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USA WEEKEND

Wayne mulls fire millage options

Council considers effect on residents

By LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

As the Wayne City Council was presented with examples illustrating the impact on homeowners of a proposed 7-mill levy to fund police and fire pensions, some council members want to rethink the

November ballot question. "I was thinking of the comments from the last meeting. We should not do a 345 (pension plan), we should do a fire millage," said Councilman James Henley, one of the council members who had voted to place the 7-mill question on the November ballot.

The establishment of a 345 pension plan with dedicated millage for 10 years is aimed at taking that expense out of the city's strapped general

fund. The 7 mills are projected to generate \$1.9 million in 2014.

During the earlier meeting, council members had also discussed changing the ballot question to seek 5 mills instead of 7 mills as a smaller amount that might be more acceptable to voters. Funding from the 5 mills would still require additional budget reductions.

Special election

Suggesting a special election be held in February to

seek dedicated fire millage, Henley said the city would need dedicated funding for the fire authority that is being organized.

The fire authority — at a minimum involving the merged Wayne-Westland Fire Department — would require dedicated millage approved by voters. That question is expected to be on the November 2014 ballot.

In Westland, it is expected that the dedicated fire millage

would result in an equal offsetting reduction in general fund money. Henley's proposal would use a dedicated fire millage as additional funding sources to free up general fund money.

The fire authority could include additional neighboring communities. Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy was asked when numbers would be available on the fire authority

See MILLAGE, Page A2

Bomb threat defendant competent for trial

By LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

A man charged with terrorism and kidnapping after holding a hostage with a bomb threat at Westland City Hall has been found competent to stand trial.

The preliminary examination for Sean William Quigley, 37, was adjourned Thursday until Aug. 29 in Westland 18th District Court.



Quigley

Noting he'd just received the competency report from Center for Forensic Psychiatry and Judge Sandra Cicirelli's congested docket that day, defense attorney William Winters requested the adjournment.

Held without bond since his arrest May 13, Quigley is charged with four felonies, including terrorism and kidnapping, both of which carry a sentence of up to life in prison, making a false report or threat of terrorism and making a false report or threat of a bomb/harmful device, both four-year felonies. A not guilty plea was entered.

Described as homeless and staying around the Westland area, Quigley came to City Hall looking for Westland Mayor William Wild. Along with other city staff, Wild was attending the funeral of Wayne-Westland Firefighter Brian Woehlke, who was killed in the line of duty on May 8.

Upset at not being able to see Wild, Quigley is charged with claiming he had a bomb and holding an employee hostage. About 25 other employees

See TRIAL, Page A2

Liberator Park support needed

Members of the St. Simon and Jude Catholic Church parish are being asked to support the creation of Liberator Park and celebrate the historical designation of the Norwayne Community

Support can be provided by contributing to the bake sale, purchasing baked goods or making a financial contribution to Liberator Park for an event to be held Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, Westland.

Baked goods should be delivered to the Dorsey Community Center between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, or at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.

Donations of yard waste bags and used garden tools also are needed.

It took two years, but last month, the Norwayne community was designated a historic district and included in the National Registry of Historic Places. The subdivision was developed in World War II to house workers supporting the war effort at the Willow Run Bomber Plant and other nearby factories.

For more information or arrange pick up, call Henry Johnson at 734-444-8344.

A SWEET DAY



Dairy Queen employee Candace Rogers watches Ramon Aguilar of Redford make a Blizzard during his visit Thursday to the Westland store as part of Miracle Treat Day, a fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network at William Beaumont Hospital.

Teen helps promote charity on DQ's Miracle Treat Day

By Sue Mason, Staff Writer

Ramon Aguilar is quite familiar with making food. He's done pancakes at IHOP and Blizzards at Dairy Queen. It's the eating part of it that the Redford teen has difficulty with.

He has not eaten food since he was born, relying on feeding tubes to get nourishment. But a series of three operations are being done by surgeons at the William Beaumont Hospital Craniofacial and Cleft Palate Clinic to reconstruct the right side of his face and his jaw enabling him to eat solid food for the first time in his life.

"He'll eat vanilla ice cream, but he won't eat chocolate ice cream because it tastes nasty," said his mother, Angie Atkinson. "He's never tasted it. Everything he eats goes right into his stomach."

Aguilar, his mother and stepfather, Angie and Brent Atkinson, were at the Westland Dairy Queen on Thursday to help promote DQ's Miracle Treat Day, a fundraiser for

the Children's Miracle Network at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

Owner Carole Campbell was thrilled to have the teen stop by the store and had him help employees Candace Rogers and Chris Amin make Blizzards for customers and learn how to make the DQ soft serve swirl.

"To know the money is going to help someone like Ramon <WL>



Ramon Aguilar visits with Carole Campbell, owner of the Dairy Queen in the Kroger plaza at Ford and Central City Parkway.

that's why I do this every year," Campbell said.

Dairy Queen stores throughout the country participated in the fundraiser. According to Matt Romkey, associate director of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, 100 percent of the money raised local will stay in the area to help local

See TREAT, Page A2



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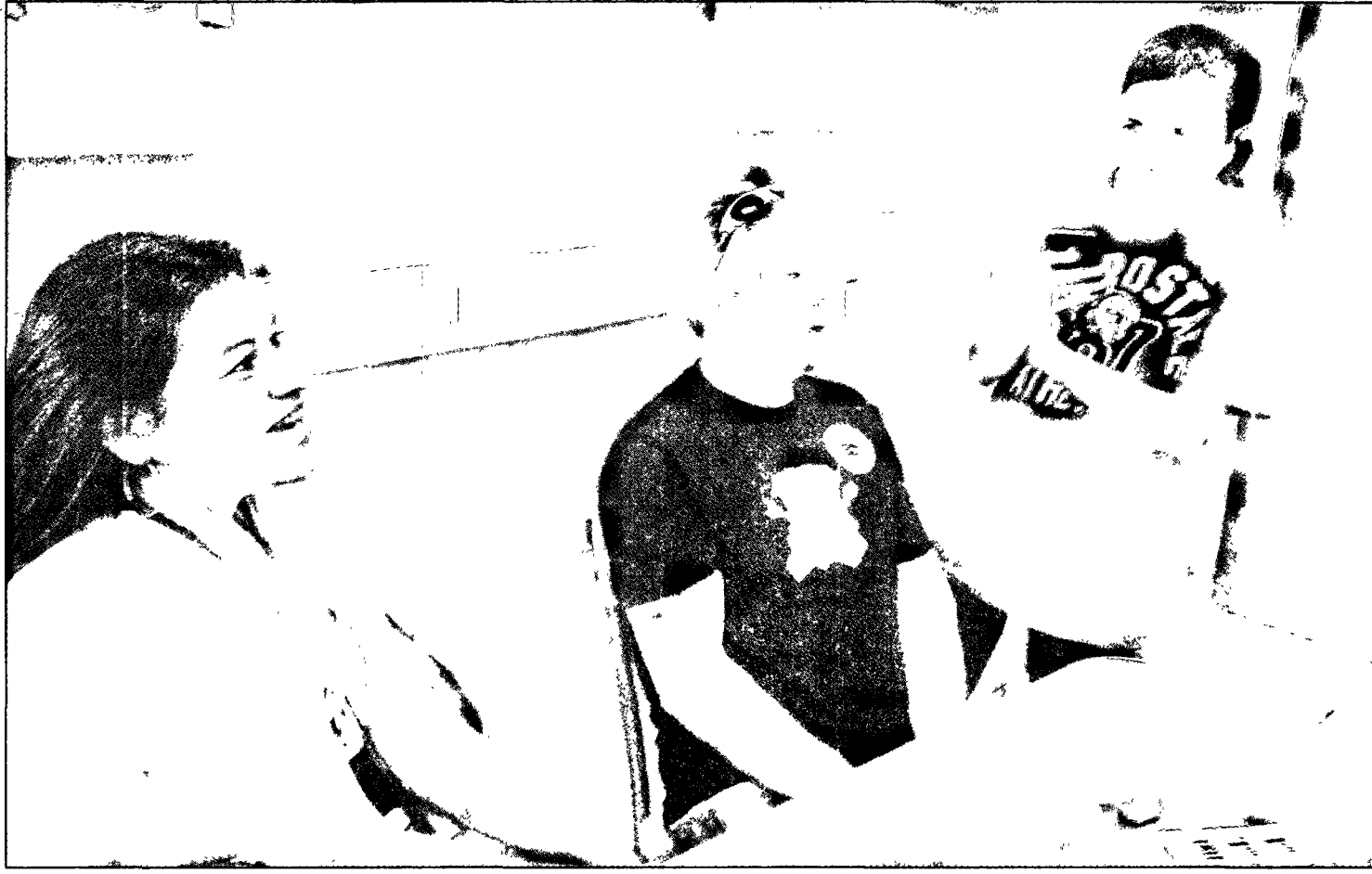
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Angie and Brent Atkinson joke with their son Ramon Aguilar during a stop at the Westland Dairy Queen, where he made Blizzards for customers.

TREAT

Continued from Page A1

kids. "Miracle Treat Day brings in about \$30,000, annually Dairy Queen contributes \$60,000 to Beaumont to help children," Romkey said.

'Miracle baby'

Angie Atkinson refers to her son as "my miracle baby." He weighed just three pounds when he was born seven weeks early. He was resuscitated several times and was in neonatal intensive care for four months.

He was born Goldenhar syndrome, a congenital birth defect that affects development of the face. He has no right ear and no cheekbone or jaw on the right side of his face. He also had a cleft palate and lip and heart defect.

His twin brother Victor, however, had no difficulties. While Ramon is 4 feet 8 inches tall and 79 pounds, his brother is 5 feet 8 inches tall and 203 pounds.

Aguilar's jaw sockets never developed, so he can't open his

mouth very wide, affecting his speech and ability to chew. He has been tube-fed his whole life — a nasal gastric tube as a baby and eventually a gastric tube that put food directly into his stomach. Atkinson hopes that with the third surgery, they will be able to wean him off the tube feeding.

"He's fearful about eating from having food come up through his nose because of the cleft palate," Angie said. "That hole was closed when he was 7. He's had more than 50 surgeries. He has had open heart surgery, but before they did that he had four angioplasties. We know he has another one coming to replace the aortic valve."

The family lived in Wisconsin and was 1½ hours away from the hospital. They had heard about Children's Miracle Network, but didn't get involved with it until they moved to Michigan four years ago. Atkinson sought out a good cardiologist and settled for a doctor at Beaumont. That led to the Craniofacial and Cleft Palate Clinic and CMN which "contacted us."

"They have helped us so much," she said. "It's become

so personal with the doctors and the nurses and the Miracle Network Team."

Rebuilding his face

In the first two surgeries, doctors at Beaumont have used a portion of Aguilar's skull and bone from his shoulder to create a cheekbone and jaw. They also used a skin graft to fill out his cheek. The third surgery, which will be done Aug. 20, they will lift his brow and bring out his jaw bone to make his face more asymmetrical. They will fix his palate in his mouth that will help his speech which is nasally, his mother said.

"He's just started speech therapy and thinks it's hard," Atkinson said. "He also has to learn the mechanics of eating from putting food in his mouth, moving it to his teeth to chew and moving it back to swallow. For him, that's hard to do."

The teen hasn't let his health issues slow him down. While he can't play sports, he has been involved in football and basketball at Thurston, serving as the teams' water boy. He smiles and says good when asked how he is as a student, and like most teens, his cell phone is his constant companion.

He also is somewhat of a local celebrity.

"He's made pancakes for IHOP, did a radio show and TV, he even got a kiss from Amy Andrews (of FOX 2). He was supposed to man the phones for a radiothon, but we ended up in the ER," said his mother Angie Atkinson, recounting his efforts to promote the work of the Children's Miracle Network at Beaumont. "He's famous."

Campbell has been participating in Miracle Treat Day since becoming a Dairy Queen owner five years ago. She is among a few "superstores" in southeast Michigan which donate 100 percent of sales for the day to CMN. She also has been selling paper balloons for a donation that customers sign. Her wall is covered with them, including one large balloon Brent Atkinson bought for Ramon.

"He's what it is all about — a child who gets to be normal," Campbell said. "That's why I donate 100 percent of my proceeds on Miracle Treat Day."

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MILLAGE

Continued from Page A1

operating costs. "We're in the process of gathering data. Labor costs will be the biggest factor and until we negotiate, we won't know that," said Reddy, adding the current separate Westland and Wayne firefighters' collective bargaining agreements don't expire until 2014 and 2015, respectively.

Fire millage idea

Councilmen James Hawley and John Rhaesa, who both voted against placing the 345 question on the ballot, supported looking into the fire millage idea.

"If the city elects not to increase the millage this year, we still have pension and insurance liabilities to pay," Councilman Albert Damitio said. "We need to balance the budget or go bankrupt. Bankruptcy doesn't eliminate the pension liabilities. We will lose services and still have to pay."

Finance Director James Ghedotte had presented an analysis of the 7 mills impact on homeowners showing the decrease in property taxes since 2008.

Using actual assessments, Ghedotte showed a home that had a peak taxable value of \$92,269 in 2008 paying nearly \$4,250 in property taxes. With a current value of \$59,800, that homeowner paid \$2,972 in 2012. That a \$1,244 reduction in property taxes. The 7 mills would result in a \$418 increase in annual taxes on the home.

Other examples saw smaller increases in property taxes. Some residents complained about monthly fixed charges passed on by the city from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and annual lighting assessments, formerly absorbed by the city, neither of which are property taxes.

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TRIAL

Continued from Page A1
managed to flee.
The hostage was even-

tually able to escape and Quigley was reportedly taken into custody. No one was injured. The incident resulted in Ford Road being closed for

several hours. Before the hearing was adjourned Thursday, Winters asked Cicirelli to refer Quigley for a pre-trial services report through Wayne County Circuit Court defendant screening.

"I'll try. They usually don't like to do it until the defendant is at circuit court," Cicirelli said.

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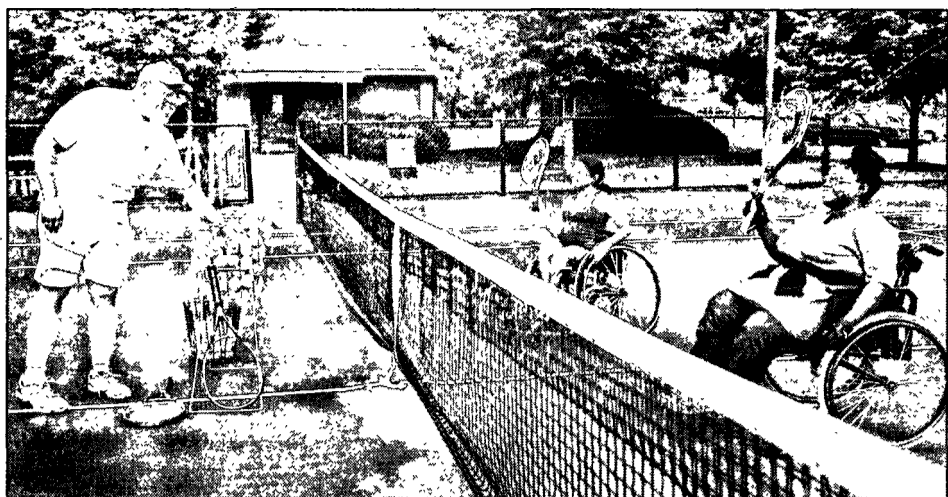
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Coach Phil Woods practicing with Michaela Hawk, 15, from Westland, and Angela Miller, from Detroit.

Wheelchair athletes find camaraderie, competition

By Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

Gersena Guyton always wanted to play tennis.

