician Sisters Child Care Centers, Inc. Core values for Felician Sisters' ministries

and schools include compassion, respect for human dignity, transformation, justice and peace and solidarity with the poor.

Raetz said children are taught those values through hands-on events, such as the pet food collection.

Taking appointments

Tail Wagger's 1990 is offering vaccination clinics at its offices through November.

Rabies, distemper and bordetella vaccines for dogs are available for \$12 each or \$20 for all three. Cats and kittens can receive their distemper and rabies vaccines for \$12 each. Heartworm testing is available — with results on the spot — for \$18. Microchipping is \$30. Appointments days are Saturday, Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 17 and 24; and Thursday-Friday, Nov. 1-2.

Call (734) 855-4077.

— By Sharon Dargay



Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey officiates.



Ron and Donna Sipperley celebrate the renewal of their wedding vows.



Each couple received their own wedding cake.

HAPPY COUPLES

These couples renewed their vows Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the Civic Park Senior Center in Livonia: Emily and Russell Anderson
Judy and Ron Arsenault
Mary and Bob Berg
June and Al Doré
Diane and Robert Gammon
Ramona and Stephan Hadley
Joyce and Louis Knakal
Kathleen and Jack Law
Pat and Tom McGarrie
Eleanor and Robert Mullins
Cynthia and Bob

Piotrowski
Nancy and Bob Placinek
Isabelle and Franklin Poupore
Javita and Richard Prince
Maryann and Mike Proctor
Evelyn and Bernard Robinson
Barbara and Don Rogers
Janet and Charles Rose
Ann and Jerry Rzeppa
Donna and Ron Sipperley
Marge and Ron Stueben
Pat and Nelson Taylor
Loraine and Victor Walling

VOWS

Continued from page B5

donate one tea cup, so that when we had special events we could use them." Wachtel collected 120 cups and then decided seniors "needed to do something fun with them."
"And then one of the ladies came in and said they'd never had a real wedding," Wachtel said. "We started putting it together and it had a life of its own."
"My only concern was how we would fund it. I shared it with AM Livonia Rotary and all these people came forward."
Sponsors included American House of Livonia, The Alpha Group, Archie's Restaurant, Heritage Bakery, Thomas's Catering, French's Flowers, Oakmont Senior Communities, Autumnwood Nursing & Rehab Care, Cardwell Flowers & Gifts, Evola Music and The Dollar Store in Redford.

Wachtel valued the event at about \$5,000 but said she spend just a few hundred dollars because of the donated services and goods.

"I was willing to do this even if we only got five couples. I wanted it to be that if you never had a wedding, you'd get all the benefits of a wedding. Some of the couples have had serious health issues and so, this might be the last really fun event for them. That's why we added the photographer to it."

Shutters snapped as the "brides" walked along a white runner to the front of the room, where they joined their husbands. Kirksey, standing beneath a decorated pergola, asked the men to repeat their vows first, because "wives always have the last word."

After promising to love each other "in sickness and in health, in joy and in sorrow, through good times and bad," the couples shared personal stories with the crowd.

Ramona Hadley said her husband of



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Jim Knakal recites his wedding vows to his bride, Joyce Knakal.

37 years proposed on their first date and then called her at work the next day to propose again. Six weeks later they wed on Valentine's Day.

Tom McGarrie said he met his wife, Pat, on a blind date, "and it opened my eyes."

Pat Taylor was a lifeguard at a lake in Waterford when she met her husband, Nelson.

"After the beaches closed I was dancing with a girlfriend. This young man said, I hate to see two girls dancing together. I said, if you don't like it, ask one of us to dance."

"He did and we've been married 55 years."

