



Library hours

The William P. Faust Public Library will resume regular hours of operation beginning March 1.

Operations at the library are slowly returning to normal after voters approved a 1-mill tax to support the library in last August's primary election. The library had reduced the hours it was open from 69 to 40 and laid off staff last July to balance its budget. Following approval of the millage, it increased the time it was open to 52 hours.

Beginning in March, the library will be open noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday. It will be closed Sundays from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westland.lib.mi.us.

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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TIFA board vote starts process for new city hall

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A preliminary timetable would have the former Circuit City store retrofitted and opened as the new Westland City Hall by January 2015.

On Thursday, the Tax Increment Finance Authority board

approved spending \$1.8 million for the \$1.6 million property acquisition and about \$200,000 soft costs incurred for the project.

Located on Warren Road east of Central City Parkway, the former electronics store is located within the TIFA district, which includes Westland

Shopping Center. The TIFA will pay for the city hall project using recaptured tax revenues. That means additional tax millage won't be needed.

"The TIFA board was really excited; we've got a really diverse board, they asked questions," Westland Mayor William Wild said.

Like the William P. Faust Library, the new city hall will be a TIFA board project, but one done working with the council and Wild. A steering committee of Wild, Council President James Godbout and TIFA Board Vice Chairman Bill Ziemba has been formed. It was the TIFA board

that originally commissioned a study to look at possible city hall sites, with the former Circuit City topping the list. The property was taken off the market for a private sale that later fell through.

The TIFA board also
Please see VOTE, A2

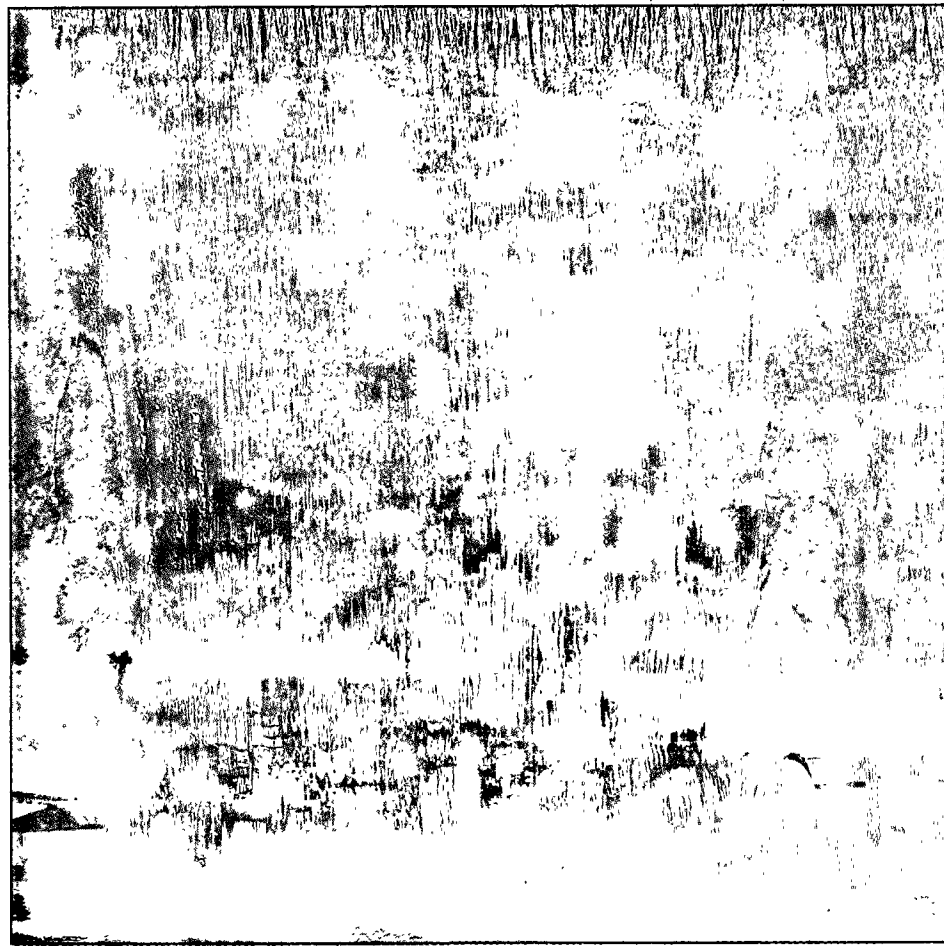
Youth Choir

The Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department is offering a new after-school program for fifth- and sixth-grade students beginning this month.

Students will have fun learning to sing and read music with the Wayne-Westland Youth Sound Choir which will meet after school January through May. The program will be offered 3-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays at in the music room of Adams Upper Elementary School, 33475 Palmer, Westland, and 3:30-5 p.m. Thursdays in the music room at Marshall Upper Elementary School, 35100 Bayview, Westland.

The fee is \$135 for 16 weeks and includes sight reading, vocal warm-ups and sheet music. Registration forms are available at the Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department. Registration and payment to the Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department or to the director are due on the first day of class.

For more information, e-mail Liz Meyers at lizmeyers41566@ymail.com or call her at (206) 423-3728.



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Taking a break under the waterfall at the Wayne Community Center's indoor pool are Isaac Butler, Charles Porter and Billy House, all of Wayne.

When it's cold outside

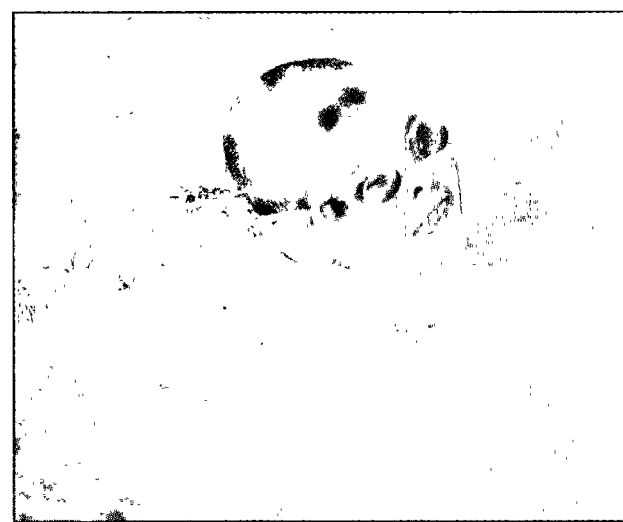
Families find weather's fine at indoor pool

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Her friends may question Markeeta Penny's decision to take her children swimming when the temperature outside is below freezing.

The Wayne resident thinks differently. "Playing in the water when there's snow on the ground outside, that's cool," said Penny who was at the Wayne Recreation Center's indoor pool Thursday with her children Mariah, 3, and Jasmine, 13. "My friend said it's 10 degrees outside and I told her not inside."

The Pennys were just a few of the families who took advantage of



John Gillespie of Garden City is among youngsters enjoying the warm weather inside the Wayne Community Center during Christmas break.

the expanded open swim times during the schools' Christmas break. And after several hours in the pool, Penny was thinking of taking her daughters to the library and even stopping by the mall.

"It might be small, but I like the atmosphere here,"

said Penny. "I tried out the new Romulus Recreation Center. It's bigger, but bigger isn't always better. Big is big and it's more expensive than here."

For Sandy Newton, being at the pool gave her

Please see POOL, A2

School officials spread word about Literacy Corps

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

More than 100 people have volunteered to work with Wayne-Westland Community Schools students to help improve their reading and comprehension skills.

In an effort to expand the participation in the Literacy Corps, outgoing school board member Cindy Schofield, Superintendent Greg Baracy and Deputy Superintendent Paul Salah visited the Westland and Wayne City Councils recently.

"We'd love to add another 100 volunteers by the end of the (school) year," said Schofield. "We would ask you to talk about the Literacy Corps to oth-

er groups and where you worship. We can put every volunteer to use. You can make a difference in the lives of children in our community."

A similar program had already been implemented by Detroit Public Schools. Baracy credited Schofield with initiating the Literacy Corps locally. Salah was in charge of implementing and operating the program.

"We knew reading and reading comprehension has been an issue. One way to improve that was to have an adult to read to. I approached Dr. Baracy and the board subcommittee about volunteers coming into the schools," said Schofield.

Most of the volunteers
Please see LITERACY, A2

Hearing adjourned for parents charged in infant's death

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A preliminary examination for a Westland couple charged in the beating death of their 3-month-old son has been adjourned.

Citing the need for more time to prepare their cases, defense attorneys for Joshua Wilson and Kelli Worth-McBride, both 21, requested the adjournment until Jan. 17.

The couple are charged with felony murder and first-degree child abuse in the Dec. 19 death of their infant son, also named Joshua. Paramedics and police

were called to the Palmer Terrace Apartments on South

Venoy near Palmer about 1:15 p.m. Dec. 19 about a baby not breathing. Police reported that the

baby actually had shallow breathing but later died at the University of Michigan Hospital. Wilson and Worth-

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VOTE

Continued from page A1

voted to utilize professional services from Plante Moran Cressa as the city's project representative, city engineers OHM to act as architect-engineers, attorneys Var-num Riddering to act as bond counsel and Bendzinski and Co. to act as municipal financial

adviser. The city will have a 60-day due diligence period before completing the property purchase, followed by the bidding process and approximately 18 months of construction to turn the 64,000-square-foot building into an energy-efficient and handicapped-accessible facility.

Westland City Council is expected to have a study session on the city

hall project later this month. "We have a preliminary budget of \$9 million with the land costs. It's not set in stone, but it's a number to start working with," Wild said. "The council will work on the budget. We expect council to approve a not to exceed number and that will be the budget."

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LITERACY

Continued from page A1

meet weekly with their students, Schofield said, although some volunteers meet with more than one student.

"I volunteer with a fifth-grader and a first-grader. It's very worthwhile, it's just a wonderful experience," said Schofield. "You (council members) are very busy people but you also involved in the community. We want you to help get the word out."

Volunteers don't have to be parents or grandparents to participate in the Literacy Corps. Training

is provided, and all volunteers must pass a criminal background check before working with students.

Research shows having adult community members in the classroom positively impacts academic achievement, reduces school suspension rates and improves school-related behaviors.

"The best gift we can give children is learning to read. We're saying to kids, read, read, read — never stop," said Baracy. "That's how we grow."

Teachers identify the students who could benefit from working with an adult, either to improve reading skills or in some

cases, comprehension and retention.

"You're teaching a love of reading. There is nothing more rewarding than having a child look forward to you come to read every Tuesday," said Schofield, who didn't seek re-election after serving 12 years on the school board.

Literacy Corps volunteers work with students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Anyone interested in participating can contact any of the district's elementary schools or call Salah at (734) 419-2015.

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HEARING

Continued from page A1

McBride were both arrested at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital where the baby had been treated before a survival flight to Ann Arbor. The baby was reported by police to have been bruised all over his body and to have suffered a ruptured spleen.

Wilson and Worth-McBride made separate brief appearances Thursday before 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell, who ordered they

continue to be jailed without bond.

A second Westland couple, Antonio Brandon, 23, and Nicole Roberts, 19, are scheduled for trial Jan. 30 in Wayne County Circuit Court charged with killing their 2½-month-old son Kayden Brandon, early Dec. 5, 2011. The pair are also charged with abusing Kayden's twin brother Cameron.

Brandon is charged with first-degree murder and child abuse. Roberts is charged with involuntary manslaughter and child abuse — that she was aware of the abuse

and allowed it to continue. Both have been jailed since their arrest a year ago.

The death of Kayden, who weighed 10 pounds, was ruled a homicide with asphyxiation and blunt force trauma as the causes. Testimony from the Wayne County medical examiner found the infant had a range of fresh and healing injuries, including deep tissue bleeding in his arms and neck muscles, broken ribs and bleeding in his chest cavity.

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STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eleanor Newton-Lay of Westland, who's recovering from surgery, swims for fun and therapy at the Wayne Community Center's indoor pool.

POOL

Continued from page A1

a chance to see her granddaughter "acting like a kid again."

"She's been in a wheelchair since after Thanksgiving, she had a bouncy house accident," she said. "She had a broken femur and now has two pins from hip to her knee."

Four-year-old Eleanor Newton-Lay, who is using a walker, was able to motivate around the pool with a noodle, under the watchful eye of Newton and her husband, Kenny. Also along for the fun was her brother Cameron, 8, and cousin Madison Ziobron, 12.

"We bring them here often," said Newton. "It's a break for me because they can entertain themselves in the pool and I can get some exercise."

Twelve-year-old Johnathan Gilbert passed up the chance to swim because he wasn't feeling well, but his sisters, Grace, 8, and Gloria, 7, were having a good time.

"It's exercise for the kids while they're on winter break," said their mother, Deanna. The Westland resident

GET WET

If you're tired of the cold, step into the warmth poolside at the Wayne Recreation Center. The indoor pool has variety of open swim times for children and their parents, including 6-8 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and noon to 2:30 p.m. and 3:30-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. There's also a parent-tot session for children age 6 and under 5:30-11:30 a.m. and 3:30-4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. The cost for Wayne and Westland residents is \$1.25 for resident children age

15 and under and senior citizens age 50 and older and \$2 for adults. Nonresident fees are \$5 and \$6, respectively.

The center's aquatic program also includes swim lessons, as well as classes — aqua zumba and yoga, water aerobics, Senior Splash Bash. Moms in Motion and a warm water arthritis workout. The Wayne Community Center is at 4635 Howe in Annapolis in Wayne. For more information, call the Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department at (734) 721-7400.

said their children have been "loving the snow" while off from school, but they were also loving the warmth of the pool for a change of pace.

"This is the second time we've come," she said.

The "big water slide" is a favorite of Wayne resident Georgine Jeziorowski's two grandsons, Isaac and Holden Butler. According to the boys, it's like "riding a roller coaster."

"They just love it here," said Jeziorowski. "We came last Thursday (Dec.

27) for the morning session and were the only ones here. It was like having our own swimming pool. They had a good deal going that day with swimming and skating for the whole family for only \$5."

Jeziorowski does make it to the community without her grandchildren. "I do aerobics here twice a week," she said. "It's such a nice place."

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Wayne benefits from Boyles' love of city

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Many people will say they love their community and some will volunteer their time serving on city boards or commissions.



Boyles

When it comes to making a monetary donation, most people will think of their favorite charity or church — paying their taxes usually seems sufficient financial support for their city.

So it was a bit unusual when Robert Boyles remembered the City of Wayne in his will to the tune of \$135,000.

"In my almost 40 years practicing law, Bob was not the only one to leave much of his estate to charity but he was the only to leave money to a city," said Dick Clark, former Wayne city attorney and trustee of Boyles' estate. "The city had become his family."

"He loved the city. He was a high quality citizen and proved it after he died," said Wayne Mayor Al Haidous. Boyles was 95 when he died on March 17, 2012, and had lived in the same house on Elizabeth in Wayne since 1945. He and his wife, Grace, a nurse at Annapolis Hospital, chose Wayne originally due to its proximity to his job.

"He worked for a company that put displays in supermarkets and five and dime stores," said Clark. "He had been retired forever. I met him at the end of his career, probably in the late '70s." Clark and Boyles got to know each other when

they were both appointed to the Wayne Zoning of Appeals. Clark had served over a decade before becoming city attorney.

Boyles not only continued to serve on the ZBA, then served on the Planning Commission and the Local Officials Compensation Commission, eventually chairing all three bodies for many years. "He served on the ZBA until year before he died. At 95, he was pretty sharp. At 94, he was really sharp," said Clark. "If he disagreed with something, he would share his opinions with us privately."

Over the years, Clark said he would join Boyles for lunch, joined by Haidous and then-City Manager John Zech.

"We were probably his best friends. On Sweetest Day, he (Boyles) would pass out roses and candy to all the ladies at city hall," said Clark. "They were friends. He was friends with a lot of city employees. He was such a nice man."

Boyles' bequest to city provided \$1,000 for the city animal shelter and the balance to be split between the police and fire departments, each getting \$66,500. The bequest specified the police department was to use the money for expenses relating to a new police canine while

the fire department funding was to be used to purchase equipment.

And this wasn't actually Boyles' first donation to the city.

"About 10 years earlier after his wife, Grace, died, Bob had donated the money to rebuild or re-roof the city animal shelter," said Clark. "They were both cat lovers and had an affinity for animal charities."

While Clark didn't want to go into details, Boyles also left \$135,000 to the First United Methodist Church of Wayne, where he was an elder and chaired an advisory council for many years. Boyles also left a sizable gift to the Leader Dogs for the Blind along with bequests for his two children and his grandchildren.

"That lunch was a major expenditure. He was frugal and invested wisely," said Clark. "He was very generous to his church and the city all of his life."

Wayne officials are working on a plaque or some other way to recognize Boyles' donation but also the years of volunteer service he provided to the community.

"We would like to do something to recognize his kindness," said Haidous.

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Seven-week Congressman ends stint with historic vote

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

David Curson ended his seven-week stint in U.S. Congress with an historic vote on Jan. 1.



Curson

His vote to prevent the so-called "fiscal cliff" was one of seven by Democrats and five by Republicans from Michigan supporting the extension of tax cuts for middle-income Americans, but the action also ended a tax cut of 2 percent on Social Security, which will impact paychecks for Americans.

The fiscal cliff was the primary order of business during his Congressional term.

"I'm done as of noon tomorrow," Curson said Wednesday.

Curson, 64, a UAW activist who has spent several years in contract negotiations as an executive assistant to two UAW presidents and worked with the auto task force representing the UAW on the GM and Chrysler bailouts, won the special election Nov. 6 to finish the unexpired term of Thaddeus McCotter.

McCotter resigned after petition signatures

'You realize that there are truly a lot of people on both sides who believe in this country.'

DAVID CURSON

were deemed to be photocopies by the Secretary of State's office. Attorney General Bill Schuette's investigation eventually led to charges against four McCotter staffers, alleging that they were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the five-term congressman for the 2012 primary ballot.