But she never bothered picking up a racquet. That is, until she got into a car crash that left her partially paralyzed.

A few years later, she was playing tennis.

"I like the exercise and I like the interaction with other handicapped people," said Guyton, 51, of Southfield. "And it's just a lot of fun."

Welcome to the world of wheelchair tennis. Same rules, same court, same racquet. The only difference is the players get two bounces instead of one.

Guyton and some other players were taking lessons Wednesday at the Southfield Civic Center. Phil Woods, their tennis instructor, kept tossing out balls and encouraging the players.

"My one idea of wheelchair tennis is I expect everyone to get better," he said. "If you don't get better, it's a bad reflection on me because it means I'm not a very good instructor. So I want to everyone to give their best effort."

Woods, 65, teaches at the Beverly Hills Racquet Club, and he's the owner of the Total Tennis store in Bloomfield Township. He's passionate about the game and he loves to coach.

He's been teaching wheelchair tennis for about 12 years. His approach is simple: work hard, have fun, and hit the ball hard. Don't let your disability get in the way of a good sweat.

Angela Miller and Michaela Hawk were also on the court. Miller, who lives in Detroit, stays in shape through regular workouts. The 43-year-old also likes to kayak and water ski. She started playing two years ago.

"I was like, 'wheelchair tennis ... really?' I had to come over here and see it for myself," she said.

Hawk, 15, of Westland, is the quickest in the group. She just got back from a wheelchair sports camp and looks toned. She moves at full speed around the court in a



Michaela Hawk, 15, from Westland was having a good time on the court.

sports chair outfitted with an extra wheel to keep her from falling backwards.

Hawk said her goal is to play in the Paralympics. She encourages anyone with a disability to try new sports and not to worry if it seems hard. "Just believe in yourself and you can do it," she said.

Finding a balance

Even so, Woods admits it's hard finding new players. Not everyone is an athlete, and having a disability can leave a person feeling self-conscious.

"Whether you're able-bodied or not, nobody wants to look bad," he said. "So in that sense, it's hard to recruit people in a wheelchair because they really don't want to look bad. You have to show them they can do it."

Woods knows what it's like to spend time in a chair. In junior high school, he was involved in a bad car accident that left him with a broken hip and other injuries.

He reminds his players that everyone will end up with a disability if they live long enough.

Asked then how he finds players, Woods smiled and said he'll approach just about anyone who's in a wheelchair.

"I've stopped people in supermarkets and asked them if they ever thought about playing," he said.

Guyton said playing tennis motivated her to take swimming lessons. She next wants to take up golf.

"Give it a try," she said to anyone with a disability. "It's not as difficult as you think it may be. And I think seeing other people in the

Man charged with stabbing faces competency exam

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Charged with attacking and seriously injuring his elderly neighbors with a knife, a Westland man has been referred for a competency examination.

The preliminary examination for Jeff Richard Peters, 50, in Westland 18th District Court was delayed to Oct. 10 until the examination can be completed.

Peters is charged with stabbing the couple after they answered the door early July 27. Police said Peters had knocked on the door of another neighbor earlier yelling obscenities but that person didn't open her door.

The couple, ages 77 and 78, are recovering from their injuries.

Peters is jailed in lieu of bond facing seven felony charges: two counts of assault with intent to commit murder, two counts of assault with intent to commit great bodily harm, two counts of felonious assault and one count of first-degree home invasion.

"Once he realizes what he has done, he'll be more horrified than

anyone that he attacked those people," said Scott Peters, Jeff's older brother. "He has a conscience. It just breaks my heart to see how it ended up. I'd prefer to see him in a psychiatric facility but there is no good outcome in this for Jeff."

Health issues

Jeff Peters has had mental health issues since the 1980s, suffering a psychotic break after heavy alcohol and drug use, according to his brother. For a time, Jeff Peters lived a stable life making a living as an iron worker.

There was a diagnosis of schizophrenia and later a closed head injury that caused Jeff Peters' life and mental health to deteriorate, Scott Peters said.

As his brother pulled away from his family and refused treatment or medication for his illness, Scott Peters said he was frustrated by the lack of assistance from police and mental health professionals.

"I guess it was prophetic that Westland Police said they couldn't do anything until he (Jeff Peters) broke the law," Scott Peters said. "We

all converged so many times to get him help. Once he was better, he'd push us away. The police and mental health authorities backed him up — we were meddling and buttinskis."

Groups don't help

Scott Peters was unhappy with groups like the American Civil Liberties Union for efforts to keep mentally ill patients from being required to take medications.

From Sacramento where he lives, Scott Peters said he wanted the couple, Tommie and Charlene Bemis, to know how deeply sorry his family was about the attack.

"I knew something bad would happen, but I would never guess something like this," Scott Peters said. "We tried so hard — that's the worst of it. The rights of the (mentally ill) person are protected. We couldn't put together what we needed to push for his commitment."

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Westland teen gets AFPD scholarship

Sara Burgess of Westland received a \$1,500 in college scholarships from the AFPD Foundation at its 2013 Joseph D. Sarafa Annual Scholarship Luncheon, held July 23.

Burgess was submitted by Mid Joy Market and sponsored for the scholarship by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Burgess is a freshman at the University of Michigan, where she is studying design and production with a specialization in stage management. She graduated from Franklin High School, where she participated in many extracurricular activities, including theater, the National Honor Society, Patriots Relate and the Gay-Straight Alliance. She has volunteered with the VAMC and Meals on Wheels.

The AFPD Foundation was established in 1999 as the philanthropic arm of AFPD "The Voice of Independent Retailers" and is dedicated to providing scholarships and promoting education through the food and petroleum industry.



A \$1,000 grant from Community Financial Credit Union will help conductor Nan Washburn and the Michigan Philharmonic continue to bring music to students in the Plymouth-Canton, Wayne-Westland and Van Buren school districts.

GRANT GOES TOWARD MUSIC FOR KIDS

\$1,000 donation helps bring music to local schools

Community Financial Credit Union has awarded \$1,000 to Michigan Philharmonic for their CLASSical Music for Kids program, including Concert for Kids, as part of Community Financial's third annual Summer of Sharing campaign.

CLASSical Music for Kids, the Michigan Philharmonic CLASSical music program, brings music to the Plymouth-Canton, Wayne-Westland and Van Buren school districts. Third-grade students meet musician-sand learn about their instruments while enjoying performances from different eras and cultures.

Fourth-graders attend a specially programmed, age-appropriate concert called "Koncert for Kids." Here, students learn about how the or-

chestra is put together, what each instrument's sounds are and what the conductor does.

Students get to meet composer, Andre Myers, who narrates his own work, based on the book "Paddle to the Sea." They also get a conducting lesson and get to sing with the orchestra.

"We were really thrilled to receive one of the Community Financial award grants for the education program," said Beth Stewart, Michigan Philharmonic's executive director. "We really appreciate their support for arts education in our community."

Community Financial is donating \$1,000 every Monday through Friday until Aug. 30, to non-profit organizations nominated during the Summer of Sharing cam-

aign. Nominations can be made at www.SummerofSharing.org.

"Our members are actively involved in the community and we want to support the charities that are important to them," said Bill Lawton, Community Financial Credit Union President/CEO.

The first Summer of Sharing campaign was launched in 2011 to help celebrate Community Financial's 60th anniversary. The program is now in its third year.

Visit www.cfcu.org or connect with them on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/CommunityFinancial, Twitter at www.Twitter.com/CFCreditUnion, or YouTube at www.YouTube.com/CommunityFinancial.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Central Michigan

Named to the Honors List for the spring at Central Michigan University were:

» Garden City residents **Christina Dork, Nicholas Kostora, John Renaud, Alayana Smith, Matthew Stark and Breann Wasson.**

» Wayne residents **Donald Herber, Danielle Borg and Cassidy Porter.**

» Westland residents **Shelby Arnold, Brooke Broudecker, Carolanne Cucci, Jadyn Deeter, Derek Dollar, Jennifer Drum, Zachary Ernat, Andrew Florkowski, Alecia Geraghty, Jessica Hatfield, James Hollenbeck, John Irwin, Catherine Johnston, Rebecca Lawrukovich, Emily McCullen, Danielle Mika, Grant Morgan, Melissa Mueller, Robert Padgett, Kelly Plocharczyk, Cameron Pogorel, Kenneth Sahr, Angeline Sawaya, Louise Sawaya, Kaleigh Schippa, DeAngelo Smith, Kelly Sutherland, Jennifer Troost, Nicholas Wey and Sarah Wright.**

Students had to earn at least a 3.5 or higher grade-point average to be named to the honors list.

Receiving their degrees in May at Central Michigan University were:

» Garden City residents **Christine Chapman, bachelor of science in education, and Alexandra Shingleton, bachelor of science.**

» Wayne resident **Donald Herber, master of science in administration.**

» Westland residents **Kaitlyn Boczar, bachelor of science; Brian Durocher, master of**

music; Kelsey Garbutt, master of arts; Tera Garza, bachelor of science; Scott German, master of arts; Harless Halrston, bachelor of science; Catherine Johnston, bachelor of science; Danielle Mika, bachelor of applied arts; Kimberly Mitchell, master of science in administration; John Moore, bachelor of science; Robert Paget, bachelor of science in business administration; Chelsea Randles, bachelor of science in education; Aaron Scott, bachelor of science in education; Melissa Torok, bachelor of applied arts, and Ashley Zonca, bachelor of applied arts.

Baker College

Two Westland residents received degrees from Baker College. **Robin D. Anderson** received an associate of applied science degree, while **Damion Jackson** received an associate of business degree.

Saginaw Valley State University

Garden City residents **Cassandra Ford and Bethany Thrun** were among 1,860 students named to the Dean's List for the winter 2013 semester at Saginaw Valley State University.

To be eligible, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours and earn a semester grade-point average of 3.4 or better.

Josh Selinski of Garden City was among 476 SVSU students named to the President's List for the winter 2013 semester. Students must earn a 4.0 semester GPA.

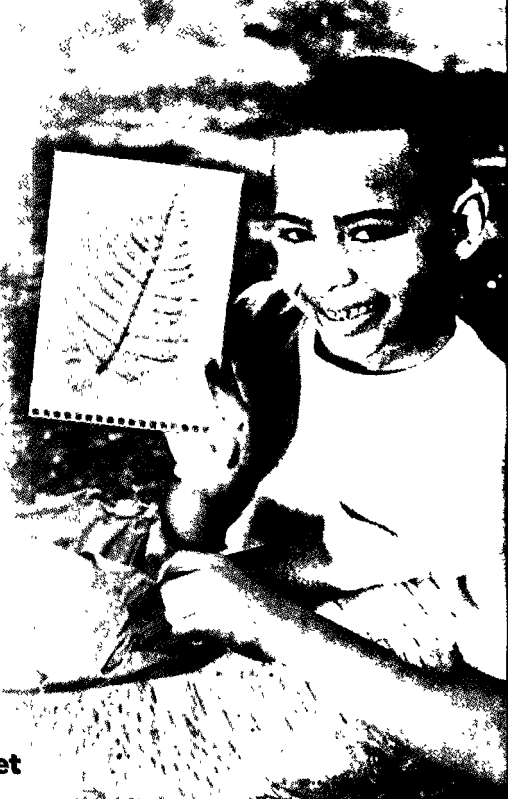
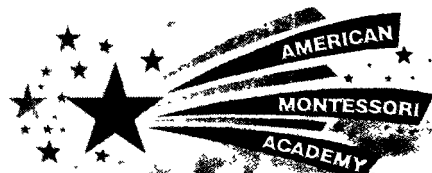
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HEALTH CHECK



Newburgh Lake is filling up with weed and algae growth, as this photo shows.

Algae, invasive weeds creating mess on Newburgh Lake

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

It's been about 15 years since Wayne County completed a nearly \$12 million restoration of Newburgh Lake, which for decades was one of the crown jewels of the Wayne County Parks system. The project, paid for through a federal grant and completed in 1998, was an attempt to resurrect the once popular destination for fishing and boating.

Yet, today, the lake is not safe to swim in and probably never will be. Canoeists and kayakers use the lake, but have a difficult time plying its waters due to excessive amounts of algae growth and invasive Eurasian watermilfoil, which found its way into the lake about 10 years ago and has now spread

throughout most of the western portion of the lake. As a result, there is a large green mat covering a lot of the lake's surface, which harms the aesthetic value of the park.

County officials know what is causing the problems, but are trying to figure out what they can do to mitigate them. The algae growth is largely a result of storm water runoff after rain events that carries sediment loads and lawn fertilizers from upstream areas into the lake. The Eurasian watermilfoil is a separate issue and certainly not unique to Newburgh Lake. Once in a lake, it is very difficult to control.

Still, despite these challenges, county officials say the lake is safe for fishing and boating and remains a great recreational resource for



Friends of the Rouge member Mike Darga (right) takes a group of interested neighbors on a tour of Newburgh Lake on July 25. Darga is looking to improve conditions on the lake - which lies along Hines Drive and is part of the Rouge River system - as the lake is filling with weeds and algae growth, making its enjoyment difficult. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

those who live and work in Wayne County.

"Newburgh Lake is a wonderful amenity for our Wayne County residents," said Kelly Cave, director of Water Quality Management Division for the Wayne County Department of Public Services. "We have many, many species of fish. And the lake is home to many birds, salamanders, right down to the bugs and aquatic insects. It is a success story."

The cleanup

At the time of the restoration project, the 145-acre lake was basically on life support. As population and industry began moving into the western suburbs, Newburgh Lake, created in the 1930s by damming up the Rouge River, became plagued by pollution fed

to it by the river upstream. The lake bottom was contaminated by large amounts of toxic PCBs, creating a dangerous public nuisance. Fish surveys in the late 1980s indicated high concentrations of these PCBs in the lake's fish.

More than 400,000 cubic yards of sediments, containing 3,400 pounds of PCBs, along with 28,000 pounds of contaminated fish, were removed from the lake. Fish and wildlife habitat were also created. The lake was stocked with many species of fish, including those desired by anglers like bluegill, catfish, northern pike, bass, walleye and perch. The project was declared a success.

Many of the issues that once plagued the river - industrial run-off

and sanitary overflows - have been eliminated and are no longer the issue, according to Mike Darga, who serves as president of Friends of the Rouge, an organization that has spearheaded efforts to clean up the Rouge River for decades.

"The fish are safer to eat. It's safer for residents to use. Sanitary outflows have been eliminated," said Darga, a Northville resident.

About two weeks ago, Darga guided a tour around Newburgh Lake that was attended by about a dozen people. He talked about the lake's storied history, which includes figures like Henry Ford, who built a dam on the lake for his village industries. Of course, the industrialization ultimately had a negative impact on the

lake and the Rouge River as a whole.

Measured improvements

Kelly Cave first came to Michigan in 1993, when she was with a consulting firm working on the Rouge River restoration plan. Soon thereafter, she hired on with the county and has seen firsthand the improvements to the Rouge River, along with Newburgh Lake. The county and state have been monitoring water quality in the lake and Rouge River for years and there has been major improvements in water quality, including higher dissolved oxygen levels and much lower E.coli bacteria counts caused by sanitary overflows.

See LAKE, Page A6

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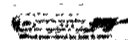
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LAKE

Continued from Page A5

"Just like the rest of the Rouge River system, we have seen great improvements in Newburgh Lake. In terms of having the lake and Rouge River as recreational resources, we have seen some staggering numbers as far as improvements to water quality go," Cave said.

The improvements have been so great that Alan Heavner, who has rented out canoes on the Huron River for 60 years, approached the county last year about operating a livery on the lake. For the second summer in a row, Heavner is doing just that. The company has 25 canoes and a couple of kayaks for rent Friday through Sunday each week.