Guide to Employment

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

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

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

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<p>CUSTOMER SERVICE/ ORDER ENTRY Full-time help needed. Must be a high school graduate with at least 2 years experience in a customer service/office position. Job includes Order Entry, Accounts Receivable, and other Customer Service functions. Some data entry and inventory management will also be necessary. Math/Science background a plus. Ability to work alone or with others in a positive manner is essential. Send resume to: submit.officeresume@gmail.com</p>	<p>DRIVERS: Rapid growing grocery hauler. New Pay Package & Awesome Benefit's. Newer Trucks. Local/ Regional. CDL-A, 3 yrs Exp. 888-784-8859</p> <p>EDM Operator/Programmer Co in Livonia seeks Wfe EDM Operator/ Programmer. Must have min 2 yrs programming exp. Full time. Benefits. Call btwn 12-5pm Mon-Fri 734-591-1079</p>	<p>LEGAL ASSISTANT Oakland County Law Firm seeks Legal Assistant with a minimum of 2 years office experience. Must be highly organized, detail-oriented, accurate with MS Office and able to work in a fast paced environment. Full-time. Salary negotiable and benefits available. E-mail resume to: kelly@gagostawfirm.com</p>	<p>PROGRAMMERS, S/W DEVELOPERS (SYS S/W), COMP SYS ANALYSTS, DBAs & CIS Mgrs (work in Farmington Hills, MI & various unanticipated locations throughout U.S.) Multiple openings using 1 or more of following: CO, LINUX, SOL, PL/SQL, C#, J2EE, .NET, Oracle, Java, DB2, SAP, JSP, servlets, XML, WebSphere, Regs. Bach. or Masters (or foreign educ equiv) in related field &/or relevant exp depending on position. For some positions requiring exp, app must have exp using 1 or more skills listed above. For certain positions we accept degree equiv in educ & exp or any equally suitable comb of educ, training &/or exp qualifying app to perform duties. Travel/ relocation to various unanticipated work locations throughout U.S. req. Send resume & specify position seeking to: CompuSoft Integrated Solutions 31500 W. 13 Mile, Ste 200 Farmington Hills, MI 48334</p>	<p>Teacher, FT preschool In Redford, least 1 yr. exp. teaching in the classroom. Bring resume. 313-541-1318</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Dental</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT/ RECEPTIONIST: Independent, general family practice, looking for happy, flexible individual. Looking for 14-18 hours/week, no weekends, must have experience. Fax resumes: (734) 981-0520</p>	<p>CASH IN WITH CLASSIFIEDS 1-800-579-SELL</p>	<p>Ask us how you can advertise on Yahoo! 1-800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com</p>	
<p>DIRECT CARE PT position. If you have a caring heart and love to work with people who need your help, this may be the job for you. CLS trained is preferred but we are willing to train the right person. Must be flexible and have a H.S. diploma or equivalent. Good driving record required. Must be able to pass criminal history background check and drug screen. Starting wage is \$7.61. CLS trained starting wage \$7.86. Interested parties may contact Debbie, Mon-Fri, btwn. 10-2 ONLY at: 734-341-1829</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL Helper or person with electrical knowledge for small electrical Contractor. Email to: elec441@hotmail.com</p>	<p>LIGHT PRODUCTION Positions open for full & part-time. GED/HS diploma required. Please send resume to: MTRIPLETT@POINTSCIENTIFIC.COM or mail to: P.O. Box 87188 Canton, MI 48187</p>	<p>Salvage/Scrap Dismantler & Torch Operator FT, Weekdays, benefits. (734) 423-3140</p>	<p>Computer - Info Systems</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT, SURGICAL Bingham Farms/Southfield area specialty practice seeks bright, personable, motivated, experienced surgical assistant to join its dedicated clinical team. Implant experience a plus. Call: (248) 357-3100</p>	<p>EXHIBITORS NEEDED Immediate Openings Work at Meijer showroom and Events. No selling involved. Must be outgoing and like meeting new people. Must have reliable transportation. \$10 hr plus bonus to start. View full job description at: *ashomeimprovement.com Send resume and cover letter to: toddy@ashomeimprovement.com Call Todd to learn more: 734-449-8480</p>	<p>Recycle This Newspaper</p>	
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Hospice event offers sports-related fun

Show your team spirit at Angela Hospice's sports-themed fundraiser, Light Up a Life Benefit, 6 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

The event will include an open bar, silent auction, "Pick-a-Player" game, fishbowl raffle, music for dancing by

the Rick Lieder Band, and dinner.

Individual tickets are \$100 each, and tables of ten are available for \$1,000. All proceeds benefit programs for terminally ill patients and their families.

Make reservations by calling events coordinator Barb Iovan at (734) 953-6045.

