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ALL-AREA GYMNASTICS

SPORTS, B5



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Make A Difference Day Awards

Donations needed

There is still time to donate items to benefit the Wayne County Family Center.

During the month of April, the Wayne Rotary Club is sponsoring the collection of items ranging from individually packaged snacks, tissues and wipes to twin bed linens and bicycles.

Donations can be dropped off at the Wayne Community Center on Howe at Annapolis or at the Wayne Public Library on Wayne Road between East and West Michigan Avenue during regular business hours.

For a full list of the needed items, visit Wayne Pride News Facebook page at www.facebook.com/waynepridenews.

Salute Mom

Salute the special woman in your life during the month of May.

Send us a photo of you and your mom, grandmother, stepmom, aunt, godmother or that special "mom-like" woman who has made a difference in your life.

Send the photo (jpeg format only, as large as possible) to smason@hometownlife.com. Be sure to identify (first and last names) you and your mom and where you live (i.e. Westland, Wayne, Garden City). And tell us in two sentences or less why your mom, grandmother, aunt or other person is special to you.

Look for a photo gallery of all submissions during the month of May at hometownlife.com.

This Salute to Woman photo gallery is sponsored by Indigo Salon and Day Spa in Canton. Five lucky winners will receive a \$20 gift card to Kohl's or Meijer in a random drawing of all names and photos submitted.

Deadline to submit photos and names for the random drawing is midnight Sunday, April 28.

Downtown clean up

Volunteers are needed for the third annual Wayne Ripple Effect Downtown Clean Up Day beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 27.

It's a family friendly event that begins at 9 a.m. at the Wayne City Hall parking lot.

The volunteers will be picking up trash and debris from the downtown area, getting things spiffed up for spring. Bring work gloves, if you have them.

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Mayor holding Twitter town hall

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland is updating its website and will be using social media for public input on suggestions for improvements.

Mayor William Wild will be hosting his first Twitter Town Hall at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30. Follow Wild anytime on Twitter @MayorWild.

"We're going to ask people to

go on Twitter and interact with us," said Wild during last week's council meeting.

Noticing a look from Council President James Godbout, Wild commented, "I know what you're thinking, 'Good luck with that.'"

Responding, Godbout said that he expected the city's Information Technology Director Dan Bourdeau would actually be handling the Twitter Town Hall.

"It'll be me, I'll do it in my

office," said Wild.

Taking place over the summer, the website redesign follows an assessment survey in which 70 percent of the 403 respondents were dissatisfied with the city website. More than half of respondents rated the current layout and visual design as displeasing to the eye, and 60 percent of those who responded felt that the site is difficult to navigate.

While the statistics indicate overall dissatisfaction with the site, Wild said he and the web team would like to find out more specific areas for improvement, such as online services, content, design or interactivity. Getting that specific feedback is the purpose of the Twitter Town Hall.

Whether you're a regular at tweeting or a first-timer, Wild

Please see TOWN HALL, A2



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Maddie Abicht (center) plays Janet Van DeGraaff, a Broadway starlet who wants to give up show business to get married in Wayne Memorial High School's production of "The Drowsy Chaperone."

Wayne High thespians stage 'The Drowsy Chaperone'

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Katie Sullivan she loves what she does, teaching drama at Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne. And it's that love that attracted her to the musical comedy, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, which will be presented next weekend at the Stockmeyer Auditorium.

"It definitely different than anything we've done in the past," said Sullivan, the drama director. "It makes fun of musicals, it makes fun of what I do. It breaks the rules of theater in that you don't break the fourth wall, you're not supposed to come into the audience."

A play within a play, the show has a cast of 35 students who will take to the stage for four performances Thursday through Sunday, April 25-27. The show centers around the Man in the Chair, played by Jimmy Walkup, a present-day musical theater fanatic who's eager to talk about his favorite Broadway musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He begins listening to the rare cast recording of the 1928 show and it magically comes to

Please see CHAPERONE, A4



Jimmy Walkup is pulling double duty in the production playing the role of the Man in Chair and as one of four assistant directors for "The Drowsy Chaperone."

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 25-27, and noon Saturday, April 27

Location: Stockmeyer Auditorium at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne

Details: Wayne Memorial High School is present, *The Drowsy*

Chaperone, a musical comedy that pays homage to American musicals of the Jazz Age, examining the effect musicals have on the fans who adore them.

Tickets: General admission tickets are \$10 and are available at the door.

Armed Forces Day includes hard tack, MREs

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A lecture on MREs — military Meals Ready to Eat — will be included in the sixth annual Armed Forces Day Celebration. The event will be held 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at the Westland Historic Village Park on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

A flag raising is set for noon and re-enactors from four American wars will be on hand throughout the day. A re-enactor showcase will take place at 3:15 p.m. when formal presenta-

tions will be made.

At 12:45 p.m. there will be a fife demonstration and lecture.

"There will be two lectures. My mom is a classically trained flutist. She has a wooden fife and will play music," said Westland Historical Commission member Jeff Koslowski.

There will be a 1 p.m. demonstration of making hard tack, including tastings.

"It will be fresh which means it will still taste stale," said Koslowski.

The lecture on MREs is scheduled for 2 p.m.

"It might be interesting but

you can't make them taste good," said Council President James Godbout.

Admission to Armed Forces Day is free, as is parking which is at the adjacent medical office. Food and drinks will be offered for sale. The Westland Veterans Association will be on hand to sell memorial bricks to be installed at the Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland.

"We love what we do. This is to honor all American soldiers, past and present," said Koslowski.

lrogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

Fun, facts, food and free info at Expo

Free admission, free parking, free entertainment, free information and exhibits along with complimentary morning refreshments by McDonald's and Awrey Bakery are part of the 10th annual Spring Expo experience.

The *Observer & Eccentric Media* presents the Spring Expo (formerly known as the Senior Expo) with a special lineup of guest speakers, more than 50 exhibits and entertainment by award-winning gospel artist Vickie Winans from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, in the Vis'TaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

This annual tradition for active adults features valuable information and resources from local experts on all things from healthy eating to exercise to financial planning.

The first 100 attendees through the door will receive a pass for two to any Emagine Theatre and a Buddy's coupon for a four-square cheese pizza courtesy of O&E Media. In addition, there will also be a drawing every hour for prizes and gift cards.

Larry Ruehlen of O&E Media will offer up Facebook tips and strategies for social media users.

In addition, get your photo with the Fathead® Wall Graphics of Detroit Tigers ace Justin Verlander and first baseman Prince Fielder. An O&E photographer will take your photo and post it on a special photo gallery at hometownlife.com for your friends and family to see.

Doors will open at 8:45 a.m. to accommodate expo guests attending programs and workshops that begin at 9 and 9:15 a.m.

The expo's exclusive gold level sponsor is Comfort Dental Spa of Farmington Hills. Featured speaker is Dr. Aziza Askari, who will discuss "Your Mouth, Your Body."

Askari holds an advanced degree from the University of Michigan and a mastership in the Academy of General Dentistry. Come hear about how oral health

Please see EXPO, A2



Vickie Winans, Grammy-nominated artist known as the "hardest-working woman in gospel music," promises an inspirational show for expogooers on Tuesday at Schoolcraft College.

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Volume 48 • Number 96

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EXPO

Continued from page A1

and whole-body health are uniquely related.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital joins the expo as the entertainment sponsor. Winans, a Grammy-nominated, Stellar Award and NAACP Award-winning artist, is known as the "hardest-working

woman in gospel music." Winans promises an inspirational show for attendees.

Rick Bloom, O&E Media's popular guest columnist and frequent metro Detroit radio and television guest, will talk about "Getting More Returns on Your Investments Without Taking Risks."

Schoolcraft College will sponsor several demon-

strations, including the popular "Zumba Gold" and "Strength Training for Seniors" presented by American Health and Fitness.

See the complete list of speakers and topics in the Spring Expo section at www.hometownlife.com.

Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center is at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads.

Changes coming to Wayne, Westland farmers markets

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Changes are coming to both the Westland and Wayne farmers markets this year, including some cooperative efforts.

For Westland, there will be a new day and new hours as the market moves to Thursday and shifts to a later schedule of 3-7 p.m. beginning May 2.

Wayne's farmers market will be 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays and will move to a new location in Goudy Park when it opens May 1.

"The change in hours is partially due to the feedback of customers and farmers," said Westland Deputy Mayor Jade Smith.

Both farmers markets will be managed by Growing Hope, an Ypsilanti-based non-profit with a mission of empowering local communities to grow and eat healthy food.

In Westland, the Farmers Market is operated within the Downtown Development Authority District. The DDA

board and the council both approved the contract with Growing Hope and an \$88,000 grant will fund it.

Westland will have no out pocket expenses for the Farmers Market, said Westland Economic Development Director Lori Fodale.

Growing Hope will be paid \$36,000 the first year and \$27,700 the second year, she said, with higher payment the first year due to additional work needed on the website and other marketing.

Faced with budget cuts a couple of years ago, Wayne looked for a way to keep the Farmers Market operating without city funding. That resulted in the Wayne Chamber of Commerce running the Farmers Market for two years.

Now, Wayne is talking with the Chamber of Commerce, the Wayne Ripple Effect and the Wayne Rotary Club about raising the \$15,000 cost to operate the Farmers Market, said Wayne City Manager Robert English.

Oakwood Hospital has donated \$5,000 to the chamber to help underwrite the Farmers Market cost. Wayne Mayor Al Haidous obtained another \$1,000 donation for the market, adding he was confident the additional funding would be obtained.

Westland has received grant money to develop and promote its Farmers Market.

"They have offered to assist us to jointly promote the markets," said English. "They will advertise both markets which will be very beneficial. We will work on vendors together — we will get consistency and better vendors."

Wayne council members were excited about the market moving to Goudy Park and Growing Hope taking over as market managers. Chamber president Stanley Shelton also was pleased.

"It is an excellent agreement. It relieves the Chamber of Commerce of a big responsibility running the market. It will grow the market and help the chamber out," said Shelton.

Growing Hope Executive Director Amanda Edmonds spoke about successes at other markets, including acceptance of food stamps.

"We see an opportunity. The Westland market is not the size and scope of the Wayne market currently," said Edmonds, whose organization will also analyze the economic impact of the markets.

lr@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

TOWN HALL

Continued from page A1

is encouraging everyone to take part in the virtual Town Hall meeting.

In the coming weeks the city will be explaining how to use Twitter to participate in the Town Hall. Residents can stay updated by tuning into WLND,

the city's Facebook page, Twitter account and the website for step-by-step directions on how to tweet and participate in the city's first social media Town Hall.

"Social media is not just a passing trend. It has become a very important, low-cost communication tool in government," said Wild. "Not only does it give leaders

a way to spread information on a real time basis but it allows constituents a way to stay connected and have better access to their local government as well."

The Twitter Town Hall feedback will be shared with the vendor selected to handle the website update. A Request for Proposals has been sent out with bids to be opened May 1.

The redesign, content migration, training and implementation of the new website is estimated to take four to six months.

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Cheer coaches help students get it right

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Bright Futures Sparkle Agent Squad. Not your normal name for a cheer team, but it was the one a group of upper elementary students decided upon, and after eight weeks of working with coaches from the Westland Comets, they showed what they had learned.

For one hour a week for eight weeks, the students worked with coaches Ashley and Holly Fracassi learning the steps to a cheer as part of the Bright Futures after school program at Marshall Upper Elementary School. "They were very good teachers because they helped us understand, if we couldn't figure it out," said Nina Porcaro.

"They were great coaches," added Emily Hackerd. "We did a lot of steps and switches and they were very patient with us."

Bright Futures is a partnership between Eastern Michigan University and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. The Bright Futures programs run 32 weeks during the school year and six weeks in the summer. It serves more than 1,200 students and families in Ypsilanti, Willow Run, Wayne, Westland and Romulus.

The program provides three hours of programming Monday through Thursday throughout the school year for students who develop new skills, explore the arts and technology, and improve in reading, writing and math. There's also club activities, including digital video, art, rocker soccer, jump into fitness, the international club, service-learning, reader's theater and Marshall's cheer club.

It was a group of stu-



Members of the Bright Futures Sparkle Agent Squad include Emily Hackerd (front row, from left), coaches Ashley Fracassi and Holly Fracassi, Alayah Nevins, Nina Porcaro (back row, from left), Erica Finley, Ciana Hernandez and Ashley Taylor.

dents wanting to form a cheer club that led Keith DeMolay, who works at Marshall and is a member of the Westland Youth Athletic Association, to ask Jan Fracassi, cheer coordinator, if a few coaches could come in and teach the students. Fracassi enlisted her daughters, who are coaches for the Westland Comets, to teach the students.

"They completely volunteered their time with us," said Fracassi. "They came out of the goodness of their heart and their love of cheer."

Holly Fracassi has been in cheer for seven years and this is her first year as a coach. Sister Ashley has been in cheer for eight years and has been coaching for four years.

"We had one student who had done gymnastics, but most were new to cheer," said Holly. "We'd work with them and make them do a step one or two

times until they got the hang of it."

"It was basic training, we taught them the steps and made sure they got them down before we'd do the next on," added Ashley.

According to Jan Fracassi, the one difficulty her daughters faced were getting the students to be loud.

"It's hard to get them to be loud in school," she said. "We had to keep telling them that it was OK."

There's a connection between the school and the Westland Comets who practice there in the fall. And some of the youngsters even inquired about the Comets, said Jan Fracassi.

As for the name, that was a group effort.

"We all pitched in," said Nina. "We all said we all had to be involved in it."

"Aalayah (Nevins) picked out the agent squad because she likes

superheroes," said Emily. The group minus two members, showed their moves wearing purple Bright Futures Sparkle agent squad T-shirts and matching bows provided the Fracassis.

Considering the students only had an hour a week to work on their moves, the coaches were happy with the results. So was Anna Chatfield.

"I was really impressed by how responsible they were. They were very consistent in coming in every week," said Chatfield, the Bright Futures site coordinator at Marshall Upper Elementary. "They were mature and professional in the way they conducted the practices. They would be welcomed back with open arms, if they want to come."

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Annual auction

St. Damian Catholic School will hold its 15th annual auction Saturday, April 27.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for the Masquerade Auction. Dinner is a 7:15 p.m. Live auction starts at 8:45 p.m. The event is for people 21 years and older.

Tickets are \$30 each and available at the school, 29891 Joy Road, Westland. For more information, call (734) 427-1680. Visit the St. Damian website at www.stdamian.com.

'Annie Kids'

Catch the final performance of the Stage IV Youth Theater presentation of *Annie Kids* at 2 p.m. today (April 21) the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center, 35000 Sims, Wayne. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students. Advance tickets are available at the Wayne Community Center and at the door.

Democratic Club

The Westland Democratic Club will hold its chili cook-off at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 30, at Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey at Venoy, between Palmer and Michigan Avenue, in Westland. The board meets at 6:30 p.m. Regular meetings will be held on May 28, June 25, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 29 and Nov. 26. For more information, contact club president Nan Melke at (734) 674-7327 or by email at Westland-DemClub@robinwood.com.

Ice show

Wayne's 38th Annual Ice Show at the Community Center Ice Arena will be presented 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 26,

6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 27, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 28.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$5 for seniors and kids 4-17 in advance, \$7 and \$6, respectively, at the door.

The Wayne Jazz synchronized skating team has been undefeated for the past three seasons.

In concert

The Novi Concert Band, under the direction of Scott Cramer, will perform at St. Theodore Parish Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland, at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 21.

The concert is sponsored by the parish's 50th Anniversary Committee. The cost is a free will donation. Light refreshments will be served during intermission, compliments of the Parish's Men's Club and Confraternity of Christian Women.

For more information, call the parish office at (734) 425-4421 (vm#10) or go to the church website at mysttheo.org.

Mom-to-Mom Sale

Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation is hosting a Mom-to-Mom Sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, Wayne.

There is space for up to 50 tables - no retail or home-based business sales allowed. There will be a separate room for large items. To rent a table, contact Nathan Adams at (734) 721-7400, ext. 1300, or by e-mail at nadams@ci.wayne.mi.us.

Admission is free. Umbrella strollers only. A Kids Zone child watch will be offered at no charge to sellers.

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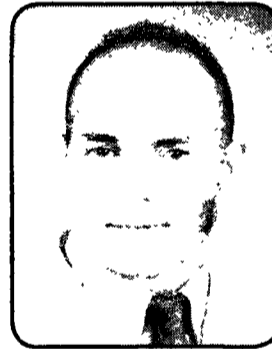
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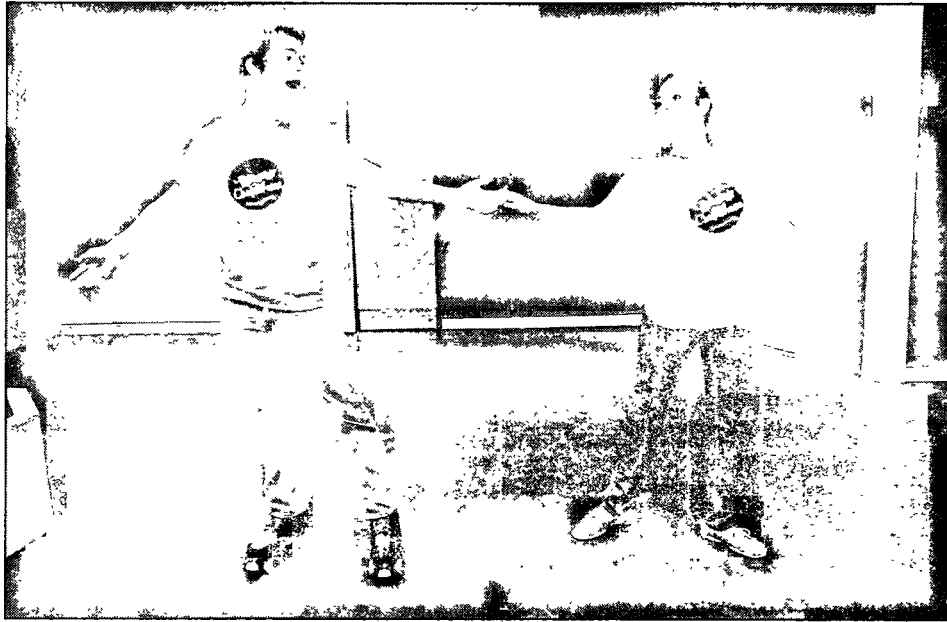
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PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Anthony Herrera plays Robert Martin and Maddie Abicht is Janet Van DeGraaff in Wayne Memorial's annual spring musical.



Jimmy Walkup as Man in Chair interacts with Maddle Abicht as Janet Van DeGraaff.

CHAPERONE

Continued from page A1

stage, telling the tale of a pampered Broadway starlet who wants to give up show business to get married.

"Jimmy has the responsibility of directly talking to the audience, he narrates the play," said Sullivan. "He's able to pause the action and talk to the audience. Man wants the audience to understand his beliefs about the theater and in the end he becomes part of the musical."

Playing the Broadway starlet, Janet Van De Graaff, is Maddie Abicht, with Anthony Herrera as the bridegroom, Robert Martin. Loren Hubbs is the Drowsy Chaperone.

Helping out

Walkup, Hubbs, Josiah

Ault and Amy McGregor are serving as Sullivan's assistant directors, managing such things as attendance and conflicts, scheduling, publicity and monitoring grades. Students in the production must have a C average, and the job of making sure they're meeting the criteria goes to Hubbs.

"I've made a few people mad at me, but we give them options, if they're not up to par," she said.

This is her fourth time working as an assistant director. She initially "tested the waters" with a play before going for the position on a musical.

"It wasn't as much work as a musical, but I found I could handle it," she said. "Besides, I have a great support network, the directorial staff."

Students have to apply for the position every show and for Ault, this is

his sixth appearance as an assistant director.

"I like having a bigger part with what's happening," he said. "I help provide ideas in blocking and characterization to help bring out the best in the cast."

Ault is responsible for patron advertising in the program. The students are required to get at least two ads, "but I push them to do more," he said. He also did a prop list, making sure they have everything that's needed to stage the play.

This is Walkup's second time as an assistant director and only the third show he's been in at Wayne Memorial. He admits there's a lot involved in being the main character of the show and handling costuming and publicity.

"I'm pretty good at juggling," said Walkup, who

prepared for his role by watching a video of the Broadway production.

"I tried to emulate what they did and threw in little things of my own," he said.

First time

McGregor is the newbie. This is her first time working behind the scenes as well as appearing on stage.

"I really love acting and I wanted to help Miss Sullivan," she said. "I was in cheer for three years and I wanted to find something new. I've found out I love it more than cheer."

It's McGregor's job to keep track of attendance and conflicts. When rehearsals started in February, she worked with each student to find out what conflicts they had and mapped them out with the rehearsal schedule.

In addition to Sullivan

and the four assistant directors, instrumental music teacher Matt Diroff will be the orchestra pit director, vocal music teacher Leigh Goyings is working with students as the vocal director, and Nicole Vasiloff is the choreographer. Her assistant is senior Rachel Joyner.

"This is my first time ever in a show, I didn't know I could audition to be a choreographer," said Joyner.

Joyner has been dancing for six years and teaches dance for the Wayne-Westland recreation department. As an assistant, she watches what the students do to see what skills they have.

"I get to know their abilities; in the beginning I did a lot of watching and then I started teaching," she said. "Now I'm back to watching to make sure they're on time."

The students have been rehearsing using a CD of the Broadway product. The cover of the orchestra pit was removed on Friday, and today the principal cast members are at the auditorium to work with the orchestra for the first time. Walkup believes that will be a challenge for the cast.

"The hardest part is that we've been using the CD, and when we leave that and transition to the orchestra, it's going to be a struggle for us," he said.

The assistant directors, however, know the cast and crew will be ready for opening night.

"We have a lot of new members in the show, but I'm not concerned," Ault added.

smason@hometownlife.com
 (313) 222-6751
 Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

WAYNE-WESTLAND RECREATION

Skate Parks

The Concrete Jungle, located behind Westland City Hall on Ford at Carlson, is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. This free park is designed for use

by skateboards, inline skates and bicycles. It is not supervised. The new Wayne skate/bike park is located adjacent to the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe. It is open

3-7 p.m. seven days per week and is supervised.

Kickball League

The Summer Kickball League starts the week of June 10 will play its

games at Anderson Ball Fields in Attwood Park on Howe south of Annapolis in Wayne.

There will be 12 teams per night and 10 games, plus playoffs. Game times

are 6:25 p.m., 7:35 p.m., 8:45 p.m. and 9:55 p.m. Thursdays. The teams are co-ed. There will be no umpires - games will be played by the honor system. A managers meet-

ing is set for 7 p.m. Monday, June 10, at 7 p.m. at the Wayne Community Center.

The deadline to register at the Wayne Community Center is Monday, June 3.

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Volunteers needed for Tonquish Creek cleanup

Tonquish Creek in the Holliday Nature Preserve will be getting a cleanup in advance of this year's Rouge Rescue.

The cleanup will be 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 4, where the creek flows under Wayne Road in Westland. Sixty volunteers are needed to clean up the creek, remove invasive plants and paint over graffiti on bridge.

Volunteers care register at 8:30 p.m. Parking will be at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia, north of the bridge. The cleanup is being sponsored by the Holliday Nature Preserve Association and the City of Westland.

It's one of several cleanups being done at sites in Wayne and Oakland counties in advance of the Rouge Rescue on Saturday, June 1. Friends of the Rouge is holding the a river cleanup event.

"People don't realize the positive impact just one day of working along

the river can have," said Cyndi Ross, River Restoration Program Manager for Friends of the Rouge. "It's great to see residents take ownership of the river, it helps change the mindset that it's someone else's problem. It's also a great way to meet your neighbors and have fun."

Rouge Rescue focuses on the restoration of the Rouge River. Volunteers can choose a location to participate by visiting www.therouge.org for specific site details. Activities vary by site and may include native planting, removal of invasive species, trash cleanup, nature walks, woody debris management, and storm drain stenciling. Assistance with volunteer registration and photography also is needed.

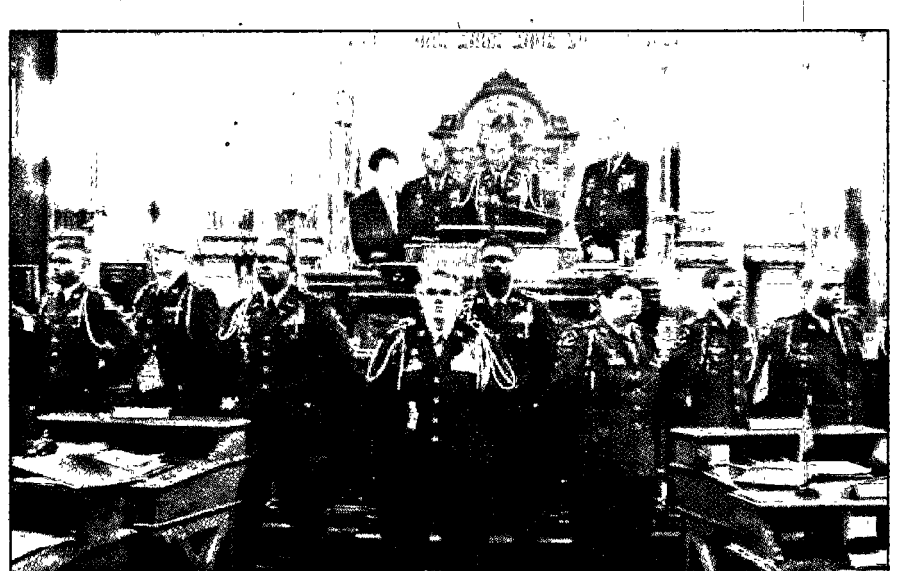
Volunteers should dress in long sleeves and pants to protect themselves from poison ivy. It is also a good idea to bring water, sunscreen and a

change of clothes. Gloves, trash bags, and compost bags will be provided.