Gov. Rick Snyder's office scheduled a special primary election on Sept. 5, followed by a spot on the Nov. 6 general election ballot, to complete McCotter's unexpired term.

Curson served from Nov. 8 until Thursday. On Thursday, Republican Kerry Bentivolio, who won election on Nov. 6 to a two-year term in the redistricted 11th Congressional District, began his term.

Curson returned to his Belleville home Wednesday and, as his term ended, expected to make sure his district office was closed that after-

noon. "I loved the experience. It was seven weeks of non-stop, very hard work," Curson said. "I had to do a lot of preparation."

"You realize that there are truly a lot of people on both sides who believe in this country. It's kind of the same thing that I'm doing for the UAW, working for the things I believe in," Curson said.

Curson said he will return to his job with the UAW.

Curson does not see himself running for elective office again.

"The constant campaigning and always asking for money, I just don't think I could stomach that," Curson said. "I will probably not run in any election in my future, but I think I will be helping out someone else down the road."

The redistricted 11th Congressional District doesn't include Westland, Garden City and Wayne as did the previous 11th Congressional District that had been represented by McCotter. Those cities are now part of the 13th Congressional District, represented by John Conyers Jr.

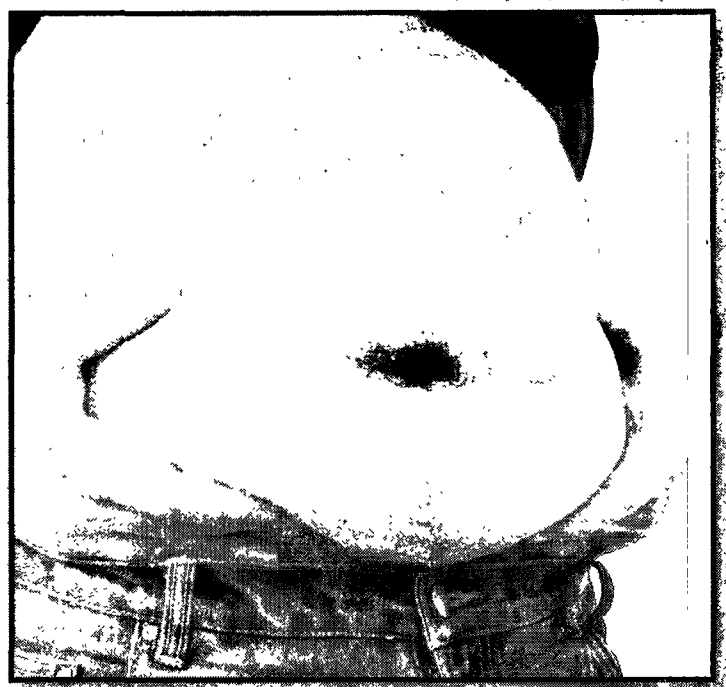
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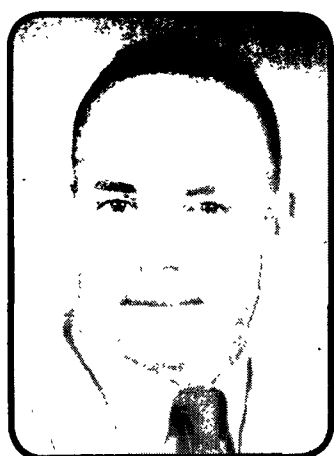
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Reading buddies

James Zelinski gives Titan the therapy dog a good petting after he sat and listened to him read. Titan was at St. Raphael School in Garden City last month to sit and listen to students in kindergarten through third-grade read. Each student was able to read to Titan who sat patiently next to them. According to school officials, many students were excited to go home and read to their own animals.

W-W board ready to elect new officers

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

When the Wayne-Westland school board meets next week, one of the items on the agenda will be the election of officers.

With the moving of school elections from May to the November election in even numbered years, the school board is holding its organizational meeting in January. That's when trustees will decide who will hold the four board offices - president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

And as part of its operational procedures regarding board officer transitions, trustees made it known which spots they were seeking. The procedure requires polling of trustees about what positions they're interested in during in open session in December prior to the January organizational meeting.

Outgoing Secretary Cindy Schofield did the polling, asking each which positions he or she seeking. The board's newest members, Charles "Trav" Griffin, who was appointed to the board in September, and Sally Madison, who was elected to the board in November, declined.

"I contacted Mrs. Madison and she said she would not have the experience to serve in a board position," said Schofield. "She wants to focus on learning the position of trustee."

Griffin likewise stressed his "short time on the board" in bowing out.

Board President Carol

Middel let her colleagues that if they see fit, she would like to keep the position.

"It's been an honor to serve as president," she said. "It is a position I have not taken lightly. I would like to serve again, if my fellow trustees wish me to serve."

She also indicated she would be interested in any other position.

While Trustee Frederick Weaver expressed interest in serving in any one of the four positions, Shawna Walker indicated she was interested in the president and vice-president posts, as well as her current job as treasurer.

John Goci, current vice-president, favored the president and secretary positions.

And Thomas Buckalew who was elected to the board in 2011, said he was ready to do more on the board. Referencing Schofield's 12 1/2 years on the board, Buckalew said his 18 months on the board "pale in comparison, but I think I have learned enough during that time to increase my service to the board." He added that his interest was in serving as vice-president, secretary or treasurer.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the board room of the district's administrative offices at 36745 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Newburgh, in Westland. It will follow a 6 p.m. work study session which will include a board policy update and a review of the 2012-2013 budget amendment.

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ACHIEVERS

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow has nominated Dionte Burton of Westland for placement at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

Burton was among 36 Michigan students Stabenow nominated for placement at West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, M.D., the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Col., and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y.

"It's exciting that so many exceptional students from our state are willing to serve our country through military service," said Senator Stabenow. "These individuals have demonstrated their excellence in and out of the classroom, and I am confident that they will represent Michigan well."

Students seeking appointment to a service academy must first obtain the nomination of their U.S. senator, their U.S. representative or the vice-president. Students nominated by Stabenow's office went through a competitive application process that included interviews by community leaders. Burton will now have to await acceptance for admission by the Military Academy.

Erin Watts of Garden City has been named to the Dean's List for the second semester of the 2012-13 school year at Hope College in Holland, Mich. To be named to the Dean's List, Watts had to have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Rasheed Babar of Westland was among more than 1,600 students to receive degrees from the Minnesota State University, Mankatoon, during fall commencement exercises held Dec. 15.

Babar received his bachelor of science degree in marketing.

Andrea Atzinger, Kevin Burek, Amber Carr, Frederick Crank, Sarah Rockol, Andrea Roggero, Kaitlynn Schock, Tracy Sierb, Deidra Taylor, Alessio Vagnini, Yeolander Vickerson and Jonathan Wier-tella, all of Garden City, are among the 4,870 new students who enrolled at Wayne State University for the fall 2012 semester.

"We're proud to welcome this newest class to the university's 145th academic year," said provost and senior vice president for academic affairs Ronald T. Brown. "We're confident that this group of Warriors will carry on our rich legacy."

Thomas Sample of Westland, a sophomore at Northwood University, helped his team win a second-place trophy in a mock trial tournament at Carnegie Mellon University in December.

Sample's team had a record of six wins, one loss and one tie in the tournament that attracted 20 teams. The team won its rounds against Johns Hopkins University, Canisius College, Penn State and Carnegie Mellon University.

Sample also was a member of a mock trial team that finished with a record of three wins and five losses at an invitational tournament sponsored by Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, in November.

The Carnegie Mellon tournament was Northwood's final tournament for the fall semester. The mock trial team is now preparing for their remaining invitational tournaments that will occur in the last half of January.

Police praised for quick recovery of stolen truck

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

When the Westland Police showed up at her front door early Thursday morning, Renee Knowlton couldn't have been happier. The officer was returning the family's 1997 Ford F-150 pickup truck that had been stolen from the driveway of their home on Huff Street.

"I love them to death," Knowlton said. "To see them at my door ... they had been through hell and back, but they were full of smiles. It was just

amazing."

It was a combination of an alert 15-year-old and quick police response that had the truck back home and the culprit under arrest in an hour's time. Knowlton's son Dane was up late when a vehicle came down Huff, a dead-end street in the Newburgh-Ford Road area.

The police determined that the vehicle wasn't related to the theft, but it made the teen suspicious enough to turn off the lights and watch it. The car turned around and left. About 20 min-

utes later, he heard the engine start on his parents' truck and looked out to see it being driven away.

Dane told his parents and they immediately called the police.

"I'm so happy my 15-year-old paid attention," Knowlton said. "Something didn't feel good to him. It's odd for people to come to the end of the street. Thank God he heard that vehicle."

Knowlton and her husband use the truck for a business they own in Garden City. Inside it was a GPS unit and plen-

ty of information about their customers and friends. Because of its age, the Knowltons didn't have full insurance coverage. Replacing it would have been a costly proposition.

"It was luck that the homeowner's son saw it. The call was instrumental in solving the case as quickly as we did," Westland Deputy Police Chief Michael Matich said. "We got the call and just happened to have two cars on patrol in the area. They spotted the vehicle and tried to block him in, but he drove around

them."

The suspect eventually abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot before being arrested.

Of the officers who showed up at the Knowltons' front door, one was drenched from having chased the suspect through a creek. The other's clothes were covered with pickers. The truck had only a scratch on the bumper.

"That police officer at my door, if you could have seen him. He was smiling from ear to ear," Knowlton said. "I'm so glad the truck's back in

the driveway and with just a scratch on the bumper. Who gets their vehicle back and the guy who stole it?"

"They tracked him, they didn't give up. To respond like that, I just want to have them recognized," she added.

The suspect, a 30-year-old Livonia man, is facing charges of operating while impaired, taking a vehicle without permission and driving while his license was suspended.

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Redford man charged with interfering in an arrest

Assault

A 46-year-old Redford man was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with assault, resisting and obstructing a police officer, a felony, along with aiding an escape from an officer, a misdemeanor, after the man reportedly physically intervened during the arrest of another man in the lot of Club 153 at 31268 Ford Road.

An officer who was positioned in the lot due to recent problems at closing time, observed a man remove his shirt, shove multiple people in the crowd outside the door, then try to force his way back into the bar while cursing and challenging patrons and employees to fight.

The officer told the man, later identified as a 25-year-old from Waterford, he was under arrest for disorderly conduct and attempted to handcuff him. The man resisted the officer while a second man entered the struggle by trying to force himself between the officer and the man being arrested, police said. The second man demanded the officer release the younger man whom he identified as his son, police said.

A bar patron pulled the older man away which allowed the officer to finish handcuffing the original suspect. As the officer was placing the arrested man in the police car, the older man again intervened by coming at the officer, shouting obscenities, police said. The officer informed the second man he was under arrest and a struggled followed, police said.

"During that time the son, apparently not feeling the same allegiance to his father, fled in handcuffs northbound on foot," according to Garden City Police Chief Robert Muery.

Officers from several agencies arrived to assist but the first man could not be located. The father was arraigned on the charges and a bond of \$15,000 was set by the court. The son remains at large. Officers have obtained a warrant for his arrest.

License suspension

A 35-year-old Warren man was arrested Dec. 31

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

after an officer made a traffic stop for an expired plate in the area of Maplewood and Middlebelt.

When the officer checked the man's driving record through the Secretary of State, it was discovered the driver had 44 current suspensions of his license. The man was placed under arrest and transported to the Garden City Police station.

A passenger in the vehicle, a 34-year-old man from Detroit, was cited

for possessing open intoxicants in a motor vehicle. The vehicle in which the two were riding was impounded.

Theft

The owner of a business in the 31400 block of Ford Road called police after discovering four tires on a work vehicle were punctured Dec. 31. The man indicated the damage could have occurred any time within the last seven days.

A check of neighboring businesses did not reveal any additional information. The total damage was estimated at \$400.

Police await autopsy of man who died after cutting off hand

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Autopsy results are being awaited as Westland police investigate the death of a man who died after cutting off his hand Wednesday.

Police were called to a home in the 30000 block of Julius at approximately midnight when the man's adult son returned home.

"The son opened the garage door. He saw a hand and blood on the floor. There was a circular saw," said Lt. Michael Harhold.

When police arrived and checked inside the home, the 48-year-old man was found dead in a bedroom. The man's left hand had been severed and he had bled extensively while moving through the house.

Based on evidence at the scene, Harhold said it appears that the man deliberately cut off his hand to commit suicide.

"There were no other injuries obvious. There was no sign of a wood working project," said Harhold. "There was no sign of forced entry, no signs of a struggle

or that anything had been stolen."

Officers did find a knife with blood on it in the bathroom of the home, Harhold said.

"There was no note. Based on interviews with his family, he was having some personal issues," said Harhold. "It will be some weeks before we get a ruling on the cause of death because of the toxicology report. The medical examiner has our information. We're waiting on their decision."

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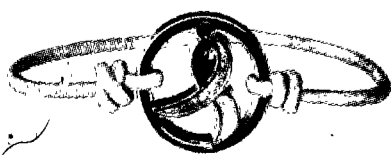
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A look back at 2012

Mergers, park reopening, city hall plans make headlines

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

There were a lot of changes in Westland and Wayne during 2012. Departments were merged, Central City Park reopened and Westland started moving forward with plans for a new city hall.

• The merger that resulted in the new Wayne-Westland Fire Department is aimed at saving both cities money and improving efficiency.

The combined 90-member work force now works under shared Fire Chief Michael Reddy, who is charged with finding savings and efficiencies in such areas as the shared equipment and a realigned response area.

The sharing of a single chief is expected to save the cities an estimated \$250,000 annually.

The two firefighter unions have also merged into a single bargaining unit, and the administrative offices have been combined at the Wayne fire station.

The merger of the two departments is helping the cities qualify for the governor's Economic Vitality Incentive Program. That would bring \$425,000 in phase 1 funding and over \$1.25 million for the current fiscal year, if all EVIP phases are met.

In addition, the cities received a \$792,000 EVIP grant to facilitate the merger itself. The grant will finance changes to Information Technolo-



The roof of the McKee barn crosses the intersection of Marquette and Wayne Road on its way to its new home at the Westland Historic Village Park.

FILE PHOTO



Westland Mayor William Wild used oversized scissors to cut a green ribbon to celebrate the reopening of the Thomas H. Brown Central City Park. Joining him were Deputy Mayor Jade Smith (from left), Westland City Council President James Godbout, Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp, Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski, Councilwoman Meriem Kadl, 18th District Court Judge Sandra Ference Cidrelli and Councilwoman Christine Cidrelli Bryant.

FILE PHOTO

gy, equipment purchases, training and other requirements.

The merger prompted an August visit by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who said,

"We started discussion of consolidated services to keep costs down and not only maintain but improve services. This is exactly what we were talking

about."

• Also merging under a single director were the Wayne and Westland parks and recreation departments. With Robert Kosowski retiring as Westland's director — he was sworn in last week as a Democratic state representative — Wayne Parks and Recreation Director

Nathan Adams now oversees programs in both communities.

The merger went into effect on July 1, and Westland's Melvin Bailey Community Center closed its doors. City officials reported the Bailey Center had a nearly \$4 million operating loss over the past five years.

Westland residents are now using the Wayne Community Center, which has a pool, workout areas, sauna and other amenities.

Residents of both communities are treated as residents in each community — a continuation of the Neighbor Acceptance Program that has already been in place since 2011.

• Closed since 2006 due to lead contamination, Central City Park officially reopened and was rededicated in August. The eastern 12 acres were remediated with installation of a geotextile fabric and a 10-15-inch layer of new soil. A new half mile walking path has been built around the perimeter and a 200-space parking lot added along Carlson. Future plans call for

the installation of soccer fields, pavilions, a concession area with family-style restrooms and a plaza area that will host activities like the Westland Farmers Market and concerts in the park.

The rededication also restored the park's full name — Thomas H. Brown Central City Park, honoring Westland's first mayor, elected in 1966.

• Two Westland teens, Jourdan Bobbish and Jacob Kudla, were found dead in a Detroit field in July shot execution style.

A Livonia Churchill High School senior, Bobbish, 17, and Kudla, an 18-year old Churchill graduate who was attending Schoolcraft College, didn't return from a July 22 visit to Kudla's uncle on the east side of Detroit.

Kudla's car was located outside an apartment building on Detroit's west side with the stereo equipment missing. Two men were arrested and charged with stealing from the car, which they were cleaning with bleach.

The teens' families mounted efforts to locate the pair and held a candlelight vigil in Churchill's parking lot. On July 27, the morning after the vigil, the boys were found fatally shot in a debris-filled field near Detroit City Airport about five miles from where they were last seen.

At this time, no one has been charged with killing the teens. Two men, Larry Videz Anderson, 41, and Casey Jason Green, 39, were arrested for stealing from the car and also charged with obstructing justice, the latter charge stemming from allega-

Please see 2012, A7




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FILE PHOTO

An emotional Joshua Bobbish, his sister Jillian Bobbish and Tim Duncan are joined by other family members and friends in the candlelight vigil for Jourdan Bobbish and Jacob Kudla the night before their bodies were found in a field near Detroit City Airport.

2012

Continued from page A6

tions that the vehicle was cleaned with bleach after being stripped.

Green entered a guilty plea to the charges in September and is currently serving one year in the Wayne County Jail, to be followed by three years probation. Anderson is scheduled for trial on Feb. 4 in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Westland's Historic Village Park received a new addition — a vintage barn moved from the former McKee farm on Cowan east of Wayne Road.

Due to cost and condition of the barn walls, the barn roof was moved down Wayne Road to the park in July. Using a combination of original and new wood, the barn walls were rebuilt under the roof. A cinder block foundation with a concrete floor was added as part of the project.

New large doors were constructed for the barn, since the late Elmer McKee had installed an overhead garage door on the

building. He had used the barn as a garage.

The barn also has a steel I-beam installed for support, a structural addition required by city inspectors.