GARDEN & NATURE

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

Livonia Garden Club

Lisa Steinkopf, who is a houseplant guru from Steinkopf Nursery, will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Livonia Garden Club, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6 at the Senior Center, located at 5 Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. Her presentation will focus on the care and cultivation of indoor houseplants, pests, diseases, soils and fertilization. Steinkopf is a certified indoor landscape techni-

cian, certified nurseryman and a member of the Garden Writer's Association. Refreshments will be served; www.orgsites.com/livoniagardenclub.

English Gardens

• Get tips on holiday decorating at a free presentation, 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27.

• Youngsters, 3-12, can attend a free Halloween costume and bring a pre-decorated pumpkin for judging in the store's annual contest, 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27. Pre-register online at englishgardens.com.

• Santa arrives at 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 4 and

will be on hand for photos until 5 p.m. Free photos will be available or bring your own camera. The annual holiday open house will include caroling and refreshments.

Shoppers can see professionally-decorated trees and other holiday decorations.

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.

REUNIONS

FARMINGTON HARRISON

CLASS OF 1982

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

GARDEN CITY WEST

CLASS OF 1972

6:30 p.m. Oct. 27; for more information e-mail to Janine (Alioto) Brown at jbrown@psm-inc.net.

LIVONIA BENTLEY

ALL CLASSES

Class of 1972 will celebrate its 40th

reunion, Friday, Nov. 23 at the Marriott Hotel - Laurel Park, in Livonia and invites all Bentley alumni to the party. Steve King and the Dittilies will entertain. For information about the event and to register, e-mail the reunion committee at Bentley72@QPA.US.COM

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

CLASS OF 1982

30-year reunion 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, in Livonia. For information or to register contact Sharon at (734) 261-3264 or e-mail rsculbert@sbcglobal.net.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

October

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 21

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All-you-can-eat French toast and pancakes breakfast also includes scrambled eggs, ham, sausage, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27

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

Details: Free clothing

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

COAT EXCHANGE

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27

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

Details: The kids coat exchange will be held the church's fall festival and "trunk or treat" activities. Participants may take a coat if needed or donate coats for others. Any remaining coats at the end of the day will be donated to Redford Interfaith for distribution to local children in need of a winter coat. Coat donations will be accepted in the church office during regular business hours

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: The Detroit Lutheran Singers 48th season with Bach's "Singet den Herrn" and many other songs. Tickets are

\$10, \$7 for seniors and students 12 and over

Contact: www.detroitlutheransingers.com

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: (248) 477-1153, Ext. 12

MOVIE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26

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

Details: Free featured movie is "Luther." A German meal also will be served. RSVP for the free-will offering dinner

Contact: (248) 553-3380

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City

Details: A silent auction also will be held. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children, 4-11, and free for children, 3 and under

Contact: (734) 427-3660

TRUNK OR TREAT

Time/Date: 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28

Location: Kenwood Church, 20200 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The event is for all ages and will include corn dogs, hot dogs, popcorn, caramel apples, homemade donuts, and candy. Participants can bring their cleaned-out pumpkins and show off their carving skills. The church asks that children refrain from wearing scary costumes or carrying weapons

Contact: (248) 476-8222

TRUNK OR TREAT

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27

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

Details: Games, treats and fall activities are designed

for children through age 12. Church members will park in the parking lot and pass out treats as the children "trunk or treat" from car to car. Costumes are encouraged. Parents or guardians must accompany all children

Contact: (734) 422-1470

TRUNK OR TREAT

Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24

Location: Grace Moravian Church, 31133 Hivley Ave., off Fernwood, near the corner of Cherry Hill Road and Merriman, in Westland

Details: One prize will be awarded to the scariest trunk and one prize will be awarded to the friendliest trunk. Food and beverage will be available inside the church for a donation of \$2 per person; children 5 and under are free

Contact: For information or to RSVP call Cheryl Hice-Hilton at (248) 756-3592

YOUTH HALLELUJAH PARTY

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Wear a costume to this party and carnival. It's designed to be a safe place to play games, eat snacks, win prizes and get candy

Contact: (248) 477-1153, Ext. 12

November

CONCERT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 4

Location: Basilica of St. Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit sponsors a benefit concert for International Orthodox Christian Charities. The Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit, conducted by Vickie Kopistiansky, will sing hymns to the Virgin Mary. Admission is free, although donations will be collected. An afterglow will follow the concert

Contact: Robert Mitchell at (313) 204-5103

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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



BOOTHROYD, SHIRLEY L.