As a result of past Rouge Rescue events, more than 46,000 cubic yards of trash and debris and 63 vehicles have been removed from the Rouge River. In the last five years, more than 7,500 native flowers or grasses and more than 550 trees or shrubs have been planted, reducing pollution from rain and creating habitat for animals.

An upshot of the efforts of Friends of the Rouge and their community partners is that the sensitive stonefly can now be found in the waters of the Rouge River and canoeing is now possible.

Founded in 1986, Friends of the Rouge strives to educate, involve and collaborate with residents in order to improve the quality and appearance of the river through a variety of programs, including Rouge Rescue.



State Honors

Thirty cadets from the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Raider, Drill, Academic and Leadership teams were recently recognized by the State of Michigan for their accomplishments over the past year. The cadets received a special tribute signed by Gov. Rick Snyder, Sen. Moon-Yung Hoggood, D-Taylor, and Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland. Cadet Battalion Commander Dionte Burton also was given the opportunity to address the Senate during their visit to the Capitol. Joining Burton (center) for his speech were Hoggood (from left), JROTC instructors Sgt. 1st Class Stanley Lewis and First Sgt. Steven La Haine (right).

Bills would expand use of sinking fund money

State Reps. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights, and Adam Zemke, D-Ann Arbor, have introduced legislation that would remove restrictions on certain funds, allowing school districts to use that money to make infrastructure improvements and capital investments.

"Many school districts find themselves unable to provide students with the latest technology as a result of the deep funding cuts that have been imposed over the last few years," Knezek said.

"Technology in the classroom supplements a high quality education, and ensures our children are ready to enter the 21st century workforce."

The three-bill package would affect sinking funds, which are voter-approved pools of money intended to maintain the liquid assets of a school district or other public entity. Knezek's House Bill 4483 would allow school districts to spend the money on technology upgrades, while Zemke's bills, HBs 4369 and 4515,

would let them put sinking funds toward safety and security equipment and transportation purchases and repairs, respectively.

"These bills expand local control by giving school districts, and the people who live in them, more of a say in funding decisions," Zemke said. "Rather than simply accepting the decisions made for them in Lansing, community leaders can have another tool at their disposal to improve schools and give kids a brighter future."

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Hair today, hair tomorrow

Fundraiser helps cancer patients keep their curls

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Doris Jinnis vividly remembers being diagnosed with breast cancer in September 2012 — “It was surreal,” she said — and the weeks of radiation treatment that followed and, ultimately, left her cancer-free.

Those feelings were foremost in her mind when she went to get her nails done at Formula Salon in Plymouth, where owner Tricia Mavin was hosting a fundraiser for The Rapunzel Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping cancer patients keep their hair during chemotherapy.

Jinnis, a Westland resident, remembered being caught completely by surprise by the diagnosis. She had, after all, faithfully listened to the experts and gotten the requisite mammograms. It was one of those tests that caught the spot, not even a lump, that indicated the disease. She

remembers getting the news — it was like her doctor was “talking like Charlie Brown’s teacher,” she said — but couldn’t remember exactly what was being said.

“It was surreal,” Jinnis said. “I was faithful getting my mammograms. It wasn’t anything I had felt. It wasn’t anything I was expecting.”

Treatment cured the problem, but on a recent follow-up trip to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, she noticed a flyer for the Formula Salon fundraiser on the table. A receptionist handed it to her and said it “might be something I was interested in,” Jinnis remembered.

She was, and she showed her interest last Saturday, arriving at Formula Salon not long after doors opened to get her nails done.

“It was a no-brainer,” Jinnis said of attending the fundraiser. “I wanted to give back.”

It was the reaction Mavin was hoping for



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Formula Salon stylist Juliet Cobello cuts Courtney Wiggin’s hair during the salon’s fundraiser for The Rapunzel Project Saturday.

from regular clients and other walk-in patrons hoping to help. She said the salon has “a lot of clients” who go through chemotherapy, and the most upsetting thing to them, she said, is the prospect

of losing their hair. She said 8- to 9-percent of women choose not to undergo chemotherapy at all because they don’t want to lose their hair.

The Rapunzel Project’s mission, according to

its website (www.rapunzelproject.org), is to let patients know there’s an option — cold cap therapy — that prevents the hair loss associated with chemotherapy. Cold cap therapy uses special caps, frozen to a very cold temperature and worn before, during and after each chemotherapy treatment. The cooling of the hair follicles prevents the toxins from reaching them.

According to information on Rapunzel’s website, only three hospitals in Michigan — Beaumont (Royal Oak), the Rose Cancer Center and Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills — offers cold cap. Formula Salon’s fundraiser Saturday was designed to raise money to purchase the kinds of freezers needed to offer the therapy.

Anna Daigle, a regional manager for Kenra Professional LLC, the company from which Formula Salon buys hair-care products, said her company partners with The Rapunzel Project “because it’s so related to the beauty industry.”

“Think about it ... A woman’s stylist hears all those concerns (about losing hair),” Daigle said.

“How great is it the stylist can do something about it?”

When Daigle heard staffers at Formula Salon were looking for a fundraiser, she pitched The Rapunzel Project, and the staff bought into it. Stylist Juliet Cobello heard the idea and ran with it. They watched a video about it on Kenra’s website, “and there wasn’t a dry eye in the room,” Cobello said.

“We were looking for something, and (Rapunzel) just kind of spoke to us,” said Cobello, a 22-year-old from Plymouth. “I’m always looking for something to do that is for the good of people ... That really spoke to me. I was just really inspired by that.”

The salon didn’t really have a goal in mind. They offered all of their services for a minimum donation, and had raffles for which “many generous local businesses” donated gift certificates and baskets. Mostly, they just wanted to raise awareness.

“That’s what’s going to get the hospitals involved,” Cobello said. “It’s going to get people talking about this. That’s what’s going to make the difference.”

Tickets still available for Brandon/Hollis luncheon in Livonia

Tickets are still available for a luncheon in Livonia featuring a joint appearance by the athletic directors for the University of Michigan and Michigan State University to discuss the world of college athletics in Michigan, the Big Ten Conference, and NCAA.

U of M’s Dave Brandon and MSU’s Mark Hollis will speak at a multiple-chamber luncheon Friday, April 26, at Laurel Manor, located on Schoolcraft west of Newburgh. The event will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event is coordinated by the Livonia, Westland,

Northville and Plymouth chambers of commerce, and presented by Bill Brown Ford, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Trinity Health, and Edward Jones Investments: Robin Whitfield, Financial Advisor. Brandon and Hollis lead programs engaged in one of the nation’s most-fierce

sports rivalries, but they work together on initiatives to help the Big Ten and NCAA adapt to the ever-changing world of collegiate athletics. They are scheduled to discuss their projects, trends in collegiate athletics, unique challenges of their business, and answer

audience questions.

The four western Wayne County chambers combine to represent more than 2,200 members. Seats to the luncheon are \$30 for chamber members, \$40 for non-members. Those interested in attending this program can con-

tact their community’s respective chamber for details on the event and to reserve seats. Contact the Livonia Chamber at (734) 427-2122, the Westland Chamber at (734) 326-7222, the Plymouth Chamber at (734) 459-1540, or the Northville Chamber at (734) 349-7640.



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Cruisin' Hines added to Autopalooza schedule

An annual car cruise event held in Hines Park has made it to the list of great automotive events in southeast Michigan.

After only two years of operation, the Cruisin' Hines Drive event now joins The Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix, Woodward Dream Cruise, 2 NASCAR Weekends at MIS, Conquers D'Elegance, The Motor Muster at The Henry Ford and Back to the Bricks in Flint on the Autopalooza schedule.

"Cruisin' Hines Drive has grown to one of the largest automotive events in metro Detroit," said founder Don Nicholson of Westland. "More than 40,000 classic cars and hot rods fill the eastern section of Hines Park every August, with an estimated 300,000 plus spectators, exceeding our expectations."

First held in 2011, Nicholson had hoped to bring in between 4,000 to 5,000 classic cars and hot rods to the park. Instead, there were 24,371 registered vehicles.

"There were more, but we ran out of registration forms," said Nicholson. "The second year saw a growth that was also beyond our dreams, with an estimated 40,000 cars. It's estimated because we stopped registering vehicles so that we could streamline the entrance process. But we passed out 25,000 goody bags and 30,000 programs and ran out of both before 2:30



FILE PHOTO

More than 40,000 classics and hot rods filled Hines Drive last August for the second annual Cruisin' Hines. The car cruise has been added to the Autopalooza schedule for 2013.

in the afternoon, with a 3 1/2-hour line up still coming in."

Autopalooza is run and organized by Pure Michigan, Visit Detroit and MotorCities National Heritage area which help to promote tourism in the state of Michigan.

"Being included in Autopalooza is worth \$70,000 in advertising out of state, bringing in visitors from other states to spend their vacation money in our local businesses," Nicholson said.

He also is working with the City of Westland to build the All American Cruise on Wayne Road July 13.

"With the help of businesses along the Wayne Road route, we hope to

build the All American Cruise to the same levels," said Nicholson. "Today, the Woodward Dream Cruise is the world's largest one-day automotive event, drawing 1.5 million people and 40,000 classic cars each year from as far away as New Zealand, Australia, Japan and the former Soviet Union, and we could have two of these kinds of events in Westland."

People interested in getting involved in the All-American Cruise, either as a sponsor, advertiser, volunteer or for more information, can call Nicholson at (734) 658-5296.

For more information, about Autopalooza, visit www.autopalooza.org.



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11:15 - 12:15 p.m. | Slow Flo (Better Backs) Yoga
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- Take a "Healthy Hearts 101" class
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Memorial students lasso up big numbers reading

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

First- and second-grade students at the Memorial Elementary 1-2 Campus proved they were into books by reading 100,730 minutes during March.

The book time was a part of Reading Month activities at the Garden City School, where activities had a Western theme, the Reading Rodeo. Dubbed ranch hands, they gathered to find out how well they had done and to see who read enough minutes to be "deputized" by Principal/Sheriff Mary Pantier.

"I'm packin' today, I'm armed with knowledge," said Pantier, patting the book she wore in her belt.

The reading program was organized by reading specialists Mary Ann Brewer and Michelle Woodard, and the round-up included a parade of horses, decorated by each classroom and carried to the reading corral by the their top readers.

"I'm so excited all the horses made it to the corral," said Woodard.

Jenna McMechan of the "accounting firm of Price Waterhouse," provided the final results, delivered to her "by the Pony Express." Of the school's more than 400 students, 317 participated in reading month. Youngsters read throughout March, working their way up from cowpokes to bookeroos and wranglers and deputies. Fifty-seven students read more than 500 minutes to become wranglers and be deputized by Pantier, and seven students read more than 1,000 minutes.

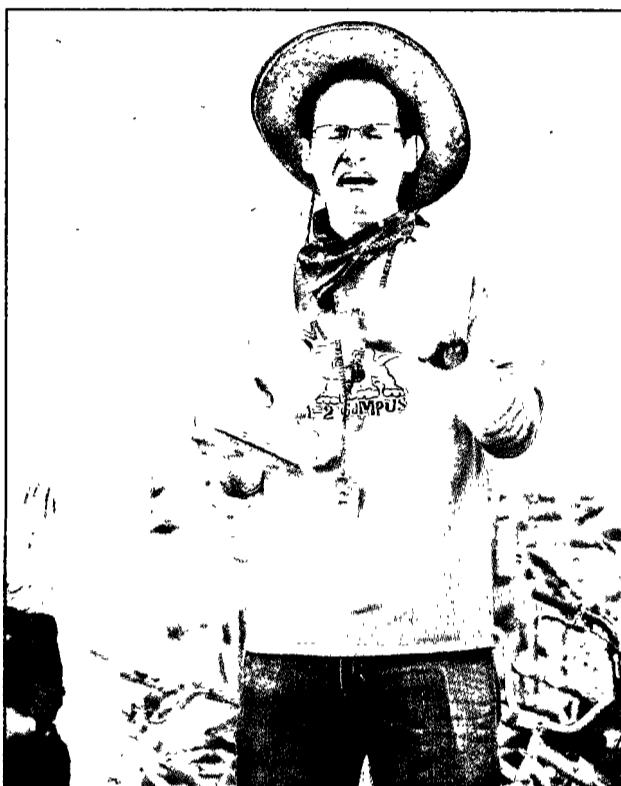
Second-graders read a lot — 47,324 minutes — but not enough to beat the first-graders who logged 53,406 minutes. In fact,



PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN
First-grader Sage Frost sits on her new bike that she won after reading 1,710 minutes, the most among students at Memorial during Reading Month.



As the sheriff, Memorial Principal Mary Pantier joins Mr. I Be Smart-reading specialist Mary Ann Brewer - in deputizing wranglers - students who read at least 500 minutes.



Second-grade teacher Nick Sands plays Mr. Nick in a skit about books during the assembly.

with 1,345 minutes.

On hand to congratulate the students was state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, who provided two of the eight bicycles given to students in a random drawing.

"You do things in a big way," Anderson told the students. "You have a great group of teachers here, and what you have done sets an example for all the other schools in the district. It's very exciting to learn to read and you are reading."

Winning the bicycles were first-graders Emily Cody, Joshua Fullerton, Santi Agosto and Natalie Briscoe and second-graders Mara Taylor, Jeric Asencion, Drew Smith and Gavin Morales.

Teacher Kathy Kolesar let students know she was proud of them.

"I know you all met your goal because all of the horses made it to the corral," she said.



Reading specialist Michele Woodard watches as Alex Shane uses a Hula Hoop to lasso a book.

the school's top reader was first-grader Sage Frost who received a bicycle for reading 1,710 minutes. The second-

place finisher was second-grader Zach Parks with 1,428 minutes, followed by fellow second-grader Avery McMechan

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Special event invitation from Waltonwood at Cherry Hill



Open House and Puppet Show

Saturday, April 27th
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com.

Upcoming Events

MOM 2 MOM SALE

Time/Date: noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday April 27, 2013
Location: McKinley Cooperative Preschool, inside St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, just south of Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Approximately 40 tables, with a big item area. There will be concessions and a bake sale. Admission is \$1 per person and strollers are allowed.

Contact: A contract, if available, for anyone that wants to rent a eight-foot table for \$20 at www.mckinley-preschool.org/mom2mom or they can email Rebecca Lay at beccanew1027@yahoo.com with any questions.

SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. second Monday of every month

Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Do you have a loved one in jail or prison? Is your heart broken because of it? Then contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts who will provide a safe place to talk and share with others, a place where you can learn how to cope with all of the new and frightening experiences. Learn from

others as they share ideas, resources and support. Donations appreciated.

Contact: For questions or more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or by email at prettymonarch@comcast.net.

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 11

Location: McKinley Cooperative Preschool, inside St. John's Episcopal Church (not affiliated), 555 S. Wayne Road, south of Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Is your child ready for kindergarten? We offer two-, three- and four-year-old classes with affordable tuition and parent involvement. Register for fall classes at the open house and meet our wonderful teacher with more than 25 years of experience.

Contact Info: Contact Stephanie Stadler at (734) 729-7222 or daydreamz036@aol.com to schedule a personal visit, if you are unable to attend our open house or if you have questions.

COOKING DEMO

Time/Date: 10 and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 24

Location: Westland Retail Center, 36585 W. Warren Road, Westland

Details: Weight Watchers Group is hosting a free cooking demonstration with Chef Isabella. The official chef of Weight Watchers Group, she also will offer tips on healthful eating and cooking techniques and follow up with a quick question/answer session. Registration is not necessary, but seating is limited.

Contact: For more details, call (248) 479-1362.

WIDOWED MEN

Time/Date: 9 a.m. Thursdays

Location: Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed men to meet with other widowed men for breakfast at 9 a.m. at Steve's Family Restaurant on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Many topics are discussed including those that may be pertinent to your own situation. Also, ideas are presented to help you become involved in the activities of Widowed Friends.

Contact: For more information, call Dick at (313) 534-0399.

BURROUGHS OLD TIMERS

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. on the last Friday of the month.

Location: Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth

Details: Any former employees of Burroughs/Unisys are welcome to join us to socialize or renew acquaintances. There is no cost to join or to attend. A cash bar and a fish buffet is available but not mandatory.

Contact: John Kusch 734-751-9765 or kuschjt@yahoo.com

Volunteers

FIRST STEP

Details: First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is look-

ing for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program.

Contact: (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223

VNA HOSPICE

Details: Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required.

Contact: (248) 967-8361, www.vna.org

SEASONS HOSPICE

Details: Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community.

Contact: (800) 370-8592

LITERACY COUNCIL

Details: The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match

you with an adult student in your area.

Contact: (734) 416-4906

HEARTLAND HOSPICE

Details: Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services.

Contact: (888) 973-1145

SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

Details: Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance is sponsoring a support group that provides support and guidance for families caring for an older person.

Contact: Chris Goldberg at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm meeting, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

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

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

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

by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

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

For Your Health

W-W NAMI

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

Location: St. Johns Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: The Wayne-Westland affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) provides support and information for individuals and families dealing with mental illness.

SAFE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays

Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

Details: A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.

Contact: Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth MI

Detail: A structured weekday alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals

Contact: Laurie Krause at laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com and (734) 956-2600

Midwest Pro Wrestling Alliance hosts Collision

The Midwest Pro Wrestling Alliance will present Collision, a free of charge all-ages event at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 28, at the Bova VFW Post 6896 in Westland.

Details: Do you have a loved one in jail or prison? Is your heart broken because of it? Then contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts who will provide a safe place to talk and share with others, a place where you can learn how to cope with all of the new and frightening experiences. Learn from

Abrahms. There will be 10 matches to discover who will be the next to hold the U.S. championship title.

The Devil Elvis Band will perform live, and there will be concessions, including hot dogs, hamburgers, snacks, pop and beer.

The Midwest Pro Wrestling Alliance is a local sports entertainment group. For more information, visit its website at www.mypwpa.webs.com.

Home Accents advertisement featuring 50% OFF on various home decor items like wood decor, crosses, metal decor, furniture, and framing. Includes a 'Spring Shop' section with 40% OFF on garden items and a 'Summer' section with 40% OFF on summer crafts. Also features sections for Needle Art, Framing, Crafting, Art Supplies, Jewelry Making, and Fashion Fabric.

Time To Think Spring! advertisement for playground equipment. Features trampolines and play systems with up to 45% off. Contact: Backyard Adventure, 3947 W. 12 Mile, Berkley. Phone: 248-543-3115.

Dan's Custom Brickwork advertisement. Specializing in residential and commercial restoration and custom brick work. 882 York St., Plymouth, MI 48170. Call or visit website www.dansbrick.com for a free estimate.

MotorCity Casino advertisement. Fun is just a bus ride away. Pontiac • Sterling Heights • Warren • Madison Heights • Fraser • Roseville • St. Clair Shores • Livonia • Westland • Dearborn • Taylor • Southgate • Lincoln Park • Clio • Flint • Burton. MotorCityCasino.com

Suit filed against LPS, former teacher in child abuse case

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

A lawsuit has been filed in Wayne County Circuit Court on behalf of the parents of three special needs children against a former teacher and the Livonia Public Schools for the teacher's alleged abuse of special needs students.

The 177-page complaint alleges criminal child abuse, neglect and civil rights violations. The suit seeks in excess of \$75,000 in several counts.

The complaint alleges that on multiple occasions in 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years that teacher Sharon Turbiak used her position as an educator to "physically and/or mentally abuse" three of the plaintiffs who were identified as M.D. Doe, K.H. Doe and C.W. Doe. That constituted criminal child abuse, the lawsuit states.

The complaint states Turbiak moved a student's chair with her foot and the student landed on

her bottom on the floor. Turbiak then laughed and stated "I have a sick sense of humor."

According to the complaint, Turbiak grabbed another student by the top of his head and jerked it back. Turbiak also put Pringle potato chip cans on another student's arms, knowing the student's sensitivity to sound, and in an attempt to prevent the student from covering her ears when she heard loud sounds.

A phone message was left at Turbiak's residence for comment, but she did not respond.

A classroom aide, Nancy Respondek, also was alleged to commit criminal child abuse when in March 2012 she took a student by his arm, spanked him on the butt, and yelled "No" in his face. On May 2, 2012, she raised her voice at deaf students, and yelled at them, according to the lawsuit.

A number listed for

Respondek was found to have been disconnected, so she could not be reached for comment.

Several school employees, including Superintendent Randy Liepa, were named in the lawsuit. The complaint alleges that Liepa and at least five other defendants and supervisory and administrative personnel knew of individual incidents of abuse.

"No report of suspected abuse was ever made to the proper authorities by any defendant prior to the time defendants Turbiak and Respondek were suspended from their employment at LPS, despite the existence of both a factual basis and a statutory obligation to report such abuse," the lawsuit states.

William Seikaly, attorney for the plaintiffs, said the allegations are based on facts established in an internal investigation by the school district.

That report was not completed at the request

of parents in the case, but from a co-worker who complained about a hostile work environment with Turbiak, Seikaly said.

"Why? Because the kids couldn't communicate," Seikaly said.

Seikaly said that during his legal career, he has litigated about 30 cases of school abuse cases. "I've found all of the facts very upsetting in this case," Seikaly said. "I never saw a case where so many adults saw so much and did so little."

In April 2012, Turbiak, who taught at Webster Elementary, was put on paid administrative leave until March 31, 2013, the effective date of her resignation. She has not been charged with any crime and in the district's report, denied any wrongdoing. Respondek was not charged with any crime as well.

The report, conducted by the district's former public safety administrator, Mark Schultz,

includes witness statements saying Turbiak slapped and yelled at the children, let them fall instead of supporting them when they moved to the floor or a chair, and put a boy confined to a wheelchair in the bathroom for time out for 15 to 20 minutes.

The report says the first documented complaint against Turbiak was dated Oct. 24, 2011.

The class was part of a Wayne RESA center program serving students from multiple districts. All 12 of the children who were in the class are cognitively impaired and some also have physical impairments.

The report says the school's former principal, Shellie Moore, had contacted central office administrators, but "there was never any thought or discussion that this would be a Protective Service or police issue."

Schultz went to Livonia Police Department on April 24, the day after he

began the internal investigation.

Livonia police sought warrants from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, but those warrants were denied and the case was closed.

The Livonia school district does not comment on lawsuits, but issued a statement from Superintendent Randy Liepa.

"We understand that the parents have the right to utilize any means available to them to address their concerns," Liepa said.

In November 2012, a lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court on behalf of one of the preschoolers, seeking in excess of \$75,000 for physical pain and mental anguish the boy suffered.

Besides Liepa, that suit listed as defendants Livonia Public Schools, Turbiak, Respondek and Moore.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591
Twitter: @KenAbramcz

Livonia school chief: More abuse cases doesn't mean an ongoing problem

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

In the five months following teacher Sharon Turbiak's resignation, Livonia Public Schools suspended a Stevenson High School teacher for calling a student a "worthless piece of sh—," terminated a paraprofessional for kneeling a 10-year-old student in the back and placed on unpaid leave another paraprofessional for punching a nonverbal eighth-grader.

All the students have special needs.

The incidents, during the period from Oct. 1, 2012, to Feb. 3, 2013, were detailed in documents released as a result of a Freedom of Information

Request filed by resident Loyd Romick.

They follow the Oct. 16, 2012, resignation of Turbiak, a teacher accused of slapping, grabbing and force feeding special-needs preschoolers at Webster Elementary from about October 2011 to April 2012. A paraprofessional in Turbiak's classroom, accused of similar behavior, was terminated on June 13, 2012.

Parents of four of the preschoolers have sued the district in two separate lawsuits.

The FOIA request sought information regarding allegations of physical, mental or verbal abuse of any child by any employee, not specifically special-needs stu-

dents.

Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa said the more recent incidents do not mean the district has an ongoing problem, but rather that the district does not tolerate unprofessional behavior by staff members. He said the disciplinary actions the district took send a strong message. He said the district is on top of the issue.

Quality education

He said Livonia has a long-standing reputation of providing a quality education for both general education and special education students.