"Everyone we talk to is just thrilled about us being here," said Jeff Vallender, a Heavner employee who coordinates the rentals at Newburgh Lake. "People see this as a great opportunity for recreation in an urban area, a unique area."

Still, Vallender admits the unsightly algae and excessive weed growth are a problem. He said it scares away a lot of potential canoeists. He said it was so bad last summer that they had to shut down for three weeks because they were worried it was too dangerous for people to paddle through.

"It isn't attractive. The concern I have is the number of people who don't come up and talk to us. They see the green out there and they don't want to get into a canoe. The impression it leaves is it is polluted. People don't realize it's a natural issue," said Vallender, a Farmington resident. "This certainly isn't a clean, cold water, spring-fed lake. But it is a unique place, where a lot of people can be introduced to canoeing for the

first time. So we think it's pretty neat and unique."

Residents must help

Darga said the big challenge that groups like Friends of the Rouge and the county have is to convince people to be more aware of the impact they having on water quality. Storm water runoff from lawns as far away as Salem Township, Novi and Northville Township ultimately finds its way to Newburgh Lake.

"Today, it's more of the man-made issues — the fertilizers, the oils off of our cars. These are things Wayne County can't really control," Darga said.

Cave agreed. "The algae grows when you have excess nutrients in the water, which comes from the runoff. So the solution for the algae is people need to help us," she said. "They need to properly fertilize their lawns. They need to use river-friendly practices at home."

The county lists things people can do at home on its website. Visit www.waynecounty.com/doe_wqm_res_pp.htm for some tips.

As for the Eurasian watermilfoil, Cave said there a couple of courses of action the county could take, but it is important to find the right one. For example, she said the county could take a harvester out on the lake, but she said that would only be short term and could make the problem worse if the chopped up weeds make their way downstream. Other solutions could be a herbicide or the use of small weevils that target the plant.

"People need to know these weeds are very invasive and they have only been in Michigan for about 10 years. Now that they are here, we are trying to come up with a plan that will work. There is no easy solution, because everything you try is going to have unintended consequences," she said.

Mother to stand trial in baby's 2012 death

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

One day short of being four months old, Kaylee Laretz was reportedly left sleeping alone face down in her parents' pillow top bed which was covered with linens and three pillows.

By the time her mother Kassie Lyn Laretz returned home from visiting a next door neighbor and her sister, who lived across the street, the baby was dead, having been asphyxiated.

Following a preliminary examination in Westland 18th District Court Thursday, Laretz, 29, was ordered to stand trial on charges of involuntary manslaughter and second-degree child abuse in the April 21, 2012, death of her youngest child.

Defense attorney David Lankford conceded Laretz, who a blood test showed had taken a number of prescription drugs including opiates, didn't provide good parenting.

"I'm not going to sit here and say this was the best parenting I've ever seen," he said. "I hope most parents are better focused on the current (safe sleeping) recommendations. But it was not grossly negligent."

'Unsafe situation'

Citing the testimony from Assistant Wayne County Medical Examiner Dr. Francisco Diaz, infant death investigator Patricia Tackitt and Laretz's sister Katie Zeoli, Judge Sandra Cicirelli disagreed.

Francisco testified that the baby had a normal weight and length, suffered from no con-

genital defect or illness and suffered no trauma.

"It was a negative autopsy. We are left with the circumstances. The infant was in an adult bed which was in disarray," Diaz said. "There was obstruction of the upper airway by being compressed by something. In my opinion it was the result of an unsafe sleep situation."

Based on the faint

lividity on the baby's face — blood settling due to gravity after death — Diaz said the baby had

only died a few minutes before being found unresponsive.

"A four-month old can't defend itself against objects. It could have been an adult or a child sharing the bed or an object. I can't tell," he said. "There was just enough pressure to not allow the baby to turn around. It doesn't take much of a surface to obstruct the breathing."

An infant would lose consciousness in 30-45 seconds due to lack of oxygen, Diaz testified, then only a couple of minutes to asphyxiate.

"Most SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) were due to unsafe sleeping practices," said Diaz, adding that cause of death is no longer widely used.

A registered nurse, Tackitt works as an infant mortality investigator for the Michigan Public Health Institute and is assigned to the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office.

As part of her investigation, Tackitt said she met with Laretz and her husband at their home on Genesee Court a couple days after Kay-

lee died to develop a reenactment of what had transpired.

Received information

During the interview, Tackitt said she asked Laretz if she received sleep safety information — recommendations that include not having infants sleep with others, no pillows or linens in the crib and placing the baby on its back.

"She said she was given information on safe sleep placement. She seemed aware the baby should be in a crib," Tackitt said. "She said the baby had been in bed with her. She was watching television in bed with the baby and mom drifted off for awhile."

Initially Laretz said that she had placed the baby in the bed on her back but later changed her story, Tackitt testified.

"She was concerned that (the baby's) dad would be upset if she left the baby on its stomach," Tackitt said. "She changed her story after her husband said he'd still love her, if the baby was left on her stomach."

Lankford questioned how much Laretz understood of the safe sleeping information provided.

From her home across the street, Zeoli said she first saw her sister about 2 p.m. April 21 when Laretz was on the front porch of her home visiting with her mother-in-law and sister-in-law.

A short time later, Laretz went to visit residents of the adjoining duplex, Zeoli said, then headed across the street to Zeoli's home.

While she had two bassinets, Zeoli said Laretz often had Kaylee sleeping in a swing or on the couch.

"I'd tell her to put the baby into the bassinet, that she wouldn't get good sleep in the swing," said Zeoli, who also testified that several times she suggested that Laretz should go home to check on the baby, who was alone with a three-year-old sister.

After being reminded of earlier testimony, Zeoli said described Laretz as being "high" on prescription drugs based on her behavior.

"As parents, we all have a legal duty to care properly for the child," Cicirelli said. "The child died of asphyxiation with an obstructed airway. It was an accident. If someone has a gun in their home, it goes off and kills someone, it's an accident but the person is negligent of their duty. That's the case here."

Cicirelli agreed to reduce bond for Laretz from \$500,000 cash to \$100,000 but expressed concern about the safety of her now 4-year-old and 10-year-old daughters, if she were released and left as primary caregiver.

Laretz is scheduled for Wayne County Circuit Court arraignment Aug. 15.

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Plant fire in '53 killed 6, changed safety standards

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Harry Hoyt joined the Livonia Fire Department in May 1953. He didn't think his most impactful moment during his 31-year career would come less than three months later.

On Aug. 12, 1953, the largest fire to ever take place at an automotive factory broke out at the General Motors Hydramatic Plant on Plymouth Road in Livonia. Now, almost 60 years later, Hoyt still remembers the details of the biggest blaze in the city's history.

"Once it started, you couldn't control anything," the 82-year-old South Lyon resident said. "We were at the fire for a week."

The factory burned for almost a week after fire crews from Livonia, Redford, Plymouth, Canton and Nankin Township arrived on scene. The factory was a complete loss, and was the worst industrial fire in the world when it happened. Only six people died as a result of the fire, leaving more of the more than 4,000 employees of the plant safe yet jobless.

The blaze is widely cited for a lengthy list of changes to both the fire prevention at factories across the country and the fire department in Livonia, which had just incorporated as a city three years earlier.

The plant, which manufactured some of the first automatic transmissions for consumer vehicles, had a laundry list of symptoms that made it susceptible to catching fire.

"The biggest problem was how the roof was constructed with wooden pitch," said Greg Wallace, manager of the GM Heritage Center in Sterling Heights. "It changed everything in the way that GM safety practices."

The floors were also made of wood, constructed to easily absorb liquids created in the plant, but provided fuel to the blaze that was started outside when construction workers used an oxyacetylene cutting torch and ignited a conveyer drip pan containing a highly flammable liquid.

Reports indicate several



Smoke bellows out of the GM Hydramatic Plant in Livonia on Aug. 12, 1953. Nearing the 60th anniversary of the fire, it is still regarded as one of the biggest losses in the industrial age. LIVONIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

workers attempted to put the blaze out using fire extinguishers, but ran out before the fire could be contained.

It was nearly 20 minutes between when the fire started and when the fire department arrived, indicating that attempt, said Robert Solomon, division manager for building and life safety codes for the National Fire Prevention Association.

"In a fire, you lose 30 seconds or a minute of time, you give that fire that much more an advantage," he said. "In terms of when you look at when you look at worst industrial loss fire, this one is in the top ten of the world."

Changes to the department

When Livonia started its fire department, training, qualifications and other abilities were not what they are today. Full-time, paid firefighters

were still a rarity in the department, and the city didn't realize the need for them until after the Hydra-matic plant fire.

"We certainly looked at our ability from a tactical and operational standpoint. I think that changed the way our city began to view firefighting and fire suppression," said Shadd Whitehead, Livonia's current fire chief. "I think the city understood that it needed to build a first-class fire department."

Mostly serving as volunteers, Livonia's fire department was small, with only a handful of firefighters operating out of its two fire houses. By 1954, after the blaze, the department had hired 32 full-time firefighters.

Without a top-of-the-line fire department, Whitehead said some industries may have looked at Livonia differently when trying to open up shop.

With miles of industrial development, how those buildings were kept safe was a crucial piece of attracting business to the city.

But for those employed by the department at the time, it meant long hours. Donald Folsom, a 90-year-old Livonia resident and former firefighter that fought the blaze after returning to Michigan while on vacation, said the men that worked on that fire spent 12 hours on scene. After a 12-hour break, they'd be back in the firehouse assisting.

Folsom said he knew the blaze would become historical if he was hearing about it that far north into Canada.

"We happened to hear it on the radio. About an hour later, they said it was Livonia," he said. "It was international news."

Hoyt said he remembers seeing the switchboard light up with phone calls from all over

the world at the dispatch center in Livonia.

"At headquarters there, they were getting calls from all over the world," he said.

Industrial changes

Changes were made after the blaze to how factories and plants were assembled as well, something that still takes place today.

Sue Daniels, chairwoman of the Livonia Historical Commission, said the plant was very open, leaving open the possibility of a fire to consume the entire factory.

"The fire just spread very rapidly," she said.

Now, fire suppression systems are a must for large-scale buildings, Whitehead said, a testament to what officials learned that week.

"There are a lot more codes that apply to industry. All those different kinds of suppression systems," he said.

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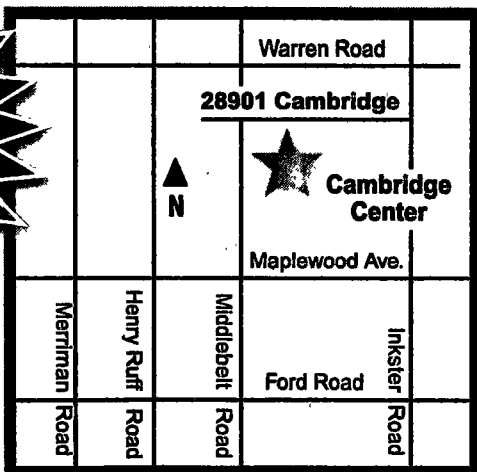
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Northwood University has moved its program center to the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Northwood offers programs at Schoolcraft

To further meet the demand of aspiring business students throughout southeast Michigan, Northwood University has moved its Livonia program center onsite to Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center at 18600 Haggerty, north of Six Mile.

The VisTaTech Center is home to Schoolcraft College's award-winning Business Development Center which aligns strategically with Northwood University's mission to develop the future leaders of a global, free-enterprise society.

Northwood University will begin offering classes this fall in a variety of innovative and practical business curricula. This strategic initiative aims to provide ease of transferability for the students of Schoolcraft

College seeking a bachelor's degree in a business-related field.

"We are excited to further expand our educational alliance with a partner as well respected as Schoolcraft College by providing new and innovative degree offerings in the region," said Dr. Keith A. Pretty, president and CEO of Northwood University. "Furthermore, the state-of-the-art VisTaTech facility will provide students with an unparalleled learning experience in our effort to develop leadership throughout southeast Michigan."

"I am excited to be onsite at Schoolcraft College to work with students who are looking to transfer and earn their business degree from Northwood University and to build relationships

with Schoolcraft administrators, faculty and the community," said Brendan Robinson, program center manager. "The partnership with Schoolcraft College allows Northwood University to deliver nationally recognized and unique programs to the local community who may not have had the opportunity to attend our residential campus in Midland."

Northwood University representatives are available to meet with students throughout the day at office VT: 446 in the Business Development Center at VisTaTech.

To learn more, send an email to robinsob@northwood.edu or call Brendan Robinson at 734-462-4400, Ext. 5893.

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Surplus food

Westland residents living north of Michigan Avenue can pick up surplus federal food commodities at the Dorsey Community Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22. For the month of August, the city will be distributing frozen ham, vegetable oil, mixed fruit, tomato sauce, sliced carrots, apple juice and possible additional items.

Residents of living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. Call 734-729-1737 for more information.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers will pick up their food at Taylor Towers and must call their building manager for their day of distribution.

The program is administered by the Wayne County Office of Senior Services. All food allocations, distribution sites and dates of distribution are determined by that agency.

For more information, call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at 734-595-0366.

Game Night

The Dyer Senior Center is holding its monthly game night 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 419-2020.

Backpack giveaways

Do you know of a family in need in the Wayne-Westland School District?

If so, have the children's parent or legal guardian sign up for free backpacks and school supplies 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 14, at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, between Wayne Road and Newburgh, in Westland. The parent or guardian must present Medicaid cards for

each school-aged child to be eligible. Children do not have to be present at the sign-up. Distribution of backpacks and supplies will take place at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 25, through a Backpack Blessing Worship Service, followed by picnic lunch.

» The Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323 Ladies Auxiliary will distribute school supplies to eligible needy families Monday, Aug. 26. Proof of need is required.

Auxiliary members will register families to receive the school supplies at the post, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale in Westland from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Aug. 13, and 2-4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16.

Parents will need to bring identification in the form of a Medicaid card for each child registering or EBT card and a utility bill with name and address.

Parents with questions, or people who would like to a donation, can call Kathy Carroll at 734-895-1279.

Open house

McKinley Cooperative Preschool will hold an open house from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 17, at the preschool, located inside St. John's Episcopal Church at 555 S. Wayne Road, south of Cherry Hill, Westland. The preschool offers 2-, 3- and 4-year-old classes with affordable tuition and parent involvement. Register for fall classes at the open house and meet the teacher, who has more than 25 years of experience.

Contact Erin Gibbons at 734-729-7222 or by email at erin1600@gmail.com for more information or to schedule a personal visit if unable to attend the open house.

Preschool signup

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is enrolling for the 2013-14 school year. Willow Creek offers preschool classes for 4-year-olds and 3-year-olds and a tot-to-toddler class.

Willow Creek Preschool is at 36660 Cherry Hill, in Westland. For more information, call 734-326-0078 or visit the website at www.willowcreekpreschool.com.

» The Westland Free Methodist Preschool is now enrolling for the 2013-14 preschool year. Enroll now and save half off the enrollment fee, a \$25 savings value.

The preschool is a tuition-based Christian program that offers classes for 3- and 4-year-old children. It offers a theme-based curriculum taught by certified teachers and includes all the basic preschool academic skills, as well as a low child-teacher ratio, indoor gym and outdoor playground.

For more information, to schedule a tour or enroll, call 734-728-3559, visit the website at www.preschool.livesa-rechanging.com or send an email to wrfmpreschool@yahoo.com.

Craft space

St. John's Episcopal Church in Westland is looking for crafters interested in having a table at its Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 12. Table rental is for \$25. Interested crafters can contact St. John's at 734-721-5023 or Sharon Scott at 734-722-4651.

Health, Safety Fest

Mark your calendar now for the Wayne County Health and Safety Fun Fest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22, on the grounds of the Wayne County Department of Public Health, 33030 Van Born at Venoy in Wayne.