Age 84 of Canton Township, formerly of Royal Oak, died October 13, 2012. Beloved wife of the late George. Dear mother of Deborah Drager, Steven, and Scott (Belinda). Proud grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of three. The family will gather with friends on Saturday October 20, 2012 from 10:30 AM until the 11 AM Memorial Service at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church Street (west of Main Street) Plymouth MI 48170. Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, or to Starr Presbyterian Church, 1717 W. 13 Mile Rd., Royal Oak MI 48073.

To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

CHRISTY, LORELEI L.

Age 78, October 11, 2012. Significant sweetie of C.M. Novess III, beloved wife of the late Bernard. Dearest mother of Brad, Scott and the late Lori Kilpatrick. Loving grandmother of Allison Kilpatrick, Brandon (Jenny), Heather, Caitlin and Sean Christy. Lorelei was an accomplished artist, collector of owls and member of the Farmington Arts Foundation, Visual Arts Association of Livonia, Artifacts and St. Andrews Society of Detroit. Memorial Service Saturday, October 27 at 2pm at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Leader Dogs for the Blind. www.mccabefuneralhome.com



DAHLSTROM HELEN JOAN (DIGON)

Of Farmington Hills, MI passed away on October 14, 2012. She was born in Detroit on July 12, 1930 and later moved to Ferndale where she attended Lincoln High School. Helen graduated as salutatorian in January 1948. With the help of scholarships and working several jobs she put herself through college, graduating with a Bachelor of Education degree from Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University). She later received her Master's in Education from Wayne State University. Helen met Carl Dahlstrom at MSNC and they were married in Ferndale in 1953. Helen taught in Southfield and Lapeer before coming with Carl to Farmington. They both taught in the Farmington Schools for 37 years, retiring in 1992. During this time they raised three children, Jon, Laurie and Nancy. Helen was involved in many organizations over her lifetime, including the Farmington Education Association and later the retired teachers association. She was a longtime member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), various church organizations and the Swedish Club of Farmington. Helen was a kind and generous person who will be sadly missed by family, friends, and all who met her. Helen is preceded in death by her husband Carl, daughter Nancy and brother Richard. Left to cherish her memories are son Jon (Barbara) Dahlstrom, daughter Laurie (Chuck Ulrich) Dahlstrom, grandchildren Jennifer, Kevin, Angela, Christopher, Brian (Molly) and Allison, brother Michael (Evelyn) Digon and sister-in-law Mary Digon. Also missing her will be many nieces, nephews, cousins and long-time friends. Funeral Saturday 11 a.m. First Presbyterian Church of Farmington 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills 48334. Visitation Friday 2-8 p.m. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com

PINEGAR, KATHRYN A.

Age 82 October 19, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Harold. Dear mother of Michael, Bo (Jennifer), Patty Jones, Dannie, Karen and the late Ken. Grandmother of Jason, Dean, Erin and Will. Sister of Bill (Bev) Huellmantel, Nancy (Dave) Reiss, Helen Huellmantel SSJ and Paul Huellmantel. Memorial gathering Wednesday 9:30am until 10:30am Mass at St. Dunstan Catholic Church, 1515 Belton (2 blocks west of Inkster, 2 blocks south of Ford Rd.) www.santeiufuneralhome.com



DEVIC VIRGINIA ANN (MEEK)

Virginia went to be with the Lord on Sept. 17, 2012. She was the loving wife of Albert for 63 years and beloved mother of Sandra (Gary) Milis and Judy (Christopher) Nelson. Ginny was the proud grandmother of Christopher and Matthew Ockerman, Timothy, Steven, Andrew and Peter Nelson and Great Grandmother to Seth and Emma Ockerman. Virginia was a member of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville, and a former member of Trinity EPC in Plymouth. Virginia enjoyed gardening and was actively involved with Friends for the Development of Greenmead in Livonia. During the many years she served on this committee, she helped organize both the Greenmead Garden Walk and Christmas Walks. Visitation and a Memorial service were attended by many friends and family on Thursday, September 20th at Heeneey-Sundquist Funeral Home. If you wish to remember Virginia, memorial contributions can be made to Friends for the Development of Greenmead.