The project was funded with a \$50,000 allocation from the Wayne County Parks millage through the efforts of Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, who left office Dec. 31.

There had been a lot of discussion about how to replace the existing Westland City Hall, long plagued with flooding and asbestos problems, lack of handicapped access and a myriad of issues stemming from being built close to 50 years ago.

Last month, the city council voted to move ahead with purchasing the 64,000-square-foot former Circuit City building on Warren Road east of Central City Parkway.

The council authorized \$1.6 million to purchase the building, which will be retrofitted with energy efficient technology to serve as the new city hall. Much larger than the current city hall, located approximately one

mile south on Ford, the new building would allow currently scattered city departments to be housed in one building.

Additionally, Mayor William Wild said there are plans to have flexible-use rooms that could be used by the public, similar to rooms that had been available at the now-closed Bailey Center.

By locating the new city hall within the Tax Increment Finance Authority, the TIFA will fund the purchase price and also the retrofitting costs, which haven't yet been determined. That means no additional millage would be needed for the city hall replacement.

Longer term, the existing city hall, Bailey Center and adjoining Fire Station 1 would be demolished. A site for a new fire station hasn't been designated but it would likely be within the TIFA district also.

The Ford Road municipal property is located within the Downtown Development Authority, which is expected to fund the demolitions.

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Friends program

The Friends of the Nankin Mills will host a free presentation, "History of Hines Drive," 7-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center.

Nancy Darga, former Wayne County Parks Manager of Design, Parks Historian and Managing Director of Motor Cities National Heritage Area, will share her vast knowledge about the development and history of Hines Parkway.

Henry Ford was a member of the original Wayne County Board of Road Commissioners in 1906, along with Edward N. Hines. They shared a vision, creating paved roadways and preserving land along the rivers in southeastern Michigan for roadside parks. The foresightedness of Ford and Hines has provided open space and recreation close to home for millions of people in southeastern Michigan. Today, 22,000 vehicles use Hines each day.

Nankin Mills is located on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. The parking lot on Hines can be reached even if barricades are up at Ann Arbor Trail. For more information on this or any other Wayne County Parks event, call (734) 261-1990.

Helping seniors

Seniors Helping Seniors will host hosts a grand-opening open house, featuring food and drink and drawings for free gifts 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill between Newburgh and Wayne Road.

Learn about services, providing in-home care

and support for seniors by seniors. Learn about flexible job opportunities for caring, active seniors over 50 years young.

For more information, call (734) 996-9570 or email seniorshelpingseiors14@gmail.com.

Tree recycling

Westland's Christmas Tree Recycling Program is back. Residents can drop off their Christmas Tree at the City of Westland Recycling Center at 37137 Marquette. Trees will be accepted 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Jan. 16, except Sunday. Trees should be free of lighting, tinsel and other decorations.

All trees will be chipped and will be recycled for use at the City of Westland Community Garden and other locations. For residents unable to drop their tree off at the recycling center, trees will be picked up curbside, however, they will not be recycled.

Bowling benefit

Bowl for the Westland Historic Village Park noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, at Vision Lanes at 38250 Ford Road, west of Newburgh Road.

Tickets are \$25 each and include three games, shoe rental, two slices of pizza and pop. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, mystery prize, door prizes and more. Advanced tickets can be purchased for \$20 at the Westland Historic Village at 857 N. Wayne Road. They also will be available at the door the day of the event.

For tickets or more information, call Ryan at (734) 756-0769.

Railroadiana

Ss. Simon and Jude Usher's Club will spon-

sor a Toys and Train Show noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman, in Westland.

Admission is \$2 per person, or \$4 per family. Food and beverages are available and parking is free. There will be approximately 130 dealer tables available at \$10 each. To reserve a dealer table, call Norm at (734) 595-8327. Dealer setup is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

Ice skating

Looking for something to do on a Friday evening? Stop by the Mike Modano Ice Arena in Westland for Glow Skate 8-9:20 p.m. Fridays. Get a Glow Skate punch card. Skate five times and the sixth is free.

The arena also offers open skate 1:30-3:20 p.m. Saturdays. The cost is \$4 for resident youth, \$5 for resident adults. Non-resident charges are \$4.50 for youth and \$5.50 for adults. Skate rental is \$3 for residents and \$3.50 for non-residents.

The arena is at 6210 Wildwood, Westland. For more information, call (734) 729-4560.

Open skate at the Wayne Ice Arena is 10-11:20 a.m. and 2-2:50 p.m. Monday and Friday, 10-11:20 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday (for parent and children age 6 and under), 5:30-6:50 p.m. Saturday and 3:30-4:50 Sunday.

Fees are \$3 for resident children and seniors and \$3.25 for resident adults. Non-resident charges are 5 for children and \$6 for adults. Children age 3 and under are free.

The community center is at 4635 Howe, Wayne. For more information, call (734) 721-7400.

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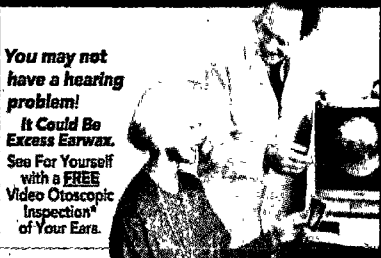
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- Helen Keller

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(734) 769-8226

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*Hearing evaluation and video otoscopic inspection are always free. Hearing evaluation is an audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. These are not medical exams or diagnoses, nor are they intended to replace a physician's care. If you suspect a medical problem, please seek treatment from your doctor. 24002 COPYRIGHT © fisms, inc 2011

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Kevin Bullock, Location Manager



McClary fired, Willy stolen are top GC stories in 2012

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

From voter approval of a dedicated police-fire millage and the suspension of the Chamber of Commerce to a pig-napping with a somewhat happy ending, 2012 proved to be an interesting year in Garden City.

The top story, the firing of City Manager Darwin McClary, is continuing to play out in 2013 as the Garden City Council begins the process of filling the job.

McClary had served as interim city manager for six months before being appointed to the position in April 2011. His troubles began last April when Councilman David Fetter called for his dismissal for failure to submit a proposed budget by April 1.

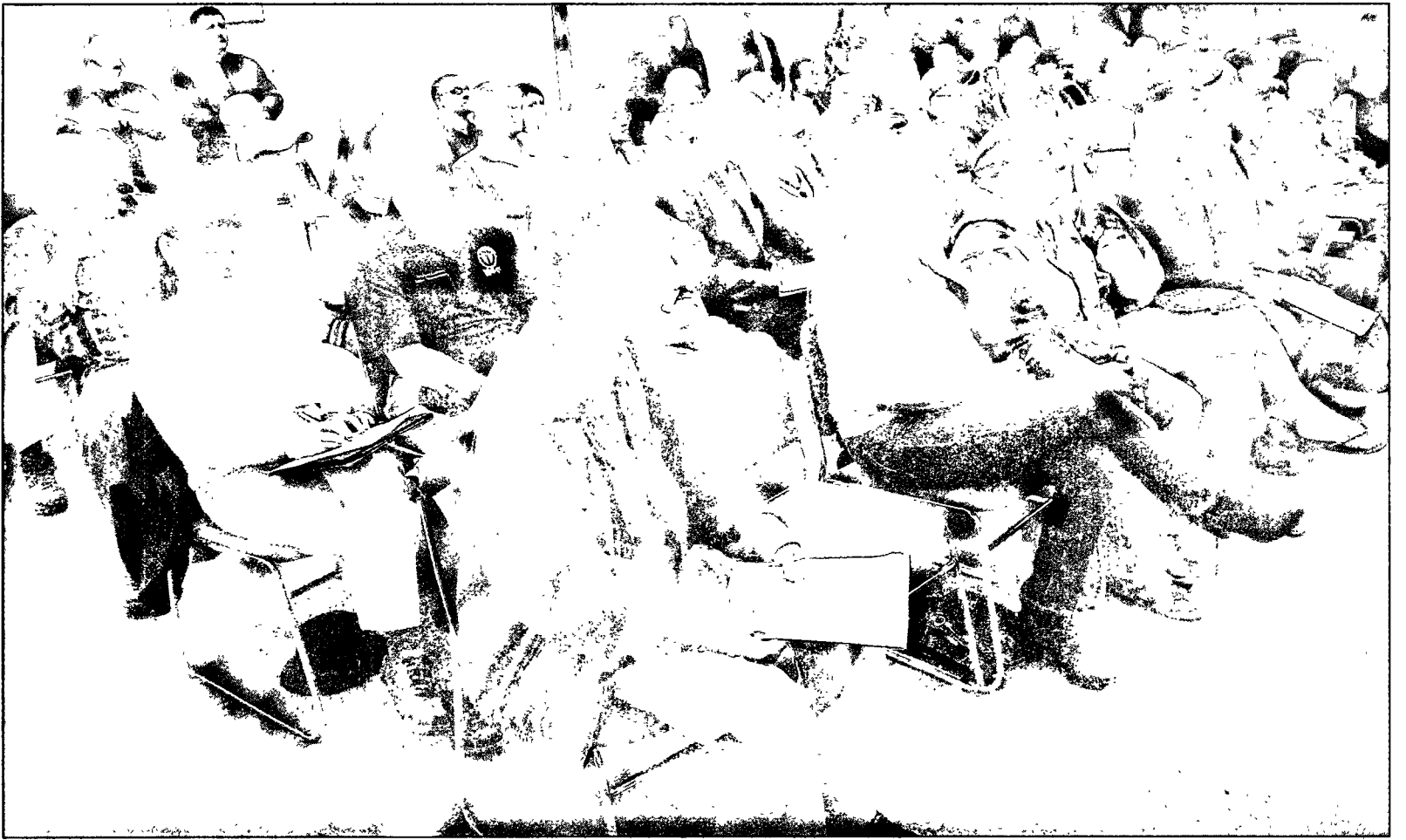
McClary submitted his resignation and had begun negotiations with council on "an amenable separation agreement" for his departure. The motion to fire McClary was rescinded after the two sides met behind closed doors.

However, in late August the council voted 4-3 to suspend McClary for 28 days. He invoked his rights in the city manager removal process and asked for a public hearing on Sept. 24, at city hall. Following the hearing, the council voted 4-3 to fire McClary.

The council is now in the process of selecting candidates to interview from 26 applications they received.

Millage approved

In May, the Garden City Police and Fire Departments heaved a collective sigh of relief after residents overwhelmingly approved a



FILE PHOTO

Darwin McClary sat and listened during the public hearing at Garden City Hall on Sept. 24. The majority of people who spoke wanted to retain McClary as city manager.



Willy the Pig was minus a snout and three legs when it was recovered from the front yard of a home in the Whitmore Lake area of Livingston County.

Passage of the millage request meant that staffing which already had been cut in 2011 was kept stable. Ten police positions weren't eliminated, and city employees avoided two unpaid furlough days a month.

Garden City like many cities has lost population, seen a decrease in taxable value and state shared revenue. The millage is costing the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 \$175 annually and generated \$1.6 million the first year.

Pignapping

And the theft of a red pig made news across the country, when someone staged a daylight

pignapping along Ford Road.

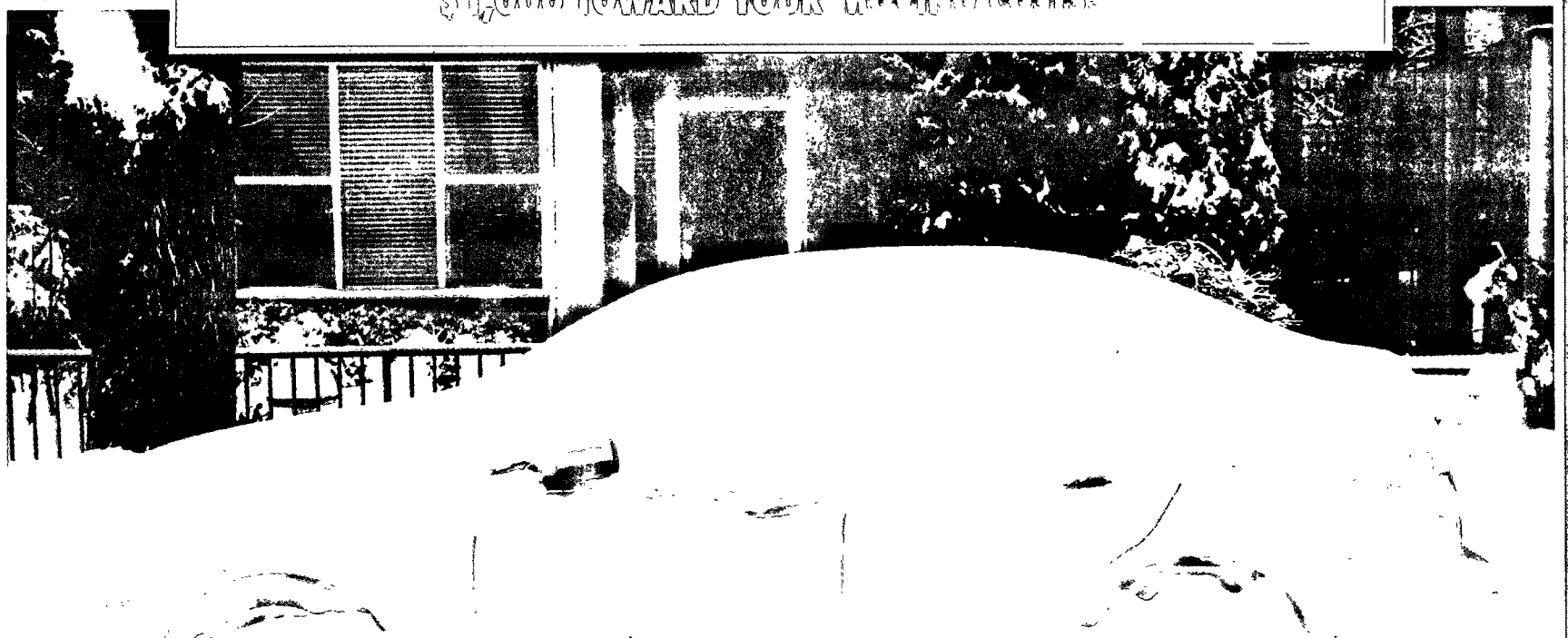
The theft involved the red pig sculpture, *Cochon Rouge* by Sophie Marie, that was on lease for two years through a special arrangement with the Garden City Downtown Development Authority and John Sauve, a Brighton art curator.

Dubbed Willy the Pig by residents, the \$6,000 statue was later recovered near Whitmore Lake after police received a call from the family that had Willy after coverage of the theft reached Livingston County. A son had found

Please see STORIES, A9

dedicated police and fire millage request in a special election. The 3.5-mill, four-year police and fire millage passed by a 2-to-1 margin.

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FILE PHOTO

Cory Kramer, Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb and State Rep. Richard LeBlanc helped cut the ceremonial ribbon at the Garden City Skate Plaza located in Garden City Park.

STORIES

Continued from page A8

it in the area where police searched and had brought it home. The family kept it in their yard.

The sculpture was missing three legs and its snout. The DDA had hoped to repair the statue, made of cast aluminum, but the artist is recasting a new Willy which the DDA is purchasing for \$8,000.

Skate plaza

And it was an awesome day for skateboarders who turned out in November for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the skate plaza in Garden City Park.

Paid for by Wayne County Parks millage money, the plaza opened to the public Nov. 13. Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-9th District, who strongly promoted the idea of a

skate park, was responsible for getting the parks millage money and bringing it to Garden City. Webb wanted Garden City kids to have a free source of entertainment.

The city broke ground at Garden City Park in September. The park is located in front of the old pool parking lot.

The plaza is geared toward beginning and intermediate street skaters. It features include stairs with a rail, a slight elevation change, a Pier 7 block and a curved ledge with hubbas. A curved-in sushi pad is another feature.

Chamber closes

Plagued with declining membership and a shakeup in the leadership, the Garden City Chamber of Commerce ceased operations in October. An effort to increase membership throughout the year, including a rally in July, didn't prove enough to



FILE PHOTO

Sheri Barber, a customer relations representative for Gordon Chevrolet, and Gary Ley, CEO of Garden City Hospital, chat prior to the rally in July to save the Garden City Chamber of Commerce.

sustain the chamber into the future.

Chamber President Bob Hunt blamed the economy for the overall problems. At the time, Hunt said the chamber wasn't "actually closing but suspending operations as far as the director and any events."

The chamber had been well known for its sponsorship of Dine and Dash and the First Citi-

zen awards. It also had been responsible for the city's Farmers Market. Problems began to surface when then-Director Amelia Oliverio's contract was terminated in January. She had served as director for more than 17 years. Chamber mem-

ber Peggy Sexton filled in for a time after Oliverio left.

Membership had dipped to 120 business and the estimation was that 300 members were needed for the chamber to survive. The decision to suspend opera-

tions keeps the door open so that someone can still come back in and open it back up.

The Farmers Market has been turned over to the DDA, while the chamber's financial records are being kept at Garden City Hospital.

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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT a Public Hearing by the City of Garden City Council shall be held on Monday, January 21, 2013 at 6:50 P.M. in the City Hall located at 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 regarding the removal of City Council Member George Hondie for violation of the City Charter, Section 2.09 (B)(4).

Allyson Bettis, Clerk/Treasurer
January 6, 2013

Publish: January 6, 2013

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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a hearing will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135. At the hearing all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard on the following agenda item.

1. ZBA Application No. 12-003, applicant is requesting the following variances:
 - a. A variance from Section 154.606 (I) (1) of the Zoning Ordinance to permit a ground sign with two faces placed back to back where such signs will be separated by seven feet, four feet more than permitted.
 - b. A variance from Section 154.606 (I) (3) of the Zoning Ordinance to permit an eight foot tall ground sign, two feet taller than permitted.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting and should be addressed to the Community Development Department at 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135. The plans are available during regular office hours for viewing at the above address.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the application may be examined at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 during regular office hours until the date of the hearing. Written comments may be sent to the above address.