"What's the culture (like)?" he said. "Let's

get in the car, go in the schools, see what caring staff we have working with the best of their ability with a wide range of kids. Come out and take a look, you can feel it."

He said the district's staff makes him proud. "The best way to get a flavor is to come and spend some time, (in the schools). It's a great place for kids to be, and we have a lot of evidence for that."

If there were a problem with the culture, he said, the district wouldn't have the continuing good reputation that it does.

Former Livonia school board President Patrice Mang, an Allen Park High School counselor who taught special education for 20 years, said she thinks the Webster case raised awareness in the Livonia district. Mang was president when the board sought tenure charges against Turbiak and fired the paraprofessional



FILE PHOTO

Livonia School Superintendent Randy Liepa has said the more recent incidents of abuse doesn't mean the district has an ongoing problem, but rather it doesn't tolerate unprofessional behavior by staff members.

Turbiak's classroom.

Asked if Livonia has a high incidence of abuse cases compared with other school districts, Mang said she knows of no cases of abuse of special-

needs students in Allen Park, but that district has only 97 special education students, compared with Livonia's 894, according to 2012-13 unaudited fall pupil counts from Wayne RESA.

Livonia has 15,588 total students; Allen Park, 3,791.

To find out about larger districts, the *Observer* sent FOIA requests to Wayne-Westland and Plymouth-Canton school districts seeking documents confirming the existence of allegations of physical, mental or verbal abuse of any child by an employee during the 2011-12 school year and up until March 8, 2013, of this school year (2012-13).

Like Romick, the *Observer* also did not specify special-needs students.

Other districts

In Wayne-Westland Community Schools, two teachers and a paraprofessional voluntarily resigned between March 2 and Sept. 12, 2012, following allegations of abuse.

One of the teachers resigned after allegedly grabbing a student by the arm and squeezing it hard, the other following allegations of computer crimes and inappropriate behavior with a high school student. The latter teacher was sentenced to four to 20 years in prison

Please see ABUSE, A11



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CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185, on **May 7th, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

OUTFITTING OF 20 NEW POLICE CARS

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams
City Controller

Publish: April 21, 2013

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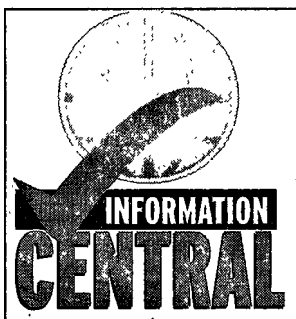
Caffeine: Most commonly consumed drug in world

Many of us can't start the day without a cup of coffee (or two), but have you ever considered that coffee contains a drug? Caffeine is a stimulant psychoactive drug that affects the central nervous system and results in altered perception, mood, thought, or behavior. The four main types of psychoactive, or psychotropic drugs include:

- Sedatives and hypnotics like Valium, anesthetics, and alcohol.
- Stimulants including cocaine, antidepressants, and nicotine.
- Opiates such as opium, morphine, and heroin.
- Hallucinogens and psychedelics like ecstasy and LSD.

Caffeine is legal and unregulated, unlike other psychoactive drugs, and is the most commonly consumed psychoactive drug in the world. In addition to coffee, caffeine is found in tea, soft drinks, chocolate, and some medicines.

So is caffeine good or bad? Well, it depends on who you are and how much you drink. The Food and Drug Administration classifies caffeine as "generally recognized as safe," since a toxic dose is considerably higher than doses usually consumed. It is still debated whether caffeine has positive or negative effects on health, but for most people the caffeine found in a few cups of coffee doesn't cause any harm. If you have any concerns about caffeine, discuss



them with your healthcare provider.

Ingesting too much caffeine can cause side effects such as restlessness, irritability, trouble sleeping, headaches and heart palpitations or jitteriness. If you stop having caffeine abruptly, you may suffer some of the same symptoms like headaches and irritability, as well as anxiety, fatigue and difficulty concentrating. Since the withdrawal symptoms caused by abruptly stopping caffeine intake are not severe as withdrawal from dependencies on street drugs or alcohol, caffeine dependence is not usually considered a serious addiction.

To read more about caffeine and other psychoactive drugs, try *The World of Caffeine: the Science and Culture of the World's Most Popular Drug* by Weinberg and Bealer, *The Essential Guide to Psychiatric Drugs* by Gorman, or *Drugs and the Human Body: With Implications for Society* by Liska.

For more information, visit the library's website at www.westlandlibrary.org, give us a call at (734) 326-6123 or stop by the reference desk.

Highlighted Activities

Celebrate Money Smart Week at the library.

The Three Transitions to Retirement: 7 p.m. April 22

Retirement is about more than just saving money. This informative seminar will cover the important steps to help you achieve and enjoy retirement. Brought to you by Dan Devine of Co-Op Credit Union Services and in conjunction with Money Smart Week of Michigan. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org/events or call the library at (734) 326-6123 for more information.

Introduction to Video Chatting: 7 p.m. April 22

Video chatting allows you to connect with far-away friends and family. In this course, we will cover the basics of video chatting, including the computer hardware and software you will need to get started, and the top free services for video chatting, such as Skype, Google Hangouts, Apple FaceTime and Facebook Video Chat. Prerequisite: Internet Basics or some previous Internet experience. Seating limited, sign-up required. Call the library at 73 326-6123.

Calling All Tweens. Book Spine Poetry 5th-8th Graders: 6:30 p.m. April 22

April is National Poetry Month. Do you like writing poetry and want to try something a little bit different? If so, join us as we create poems out of titles on book spines. We'll also play a writing game

or two to get our creativity flowing. Call or stop by the library to sign up or call (734) 326-6123.

Making Sense of Mortgages: 7 p.m. April 23

Looking to buy a new house? Looking for government mortgage help? Or just trying to keep up with all the recent housing changes. Join Corrie Dye-Hill, Mortgage Department Manager from Co-op Credit Union Services, as she helps you make sense of the complicated world of mortgages. In conjunction with Money Smart Week of Michigan. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org/events or call the library at (734) 326-6123.

Identity Theft and Strategies for Crime Prevention: 2 p.m. April 24

Join Sgt. Jeff Kavanaugh, Community/Business Watch Coordinator of the Westland Police Department, as he shows you how to identify potential scams and frauds, protect community members against identity theft, and address concerns if they have been a victim. Note: A second Identity Theft program has been scheduled at the Westland Friendship Center on Thursday, April 25. Call (734) 722-7628 for more information or go online to westlandlibrary.org/events.

Read In: 6-8 p.m. April 24

Third-sixth-graders are invited to a library "Read In." We will have special reading corners, some group activities and food. Bring your current favorite book to read or choose one of ours. Wear comfy

clothes and BYOP (bring your own pillow). Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to sign up.

Options for Dealing with Debt: 7 p.m. April 24

Join Greenpath of Westland, a non-profit debt counseling organization, as they discuss the pros and cons of debt repayment strategies. They will tell you how much debt is too much, how to communicate with creditors, and how to avoid debt problems in the future. Call (734) 722-7628 for more information or go online to westlandlibrary.org/events.

Middle School Book Club: 7 p.m. April 25

Join us as we discuss *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli. In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever. Pick up your copy of the book at the Reference Desk. (There are special copies set aside just for book club.)

Friday Night Movie: 7 p.m. April 26

Tonight's movie is *Django Unchained*. "With the help of a German bounty hunter, a freed slave sets out to rescue his wife from a brutal Mississippi plantation owner." Snacks and refreshments served. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The movie starts at 7 p.m. No sign-up required. Rated R.

Beginners Computer Lab: 2-4 p.m. April 27

During this two-hour drop-in lab, we will provide guided activities and

librarian assistance to help you become computer literate for today's digital world. Topics include using a mouse and keyboard; saving, organizing, and printing files; navigating the Internet; learning what you can do with email; and getting acquainted with Microsoft Office.

Food for Fines: April 1-30

This April, Gleaners Community Food Bank and the Westland Public Library are partnering to alleviate hunger in southeast Michigan. Bring nonperishable, in-date goods to the Circulation Desk at the Westland Public Library and receive \$2 per item off of your fines (up to \$20 total, lost or damaged items not eligible). If you would like to donate, visit any of the service desks in the library or stop by Biggby Coffee or the Westland Friendship Center and deposit items in one of their donation-only boxes. Call the Westland Public Library at (734) 326-6123 or stop by any of our service desks.

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

Information Central was compiled by Tara Scott, Adult Literacy Program coordinator. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

ABUSE

Continued from page A10

for having sex with teenage male students after pleading guilty to multiple criminal charges of criminal sexual conduct, child sexually abusive activity, using a computer to commit a crime and distributing sexually explicit material to chil-

dren. The paraprofessional resigned after being accused of smacking a student in the back of the head.

Wayne-Westland officials did not indicate how many, if any, of the students involved were special-ed students.

Wayne-Westland has 12,183 students, including 538 special-ed students, according to Wayne County RESA.

In Plymouth-Canton, one teacher was terminated for inappropriate and unprofessional behavior involving students including calling a male student on his cell phone at all hours of the night. Another teacher exchanged sexually suggestive e-mails with a student. Neither incident involved special-ed students.

Plymouth-Canton has

17,685 students, including 1,634 special-ed students, according to district officials.

Liepa said the number of incidents in each of the districts — Livonia, Wayne-Westland and Plymouth-Canton — is small. "Our goal is to have zero incidents," Liepa said. But with 15,000 students and 2,000 employees "(there) are

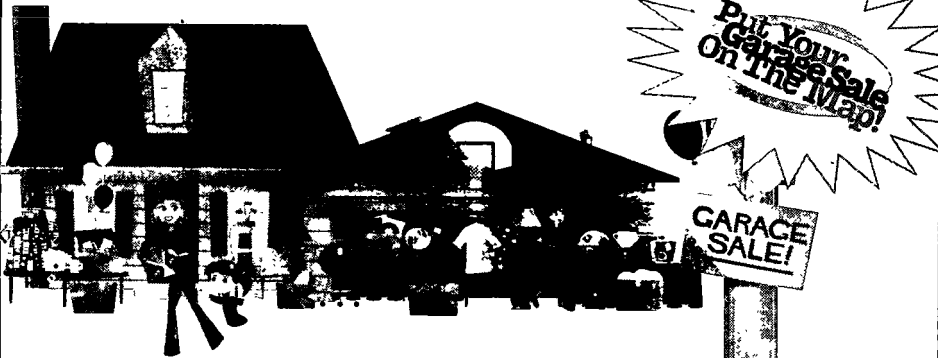
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Attorneys J.B. Bleske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced 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.



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 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

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

Don't get sold on gold — it's a risky investment

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: About a year-and-a-half ago I wanted to be more conservative with my portfolio so I took about half my money and bought gold. At the time there were a number of commercials on TV which basically said you can't lose money on gold. Unfortunately, I lost. I'm currently down more than 20 percent. Did I get taken advantage of and can I sue the person who sold me the gold? Should I keep my gold or sell it?

A: It is possible to bring a cause of action if you can show that there were any misrepresentations or fraud by your salesperson. Just because you lost money is not sufficient to sue. What you have to show is that either there was an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact or fraud involved. Without those items it will be very difficult to bring a lawsuit.

As to your gold, my recommendation is sell at least 95 percent of it. This is based on the fact you have 50 percent of your money invested in gold. I don't care how good an investment it is, you shouldn't keep 50 percent of your portfolio in one item. Liquidate most of your



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

holdings, and at most, keep five percent. For investors, it's always important to

understand risk. When most people think of risk they think of the stock market because the principal goes up and down.

However, there are other types of risk that investors need to account for. For example, there is purchasing power risk which means that even though your principal is not fluctuating, the purchasing power of your money is not keeping up. As far as I'm concerned, every investment, bar none, has risk. Gold is no different. Despite some of the commercials on TV, if you look at gold's performance over long periods of time you understand it can be a volatile, risky investment.

The key for investors is to identify the risk and make sure to diversify their portfolios with different types of investments.

I am always leery when I see celebrities

pushing investment products. Just because they are an actor or an athlete does not mean that they know anything about investing. Most of these people are paid spokespersons and they will push whatever they are paid to represent.

As an investor, it is impossible to invest risk free. However, it is possible to manage risk and that is something that every investor should strive for.

Keep in mind that goals and objectives go hand in hand with risk. A Certificate of Deposit (CD) may be a good investment in the short run, however, if your goals are long term, it's not so good. Before you invest in any investment make sure to identify the risk, see how it fits in your portfolio and always keep your individual goals and objectives in mind.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, email Rick at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com. Rick Bloom will be at the O&E Media Spring Expo discussing financial matters 10-10:45 Tuesday, April 23 in the VisiTech Center at Schoolcraft College.



Producer Penny Carlisi (from left), director Mike Brennan, and the director of photography, Megan Farnsworth take a break during filming at the Livingston County Jail last November.

Westland church to show 'Unexpected Places'

A Westland church will host a special screening of a Michigan-made movie about a son's struggle with addiction and crime.

Warren Road Light and Life Church will show *Unexpected Places* at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 26, at the church, 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, in Westland. Tickets are available online in advance for \$5 at Reveal-FilmGroup.com and for \$6 at the door.

Most people are not excited to be sent to jail, but it was a dream come true for a local film producer Penny Carlisi of Milford. In November 2011, her crew went to jail by special invitation and the result is a feature-length movie she produced.

Carlisi's time in jail started innocently enough, when she asked Chaplain Jim Proos if he knew where she could borrow two beat up metal bunks for the jail scene. To her amazement, Proos instead talked with Sheriff Robert Bezotte and received permission for the team to shoot two scenes inside a four-person cell at the Livingston County Jail and another two scenes in the lobby area.

According to Carlisi, the filming lent an eerie "authenticity" to the climax that was originally scheduled to be shot in a cinder block classroom at her church. Another film session included a police officer chasing a speeding car with sirens blaz-

ing on the back roads of Howell for an arrest scene.

Unexpected Places is a fictional drama inspired by true events that occurred in the life of Carlisi who also wrote the film's script. The movie stars Tim Torok of Pinckney, as a troubled son who struggles with addiction and crime. Watching his descent causes his mother, played by Carlisi, almost unbearable grief and affects her relationships at work and with her husband, played by Wayne Brown of Dearborn Heights.

Mother and son hit bottom together. The movie unfolds an amazing journey for each of them, culminating in redemption and restoration. It speaks powerfully to parents or anyone agonizing over wayward loved ones, according to Carlisi.

Unexpected Places has received the Dove Foundation seal of approval and will be distributed by Bridgestone Multimedia Group beginning July 2013. The movie is a 100 percent local production and utilized all Michigan actors. Filming occurred almost entirely in the Milford, Brighton and Howell area, but also included a scene at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Unexpected Places was completed in December 2012 and is a total of 112 minutes long. The producers are Penny Carlisi and Daniel Knudsen Michael Brennan of Pinckney is the director and Megan Farnsworth is the director of photography. The music is composed by Samuel Joshua.

Items available for sale at the event include the movie DVD, a novel of the movie written by Brennan and the original music CD.

For more information about the event, call (734) 718-9401 or (248) 756-1692.

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SPORTS

GIRLS SOCCER

Last 0:05: Ladywood victorious

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It took 79 minutes and 55 seconds, but Livonia Ladywood finally found a way to crack Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard's defensive shell.

Jenna Urso tapped in a cross from Domenique Sarnecky with only five seconds remaining to give the Blazers a dramatic 1-0 Catholic League triumph Thursday over the host Fighting Irish.

"It's very difficult when the other team decides not to try and score," said Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team outshot Richard, 16-1. "They sat in from the opening kick off and never left their end. We continued to press and finally broke through at the very end. It's a road league win that we had to have, and we got it."

Senior Sara Even did not have to make a save in goal for Ladywood as the Blazers, ranked No. 2 in Division 2, improved to 6-0-1 overall and 4-0-1 in the Catholic League.

Izzy Dirksen made four saves for Gabriel Richard (3-3-2, 0-2-2), which is ranked No. 8 in Division 3.

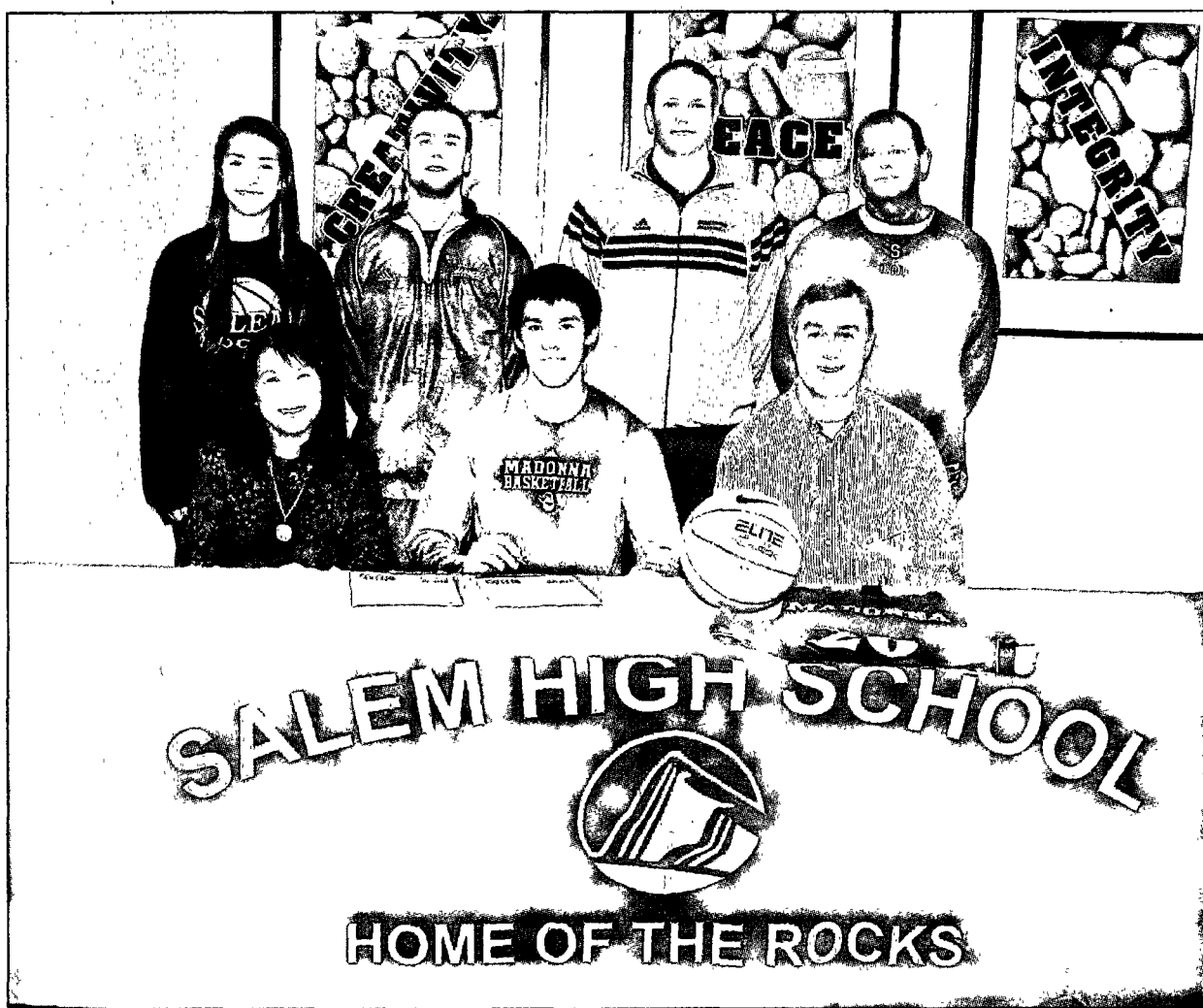
CHURCHILL 4, FARMINGTON 0: Livonia Churchill (3-3-1) got rolling offensively in the second half scoring all four its goals Friday to beat the host Falcons (0-2) in a non-conference match.

Freshman Lauren Wynns got credit for the game-winner, while Kelsey Parrinello added two goals and one assist.

Alyah Abdeljaber tallied Churchill's final goal from 18 yards out when she drilled an upper-90 degree shot.

"That was a great goal," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said. "We played well as a team and our defense played well."

Please see SOCCER, B4



Salem senior Chris Dierker (seated, center) last week signed to play men's basketball at Madonna University. Dierker is flanked by parents Lien and Bill. Standing are (from left) sister Michelle Dierker, Madonna assistant coach Adam Kerfoot, head coach Noel Emenhiser and Rocks' varsity boys basketball coach Bob Brodie.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Rock-solid addition MU's Emenhiser lands 6-7 Salem cager

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Chris Dierker — like his former Salem teammate Tyler Stewart — speaks softly and possesses quality basketball skills.

And now Dierker will follow 2012 alum Stewart from the Park over to Madonna University.

Dierker, a 6-foot-7 senior power forward and impact player for the Rocks, signed a national letter-of-intent Friday to join the Crusaders, who finished 25-9, best in school history.

According to Dierker, who averaged 14.7 points and 10.7 rebounds in 2012-13 for Salem, signing with Madonna fit into his comfort zone. "It played a big impact as I've

been playing with him (Stewart) for a long time at Salem," said Dierker, following the signing ceremony. "I've also known the coach (Noel Emenhiser) for a long time, going to the camps in the summer and the fall league since seventh grade."

Dierker and Stewart were two major contributors to Salem's Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship in 2011-12. Longtime Salem coach Bob Brodie said Dierker should make the same successful transition to MU as a freshman that Stewart did.

"I think it's a good fit for him to go to Madonna," Brodie said. "He's playing with his ex-teammate and he's playing with a couple guys who were in our league. I think it's

going to be a good fit. It's a gem in the rough for them to get a guy like him. I think he's a good player and he'll fit in well there."

Dierker — who was joined at last week's signing ceremony at Salem by Brodie, Emenhiser, MU assistant coach Adam Kerfoot and family members (parents Bill and Lien, sister Michelle) — noted that he talked to other NAIA schools, including Concordia and Spring Arbor.

But he always figured Madonna would be his landing spot.

"I don't mind it," said Dierker, about going to a nearby college. "My parents can go to a couple games."

Please see DIERKER, B2

Lax triumph for Ladywood

Senior Christina Riga and junior Megan Leon each recorded hat tricks to lift Livonia Ladywood to a 13-4 weather-shortened girls lacrosse win Wednesday at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

Junior Jessica Snyder also added two goals and two assists while senior goalie Stephanie Mackley made four saves as the Blazers improved to 4-0 overall and 3-0 in the Catholic League.

Camellia Perrault scored three goals and goalie Katie Goold made six saves for the Fighting Irish.

Recruiting Realities

Former college coach Jack Renkens will make a 60-minute presentation on "The Realities of College Athletic Recruiting" at 7 p.m. Monday, May 1 at Churchill High's Carli Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

The clinic is free for both parents and student-athletes. For more information, visit www.recruitingrealities.com.

Free throw champs aces

Among the age-group champions at the third annual Sons of the American Legion Post 32 Livonia Free Throw Shooting held contest April 6 at Livonia Memorial Church of Christ included Gavin Weber (11-12) Joshua Picciano (9-10) Justin Bouzas (7-8) and Tyler Hayes (6-and-under).

All first-place and runner-up earned received trophies and prizes with proceeds going to aid Blums Landing, a bed and breakfast retreat for returning wounded U.S. Armed Services veterans.

Sponsors included Flexible Plan Investments Ltd., Livonia Trophy, Bates Hamburgers, City of Livonia Golf Division, Armed Serviced Recruiting Centers, Coaches Corner, One Under Bar and Grill, Livonia Observer, Heritage Bakery, Bottles & Stuff, Connors Restaurant, Cap N' Cork, Sport and Fun Putt Putt, Detroit Pistons, McDonalds, Busch's, Jolee's Hair Salon, Marine Corps League Northwest, Top Value Muffler and Plymouth Auto Care.

Madonna University senior Andy Myers, an All-WHAC selection last year from Westland John Glenn, finished runner-up Thursday in the Spring Arbor Invitational.



MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION

Good WHAC tune-up MU men's golfers 1st at Spring Arbor

The Madonna University men's golf team wrapped up its regular season Thursday with a team championship crown at the Spring Arbor Invitational held at the Cascades Golf Club in Jackson.

The Crusaders posted rounds of 301 and 294 for a 595 total and a seven-shot victory in windy and wet conditions which featured a 40-minute rain delay during Round Two.

Davenport University placed second (303-299-602), while Siena Heights University (303-306-609) and MU's 'B' team (310-299-609) tied for third place.

Host Spring Arbor and Trine University (Ind.) tied for fifth in 12-school field with 618 each.

Westland John Glenn's Andy Myers, a senior, paced the MU 'B' squad with a 1-over 73 before shooting an even-par 72 in the final round for a 145.

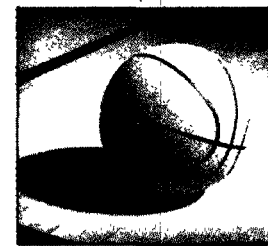
Myers tied with Davenport's Jorge Benitel (74-71-145), but lost on the first

playoff hole for individual medalist honors.