GLADISH, ALBERT "LEFTY" J.

Passed away October 18, 2012 at the age of 90. He was born August 7, 1922 in Arcadia, PA. Albert was a resident of Detroit for many years and Westland since 1990. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII and received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. Albert retired from the Wayne County Clerks office in 1987 after 25 years of service. He was a kind and very generous man. He is survived by his sisters Elizabeth Repko, Genevieve Buckley, Bernice Angell and his brother Robert (Carolee) Gladish. He was preceded in death by sisters Emily Sebuck, Rose Sebuck and brother David Gladish. Albert is also survived by his sister-in-law Irene Gladish and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Funeral Mass will be Wednesday, 10AM at St. Christopher Catholic Church, 7800 Woodmont, Detroit. Friends may visit at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St. Plymouth, Tuesday 2-9PM and Wednesday at church beginning at 9:30AM. There will be a Scripture Service Tuesday at the funeral home, notice of time later. Albert will be interred in St. Hedwig Cemetery, where he will receive Military Honors.

To leave a condolence: www.schrader-howell.com



MCCLAIN, RUTH

Age 83, October 18, 2012 of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Virgil. Loving mother of Larry (Mechele) and Robert (Lisa). Dear sister of Willie Mae Gould. Dear grandmother of Douglas, Mariah, Danielle and Alyssa. Visitation Saturday 5-9 PM and Sunday 2-9 PM at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd. Livonia and Monday from 10 AM until time of Funeral Service at 11 AM at St. Matthew Methodist Church, 30900 W. 6 Mile Rd., Livonia. Memorial donations are requested to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154. Please share a memory at www.rgharris.com

WESTCOTT, RONALD L.

Age 68, passed away Sept. 20th, 2012 at his residence in Mesa, Arizona after a 4 year battle with Cancer. Ron grew up in Beverly Hills, MI, and Franklin, MI, where he was a 1962 Graduate of Birmingham Seaholm H.S., attended Northwood Institute, and Parsons College. After college, Ron worked for Dunham's Sporting Goods, and Dick's Sports in Howell, MI before retiring to Arizona in 2008. He was the son of the late Damon L. Westcott of Franklin, MI and Clearwater, FL. He is survived by his Mother, Ursula Westcott of Clearwater, FL, brother Rick & wife Jeanette Westcott of Mesa, AZ, Son Chris Westcott of Wyoming, MI, and Daughter Dr. Kathryn 'Katie' Westcott of Cape Cod, MA.



MILLER (nee HYDE), MARGARET

July 14, 1922 ~ Sept. 12, 2012. Wife of the late Joe Miller, mother of Mary Miller (Mike Swallow), Barbara Staniszewski (Gary), Katherine Miller (Jim Stiff), and Ann Anderson (Gary). Grandmother of Katherine, Daniel (Lauren), Samantha, Monika, and Kalena. Sister of the late James Hyde and the late John Hyde. Former editor, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers. Memorial service to take place Sunday, October 28, 4 PM, Newburg United Methodist Church, Livonia.



PERRY, MARY ANN (KATZ)

Beloved mother, wife and daughter died peacefully Monday morning after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease at the age of 74. Mary Ann is survived by her husband, Don Perry, who was at her side when she passed away. She is also survived by her three children, David, Daniel and Deanna and her five grandchildren; David, Joe, Ian, Danny and Mac. Mary Ann was born and raised in Negaunee, Michigan and did everything at Negaunee High School; starting in school plays, cheerleading, serving on the student council and getting straight A's which earned her a full scholarship to Western Michigan University. While there she met and married her first husband, settled in Livonia, Michigan and raised their three children. She was first and foremost a wonderful mom who shuttled her kids to hockey and ballet, helped them through school and lifted them up with guidance, love and support. Mary Ann was known for her keen intelligence, wicked sense of humor and her kind heart. She loved to make porcelain dolls, take long motorcycle trips with her husband Don and was a voracious reader. Mary Ann excelled as a purchasing agent, financial planner and business owner but her favorite job was being a grandmother and spoiling her grandkids with toys and laughter. Private family funeral services are Thursday (today) at the St. John's Episcopal Church in Negaunee. Mary Ann will be buried beside her sister Katie and her wonderful parents, Donald and Helen MacDonald in the Negaunee City Cemetery. After a long and brave struggle, her suffering is over. She is home.