Publish: January 6, 2013

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Livonia Campus**

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Cleaning up a financial mess starts with balance sheet

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: My personal financial affairs are a mess. I've not done anything with them in at least five years. I have let my investments stay in cash. I don't have a will. The bottom line is I need help. My New Year's resolution is to get my financial house in order but I have no idea where to start. I'm married and I have two adult children. I would like to retire five to seven years from now, but I have no idea if I have enough money to retire or not. Where do I start?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

A: I can't think of a better New Year's resolution than to get your financial house in order. I recognize that most people don't like to deal with their personal financial affairs, but there is no alternative. Unfortunately, in today's world, you cannot afford to put things on automatic pilot. Too many things change and we must learn to change with the times.

It is important to recognize that personal financial planning is not something that you do once and forget about it. It's sort of like planting a garden; it's something that you constantly need to maintain. You could have the greatest garden in the world, but if you don't maintain it, weeds will overrun it.

In my column last week, I discussed the importance of preparing a personal balance sheet. This should be your first step. By preparing a personal balance sheet, you know your assets and liabilities. In addition, it lets you see the amount of debt that you are carrying and which you need to accelerate for payment. A personal balance sheet is something that, at a minimum, should be done yearly, however, I believe it is better to do one every six months.

The next thing that you need to do is prepare a cash flow statement. A cash flow statement shows what

it costs you to live each month. A cash flow statement is a listing of what comes in and where the money is going. This serves two purposes. The first is that you can actually see where your money is going. In addition, the benefit of doing a cash flow statement is you can look for ways to become more efficient. After all, if you can cut your monthly living expenses it will help you reach your goal of being able to retire in a short period of time.

I generally recommend preparing a cash flow statement on a quarterly basis. I believe this will give you a true picture of what it costs to live each month. In these difficult economic times, being able to control expenses is key to everyone's financial success.

Once you have a cash flow statement and personal balance sheet, you have a great springboard to getting your financial house in order. I recommend taking one area of personal finance and working on it. Then, once it's in better shape, work on the next area.

The areas of personal finance you need to be concerned with are estate planning, taxes, risk management and investing.

Personal financial planning is important for everyone at every stage of life. Whether you are a new college graduate just starting a career or someone who's been in retirement for 10 years. The bottom line is everyone needs to make sure their personal financial affairs are in order.

No matter where you are with personal financial affairs, don't beat yourself up or be paralyzed by analysis. Every journey starts with the first step. I can't think of a better time of year than now to take that first step. Good luck!

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

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Project Graduation

Project Graduation 2013 will hold an all-day scrapbooking fundraiser 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, in the cafeteria of Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road.

The cost is \$35 and includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. There also will be 50/50 raffles and item raffles. Vendors also will be selling scrapbooking items.

Contact Carol Chambo at (734) 427-0146 or Karen Crunk at Klcrunk@quixnet.net to sign up.

Coffee hour

State Rep. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights, is joining a number of elected officials at a coffee hour Monday, Jan. 14, at Mr. Mike's Grill, 6047 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Citizens are welcome to visit with Knezek, State Rep. Robert Kosowski,

d-Westland, State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, and Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, D-12th District, to discuss their issues and/or concerns.

The coffee hour will be 9-10:30 a.m. People who have comments or concerns can also contact Knezek at (517) 373-0849.

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.

Community Chat

Please join host Kerry Partin and his co-hosts

every Thursday night at 9 p.m. It's the Internet talk show dedicated to the residents and businesses of Garden City and the surrounding communities. Share your events, fundraisers and comments with other listeners.

Call-in live at 724-444-7444 enter call ID 82757#, or visit us in our chat room at <http://talkshoe.com/tc/82757>. Either way we look forward to hearing from you.

Contact us at gccommunitychat@gmail.com.

Healing Hearts

Do you have a loved one in prison?

Know that you are not alone. Confidential support group meetings are held at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland, 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The meetings are free.

For more information contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts at (734) 646-2237.

Pet-a-Pet

Pet-A-Pet, Inc. is looking for enthusiastic, friendly pets and their owners to visit facilities one hour a month at the Garden City Hospital Rehab. Pets must be up to date with vaccinations, proof required. Visits are at 3:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

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

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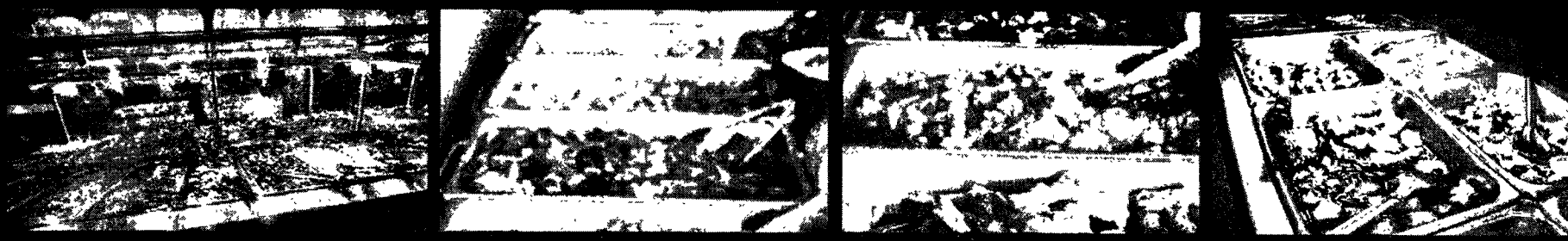
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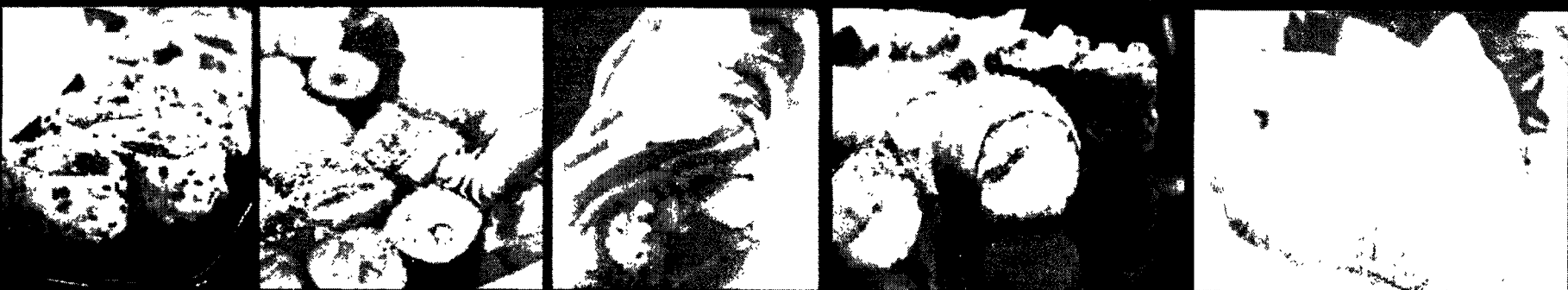
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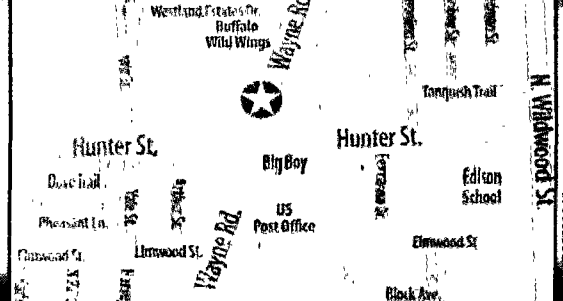
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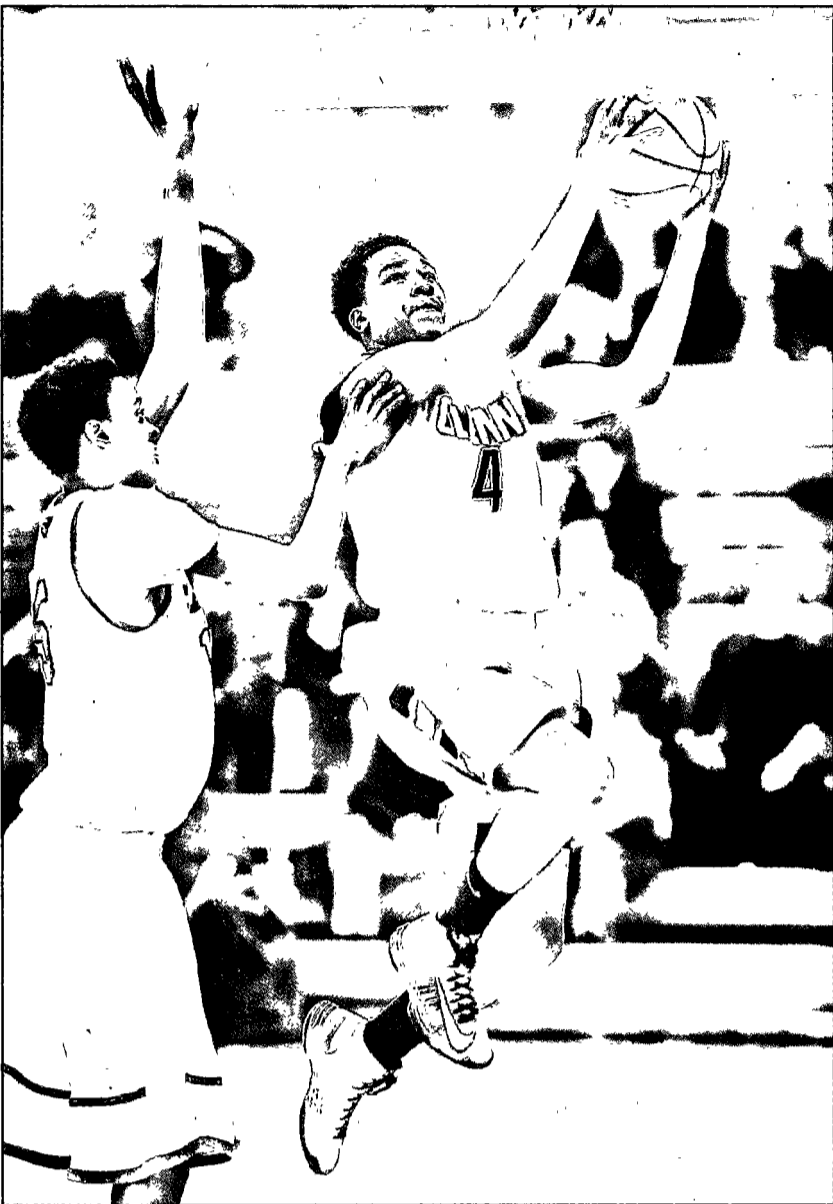
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SPORTS

Free throws lift Rockets



John Glenn's Isaac Everette (4) takes the ball to the basket over Canton's 6-foot-8 junior center Jordan Nobles in Friday's KLAAs South Division opener.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

You could call it a philanthropic win Friday night for the Westland John Glenn boys basketball team.

The Rockets opened defense of their KLAAs South Division championship by making 9-of-10 from the charity stripe in the decisive fourth quarter Friday to beat host Canton, 53-48.

Glenn improves to 5-1 overall, while the Chiefs slip to 2-5.

Canton trailed 16-11 after one quarter, 27-23 at intermission and fell behind by as many as 10 points in the third before rallying to take the lead on a short banker by 6-foot-8 junior Jordan Nobles, who scored eight of his 11 in the final quarter.

But Glenn got a big 3-pointer from 6-6 junior forward Isaac Everette (17 points) from the right wing with exactly a minute left to break a 46-46 deadlock and got four straight free throws from Nick Daniels (11 points) and Richard Roberts (12 points) in the final 27 seconds to seal the victory.

"Well, it was worth it to get up and shoot this morning for an hour," said Glenn coach Dan Young, whose team went 15-of-20 from the foul line for the game. "We shot a lot of free throws. We shot a lot — period — mainly because we didn't want them to sleep in all day. So that stuff pays off."

Glenn won despite hitting only 17-of-48 shots from the

floor (35.4 percent). Canton, however, also struggled from the field, making just 18-of-61 (29.5 percent).

"(Jim) Reddy and their coaching staff do a great job," Young said. "Their players are tough. They're scrappy and that's the way he was as a player (under Young when he was coach at Canton). He never gave in and that's how his guys are."

"We're very fortunate — on the road, coming off (holiday break). They (Canton) are very good. They just spread you out and have so many guys that can shoot it. And not having our two 'biggs,' they went into (Jordan) Nobles and really hurt us inside. I said, 'Do we double off shooters?' We got into a real bind there."

Nobles certainly gave Canton a lift offensively after senior guard Josh Mayberry carried the Chiefs offensively for three quarters, scoring 17 of his game-high 21.

"Brandon Reddy did a great job tonight," Reddy said. "I thought he competed and brought us some energy that we needed to beat Glenn. He struggled early, but I thought we found something in the third quarter. We were throwing inside and even though he wasn't scoring, we were getting better shots and better looks off of them. So we decided to go to him and he had a great fourth quarter for us."

Canton was able to contain

Waza Flo game Jan. 6

Now that college football bowl games are dwindling to a precious few, there's indoor soccer on the horizon.

Detroit Waza Flo, of the Professional Arena Soccer League, will face the Cincinnati Kings at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Taylor Sportsplex.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids; no admission fee for children age 2 and under.

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Taylor Sportsplex is located at 13333 Telegraph Road. Call (734) 374-8900 for more information.

Vellucci to tweak roster

Plymouth Whalers coach and general manager Mike Vellucci told George Sipple of the *Detroit Free Press* that teams are calling about a trade for forward Matt Mistele — but he's telling them Mistele's not on the block.

Meanwhile, with the recent return to the Whalers of forward Matthew Heard from Lake Erie of the AHL, Plymouth has four overage players (age 20). The team can carry only three as of Wednesday, the OHL deadline for overage players.

Other overage players on the roster as of now are forwards Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) and defenseman Colin MacDonald and Austin Levi. One of those players must be moved.

"We never expected to get Mitchell Heard back," Vellucci said. "We've been fortunate enough to get him sent back, so now we have to make an adjustment. I haven't decided what I'm going to do." The trade deadline for all other players is Thursday.

Spiker Taylor shows skills

Detroit Country Day volleyball standout Taylor Alexander of Farmington Hills was one of 18 Michigan residents who participated in the inaugural 2012 AVCA Phenom College Preparatory Program.

The event, held late last month in Lexington, Ky., included 300 select high school and two-year college volleyball players who engaged in physical assessments, skills testing and educational sessions.

Just like old times

Game brings out the best in former and current Cougars

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Just three weeks removed from delivering a baby girl, Vonne Jenks was dribbling a basketball up and down the Garden City High School court Thursday night and delivering assists.

Jenks was one of 15 former Cougar girls basketball players who returned to their old hoops home to participate in the annual alumnae basketball event, which pits former players against current ones.

"I try to show up for this game every year," said the new mom, a member of the

Class of '95. "It's fun, there's a lot of camaraderie and it's nice to see all the old coaches who come back, and to hang out with everybody."

The alumnae game tradition was started in the 1980s by former GC girls basketball

Please see ALUMNAE, B4



Garden City alumna player Alisha June (left) grabs a rebound in front of current junior varsity players Amber Swisher and Ashlynn Caviness.

ED WRIGHT

Hawks off to good start in '13

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Not having played a basketball game in nearly two weeks, the Farmington Harrison boys team was a little rusty when it resumed competition following the holiday recess Thursday.

The Hawks fell behind early against crosstown rival Farmington, but they soon got it together and earned their fourth straight victory, 65-57, on their home court.

"I said to the guys, 'You only get one shot to start 2013. It's either 1-0 or 0-1,'" Harrison coach Jason Pickett said. "The fact we were able to do that, that was great."

"We haven't played in a while. At the start, we were rushing some shots that we don't normally rush. When we started to settle down, better things happened."

Farmington took an 11-5 lead, but Harrison quickly turned the situation around, shutting down the Falcons with its defense and going on a 21-2 run.

The Hawks, who are 1-0 in the OAA Blue Division and 5-2 overall, scored the final points of the first quarter to tie the game at

11-11, and followed with the first four of the second.

After a layup by Justin Banks that put Farmington within two, 15-13, Harrison posted 11 unanswered points to double the size of its lead.

Craig Wilson and Quinton Carter each scored twice in transition, while Dorian Fields and Wilson made some sharp passes for nice assists during the run.

"Again, it's the guys playing defense," Pickett said. "If we play team defense, that starts a lot of stuff for us. If we're able to do that, good things will happen to us overall."

"It starts with us playing defense as a group and, when we do that, we get our hands in the passing lanes and we start getting some buckets."

The Falcons (0-1, 2-5) closed the margin to six at halftime, 29-23, and Valentino Kalaj, who tallied 19 points and shared game-high scoring honors with Harrison's Calvin Butler, made a three to start the second half.

But the Hawks kicked their game into high gear and surged again, netting the

Please see RIVALS, B3



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Valentino Kalaj (35) and Harrison's Calvin Butler scored 19 points apiece. Kalaj is guarded by Steven Frederick.



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Putting the defensive clamps on Canton's Alanna Brown (left) Friday night are Westland John Glenn twins Raine Bankston (No. 1) and Raven Bankston (right).



Bankstons wreak havoc on Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

For a while Friday night, Canton hung in there against Westland John Glenn and the Bankston twins.

The visiting Chiefs trailed 23-19 at halftime but could not stem the Rockets in the second half — dropping a 59-38 decision in the KLA South Division opener for both teams.

Leading John Glenn, as usual, were talented guards Raven Bankston (20 points) and her twin sister, Raine (eight points).

Also a catalyst for the Rockets (6-1, 1-0) was Kaira Barnes, with 18 points.

"They're a real athletic, quick group," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "I thought in the first half we handled their speed and their athletic ability pretty solid."