The back-to-school health fair features free immunizations, health-related vendors, prizes and giveaways, plus fun for the entire family. Free book bags and school supplies to the first 300 school-age children.

The Wayne Masonic Lodge 112 will be on hand to provide a free child identification program. Each child that goes through the process will receive a dental impression kit, as well as a CD containing a photo, video, digital fingerprints and their vital information.

Parents or guardians of children who participate must be present and fill out a permission slip for the child to receive the service. Children who have already received the service are encouraged to repeat the process every two years to keep the information in the completed packets current.

For more information about the health and safety fun fest, call the health department at 734-727-7000 or 734-727-7030.

For more information about the child identification program, call 989-466-3087 or visit the Michigan Child ID Web Site at www.michiganchildid.org.

Taste Fest

Oakwood Healthcare is hosting a Health Education Community Event and Taste Fest, 4-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. The free outdoor event will feature healthy and fun activities suitable for the whole family.

Activities will include Ask the Pharmacist, Ask the Dietician, health information on diabetes, heart disease, COPD and hypertension. There will also be a bicycle and bike helmet safety activity, as well as a chance to win a new bicycle and helmet. Samples of healthy snacks, appetizers, treats and beverages will be provided.

In case of rain, event will take place Wednesday, Aug. 28.

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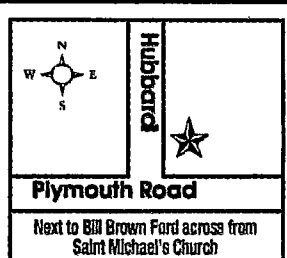
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Shooting for a record

Diaper drive aims to shatter donation mark

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

With a lack of diapers playing a role in keeping poor children out of day-care, mothers off the job trail and lonely seniors shut in their homes, Marybeth Levine understands the economic and emotional toll.

That's why Levine, a Canton mother of three and founder of the non-profit Detroit Area Diaper Bank, hopes to collect a record-shattering 250,000 disposable diapers by Thanksgiving to help over 50 partner agencies across metro Detroit.

Levine and her helpers collected just over 200,000 disposable diapers last fall, but she set a higher goal for her fifth campaign as she fills a need not covered by government food-assistance programs and Medicare.

"We felt like 250,000 diapers would be a good challenge," Levine said. "That will help us get a little further into the winter."

Carol Smith, a volunteer at the Wayne-based St. Mary's Community Outreach Center, said it has received thousands of diapers for children and adults across western Wayne County who come to the agency for food, clothing and household goods.

"We would not be able to provide diapers without the help," Smith said. "We have families with children and adults who need incontinence products. What Marybeth does is just unbelievable. It's out of the goodness of her heart, and it takes a lot of her time."

A new study published in the journal *Pediatrics* found that one in three



Marybeth Levine hopes to get a record-shattering total of 250,000 diapers donated to the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, which the Canton woman runs, by Thanksgiving.

mothers reported a need for disposable diapers for their children. Nearly 10 percent admitted they had left a wet diaper on a child as they tried to make their supply last longer, raising concerns about hygiene and health problems.

Studies have indicated diapers, costly even when they're on sale, have become a major source of stress for parents. The report in *Pediatrics* found that "an adequate supply of diapers may prove a tangible way of reducing parenting stress, a critical factor influencing child health and development."

Levine has drawn criticism from some who say parents should use cloth diapers. Yet she said many people don't have laundry facilities at home or they are worried they can't pay water and other utility bills — if they even have detergent.

"Can a mom who works two or three jobs

just to make ends meet get on a bus and go to a laundromat that might not let them wash dirty diapers for health and sanitation reasons?" Levine said.

Levine has compiled some revealing statistics:

» An average infant can use up to 12 diapers per day, a toddler up to eight. But in low-income homes, a baby may be in a single diaper all day or longer, increasing the risk of health problems and abuse.

» The number of Michigan residents living on food-stamp programs rose 60 percent between 2007 and 2009 — but programs don't pay for diapers.

» Most daycare centers require parents to bring disposable diapers with their children, meaning parents who can't afford them often can't go to work or school — a scenario Levine said continues poverty.

» A healthy change of diapers at many retail

prices can cost \$100 or more a month.

Anyone who wants to donate diapers or money can visit www.detroitareadiaperbank.org to find dropoff locations and other information. The site also includes contact information for businesses and other organizations that want to start a diaper drive.

One of the diaper bank's biggest supporters has been the Canton Public Library, which is hosting another Stuff the Truck campaign from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 20-21. The truck is loaned by a local company, Fat Chef in a Little Coat.

Last year, Stuff the Truck brought in 38,000 diapers. "We're going to try to beat that," Levine said.

It's an effort Carol Smith said helps places like St. Mary's Community Outreach Center. Smith commended Levine for volunteering to help those in need.

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Wallendas, Shrine Circus returning to state fair

The most famous family in circus history, the Wallendas, will bring an all-new troupe of performers to Metro Detroit on Labor Day weekend for the Shrine Circus, presented by Bright House at the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair in Novi.

Rick Wallenda, eldest grandson of founders Karl and Helen, will proudly present his troupe of daredevils in a rare local performance since the family appeared at the 1962 Michigan State Fair.

The Wallendas' 1962 performance during the Shrine Circus at the Michigan State Fair Coli-

**FIFTH THIRD BANK
MICHIGAN
STATE FAIR**

seum was marked by tragedy. During a performance of their famed seven-person chair pyramid, a man on the wire faltered and the pyramid collapsed.

Three men fell to the ground, killing Richard Faughnan, son-in-law of founder Karl Wallenda, and nephew Dieter Schepp. Karl injured his

pelvis, and his adopted son, Mario, was also injured, with partial paralysis.

"Our family is honored to be returning to Michigan, and looking very forward to introducing our new troupe to all at the Michigan State Fair. Thanks so much to the Detroit Shriners for inviting us," said Rick Wallenda.

Just returning from the inaugural tour of Cirque Musica arena tour, the Wallendas will present their new troupe. Touring worldwide, the Wallenda troupe is still led by Rick Wallenda.

He has performed on three continents during

DETAILS

The Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair is Friday, Aug 30, through Monday, Sept. 2, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi. Daily circus performances, presented by Detroit Shriners, will be at noon, 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday. There will be no 7:30 p.m. circus performance on Monday, Labor Day. Visit www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com for more information.

his 40-year career, and on more than one occasion participated in a re-creation of their trademark gigantic seven-person-pyramid.

As the patriarch, he leads the troupe to each destination, as his grandfather Karl once led the fabled original group.

The original family patriarch, Karl Wallenda, was born in Germany in 1905 to an ancient circus family, and he began performing at the age of 6.

While still in his teens, he answered an ad for a "hand balancer with courage." His subsequent

employer schooled him well in the role of circus performer. In 1922, Karl put together his own act with his brother Herman, Joseph Geiger, and a teenage girl, Helen Kreis, who eventually became his wife and current family troupe leader Rick Wallenda's grandmother.

The act toured Europe for several years, performing some amazing stunts. When John Ringling saw them perform in Cuba, he quickly hired them to perform at the world-famous Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Library details early stand-up comedy

Everyone likes a good laugh, whether it is a story from a friend, a TV series that you enjoy or a favorite movie. But there's something pretty special about the comedian who goes on stage with nothing but a microphone and their wit and is able to bring the house down.

Stand-up comedy has its roots in the 19th century U.S., when comic lecturers like Mark Twain toured the country. It was eventually integrated into vaudeville acts in the early 20th century, though these were done in teams, not solo acts. Vaudeville emcees like Frank Fay developed a monologue style akin to stand-up in between acts and then as solo artists at the resorts of the Catskill Mountains in the 1930s and 1940s.

The comedian who most likely started the stand-up routine as we know it today was a former British vaudeville song-and-dance man by the name of Bob Hope (you may have heard of him). Hope was the first to hire a team of writers

to help write jokes about the news and gossip of the day, not just comic stereotypes like the nagged husband and overbearing mother-in-law. He started this for his weekly radio program, which eventually morphed into a traveling tour.

The Westland Public Library has great comedy on CD, in movies and book form, so if you are interested be sure to ask at the Reference Desk next time you are there or call 734-326-6123.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Highlighted activities
Tangle-Free Earbuds, 3-5 p.m. Aug. 12: Kids and teens in grades 5 and up are invited to come personalize their earbuds. Bonus: this makes them tangle-free, too! Bring your own earbuds and we'll provide everything else.

Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting, 2 p.m. Aug. 13, Adults: The Friends of the Library is

an independent group of local residents and library users that helps support and promotes the Library and its mission. They plan book sales and other fund-raising activities for the library. Everyone is welcome.

Parenting Workshop/ Training: Let's Move!, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 13, Adults and their children: Starfish Family Services' Early Learning Communities presents a monthly Parenting Workshop/ Early Childhood Training at the Westland library.

Each month focuses on a different topic for parents, teachers and child-care providers. This month's topic is "Let's Move!" the importance of movement activities and how to incorporate active learning. Attend five workshops and your child is eligible to receive free books from the Imagination Library. Free childcare is provided for children of participants.

Register by clicking at www.westlandlibrary.org Kids Events, www.greatstartconnect.com, or call the library 734-326-6123. Walk-ins are accepted if

space allows.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 p.m. Aug. 14: The Library Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at library. Board meetings are open to the general public.

e-Reader and Tablet Support Group, 2 Aug. 15: Do you have an eReader or Tablet? Want to learn more about it? Stop in to meet with other users, share your expertise, or learn some tips and tricks for getting the most out of your device. An eReader/Tablet expert will be on hand to answer the difficult questions. Sign up on the library's website at westlandlibrary.org/events, if you would like to receive a reminder email or just drop in.

Storm Chaser, 7 p.m. Aug. 15: Storm chaser and Michigan native Bob Hartig will share his experiences tracking dangerous weather across the United States. Take a look at his blog at Stormhorn.com. He'll bring pictures/video of tornadoes he's witnessed and tell you what you can do to stay safe when severe weather strikes. Sign up online at

westlandlibrary.org/events to reserve your seat or call the library at 734-326-6123.

Friday Night Movie, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 16: Friday night movies roll on into the summer months with a variety of concert movies, summer blockbusters (of the Spielberg variety), and great foreign films. Tonight's film, *Jurassic Park*, is a classic. "During a preview tour, a theme park suffers a major power breakdown that allows its cloned dinosaur exhibits to run amok." Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie starts at 7 p.m. Refreshments provided (with suggested, though not required, donation.) No sign-up necessary.

Write On! A Space to Write, 10 a.m. to noon Aug. 17: Join local writers in need of quiet space and time to write. Sign up on the library's website at westlandlibrary.org/events, if you would like to receive a reminder email or just drop in. Refreshments provided.

American Red Cross Blood Drive, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 19, age 17 and up: The American Red Cross will be holding a



Bob Hope most likely started the stand-up comedy routine as we know it today.

blood drive on Monday, Aug. 19. All interested donors may sign up by registering at the American Red Cross website: www.redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor code: wpicccp or call 800-RED-CROSS.

Meditation for Beginners, 7 p.m. Aug. 19: Get blissed out during this simple and powerful meditation from Isha Kriya-trained instructor Shanthi Balakrishnan. For more information on Isha Kriya meditation, visit www.ishausa.org. Register online at westlandlibrary.org/events.

Information Central was compiled by Andy Schuck, library programs/adult services. The William P. Faust Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For information, call 734-326-6123 or visit westlandlibrary.org.

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

Metro provides info on runway reconstruction

Residents interested in the environmental impact of the reconstruction of a runway at Detroit Metropolitan Airport can review the draft Environmental Assessment at the Wayne Public Library in advance of a public information meeting Tuesday, Aug. 13.

The meeting is being conducted by the Wayne County Airport Authority to provide information to citizens about a proposed project to move the aircraft touchdown zone 500 feet to the north on the more than 12,000-foot long Runway 4R-22L at the airport.

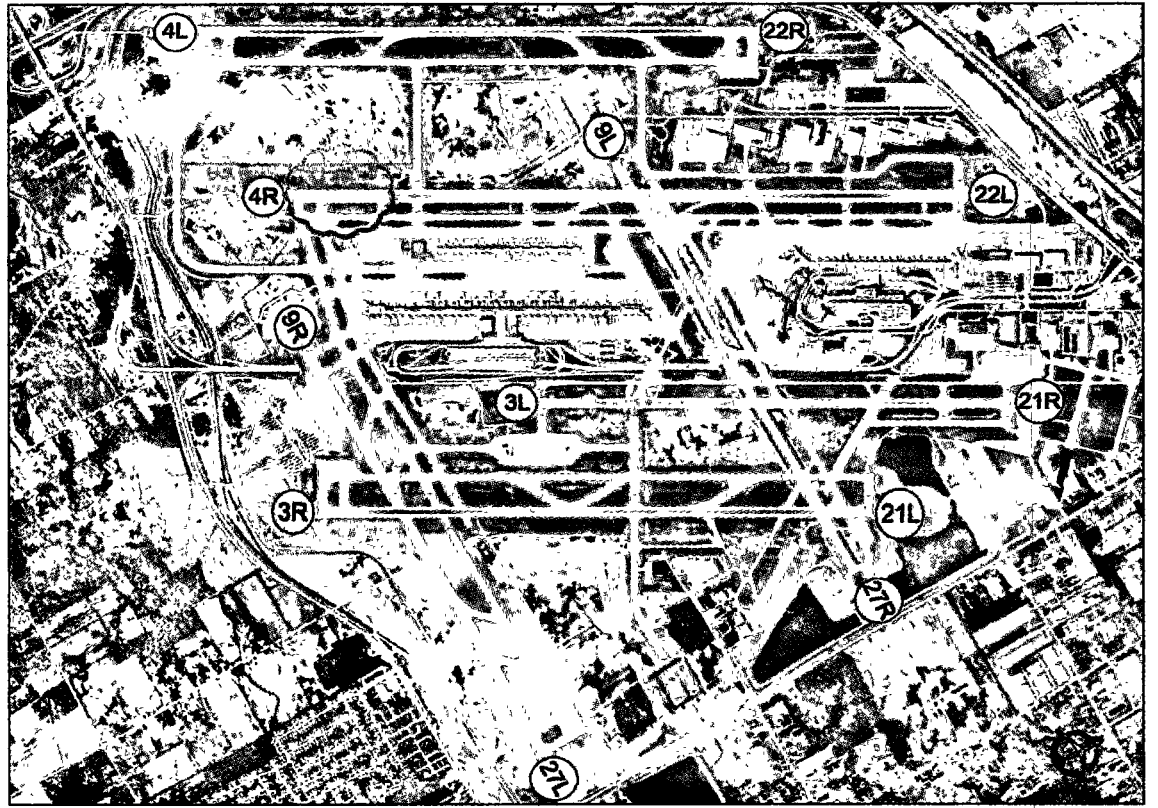
"This project improves the margin of safety for aircraft operations at Detroit Metropolitan Airport and has no discernible impact outside of the airport fence," WCAA CEO Tom Naughton said. "However, in the interest of fostering open communication, we are partnering with Federal Aviation Administration to conduct this public meeting to provide

the public with information and answer questions about the proposed project."

The meeting will be held at the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott, 30559 Flynn Drive, in Romulus. An open house format will allow citizens to stop by anytime 6-8 p.m.

The draft EA describes the probable economic, social and environmental effects of the proposed project and the alternatives considered. The Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, is one of five locations where the draft EA can be reviewed. It also can be found at www.wcaa.us/About/PublicNotices.aspx.