For the Madonna 'A' squad, senior Dave Goad (Allen Park) tied for fifth with a 72-75-147 followed by junior Erik Taurence (Wyandotte), tied for ninth (76-73-149); along with junior Drew Mossioan (Livonia Stevenson), 75-75-150.

Rounding out the MU 'B' team scorers included juniors Benjamin Gawronski (Hartland), 78-74 and Billy Teer (Grand Blanc), 80-72-152, tied for 15th with 152 totals; junior Joe Parker (Walled Lake Northern), 75-79-154, 17th; sophomore Nick Corbeil (New Boston Huron), 78-77-155, tied for 19th; and junior Kevin Robinson (Livonia Churchill), 84-75-159, tied for 29th.

The Crusaders now look to the 2013 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Championship Monday to open the 54-hole event at Stonewater Country Club in Grand Rapids.



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Pedal to metal

Streaking Madonna sweeps Davenport

Scoring with two outs was the story Monday as the Madonna University baseball team swept a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header from visiting Davenport University at Ilitch Ballpark, 9-5 and 12-6.

The Crusaders got two hits and two RBI from Justin Cook in Game One, while Steve Pelletier, Victor Barron and John Lauro contributed two hits apiece.

Matthew Cook and Jeff Beckles also collected two RBI each as the Crusaders overcame a 4-1 deficit with five runs in the fifth inning.

Winning pitcher Peter Renaud (3-1) gave up five earned runs on 11 hits and three walks in five innings. Reliever Dan Stoney (Canton) held the Panthers scoreless over the final 3.1 innings on just two hits.

Jotham Woo went 3-for-5 with three RBI for Davenport, while starter Michael Clutterbuck (4-4) took the loss.

In Game Two, homers by Lauro and Beckles keyed a 14-hit attack as the Crusaders improved to 23-7 overall and 10-1 in the WHAC.

Barron went 3-for-4 with an RBI, while Donny Holland added two hits and two RBI. Lauro had a 3-run blast.

Evan Piechota (Livonia Stevenson), in relief of starter Justin Hicks, pitched 3.1 scoreless innings to improve to 3-0. Davenport (23-12, 8-6) got two hits and

two RBI from Edward Grochowalski. Starter Danny Sullivan (5-2) took the loss.

MADONNA 5-7, CORNERSTONE 4-6: A pair of one-run victories Saturday at chilly Ilitch Ballpark enabled Madonna University (21-7, 8-1) to complete its sweep of a four-game WHAC series against visiting Cornerstone University (11-19, 6-9).

Justin Cook's walk-off homer in the bottom of the 10th inning gave the Crusaders a 5-4 victory in Game One over the Golden Eagles.

MU also captured the nightcap, 7-6, as Matt Cook went 2-for-3 and hit a solo homer. Justin Cook went 2-for-3 with three RBI to help support Matt Cook's effort.

Victor Barron also contributed two hits. Evan Piechota (Livonia Stevenson), who took over in the sixth inning for starter Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn), pitched two scoreless innings to up his record to 2-0.

Cornerstone reliever Kyle Marburger (2-1) took the loss, while Zach Haribson went 2-for-4 and Davis Martin added two RBI.

In Game One, MU outthit Cornerstone, 10-8, as Barron, Justin Cook and Alex Charles each collected two hits and an RBI. Shane Dokey also went 2-for-4.

Madonna starter Jeremy Gooding went the first six innings, allowing three earned runs on six hits. He walked five and struck out seven.

Travis Schuba went the next 2.2 innings holding Cornerstone scoreless before Randall Stempel (1-0) came on in the ninth to get the final out and fanned three of the four batters he faced to get the victory.

Cornerstone reliever Brandon Willard (2-3), who pitched the final two innings after coming on for starter Cullen Montgomery, took the loss.

Tyler Krahn and Zack Meyer each had two hits for the Golden Eagles.

New Crusader



MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION | PHOTO

Livonia Stevenson senior Karlie Gallagher recently signed an NAIA letter-of-intent to run cross country at Madonna University. "There is nobody I could thank more than my family for always supporting me in everything that I do," said Gallagher, a second-team All-Observer pick. "I'm also very thankful for all of my coaches and mentors who have pushed me to not only be the best athlete I could be, but also to be the best person I could be. If it weren't for them, I would not be where I am today. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity of being a college student-athlete at Madonna."

BOYS GOLF RESULTS

FARMINGTON INVITATIONAL BOYS GOLF TOURNAMENT April 18 at Farm. Hills G.C. BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Rochester Stoney Creek, 318 strokes; 2. (tie) Saline and Rochester Adams, 322 each; 4. (tie) Northville and Howell, 326 each; 6. Farmington, 329; 7. Canton, 331; 7. North Farmington, 332; 8. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 335; 9. (tie) South Lyon and Northville, 336 each; 13. Birmingham Groves, 338; 14. Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day, 348; 15. Livonia Churchill, 348; 16. Bloomfield Hills Andover, 352; 17. Troy Athens, 354; 18. West Bloomfield, 359; 19. Berkeley, 360; 20. Walled Lake Northern, 364; 21. (tie) Auburn Hills Avondale and Clarkston Everest Collegiate, 365 each; 23. Royal Oak, 367; 24. Royal Oak, 367; 25. Dearborn, 275; 26. Farmington Harrison,

380; 27. West Bloomfield Jewish Academy, 396. **Individual tri-medalists:** Donnie Troser (Canton), Eric Busa (Adams) and Rishi Patel (Country Day), 74 each. **Farmington scorers:** 9. Mat LeGault, 78; 30. (tie) Matt Gold and Conner Greenlee, 83 each; 46. Nick Heffron, 85; 101. Grant Newton, 96. **Canton scorers:** 1. Donnie Troser, 74; 36. Tyler McMahan, 84; 52. Alex Champagne, 86; 59. Brent Perry, 87; 90. Justin Legel, 93. **North Farmington scorers:** 9. Austin Alexander, 78; 17. Jon Pierret, 80; 59. (tie) Matt Golden and Ryan Masell, 87 each; 72. Neal Kedharnath, 88. **Churchill scorers:** 46. Brian Sexton, 85; 52. Sam Spayd, 86; 59. Doug Simpson, 87; 79. Alec Kondrath, 90; 108. Chad Macor-

kindale, 108. **Harrison scorers:** 30. Kyle Coscarelli, 83; 101. Malik Morgan, 96; 104. Eric Chappell, 97; 122. Mike Girard, 104; 129. L.T. Tucker, 113. **DUAL MATCH RESULTS GARDEN CITY 169 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 169 (GC wins tiebreaker) April 12 at Westland Municipal G.C. Garden City scorers:** Justin Swisher, 39 (medalist); Mike Maiden, 40; Justin Bastion, 44; Sean Hackman, 46; Joe Pummill, 47; Chad Berger, 49. **John Glenn scorers:** Steven White and Josh Wakeford, 490 each; Nick Doupe, 40 each; Travis Sharpe, 44; Andy Snyder, 51. **Dual match records:** Garden City, 1-0 overall; John Glenn, 0-1 overall.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL
Monday, April 22
 S. Lyon at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Salem at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 S.L. East at Glenn, 4 p.m.
 Annapolis at Cville, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
 Bapt. Pk. at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
 Huron Valley at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
 Plymth. at Churchill (2), 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin (2), 4 p.m.
 S. Lyon at Stevenson (2), 4 p.m.
 Glenn at Canton (2), 4 p.m.
 Cville at Robichaud, 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
 Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Cville at Truman, 4:30 p.m.
 Calvary at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
 Luth. South at HVL, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26
 Churchill at Dearborn, 4 p.m.
 Crestwood at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at W. Bloom, 4:30 p.m.
 S'field Chr. at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 (all double-headers)
 Edsel Ford at Franklin, 11 a.m.
 Thurston at Glenn, 11 a.m.
 W.L. Cent. at Stevenson, 11 a.m.
 Annapolis at L. W'sld, 11 a.m.
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Monday, April 22
 S. Lyon at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Salem at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 S.L. East at Glenn, 4 p.m.
 Ladywood at Marian (2), 4 p.m.
 Annapolis at Cville, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
 Liggett at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
 S'field Chr. at HVL, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
 Plymth. at Churchill (2), 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin (2), 4 p.m.
 S. Lyon at Stevenson (2), 4 p.m.
 Glenn at Canton (2), 4 p.m.
 Cville at Robichaud, 4 p.m.
 Clawson at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
 Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
 Luth. W'sld at HVL, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26
 Churchill at Dearborn, 4 p.m.

Crestwood at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Cville at Truman, 4:30 p.m.
 S'field Chr. at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 Macomb Classic, 9 a.m.
 New Boston Huron Inv., 9 a.m.
 Lake Orion Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Chelsea Invitational, 10 a.m.
 Annap. at L. W'sld (2), 11 a.m.
Sunday, April 28
 Macomb Classic, 9 a.m.
GIRLS SOCCER
Monday, April 22
 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
 Luth. W'sld vs. S'field Christian at Pebble Creek Park, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Glenn, 4 p.m.
 DC at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
 Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
 Franklin at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Calvary at L. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at S.L. East, 6 p.m.
 Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 26
 Glenn at Belleville, 4 p.m.
 RU at Luth. Westland, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Churchill, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 Lady. at Williamston, 9 a.m.
 Steve. at Troy Athens, 1 p.m.
BOYS & GIRLS TRACK
Monday, April 22
 Regina at Ladywood, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
 Churchill at Canton, 3:30 p.m.
 Plymouth at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at S. Lyon, 3:30 p.m.
 Cville at Robichaud, 3:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Glenn, 3:45 p.m.
 Luth. Westland Quad, 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
 Livonia City Boys Meet at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
 Public Schools of Livonia Girls Inv. at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26
 N.F. Raider Relays, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 Crestwood Charger Inv., 9 a.m.
GIRLS TENNIS
Monday, April 22
 Churchill at Harrison, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23

Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
 Plymouth at Glenn, 3 p.m.
 Ladywood vs. Cranbrook at Schoolcraft College, 4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
 Ladywood vs. Riv. Gab. Richard at Schoolcraft College, 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
 Stevenson at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 26
 Frank. at Garden City, 3:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Belleville, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 Howell Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Livonia City Quad at Stevenson, 9 a.m.
BOYS GOLF
Monday, April 22
 Seaholm Invitational, TBA. Chuchill vs. Plymouth at Fox Hills G.C., 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
 Franklin vs. Wayne at Idyl Wyld G.C., 3 p.m.
 Stevenson vs. South Lyon at Fox Creek G.C., 3 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
 Churchill vs. Franklin at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m.
Friday, April 26
 Livonia City Tournament at Fox Creek G.C., 3 p.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Monday, April 22
 Ladywood at Regina, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
 Lady. at N.D. Prep, 7:30 p.m.
COLLEGE BASEBALL (all double-headers)
Sunday, April 21
 MU at N'western Ohio, 1 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
 Concordia at MU, 2 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 MU at Lourdes (Ohio), 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 28
 MU at Lourdes (Ohio), 1 p.m.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL (all double-headers)
Sunday, April 21
 Aquinas at MU, 1 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
 Siena Heights at MU, 1 p.m.

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DIERKER
 Continued from page B1

Dierker, who competes in track and soccer for the Rocks, is the second member of Madonna's recruiting 2013 class, following Trenton forward-center Dan Hall.

"We're really excited about Chris coming in," Emehiser said. "He is a big, strong, very athletic player. I think he's underrated in terms of what people think he can do as a skill-type player. But we've been really impressed with him as a person as much as a player."

Emehiser, who guided MU to its first-ever Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference crown and trip the NAIA Division II National Tournament, envisions Dierker making an impact in the paint and all over the court — just as he did at Salem.

"We see him playing a forward position for us," Emehiser said. "Somebody that can face up and attack the rim off the dribble, crash the boards and get up the floor really well."
 "He hopefully can add a dimension not only in transition, but also in the half-court."

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Off the tracks

MU softball team derailed by Wolves

All good things must come to an end. That was the case Wednesday afternoon at King Boring Field as the Madonna University women's softball team had its nine-game winning streak snapped by University of Michigan-Dearborn, 5-2.

The second-place Crusaders fell to 25-13 overall and 7-2 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, a half a game behind Cornerstone.

MU posted just three hits in the setback with senior shortstop Arielle Cox hitting a homer in the fifth inning.

Junior first baseman Erin Mayes and sophomore Karleigh Creighton (North Farmington) recorded the other two MU hits off UM-Dearborn starter Erika Southworth, who went all five innings in a game that was called due to lightning and rain.

MU sophomore right-hander Bree Crampton (13-8), who allowed four runs on nine hits while fanning five, suffered the loss before giving way to reliever Carlee Meek, who gave up a run on two hits in two-thirds of an inning.

MU took a 1-0 lead after half an inning as freshman second baseman Emma Cook reached on a one-out error before moving to third on a Mayes single and coming home on a ground out that gave the Crusaders their only lead of the game.

The Wolves tied the game in the third on a RBI single by Michelle Hollister and added three more runs in the fourth on a three-run pinch hit homer by Brittany Webb for a 4-1 advantage.

MU answered with fifth on Cox's

homer, but the Wolves responded with another run in the bottom of the inning for the 5-2 final.

Shortstop Lindsay Taylor (3-for-3) and center fielder Maria Rodriguez (2-for-2) paced the Wolves, who racked up 11 hits.

Webb drove in three runs for the 5-29 Wolves who earned their first WHAC victory in 11 starts.

MADONNA 12-7, LOURDES (OHIO) 0-2: Erin Mayes enjoyed a big day at the plate knocking in seven runs to lift the Crusaders (25-12, 7-1) to a sweep of a double-header last Sunday against visiting Lourdes University of Ohio (5-17, 2-4).

The junior first baseman from Ida, who also earned WHAC Player of the Week honors, belted a pair of homers, including an inside-the-park round tripper.

In Game One, the Crusaders put up 11 runs over the first three innings as Mayes went 3-for-3 with three RBI.

Caitlyn Keuvelaar went 2-for-3 with two RBI, while Arielle Cox collected two hits and Carlee Meek also knocked in a pair of runs.

Winning pitcher Bree Crampton allowed just one hit and two walks in the five-inning mercy. She struck out eight.

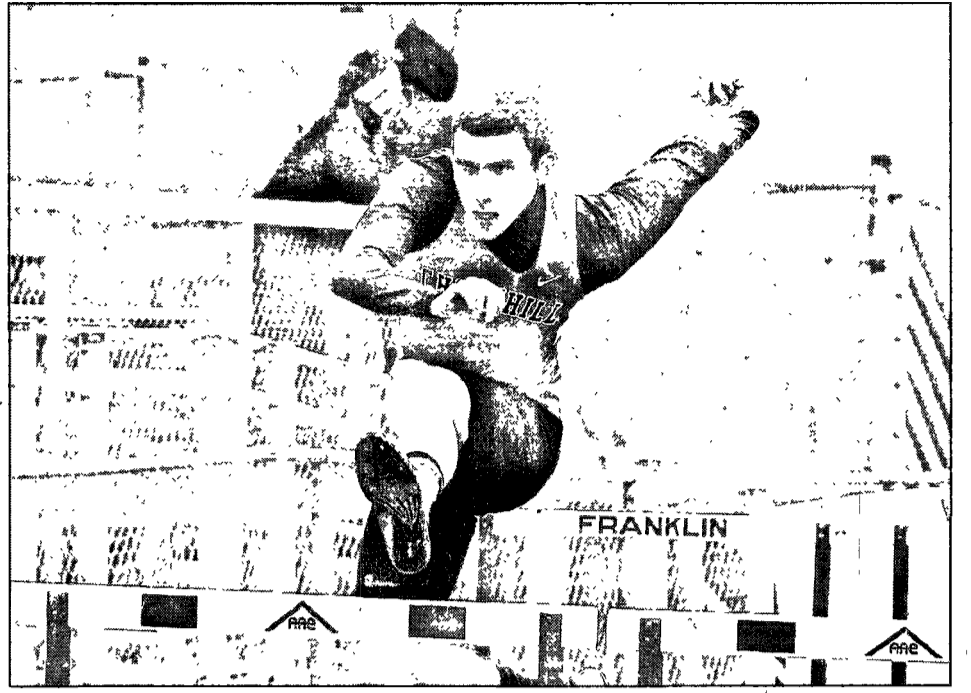
Taylor Derr had the lone hit for the Grey Wolves, while starter Casey Cherry (3-7) took the loss.

In Game Two, Mayes went 2-for-4, including her fifth and sixth homers of the season, to go along with four RBI as the Crusaders collected a total of 12 hits.

Amber Rafko also went 2-for-4 with two RBI, while Emma Cook, Kristen Drabek and Keuvelaar also added two hits apiece.

Crampton, in relief of starter of Carlee Meek, pitched 2.2 scoreless innings to improve her record to 13-7. Meek struck out four, walked one and did not allow a hit.

Starter Kasey Graham (2-10) took the loss for Lourdes, while Hayley Roberts went 2-for-3 and knocked in two runs.



GARY SHATTER

Churchill's Jonny Shatter sails through his leg in the shuttle hurdle relays during Saturday's Patriot Relays at Livonia Franklin. The Chargers took first in 1:06.3.

BOYS TRACK RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA CHURCHILL 107 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 30 April 16 at Churchill

Shot put: 1. Zack Barrick (LC), 42 feet, 7 inches; 2. Nick Najarian (LC), 37-7; 3. Demarco McKinney (LC), 37-4.

Discus: 1. McKinney (LC), 116-2; 2. Barrick (LC), 112-4; 3. Najarian (LC), 104-10.

High jump: 1. Parys Brown (LC), 5-7; 2. Micah Orr (WJG), 5-4; 3. Robert Foster (LC), 5-2.

Long jump: 1. Robert Foster (LC), 16-9; 2. Leon Crawford (WJG), 16-3; 3. Freddie Thompson (WJG), 16-2.

Pole vault: 1. Jake Hage (LC), 12-6; 2. Steven Fedak (LC), 10-6; 3. Caleb Guthard (LC), 10-6.

110-meter hurdles: 1. Zach Zoltowski (LC), 15.4; 2. Ryan Bragiel (LC), 16.9; 3. Kenzel Jefferson (LC), 17.1.

300 hurdles: 1. Zoltowski (LC), 43.1; 2. Jonny Shatter (LC), 45.5; 3. Bragiel (LC), 45.6

100 dash: 1. Jaron Flournoy (WJG), 11.03; 2.

Darius Lambert (LC), 11.2; 3. Hunter Rimatzki (LC), 11.3.

200: 1. Rimatzki (LC), 23.4; 2. Austin Hickerson (WJG), 23.7; 3. Brown (LC), 24.1.

400: 1. Andre Abram (LC), 55.8; 2. Eric Cheek (WJG), 56.7; 3. Derek Merschman (WJG), 57.6.

800: 1. Jewell Jones (WJG), 2:08.0; 2. Jon Alessandrini (LC), 2:10.0; 3. Jon McKeon (LC), 2:14.0.

1,600: 1. Alessandrini (LC), 4:51.0; 2. Brian Duszkiwicz (LC), 4:55.0; 3. Orr (WJG), 4:56.0.

3,200: 1. Ben Yates (LC), 10:23.0; 2. Andrew Malik (LC), 10:24.0; 3. Colin Murphy (LC), 10:28.0.

400 relay: 1. Churchill (Rimatzki, Malik Johnson, Dwayne Scott, Lambert), 45.3; **800 relay:** 1. Churchill (Sami Dada, Jefferson, Abram, Brown), 1:35.9; **1,600 relay:** 1. John Glenn (Jones, Kenyatta Mason, Merschman, Kimari Johnson), 3:44.0; **3,200 relay:** 1. Churchill (Yates, McKeon, Matt Cohan, Alessandrini), 8:41.4.

Dual meet records: Churchill, 2-0 overall, 2-0 KLA South Division; John Glenn, 0-2 overall, 0-2 KLA South.

GIRLS TENNIS RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS LIVONIA STEVENSON 7 SOUTH LYON EAST 1 April 17 at Stevenson

No. 1 singles: Aimee Moccia (LS) def. Erin Blackledge, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 2:** Caroline Hay (LS) def. Kayla Marquardt, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Laura Shureb (LS) def. Rosemary Hyrila, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 4:** Batool Hussain (LS) def. Monika Sedik, 6-2, 6-2.

No. 1 doubles: Sam DiGiovanni-Arryn Dochenetz def. Abbie Fielding-Megan Shaffer, 6-3, 6-2;

No. 2: Megan Renehan-Lea Fields (SLE) def. Josie Abdulbaki-Shelby Seay, 6-3, 6-2; **No. 3:** Maddie Chimento-Julia Grammatico (LS) led Laura Marple-Mary Hansen, 4-6, 6-2, 4-3 (suspended rain);

No. 4: Sarah Morse-Sam Cyrus (LS) def. Jennifer Green-Klersten Benninger, 6-1, 6-2; **No. 5:** Caitlin McCamant-Clairessa Smith (LS) def. Sarah Bohenkate McIntyre, 6-4, 6-2.

Stevenson's dual match record: 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLA Central Division.

CANTON 9 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0 April 16 at Canton

No. 1 singles: Maddison Johnson (C) defeated Keyarra Jackson, 6-0, 6-1; **No. 2:** Hanna Ferree (C) def. Anna Koulou, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Anna Scheppele (C) def. Makayla Hines, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 4:** Jasmine Henry (C) def. Fran Spiraralli, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Alex Madau-Sasha Gill (C) def. Leanna Carreon-Jessel Vitto, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 2:** Ajkki Cotham-Angle Distelrath (C) def. Amanda Johnson-N'Dea Berry, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Amy Dalton-Caitlin Orr (C) def. Alex Diaz-Andi Edwards, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 4:** Meilisa Karbon-Olivia Tubaro won by forfeit.

Dual meet records: Canton, 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLA South; John Glenn, 0-3 overall, 0-2 KLA South.

NORTHVILLE 8 LIVONIA STEVENSON 1 April 16 at Stevenson

No. 1 singles: Aimee Moccia (LS) defeated Emma Worley, 6-1, 6-3; **No. 2:** Reeshma Kumar (N) def. Caroline Hay, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Claudia Ma (N) def. Laura Shureb, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 4:** Alex Jeannotte (N) def. Batool Hussain, 6-1, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Anika Mulkerji-Danielle Roman (N) def. Sam DiGiovanni-Arryn Dochenetz, 6-2, 6-1;

No. 2: Elizabeth Sakorafis-Jordan Hermiz (N) def. Josie Abdulbaki-Shelby Seay, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Page Ball-Chloe Page (N) def. Maddie Chimento-Julia Grammatico, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 4:** Shannon Williams-Libby Quinn (N) def. Sarah Morse-Sam Cyrus, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 5:** Malika Sachdev-Amelia Albanelli (N) def. Caitlin McCamant-Clairessa Smith, 6-0, 6-0.

Stevenson's dual match record: 0-1 overall, 0-1 KLA Central Division.

Unfinished business

RU leads C'ville 1-0 in 5th inning

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The catchers' mitts were popping during Wednesday afternoon's baseball game between Redford Union and Livonia Clarenceville.

The bats, on the other hand, were as silent as the wind.

Starting pitchers Patrick Wierimaa (RU) and Zach Devon (Clarenceville) were throwing lightning bolts — at least until top of the fifth inning when stormy weather forced the umpires to suspend the game.

The contest will be continued prior to the two teams' regularly scheduled game at Clarenceville on May 13.

Redford Union leads, 1-0, thanks in large part to the wiry but hard-throwing Wierimaa, who whiffed nine Trojans in just 4.1 innings.

Devon was equally nasty, striking out nine Panthers in his four innings of work.

"I thought both the pitchers threw extremely well," said RU head coach Bob Miller, who was making his home debut. "You could tell from the first inning on — from the way they were both throwing — that it was going to be a 1-0 or 2-1 type game."

Miller said that given the unusually limited time high school teams have spent outside this spring, it's not unusual to see good pitchers dominate.

"The pitchers have an advantage over the hitters at this point in the season because they've been able to throw off a mound indoors for quite a while," he said. "The batters, though, haven't really been able to face live pitching that much. I know with our numbers, we

can't risk getting a pitcher hurt in practice."

Wierimaa yielded just two hits and a walk while throwing an efficient number of pitches. Clarenceville's Kyle Kis-sandi singled with one out in the second and Devon laced a one-out single in the fourth. Wierimaa responded with back-to-back strike outs in both frames.

Clarenceville's Evan Gregg led off the top of the fifth with a walk. He advanced to second on a stolen base, but was gunned down at third by RU catcher Alex Shimmons while trying to repeat the feat.

A few seconds later, umpires spotted lightning in the distance and the game was off.

RU tallied the game's lone run in the third. The Panthers loaded the bases when Corey Davis walked, Wierimaa singled and Ryan Aaro was hit by a pitch. Shimmons then ripped a one-hopper back to Devon, who fired home for the force.