"In the third quarter we played their style. ... They want to get after you, they want you to turn it over and they want to get layups."

The relentless defensive pressure by the Rockets also led to 24 Canton turnovers, many on intercepted passes.

"That's something we've

definitely been working on the last week," John Glenn head coach Eric Kovatch said. "We really want to apply more pressure on teams as we enter the KLA."

"This was by far the best we've done so far this year as far as applying pressure."

He added that it's becoming almost routine to watch the Bankston's work their magic.

"There's something telepathic going on with them because they've been playing together for so long and they know exactly where each other is going to be," Kovatch said.

Leading the Chiefs (4-3, 0-1) with 19 points was Paige Aresco, who in the first half made all eight of her free throws.

Chipping in with five points was Alanna Brown while Shannon Perry tallied six rebounds after taking over from starter Taylor Hunley (injured ankle in the first quarter).

"Taylor got hurt, so the rest of us got to step up and make plays," Samulski said. "That wasn't the biggest issue here."

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Hawks keeping up pace; Marlins, Blazers also win

Farmington Harrison remained a game behind Oxford in the OAA White Division girls basketball standings Friday with its 37-28 victory at Rochester Adams.

"Tonight's game was going to affect the league standings pretty big," said Harrison coach Tim Micklash, whose team is 8-1 overall and 5-1 in the OAA White Division. "For us to get another road win was huge."

"To be where we are after nine games with so many (seven) away games, I'm very, very pleased with the girls and how they've responded to that challenge."

The Hawks played good defense and held the Highlanders to single-digit scoring in three quarters.

Harrison led 20-12 at halftime, and each team had 11 points in the third period.

"We made some adjustments at halftime, and our girls did a great job coming out to start the second half and executing," Micklash said. "Our guards did an excellent job at the end of the game of taking care of the ball and controlling the tempo."

Stephens scored 13 points, Cotton 10 and Kyla Roland six for the Hawks.

The Highlanders (4-4, 3-2) got 10 from Raiven Owusu and eight from Lauren Fukelstine.

MERCY 60, RICHARD 28: Farmington

Hills Mercy (6-1) rolled over host Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (1-6) in a Catholic League crossover game Friday.

Sam Bauer and Candice Leatherwood scored 10 points apiece for the Marlins, who led 22-9 after one quarter and 39-19 at halftime. Allie Goryca added eight, Sierra LaGrande seven and Paige Roberts six.

Eleven of 12 players scored for Mercy, which won its first five games.

Lindsay Rhodes had eight points and Kora Dreffs six for the Fighting Irish.

"It was nice to get back in the win column, and it's a good way to start the new year," Mercy coach Gary Morris said. "It's nice to get everybody some playing time as we start the Catholic League (Central Division) phase of our schedule Tuesday night at Livonia Ladywood."

LADYWOOD 53, REGINA 50: Senior point-guard Andie Anastos had 17 points and 15 rebounds to power Livonia Ladywood (5-2, 1-0) to a Catholic League Central Division win Friday at Warren Regina (4-3, 0-1).

The Blazers, who were tied 28-all at intermission, also got 12 points and eight rebounds from senior forward Sara Even, while senior guard Shelby Walsh also added 12 points.

Becca Sabol paced the Saddletites with a game-high 23 points.

Regina made 13-of-24 free throws, while Ladywood hit 14-of-24.

"Our seniors found a way to win," said Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti, whose team lost starting senior forward Kiley Gorski in last week's Motor City Roundall Classic to a season-ending knee injury.

PLYMOUTH 42, CHURCHILL 18: The visiting Plymouth Wildcats (2-5, 1-0) outscored Livonia Churchill (4-2, 0-1) by a 15-0 margin in the second quarter and rolled to this KLA South Division win.

Jada Woody led the Wildcats with 12 points, while Leah Klaczinski and Paige Slominski each scored six. Leading Plym-

outh with seven rebounds was Shelby Cheston.

"It was a really nice way to start 2013 and division play," Plymouth coach Bob de Bear said. "Everyone contributed."

Plymouth's spurt in the second turned an 8-4 deficit into a 19-8 halftime edge. The Wildcats then held a 12-4 scoring edge in the third to turn the game into a rout.

Slominski also chipped in with four assists and four steals in what de Bear called her best varsity effort so far.

LAKE ORION 42, FARMINGTON 33: The host Dragons turned an 18-17, half-time lead into a nine-point win with a 24-16 margin in the second half Thursday to beat the Falcons (1-8, 1-5).

Aaron Howell had 15 points, five rebounds and three steals for Farmington.

Taylor Suurmeyer added eight points and Mya Douse five. Maria Peurach grabbed a dozen rebounds and Suurmeyer four.

"The biggest problem for Farmington tonight was a lack of energy on the floor," coach Dave Browne said. "In games we've played well, we played with a lot of speed, and tonight we didn't have any."

SOUTH LYON 44, STEVENSON 37: Jessica Mehr scored 18 of her game-high 20 points in the final period to propel the Lions (6-1, 1-0) to a KLA South Division win Friday over visiting Livonia Stevenson (3-3, 0-1).

Mehr helped break a 26-all deadlock after three quarters by outscoring Stevenson herself in the final period, 18-9, including 10-of-10 from the foul line to go along with a pair of 'threes.'

"She's a workhorse inside, a very strong girl who works hard down low," Stevenson coach Jen Knoph said of Mehr. "She put the team on her back."

Rachel Wilkinson and Rosemary Morse led the Spartans with 11 and seven points, respectively.

Stevenson made only 10-of-21 foul shots, while South Lyon was 17-of-29.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Jan. 7
Westside at N. Farm., 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 8
Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Salem at S.L. East, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Cville, 7 p.m.
Franklin Road at HVL, 7 p.m.
Harrison at Univ. High, 7 p.m.
PCA at Liggett, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 10
Hazel Park at Harrison, 7 p.m.
S-Lathrup at N. Farm., 7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11
HVL at Luth. W'sld, 5:30 p.m.
Groves at Cville, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Glenn, 7 p.m.
PCA at Parkway, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Canton, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Jan. 7
Inkster at Cville, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 8
Churchill at Glenn, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.
S.L. East at Salem, 7 p.m.
Northville at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Luth. N'west at L. W'sld, 7 p.m.
Liggett at PCA, 7 p.m.
HVL at Franklin Road, 7 p.m.
Adams at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Andover at Harrison, 7 p.m.
N. Farm. at Clarkston, 7 p.m.
Mercy at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 9
Cville at Thurston, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 10
HVL at Parkway, 7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11
Glenn at Wayne, 5:30 p.m.
Plymouth at Canton, 6 p.m.
Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
HVL at Luth. W'sld, 7 p.m.
Oxford at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Lake Orion at Harrison, 7 p.m.
N. Farmington at Troy, 7 p.m.
Mercy at Marian, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12
Lady. at Divine Child, 7 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Tuesday, Jan. 8
Regina vs. PCS Penguins at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 9
Churchill vs. Franklin at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.

Ladywood vs. A.A. Pioneer at Veterans Arena, 7 p.m.
Farmington vs. Stoney Creek, Onyx Ice Arena, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 10
NF-Harrison vs. Birm. Unified Birm. Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11
Franklin vs. South Lyon at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Stevenson vs. Trav. City West at Howe Arena, 8 p.m.
Mona Shores vs. Salem at Ply. Cultural Ctr., 8:30 p.m.
Forest Hills N. vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 8:30 p.m.
Plymouth at Soo Invite, TBA
Saturday, Jan. 12
Stevenson vs. Trav. City Central at Howe Arena, 1 p.m.
Roch. Unified vs. Farmington,

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DICK SCOTT CHRYSLER JEEP RAM

Quick start sparks Wildcats

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The holiday hiatus did not create any rust for Plymouth's varsity boys basketball team, as the host Wildcats defeated Livonia Churchill 45-36.

Plymouth charged out to a 9-4 lead after one quarter of the KLAAs South Division opener for both teams.

"We did some really good things defensively in the first quarter," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "I was really happy with our first quarter effort. Being out of school, the kids were a team and brought it in the first quarter and that was key to us going forward."

Leading the way with 13 points and seven rebounds was Josh Priebe, with Sid Acharya (10 points) and Brendan Swanson (eight

points, 11 rebounds) chipping in.

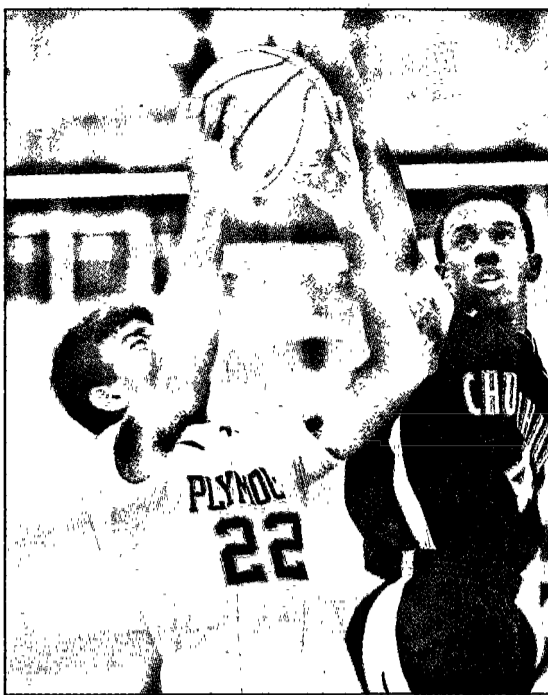
For the Chargers (2-4, 0-1), Brian Alsbrooks scored eight points while Robert Foster and Dwayne Scott each tallied seven.

"They (Plymouth) did everything harder than we did," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "They out-rebounded us and every one of their players contributed. We got to find a way to play harder and finish around the basket."

Plymouth took an 18-12 lead into halftime and really took control in the third, thanks to a 12-7 edge in scoring.

The Wildcats helped themselves by making 16 of 19 free-throw attempts — while Churchill made just two of four foul shots.

Churchill also had trouble hitting field goals, making just 14 of 51 (27.4 percent).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Sid Acharya (No. 22) goes up over Livonia Churchill's Jaylen Davis for a basket Friday night.

RIVALS

Continued from page B1

next 10 points and out-scoring Farmington in the third quarter, 20-7.

"We just didn't do a good job defensively from midway in the second quarter and the third," Farmington coach Terrance Porter said.

"We have to take more pride defensively. That's the only way we're going to be able to compete against teams, because we're not the most talented team offensively."

"We were horrible at keeping their guys in front of us; we were horrible at defensive rebounding. That's just toughness. Our toughness was poor tonight, and they exploited that."

The Falcons rallied in the fourth quarter and outscored Harrison, 27-16. A steal and layup by Brad Harris put them within seven late, 57-50.

Harrison's Fields answered with a three-point play, and the Hawks made five of six free throws in the final minute to clinch the win.

"I thought we did an excellent job of making a comeback," Porter said. "As I told the guys, we have to play with a sense of urgency for four quarters. We can't wait until we get down 18, 19 points to start playing."

"I commend us for coming back the way we did, but it shouldn't take that — for us to be down 19 or 20 points — before we start playing."

Steven Frederick, Wilson and AJ Freeman



JOHN STORMZAND
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steven Frederick (seven points) was one of 11 players who scored for Harrison.

scored seven points apiece for the Hawks, who sank 12 of 15 free throws. Carter and Fields added six points each. Eleven players scored for Harrison, which sank nine of 11 shots in the third quarter and was 25-of-46 overall.

"It was a great first game back," Pickett said. "Coach Porter does a great job with his kids; you can see they never stop. It's a good win for us. Hopefully, it pushes us to keep working hard."

Ameer Ali scored all 10 of his points in the fourth quarter and helped fuel the Farmington rally. Tyler Knox added seven, Kenneth Hammond and Harris six each.

Kalaj made five of the team's eight threes. The Falcons sank five of 11 foul shots and were 22-of-51 from the field.

ROCKETS

Continued from page B1

Glenn's senior point guard Nick Daniels, an Oakland University signee, holding him to six points through three quarters.

But it was Everette's shot which proved to be the game-changer.

"Isaac's big 'three' to put us up three gave us a chance to say, 'Hey, we got the lead, let's clamp down on defense and stay with shooters,'" Young said. "He (Daniels) is a marked man

and people put so much pressure on him that sometimes it's hard on him. But he's got to continue to learn maybe a good play is kicking it to the next guy. He used to have to carry us before, but he doesn't have to carry us now. We have enough guys."

For Reddy, it was another frustrating early-season loss.

"We've struggled scoring around the rim all year," the Canton coach said. "We've struggled finishing games all year. Four of our five losses are by five (points) or less. In three of

those games, we had double-digit leads.

"Am I proud of the way we competed and fought back — because we were down 10 late in the third? Absolutely, but we've got to find a way to finish games. We're up 46-44 with under two (minutes) — we foul Daniels, we come down and miss and lose Everette in transition and he knocks down a 'three.' It's not winning basketball, what we're doing down the stretch."

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DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

John Glenn's Dre Black (11) tries the scoop shot around Canton's Scott Gring (10) during Friday's KLAAs South Division opener.

Raiders prevail

Big 1st-half surge staves off Pontiac

North Farmington built a 20-point halftime lead and survived a second-half rally by visiting Pontiac to win by eight in boys basketball Friday, 64-56.

The Raiders (2-0 OAA Red, 5-2) had their best quarter of scoring in the first and led 19-5 at the end. They expanded their lead to 37-17 at halftime and overcame a 39-27 advantage for the Phoenix in the second half.

"Pontiac kept coming at us with their pressure, and we didn't handle it well in spurts," North assistant coach Pete Mantyla said. "They did a good job of attacking the basket while we settled for jump shots too much of the second half."

Caleb Hogans was North's high scorer with 16 points, which included four triples. Jeron Rogers had 15, Sterling Sharp and Cameron Darden 11 apiece and Jacob Joubert seven.

Senior guards Jarod Jones and Dijon Kogdell scored 24 and 14 points for the Phoenix (0-2, 4-2), respectively. Jones had 22 in the second half and Kogdell 10 in the fourth quarter.

Sharp scored 26 points and tied a school record with eight threes in a 62-43 win over Detroit Henry Ford on Dec. 29 in a tournament at Ecorse.

Sharp tied the record set by Hogans on Dec. 21 against Farmington. Rogers scored 16 points, Hogans 11 and Joubert five. The Raiders led 18-3 after one quarter and 31-13 at halftime.

Sophomore guards Justin Davis and James Townes had 13 and 10 points for the Trojans, respectively.

FRANKLIN 52, WAYNE 47: Tyrone Rayford scored 16 points and 6-foot-7 Michael Gluth

Please see WRAPS, B4

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Ameriprise Financial

Canton grapplers strong at invite

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

For Canton varsity wrestling coach Cory Mancuso, competition isn't only about wins and losses. It's also about finding how his team stacks up against some of the top squads in the state.

Such was the case on Dec. 29 at the annual Canton Invitational, where the Chiefs went 4-1 and finished third overall.

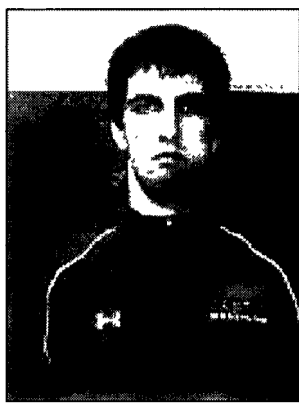
Defending Division 4 champion Hudson defeated Brighton (currently No. 7 in D1) while the Chiefs (12-4) got by Woodhaven, 44-35, in the third-place matchup.

The Chiefs' lone loss was a 45-22 decision against Hudson.

"We knew realistically that we were going to have a hard time beating Hudson," Mancuso stressed. "But our goal was to finish in the top-3 and that's exactly what we were able to do."

"I really wanted our team to have a chance to wrestle a quality team like Hudson so that they could see how a championship team goes about their business on the wrestling mat."

The Chiefs (12-4) featured undefeated showings by seniors Richard DeMarois, Allan Beckman, Marc Przyblyski, juniors Ben Griffin and Alec Pantaleo and sophomore Ty Jasmán.



Allan Beckman of the Canton Chiefs went undefeated at the recent Canton Invitational.

DeMarois, Griffin and Pantaleo have yet to be defeated this season.

According to Mancuso, the key performer for the Chiefs was Beckman.

"Allan is a senior who has really stepped up of late," Mancuso said. "All the hard work he puts in every practice is really starting to pay off."

Other teams on hand for the invite were Monroe, Chippewa Valley, Dearborn, Dearborn Fordson, Adrian and Wyandotte Roosevelt.

Those squads were divided into two pools of five teams, with the winner of each facing each other in the championship round (Hudson and Brighton) while the second-place teams in each pool going for third place.

Canton also rolled to a 78-3 win over Dearborn and a 49-18 triumph over Chippewa Valley.

Elks tourney

Despite finishing in the middle of the pack at the Dec. 29 Salem Elks Tournament, Rocks head coach Pete Israel saw positive signs for his team (1-3 overall).

The top three teams were first-place Saline, Yale and Belleville.

Earning an Elks championship at 171 pounds was Tyler Gross, pinning Lincoln Park's Christiana Villareal in the finals.

Another strong performer was Alex Arble, losing 10-4 to Belleville's Calvin Jackson in the 112 championship bout to finish second.

"Alex wrestled tough the whole day with pins until he reached the finals," Israel said. "Alex has really picked it up and I see good things ahead as he continues to work hard."

Although Mitchell Gross lost to Garden City's Adam Druz in the 189 semifinals, he came back to post a 9-5 win over Saline's Brandon Helle for third place.

"Both Gross brothers continue to work hard and are improving as the season goes on," Israel noted.

Placing fourth at 215 for Salem was Tony Agostini, dropping the third-place bout to Saline's Jason Anthony by a 3-0 score.

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Members of the alumni team and current varsity team pose for a photo following Thursday night's annual Garden City girls basketball alumnae game.