Runway 4R-22L is undergoing a three-year, full-depth reconstruction and the Airport Authority is required to meet current FAA design standards as part of that reconstruction. Those standards require the displacement of the landing threshold on the 4R end of the runway. As a result, all north-



The portion of the runway threshold that will be moved 500 feet to the north is circled.

flow arrivals coming from the south will land 500 feet north of the current threshold. Most narrow-body aircraft departing to the north will begin their takeoff roll 500 feet north of the current threshold. Wide-body and jumbo aircraft will depart at the current threshold.

The change will not affect south-flow - landing from the

north or departing to the south - operations, which make up 68 percent of operations (landings and takeoffs).

The Runway 4R threshold displacement will affect approximately 30 percent of the north-flow operations. West flow or crosswind operations account for the remaining 2 percent.

Written comments or ques-

tions on the proposed project can be submitted through close of business Friday, Aug. 30. They can be sent to Ernest Gubry, Environmental Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Detroit Airports District Office, DET-ADO-600, 1677 S. Wayne Road, Suite 107, Romulus, MI 48174. They also can be sent by email to ernest.gubry@faa.gov.

Choose CDs instead of IRA for inheritance option

Q: Dear Rick: My uncle passed away recently. The executor of my uncle's estate has given me a choice as to my inheritance. My options are to take an IRA worth about \$100,000 or to take two of his CDs that are worth combined about \$100,000. My thoughts are that I should take the IRA because that keeps the money growing tax-deferred for a few extra years. What do you think would be the right choice for me? I'm in my late 40s and am a relatively conservative investor. I have no debt other than my mortgage, which I owe about \$75,000 and it's at 5.5 percent. I have money in a 401(k) plan and other investments geared for retirement.



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

A: I recommend taking the two CDs as opposed to the IRA. Your uncle's IRA is a traditional IRA and subject to income tax. When the money comes out of the IRA, you will have to pay income tax. On the other hand, when you inherit the two CDs, that \$100,000 is totally tax free to you. If you take the IRA, you're going to lose more than \$30,000 in taxes (state and federal). There is no way that the tax deferral that you would receive on the IRA would offset that loss.

Some people get confused when it comes to taxation of inheritances. Typically, the beneficiary will pay no tax on that money. The one exception is if the money was in a tax-deferred account such as an IRA or 401(k) plan.

What confuses people is they assume that if there are no estate taxes, there will be no income taxes. That is not the case. The two taxes operate totally independent of each other. There can be estate taxes without income taxes and there can be income taxes and no estate taxes. Also, with the estate tax deduction now being more than \$5 million, the majority of Americans will no longer have to worry about estate taxes.

In your situation, I suggest you consider paying off your mortgage with the \$100,000 you will inherit. You are a conservative investor and paying down debt almost always makes sense. By paying off your mortgage, you are getting a guaranteed 5.5-percent return on your money. Compare that to what you're receiving on U.S. treasuries or CDs and the 5.5 percent is a very good return.

In planning an estate and deciding who should inherit what, it is not a bad strategy to look at the tax situation of your individual beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries who are in low tax brackets or even in a no-tax bracket situation look much better to inherit things such as IRAs and 401(k) plans versus

someone who is in a high tax bracket.

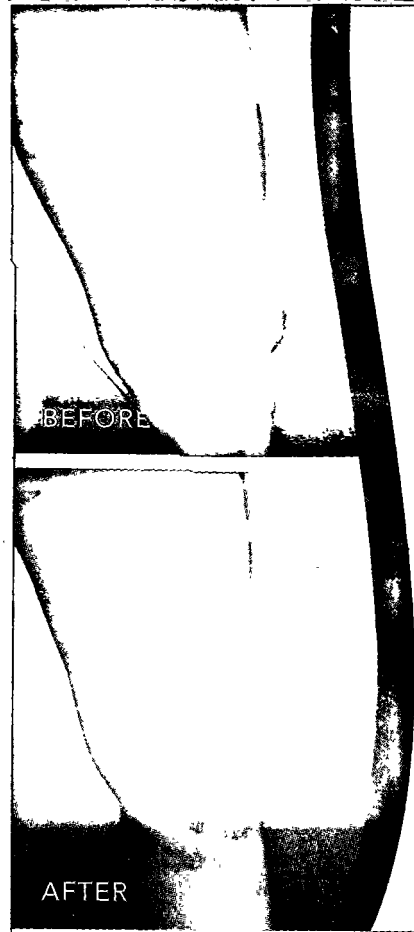
After-all, if you can lower the overall tax consequences to your family upon death, why not?

I've always said you don't want to let the tax tail wag the dog, but at the same time there is no reason to pay more taxes than necessary.

Income taxes are something that you should take into consideration in planning your estate.

Good luck.

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



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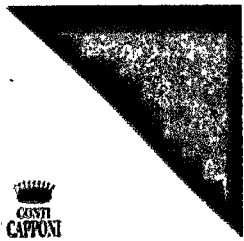
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Powerboat team nears another title

Farmington Hills owner and Fast Eddie II win Governor's Cup at Quake on the Lake

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Jim Sechler of Farmington Hills has won a lot of events and championships in hydroplane racing, but his latest success included a first-time bonus.

The owner of the Fast Eddie II powerboat also won the Governor's Cup at the 14th annual Quake on the Lake held July 20-21 at Pontiac Lake in Waterford.

The award, which was reinstated after an absence of nearly 15 years, went to the overall high-points winner regardless of racing class on that weekend.

Sechler and his team were one of two to win all four heats and accumulate 400 points.

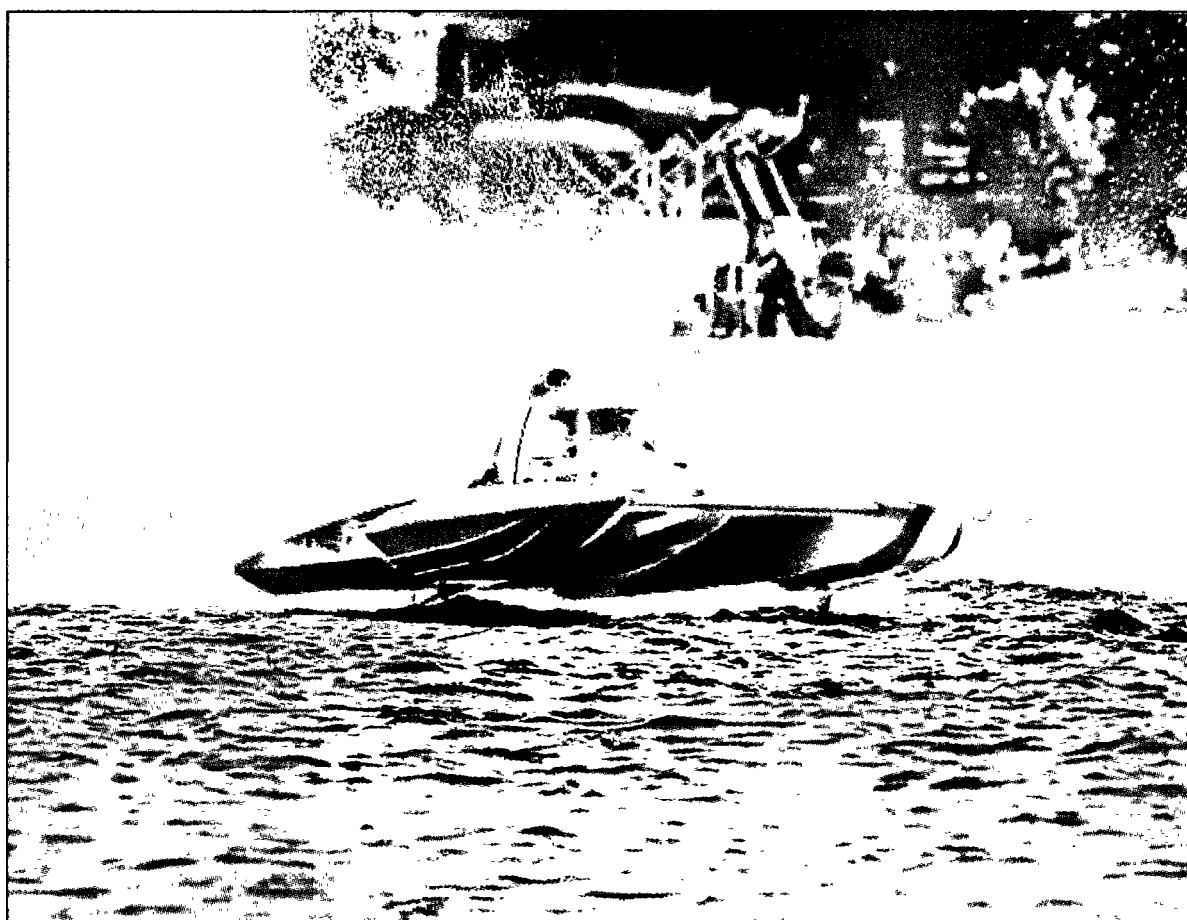
The tiebreaker was which boat was closest to the American Power Boat Association record in its class.

"We didn't come close to the record, but we were closer to ours than the other team was to theirs," Sechler said. "What I like about it is you're not only racing everybody in your own class, but everybody who showed up to race on that weekend."

State Sen. Mike Kowall presented Sechler with a plaque signed by Gov. Rick Snyder and a state of Michigan tribute from the state Senate.

State senator David Robertson and state representatives Eileen Kowall and Gail Haines also were present to recognize the achievement of Sechler and his crew.

Sechler, who competes in the one-litre, modified, outboard class, didn't think he and the Fast Eddie II team had a chance



With veteran driver Dan Kanfoush at the wheel, the Fast Eddie II is on course to capture a ninth straight APBA crown.

to win the award, however.

"The record on a one-mile course is 85; the fastest we went was 79," he said. "We didn't run very well on Sunday. In the modified class, guys set records in the spring and fall, because the air quality is really good. I'm not saying you can't set records in the summer. It's just not as easy."

"When we set the mile record, it was out in Washington (state); it was 40 degrees and there was no wind. We ran really fast. It's hard to run those speeds in the middle of summer when the air and water are not as good."

Sechler said there were four boats with a chance to win the Governor's Cup going into the second day, two of which had the inside track to do so.

"One put a hole in his boat and couldn't run and the other had engine trouble," he said. "The boat didn't run all that well. I knew we had to run 43-second laps and we ran 46-second laps. I thought, 'Well, we're not going to win.' It was unexpected and truly an honor to win it."

"I thought it would be a long-shot for us to win the award, but a couple things went our way. Like any kind of racing, you have to be prepared; you need a good set-up a good river, and you have to have a little bit of luck."

Sechler and the Fast Eddie II team, which includes veteran driver Dan Kanfoush, has won

See POWERBOAT, Page B2



Jim Sechler receives a state senate proclamation and the Governor's Cup from Sen. Mike Kowall of the 15th District.

O&E men's golf signup

The O&E men's golf tournament, a 36-hole, two-day medal play event, will be Sunday, Sept. 1, at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 W. Seven Mile Road, and Monday, Sept. 2, at Whispering Willows Golf Course, 20500 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Tea times start at 8 a.m. both days.

The cost is \$95 for two days (power cart extra) with four different flights offered, including championship, first, senior (55-and-over) and junior (17-and-under).

You must have a current USGA Index to participate (maximum handicap of 20).

There will be \$2,500 in guaranteed prizes, including both low gross and net winners.

Entries, open to the first 120, will close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24.

To download a registration form, visit www.golf.livonia.com.

For pairings and starting times, call 248-476-4493 (Whispering Willows) or 248-471-3400 (Fox Creek).

Bowl to help pet rescue

The eighth annual Bowl-4-Animal-Rescue will take place Saturday at Country Lanes, 30250 W. Nine Mile Rd., Farmington Hills.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Dearborn Animal Shelter and Michigan Animal Adoption Network.

For more information, call 248-615-9060 or go online to bowl4animalrescue.org.

The event includes food, music, raffles and a silent auction.

Non-bowlers can purchase a meal ticket for \$10.

The high pledge-getter will win a new bowling ball.

A person pledging \$300 will receive VIB status at the event.

Come out and skate

Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena announced its open skating schedule for August.

All month, open skating sessions are slated from noon to 1:20 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Cost is \$5 for adults and \$4 for those under 16 or over 55. Skate rental is \$2.

The open skate line can be reached at 734-455-6620 (press 1).

Plymouth Cultural Center is located at 525 Farmer Street.

Wrestler Gross sets his sights on the next level



Ashland University wrestling coach Marcus Gordon is happy to welcome Salem alum Tyler Gross (right) into the fold.

Salem grad follows dad to Ashland

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The old expression "like father, like son" is just fine with recent Salem grad Tyler Gross and Ashland University.

Gross recently signed his national letter of intent to wrestle at the same NCAA Division II college in Ohio that his dad once did.

"He (Lee Gross) had talked about it and I was looking through some schools at the beginning of the summer," Tyler Gross said. "He had mentioned (Ashland University) a couple of times and he even talked to the coach and they said they were interested."

"So I went down there for a visit and I loved it. I was real excited and liked the coaches, too."

Whether or not Gross will crack the varsity lineup as a freshman remains to be seen.

At Salem, where he qualified twice for the Division 1 state meet, he wrestled both 160 and 171 his senior year. With the Eagles, he expects to show coach Marcus Gordon that he would be a good choice in the 174-pound college weight class.

Of course, he emphasized, that could take a little bit of time because a junior and senior are ahead of him on the depth chart.

Fatherly advice

Having his dad around to give him some pointers on how to gear up for the next level

"Everyone tells me college wrestling is just a whole different monster. But I think I'm prepared for it and I think I can handle it."

TYLER GROSS, 2013 Salem grad

and what to expect in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference doesn't hurt.

"He's always telling me I got to make sure I work out," he said. "So I go to the Salem wrestling room and I work out there. I'll lift and I'll run. Everyone tells me college wrestling is just a whole different monster. But I think I'm prepared for it and I think I can handle it."

Summer training sessions soon will segue into the first days and weeks of college. Gross is looking forward to the entire college experience, not just high-level competition.

"I do want to focus on school, especially my first year," Gross said. "Make sure I'm getting good grades and all that. But I'm hoping to get into the varsity lineup as soon as possible."

He'll have a fan club rooting him on back at Salem, led by head coach Pete Israel.

"I am very proud and glad that Tyler has chosen to continue his wrestling career," Israel said. "With Tyler's work ethic and

See GROSS, Page B3

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Plymouth's Pilon leads Publinx senior golf field

Plymouth resident Tom Pilon shot a 72 for the low round of the Michigan Publinx Seniors Golf Association tournaments July 18 at The Polo Fields - Washenaw Golf & Country Club in Ypsilanti.

The tournament produced 21 winners from a handicapped field of 99 players (50 years and older) who represented 20 different communities throughout south-east Michigan.

Meanwhile, Kyu Kim of Bloomfield Hills continues to lead in the competition for Low Net Player of the Year standings.

Through 10 tournaments, there are presently 43 qualifiers (1st Place & Ties in each Flight for each daily tournament) for the

Tournament of Champions competition that will be held Sept. 12 at the Fox Hills Golden Fox Golf Course.