The next batter, Vince Diaz, grounded into a fielder's choice, which brought home Wierimaa.

Wierimaa's hard-hit single to right was the lone hit off Devon, who struggled a bit with control as he walked four and hit a pair of Panthers.

The Panthers' defense was spot on Wednesday. In addition to Shimmons throwing out a potential base-stealer, Davis made a slick play at short, throwing out Ryan Merifee, who had topped a slow roller just past the mound.

"We've been telling the boys since day one that defense and pitching wins championships, and they did really well in both those areas today," Miller said.

MU pitching trio blanks Saints

The Madonna University baseball team beat the rain en route to a double-header sweep of visiting Siena Heights University at Ilitch Ballpark, 5-0 and 8-0.

With the two shutouts, the Crusaders improved to 25-7 overall and 12-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. MU has now won 13 of its last 14 games.

Twins Matthew and Justin Cook combined to keep SHU (8-23, 5-13) off of the scoreboard for nine innings in Game One, while Josh Vandemark blanked the Saints for the six innings in a game that was called following a 58-

minute rain delay.

Matthew Cook (5-0) allowed just five hits while walking two and striking out four over eight innings. Justin Cook came on to get the final three outs.

Saints starter Jake Sperry (Westland John Glenn), who gave up three earned runs on eight hits in five innings, suffered the loss to fall to 1-3.

Jeff Beckles and Victor Barron each collected two hits and an RBI, while Justin Cook also knocked in two runs.

Kyle Benschoter had two hits for Siena Heights.

In Game Two, Vandemark (4-1) struck out 10 and allowed just three hits during his six-inning stint to pick up the win.

Lead-off batter Shane Dokey went 2-for-3 with two RBI, while Steve Pelletier (Farmington Harrison), Barron, Justin Cook and John Lauro posted an RBI apiece.

MU's scheduled WHAC double-header Saturday against the University of Northwestern Ohio was called off because of inclement weather.

The two teams were scheduled to go again at 1 p.m. Sunday in Sylvania, Ohio.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Tim Shaw camp

The fourth annual Tim Shaw "Dream it, Do it" Football Camp (grades four-12) will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 15, at Clarenceville High School.

The linebacker and special teams player for the Tennessee Titans, a former Clarenceville and Penn State standout, will host the free camp assisted by current and former NFL and college players, along with area coaches.

The camp is open to the first 150 registrants (includes T-shirt).

To register, visit www.timshawfootball.com.

For more information, e-mail johnshawfamily@gmail.com.

Summer kickball

Wayne Westland Parks and Recreation will offer summer co-ed kickball leagues on Thursdays starting the week of June 10 at Anderson Ball Fields

(Atwood Park) in Wayne.

The season includes 10 games, plus playoffs with a limit of 12 teams per night. Game times are 6:25, 7:35, 8:45 and 9:55 p.m.

Registration will be April 15 through June 3. The cost is \$200 per team.

All teams must register at the Wayne Community Center. (A managers meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, June 10 at the Wayne Community Center.

For more information, call (734) 721-7400; or visit www.cityofwestland.com (click on parks and recreation, then athletics).

Collins outing

The first Nick Collins Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing will be Saturday, May 11, at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 Seven Mile, Livonia.

A four-year member of both the Stevenson High golf and football programs, Collins died

last summer of bacterial meningitis after returning home following his freshman year at Central Michigan University.

The cost is \$75 per person (includes lunch, 18 holes and cart). Lunch only is \$20, while hole sponsorships are available for \$100.

Registration begins at 7 a.m. followed by a shotgun start (four-person scramble) at 8 a.m. A general raffle and lunch follows at 12:30 p.m.

The registration deadline is April 27.

To obtain a flier, visit www.golflivonia.com or www.livonia-publicschools.org.

For more information, e-mail Jim Omietanski at james_omietanski@att.net or call (734) 542-0776.

Miles for Mankind

The first-annual Miles for Mankind Run 5-kilometer, 10k and Munchkin Mile will Satur-

day, May 11 at the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park in Westland.

All proceeds from the event, spearheaded by Plymouth Christian Academy junior Adam Powlus and his family, will go to provide education for poverty-stricken children in Guatemala.

Fees to run (effective through May 3) are \$35 for the 10k, \$30 for the 5k and \$20 for the Munchkin Mile. Fees will go up \$5 beginning May 4 until race day.

Special guest will be Buddy Shuh of The Biggest Loser.

To download a registration form, visit www.milesformankind.com.

For more information, email milesformankind@gmail.com.

Coaching jobs

Livonia Ladywood High School has coaching vacancies for a girls varsity pom pon and varsity swimming for the fall

2013 season, along with a girls freshman basketball coach for the 2013-13 winter season.

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

Senior softball

A newly formed team in the 65-and-over Western Wayne County Suburban Softball League is seeking slow-pitch players the summer season, which runs from May through August.

Games will be played at 10 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays in the Livonia, Canton and Westland areas.

The league is governed by ASA senior slow-pitch rules. A nominal fee will be assessed to cover incidental team and league expenses.

Call Bob Mosher (734) 502-7477 or Doug Curry at (248) 767-0828.

Game 1: Knights ice Whalers, 2-1 Goalies star in opener

The London Knights drew first blood Friday night in their Ontario Hockey League Western Conference Finals playoff series against the Plymouth Whalers.

Left winger Remi Elie's unassisted goal – his third of the playoffs – at the 15:06 mark of the second period proved to be the difference as the host Knights took Game One, 2-1, before 9,046 fans at Budweiser Gardens.

Ryan Rupert's fourth goal of the playoffs from Brett Welychka and Seth Griffith with just six seconds remaining in the first period staked the Knights to a 1-0 advantage.

Plymouth defenseman Connor Carrick then answered with his second at the 13:57 mark of the season period from Stefan Noesen to make it 1-

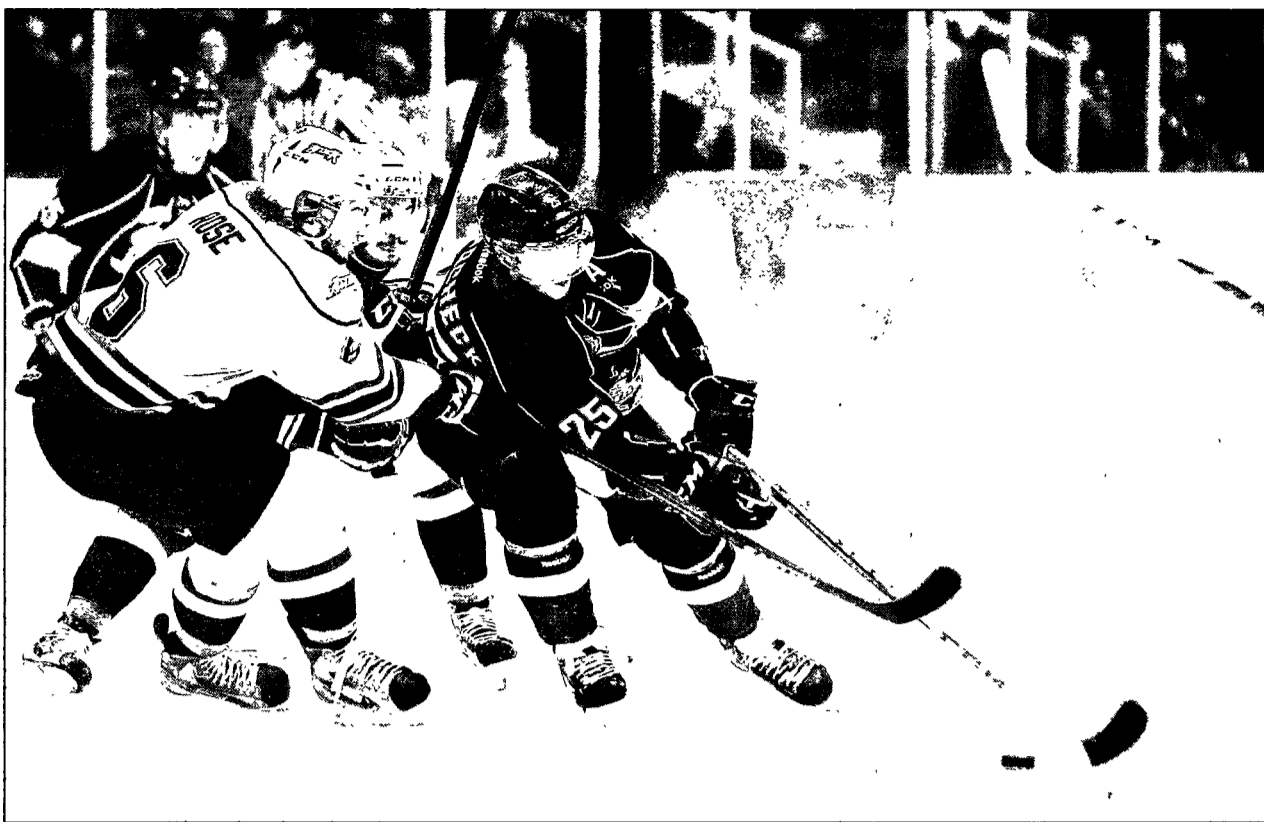
all. The Whalers, however, couldn't take advantage of six power play opportunities in the game, while London went 0-for-2.

London had nine penalties (for 21 minutes) to the Whalers' five (for 13 minutes).

Knights goaltender Anthony Stolarz, who stopped 32-of-33 Whaler shots, was named the game's first star followed by Plymouth netminder Alex Nedeljkovic, who made 29 saves.

Elie was voted the third star.

Game Two of the best-of-seven game series will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at Budweiser Gardens, while Games Three and Four will start at 7:05 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

London will need to stop Plymouth's Vince Trocheck (No. 25) in the OHL Western Conference finals. Trocheck, shown here last series against Owen Sound, enters Friday's game against the Knights with 21 points in 10 playoff games — the most in the league.

Whalers' MacDonald eyes the prize in homecoming

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Even though Plymouth Whalers defenseman and captain Colin MacDonald hails from London, Ont., don't expect him to be worrying about visiting friends and family this weekend.

That's because MacDonald's team has some hockey business to attend to beginning this weekend in London, when the Ontario Hockey League Western Conference Finals gets underway. The teams played the opener on Friday and will skate in Game 2 at 2 p.m. Sunday.

The last time the Whalers went this far was 2007, also against London. That year, the Whalers won the OHL championship.

"I think it's a little bigger for my family," said MacDonald, asked about returning to his hometown for the series during

last week's OHL media conference call. "For me it's just another playoff series where we need to win.

"I'm looking forward to it and it's cool that it's in London, but mainly (I'm) just looking forward to starting the conference finals."

All signs point to a high-flying, entertaining series between the top two teams in the conference. London registered 105 points for No. 1 honors while the Whalers tallied 93 to win the West Division.

Plymouth coach/GM Mike Vellucci and his London counterpart, former NHL player and coach Dale Hunter, have enough talent to easily roll four forward lines and three defensive pairings.

"Well they're the New York Yankees of the OHL," said Vellucci, describing the Knights. "They're the top team

every year and they're going to obviously very competitive. They have a tough building, 9,100 people every night, and it's going to be tough.

"... There's skill on both teams and it's going to be entertaining for the fans to watch the skill out there. We expect nothing but a great series."

New-wave Whalers
MacDonald and his teammates arrive in London brimming with confidence following a torrid second half.

The Whalers lost three of four meetings against the Knights, the last one a 4-1 loss on Dec. 29 at Compuware.

But the tables turned soon thereafter.

Vellucci acquired eventual OHL scoring champion Vince Trocheck (109 points) in early January.

Around that time, he handed the goaltending reigns to rookie Alex Nedeljkovic (2.28, 19-2-1, .923).

Plymouth then played Knights-like hockey the rest of the way right through the first two rounds of the playoffs against Sarnia and Owen Sound.

"He's a pretty confident kid," said MacDonald about the 17-year-old Nedeljkovic. "He's a good goalie and he's good for the D in front of him.

"We have confidence in him, that he's going to make those stops that you need, and overall he's just a great kid."

So does Vellucci, who also has a solid netminding option in veteran Matt Mahalak.

"We watched him (Nedeljkovic) with Belle Tire last year, he's from Cleveland, our goalie coach has worked with him before and knew a lot about him," Vellucci said. "We knew he was good, and it doesn't matter your age. If you can play, you can play."

"He's just got that calming demeanor to him, he doesn't get rattled. We've seen goalies like that come through this league before."

Intangibles help

If there ever was an area that might test that demeanor it's the Budweiser Gardens, filled every night with more than 9,000 fans.

"We played there

before and we played in a tough building at Owen Sound," Vellucci said. "Even though there's not 9,100 it's a very loud and electric place."

"It's really going to come down to what we do on the ice. We can prepare for that and most of our guys have already played there (London). So I think that part of it is not going to be too big of a factor."

MacDonald said the Whalers have intangibles along with talent.

"We've got a really hard-working team," MacDonald noted. "I think the character in the room shows and we had a hard-fought series against Owen Sound and came out victorious."

He added that it also helps that the players "come to the rink ready to work, ready to play every day and have good practices every day. We got a tight-knit group and everyone hangs out off the ice and I think that helps towards what we put on the ice, so it's been great so far."

Of course, being able to deliver the goods doesn't hurt, either.

They could be key

During the second half and first two playoff rounds, the Whalers have featured a powerful offense with forwards Trocheck, Stefan Noesen, Tom Wilson and Rickard Rakell to name a few.

Yet Vellucci concurred several other so-called "under-the-radar" players could prove to be major factors in how the series unfolds.

"On our side nobody (in the media) talks about Mitchell Heard that much, or Matt Mistele, or Garrett Meurs," Vellucci said. "... And our defense never gets the recognition it deserves. All of them deserve recognition."

"They played well and I think if our defense and those three forwards I talked about have good series we should be OK."

The Whalers, in addition to MacDonald, are strong on defense with veterans such as Austin Levi and Nick Malyssa plus first-year players Connor Carrick and Gianluca Curcuruto.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

"We had a great practice after our Franklin match (1-1 tie). We worked on our offense and it came to fruition. We made some adjustments at halftime. We moved our forward up and played really well. We had some great finishes, hits some posts and had a lot of pressure."

Alexis Tzafaroglou went most of the way in goal for the Chargers, but back-up Christina Vkratsis made a clutch save late in the match on a breakaway to preserve the shutout.

FRANKLIN, 1 W.L. WESTERN O: Goalkeeper Andrea Schweitzer made eight saves to earn the shutout and Shanon Murphy tallied the game-winning goal Friday as

host Livonia Franklin (2-2-1) defeated Walled Lake Western (3-2-1) in a non-leaguer. Murphy's goal, her third of the season, came with 7:50 left in the first half off an assist from Jessica Maurer.

"Jessica played a great ball on the keeper, slid the ball over and Shannon tapped it in," Franklin coach Dean Kowalski said. "And it was a great individual effort by Andrea (Schweitzer). She's improving every game and is becoming a leader."

Franklin was also bolstered by the return to the lineup by Janes Modes and Maurer, both coming off injuries.

"It was a total team performance and I'm happy with the result," said Kowalski, whose team returns to action at 7 p.m. Monday at home against Plymouth, the No. 1 ranked team in Division 1.

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Gymnasts vault to the top with 'all-around' skills

DIVISION 1

Carina Wright, Fr., Farm. United: Wright had an outstanding freshman season, earning Division 1 all-state honors in three events and the all-around. At the state meet, she was third overall (37.375), third on vault (9.575), fourth on beam (9.35) and tied for fourth on floor (9.6).

She helped her team win a regional championship by placing fifth on vault (9.15), sixth on bars (8.75), ninth on beam (8.65), second on floor (9.8) and fourth in the all-around (36.30).

"It is truly remarkable what Carina did as a freshman this year," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She was all-state in several events, including the all-around competition. To do this at such a young age bodes well for her and our program. If she stays hungry, she can leave a mark in the record books in years to come."

Melissa Green, Jr., Canton: The junior tri-captain and Canton co-MVP continued to excel as the Chiefs' highest scoring, most consistent gymnast, according to coach John Cunningham.

At the D1 individual finals at Plymouth, the Elite All-American Gymnast medaled in four of five events.

Green tied for sixth on balance beam with teammate Maddie Toal (9.3) and took fourth on floor (9.6) and all-around (37.25).

That across-the-board performance followed similar success the previous week at the individual regionals where Green was champion in Division 1 on vault with a 9.4 and medaled in the other four events.

"Melissa has continued to be our consistent high scorer and a prime reason for our success," Cunningham said.

Jocelyn Moraw, Soph., Canton: Only a sophomore, Moraw already has collected a number of major accomplishments including a Division 1 state championship on beam with a 9.55 at the individual finals at Plymouth High School.

Moraw also earned all-state honors on uneven parallel bars (third, 9.7) and in all-around (37.25) despite dealing with groin and back injuries.

"Jocelyn Moraw was the team inspiration," said Cunningham, following the March 9 individual finals. "Taping up a strained groin and back, finishing (team finals the previous day) and coming back the next day and winning a state championship."

"What a gutsy, fantastic display of fortitude." Moraw registered Division 1 individual regional championships on bars (9.2), floor exercise (9.725) and all-around (37.15) and medaled in the other events.

In recognition of her season, the tri-captain and Elite All-American Gymnast earned Canton's co-MVP award.

Katie Kretzschmar, Sr., Livonia Red: After taking a year off, the senior earned all-state honors twice with an eighth on balance beam (9.275) and 10th on bars (9.075) at the state meet.

She earned a spot in the state finals by taking second on bars (9.15) and fourth on beam (8.75) at the regional.

In the KLAA meet, Kretzschmar placed sixth on beam (9.2) and ninth on bars (8.4).

An ankle injury kept Kretzschmar from competing on vault this season.

"Katie works extremely hard when she practices," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "She shows great strength and focus. Passion for the sport of gymnastics is what Katie holds close to her heart. She was an exceptional teammate acting as a great role model for the other gymnasts. Motivation and encouragement are two characteristics that she demonstrated."

Kretzschmar, also named an academic all-stater, carries a 3.69 grade-point average and plans to pursue nursing at Oakland University.

Maddie Toal, Fr., Canton: Yet another Canton freshman to make a quick impact, Toal earned Elite All-American Gymnast honors for top-notch performances all



Carina Wright
Farmington
United



Melissa Green
Canton



Jocelyn Moraw
Canton



Katie
Kretzschmar
Livonia Red



Maddie Toal
Canton



Nicole Lasecki
Canton



Meredith Jonik
Farmington
United



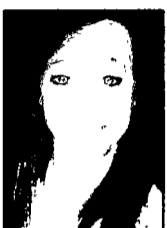
Erica Lucas
Canton



Bri Rhoad
Livonia Blue



Hailey
Hodgson
Canton



Brittany
Ramirez
Salem



Andrea
Merlotti
Salem



Samantha
Fontana
Plymouth



Marissa
Lapinsky
Farmington
United



Alyssa
Millinoff
Farmington
United



Jamie Jasinski
Livonia Blue

season in multiple events.

Also named the Chiefs' "Rookie of the Year," Toal qualified for the state individual finals in all events, highlighted at the regionals with her championship in Division 1 on beam with a 9.55. She also finished second in all-around at regionals with a 36.025.

At the finals, she medaled on beam with a sixth-place finish of 9.3 (shared with teammate Melissa Green).

"Maddie started the season strong with scores in the high nines on beam and added great scores on floor and bars," Cunningham said.

Nicole Lasecki, Sr., Canton: The senior co-captain and Elite All-American Gymnast capped off a superb prep career with the Chiefs, earning all-state status on balance beam with a 10th-place mark of 9.25 at the D1 state finals. Lasecki and her teammates were consistently stellar en route to winning the division, conference and team regionals before finishing second at the team finals to Grand Ledge for the second season in a row.

At the D1 team regionals, in Division 1, Lasecki placed third on beam and floor (9.225) and fourth in the all-around with 35.65.

Another impressive performance for Lasecki was at the Canton Invitational, where she finished second in Division 2 on uneven parallel bars with a tally of 8.95.

"Nicole captained her team to its second undefeated season, medaling at States and every big meet," Cunningham said.

In May, Lasecki will travel to nationals with the Michigan team.

DIVISION 2

Meredith Jonik, Jr., Farm. United: Jonik overcame an injury that caused her to miss two months of the season. She returned in time for the regional and had a successful conclusion, earning all-state and all-area honors for the third year in a row.

Jonik was fourth in the Division 2 all-around at the state meet with a 36.075 total. She also was all-state on beam (fifth, 9.15) and floor (tied for sixth, 9.30).

Jonik is a regional champion on vault (9.10) and beam (9.35); she also was fifth on floor (9.075) and fifth in the all-around (34.525).

"Meredith is a true competitor who does well in pressure situations," Dwyer said. "She did an incredible job this season by performing difficult routines when most athletes might have quit."

Erica Lucas, Jr., Canton: Injuries did not slow Lucas as she extended her undefeated streak on vault to two seasons - capped off with

her second consecutive championship in Division 2 with a score of 9.525.

Lucas, an Elite All-American Gymnast and elected tri-captain for next year, also was all-state on uneven parallel bars and all-around with marks of 8.725 and 35.15, respectively.

At the individual regionals, she was champion on vault with a 9.35 and tied for second on bars (with Salem's Brittany Ramirez and Andrea Merlotti) and took second in all-around.

Cunningham lauded Lucas for the way she came back from a foot injury "to improve dramatically on every event."

Bri Rhoad, Fr., Livonia Blue: The ninth-grader finished sixth in the Division 2 vault (9.25) at the state finals and was seventh in the all-around (35.425).

Rhoad's high scores of the year included 9.5 (vault); 9.3 (uneven bars), 9.525 (beam) and 9.35 (floor).

Rhoad tied for fourth in the all-around at the regional thanks to a third (vault); seventh (floor); eighth (uneven bars); and 11th (beam).

"Bri came into high school gymnastics with many skills and determination to grow even more," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Broomfield said.

"Bri worked hard this season growing into a high school gymnast. She is fearless when it comes to trying new skill and she is always ready to try something that other dare not. She wants her routines to stand out from the rest."

"Bri had a great first season and she continues to improve and gets stronger every day. Watching her compete this season with determination and drive makes it exciting to think about next year."

Hailey Hodgson, Fr., Canton: One of several impressive Canton freshmen, Hodgson jumped right into the fray and proved her skills all season.

"Hailey had a breakout year," Cunningham said, "especially on vault."

Her season culminated at the state individual finals with a seventh-place finish on vault in Division 2 (9.2).

Hodgson, named Canton's "Most Improved Gymnast" and an All-American Gymnast, qualified for the state meet with her third-place finish on vault at the individual regionals.

"She is one of the most dedicated, hardest-working members of the team," Cunningham said.

Brittany Ramirez, Soph., Salem: The Rocks also had a successful season, reaching the D1 team finals (having finished third at team region-

2013 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GYMNASTICS

DIVISION 1 FIRST TEAM

Carina Wright, Fr., Farm. United
Melissa Green, Jr., Canton
Jocelyn Moraw, Soph., Canton
Katie Kretzschmar, Sr., Liv. Red
Maddie Toal, Fr., Canton
Nicole Lasecki, Sr., Canton

DIVISION 2 FIRST TEAM

Meredith Jonik, Jr., Farm. United
Erica Lucas, Jr., Canton
Bri Rhoad, Fr., Liv. Blue
Hailey Hodgson, Fr., Canton
Brittany Ramirez, Soph., Salem
Andrea Merlotti, Soph., Salem
Samantha Fontana, Fr., Plymouth
Marissa Lapinsky, Sr., Farm. United
Alyssa Millinoff, Jr., Farm. United
Jamie Jasinski, Sr., Liv. Blue

SECOND TEAM

Morgan Soper Jr., Salem
Claire Saunders, Jr., Farm. United
Marissa McVey, Fr., Liv. Red
Haley Metz, Fr., Plymouth
Rebecca Simu, Fr., Plymouth
Kristina Franchi, Sr., Farm. United
Maggie McGowan, Sr., Liv. Red
Brooke Algeyer, Jr., Salem
Sierra Nathanson, Sr., Farm. United
Emily Chatterjee, Fr., Liv. Blue
Megan Campbell, Jr., Farm. United
Sarah Uhlian, Sr., Plymouth
Katie Salanga, Jr., Plymouth
Marissa Schuh, Soph., Farm. United
Jane McCurry, Sr., Plymouth

COACH OF YEAR

Pam Yockey, Plymouth

HONORABLE MENTION

Canton: Ellie Bachman, Plymouth;
Brenna Connelly, Anna Warbel, Kayla Janeveski, Emily Welch; Salem: Paulette Martino, Annie Seyfried, Maddie Burt; Livonia Blue: Jillian Zafarana, Allison White, Alex Zukowski; Livonia Red: Mallory Dorton, Sydney Grenier, Jackie Dzuirgot; Farmington United: Deanna Burns.

coach Pam Yockey said. "When we need something done she gets the job done. Her talent has not been totally tapped yet."