ALUMNAE

Continued from page B1

coach Marshall Henry — who still shows up to help coach many of his former players — and continued by Barry Patterson, who stepped down as head coach this past March.

Thursday night's action featured two 40-minute, running-clock games. The opener pitted the alumnae team against the Cougars' current junior varsity squad. The nightcap showcased the former players against the current varsity contingent.

The more-seasoned Cougars defeated the JV team a lot to a little, which has been a standard result over the years, according to Sherry (Harper) Long (Class of '92).

"Back when I played in this game when I was a

player, I remember it as being one of the scrappiest games I played in all year," said Long, smiling. "The alumnae want to prove that they still have it. We also want to help the younger girls get better, so, yeah, we're playing to win."

"The turnout we get every year shows how much respect the former players have for the program. I don't think you'd get this many people out here for many other sports."

Current GC girls basketball coach Michele Tyree has played in the game — for one side or the other — since she was a player in the early '90s.

"Back in the old days, we'd make a lot of phone calls to get everybody together," Tyree said. "Now, we still makes calls, but we also use Facebook and texting to

let everybody know about it. It's a really neat tradition."

A paramedic by trade, Andrea Dunn has been a regular in the alumni games since graduating in 2003.

"It's a great opportunity to see old friends and to see the team's new talent," said Dunn. "Coach Henry helped me develop a love for the game when I started playing in sixth grade, so being able to come back here and see everybody again for one night, well, it's something special that is hard to put into words."

On Thursday, Patterson coached the alumni to a sweep of the current Cougars, whose time will eventually come to taste redemption once their alumnae days arrive.

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RU wrestlers finish year strong

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Redford Union's steadily-emerging wrestling team put a head-lock on a successful 2012 campaign by finishing strong in a pair of December tournaments.

On Dec. 29, the Panthers placed fifth in the inaugural 12-team Ovid-Elsie Marauder Invitational.

"There were a lot of state- and regional-qualifying competitors there, so I was happy with the way we wrestled," said RU head coach Rob Rankin. "We were right in the thick of most of the matches."

Rankin's son, Collin, continued to mow down his competition as he improved his season mark to 18-0 by winning the 171-pound weight bracket. Rankin pinned a state-qualifier from Gladwin in the semifinal round before out-pointing a highly-touted Durand wrestler, 3-1, in the final.

"Collin took a lot of voids last year, which hindered his progress a little," said Rob Rankin. "This year he's running into some tougher competition, so he's a lot sharper."

Collin Rankin led the title tilt 1-0 before the Durand wrestler was awarded a question-

able stalling point with less than 10 seconds left in regulation. Rankin took gold by registering a take-down 15 seconds into overtime.

RU senior 152-pounder Jayson Walton continued to shine when he earned a silver medal in Ovid-Elsie.

"The kid he wrestled in the final was seventh in the state last year, but Jayson battled him hard," Rankin said. "He ended up losing by two or three points, but it was anybody's match right down to the end."

Senior 160-pounder Roderick Howard brought home a bronze medal.

"Roderick made a couple mistakes in the quarterfinal match that kept him out of the finals, but other than that he wrestled really well," Rankin said. "He was focused all day."

Sophomore Dominic Adams lost to Howard in an all-RU third-fourth-place match at 160.

"Obviously, it's bitter-sweet when you have two of your own guys going for a medal," Rankin said. "When that happens, I don't coach either one of them; I let them make their own decisions. I will say that they went after each other hard; it was a battle."

Damien Mikulski (152)

and Kevin Danna (112) just missed medaling for the Panthers, but they impressed Rankin all the same.

On Dec. 15, the Panthers secured a solid third-place finish in the first Redford Union Team Invitational.

"We finished right about where I expected us to," said Rankin. "I thought going in that Melvindale and Lutheran Westland would be really tough to beat, and I was right."

Melvindale won the tournament by going 5-0. The Cardinals ousted the Warriors in the day's final match.

RU defeated Garden City, Lutheran Northwest and Harper Woods to finish 3-2.

"I like how composed our veterans wrestled performed," said Rankin. "Our seniors kept everybody focused."

Rankin gave some big-time props to his assistants, Wade Natho and Chris Colon, who helped manage the team while he was overseeing the tournament.

"Overall, it went really well and we're definitely going to do it again next year," Rankin said. "We were able to bring in some very respectable programs."

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Whalers score late for win

A power play goal by defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto with 13 seconds to play in the third period lifted the Plymouth Whalers to a 3-0 OHL win over Owen Sound in front of about 2,800 fans at Compuware Arena.

Curcuruto's game winner saved the day for the Whalers (18-12-5-3), who led 3-0 after two periods but gave up three markers in the third to make it 3-3.

On the winner, Plymouth, Alex Aleardi and Garrett Meurs collect-

ed assists. It was Curcuruto's second power play goal of the game.

Other goals for Plymouth were tallied by Matt Mistele and Cody Payne.

Making 26 saves in goal for the victory was Alex Nedeljkovic.

Sparking the rally for Owen Sound (25-10-1-2) in the third was Kyle Hope, with two goals.

PLYMOUTH 6, GUELPH 2: Danny Vanderviel — who hadn't scored a goal all season — registered a three-goal hat trick Wednesday night as the visiting Whalers (17-12-5-3) rolled to this OHL victory against the Guelph Storm (21-12-0-4).

Also lighting the lamp for Plymouth were Alex Aleardi of Farmington Hills (his 15th), Matt Mistele (16) and Tom Wilson (11).

Collecting two assists each for the Whalers were Cody Payne and Mitchell Heard while goalie Alex Nedeljkovic stopped 38 of 40 shots for the victory.

Vanderviel got things going at 6:18 of the opening period, with his first goal of the night and season. He finished a play started by Payne.

Less than two minutes later, Vanderviel made it 2-0 with assists to Connor Sillis and Connor Carrick.

His third of the night came at 7:40 of the third, from Mitchell Heard and Gianluca Curcuruto.

Net gains

Livonian Moldovan eyes more in 2013 after winning bronze ball in USTA event

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

2012 was a breakout year on the national junior tennis circuit for Bianca Moldovan.

And the best could be yet to come in 2013 for the 16-year-old sophomore from Livonia Stevenson High School.

Moldovan, rated a five-star blue chip recruit by TennisRecruiting.net and ranked as the nation's sixth-best tenth-grader, just returned from Scottsdale, Ariz. where she won six-of-seven matches en route to a third-place finish in the Girls 16 USTA Winter National Championships.

For the calendar year, Moldovan posted an impressive 88-16 record in singles.

"I think I played pretty well, but I was a little disappointed that I lost in the semifinals to a girl that I already beat," Moldovan said of her 6-2, 1-6, 6-4 setback to Ena Shibahara of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. "But I was pretty happy with what I did overall and to get a bronze ball."

"I think I had a really good year for me. I think it's my best year yet. On a scale of one-to-ten I'd grade it like an eight."

The Romanian-born Moldovan captured her first five matches in straight sets including wins over Kelly Shaffer (Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.), 6-0, 7-6 (11-9); Alexandra Bear (Virginia Beach, Va.), 6-1, 6-1; Emma Davis (Cohasset, Mass.), 6-3, 7-5; Rebekah Anderson



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia's Bianca Moldovan took the bronze ball this week at the Girls 16s USTA Winter Nationals in Scottsdale, Ariz.

(La Mirada, Calif.), 6-2, 6-2; and Rebecca Weissmann (Loveland, Colo.), 6-2, 6-2.

After losing to Shibahara, Moldovan won on an injury walkover over Angela Kulikov of Sun Valley, Calif. in consolation final.

Shibahara, Kulikov, Weissman, Anderson and Davis are all ranked in the top 35 nationally in their freshman or sophomore class years by TennisRecruiting.net, so it was another step in the right direction for Moldovan.

Prior to the Scottsdale event, Moldovan played in the prestigious Eddie Herr International junior event (Nov. 22-Dec. 2) at the IMG Academy-Bolletieri in Bradenton, Fla.

Moldovan won her first two matches over Zhang Zing of China, 7-6 (7-3), 6-2, and Bear, 6-3, 6-4, before losing to Maddie Pothoff of

Tucson, Ariz. in the round of 16 in straight sets, 6-1, 6-3.

"I didn't play that well, not even the first match I didn't play that well," Moldovan said. "As I said, I just need experience because I was very nervous. I was like shaking on the court. I don't know, I was just out of it that day. Before that tournament I was going through a rough time. I was very mad at myself and I just didn't know what was happening on the court and why I was so nervous. So I'm glad I got over that and did well this (Scottsdale) tournament."

Moldovan has more goals and expectations entering 2013.

"Winning a National Level 1 (tournament) is one of them — hopefully if not more — and just keep winning against the girls I've been winning against and probably play more pro events," said Moldovan, who will play a Girls 18s USTA regional tournament later this month in Grand Rapids. "After losing in the semifinals I've talked with my coach (Phil Eagleson) and I believe I have everything that I need right now, I just need more experience. Because without experience you just can't win matches. I think I'm going to travel more to a lot more tournaments, hopefully do well and get experience and see where that takes me."

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Churchill icers extend hot streak

Brad Milks tallied a pair of goals Friday leading host Livonia Churchill to a 6-2 non-conference boys hockey victory over Grand Rapids Catholic Central at Edgar Arena.

The Chargers, unbeaten in their last six games, improved to 6-4-1 overall. Riley Brown, Luke Otto

and Tommy Carey each added a goal and assist for the Chargers, who led 2-1 after one period and 5-1 after two.

Dylan Smith also contributed a goal and Drew Puishes collected an assist as Churchill outshot the Cougars, 28-16. Churchill freshman

goaltender Alec Calvaruso made 14 saves.

Jacob Klapko and Tyler Kersjes tallied goals for the Cougars (3-6-1).

MIDLAND 6, CANTON 5: After going up 4-1 midway through the second period, the Chiefs (2-10) gave up five goals before the end of the frame and lost Friday night at Arctic Edge.

and 10 rebounds while Brian Williams scored 12.

SALEM 51, NORTHVILLE 26: Chris Dierker's 18 points and eight rebounds Friday night spearheaded the host Rocks (5-2, 1-0 in the KLAACentral) to this victory.

Augmenting Dierker's production was Nate Sass (11 points). Ahmad Khalid led the Rocks with 11 rebounds.

Salem led 24-12 at halftime and enjoyed a 17-6 scoring advantage in the third to go up 41-18.

PCA 66, LUTH. NW 61: Mick

Noel and Alex Huber each scored 23 points Friday as visiting Plymouth Christian (5-0) beat Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest, Daniel Jipping contributed 16 points and nine rebounds for the Eagles.

SOUTH LYON 56, STEVENSON 48: Connor Weidmann led the way with 20 points carrying the Lions (5-1, 1-0) to a KLAACentral Division victory Friday over host Livonia Stevenson (3-2, 0-1). Stevenson, 11-of-15 from the foul stripe, got 10 points from Chris Haldane.

WRAPS

Continued from page B3

added 11 points and eight rebounds Friday leading host Livonia Franklin (3-4, 1-0) to a KLAACentral Division victory over Wayne Memorial (2-4, 0-1).

The Patriots, who led 30-19 at halftime, also got nine points from Andrew Lebbos. Rio Washington led Wayne and all scorers with 19 points

Get your fitness routine on track in 100 days

By Sharon Dargay
 Staff Writer

Trying hard to keep your new year fitness resolutions? No sweat. The 100 Days to Health programs in Canton and Livonia aim to help you achieve your weight, nutrition and exercise goals by enabling you to sample a variety of fitness and nutrition classes over the next few months.

"It's a smorgasbord of classes taking place seven days a week," said Steve Spahr, fitness and wellness coordinator for the Livonia Community Recreation Center. "There's a full range of classes, a variety of different things you can participate in."

"This will be the seventh year we've offered it. It's very reasonably priced. We're giving you the kitchen sink, stove and refrigerator."

Livonia residents pay \$25 for youth, 4-18; \$35 for adults, 19-61; \$30 for seniors, 62 and over; and \$65 for families for the 100 Days program, which runs through April 14. Non-residents pay an additional \$5 for youth, adult and senior categories and an additional \$25 for family category.

Canon's 100 Days program, now in its 11th year, attracted more than 1,000 participants last year.

"We're happy to keep it growing. One of the hardest things to do is to keep a healthy habit going," said Jeanette Williams, recreation specialist. "We're offering way more classes than we have in the past. We'll offer roughly 15-20 classes on the schedule each month and throughout the session we'll add new classes."

"We have cooking classes, yoga, lap swim, tai chi, dance classes, meditation. We're really big on the whole mind-body transformation," Williams said. "We've planned the January and February schedule, but we're letting the participants vote on March and April sessions."

It's really exciting." Program fees for Canton residents are \$15 for ages 12 and up and \$5 for ages 11 and under. Non-resident fees are \$25 for ages 12 and up and \$5 for ages 11 and under. Youth and children must register with an adult.

Start now

Livonia kicks off its 100 Days to Health from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 6 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, at Five Mile, Livonia. The kick off event will include giveaways raffled every half hour, tote bags and mugs given to the first 150 attendees and a chance to meet the program sponsors, including the DMC, Running Fit, Time Too Savor, Health Quest Back & Neck, Arden Courts, Alzheimer's Assisted Living, Dick's Sporting Goods, and Trader Joes. Free workout and open swim will be available and a family climb class will run from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (734) 466-2900 for more information.

Canton will begin its pro-



Sign up for the 100 Days to Health program in Canton, and you'll get a chance to try exercise classes, like this abs workout session, for free.

gram with a kick off, noon-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013 at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Oakwood Healthcare System staff will be on hand to administer health screenings. They'll also offer screenings at the end of the 100 days, enabling participants to gauge their fitness transformation. Other activities planned during the kick-off include Summit tours, Family Zumba, and an open swim that will start at 1:30 p.m. Snacks will be provided. For more information visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Weight loss challenge

Can't attend the kick off sessions? You can sign up at any time during the 100 Days of Health programs, but you might want to do it soon if you want to participate in Livonia's weight loss challenge, which runs in conjunction with the 100 Days program.

"The participant makes a monthly weigh in. The first weigh in is Jan. 6 or 7," Spahr said. "It's a challenge. Each month we're doing a raffle, we're raffling off \$50 Dicks gifts cards."

Other weigh in dates are Feb. 3 or 4, March 3 or 4

and April 13 or 14. A grand prize will go to the person who loses the most weight — figured by percent age of body weight — over the 100 Days program.

Other program features:

- Most areas of the Livonia recreation center, such as the rock climbing wall, will be open to 100 Days participants on "Free Fridays."
- Classes are available for youngsters and seniors in both Canton and Livonia.
- Participants in Canton get five free visits to the Summit, along with the 100 Days classes.
- The children's pass in Canton gives them access to day care.



Fitness classes at the Livonia Community Recreation Center include cycling.

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RSVP by January 14.

Expert Seminar for Seniors & Families
 Wednesday, January 23
 6:00 p.m.

Try and stump the experts as we will have them here to give you expert advice on the challenging questions you may have!

RSVP by January 21.

History of the Underground Railroads
 Wednesday, January 30
 1:30 p.m.

Keep us on the track as we take a look at how the railroads came about! Presented by Author/Historian: Carol Mull.

RSVP by January 28.



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Participants in the 100 Days of Health program in Livonia can test out the rock climbing wall.

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Four generations



Baby Kate Monroe Roeser, held by her mother, Lina Asquini Roeser of Royal Oak, meets her great-grandmother, Marjoe Gade, (Center) of Livonia for the first time. That's Kate's grandmother, Lisa Asquini of Livonia at right. The photo was taken last year when the Roesers and Asquini visited Gade.



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Nominate your favorite nurse

Do you know a nurse who made a difference in your life?

Here's your chance to nominate that special person for the People's Choice Award of the annual Nightingale Awards for Nursing Excellence.

The award, sponsored by *Hour Detroit Magazine*, is presented to a nurse who demonstrates exceptional practice and inspires others. Anyone can nominate a nurse, quickly and easily, by submitting a one-page form (available at www.oakland.edu/nightingale), now through Feb. 3. The winner of this award, as well as the other eight categories, will receive a solid bronze statue of nursing pioneer, Florence Nightingale and a check for \$1,000.

The winners and runners up in all categories will be honored at The Nightingale Awards for Nursing Excellence on May 9, at The Mirage in Clinton Township. All nominated nurses will receive a certificate of honor.

Last year's People's Choice category winner, Norma Spryszak, an oncology nurse, not only developed a comfort cart of CDs and DVDs for patients receiving chemotherapy treatments, but also demonstrated compassion as she held and read to a young child so her father could spend the last few minutes of his wife's life with her in her room.

Submit nominations via mail to the Oakland University School of Nursing, Nightingale Nominations, Attention: Cynthia Rutledge, 3057 Human Health Building, Rochester, MI, 48309 or via e-mail at carutled@oakland.edu.

Registration open for Auto Show run/walk

Celebrate the opening of the North American International Auto Show and work off a little spare tire at the same time during "The Auto Show Shuffle," a 5K run/walk on Jan. 19 along the Detroit River. The event, sponsored by the Michigan Fitness Foundation and the Parade Company, will start at 8 a.m. on the Riverwalk just east of the Port Authority.

5K run awards will go to overall male and female winners, overall male and female "masters," first through third place in age divisions from 5-70-plus.

Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt and a special, discount rate for public tickets to the Auto Show.

Registration is \$25 before Jan. 19 and \$30 on the day of the race. Registration information, course map and additional information is available at www.autoshow-shuffle.com

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WHEN KNEE SWELLING RETURNS

Experiencing an accident or twist to your knee and needing the fluid on the knee drained is a common occurrence. But what if in two or three days or a week, the swelling and fluid return?