SALSBERY, DEBRA ANN

Born March 1, 1955, passed away October 15, 2012, age 57. Loving wife of Michael Sr. Dear mother of Kimberly (fiance Jerry Vaughn), Michael Jr. and Crystal (Richard Harding). Grandmother of Tyler Salsbery, Dale Vaughn and Hannah Harding. Daughter of Roy and Margaret Jerrell, Sr. Sister of Roy (Lisa) Jerrell, Jr. Visitation Thursday 5pm-9pm and Friday 12 noon until 9pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, where the funeral services will be held on Saturday, 12 noon. Share your special thoughts and memories at: www.schrader-howell.com

SCOTT, PATRICIA M.

Asheville, NC, age 87, died October 13 in Asheville, NC. Born in Detroit, MI she graduated from Denby High School in 1943. A long-time resident of Plymouth, MI and Blacksburg, VA, Pat served as Exhibits Director of the Plymouth Historical Museum and was active in several community organizations, including the Plymouth Garden Club. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Robert Bruce Scott, with whom she raised three children; Lana Burns of Asheville, Jeffrey Scott of Lexington, VA, and Chris Scott of Brentwood, TN. She was the proud grandmother of Rachel, Ethan, Lara, and Kira, and was an avid gardener, birdwatcher, and collector. A private interment will be held in Plymouth, MI at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Alzheimer's charity of your choice. Groce Funeral Home at Lake Julian in Arden, NC is assisting the family and a memorial register is available online at www.grocefuneralhome.com.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



Doctors administer care to "wounded" stuffed animals at the Teddy Bear Clinic during a previous open house at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. The activity will be a part of the hospital's grand opening celebration for its new addition on Sunday, Oct. 28.

Hospital shows off new addition

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will celebrate the opening of its new 154,000-square-foot building with an open house, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28.

The addition includes a state-of-the-art emergency center and 80 private patient rooms.

Visitors will get a chance to tour the new addition and meet community rescue teams. The event also will include health activities, strolling magicians, a Teddy Bear Clinic, photo opportunities with a National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Dragster Team driver and car, and kids' activities with clowns, balloon animals and face painting. Steve King & the Dittilies will perform and Blaine Flower, WDVD radio morning show host, will be on hand from noon-2 p.m. Refreshments featuring a healthy food menu will also be available.

"Our state-of-the-art emergency center and private patient rooms are focused on patient care and innovation," stated President and CEO Dave Spivey, in a press release. "We are excited to celebrate this milestone with our area communities."

The hospital is located at 36475 Fiver Mile, at Levan, in Livonia; www.stmarymercy.org/grandopening.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

October

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Mary Mercy Hospital and the American Red Cross are sponsoring a blood drive 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 25, in the hospital auditorium, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. To schedule an appointment call (800) GIVE-LIFE or visit redcross-blood.org. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred.

November

COPING WITH CANCER

Botsford Hospital, in partnership with the American Cancer Society, will present "I Can Cope," a free, educational program for adults facing cancer, either personally or as a caregiver, 9:45-11:45 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 14, in the hospital's administration and education center, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Get answers to questions about diagnosis and treatment, treatment side effects, community resources, nutrition, physical activity, fatigue and more. Registration is limited to 25 participants. Call (800)

227-2345.

DIABETES AND SKIN

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will present "Your Skin, Keeping it All Together" 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, in the hospital's Auditorium. Donna Choma, a registered nurse and nurse specialist at St. Mary Mercy, will be the speaker. According to the American Diabetes Association, diabetes can affect every part of the body, including the skin. As many as 33 percent of people with diabetes will have a skin disorder caused or affected by diabetes as some time in their lives. Choma will talk about preventing wounds through good skin care, common wounds, wound myths and basic wound care for individuals with diabetes. There is no charge, and pre-registration is not required. For more information call Community Outreach at (734) 655-8961, or visit stmarymercy.org and click on "classes and events."