The prize winners by Flight are as follows:

- Flight A (Gross/Net)**
1st: Tom Pilon, Plymouth (72/65)
2nd: Jim Mlynarczyk, Northville (73/66)
3rd: Mike Phillips, Bloomfield Hills (73/68)
4th: David McTear, Redford (77/69)
5th: Fritz Reifert, Ypsilanti (76/70)
- Flight B (Gross/Net)**
1st: Patrick Harrison, Ann Arbor (77/64)
2nd (tie): Dan Feiten, Commerce Township (76/66); Greg Frontier, Waterford (79/66)
4th (tie): Thom Allen, Bloomfield (77/67); Jim Gostovich, New Baltimore (77/67)

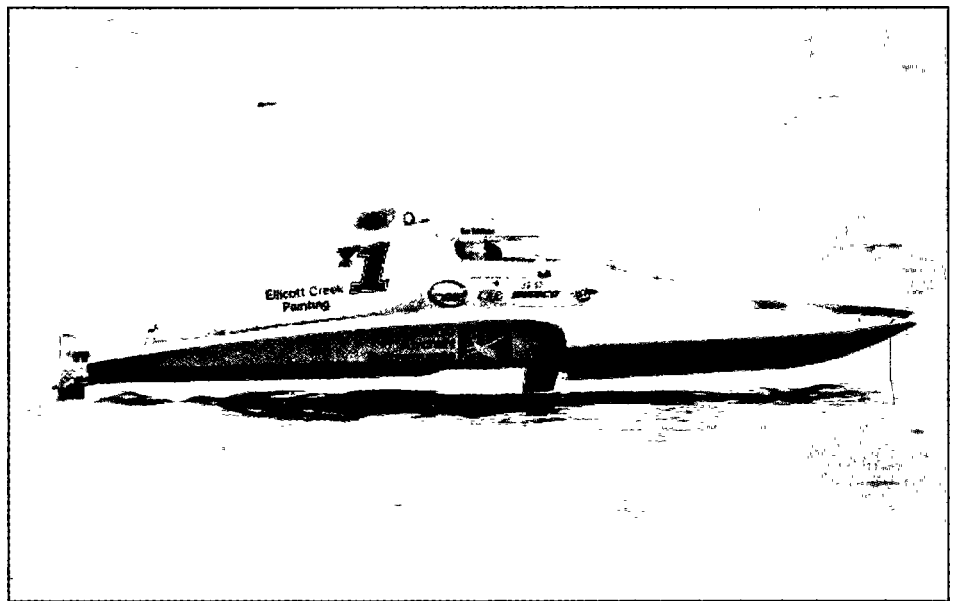
Flight C (Gross/Net)

- 1st (tie): Ray Collins, Southfield (88/69); Ron Fedoronko, Warren (86/69)
3rd: Everett Winters, Royal Oak (87/70)
4th: John Dodd, Farmington Hills (88/71)
5th (tie): Tim Egan, Dearborn Heights (88/72); Joe Mercury, Rochester Hills (89/72)

Flight D (Gross/Net)

- 1st: Charles McCullough, Detroit (90/67)
2nd (tie): John Bevak, Grosse Ile (92/69); Tom December, Royal Oak (91/69)
4th (tie): Morris DeFever, Shelby Township (100/70); Lee Williams, Redford (96/70)

For more information or an application, visit www.mpsga.org or call 734-207-7888.



Owner Jim Sechler plans to get Fast Eddie II's engine running smoothly again for the season's stretch run.

POWERBOAT

Continued from Page B1

the Governor's Cup in Ohio three times, but it hasn't been easy.

"We haven't lost a heat in Ohio in eight years, and we've only won three times," Sechler said. "That gives you an idea how hard it is to win the high-point awards."

"We've been the best overall and someone else has been closer to the record. It's amazing. Usually, it comes down to the record and we typically lose that one."

The Fast Eddie II has won every heat so far this season and has finished first on all 12 days of racing. Sechler needs three more for a perfect season.

In determining the overall champion, each

team can pick its best 15 days of racing.

"It could be 15 out of a hundred," Sechler said. "They do it this way to make the award based not just on going to a lot of races. You have to go and be successful. It doesn't matter if you go to 100; you have to go to 15 and your best 15 have to be better than the next guy's."

After going 12-for-12 and based on the current standings, Sechler and his crew are well on their way to a ninth consecutive APBA national championship. The Fast Eddie II has racked up a season total of 2,450 points; the second-place boat has 1,970.

"It's not mathematically over, but we certainly have put ourselves in a pretty good position to close out the rest of the year," he said. "Any-

thing can happen but we feel pretty good about where we are."

After the Quake on the Lake, Sechler took two weeks off for some time away from racing, but he started breaking down the engine last week to determine why it wasn't running as well as it should on the second at Waterford.

"It ran well enough to win," Sechler said. "After we downloaded all the data, clearly something was not right. We've got two weeks before the next race. I'll start digging in to figure out what's going on."

"We're going to bear down and take the next three races very seriously. Like any other sport, it's always hard to close it out. We won't take our eye off the ball until it's done."

TRYOUT INFORMATION

Livonia Rebels

Tryouts for the Livonia Rebels eighth-grade boys AAU basketball team will be from 10 a.m. to noon Sunday, Aug. 11, in the main gym No. 2 at the Livonia Recreation Center.

RU boys soccer

Redford Union High School boys soccer tryouts will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Aug.

14-16, at MacGowan Elementary School.

Players should bring water, shin guards, cleats and running shoes. Any questions can be directed to coach Jim Gibbs at 313-995-4234.

M.C. Riversharks

The Motor City Riversharks 13-and-under and 14-and-under travel baseball teams will be holding tryouts in August for the 2014 season.

Players must be willing to commit to playing between 40 and 50 games, including weekend tournaments.

All tryouts will at Jaycee Park, which is at the corner of Hunter and Wildwood in Westland.

Tryouts for the 13-and-under Riversharks will be 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11. For more information, email motorcityriversharks@gmail.com.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 29, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on a request to occupy 29145 Warren Avenue for an indoor recreation facility (air soft gun training and sales). The subject site is zoned C-3 General Business District. Indoor recreation facilities are a special land use in the C-3 District.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

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www.lifesupporttraining.org
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CAMPS INFORMATION

Hawks-Wolves soccer

The Michigan Wolves and Hawks will offer a summer soccer camp for boys and girls (ages 5-15) from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday, Aug. 12-15, at Jaycee Park, 19800 Mayfield St., Livonia.

The cost of the four-day camp is \$75 (if regis-

tered before Aug. 5) or \$95 (after). Included in the cost is camp T-shirt.

For more information, email dbradley1515@sbcglobal.net; or visit michiganwolveshawks.com.

Lego Ninja camp

The city of Plymouth recreation department's Bricks 4 Kidz/Ninjago Camp for youngsters

ages 5-10, will be held 1-4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12, through Thursday, Aug. 16.

The recreation office, located at 525 Farmer, is open from noon to 4:30 p.m.

Online registration is available at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

You can call 734-455-6620 for more information.

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Coaches, players greet the new season

KLAA hosts first football media day

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The launch for another Kensington Lakes Activities Association football season took place indoors Thursday, instead of under the searing August sun.

Taking a page out of the Big Ten playbook, the KLAA held its first-ever Football Media Day at Novi High School. Coaches from all 24 teams made mini presentations with key players also joining them on a podium adorned with giant, football balloons.

Media members listened intently and took notes or taped interviews, also enjoying a buffet provided by event sponsor Qdoba Mexican Grill.

KLAA football commissioner and Northville athletic director Bryan Masi noted that the idea for a media day came from Howell athletic director Dan Hutchinson, who had watched the Big Ten Network's coverage of a similar event last year.

"You heard Bryan talking about watching the Big Ten Network and he (Hutchinson) brought it (the idea) to the ADs about a year ago," said Tom Willette, co-athletic

director in the Plymouth-Canton district.

"Bryan is the football commissioner and he sort of ran with it. I think he did a great job, it was worthwhile.

"For the ADs, it's a benefit because anything we can do to promote the KLAA is obviously good."

Each of the association's 24 head coaches stepped up front with top players right behind them as they outlined the keys to the 2013 season, which begins Aug. 29.

They talked about expectations and roster changes including key losses to graduation and players who have the chance to pick up the slack.

It's a plus

Several coaches concurred that they were impressed with the media day, which also helps them focus solely on the official start of practice Monday (as stipulated by the Michigan High School Athletic Association) and Week 1 preparations — instead of dealing with a stream of media requests.

"I think it's good for our league," Canton head coach Tim Baechler said. "I think we have an excellent league in all sports, but especially football. And I think it's good to show our brand, you know?"

"Especially with char-

ter schools and Catholic schools. We have a lot to offer in this league and it's excellent."

According to Kurt Britnell, head coach for Salem, the media day was "a great thing for the conference, just to bring attention to what probably is one of the better conferences in the state."

Mike Sawchuk, Plymouth head coach, noted that "it's great to recognize the kids" and echoed Baechler and Britnell about the quality of the KLAA.

"When I was seeing that Bryan (Masi) was mentioning all the coaches and all the accomplishments that they had, we got a pretty strong

league," Sawchuk said. "It's pretty cool stuff."

Also included was Mark Thomas of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association, who talked about KLAA information entering the new season.

Meanwhile, the media day program included results of an informal coaches poll that had Canton and Plymouth finishing 1-2 in the Kensington Conference, with Livonia Churchill and Livonia Stevenson in the fourth and fifth spots.

Predicted to top the Lakes Conference was Walled Lake Western, followed by Grand Blanc.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



The Riverside RASCals junior precision team includes (front row, from left) Andrew Esser, Hanna Denes, Chloe LaMay, Miranda Esser, Estella Clark, (back row, from left) co-coach Jillian Heersink, Sofia Cueva, Stephanie Cueva, Tina Stadnik, Ian Heersink, Jade Ross, Kinka Kimfon, Christine Asal, Ryan Heersink and coach Lawaun Modrich.

Riverside roller skaters earn six national medals

It was a sweet victory for the 14 members of the Riverside Arena Skating Club who competed in the USA Roller Sports National Roller Figure Skating Championships late last month in Albuquerque, N.M.

The Riverside RASCals captured six placements and nearly all of the skaters earned a medal. The Livonia-based club claimed the most national placements of any club in Michigan.

The skaters, who train 1-3 hours per day and 4-5 days per week, were led by Ian Heersink and Jade Ross, both of Livonia. They garnered a gold medal in Freshman A team dance.

Heersink, competing in the Freshman/Sophomore Men's A Division, also earned silver medals in compulsory figures, loops and combined figures.

The 14-year-old Heersink was also vying for a position on the Junior World team that will compete this November at the World Roller Skating Championships in Taiwan. He came in fourth, just out of the medals.

Meanwhile, two other Livonia skaters, Ryan Heersink and Sofia Cueva, earned silver medals in Elementary A team dance.

The RASCals junior precision team captured the bronze medal for the second year in a row.

The team members include Christine Asal of Livonia, Stephanie and Sofia Cueva, Ryan and Ian Heersink, Ross, Estella Clark, Westland; Hanna Denes, Garden City; Kinka Kimfon, Canton; Chloe LaMay, Plymouth; Tina Stadnik and

Andrew and Miranda Esser, all of Northville.

The junior precision team was also recognized by the makers of Pop Chips for its unique costumes decorated with recycled materials including Pop Chip bags. Facing stiff competition, the RASCals came through in the crunch.

Co-coach Jillian Heersink was a competitor, too, as she skated in three individual events.

The Riverside RASCals Skating Club, coached by certified advanced instructor Lawaun Modrich and certified instructor Jillian Heersink, was established five years ago with five skaters. It has grown to 22 registered competitors this season.

For more information about the club, visit riversidearena.com or riversiderascals.org.



The members of the Riverside Arena Skating Club's national team are (left to right) Ian Heersink, Jade Ross, Tina Stadnik, advanced instructor Lawaun Modrich, Jillian Heersink, Sofia Cueva and Ryan Heersink.

Storm wins 10U tourney



The 10-and-under Livonia Storm girls fastpitch softball team won the 2013 Kearsley Summer Slamarama tournament. Each player received an individual trophy. The team members are (front row, from left) Mary Grace O'Dea, Maggie Bacigal, Shea Hannigan, Riley Hannigan and Ava Crumley; (back row, from left) Emily Haines, Kourtney Klatt, Aleaha DeFraun, Alexia Black, Mackenzie Schick and Jenna McCann. The Storm will have tryouts for the 2014 softball season Aug. 17, 18 and 20.

KLAA well represented at state finals during fall season

By Jeff Theisen
Staff Writer

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association boasts some of the best girls sports in the state, both team and individually.

The following is the first of a three-part series focusing on how the KLAA fared not only during the season but also in the state playoffs in the 2012-13 season.

The series will go in order of how the school year goes, starting with the fall season of 2012, followed by winter and finish with the spring season. The series will also be broken up with stories for boys and girls separate so the stories aren't overbearing long.

All records are taken from the site www.klaastanding.com, so if something is a little off, please don't shoot the messenger.

Golf

The most dominant sport in the fall season for the girls came on the links. Plymouth was the class of the league and proved to be the class of the state. But Plymouth was one of three KLAA teams in the top six at the Division 1 State Finals.

Plymouth took the overall team title with a two-day total of 659 to win by 11 strokes at Forest Akers East at

Michigan State. Brighton claimed fifth place with Northville next in sixth.

Individually, Plymouth's Kelsey Murphy took the overall title with a two-day total of 148 (73-75). Brighton's Hannah Pietila was five-strokes back in fourth place overall.

In Division 2, South Lyon placed fifth as a team, and Milford's Gabby Brackrog was seventh individually.

Swimming

Swim and dive has been dominated on the state level by a few teams for many years. However, the depth of the KLAA couldn't be argued as six teams finished in the top 13 teams at state.

The Division 1 swimming finals in Holland got another heavy dose of KLAA teams in the top 12. South Lyon led the way in fifth place, followed by Novi in eighth and Salem, Northville, Hartland and Plymouth claiming the 10th-13th spots.

The league had too many All-State swims to list, but some of the major highlights included a 1-2 finish in the 200 freestyle by sophomore Maddie Write from Kettering winning with Plymouth junior Sarah Dombkowski in second; five of the top eight finishers in the 200 IM were from the KLAA, Dombkowski

went on to win the 500 free and Northville's Catherine Cui claimed a title in the 100 breast-stroke.

Volleyball

In recent years, the KLAA has been a steady force with multiple regional winners and representatives at the State Finals. The league didn't have the big numbers in the regional finals and beyond, but it was still represented in Battle Creek for the final four.

It was Northville carrying to the torch for the league to the State Finals, finishing in the semifinals as part of the final four. Livonia Stevenson reached the regionals finals as the next best playoff run in the KLAA.

Cross country

The top-flight talent was also missing for the league in cross country. But even in what could be considered a down year in the KLAA, the league still put three teams in the top eight at the State Finals. Northville led the way in fifth, followed by Brighton in seventh and Salem in eighth.

Individually, Salem's Kayla Kavulich led the way in 11th place overall. Also earning All-State honors (top 30) was Waterford Mott's Daya Wagh in 29th.

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GROSS

Continued from Page B1

dedication, he should have no problem transitioning to college wrestling.

"I know his parents are very proud, especially his dad, who also wrestled for the Eagles."

Quite a ride

The admiration goes the other way, too. Gross emphasized that all of his Salem coaches during his four years there helped put him into the position he's currently in.

And he's more than thankful for their contin-

uous help and encouragement.

"I quite enjoyed wrestling at Salem High School, it was probably the best four years of my life," he said. "I have all the thanks to my coaches, Pete, Jeremy Henderson, Greg Woochuk, Andrew Ross ... thanks to them for pushing me and helping me to get to where I got."

"Not only that, but they were all big in telling me I should go on because of my talent and just the fact they keep telling me I will excel greatly in college."