The problem of diagnosis and treatment becomes much harder for your physician. The obvious reason for the re-occurrence is that you sustained an injury to your knee, and that injury remains. Your doctor can remove the fluid again and to hasten recovery, inject a steroid. He has another choice: obtain an MRI, a form of imaging the knee that shows the areas of the joint most likely to have sustained a tear or dislocation. Those areas include the menisci and a number of ligaments.

Often the MRI reveals a tear in one or more of these structures, and also the extent of the tear. With this information, your physician or an orthopedist can decide if the best course is to intervene with arthroscopy or give time a chance to heal the tear.

What happens if the MRI is unremarkable, that is, shows no tear, injury to the bone, or displacement of the knee's anatomy?

Then your doctor looks deeper into the results of knee fluid analysis. In most instances when a physician drains the knee, he will send a portion of the fluid for analysis. This evaluation includes determining the white cell count of the fluid and seeing if crystals or bacteria are present in the sample. If bacteria are present, the physician treats the infection. If the white count is high, analysis finds no evidence for gout or bacteria, and the MRI is normal, then the physician knows the problem comes from an inflammatory arthritis. In these cases, specific therapy exists which over time, will resolve the knee swelling.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

January

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, starting Jan. 14 and 9:30 a.m. Friday, starting Jan. 18
Location: Praise Baptist Church, 45000 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: Beth Moore's 10-week Bible study for women will explore the account of the building of the Old Testament tabernacle, the significance of its intricate design, the pivotal role in God's eternal plan, the grand fulfillment of its purpose by Jesus Christ, and its variety of meanings for a woman's walk with God today. Participants will be challenged to prepare their hearts to become a home for God's love and glory. Cost is \$15 for a workbook. All women are welcome
Contact: (734) 542-9816 or irenejm1@hotmail.com

DUELING PIANOS

Time/Date: Doors open 7 p.m., show starts 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 12

Location: St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road, Westland

Details: Light refreshments, 50/50 raffle and cash bar. Tickets are \$20 and available at the church office
Contact: (734) 421-6130

FILM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Jan. 16
Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

Details: The church shows the film, "The Freedom Riders," which looks at Americans who deliberately violated Jim Crow laws in southern states in 1961. Admission is free
Contact: (248) 354-4488; www.northwestuu.org

GREEN FILM SERIES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17

Location: Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, Birmingham

Details: PRI's John Hockenberry goes inside the organizations that fought the scientific establishment to shift the direction of the climate debate. Film is followed by a discussion with Kathryn L. Savoie, Ph.D., an authorized presenter of the Climate Reality Project, trained directly by former Vice President Al Gore. Free admission. Sponsored by the church's Green Ministry
Contact: www.ccbucc.org

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31

Location: St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

Details: Tour the school, talk to other parents and staff during this open house for the school, which in-

cludes classes for preschool through middle school, CYO sports, bus transportation for Livonia residents, and flexible payment plans. Registration packets will be available at the open house
Contact: www.saintgenevieve.org or call (734) 425-4420

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13

Location: Prentis Apartments community room, 10 Mile east of Greenfield in Oak Park

Details: The Pomegranate Guild of Southeastern Michigan is a group that studies and creates Judaic needlework. It will hold a "Stitch and Kvell," with members showing off recent projects
Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

SPECIAL SERVICE

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6

Location: Hope Lutheran Church, 39200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: In the midst of dealing with the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, economic hardships, a broken relationship, or a grim medical prognosis, the holiday season can be filled with sadness, rather than joy. When the hustle and bustle of Christmas is through, January can feel bleak. "Light in Our Darkness," will be an evening of

prayer and song. Participants may acknowledge the hurts in their lives and pray for God's light to enter into their darkness.
Contact: (248) 553-7170

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. cash bar, 6 p.m. dinner, Wednesday, Jan. 16

Location: G. Subu's, 20300 Farmington Road, one block south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Cost is \$18 and includes meal, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards, games, and conversation until 9 p.m. Reservations by Jan. 11, 2013

Other activities: Celebrate Mass at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, 2013 at St. Kenneth Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth; stay after for fellowship and refreshments
Contact: Carol at (313) 562-3080 for dinner; Pat at (734) 895-6246 for Mass

February

LECTURE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11

Location: The Berman Center for Performing Arts, on the campus of the Jewish Community Center of Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, columnist and author of "The Fed-up Man of Faith," argues against Rabbi Harold Kushner's

best-selling "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People" and boldly guides listeners to the conclusion that challenging God and his actions is not just a right but also a foremost obligation for human beings. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$25 at the door
Contact: (248) 661-1900 or www.theberman.org

SOLANUS CASEY CENTER

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9

Location: Met Hotel, 5500 Crooks, Troy

Details: The Capuchin ministry will hold its ninth annual wine, dinner, and auction featuring a cocktail hour with appetizers, a sit down dinner, exquisite wines from around the world along with a silent auction and live auction. Tickets are \$75 per person
Contact: www.solanus-center.org or (313) 579-2100, Ext. 153

Ongoing

CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

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

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

Contact: John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491
New Life Community Church

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

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Nicole's Revival

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

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

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer
Contact: (313) 531-1234

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study
Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday.

Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of the Gospel of St. Luke. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation
Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 200, or www.livoniast-michael.org

GARDEN & NATURE

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

Butterflies

Watch a film about the beauty and design of butterflies at the next meeting of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA), 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. The film includes a visit to the monarch butterfly overwintering grounds in Mexico. Parking is available on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. Cost is \$3 for non-members. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

Stonefly search

Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) seeks volunteers to help with the 12th annual search for stoneflies on Saturday, Jan. 26. Finding a stonefly living in the river is a good indication that the river is healthy because these small insects require cold, clean water. Last year, 73 volunteers found these "nuggets of gold" at 14 of 32 sites. This year's search will begin at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers carpool out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit. Volunteers must dress for the weather and be prepared to be out in the cold for several hours. Only trained team leaders go in the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children five years and older are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult; groups of up to 6 people can be accommodated. Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 11, on the FOTR website, www.therouge.org or by calling (313) 792-9621.

Livonia Garden Club

Vince Kogo, an urban chicken farmer, will talk about raising chickens,

7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. For more information visit www.orgsites.com/mi/livoniagardenclub/.

English Gardens

• Learn what it takes to start seeds indoors at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12.

• A free presentation on fresh flower arranging is planned for 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19.

• Make a Spring floral arrangement, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19. Cost is \$29.99. Sign up at www.englishgardens.com.

• Get tips on attracting birds to the garden in a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26.

• Youngsters, 3-12, can make a pine cone bird feeder for \$5 at a workshop, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. Register at www.englishgardens.com.

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

60-minute classes

Master Gardeners Western Wayne County (MGWWC) will offer a series of hour-long seminars in February at the Wayne County Extension Office, 5454 Venoy, a quarter mile north of Van Born, in Wayne. Classes start at 7:30 p.m. and cost \$10 each or \$30 for all four classes if registered in advance. All proceeds fund gardening grants and scholarships. To register, e-mail to mgwwcorg@gmail.com.

• Pat Mann of Greenfield Village Herb Associates will talk about fairy gardens, including history and popularity, Tuesday, Feb. 5. Learn how to create your own fairy garden.

Winter art classes forming via Visual Arts Association

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) is accepting enrollment for winter classes.

Classes include watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, print making and drawing. They're taught by art professionals and are geared to all levels of ability.

The VAAL classroom is located at 37653 Five Mile Road at Newburgh in

Livonia. For more information about classes or to receive a free catalog call (734) 838-1204 or visit the VAAL website at www.vaalart.org.

VAAL is dedicated to advancing knowledge and appreciation of the creative arts by offering classes and twice yearly exhibits, all open to the public.

Ford Pension BUY-OUT OPTIONS SEMINAR

Featuring Observer & Eccentric Media Financial Columnist Rick Bloom

Laurel Manor Conference & Banquet Center Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 10 a.m

Continental Breakfast served at 9:30 a.m.



Rick Bloom

Rick Bloom has served clients in the area of financial planning since 1984. He gives numerous seminars and speeches on financial planning and investments for a variety of professional, civic and business organizations. Rick has been selected as one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth Magazine, and currently writes a financial column each Thursday and Sunday in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Rick has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal and other national publications on financial planning and the Stock Market. He is also a frequent spokesperson on financial matters on local TV and radio shows.



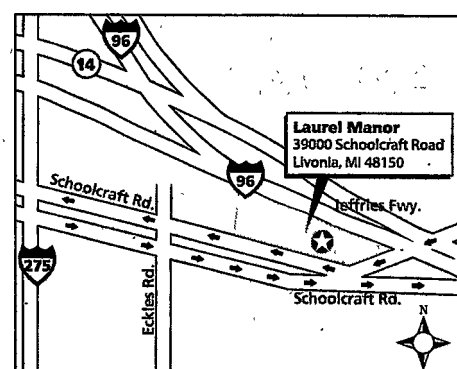
Admission is free but guests are required to pre-register

To register please provide your name and phone number via email to:

seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com

or call 248.932.1379

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Advisors from our firm will also be available to answer questions after the seminar.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



JULIE YOLLES

Farmington Hills residents Hannan and Lisa Lis enjoy the opening night festivities of the renovated and expanded Detroit Historical Museum.

Detroit Historical Museum unveils exhibits

By Julie Yolles
Social Scene columnist

Motown's own Contours kicked off the Detroit Historical Museum grand re-opening at its festive gala that was a perfect start to the holidays. Patrons were able to stroll through the



Social Scene
Julie Yolles

Detroit Historical Museum, which is supported by the Detroit Historical Society, enjoy popular Detroit fare by Forte-Belanger and view five new permanent exhibits: the Gallery of Innovation, the Allesee Gallery of Culture, the interactive Kid Rock Music Lab and the Legends Plaza. Also expanded were the Detroit Arsenal of Democracy and the underground railroad exhibition. Twelve million dollars from the \$20.1 million current capital cam-

The event will feature poetry readings by authors from Detroit-based Broadside Press; storytellers; readings of the Emancipation Proclamation by local ministers, including the Rev. Dr. Kevin M. Turman of Second Baptist; and tours of the new Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad exhibition.

aign was raised for the renovation.

The Museum celebrates the 150th anniversary of the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation at the historic Second Baptist Church in 1863, from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6. The event will feature poetry readings by authors from Detroit-based Broadside Press; storytellers; readings of the Emancipation Proclamation by local ministers, including the Rev. Dr. Kevin M. Turman of Second Baptist; and tours of the new Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad exhi-

bition. Because of anticipated demand and limited seating in the Booth Auditorium, this hour-long program will be offered twice, once at 1 p.m. and again at 3 p.m.

The Detroit Historical Museum is located at 5401 Woodward Ave., in Detroit.

For consideration of coverage in this column, send event happenings, including invitations and press kits, to Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 371 Greenwood, Birmingham, MI 48009. Contact her at jyolles@comcast.net or (248) 642-9465.

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Youth choir seeks members

The Farmington Youth Choir will hold open auditions for students in grades 6-12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at Heritage Park Visitors Center, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

The Youth Choir offers beginners to advanced students an opportunity to perform a wide variety of music, from pop to classics. Auditions are friendly and easy, and nothing needs to be prepared in advance. Appointments for a specific audition time, between 5:30-6:30 p.m. are available by calling the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1859. Students need not be residents of Farmington or Farmington Hills to audition.

In addition to rehearsing and performing, other activities have included a professional photo shoot and a flash mob performance.

"Youth choir is a great way to meet new friends and be with old friends," said Madi Abel, a past member, in a press release. "One of my favorite things that we do is laugh!" Dennis Ryans II, a music teacher at Detroit Community



Ryans II

High School, directs the choir. Ryans also has served as assistant music director at Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, co-manager of the Michigan Schools Vocal Music Association and minister of music at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Detroit.

Since 2007, the Farmington Hills Youth Choir has offered youth the opportunity to learn about choral technique; sight reading; and performance. The Choir has opened for a Michigan Opera Theatre Ensemble performance and in Lansing, in addition, to its own public concerts. It also has shared the stage for selected numbers with the Farmington Community Chorus. For more information, call (248) 473-1859.

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>Administrative Assistant</p> <p>Immediate Opening</p> <p>We are looking for a receptionist/admin. assistant to support our accounting & sales departments. Do you have excellent organization, communication and clerical skills? Join our growing graphics company located in Farmington Hills. Full-time, great benefits, nice working environment. Send us your resume and wage history to: CG Admin, P.O. Box 21177, Farmington Hills, MI, 48333</p> | <p>Building Inspector</p> <p>Canton Township is now accepting applications for Building Inspector. Application Deadline: 4P.m. Friday, January 11, 2013. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: www.canton-mi.org EOE</p> <p>CABINET MAKER & GENERAL LABOR</p> <p>Full-Time. Exp'd.</p> <p>Call: 734-722-8501</p> | <p>Cut-N-Care is looking for snow removal workers this season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDL Drivers Loader Operators Plow Truck Drivers <p>Call: 248-668-0070</p> | <p>ENGINE ASSEMBLY</p> <p>Plymouth Location</p> <p>High performance engine manufacturer has an opening in their Marine engine department. Applicants should have a minimum of 2 years recent assembly experience with V8 engines. Duties include preparation of engine components and assembly of same to complete engine builds. Must be fully capable to hand assemble engines and be experienced in measurement of all critical features. A high level of attention to detail along with basic PC skills is a requirement. This is a fulltime competitive hourly paid position with good benefits in a great work environment, uniforms and all tools are provided.</p> <p>Send resume to hr@ilmor.com</p> | <p>MECHANICAL INSPECTOR</p> <p>Canton Township is now accepting applications for Mechanical Inspector Application Deadline: 4P.m. Friday, January 11, 2013 Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: www.canton-mi.org EOE</p> | <p>LEASING CONSULTANT</p> <p>For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, & real go-getter. Training provided. Full-time with Sat's. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. Fax resume: 734-722-9840 E.O.E.</p> | <p>TAX PREPARER</p> <p>Seasonal for Northville CPA firm. Email resume: mike@bkncpa.com</p> | <p>Computer - Info Systems</p> <p>Appliance Mover/ Installer/ Route Driver</p> <p>Commercial Laundry Equipment Company requires heavy lifting up & down stairs, excellent driving record, pass background and drug screens. Up to \$11/hr to start. Apply in person Mon. 1/7 or Tues 1/8 only at 50865 W 8 Mile, Livonia.</p> | <p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>DIRECT CARE WORKERS</p> <p>Enhance, Inc. Wayne & Oakland County Full-Time w/Benefits. Requires OCV Training: CLS/MORC/hazy, etc. Valid MI DL (No suspension history). Email resume: jobs@enhance-inc.com 248-918-4287</p> <p>Medical Assistant 30 hrs/week. Benefits. Troy. tdorm@comcast.net</p> <p>Help Wanted - Domestic</p> <p>DIRECT CARE STAFF</p> <p>Novi area. Full time w/benefits. Exp req'd. Afternoons, Midsnights. 248-636-2461</p> |

Milestones



Floyd and Patricia Kanny

60th wedding anniversary

Floyd M. and Patricia A. (Ruffing) Kanny will mark their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 10. The St. Mary's of Redford High School sweethearts were married in 1953 at St. Mary's of Redford Catholic Church.

Farmington residents for 58 years, they raised six children, Patti (Gary) Hardy of Midland; Michael (Karen) Kanny of Dexter; Mark (Leslie) Kanny of High-

land Township; Gerrienne (Newton) Hurst of Milford; Lori (Scott) Hay of South Lyon; and Matthew (Kim Mandell) of Agoura Hills, Calif. They have 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Bud retired after 43 years as a tool and die maker from General Motors Corporation and Pat is a homemaker.

The couple, their family and members of their wedding party will celebrate with Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church and an anniversary dinner.



Howard-Miller

Jamie Louise Howard and Andrew William Miller announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Konrad Lyngvar and Jennie Howard of Livonia. Her fiancé is the son of George Miller and Charlene Tennant of Canton.

An October 2013 wedding is planned at Wellers Carriage House in Saline.



Stawasz-Donovan

Bethany Grace Stawasz and Andrew Karl Donovan announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of John and Deborah Stawasz of Westland, is associate attorney with Clark Hill PLC in Detroit. Her practice is focused in commercial litigation. She is a graduate of Wayne State University Law School and holds a B.S. degree from Eastern Michigan University. Bethany attended Divine Child High School in Dearborn.

Her fiancé, son of Jeffrey and Margorie Donovan of Livonia, is a member of the Kensington MetroPark interpretive staff in Milford. He designs and conducts educational programming for children, adults, and families. Andrew expects to receive a M.A. in American history from Eastern Michigan University in spring 2013. He holds a B.A. from Lake Superior State University and attended Farmington High School.

A June 2013 wedding is planned in Dearborn.



Van Dusen-Sielaff

Jessica Van Dusen and Jason Sielaff became engaged on Dec. 21, 2012.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Henry and Missy Van Dusen of Jackson, graduated in 2007 from Michigan Center High School, earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology in 2011 from the University of Michigan and plans to earn a degree in elementary education in 2014 at Eastern Michigan University.