MEMORY SCREENING

Botsford Commons Senior Community in Farmington Hills will offer free memory screenings Tuesday, Nov. 13

as part of National Memory Screening Day 2012. The screenings are simple and take approximately five minutes to complete. The Social Services Department from Botsford Commons will administer the screenings from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the William Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. To register, call (248) 473-1830.

Ongoing

AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

ymcadetroit.org.

ARTHRITIS SUPPORT

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

BIPOLAR SUPPORT

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon Road, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. It is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group. Call Nancy at (734) 536-3457 or Katrina at (734) 837-7700 with questions.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUPS

•St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

•Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue, Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on

the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

CPR CLASSES

Classes range from basic CPR for people who want to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

DIABETES SUPPORT

An adult diabetes support group sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club meets 2-3:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion will facilitate. There is no charge to attend. Discussion topics will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies. Call Vining at (734) 454-0859.

FITNESS CLASSES

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957. E-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

FOOD ADDICTS

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a recovery program for people having trouble controlling the way they eat. It's based on the 12 steps of AA. Open to all and free. Weekly meetings are held 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, at Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton. (248) 320-6842; www.foodaddicts.org

HEALTH EDUCATION, SUPPORT & EXERCISE

Classes for cardiac rehabilitation, cardiac wellness, diabetes exercise and yoga are

offered by the Garden City Hospital Health Enhancement Center. For information call (734) 458-3242. CPR (Adult & Infant), childbirth and child care education, support groups for cardiac patients, cancer, stroke and diabetes patients; eating disorders; hearing loss; and Alzheimer's caregivers, are part of an array of offerings of Garden City Hospital's Community Education.

For more information call (734) 458-4330. Free blood pressure and \$5 cholesterol testing are available 10 a.m.-noon on the first Tuesday of the month in the Garden City Hospital Lobby. No registration required.

The hospital also offers free blood pressure testing for senior citizens 10 a.m. every other Wednesday at Maplewood Community Center. Call (734) 458-4330 for dates. Most insurances cover new CPAP and BIPAP supplies every year. Garden City Hospital Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free mask fitting clinic for users, 5-6 p.m. every Wednesday, at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Try a new style of mask and learn how to get one. No appointment needed. For information call (734) 458-3330.

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION

The Western Wayne Chapter, provides information, education and support for those with hearing loss, their families and friends. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. Contact afack@comcast.net or (734) 664-3297.

INCEST SURVIVORS

"LIVE," a self-help group for women who were victims of incest as children, meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul of the Cross, 2333 Schoolcraft, Redford. Call Antoinette at (313) 971-4747 or Cheri at (586) 489-1785.

LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP

Meets 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For information, call Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 232.

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.



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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

Saturday, Oct. 27

See how YOU can make a difference

Join O&E Media, in support of Make A Difference Day — the largest day of volunteering in the USA. For more than 20 years, Gannett Inc. has mobilized millions across the country for this national day of doing good. As part of our commitment to the communities we serve, O&E Media is partnering with local groups to sponsor these following projects.



We need you to join us

1. Food/blanket drive in support of Active Faith, a non-denominational charity based in South Lyon. Canned food (especially soup) and blankets are needed. Drop off your donation between 10 a.m. and noon on Oct. 27 at the South Lyon Herald Office, 101 N. Lafayette, in downtown South Lyon.

2. "Pennies from Heaven," collection to benefit Canton Goodfellows, a group dedicated to ensuring every child has a Christmas. Bring your pennies to the Canton Summit (Community Center) from 10 a.m. to noon and meet other Goodfellows and O&E Media staff. The Canton Goodfellows recently lost its leader — Nancy Spencer, a longtime community philanthropist. **The goal is one million pennies.**

3. Jaycee Park Beautification: Volunteers are needed to clean up/spruce up Jaycee Park in Redford. The Redford Jaycees along with O&E Media staff and other community volunteers will work from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come help and make a difference for all of the youth and families who use this community park. If you are a Redford resident, a former Redford resident or someone who just wants to make a difference for the Redford community, join us at Jaycee Park, 10102 Beech Daly Road, between Plymouth and W. Chicago Roads. Refreshments will be served.



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