"She is kind, generous to her teammates, willing to step in on a minute's notice to cover a spot that has been open." The all-conference performer also is an All-American Gymnast.

Marissa Lapinsky, Sr., Farm. United: Lapinsky earned all-state recognition on the uneven parallel bars, scoring 8.65 and finishing in a tie for 10th place with teammate Alyssa Millinoff and another gymnast.

Lapinsky was a state qualifier in the Division 2 all-around, placing 20th overall with a 34.25 score. She earned a 34.675 score at the regional and was fourth in the all-around.

She also was third on bars (8.575) at the regional, fifth on beam (8.85) and 12th on floor (8.70). Lapinsky was a major contributor to Farmington United's regional victory and third-place finish in the state.

"(Lapinsky's all-state placement) is a well-deserved award for someone who has dedicated herself to the sport over the years," Dwyer said.

"As a co-captain, she was a very strong, vocal leader who helped mold the team this year. Her athleticism and leadership will be greatly missed next season."

Alyssa Millinoff, Jr., Farm. United: Millinoff achieved all-state status on the uneven parallel bars, sharing 10th place with teammate Marissa Lapinsky and one other gymnast, each with an 8.65 score. Millinoff was a state qualifier in the Division 2 all-around. She finished in 13th place with a 34.80 total.

At the regional, she was third on vault (8.95), second on bars (8.70), fourth on beam (8.875), 11th on floor (8.80) and second in the all-around (35.325).

"She is so deserving of this (all-area) honor," Dwyer said. "She is what high school sports are all about. She is a dedicated team member who works extremely hard to improve. She has an inner spirit that just does not allow her to quit."

Jamie Jasinski, Sr., Livonia Blue: The senior captain placed seventh on the Division 2 balance beam (9.075) after tying for eighth in the regional (8.675).

"Jamie started high school gymnastics as a freshman and worked very hard each year to better herself and her skills," Broomfield said. "This was Jamie's first year making it to 'states.' Every day Jamie would come to practice ready to work and improve herself to better the team and her scores as an individual."

"I'm so proud of her for all the hard work and determination that she put into her career. Watching her grow over the four years shows that hard work and determination means anything is possible."

COACH OF YEAR

Pam Yockey, Plymouth: Under the steady guidance of the veteran coach, Plymouth enjoyed its best season yet.

The Wildcats lost only two dual meets and finished second at the D1 team regionals, ultimately finishing fifth at the team finals held at Plymouth High School.

Plymouth also set six school records averaging 141.05, qualified 19 to regionals in Divisions 1-2 and five more to the D3 regionals. On top of that, the team had eight girls

named All-American Gymnasts with senior co-captain Sarah Uhlian Elite All-American on beam.

"Nothing could have been accomplished without the closeness of the team to each other," Yockey said. "(Or without) the leadership of my captains Jane McCurry, Sarah Uhlian, Brenna Connelly and Katie Salanga as well as the help of co-coach Emily Harris."

"Each gymnast was willing to extend themselves out of their comfort zone and push themselves a little harder. I could not be prouder of any of them."



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Plymouth
coach

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Celebrate Recovery

Film introduces Christ-centered 12-step recovery program to the masses

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When John Sherman watched the new film, *Home Run*, which opened Friday, April 19, in select theaters nationwide, he saw himself in the main character portrayed on the big screen.

"I thought they stole my story," said Sherman, with a laugh.

The Farmington Hills man is director of the Celebrate Recovery ministry at Canton Connection Church. He's also the state director and senior representative for the program's North Central Region. Celebrate Recovery is a 22-year-old Christ-centered, 12-step recovery program that started at Saddleback Church in California and has since spread to other churches nationwide.

Sherman was in a meeting with other state representatives three years ago when he heard that plans for a movie that would include Celebrate Recovery, was in negotiations.

"We saw it come together over three years," he said. "I think they han-



John Sherman meets with Celebrate Recovery members at Canton Connection Church.

dled it very well."

The movie follows fictional major league baseball player, Cory Brand, as his life spirals out of control. Brand, haunted by his past, which includes an abusive father, is an alcoholic and has anger issues. After he is suspended from his team, his agent insists that he return to his hometown in Oklahoma to attend Celebrate Recovery meetings and to coach a youth baseball team.

Scenes throughout the movie show Brand in Celebrate Recovery group

meetings where he listens to personal testimonies from other group members.

"It wasn't by mistake that they chose Celebrate Recovery for the film," Sherman said. "One of the producers, Carol Mathews, goes to a church where her pastor had been through a Celebrate Recovery step study."

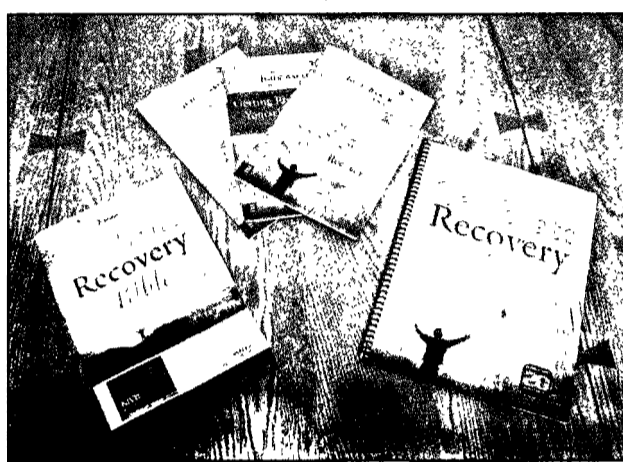
Realistic portrayal

After hearing a testimony at church, Mathews put film plans in motion.

"Not only did they get interested in Celebrate



John Sherman is a staff member at Canton Connection Church in charge of the Celebrate Recovery program. He's been in recovery for alcoholism for 14 years.



Materials used in Celebrate Recovery

Recovery, but all of the writers went through Celebrate Recovery step studies to get a better feel."

That may be one reason why the testimonies, dialogue and portrayal of Celebrate Recovery meetings is "very realistic," Sherman said.

Like Brand, who is reluctant to attend the Christ-centered pro-

gram, telling his agent, "I don't want to do Jesus," Sherman also expressed doubts about Celebrate Recovery.

"I've been in recovery 14 years. I was involved in another step program for alcoholics," Sherman, married and the father of two children, was required to attend a 12-step recovery program after he was arrested for

drunk driving. "Then, about seven years ago the church I was at decided to start up a Celebrate Recovery program and asked for those who were doing a 12-step experience (such as Alcoholics Anonymous) to get involved," Sherman said. "I was skeptical. I have a strong recovery background and I didn't think it would be a strong recovery program. I thought it would be just another ministry. I thought it would be people in the church preaching to people in recovery, telling them what to do."

Sherman reluctantly attended a session and immediately agreed to join.

"I loved what I saw. I thought it was not only Christ-centered but it was good recovery. I've been in it ever since," Sherman initially joined the pro-

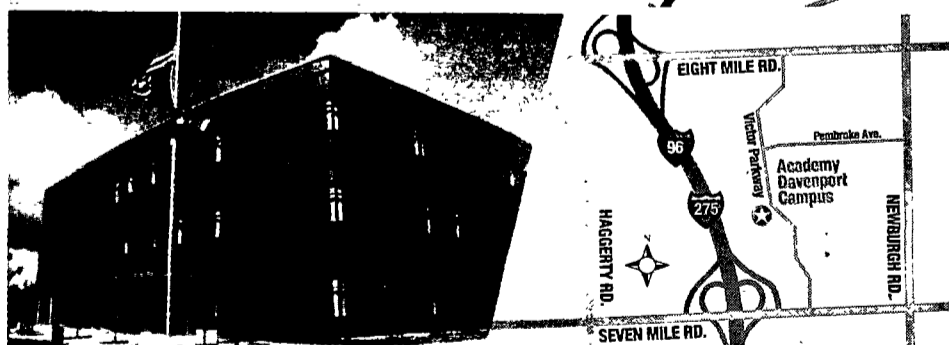
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Dignity
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Learn about developmental disabilities

By L. J. McCulloch
Guest Columnist

April has been declared National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in America. Developmental disabilities commonly include: Down syndrome, autistic spectrum disorder, and birth injuries with cognitive impairments causing mental deficiency. In my clinical work with individuals and families who have mental and physical challenges of developmental disabilities, I have met some of the happiest people that I have known. Unlike survivors of trauma, such as traumatic brain injuries and strokes, the vast majority of those with congen-

ital developmental disabilities are not aware of previously: intact functioning. Thus, they are more apt to respond favorably to interventions which deal with their present, their "here and now" issues, and their quality of life.

In Oakland and Macomb counties, such folks are largely serviced by the care of the Macomb Oakland Regional Center, (MORC). MORC is a nonprofit agency which started in the 1970s and is an evaluation and treatment center for individuals and their families. MORC has office settings in Auburn Hills and Clinton Township and is developing a Wayne County outreach program. It tends to more than 5,000 individuals and offers a variety of services, including speech and physical therapy, occupational and socialization therapy, family support groups, psychiatric/medical management, recreational therapies as well as a stellar therapeutic choir called The MORC Singing Group. This group has

met every other Wednesday for five years at the MORC Auburn Hills facility.

Good singing skills are not required. While providing an experience of pleasure, choir therapy also aids the individual's progress through two different mediums: the music itself and the camaraderie of the group.

Gentle teaching is a method of relating with other people aspired to by the MORC Singing Group as well as most therapeutic interventions for people with developmentally disabilities across the board.

Focus is on four essential areas of safety, being cared about, being able to care back, and being engaged in the world.

The five-year old MORC Singing Group is comprised of people who live within the world of developmental disabilities. One need not be a MORC consumer to participate. There is a "volunteer voices" component of The Therapy Choirs of Michigan which funds the singing group.

I have found it helpful to provide individuals with developmental disabilities a psychotherapeutic experience. While not as rigorous as traditional psychotherapy, psychological therapy can be modified to meet the needs of these special people. It can assist individuals in coping with a way of life that they did not choose. Often, they struggle with the issue of wanting the same lifestyle as other citizens such as a job, intimate relationships, or productivity in a family. Did you know that the developmentally disabled population has a rate of co-existing, psychiatric disorders two to three times that of the general population? Mood disorders, including depression, anxiety and even psychosis often are seen.

We need to remember that they all go through the life cycle as we do. They love, laugh, cry, wish, hope, and grow old. Often they need and can benefit from the personal connection which

a good psychotherapeutic relationship can accomplish.

Resources

MORC Singing Group: See Therapy Choirs of Michigan website at: www.therapychoirs.org
MORC Auburn Hills office: (248) 276-8000; Call and ask for Gentle Teaching Institute
Special Olympics at www.specialolympics.org

Len McCulloch is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is also credentialed in mental health, addictions, brain injury, and social work. He, along with partner Sherry Cantrell, created and operate the MORC Singing Group under the auspices of The Therapy Choirs of Michigan, a non-profit agency which they maintain. McCulloch is also the author of more than 150 related articles in the field. These are archived as his column: "Our Mental Health" at www.familib.org/heritagecollection/newspapers.html. McCulloch can be reached for consultation at (248) 474-2763, Ext. 22.

Pet lovers can support golden retrievers

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

What's better than a golden retriever?
Lots of golden retrievers.

At least a few of the lovable dogs will be on hand at the annual The Golden Retriever Rescue of Michigan's (GRRoM) Evening of Wine, Goldens and Giggles fundraiser, 5-7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at GO Comedy! Improv, 261 E. Nine Mile, just east of Woodward Ave., in Ferndale.

Amy Hernandez, GRRoM president, said her group is "very excited" about the dog-themed improv show that will be included in the event. In addition to the show, guests will receive a commemorative glass, get a chance to bid on live and silent auctions — every-



PET PROJECTS

found new homes for more than 3,500 dogs over the past 20 years. The average cost of caring for a dog in rescue is approximately \$630. Money raised at Evening of Wine, Goldens and Giggles will support the cost of fostering and re-homing adoptable and retired foster dogs.

"Currently, we have 28 foster dogs in our care. Four of those are ready for adoption right now, 13 will be ready soon after they finish with medical treatment, training, etc.," Hernandez said. "Then the other 11 are what we call 'retired' fosters. These are older dogs that can't be adopted due to special health issues, and we are so fortunate to have fosters who are willing to take care of these dogs until they are no longer with us. GRRoM still pays for all the medical care for these retired fos-

ter dogs."

Jennifer Chirpka of Canton, began volunteering for the group after adopting two golden retrievers, ages 1 and 4.

"Goldens are high energy to a point but they calm down easily and are trainable. I love them to death," Chirpka said.

She said the organization always needs volunteers to help foster the dogs. An application is available at GRRoM's website.

Cats in the ring

Adopt a cat from Country Cat & City Kitty Cat/Kitten Rescue in Livonia and you're likely to have an award-winner on your hands.

Ann Grenier, founder and president of the organization, will take 20 of her adoptable cats to the TICA cat show Friday-Sunday, April 26-28 at the Holiday Inn Detroit Livonia Conference Center, 17123 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia.

Grenier's cats will compete in the household division — there's a purebred category, too — and hopes they'll not only win over the judges, but the hearts of potential adopters as well. "For the household category, there are no standards to be compared against," she said. "They have to be well-groomed, nails cut, ears clean, with a good personality. After that, it's the judges choice. Judges say it's the hardest category to judge."

"Sucking up" to the judge with an out-going personal-



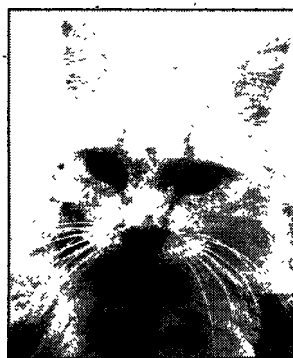
Chance, 8, was given to Golden Retriever Rescue of Michigan (GRRoM) by an owner who couldn't keep him any longer. He gets along with his golden foster sisters and loves meeting people, riding in the car, and snuggling in bed.

ity and purring and playing with a toy sometimes helps her feline competitors. All are seen by six judges during the show.

Grenier said seven of the top 10 kittens judged during the 2012-13 show season came from her rescue. Dr. Shera Dickie from St. Julian's Cat Care in Dearborn will be on hand at the show to answer questions about cat health care. Rescues and other vendors will offer games, items for sale and more. Dana Lundon from 96.3 WDVD will be the celebrity judge from 10 a.m.-noon Sunday, April 28.

Anyone who adopts one of Grenier's cats at the show will receive a ticket to a raffle. Adopt a black cat and get more than one raffle ticket.

Grenier could use a hand moving the adoptable cats from their cages to the judging ring throughout the weekend. Potential volunteers can reach her at Kittyrsg@gmail.com or (248) 249-9267.



This is Willow, 4, a spayed female, long-hair cat who is looking for her forever home. She and other felines from Country Cat & City Kitty Cat/Kitten Rescue in Livonia will participate in a cat show Friday-Sunday, April 26-28, in Livonia.

The TICA show runs 4-10 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Admission is \$3 per person with a cat food donation for a local rescue.

For more information about showing a cat at a TICA show see www.glcat-consortium.org.



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Hymn fest offers sacred music

A mass choir consisting of singers from the St. John Chancel Choir, the DTE Singers and other church choirs from throughout the Metro area, will perform at the annual Marie Walck Memorial Hymn Festival.

The concert starts at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 28, at St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road between Grand River Ave., and Freedom Road, Farmington Hills.

This year's theme is "Alleluia! Our Walk of Faith." Directing duties will be shared between Troy Nelson, St. John's director of music, and guest director Robert Foster. Foster also will perform on organ for the festival.

Works on the program include *Hallelujah Chorus* from Mount of Olives by Ludwig van Beethoven; *Alleluia* from Christmas Oratorio by J. S. Bach; *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing* by R. V. Williams; several spirituals including *Hush! Somebody's Calling My Name*; and *Hallelujah! Amen!* from Judas Maccabeus by G.F. Handel.

Accompanists include St. John's organist, Wes



Duensing

Fishwick, pianist Brooks Hoste and Elaine Vermiglio, accompanist for the DTE Singers. Soloists include Dorothy Duensing, soprano, and Hoste, tenor.

Duensing holds degrees in vocal performance from The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and Indiana University in Bloomington. She has performed most main roles for mezzo soprano in the serious and light operatic repertoire. These include the roles of Carmen, Dalila, Adalgisa, Ameneris, Cherubino and others.

Duensing serves as adjunct assistant professor of voice at Wayne State University, teach-

es vocal music classes at Our Lady of Victory School and serves as English Choir director, organist and pianist at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Detroit.

Foster began his career as a church organist in his hometown of Wheeling, WV at age 11. After completing two degrees in organ performance at the University of Michigan, he became artistic director and organist of First English Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Woods, where, in November, he will celebrate his 30th anniversary with the congregation. Foster also served as the vocal music teacher at University Liggett Middle and Upper Schools for the past 17 years. He is active in musical theater and has been musical director for countless productions at University Liggett and First English's yearly musical, and has worked as pianist for many Grosse Pointe Theatre productions.

Admission to the concert is free. A free will offering will be collected. For more information call the church at (248) 474-0584.

RECOVERY

Continued from page B7

gram at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville. He subsequently accepted a staff position at Canton Connection Church and started a Celebrate Recovery program there almost two years ago.

Biblical vs. secular

Sherman sees two main differences between Celebrate Recovery and secular sobriety programs. "All 12-step recovery programs rely upon a higher power. In a traditional recovery program they say something like 'choose your own higher power.' We don't belittle anybody else's understanding of recovery, but when we work the 12 steps, we work with Christ as our higher power."

Sherman also said Celebrate Recovery is more than about alcohol and drug addiction. The Canton church offers small-group sessions for men struggling with sexual integrity, women who

are survivors of abuse, and individuals suffering from food addiction. There's also a group for individuals struggling with issues that aren't covered in other meetings. It's called the "anger, anxiety and anything goes" group. Women and men meet in separate small-group sessions and come together for a large-group meeting with music, a lesson or speaker.

Forgiveness also is a big part of the recovery process. Members learn to forgive others and let go of resentment.

"In my life it's been huge in terms of healing and moving on. I've also seen it happen in other people," Sherman said Celebrate Recovery members write their forgiveness issues on paper and then nail their words to a large cross in the church.

"The metaphor is very strong, to leave it there on the cross."

To find out more about Canton Connection Church and its Celebrate Recovery program visit www.connectionchurch.info or call (734) 397-1777.

Film is more than just a pulpit for church program

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

John Sherman, a staff member at Canton Connection Church, was skeptical when he first heard about the Christ-centered, 12-step recovery program called Celebrate Recovery seven years ago.

He planned to attend a session, but didn't have high expectations for the program. He assumed it would be too preachy, with church-goers telling recovering alcoholics and drug addicts what to do.

I felt the same way, as I prepared to watch the new film, Home Run, which includes Celebrate Recovery in its story line. I assumed the film would simply be a pulpit for the program, with plot and character as an afterthought.

I was pleasantly surprised to find a real story, with dialogue that rings true to each character, as well as strong acting.

The film tells the story of baseball all-star Cory Brand, played by Scott Elrod, (ABC's Men in Trees) whose life is spiraling out of control. Brand is haunted by his past, which includes an abusive father, has



Vivica A. Fox plays baseball agent, Helena Landry, and Scott Elrod is Cory Brand in the new film, "Home Run." In the film, the agent insists that Brand, an alcohol-addicted major league baseball player, enroll in a Christ-centered 12-step recovery program.

anger issues and alcohol addiction. After he is suspended, his agent, played by Vivica A. Fox (Independence Day, Soul Food) sends him back to the small town where he grew up, forcing him to coach the local youth baseball team and spend eight weeks in Celebrate Recovery, the only recovery program in town.

At first, Cory wants to get back to his life in the big leagues, but he eventually grows to enjoy coaching his young team. He reconnects with an old love and eventually begins to listen and reflect with genu-

ine interest during Celebrate Recovery sessions, understanding that he can change his life.

Other actors in the film include Dorian Brown (FX's Wilfred), Nicole

Leigh, James Devotti, Drew Waters, Robert Peters and Juan Martinez.

See the film at Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia; (734) 542-3191.

REUNIONS

Send information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1963 50th-reunion will be held Sept. 28. Contact Kathy (Toth) Hay at khay@reinhardrealtors.com or Dianna (Basnaw) McDaniel at djmcdaniel45@comcast.net.

CLASS OF 1973 40th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Send inquiries to Belleville-Mi1973.40@comcast.net or call Laura (Kingsley) Delsh at (734) 485-2744 or Sterling at (734) 265-6132.

DETROIT GESU CATHOLIC SCHOOL CLASS OF 1956

A reunion is planned for Aug. 17. Call Jack Sayed at (810) 231-9230.

DETROIT MUMFORD CLASS OF 1963

A 50-year reunion is set for 6:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, at Somerset Inn, 575 W. Beaver, Troy. \$85. Visit www.mumford63.com.

LIVONIA BENTLEY CLASS OF 1973

A reunion is set for 6 p.m.-midnight, Sept. 13, at Livonia Marriott, located at Six Mile and Newburgh. Tickets are \$60 for alumni and \$50 for teachers. The event is open to other classes, as well. Contact Marcia Elliott at (269) 327-0657 or e-mail to mickey55@chartermi.net for more information including purchasing tickets.



Cory Brand, played by Scott Elrod, gives a youth baseball team new uniforms, to prove he's a "good guy" to parents and other coaches.

Arthritis Today

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FALLS

If someone took a poll asking the question: 'What is the greatest arthritis problem of the elderly,' doctors would answer: "Falls." Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) confirm medical opinion. According to the CDC one out of every three adults over age 65 falls each year, among older adults falls are the leading cause of injury deaths, and in 2010, the latest year with complete statistics, hospital emergency rooms treated 2.3 million older adults for fall associated injuries.

The most common fractures occurring after falls in the elderly are spine, hip, pelvis, leg, ankle, wrist and forearm. What these fractures share is that each type immobilizes the patient. Fractures of the hip are notorious for leading to fatal pneumonia or blood clots to the leg that end with a death caused by an embolism to the lungs.

Falls also lead to fear of falling. The person limits walking from concern that ambulation and activity will lead to another fall. Paradoxically, being less active brings on a greater risk of another fall.

The reason is because the best preventive treatment for falls is walking. Exercise, exercise, exercise followed by activity, activity and activity is the therapy of choice to prevent falls. Exercise of any type done for a half hour every day will build up leg muscle strength and bring tone to equilibrium, gait and reflexes that allow a person to right himself after a slight stumble or near fall.

Of equal importance is eating enough to keep up muscle mass, to drink sufficiently to maintain body fluids at a normal level, and to avoid medicines that cause dizziness or unexpected loss of blood pressure.

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Passages

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BEAUGRAND, EILEEN J.

April 9, 2013, age 93. Born August 11, 1919. Resident of Dearborn, formerly of Elk Rapids and Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Niles Beaugrand. Dearest mother of Bonnie (Edward) Wagman, Stacie (late Jack), May and Laurie (Tom) Wooderson. Loving grandmother of Gregory (Jennifer) Wagman, Christopher (Elaine) Wagman, Amy (David) Rohweder, Rebecca Little, Kelli DiPietro, John (Angela) May, Natalie (Patrick) Keane, Emily Wooderson and Thomas Wooderson Jr. 17 great grandchildren and 5 great great grandchildren also survive. Funeral Services were held on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Memorials to St. Paul's Lutheran Church or Henry Ford Village Benevolent Fund. Share your memories at: www.schrader-howell.com



DITZHAZY, JOSEPH (JOE) A., SR.

89, formerly of Farmington, MI, died Monday, Feb. 18, 2013 in Beloit, WI. Born Dec. 13, 1923 in Ecorse, MI, at 16 he entered the CCC's in the UP and completed high school at Trout Creek. He joined the U.S. Army 104th Division Timberwolves. Wounded in Germany prior to the Battle of the Bulge, he received a purple heart. The GI bill enabled Joe to go to Michigan State, graduating in Forestry. There he met and married Helen E. Ringle on Sep. 11, 1948, having their son, Joseph Jr., in the Quonset huts. Their daughter Carol was born after they moved to Detroit. Joe worked 20 years as an engineer in the auto industry. He obtained a Masters in Education and worked 20 more years as a middle school math and science teacher in the Plymouth-Canton Schools. Retiring, Joe supported Helen in her 20 years as a professor at EMU in Ypsilanti. Together they hosted 20 YFU students from Europe, Africa, and South America and mentored hundreds of students of education. Joe counted a million miles driven in Michigan and across the USA. He visited most of the world's continents. For 40 years, he and Helen played bridge with many lifelong friends. He moved to Beloit, WI to live near his daughter Carol when Helen died. Survivors include his daughter, Carol (Walter) Vogel of Beloit, WI; eight grandchildren, Kira (Shannon) Shuman, Hillary, Whitney, Joseph A. III, and Hunter Ditzhazy, Kimberly, Alexander, and Christina Vogel; one great grandchild, Quinlan Shuman; three brothers, George (Ruth) Ditzhazy of Saginaw, MI, William Ditzhazy of Detroit, MI, and Frederick Ditzhazy of Florence, OR; numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents; son, Joseph A. Ditzhazy Jr.; brother, Frank; three sisters, Ellen, Ethel, and Catherine "Mavis". Sat. April 20, 2013 Pastor David Owen will lead a Funeral Service in Hess Chapel at Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville, MI 48167. Family gathers at 10:00 am, friends join at 10:30 am and service begins at 11:00 am, ending at 12 noon. Committal ceremony with VFW will be held in Glen Eden Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Livonia, MI at 1pm. Tickets for 2 pm lunch at the nearby Leather Bottle will be given to family at the funeral. Friends who wish to attend, R.S.V.P. by e-mail to Carol at carolrejoice@charter.net. Memorials may be given in Joseph's name to Ward Church or to EMU Foundation - Joseph and Helen Ditzhazy Leadership and Counseling Scholarship Endowment. Further information and online obituary at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

FREEMAN, THOMAS F.