Her fiancé, son of Kurt and Jean Sielaff of Livonia, graduated in 2009 from Farmington High School and plans to earn a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 2013 from the University of Michigan. A December 2013 wedding is planned.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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BILLOCK, ROSE THERESA

Age 95, December 28, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Anthony. Cherished mother of Rosemary (Charles) Martin and the late Theresa. Dear grandmother of six and great-grandmother of 12. Also survived by her sister Frances Kryston, many nieces and nephews and her special friend Ruth McCarthy. Special thanks to Compassionate Care Hospice and the staff of Berkley Court. Visitation at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Thursday from 9 a.m. until Funeral Mass at 9:30 a.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Jude Research Hospital for children. Please share a memory at: www.rgrharris.com



GALPIN, HELEN MARIE (STEVENSON)

Oct. 17, 1915 - Dec. 16, 2012. Helen passed away quietly at her home. An amazing woman, a role model to her family and friends, and a life well lived. Born and raised in Vancouver, B.C., daughter of Bertram and Maryanne Stevenson (Cook), and younger sister of Douglas Coney Stevenson. After college, she married Richard Galpin and after World War II they moved to Detroit so Richard could complete his Pediatric training. A devoted mother, she raised four children: Kenneth, Peter, Lindley and Sheila. She was a graduate of UBC (Vancouver, British Columbia) in Social Work. After raising her family, she returned to graduate school and received her Masters Degree in Social Work from Wayne State University (Detroit, Michigan). After divorce, she returned to B.C., had a full career as a medical social worker at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops, BC and retired to Comox on Vancouver Island. A woman of incredible spirit, an avid traveler and sailor her adventures were legendary: solo-trekking the Hindu Kush mountains of Afghanistan, sailing to the Queen Charlotte Islands, road trips to Mexico were but a very few of these. Her love of art and music and a compulsion for community service led her to found art centers, jazz festivals and kite festivals in the Detroit area as she raised her family. She is survived by her children: Peter, Lindley, and Sheila. Her grandchildren: Karen and Amy Wilmot, Thyra Carnes and Nedra Meredith, Akira and Mikiko Galpin. Her great-grandchildren: Walter, Ella, Daniel and Samuel. A devoted lover of animals she was companion to furry-feathered-family to her last days. A perpetual prize has been established in her name at UBC. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made at: http://memorial.supporting.ubc.ca/helen-stevenson-galpin/. As her family, we thank you. A celebration of her life will take place in Comox on January 26th, please contact the family for further information (808-877-7710). Helen was an amazing influence on all who knew her. A calm, steady, strong, gentle hand on the helm. Omnia Vincit Assiduitas

BOURNE, BETTY JEAN

Of Webberville, Michigan. Age 85, passed away on Wednesday, January 2, 2013 at her home surrounded by her family. She was born on January 1, 1928 in Detroit, MI, the daughter of Walter and Ada (Dodd) Selleck. On November 19, 1949 she married Stanley V. Bourne. He preceded her in death on May 12, 2008. Betty had lived in the area for the past ten years, coming from Redford Twp., and she was a member of the Gregory Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. In addition to spending time with her family, she enjoyed making wedding cakes and camping. Surviving are three children: Bonnie Santoro of Redford Twp., Bradley (Dianne) Bourne of Webberville, and Lorrie (Michael) Roberts of Hawks, MI; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her brother Richard Selleck and sister Francis Andrew. Services will be held on Friday, January 4, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at the Gregory Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 15800 Graves Rd., Gregory, MI 48137. Arrangements by Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea.

DITTMAR, VIOLET 'DEE DEE'

September 13, 1930 - December 27, 2012. Dee Dee was an active community volunteer until her last days. She lent her talents to such groups as Livonia Town Hall, Greenmead, and Friends of the Livonia Library. She was a loving mother to four children, Wendi Stull, Perri Frost, Dani-Sue, and John. A grandmother to nine and a great-grandmother to three. Her husband of more than 50 years, Dr. Norbert Dittmar, passed away in 2004. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Seedlings Braille Books for Children. Services will be held Thurs, January 3, 2013 at 4pm at Neely Turowski Funeral Home.



WHITE, ROBERT CARROLL "BOB"

75. Bob passed away January 1, 2013 at home with his family, as he would have wanted to. He is survived by his childhood sweetheart and wife of over 55 years, Joanie. His mother-in-law Mary (the late Joseph) Kilner. His three children Linda (the late Yanni) Antoniadis, Sherri (John) Giacinto and Bob (Lucy) White. His grandchildren Kristy (Eric) Murphy, Christopher Giacinto and Alison (Mark) Cellars, and great-grandchildren Alyssa, Alexis and Alana Murphy. His family is coming together to celebrate his life privately, but would be honored to hear your memories of him in the weeks and months to come. In lieu of flowers, Bob would have loved for donations in his name to the Plymouth Miracle League.

GREENE, PAMELA S.

62, died December 29, 2012. Pamela is survived by her father, Everett (Ed) Greene; sister, Linda (Tim) Barkume; brother, Ronald (Kim) Greene; nieces, Shanna and Jessica. Sadly, Pamela was preceded in death by her mother, Lois. A Memorial Service is being planned for 12 pm on Saturday, January 19th at Robinwood Community Center, 7550 Beech Daly, Taylor. Memorial donations suggested to Girl Scouts of Southeast Michigan, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., #500, Detroit, MI 48202. heeneysundquist.com



MAYHEW, CATHERINE B. "KAYE"

Kaye passed away peacefully on December 29th in the arms of her family. She was 81 years old. Beloved wife of C. Walker Mayhew and devoted daughter of J. Healan and Elsie Baker. Loving mother of Douglas (Robert) and Stephen (Nancy) Mayhew and Ann (Richard) Bobo and grandmother of Colleen, William, Peter, and Patrick, Grace and Jenny. A Memorial Service will be held at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, on Wednesday, January 9th at 11:00am. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or the charity of your choice.

MCGRATH, EDWARD J.

January 3, 2012 Age 69 of Westland. Beloved husband of the late Eileen Nee. Shvinnen. Dear father of John, Brian (Kristin), and Patrick (Lisa). Brother of Betty (the late Don) Kubiak, Terrance (Stephanie), Debbie (Jim) Garrett, Kevin, (Donna) and the late Gerard "Mic" and James (Barbara). Caring grandfather of Six. Memorial mass to be held at St. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, 32500 Palmer Rd., Westland, Tuesday 10am. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhthf.com

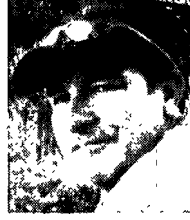
SANTURE, ELISABETH ANN

Age 82, December 25, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Donald; dear mother of Mary (Bill) Carney, David (Christie), and Lynn; dearest grandmother of 8 and great-grandmother of 10. A memorial service will be held at the First Congregational Church of Wayne on Saturday, January 5th at 11 am. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials made to Gift of Life or the First Congregational Church of Wayne.



RIDINGS, ETTIE E.

Age 98, January 27, 1914 - January 1, 2012, a Farmington Hills resident for over 73 years and member of Clarenceville United Methodist Church in Livonia. Ettie married Virchow Ridings on June 24, 1939, in Farmington, and together they owned and operated Ridings Lawnmower Service from 1946-1996. Sadly, Virchow preceded Ettie in death on December 2, 1997. She leaves two children, son, Ben Ridings, DDS, and daughter, Ann (Joseph) Sutschek; sister Lorraine Hewitt (Andy), Milford, Michigan; Alice Morris (Dutch), Brian Wert, Ohio; and one brother George Fawcett (Dorothy), Toledo, Ohio; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were held Saturday, January 5th, at the Heeneysundquist Funeral Home in Farmington. Visitation was Friday. Memorial gifts suggested to Clarenceville United Methodist Church or West Bloomfield United Methodist Church. heeneysundquist.com



STEINHAEUER, PHILIP FILHART ("BUB")

Of Royal Oak, Michigan, age 52, died suddenly on Friday, December 28, 2012. He was born in Detroit on August 8, 1960, the son of Judith (nee Bogetta) and Gerald. Phil spent his early years in Wayne and his high school years in Chelsea, Michigan. He attended Ferris State University, where he studied business, enjoyed fraternity life, and made life-long friends. On May 15, 1993, he married Kirstin Filhart and she survives along with their beautiful sons, Tyler and Troy. Phil began his career in Chicago and later moved back to Michigan to join his father in his business, Professional Insurance Associates, eventually becoming a partner. This family business has grown with Phil, two brothers and his wife all playing integral roles. Phil loved sports both as a player and a spectator. He was an avid and loyal fan of UM and Detroit teams, but most of all he loved watching his boys play. He and his family treasured their time at their second home in Petoskey, where they spent summer days boating and winter days skiing, often with friends who were always welcome to join them "Up North." If you met Phil, you knew that he had a marvelous and enviable ability to promptly draw you in as a friend. Just a month before his own death, Philip eulogized his father, Jerry, to the theme, "Just Me and My Dad." In addition to Kirstin, Tyler and Troy, Phil is survived by his mother Judi, grandmother Hilda, sister Krystn (Robert) Stephens, brothers Martin (Nancy), David (Kelly) and Matthew (Anne); parents-in-law, Lynn and Joanne Filhart and sisters-in-law, Marsha (Dave) Livingston, Julie (Peter) Francis and Denise Johnson, as well as many nieces and nephews. Services were held at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, 248-541-7000. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the American Heart/American Stroke Association are appreciated. Share your memories at: sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

ROAN, ANNA

May 29, 1924 - December 29, 2012. As old as the Mountains, younger than the Seas. We observe her passing and celebrate her life. Devoted wife to Pete Roan, loving mother to Andy and Bill. Anna volunteered at Stottlemeyer School library in 1963. She was then hired permanently in 1968. Over the years, with school cut backs, she became the District's traveling librarian. Years after her retirement, former students would recognize her and thank her for her help, story readings and her many kindnesses. There will be no public service, but Anna asks that you hug a child and read them a story.



ROLICK, JOAN RUBEN

Age 90, passed away on December 28, 2012 at Brookdale Place in Ann Arbor, MI. Joan was born June 18, 1922, in Rochester, NY. She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Samuel. Surviving relatives are Joan's two daughters, Wendy Rolick Busch, son-in-law, Stevan Albert Oswill, Allison (Liz) Hartley, son-in-law, Charles Hartley, son, John, and grandchildren, Michael and Rachel Hartley. Aside from being a devoted mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother, Joan served on many advocacy committees for the mentally ill in Oakland County. She was a member of the OCAP board, Oakland County's CMH housing task force, and the advisory committee for the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, among others. She will be missed by all that knew her. Donations on behalf of Joan should be sent to: Dreams Unlimited Clubhouse, 1222 Catalpa Dr., Royal Oak, MI 48067. Arrangements, Muehlig Chapel, Ann Arbor. www.muehligannarb.or.com

WELLMAN, JENNIE

December 29, 2012, age 91. Beloved wife of James. Dear mother of Timothy (Terri) Tallmadge, Tamara (Richard) Smith, Bob (Nola) Wellman, Alice (Don) Jordan, Arthur Wellman, Dan (Jennifer) Wellman, Amy (Glenn) Goodsmith and Jack Wellman. Also leaves 13 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and siblings Earle Bassett, June (Harold) Hansor, Ardith Drury and nieces, and nephews. Visitation Friday 3pm until 8pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, where the funeral services will be held on Saturday 11am. Contributions suggested to the Plymouth Historical Museum. Share your memories at: www.schrader-howell.com

In Memoriam



PAQUETTE, BERNADINE T.

You've been gone almost a year. We miss you. We hope you are still tap dancing. Love the family.

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends

Stepparents can find support in monthly meetings

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When Jessica Duffey became a step-mom to her boyfriend's son two years ago, she searched for guidance to help her fulfill her new role.

"Every avenue I searched I exhausted. I couldn't find anything," said the Farmington woman. "I'm with a wonderful man but there are difficult circumstances and there are a lot of people and their well-being to factor in. It's not just you and your partner.

"When you talk to someone about family (stepparent) dynamic, they say, oh, that's

so common these days. But it doesn't feel like it. I think there are some areas that you just don't understand how it feels unless you're in that position."

Duffey hopes her new organization, Southeast MI Step Parent Support Group, will encourage step-parents to help each other by sharing their experiences and offering tips. She views its monthly meetings as an ideal time for step-parents to relieve stress and regain control of emotions through discussion.

The group will meet from 7-8 p.m. the first Monday of the month at

the Farmington Community Library, 32737 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Its first meeting is Monday, Jan. 7.

Defining boundaries, improving communication with ex-wives and ex-husbands, and coordinating a stepchild's activities between families are among the challenges that stepparents and their spouses face.

"I went into it so innocently — it's going to be great because we're in love. But it's like anything else. It's like unfolding an onion. There are so many layers and it's all new to us."

Coordinating activities

The five-year-old stepson lives with her and his father for half of each week. He's with his mother the other half.

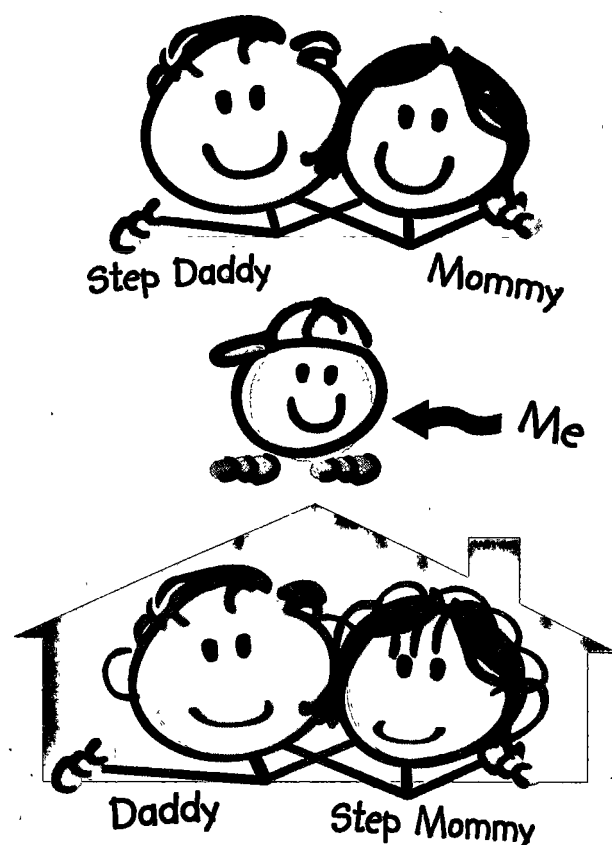
"You try not to let anything slip through the cracks, but there are a lot of people to talk to just to coordinate every day life."

A recent family get together at Duffey's sister's home is just one example. Duffey wanted to include her stepson, but wasn't sure if she or her boyfriend should approach the ex-wife about making sure the stepson would arrive on time for the gathering.

Denise Evans, Duffey's cousin, has been there. She became a stepmom 15 years ago and has had plenty of experience dealing with her husband's two children and his ex-wife. Her step-daughter, now 17, lives with the couple. A 20-year-old stepson lives in the area. Their mom lives in northern Michigan.

"I did deal with their parent-teacher meetings, their sports and cheerleading," Evans said. "We split taking them to practices. But it's hard because you still feel like an outsider.

"And you have jealous moments, especially when they (stepchildren) are younger, moments when they want mommy or daddy. Being a step-parent



is a thankless job. You'll never be number one or two. You'll always be three."

Getting help

Evans met with a counselor to work out her step-parenting issues. She also sought support from friends, but most at the time either were single or married with their own children. None could relate to her experiences as a step-parent.

Now she's eager to share what she has

learned with other stepparents at the support group meetings.

"I've dealt with every kind of issue you could imagine," she said. "One of the biggest things will be to vent and share experiences."

Duffey, who works as an administrative assistant for an advertising firm, said she hopes to make the monthly meetings a positive experience.

For more information e-mail to group_stepparents@yahoo.com.

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Sunday, January 6, 2013

Is Your New Year's Resolution Right For You?

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Lemon
Internal Medicine

The award winning staff at Garden City Hospital has over 350 of the area's top physicians in nearly every specialty, and now those doctors are available to answer your questions. Each week, we will feature a different GCH physician, covering a wide range of topics.

This Week:

Zachary Lemon, D.O., Internal Medicine Physician at GCH, gives us a healthy take on "New Year's Resolutions".

Q: It seems every year I make a handful of "New Year's Resolutions" to get healthier, and while my intentions are good, and I start out with much enthusiasm, by the end of March my efforts have all but stalled. What can I do differently this year to ensure better results?

A: For a resolution to stick, the first thing you need to do is make a plan. Having a plan and keeping a record or journal of your progress, will help you stay on track.

It takes approximately 21 days to get into a routine, so it's important not to skip workouts. But, if you do, don't get upset. After missing a workout, it becomes easier to skip the next, and before you know it, you're off your plan. Find a group of people to work out with so they can help keep you motivated. Eat healthy and don't overdo your workout in the beginning. A hard work out is great, but if you get really sore you might not want to go back. Also change it up, don't just do the same workout everyday. This will help you get into better shape and not become bored.

Remember, you're not an Olympic athlete, so have fun, eat something decadent once in awhile and don't get so wrapped up in your routine that it becomes stressful.

Q: I am a 52-year old male who has always been fairly fit. In the last few years I have really noticed a difference in my stamina and a drop in energy. I've never been a big fitness buff, and luckily just had good genes, but now I need to start doing more. What are the most important health goals I should set for myself this year, and where do I start?

A: Before you begin setting goals or increasing your activity level, you should know exactly where you are now. Start, by seeing your doctor and getting a physical exam. Your physician may even want you to take a Stress Test. Once you know where you're at, it's easier to determine where you should be, and your doctor can help you get there safely.

Q: This year I want to quit smoking for good. I was a pack a day smoker for 20 years and have cut back to only 5 or 6 a day, but just can't seem to get over the hump. My husband and children have never smoked and have been asking me to kick the habit for years. I was recently blessed with my first grandchild and have decided this must be a priority. What should I do and can you help offer guidance for my success?

A: There is no "one size fits all" solution to quit smoking, but the first and most important thing is YOU WANT TO QUIT. Kicking the smoking habit requires willpower — but that's only part of the equation. Cigarettes are manufactured to be addictive, and there are a number of prescription and over-the-counter products that can reduce your cravings. Talk to your physician or consider counseling. A doctor can help determine what the best plan and products are for your success. Much like a good workout plan, a journal is a great tool in conquering any addiction. Take notes of when and where you typically smoke and why. Now think how you will overcome your urge to smoke in each situation. Good luck and remember you are not alone. Look to your family for support and seek out a reputable expert in smoking cessation.

If you have a health or medical question for one of the GCH Health Experts, or need a physician, visit GCH.org or call 877.717.WELL.

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