Meanwhile, while a lot of people will be seeing how Tyler Gross is faring

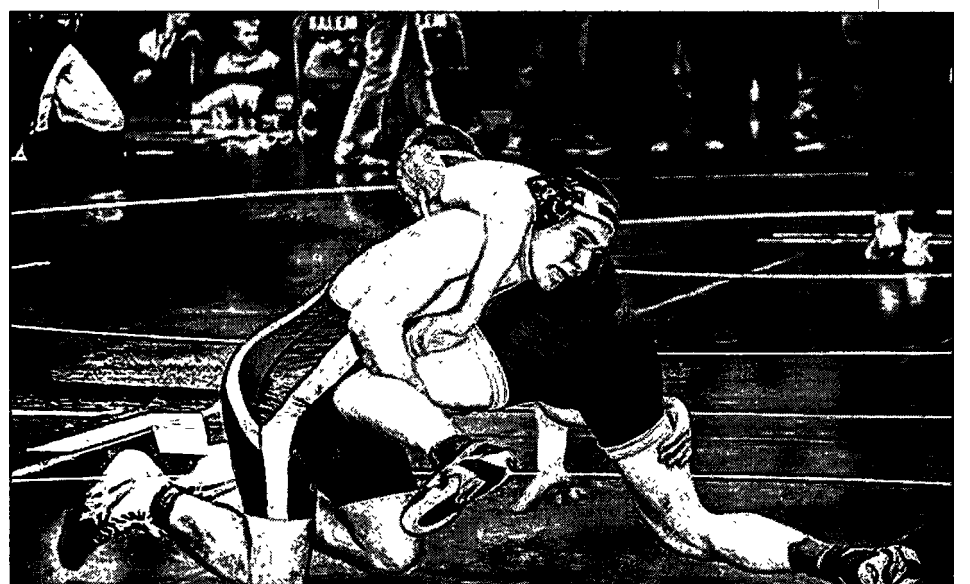
in Ohio, he'll be keeping tabs on his younger brother with the 2013-14 Rocks.

Mitchell Gross — who wrestled at 189 last season — could be a force to be reckoned with in the KLAA his junior year.

"He's a very, very good wrestler and I expect great things from him," Tyler said. "I expect him to come back and I see him just winning and destroying, because he is just an excellent wrestler."

Yes, it takes one to know one.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Tyler Gross (left) demonstrates his power and balance during a 2012-13 Salem varsity boys wrestling match.

FARMINGTON CITY SWIM MEET

FARMINGTON CITY SWIMMING MEET
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Farmington Glen Aquatic Club, 718 points; 2. Beechview Swim Club, 562; 3. Woodbrooke Hills, 402; 4. Kendallwood Club, 319.



The members of the Farmington Glen Aquatic Gators swim team celebrate their second consecutive victory in the annual four-team city meet. CHRIS FLECK | PHLECK PHOTOS

8-UNDER GIRLS
25 BACK: 1. Lily O'Neill (K), 24.66; 2. Emma Anzivilo (B), 25.62; 3. Lily Schwalm (B), 26.53; 4. Viviana Kindseth (GA), 28.00; 5. Emma Derrico (B), 28.16; 6. Abby Coscarelli (GA), 28.58; 7. Abby Hinckley (B), 30.26; 8. Kate Hill (B), 30.49.

44.45; 4. Conner Halberg (GA), 45.14; 5. JP Lampertius (K), 55.46; 6. Nicolas Gascon (W), 56.82; 7. Finnegan Riley (GA), 58.73; 8. Dom Amori (GA), 1:08.80.



Glen Aquatic Club coaches (from left) Jennifer Erichsen, Drew Hansz, Matt Provenza and Molly Tyler proudly display the championship flag. CHRIS FLECK | PHLECK PHOTOS

9-10 GIRLS
50 FLY: 1. Madeline Greaves (GA), 36.78; 2. Kristen Fleming (GA), 48.78; 3. Kellie Flynn (B), 50.86; 4. Ellie Smith (B), 51.23; 5. Ella Derico (B), 51.74; 6. Natalie Ballard (W), 50.10; 7. Paige Meier (GA), 53.49; 8. Lucy George (W), 54.12.

50 BACK: 1. Maddy Cachat (GA), 39.51; 2. Danielle Nykanen (B), 39.68; 3. Bella Feenstra (GA), 39.99; 4. Abby Inch (GA), 42.29; 5. Samantha Love (W), 43.94; 6. Abigail Hanus (K), 44.69; 7. Maddy Carter (B), 46.90; 8. Lauren Branford (K), 47.63.

(W), 48.54; 6. Noah Eyearnt (GA), 50.58; 7. John Goodwin (K), 50.65; 8. Andrew Ludden (K), 50.77.

1:27.71; 4. Sydney Balk (GA), 1:28.97; 5. Elissa Loch (W), 1:31.34; 6. Caroline Strauss (W), 1:32.44; 7. Lauren Munson (GA), 1:36.69; 8. Trinity Koon (B), 1:38.24.

50 BREAST: 1. Nick Leshok (K), 32.53; 2. Keith Erichsen (W), 37.02; 3. Charlie Zink (B), 37.94; 4. Riley Balk (GA), 39.14; 5. Peter Roshak (B), 39.31; 6. Nick Gensheimer (GA), 39.51; 7. Driscoll Lilley (GA), 40.14.

100 IM: 1. David Ratze (B), 1:14.60; 2. Nur Duarte (GA), 1:16.40; 3. Austin Abro (W), 1:21.67; 4. Colin Caverly (W), 1:22.93; 5. Dillon Hess (B), 1:23.14; 6. Max Arlow (W), 1:23.76; 7. Alex Millinoff (GA), 1:24.96; 8. Charlie Jones (GA), 1:29.78.

100 IM: 1. Aubreay East (K), 1:20.45; 2. Dayna Borregard (B), 1:25.81; 3. Ava Borri (B), 1:27.08; 4. Bella Feenstra (GA), 1:27.68; 5. Abby Inch (GA), 1:28.34; 6. Julianna Petrak (GA), 1:29.28; 7. Julia Zink (B), 1:33.09; 8. Grace Kane (W), 1:36.92.

100 IM: 1. Sean McCann (B), 1:24.58; 2. Matt Lane (GA), 1:26.18; 3. Isaiah Erb (K), 1:27.16; 4. Drew Hoelscher (B), 1:27.55; 5. Tristan Strasserger (W), 1:34.66; 6. Ryan Morgott (W), 1:40.56; 7. Luke Pierini (GA), 1:41.27; 8. Ryan Pennington (GA), 1:44.75.

100 IM: 1. Hannah Chao (W), 1:17.52; 2. Katy Fedurek (K), 1:24.59; 3. Summer Aldred (B), 1:27.71; 4. Sydney Balk (GA), 1:28.97; 5. Elissa Loch (W), 1:31.34; 6. Caroline Strauss (W), 1:32.44; 7. Lauren Munson (GA), 1:36.69; 8. Trinity Koon (B), 1:38.24.

50 BREAST: 1. Nick Leshok (K), 32.53; 2. Keith Erichsen (W), 37.02; 3. Charlie Zink (B), 37.94; 4. Riley Balk (GA), 39.14; 5. Peter Roshak (B), 39.31; 6. Nick Gensheimer (GA), 39.51; 7. Driscoll Lilley (GA), 40.14.

Franklin pom clinic
The Livonia Franklin High School pompon squad will conduct a clinic for young girls 2:30-5:15 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, at the school. A family performance will follow the clinic at 5:15-5:30 p.m.

Learn To Skate
Livonia Parks and Recreation will offer a seven-week Learn To Skate (Session I) on Mondays, Sept. 9 through Oct. 21, at Edgar Arena, 33841 Lyndon (one-half mile south of Five Mile, just west of Farmington Road).

available.
The registration deadline and early enrollment for last year's skaters is Wednesday, Aug. 21, at Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia, MI 48154. (There will be a \$10 late fee beginning Aug. 22.) You can also fax to 734-466-2679.

Rec soccer openings
The Michigan Hawks under-11 girls recreational soccer team needs a couple of players to complete its roster for the upcoming fall season.

The program is open to those who attend St. Edith, St. Colette, St. Aidan and St. Kenneth parishes. For more information, contact Ron Wollenweber at stedithsoccer@gmail.com or visit www.stedithcyo.com.

Whalers' pre-season tilt slated to prop up 'Fallen Heroes'

Tickets now on sale for Aug. 31 contest at Eddie Edgar
When the Plymouth Whalers open the 2013 pre-season schedule 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 31 against Windsor at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia, a heartfelt and inspiring back story will take center stage in a big way.



The Plymouth Whalers and Windsor Spitfires will play in the benefit exhibition game at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia. Here, Matt Mistele (No. 22) of the Whalers parks in front of the Windsor goalie during a 2012-13 contest. RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

er funds will be used. An event like this game is critical for the success of the park.
'Livonia is in close proximity to Windsor, so we're excited to have Spitfire fans in Livonia and cheering for their team.'
Although Eddie Edgar Arena has a long history of hosting high school hockey and is the home of the Livonia Hockey Association, the Plymouth-Windsor pre-season game is the first Ontario Hockey League game for the facility.

Plymouth golfer earns MWGA honor

Jane Kersjes of Plymouth was one of the top players in the Michigan Women's Golf Association's two-woman, four-ball stroke play competition Aug. 4 at Dunham Hills Golf Course in Hartland.
Kersjes and teammate Cindy Hill of Ypsilanti shot 74 to win the low gross honor in the first flight. Flint golfers Tera Anderson and Darci Stocker shot 80 for second low gross.

plus contest winners and information about the MWGA and its upcoming events, go to www.mwgolf.org.
The next MWGA competition will be the member-junior, two-person scramble (supporting the MWGA girls golf program) Aug. 17 at Warren Valley in Dearborn Heights.
Men's GAM winner
Scott Strickland started his final round with an eagle and birdie and then blitzed to a six-shot win with an 8-under-par 64 Tuesday in the 92nd Golf Association of Michigan Championship at Birmingham Country Club.

Creative writers offer glimpse into local history through personal memoirs

Seniors pen poetry, essay, stories

Here's a sampling of creative writing by senior citizens who meet twice monthly at the Plymouth Library:

Cuppa Joe by Norman Smith of Livonia

The alarm rings out as scheduled,
the time — 6:45.
The cat jumps up to have a look,
to confirm I'm still alive.

Thru my bleary eyes of disbelief
my sleep — where did it go?
But time to rise and start the search,
for my morning cuppa joe.

Down along the darkened hall,
the kitchen I can see
Where my old friend Mr. Coffee,
waits patiently for me.

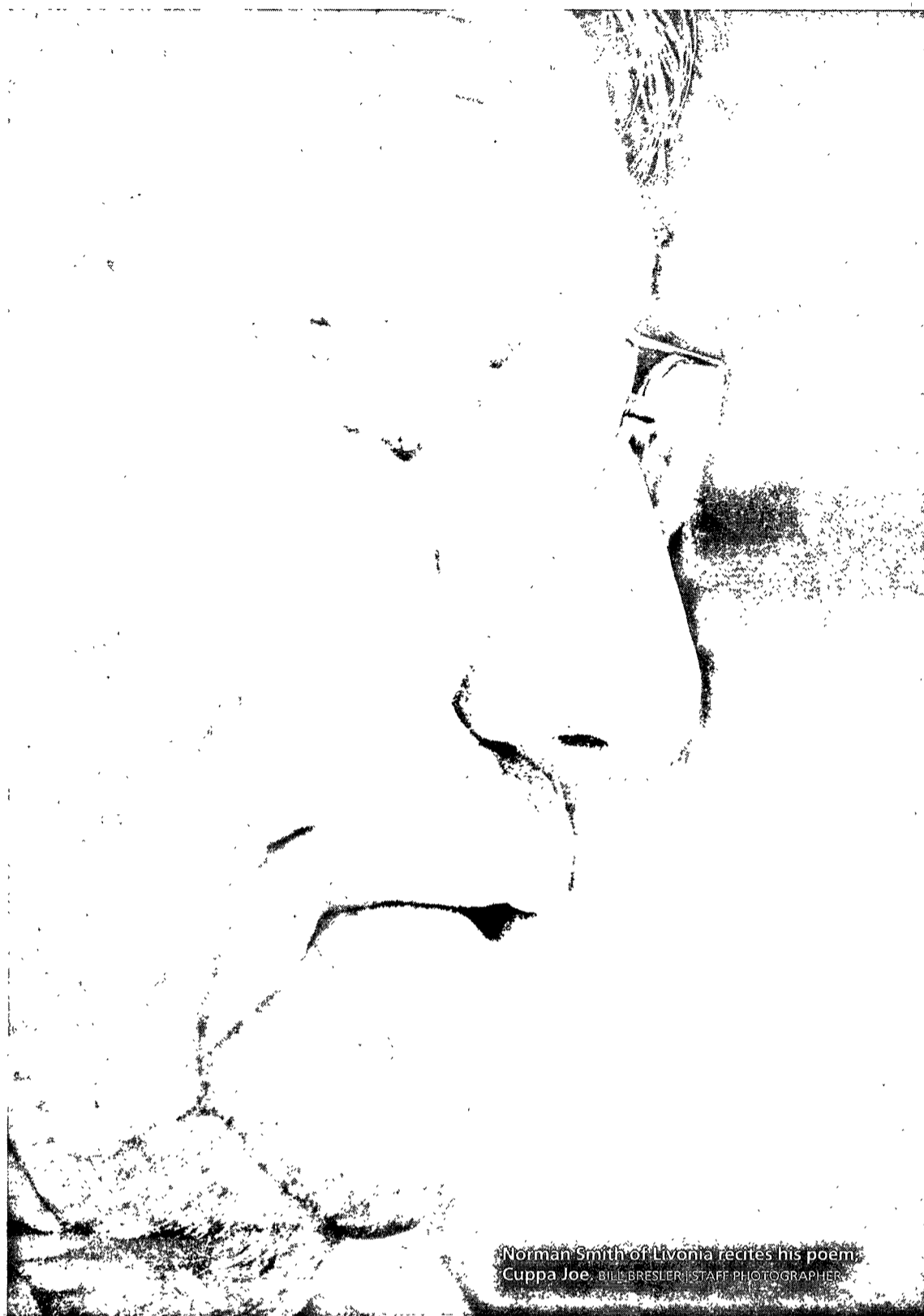
Just in time I'm glad to say,
my strength is ebbing fast.
So with shaking hand I raise the pot
for my heavenly repast.

I want to drink that steaming brew,
If not — I'll surely die.
But when my cup I tried to fill,
the wretched pot was dry.

I blame myself and have a fear,
of the price I'll have to pay.
But if I could make just one more cup
we still could save the day.

The water first was added and filled up to the line.
And then the coffee measured out —
three cups — that will be

See PEN, Page B6



Norman Smith of Livonia recites his poem, 'Cuppa Joe.' BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Gene Belttari of Plymouth Township was just a kid when his parents sold their family cows and chickens, locked up their farmhouse and left 80 acres of oat and hay fields for a two-year stay in the big city. His father needed money to build a new barn, and a temporary stint as a carpenter in Detroit seemed to be the answer.

"My dad dreamed about the day that we could build a much more modern barn. Two of our neighbors had just built new and modern barns so we were for sure out dated," Belttari said, reading his story last week to a group of fellow writers at the Plymouth District Library. "Our farm land had lots of stones and my dad envisioned that the barn walls would be made with stones. My dad made a dray which was a log and timber, heavily-built sled and every year we hitched the dray to our Oliver 88 tractor and loaded and stacked large stones next to our future barn location. We had enough stones, but we needed money to build the barn."

Belttari finished his read to a smattering of applause. He's one of about a dozen senior citizens who gather at the library twice monthly to read their creative writing out loud. Like Belttari, most of them have penned at least a few childhood memories, if not their entire life stories. A few also flex their literary muscles with poetry, essay and short stories.

The group, now in its 11th year, initially started as a class in writing memoirs, with the Council on Aging funding a facilitator, according to Phyllis Hess, a Plymouth resident and longtime member.