April 9, 2013 Age 93 of Lakeland, Florida. Formerly of Westland. Beloved husband of Virginia. Dear father of John (Doris). Grandfather of Cameron (Tracy), Scott (Beth), and Travis. Great grandfather of Joshua and Jason Freeman. Brother of ten sisters and brothers. Funeral services from Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Saturday 1pm. Visitation at the funeral home Friday 2-9pm. Burial to take place at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Family suggests memorials to the Alzheimers Association. Please view memorial and send tributes at: www.uhtfh.com



SCHAEFFER, HONORABLE JUDGE MARGARET GROEFSEMA

The Hon. Margaret Groefsema Schaeffer, age 92, former judge for the 47th District Court in Farmington Hills, Michigan, died April 11, 2013, peacefully at her home of 62 years in Farmington Hills. She is survived by her children; Christine Skoglund (Dr. Paul) of Waterford, Paul Schaeffer of Waterford, the Hon. William E. Schaeffer of Battle Mountain, Nevada, and Virginia Schaeffer (Mitch Abrams) of Portland, Oregon; her two granddaughters, Madeline and Elise Abrams, also of Portland; her sisters, the Hon. Cornelia G. Kennedy, Judge (ret.), U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, of Grosse Pointe, and Dr. Christine Gram of Farmington Hills; and numerous nieces and nephews from Michigan, Florida, Colorado, Texas, and Washington. She was pre-deceased by her husband of 58 years, Marvin G. Schaeffer, in 2006. Judge Schaeffer was born in Detroit, Michigan, on November 21, 1920. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts in 1943 and a Juris Doctor with distinction in 1945. She was one of only two women graduates in her law class. After serving as a judicial law clerk for judges in Michigan and California, Judge Schaeffer joined her sister, Judge Kennedy, in practicing law with their father, Elmer Groefsema, a prominent Detroit attorney. Following their father's death, the two sisters continued to practice law together with the Detroit firm, Judge Schaeffer was appointed to the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board for the State of Michigan in 1971. In 1974, she was elected as 47th District Court Judge serving Farmington and Farmington Hills. Upon joining the bench, Judge Schaeffer and her sister, Judge Kennedy, became the first sisters to serve as judges in the United States. She served on the bench for 18 years before retiring in 1992. Her son, Bill, carries on the judicial tradition in Nevada. Judge Schaeffer was long active in civic and community activities. She served on the Farmington Hills City Council, the Farmington Township Board of Trustees, the Farmington Hills Beautification Commission, and the Farmington Community Center Board of Directors. She was a long-standing member of the American Association of University Women. She was also a long-time member of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington. Judge Schaeffer was very generous with her time and her resources to many, including young attorneys practicing before her when she was judge as well as to those seeking political office, especially local ones. Judge Schaeffer was also an avid traveler and gardener. She and her husband, Marvin, traveled to all fifty states and all seven continents. Her travels included the then Soviet Union, Malta, Syria, Australia, Tunisia, India, Chile, Nepal, Galapagos Islands (Ecuador), China, Zimbabwe, Panama, South Africa, and Antarctica. Even after Marvin's death in 2006, her traveling did not stop. Amongst other trips, she traveled to the Netherlands in 2007 and, in celebration of her 90th birthday, to Alaska on a small-boat cruise with her family. Peonies from her childhood home continue to flower in her garden. A memorial service was held Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at 3 p.m., at the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, the University of Michigan Law School, or to a charity of your choice. McCabe Funeral Home

Milestones



Darlene and William Hawley.

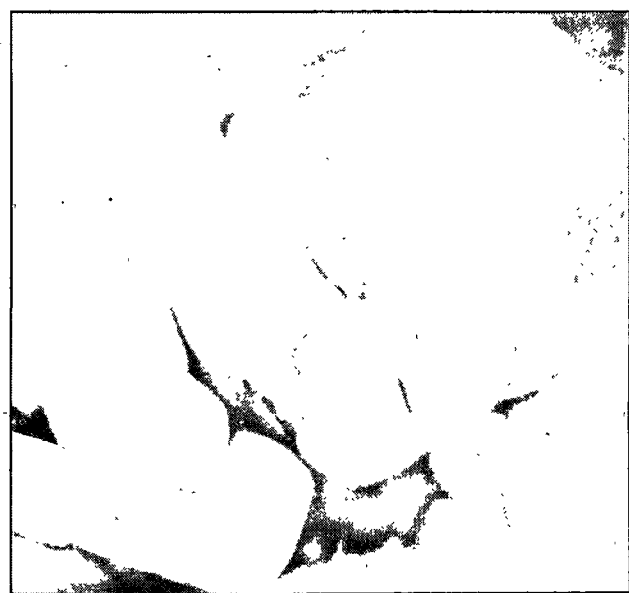
50th Anniversary

Darlene and William Hawley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 13, 2013. They were married at the First Congregational Church of Wayne where they are still active members today.

Both Bill and Darlene retired from the Wayne-Westland school district, where they worked for many years, he as an administrator at Wayne Memorial High School, and she as a first-grade teacher at Roosevelt Elementary. They enjoy golfing, traveling, volunteering in the community, and spending time with friends and family.



Darlene and William Hawley on their wedding day.



Johnathan Ricardo Giovannini

Johnathan Ricardo Giovannini was born Saturday, Feb. 23, at Providence Park Hospital Novi. He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches.

He joins his parents, Lisa and Erick Giovannini and siblings, Dominic,

6, and Luke, 3, at home in Novi.

Grandparents are Rosalie and Melvin Wolicki and Erick and Denise Giovannini, all of Livonia. Great-grandparents are Richard and Alexandra Giovannini of Dearborn.



CAMPBELL, JANET DUDNEY

April 15, 2013 age 78 of Plymouth. Beloved wife of Malcolm David. Loving mother to Mary Catherine, David (Patty), Elizabeth (Robert) McCullough, and Rev. Douglas (Rev. Emily). Dear sister to Jim (Janice) Cauhorn, and her much younger sister Mary Lukens. Fabulous Grandma to Malcolm, John, Scott, Alex, Daniel, Sarah, and Hannah who brought much joy to her life. Visitation Fri 3-8 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. The family also will gather Sat 1 PM until the 2 PM Memorial Service at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church St., Plymouth, MI 48170. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the church or Plymouth - Canton Community Literacy Council, 46501 Warren, Canton, MI 48187. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



NUNNELLEY, CHAUNCEY G. "DICK"

Age 90, of Traverse City, died Monday, April 15, 2013 at the Village of Bay Ridge, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on March 5, 1923 in Lexington, KY and on Sept. 4, 1943, he married Jean Alice Blackwell of Huntington Woods. Dick served the City of Birmingham for 32 years as a firefighter, 16 years of that time as Fire Chief. He is survived by his daughter Ruth Nunnelley of Traverse City, his son, Stewart (Beth) Nunnelley of Cedar; seven grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and extended family. He was preceded in death by his wife, his son James, brother Robert and sister Eva Mae Hamilton. Funeral services were held Saturday, April 20 at The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City. Burial was in Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens. Please consider memorial contributions to the Families of Fallen Firefighters. For more information, a complete obituary and an opportunity to share your thoughts with the family, please visit www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com

The family is being served by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Traverse City.



FOX, RALPH M.

Age 97, of Venice, FL, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan died on April 12, 2013 surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Bloomington, Illinois on October 10, 1915. Ralph attended Lake Forest Academy, received his B.S from Yale and his M.D. from Harvard in 1942. During WWII he served as a medical officer in the US Navy before beginning post graduate work at the University of Michigan. He had an ophthalmology practice in Birmingham, Michigan for 30 years before retiring in 1982 and moving to Venice. Ralph was a member of numerous professional societies during his career. Surviving family members include his wife Betty J. McMillin-Fox of Venice; daughters Mary Sommer of Savannah, GA, Jane Fox-Garcia of Sacramento, CA, and Harriett E. Fox of Norcross, GA; son Robert S. Fox, M.D. of Neenah, WI; 4 grandchildren and 1 great grand-son. Ralph was preceded in death by his first wife, Harriett S. Fox and his brother Walter S. Fox. A memorial service will be held at Village on the Isle in Venice on Friday, April 19th at 10 AM. Memorial donations may be made to Village Partners i/c/o Village on the Isle, Venice Presbyterian Church or Tidewell Hospice. Ralph was a true gentleman with a kind and generous heart. He will be greatly missed. Farley Funeral Home, Venice Chapel is in charge of arrangements.



McCOMAS, ANDREW J., SR.

Age 83, of Tonawanda, NY, formerly of Novi & Farmington. Died on his birthday, April 2, 2013. He retired from General Motors, working as a Personnel Administrator for many years at the Chevrolet Spring & Bumper plant in Livonia. He was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School. He served as a 1st Lt. in the U.S. Army in Korea. He will be remembered for his generous love and dedication to family by wife, Joan, daughter, Claire (John) Mueller of Westland, sons, Andrew Jr. (Christine), of Holly and Rev. Gregory C. (Alice) of Franklin, stepson, Robert (Joan) Harrington, stepdaughter, Deborah Battel, 14 grandchildren, 3 great grand-children, 4 surviving siblings, and 15 nephews and nieces. Memorial service April 20 in NY State. Share memories at www.mccomasfamily.org



REMUS, JOAN McNABB

Age 83, of Farmington; April 15, 2013. Beloved wife of Charles, for 58 years. Loving mother of Joni (Jim) Tedesco and Gregory (Kathy) Remus. Cherished grandmother of Dana Tedesco, DVM, Alex Tedesco, Eva Remus, Sophia Remus and Mathew Remus. Dear sister-in-law of Patricia Remus, Charlotte (William) Simmons and Willis Remus. She was also survived by several loving nieces and nephews. Joan was a Registered Nurse and a dedicated volunteer at the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in downtown Farmington. Memorial Service, Friday, April 26, 7:00 PM, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd. (btw 9-10 Mile Rds.; N. of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Visitation Friday, April 26, 4:00 pm until the time of the service. Memorial tributes are suggested to standup2cancer.org. heeney-sundquist.com



WRIGHT, ROBERT L.

Age 88, of Farmington Hills, Michigan, passed away peacefully April 18, 2013. Husband of the late Martha Arnold (d. 1985), Father of Philip (Gladys), Elizabeth (Michael) Klawender and Douglas (Julie). Loving Grandfather of Amanda, Bailey and Andrew. Raised in Worthington, Ohio, Robert graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in 1946 and from The Ohio State University in 1950. He was a WWII veteran who served with the U.S. Marine Corps in the South Pacific and a Korean War veteran serving as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy from 1950-1953. He retired at age 65 from Fabricon Automotive Products then continued to work for ten years working for Knowlton Specialty Papers in Watertown, New York then National Coating Corporation in Rockland, Massachusetts. He valued the friendships he gained during his career. In honor of his wishes, a private celebration of life gathering will be held. His cremated remains will be interred at a later date in New Hope Cemetery, Adamsville, Ohio. Memorial contributions may be directed to Boy Scouts of America, Great Lakes Field Service Council.

ZIMMERMAN, JAMES D.

April 17, 2013. Age 94 of Wayne. Beloved husband of Beulah. Dear father of Florence (Ray) Payeur and James D. (Carol) Zimmerman II. Loving grandfather of five and great-grandfather of eight. Visitation at The Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Friday and Saturday 1-8pm with a Masonic service Saturday evening at 7pm by The Wayne Lodge #112 F.&A.M. Burial to take place at Smith Chapel Cemetery, Hackney, Ohio. Family suggests memorials to St. John Episcopal Church of Westland, 555 S. Wayne Rd. Westland, MI 48186. Please view memorial and send tributes at: www.uhtfh.com



May you find comfort in Family and Friends

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

Local advocates lobby Congress for health funding

Three hundred American Heart Association You're The Cure advocates recently traveled to Washington D.C. to urge Congress to restore funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and provide funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund for a new national campaign to reduce high blood pressure.

Local advocates Janine Krolikowski of Royal Oak, and Janan Saba of Livonia, met with Rep. Kerry Benivolio, R-11th District, and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., and requested they continue to maintain support for NIH-funded research and a hypertension prevention campaign under the Million Hearts initiative key priorities for Congress. They also joined forces with volunteers from more than 150 other non-profit organizations in a "Rally to Fund Medical Research" calling on federal lawmakers to make funding for life-saving medical research a national priority.

Saba, whose mother is a

12-year heart attack survivor, and brother, who was born with a congenital heart defect and later passed away, said the nation could face serious consequences if funding is not restored.

"The loss of funding not only affects current research, but future research as well," she said. "We hope to restore the funding, so we can continue medical research for those affected by health issues like heart disease."

Krolikowski noted that the federal government slashed nearly \$1.6 billion of the NIH's budget this year.

"We need to restore the NIH back to its original pre-sequester amount of \$32 billion," Krolikowski said. "These cuts have caused Michigan to lose \$31.6 million in funding. Now over 500 Michigan health-related jobs are at risk."

The budget cut could reduce the number of research grants by about 2,300, costing more than 20,000 jobs nationwide



American Heart Association advocates from Michigan head to Capitol Hill to meet with lawmakers. The are Janine Krolikowski (left), Janan Saba, K.C. Sanders, Joe Ann Burgett, Jean and Owen Jones. Saba is a Livonia resident.

and shrinking new economic activity by nearly \$3 billion. A typical NIH grant supports about seven mainly high-tech full-time or part-time jobs.

Krolikowski and Saba also urged members of congress to designate \$35

million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund to support a national high blood pressure campaign under the Million Hearts initiative. More than one in three adults in the United States has high blood pressure, but less

than half have their condition under control. High blood pressure is one of the leading factors that can lead to a heart attack or stroke.

Krolikowski, who is also a national spokeswoman for Go Red For Women,

lost her parents to heart disease and suffered a heart attack in 2004.

Today, she is encouraging the community to protect funding and prevention by writing their members of congress personally or through yourethecure.org.

You're the Cure is a group of Americans advocating for policy change for the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association. The advocates work to influence policy makers through e-mails, letters to the editor, phone calls, events and face-to-face meetings. Some past accomplishments include creating smoke-free communities, placing AED (automated external defibrillator) devices in public places and increasing federal funding for medical research.

To become an advocate for the American Heart Association, visit www.yourethecure.org. To learn more about the rally for medical research visit www.rallyformedicalresearch.org.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

April

TRI-COUNTY CELIAC SUPPORT GROUP

The organization will hold its annual Gluten-free food fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, April 27, at First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington. Twenty-five vendors will be on hand with samples of their gluten-free products that also will be available for purchase during the fair. Admission is free to TCCSG members, and is \$10 for non-members: Questions? E-mail to maorlando39@gmail.com.

WEIGHT LOSS

•Start Smart, an eight-week work-

shop led by a registered dietitian from Botsford Hospital's Diabetes & Nutrition Services, runs 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, beginning April 29, at the hospital, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Participants will focus on building healthy eating habits and losing weight. Customized weekly topics reflect the group's specific challenges and goals. Weekly weigh-ins to keep attendees on track, and includes support and encouragement, hands-on activities and demonstrations, meal-planning advice and recipes, helpful tips and strategies, and nutrition advice. Cost: \$80. Space is limited. Call to register (248) 477-6100

•Dr. Stephanie Rose will present

a program explaining why you haven't been able to keep weight loss resolutions this year. It runs 6-7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 30, at Rose Chiropractic, 34024 W. Eight Mile, suite 104, Farmington Hills. The program is free. Questions? Call (248) 888-8183.

May

IMMUNIZATIONS

Learn what vaccinations are recommended for older adults at a free presentation, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, at Providence Hospital, located on Nine Mile, west of Greenfield. Dr. Vilma Drelichman, an infectious disease specialist, on staff at Provi-

dence and Providence Park Hospital will give the lecture. Pre-register by calling (888) 751-5465

SKIN CANCER SCREENING

Register by May 1 for a free, partial body skin cancer screening, 9 a.m.-noon, Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. Register by calling (866) 501-DOCS.

Ongoing

AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farm-

ington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate.

To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadowetroit.org.

ARTHRITIS SUPPORT

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

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Putting a "Spring" in your Step!

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Kane
Podiatry

Spring is here and for many of us that means reintroducing our feet to the world. Unfortunately, they've probably been somewhat neglected since last October. To help us welcome the warmer weather, Podiatrist and Garden City Hospital Health Expert, Dr. Howard Kane discusses what you can do to put your best foot forward!

Q: Winter has really taken a toll on my feet this year. Before I slip on my peep toes or consider running barefoot through the grass, what can I do to make my feet look and feel better?

A: To begin your total foot transformation, start by removing any old polish caked on your toes and exfoliating them with a fresh lemon. Lemon brightens up your nails, helping them look healthier in an instant.

If polished toenails are a summertime must, keep in mind that a bad pedicure has the potential to create a variety of health issues. The relaxing whirlpool you're soaking in, the files and other tools, all have the potential to spread nail fungus, warts even serious bacterial infections. Reduce your risks, find a reputable salon that passes your eye test for cleanliness and stay with them. Don't shave or wax your legs at least 24 hours prior to your appointment, microscopic cuts can increase your risk for infection.

While that new pair of sandals may look hot, they can often cause painful blisters. Blisters form from the friction of the shoe rubbing against a part of your foot unaccustomed to this type of stress. The area then balloons out and fills with fluid that cushions and protects the deeper layers of skin. Prevention is key. Buy quality made, comfortable shoes that don't need to be "broken in." Also, try to buy shoes later in the day when your feet have spread out the most. Look for soft fabrics or leather. To make sure they stay pain-free, wear them around the house for an hour or so before you wear them outside.

Another important thing to consider, wearing sandals leaves your heels exposed and can cause the skin to crack. If you have any deep cracks or scabs, treat the heel with an antibiotic oil and cover with a bandage. Treat normal dry heels with an exfoliating moisturizer twice a day and try running and a pumice stone over them once or twice a week. Extremely dry, cracked or bleeding heels may be the sign of a more severe condition, and I recommend seeing your physician or a podiatrist right away.

Finally, remember that flip-flops are NOT created equally. Over wearing these summertime staples can lead to stress fractures, heel pain, shin splints, planter fasciitis, tendonitis, and increase the risk for hammertoes. Most flip-flops are only meant for the locker room or pool, and not designed to be worn all day. Look for a pair with good arch support and a thicker sole. The more straps the better, as they reduce stress placed on the toes to grip the flip-flop.

To read more about good foot health in the Spring issue of GCH's Healthy Generations magazine, visit GCH.org and click the Healthy Generations icon. If you would like to make an appointment with Dr. Kane or one of his colleagues, please call 734.525.2555.

Do you have a health or medical question for one of the GCH Health Experts? Visit GCH.org or call 877.717.WELL.

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JOBS

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What does it take to be considered overqualified?

Susan Ricker,
CareerBuilder Writer

As a job seeker, you may sometimes think you're a con-tortionist, trying to fit and shape yourself into the perfect candidate for the job. Often-times you need to tweak your experience and skills to match the job posting's phrasing. But what if you find yourself easily meeting or even surpassing the job requirements? While you may think you're a sure pick for the role, hiring managers may deem you overqualified.

Where's the line between being a perfect fit and being overqualified? Here's how to understand whether your qualifications will work for or against you and why hiring managers care.

The problem for both job seekers and employers As time goes on, a person's career tends to ascend to higher titles and more responsibility. "An overqualified job seeker is someone who, because of salary, experience or education, is considering taking a step down in job or pay out of short-term convenience or personal necessity," says Jeff Zinser, principal of executive recruitment and search company Right Recruiting LLC.

Although this may sound like a plus for employers, who can benefit from the extra skills and experience, overqualified applicants may be viewed as a flight risk. "This situation is

a problem for employers, because there is a high probability that the person will leave the job as soon as a position at their historical level appears," Zinser says. "In many situations, once the person becomes productive, they leave. Then the employer needs to refill the position. Job specifications and requirements are designed to fill professional positions with people who will be happy and challenged for the long term."

Send the right message

The hiring manager has valid reason to be concerned about overqualified applicants. But what if you truly want the lower-level job -- whether out of interest or necessity? How can you rephrase your experience so it's more hire-friendly without lying? "We never recommend editing or omitting vital information like experience or education from a résumé to prevent from being labeled overqualified," says Peter Zú-kow, general manager at Lock Search Group, a recruitment and staffing firm. "Instead, it is important to tailor a résumé to the specifications of the role. Highlight the qualifications and experiences that are most applicable to the role. If an individual misrepresents themselves on their résumé, it can be extremely embarrassing or even lead to immediate disqualification if uncovered during interview or background checks."



Address the issue

No matter how experienced a job seeker is, the key to convincing an employer that you're the right person for the job is making a clear business case for it. After you've tailored your résumé to fit the job description, address the issue of being overqualified in your cover letter and interview. Acknowledge your extensive credentials, but explain how this position fits into your career path, as well as how the business can benefit from your experience. Also come prepared with ideas for how you're a fit with the company culture and you align with its business values. An ideal job has responsibilities that play to your strengths and challenge you, so communicate that you're approaching this position as a learning opportunity.

Being an overqualified job seeker doesn't have to result in instant rejection. Research the roles you're applying to and how your experience can benefit the team as well as yourself.

Employers look for workers who are a good company fit and will be around for a while. By making it clear you're interested in the job and have room to grow in the role, you'll prove that you're the best person for the job.

Susan Ricker is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia No phone calls, please.

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is hiring for:
• Asset Seafood Manager must have seafood exp. Culinary background preferred.
Apply in person or email at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia livoniamarket@yahoo.com No phone calls, please.

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MARKETING ASSISTANT
IMS looking for a regular, part-time, Marketing Assistant to be based in our Farmington Hills, MI office. Email Pauline for a complete job description. poberland@innovativemodular.com

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Dick Scott Classic Motorcycle is seeking an experienced & state certified motorcycle technician. Excellent pay plan & benefits. Email: Apply@DickScott.com

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Help Wanted - General

JOE'S PRODUCE GOURMET MARKET
is now hiring for part-time and seasonal positions for:
• Joe's Produce
• Joe's Meat & Seafood
• Art of Bread
Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia No phone calls, please.

JOE'S PRODUCE Meat & Seafood
is hiring for:
• Asset Seafood Manager must have seafood exp. Culinary background preferred.
Apply in person or email at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia livoniamarket@yahoo.com No phone calls, please.

MANAGER
Janitorial Company seeks person with exp. in all aspects of V.C.T. the cleaning & recasting. Fax resume to: 734-522-1708 or call 734-425-0161.

PHOTO LAB
Strong Data Entry skills, answering phones, light photo plug assembly. Full-time, now thru mid-June & mid-Aug thru Oct. Plymouth area. 734-416-1616

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Reporter/Livonia Observer Full-time

Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWN LIFE MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

RESPONSIBILITIES:
Cover and write about all aspects of community life (government, schools, public safety, business and lifestyles) in Livonia. Essential job functions include: reporting and writing for print and digital products (including all aspects of social media), participate in staff meetings, initiate and provide accurate reports of government, public safety, schools and features and other assignments as determined by local editor.

REQUIREMENTS:
• Demonstrated knowledge of and experience working with legal issues relating to print and on-line operations, including knowledge of state and federal laws that apply to First Amendment protection, the Freedom of Information Act, the Open Meetings Act, etc.
• Three years experience working with news operations, both in print and digital products.
• Must have a demonstrated proficiency in both PC and Mac-based software. Knowledge of Microsoft Office applications are a plus. Demonstrated proficiency in using a digital camera and social media tools (Facebook and Twitter).
• Bachelor's degree in journalism or communications (a four-year degree in another discipline, combined with relevant experience is acceptable) is required.
• Must provide own transportation and be able to work a flexible schedule of days and afternoons. Weekends included.

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Observer & Eccentric Media specializes in community-based information on a variety of platforms -- print, web, mobile and video. O&E Media publishes 13 individually edited newspapers, a website and more than 75 special sections and specialty products annually. The staff includes more than 40 journalists, 25 advertising account executives and other key support personnel in circulation and production. O&E Media - Because local news matters. Come join our team!

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POLICE OFFICER

City of Plymouth Police Department

The City of Plymouth is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Applicant must be MCOLES certified/ certified. Entrance wage of \$34,631. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, & holidays. To apply, mail, fax or e-mail resume to Human Resources, 201 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170. Fax (734) 455-1892 or jobs@plymouth.mi.us. Application avail. online at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us. Deadline for receipt of applications is 4:00 p.m. on May 14, 2013. Post marked documents are not acceptable. Testing will take place 5/23/13 for those who meet the desired minimum qualifications. The City of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender or disability.

Private Duty Nurse Aides & Personal Care Providers Within 20 miles of Rochester Hills or West Bloomfield for a senior independent living community. Experience preferred. Must have strong work ethics and desire to work w/ seniors. Fax resume to 810-600-0002. Email: dweltckovic@msdproinc.net

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Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

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Full Time for a full service Credit Union branch office. Previous cash handling experience preferred. Competitive salary and full benefits including medical, dental, vision, life insurance and 401(K). Please reply with resume to: Michigan Educational Credit Union, 14921 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 Attn: Rick Norris (734) 261-1050 or email: general@michedu.org

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Growing, well established mechanical contracting company seeking to fill immediately available position for Administrative Assistant with exceptional computer & typing skills. Must be experienced in Excel, Word and Power Point Business degree a plus, organized, reliable and consistent in following procedures

Email resume to: resumbizops@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant Small Livonia office. General office, data entry & multi-line phone experience required. Multi-tasking a must. Medical background helpful. Fax resume: (734) 425-0809

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT:
Approx. 24 hrs/week. Must have exp. Friendly, pleasant office staff. Livonia area. Call: (734) 925-3150

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full-Time for modern endodontic office in Novi. Experience preferred. 248-961-3636

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Temporary, Full-Time. Start April 15 - June 7. Medical background helpful. Fax resume 248-304-1387

DENTAL ASSISTANT WITH SURGICAL EXPERIENCE
Excellent opportunity in high quality specialty practice \$40,000-\$50,000 annually plus excellent work environment & benefits. Call: (248) 357-3100

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Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Wanted full time certified Medical Assistant to work under supervision of Family Practice provider in Southfield. Requirements: High School Diploma, Graduate of a Certified Medical Assistant program, computer skills, excellent written and communication skills, knowledge of proper blood draw, injections, immunizations, sterilization, EKGs and PFT techniques. 1 yr exp preferred. Please send resume to pat@drtohar.com or fax to 248-557-6145

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Cook: Exp'd Only \$11.50/hr Baristas/Wait Staff Apply in person. Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

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\$15-20/hr., full or part-time, exp. preferred, immed. avail. Send resume: lavalavanvest@icloud.com

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CAREGIVER - Mon-Fri.
9am-5pm. West Bloomfield. Recent references. Call btwn 6-9pm ONLY. 248-855-3693

CLEANING LADY - Tues. & Fri.
9:30-5:30. Recent references. West Bloomfield. Call btwn 6-9pm ONLY. 248-855-3693

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ACROSS

- 1 Trounce
- 5 Pantyhose shade
- 8 Vacuum part
- 11 Wading bird
- 12 NASA counterpart
- 13 Fiesta shout
- 14 Melon throwaways
- 15 Wheedle
- 17 New Haven student
- 18 Almost never
- 20 Famed lioness
- 22 Woodland creature
- 23 Fictional spy — Helm
- 27 Seam of coal
- 29 More than bad
- 30 Jason's Golden —
- 33 Spaced-out
- 34 Kind of rocket
- 35 Polynesian carving

DOWN

- 1 Bore a hole
- 2 Indian noblewomen
- 3 And, to Fritz
- 4 She preceded Mamie
- 5 Nonstick coating
- 6 Put — (save)
- 7 Billionth, in combos
- 8 Morass
- 9 Sum total
- 10 Haw opposite
- 11 Subarctic tribe

Answer to Previous Puzzle

J	E	T	F	A	B	E	L	B	A
O	L	E	O	I	R	E	N	E	A
E	L	A	N	O	C	T	A	G	O
S	K	I	E	R	S	L	U	N	G
O	R	D	D	B	L				
O	P	I	N	E	B	U	S	F	A
E	O	N	M	O	B	G	E	L	
R	I	V	E	T	E	D	P	S	A
A	I	R	R	I	P				
A	C	O	R	N	M	E	N	A	C
P	O	R	T	A	B	L	E	T	A
E	A	C	H	O	L	D	E	R	I
S	T	A	Y	K	E	Y	P	A	D

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Want more puzzles?
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SUDOKU

				3	2			
				7		2	5	
		4	8		1	3		
4		5			8			
9			4					2
	8	3						
3	7				9			
	4			2				1
						6		5

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

JAZZ WORD SEARCH

F	E	E	F	S	D	R	A	O	B	H	S	A	W	A	C	V	P	B	Z	
N	O	B	O	T	T	L	E	N	E	C	K	S	C	R	G	V	I	C	N	
V	H	C	I	M	H	T	Y	H	R	V	H	T	E	F	H	E	O	E	S	
K	O	N	U	J	A	C	V	P	D	K	S	L	N	S	F	N	P	S	E	
K	I	C	M	L	T	U	S	I	S	E	E	F	R	K	T	O	O	E	S	
B	Z	A	A	O	H	T	W	S	H	M	S	E	N	E	I	U	M	L	S	
H	J	Z	F	L	A	C	A	C	E	F	N	O	M	L	T	Z	V	C	I	
A	P	R	A	G	S	R	R	N	U	T	G	P	L	H	O	G	S	Y	O	
A	N	U	P	E	J	B	O	T	S	R	S	O	A	E	D	L	U	R	C	N
K	V	D	J	S	N	R	I	A	L	R	C	R	N	E	T	J	K	A	O	
E	E	I	V	R	O	P	P	A	V	N	S	L	E	F	P	S	T	W		
Y	T	A	L	E	N	T	G	R	E	C	N	A	M	R	O	F	R	E	P	
B	O	B	Y	V	N	O	Y	G	N	I	D	R	O	C	E	R	J	H	E	
O	C	K	S	A	B	C	T	N	E	H	E	G	N	A	R	R	A	C	H	
A	E	K	I	F	R	M	E	Z	I	Z	W	C	L	J	B	L	U	E	S	
R	S	N	A	E	L	R	O	W	E	N	B	H	C	H	A	N	G	E	S	
D	K	O	C	B	T	E	P	M	U	R	T	I	C	K	E	T	S	D	R	
A	U	S	G	N	I	K	O	O	B	T	A	C	S	E	M	A	F	U	B	
A	K	D	I	S	S	O	N	A	N	C	E	T	G	E	N	R	E	C	O	
I	I	B	E	Y	B	Y	N	O	S	P	W	Y	F	R	L	S	Y	L		

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5	4	6	2	8	7	3	1		
3	7	6	1	5	9	8	2	4	
1	8	3	6	2	5	9	8	4	7
9	6	7	4	1	3	5	8	2	
4	2	5	7	9	8	1	6	3	
2	5	4	8	6	1	3	7	9	
6	3	1	9	7	4	2	5	8	
7	9	8	5	3	2	4	1	6	

Word Search

F	E	E	F	S	D	R	A	O	B	H	S	A	W	A	C	V	P	B	Z	
N	O	B	O	T	T	L	E	N	E	C	K	S	C	R	G	V	I	C	N	
V	H	C	I	M	H	T	Y	H	R	V	H	T	E	F	H	E	O	E	S	
K	O	N	U	J	A	C	V	P	D	K	S	L	N	S	F	N	P	S	E	
K	I	C	M	L	T	U	S	I	S	E	E	F	R	K	T	O	O	E	S	
B	Z	A	A	O	H	T	W	S	H	M	S	E	N	E	I	U	M	L	S	
H	J	Z	F	L	A	C	A	C	E	F	N	O	M	L	T	Z	V	C	I	
A	P	R	A	G	S	R	R	N	U	T	G	P	L	H	O	G	S	Y	O	
A	N	U	P	E	J	B	O	T	S	R	S	O	A	E	D	L	U	R	C	N
K	V	D	J	S	N	R	I	A	L	R	C	R	N	E	T	J	K	A	O	
E	E	I	V	R	O	P	P	A	V	N	S	L	E	F	P	S	T	W		
Y	T	A	L	E	N	T	G	R	E	C	N	A	M	R	O	F	R	E	P	
B	O	B	Y	V	N	O	Y	G	N	I	D	R	O	C	E	R	J	H	E	
O	C	K	S	A	B	C	T	N	E	H	E	G	N	A	R	R	A	C	H	
A	E	K	I	F	R	M	E	Z	I	Z	W	C	L	J	B	L	U	E	S	
R	S	N	A	E	L	R	O	W	E	N	B	H	C	H	A	N	G	E	S	
D	K	O	C	B	T	E	P	M	U	R	T	I	C	K	E	T	S	D	R	
A	U	S	G	N	I	K	O	O	B	T	A	C	S	E	M	A	F	U	B	
A	K	D	I	S	S	O	N	A	N	C	E	T	G	E	N	R	E	C	O	
I	I	B	E	Y	B	Y	N	O	S	P	W	Y	F	R	L	S	Y	L		

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Fri. Apr. 26, 9-2 Sat., Apr. 27, 9-noon, Bag Sale, 86520 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, 48331, N. off 12 Mile, btwn. Drake & Halstead.

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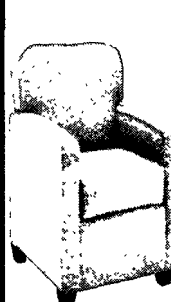
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Car Report

Advertising Feature

Volvo aims marketing campaign at brand's true believers



By Dale Buss

Volvo has been adrift and marginal in the U.S. market for several years. But now in its third year of ownership by Geely of China, the surviving Scandinavian auto brand is counting on a new marketing campaign and more confident positioning to spark an American revival in the short term while waiting for a fresher, broader product line to provide long-term brand prosperity.

Beginning this month, Volvo is launching an integrated advertising campaign in the U.S. that explicitly appeals to the non-materialistic, minimalist ethos that brand executives believe differentiates Volvo aficionados from buyers of other luxury and near-luxury brands.

In the process, they hope to produce a bounce in sales for a franchise whose U.S. results peaked a decade ago, when the company was owned by Ford, and have kept on sliding. Ford sold Volvo in 2010 to Geely, a large Chinese automaker, for \$1.5 billion.

Volvo North America CMO Tassos Panas told me that most of Volvo's core customers didn't drift away even after a resource-strapped Ford began neglecting the brand's product-development needs several years ago, nor even much once Geely introduced the strange new element of Chinese ownership of a Swedish brand into the equation three years ago.

"We would hear rumblings from our dealers when there was news in the marketplace" about problems or changes at the brand, he said. "But when the news

went away, we didn't hear much at all."

Now, Volvo is attempting to reconnect with brand true believers as the next step in the journey back to becoming more than an afterthought in the U.S. automotive marketplace. And while Volvo never has been regarded as a true luxury vehicle, Panas isn't afraid to put it in the company of true luxury brands in an attempt at a deft repositioning that carries some risks.

Volvo owners' "interpretation of luxury is different but very real," said the vice president of marketing and production planning. "They're more into life's experiences, and more into a Scandinavian simple design [of vehicles] versus a lot of clutter. They are very much luxury customers and love luxury products, but they don't feel a need to impress others."

Thus, the first new TV ads in the campaign, which are breaking this month on national cable networks, underscore these alleged differences. One spot, "Rearview," juxtaposes a Volvo owner's priorities to those of competitive luxury-car drivers.

In the ad, a woman at a stoplight in a Mercedes-Benz SUV is primping her highly put-together face in her rear-view mirror, when another woman pulls up alongside her in a Volvo XC60. The Volvo driver, pretty but less made-up, seems not to no-

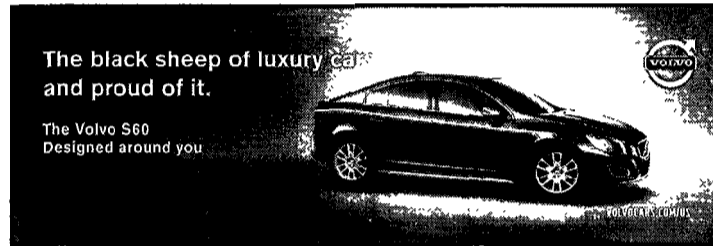


Volvo's new campaign is unapologetic.

tice the Benz driver next to her. Instead, she looks in her own rear-view mirror and crosses her eyes, making her two little kids in the backseat squeal with laughter. "Volvos aren't for everyone," the ad intones, "and we kinda like it that way."

A complementary outdoor effort is targeted in Volvo's top markets, such as southern California, positioning the brand versus traditional-luxury competition—such as with the tag line, "Pretense is so past tense." In Los Angeles, one outdoor sign, already erected, refers to the Volvo S60 as "100% real. Can't say that about everything around here."

Panas said that Volvo specifically is targeting BMW, Mercedes-Benz and Lexus in its campaign, which is based on new research in which the brand asked consumers not why they bought Volvos but why they weren't buying these other brands.



"The answers we got were about people not feeling comfortable in a BMW, that Mercedes-Benz was too os-

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APARTMENT & REAL ESTATE GUIDE

Find the perfect place to call home in the Observer & Eccentric Media classified advertising section. We have apartment and real estate listings every week in the following communities:

Berkley • Birmingham • Canton • Clawson
Farmington • Garden City • Huntington Woods
Livonia • Milford • Northville • Novi
Pleasant Ridge • Plymouth • Redford • Royal Oak
Southfield • South Lyon • Westland

To place a listing in the Observer & Eccentric Media's Apartment & Real Estate Guide call: 1-800-579-SELL

Observer & Eccentric Media

	Homes	Homes	Homes	Homes
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THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

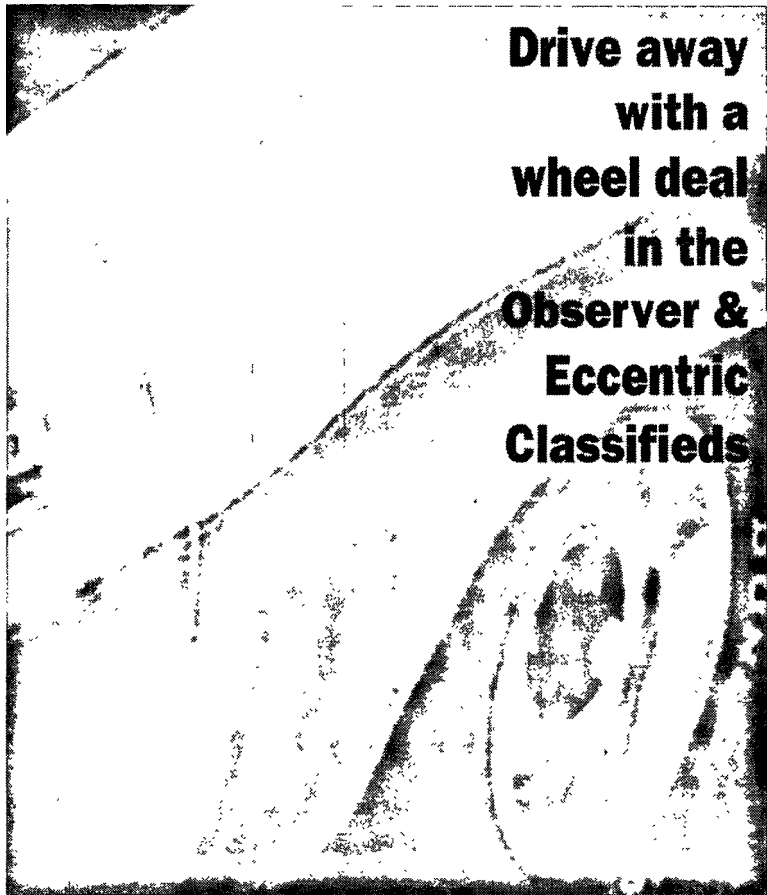
	30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 459-0782	3.375	0	2.5	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions (800) 593-1912	3.5	0	2.625	0	J/A
AFI Financial (877) 234-0600	3.375	0	2.5	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	3.375	0	2.5	0	J/A
Client Services by Gold Star (800) 991-9922	3.375	0	2.5	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	3.875	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	3.375	0	2.625	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.125	2.125	2.375	0.75	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage (248) 282-1602	3.625	0	2.875	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star (888) 293-3477	3.25	0.875	2.375	1	J/A/V/F
Sierra Pacific Mortgage (313) 215-1766	3.375	0	2.5	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 4/12/13 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

Key to "Other" column - J= Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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Lou LaRiche CHEVROLET

NO PAYMENTS 'TIL JULY ON SELECT VEHICLES!

2014 IMPALAS IN STOCK!

AARP members receive additional \$500 on Malibu purchase or lease**

2013 MALIBU LS #3C1539	\$83 with \$2999 down	24 Mo. \$127 with \$1999 down 36 Mo. \$164 with \$999 down	EMPLOYEE SPECIALS 1ST PAYMENT WAIVED
2013 CRUZE LS #3C1274	\$62 with \$2999 down	\$105 with \$1999 down \$149 with \$999 down	EVERYONE PRICING 1ST PAYMENT WAIVED
2013 EQUINOX LS #3T8449	\$112 with \$2999 down	\$155 with \$1999 down \$199 with \$999 down	EMPLOYEE SPECIALS 1ST PAYMENT WAIVED
2013 TRAVERSE LS #3T9129	\$86 with \$2999 down	\$128 with \$1999 down \$170 with \$999 down	EMPLOYEE SPECIALS

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT - 24 MONTH LEASE - 10,000 MILES/YEAR

NO CREDIT APPLICATION DENIED
 • Bankruptcy • Slow Pay
 • First Time Buyers • Divorce
 • Limited Credit
WE CAN HELP!

2011 MALIBU LS.....2402PR...\$15,881	2009 SILVERADO LT...2306P...\$23,989
2009 IMPALA LS...2289P...\$12,489	2012 SONIC 2LT...2427PR...\$15,482
2010 CAMARO ZSS...2038P...\$26,080	2009 IMPALA LT...2198P...\$12,989
2011 SILVERADO LTZ...2175P...\$22,481	2008 ENVOY SLE...2225P...\$13,988

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*No Security Deposit Offer Leases with approved credit plus tax, lic. fees, and title fees. All offers require reg. GM lease in household. Malibu #3C1539, Traverse #3T9129, Equinox #3T8449 require GM Employee/Family (GMS) Authorization - Cruze #3C1274 is everyone pricing. Stock sale only, others available at similar savings. Offers are subject to change due to manufacturer program changes and price fluctuations. See dealer for additional details. **90 day payment waiver on Camaro, Cruze, Equinox, Malibu and Silverado with approved credit. Lease offers require 42/4/13. Certified Pre Owned 1.9% for up to 36 months with approved credit. See dealer for details. ***See dealer for details.



2013 LINCOLN MKZ \$199

Per Month, \$2952 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax, Title, Plates, No Sec Dep., 24 Month Lease/21,000 Miles. All payments are based on A/Z plan and includes a \$1000 Competitive Conquest Bonus manufacture rebate.

Vin #3LDR803799

2013 LINCOLN MKX \$268

Per Month, \$2996 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax, Title, Plates, No Sec Dep., 24 Month Lease/21,000 Miles. All payments are based on A/Z plan and includes a \$750 lease renewal Manufacturer rebate.

Vin #2LDBL30776

2013 LINCOLN MKS AWD \$264

Per Month, \$2942 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax, Title, Plates, No Sec Dep., 24 Month Lease/21,000 Miles. All payments are based on A/Z plan and includes a \$750 lease renewal Manufacturer rebate.

Vin #1LDG616206

2013 LINCOLN MKS ECOBOOST \$351

Per Month, \$2979 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax, Title, Plates, No Sec Dep., 24 Month Lease/21,000 Miles. All payments are based on A/Z plan and includes a \$750 lease renewal Manufacturer rebate.

Vin #1LDG606967

2013 LINCOLN MKT ECOBOOST \$460

Per Month, \$2988 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax, Title, Plates, No Sec Dep., 36 Month Lease/31,500 Miles. All payments are based on A/Z plan and includes a \$750 lease renewal Manufacturer rebate.

Vin #2LDBL55047

2013 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR \$547

Per Month, \$2975 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax, Title, Plates, No Sec Dep., 36 Month Lease/31,500 Miles. All payments are based on A/Z plan and includes a \$750 lease renewal Manufacturer rebate.

Vin #5LDEL02643

JACK DEMMER LINCOLN

1-800-306-8674

21531 MICHIGAN AVE DEARBORN
 1 Mile West of Southfield Freeway
www.demmerLM.com

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 Mon. & Thurs. 9 am-9 pm
 Tues., Wed., Fri. 9 am-6 pm

SERVICE
 Monday-Friday
 7 am - 6 pm

\$750 EXTRA NOW... \$750 EXTRA ON YOUR TRADE IN!
 With the purchase or lease of a new vehicle. 1998 or newer, less than 100,000 miles. All prior sales excluded. Good through 4/30/13

*100 tax, title, license and plates. All applicable factory rebates included in price. All leases are 10,500 miles/yr. With approved credit. See Jack Demmer Lincoln for complete details. All offers subject to change due to early print deadlines. Security Deposit waived. **See Dealer for details. All payments are based on A/Z Plan, include \$750 lease renewal incentive, and expire on 4/30/13. Plus sales tax, title and plate fees.



At North Brothers Ford, April Showers Bring April Savings

NEW 2013 Ford Focus SE
24 Month Lease **ONLY**



\$115*
per month

VIN 1FDL312789

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$2,000 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 04/30/13

NEW 2013 Ford Escape SE FWD
24 Month Lease **ONLY**

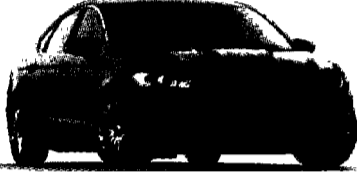


\$121*
per month

VIN 1FDUD23246

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$2,400 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 04/30/13

NEW 2013 Ford Fusion SE FWD
24 Month Lease **ONLY**



\$131*
per month

VIN 3FDR200094

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$2,200 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 04/30/13

NEW 2013 Ford Edge SE FWD
24 Month Lease **ONLY**



\$131*
per month

VIN 2FDBB98257

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$2,600 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 04/30/13

NEW 2013 Ford F150 Supercab 4X4
24 Month Lease **ONLY**



\$136*
per month

VIN 1FDFA44882

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$3,000 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 04/30/13

NEW 2013 Ford Flex SE FWD
24 Month Lease **ONLY**




\$183*
per month


VIN 2FDBD21846

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$3,000 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 04/30/13

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- Preferred Interest Rates
- New Wiper Blades
- Roadside Assistance
- Free Vehicle History Report
- 7 Year/100,000 Mile Limited Warranty Coverage

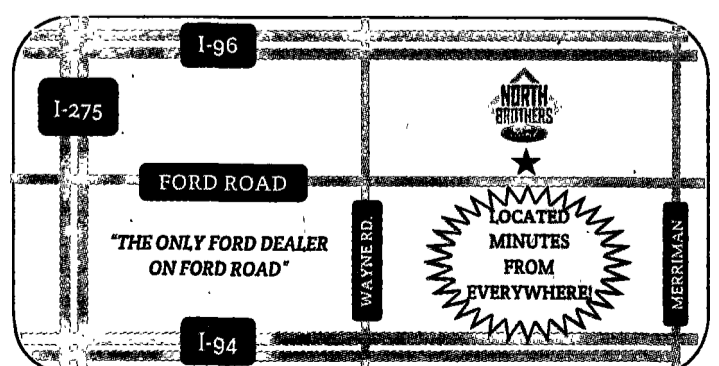
<p>2011 Ford Focus SE Sedan STK# 13T5121A</p> <p>\$14,988*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>	<p>2010 Ford Fusion SE STK# 13C8279A</p> <p>\$15,488*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>	<p>2010 Mercury Mariner 4X4 STK# 12T8060A</p> <p>\$16,988*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>	<p>2010 Ford Escape Limited STK# 13T9215A</p> <p>\$17,988*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>
<p>2010 Ford Flex SEL STK# 13T1114A</p> <p>\$20,988*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>	<p>2010 Ford Mustang V6 Convertible STK# 13T6016A</p> <p>\$21,988*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>	<p>2010 Ford Edge SE STK# 13T8007A</p> <p>\$23,988*</p> <p>Ford Certified Pre-Owned As low as 1.9% APR</p>	<p>FIRST YEAR OF MAINTENANCE IS FREE WITH FORD CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLE PURCHASE</p>

* Plus tax, Title, License, DOC and CVR fees. With approved credit.

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY FROM 9AM UNTIL 3PM

Monday & Thursday 8:30 AM - 9:00 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM

www.northbros.com
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33300 Ford Road - Westland