"When I joined this group in 2006, the title of it was journaling your life story. I've been

See CREATIVE, Page B6

Sara is 36 years old. She's at the top of her game at work and enjoys a little retail therapy on the weekends. This weekend she's searching for a new little black dress.

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CREATIVE

Continued from Page B5

sticking with trying to journal my life," said Sally Pinchock of Plymouth Township. "But some of the people who have been in this group forever, they are done with their stories. Every now and then they have something current they want to bring up. So, we took a diversion and said let's write about anything we want. And I think that's where the creativity really blossomed in this group."

The 90-minute sessions are self-directed — there's no facilitator anymore — and consist mostly of readings and camaraderie. Each participant gets a chance to read at least one piece. Critiques, if any are given, are positive and gentle.

Encouraging creativity

"This group is very comfortable to work with," said Norman Smith of Livonia. "I've been with (another) group where the facilitator read everything. You never read your own work. Some of these groups are quite structured and the facilitator has the last word and assigns the topic for the day. It's great from a discipline standpoint, but I think it stifles creativity."

"It takes the fun out of it if you have to structure yourself according to someone else's thinking," added Janet Warrick of Northville.

The seniors say reading aloud helps them improve their works and that listening to others sparks ideas for writing. Pinchock pointed out that members who have penned their life stories include a glimpse into Detroit's history, as well.

"There have been some phenomenal things written about Detroit. If this group would pull out all their stories about Detroit, I think there's enough good stuff there to be put into a compilation that could be published," Pinchock said.

But most of the seniors claim they write only for themselves and their families, and have no plans to publish their works.

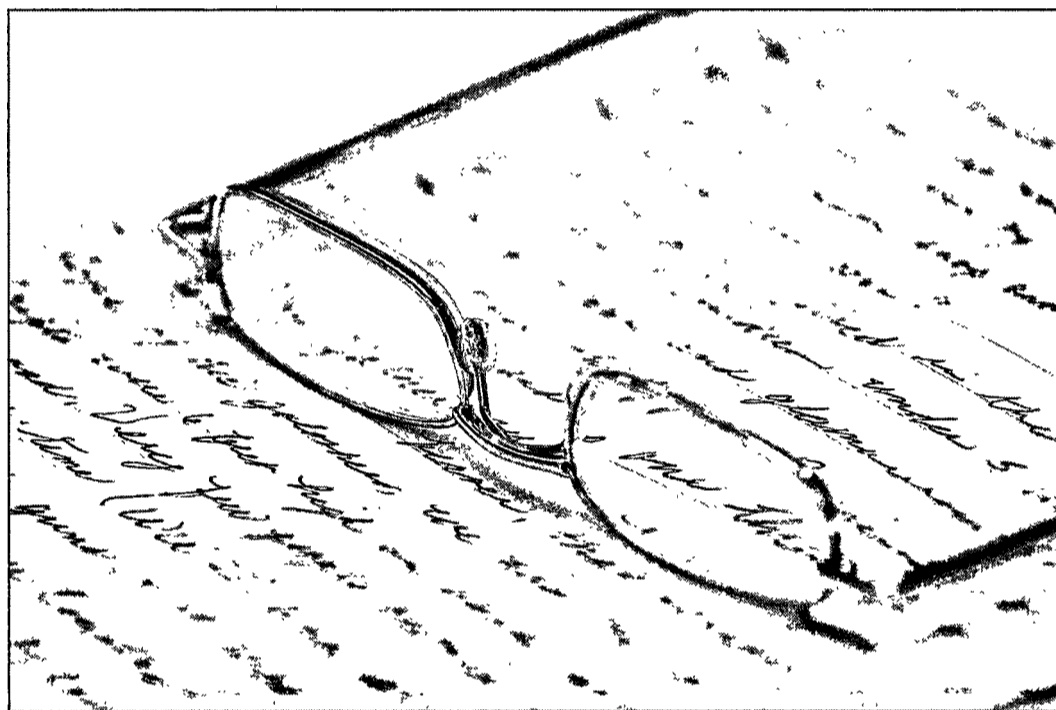
"I write for my son," said Sue Wabeke of Plymouth Township. "If he has questions when I'm gone, he can look it up in my book."

Although the group is aimed at seniors, Pinchock said it's open to anyone.

It meets 1:30-3 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of the month at the library, 223 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth. New members and drop-ins are welcome.



Diana Hage of Westland listens as Gene Beltrari of Plymouth Township reads from his memoir, "Our Barn." PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The senior creative writers group meets at the Plymouth library twice monthly.

PEN

Continued from Page B5

fine.

The switch was hit, the light went on and the liquid starts its flow. It's certain now the sun will shine on my morning cuppa joe.

Surprise in the Night by Phyllis Hess of Plymouth

One of the most surprising incidents in my life happened when I was about 16. I rented a room in Cooperstown, during the week while in high school, since I lived on a farm eight miles away. There was no bus transportation then. I had a roommate who shared making meals on a hot plate in our room, with use of the homeowner's refrigerator.

One night I went to bed with a bad cold and put a jar of Vick's VapoRub by my bed. Needing it during the night and not wanting to turn on the light and disturb my roommate, I reached for it, opened the lid and SPLASH! A liquid was in my eyes, nose, hair and all over. I had opened a bottle of blue pen ink!

It took me days to completely get the blue off my face and out of my hair. I also had some embarrassing explaining to do.

Why Do I Write? by Diana Hage of Westland

1. My first introduction to writing was in elementary school, when I wrote a radio script. Then my imagination came alive and inspired me to continue this avenue in life.

2. Another reason for writing is to escape from reality. It feels good to remember all the events in my life and be able to see them on the written page.

3. I enjoy the ability to look at people and then describe them in character as well as visual looks.

4. Grandchildren change from year to year as they mature.

Enclosed with their birthday cards I usually enclose a humorous limerick along with cold, hard cash. It's interesting to observe which object is more important to them.

5. Next to writing, spelling has always been my strong suit. Don't imagine I need "spell check" as much as others do.

So there you have it and if you ever feel the need to be diagnosed and scrutinized by a famous writer ... CALL ME!

Read more works online at www.hometownlife.com.

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Zoo offers adult fun at annual events

By day, the Detroit Zoo is all about the kids. But by dusk, it's all about the adults and this year's Sunset at the Zoo was no exception. The Detroit Zoological Society's annual Sunset at the Zoo fundraiser featured a boardwalk-themed gala celebrating the Detroit Zoo's Cotton Family Wetlands and the soon-to-open Jane and Frank Warchol Beaver Habitat.



Julie Yolles

SOCIAL SCENE

Sunset at the Zoo "Boardwalk Bash" was a perfect-weather evening of strolling dinner, snacks and desserts from 40 top area restaurants. Detroit Fly-

house and The Jerry Ross Band performed and there were boardwalk games, dancing, live and silent auctions and special access to the zoo's animal habitat.

Next was Summer Zoomance on July 11 for the 21-plus crowd. If you missed that, a second Summer Zoomance will be held 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22.

Tickets are \$12-\$14. Parking is free for Detroit Zoological Society members and \$5 for non-members. The event will feature complimentary tram tours throughout the zoo, as well as animal enrichment and zookeeper talks at the otter, snow monkey and polar bear habitats. Enjoy blues music by guitarist and vocalist Laith Al-Saadi, as well as food and cocktails that will be available for purchase. Guests can take a spin on the carousel for an additional \$2 and enjoy a scenic ride through the zoo on the Tauber Family Railroad for a one-way fare of \$3.

Tickets for Summer Zoomance can be purchased online at <http://www.detroit-zoo.org/events/zoomance> as well as at the admission gates.

jjolles@comcast.net | 248-642-9465



Laura Spitz (left) of Livonia, owner of Salon Awesome in Plymouth, and Rachelle Dempster of Canton.



Livonia resident Alison Nawrocki performed with the Detroit Flyhouse at Sunset at the Zoo. PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, *Observer & Eccentric*, sdargay@hometownlife.com, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

Rain gardens

Friends of the Rouge will offer a rain garden workshop 6:30-7:30 p.m. Aug. 20 at Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile. Attendees will learn how rain gardens help protect water quality in local rivers and how to create a rain garden of their own. Visit the Friends of the Rouge website at www.the-rouge.org for more information about rain gardens and to register for rain garden workshop.

English Gardens

English Gardens stores in metro Detroit offer a variety of programs and workshops for gardeners.

Learn basic information on how to can, freeze and dry

produce, such as fruits, vegetables and herbs, at a free presentation at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.

Enjoy shopping, inspirations, food, wine and music in a garden-like setting, 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at the West Bloomfield store. Preregistration is required.

Learn how to use plants for screening at a free presentation at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 24.

Find out which plants provide year-round color and learn to create interest in your garden every season at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31. The presentation is free.

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

Arthritis Today

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RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
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TRIGGER POINTS

Trigger point is the name given to sites on the body which when touched lightly cause the person touched to react with marked pain. In years past trigger point pain was considered a feature that identified Fibromyalgia.

In the early 2000's physicians noted a change in Fibromyalgia away from trigger points and into wider areas of pain that were daily, migrating from limb to limb, and often in the back, neck, arms or legs. Trigger point pain as a presenting fibromyalgia problem faded away.

But not completely. Physicians still see the problem of trigger points in older people, usually age 75 or above. Treatment consists of the doctor identifying the site or point of pain, and then injecting the site with local anesthesia and/or steroids. This therapy gives relief from days to weeks, but generally does not resolve the pain. Often the trigger point returns, requiring another injection.

Doctors cannot explain what causes trigger point pain, why it is no longer a feature of Fibromyalgia, or why trigger points remain a troublesome problem to the elderly.

Theories on small breaks in bone have not held up when subjected to imaging by CT or MRI scans. The imaging finds no breaks or swelling in the bones. Impairments in nerve endings are unlikely as the pain is pin point not in keeping with the distribution of a nerve. Nor is it reasonable to look for an inadequate blood supply because the pain is as likely to occur when the person is sitting or resting as well as walking.

Fortunately, injection helps. Doctors will use this therapy even if the understanding of how it works remains obscure.

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Guide to Employment

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Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>Are You Looking For a Rewarding Career in Property Management? Dart Properties II LLC, a full service property management co, is seeking qualified, customer-service oriented individuals to fill the positions of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •LEASING CONSULTANT •SITE MANAGER <p>Applicants must have and maintain a valid Michigan driver's license with an acceptable driving record.</p> <p>To view a detailed description of these positions, other openings, & also to apply, please visit our website at www.dartproperties.com</p> <p>ASSISTANT TEACHERS Full & Part-Time positions for Christian Early Childhood Center in Plymouth. Exp. is helpful. Call: 734-455-3196</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>CUSTOMER SERVICE Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phsworkforce@aol.com</p> <p>Customer Service Representative For insurance agency located in West Bloomfield. Data entry and word processing. Experience with AFN or AMS360 a plus. Hours are flexible. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume to kuahv@paregonumfordwriters.com</p> <p>DIRECT CARE Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations & shifts! Must be at least 18 yrs old, have valid MI Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 08</p> <p>DIRECT CARE STAFF For Assisted Living and Home Care. Must be willing to work flexible hours, weekends & holidays. Call: 810-629-6088</p> <p>DIRECT CARE STAFF Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. (734) 722-6880 x2</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>HIGH SPEED MILL OPERATOR</p> <p>Major Gauge & Tool, a division of Gasbarre Products Inc., is seeking a High Speed Mill Operator for its facility in Livonia, MI. Must be strong in MasterCam 3-D Surface programming from Solids. Work with various steels and hardnesses. Must be able to run multiple machines.</p> <p>Gasbarre Products Inc. offers a competitive benefits package that includes 401(k), profit sharing, vacation, health and vision insurance. Interested candidates should email resume to lr@gasbarre.com</p> <p>MANUFACTURING For 40 years, L&W Engineering has been a leading Tier 1 supplier in the automotive industry, specializing in Metal Stampings, Welded Assemblies, Tubular Products, and Hot Stampings. Our stability, growth, and success is a direct result of the dedication and commitment of all our associates. We are seeking highly qualified individuals to build a career with us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exp'd Production Operator • Maintenance Machine Repair • Tool & Die Repair <p>Opportunities avail throughout SE Michigan including our Belleville, Detroit, and Milan locations. Previous automotive stamping and welded assembly experience preferred.</p> <p>We provide competitive wage and benefit packages (including health, dental, disability, flexible spending accounts, life insurance, paid vacations and holidays, and a 401(k)).</p> <p>Please submit your resume with salary requirements to ApplyLW@lweng.com or fax to (734) 753-2261</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>IT OPERATIONS/HELP DESK</p> <p>Star Cutter Company, located in Farmington Hills, MI, has an immediate opening as an IT Operations/Help Desk employee.</p> <p>This position provides technical support to the organization by troubleshooting hardware, software, networking, telephony and other technological equipment; diagnoses and solves problems; performs maintenance and supports other technology related issues as assigned by the IT Manager.</p> <p>Minimum qualifications to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •High school diploma •At least 3 yrs. of experience installing, troubleshooting, and main taining Windows software, peripherals, operation systems and local network environments •Knowledge of Windows or desktop support certified a plus •Microsoft and A+ certification also a plus •Ability to communicate effectively to all levels of the organization required •Some travel to other locations required. <p>We offer a competitive wage and benefit package.</p> <p>For more information on our company visit www.star-cutter.com Send resume to: HR@star-cutter.com or to </p> <p>Star Cutter Company Attention Hiring Manager, 23461 Industrial Park Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48335</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR Ashford Court Senior Residence in Westland. Seek a qualified person to oversee all Maintenance, Grounds, and Transportation Services. Candidates must enjoy working with seniors and have relevant experience in property mgmt including: staff supervision, hands-on repair & maintenance, and knowledge of mechanical/HVAC systems. Functioning as part of a team and on-call required. EOE. Email resume to: jeanmekrakowiak@comcast.net No Phone Calls Please</p> <p>Outside Sales Representatives Sterimed Solutions Medical waste disposal service company is looking to hire outside sales reps to grow our business in the metro Detroit area with several territories available. Interested candidates please fax resume 313.450.1896 www.sterimedolutions.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN Day Shift</p> <p>AWTEC (AW Transmission Engineering, Inc), located in PLYMOUTH, is an award winning, industry leading automotive supplier, with a commitment to quality and equipment standards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry.</p> <p>We are currently searching for an experienced Maintenance Technician for our facility. Responsibilities include performing start up and preventive maintenance on equipment, troubleshooting & repairing equipment, dismantling machines and replacing parts such as motors and pumps. Replacing fuses, junction boxes and performing basic electrical repairs. Fabricating and welding machine guards, conveyors and other items. Repairing and maintaining pneumatic and hydraulic systems. Repairing and maintaining heating and cooling systems. Assisting with new equipment installation and set-up. General building maintenance as necessary. The selected candidate must have good attendance, work ethic, attention to detail and a willingness to learn is mandatory. Applicants must also be a team player and have reliable transportation.</p> <p>High school diploma and some prior manufacturing experience are preferred.</p> <p>We offer competitive compensation and benefits that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Starting wage depends upon skill level; •90 day evaluation •100% company paid health/dental/optical •Vacation/holiday/sick pay •Tuition reimbursement •401k with company match <p>Interested candidates should their resume, cover letter, and salary expectations to:</p> <p>AWTEC-HR 14920 Keel St. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: 734-454-1091 E-mail: hrresumes@awtec.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>MASTER TRUCK TECHNICIAN Tired of working in the rain, snow & Never seeing the family? Here's a great opportunity. Competitive Wages w/bonuses and benefits. 734-392-4888</p> <p>Part-Time/Seasonal Help •Concessions •Food Prep •Cooks •Cashiers, •Maintenance/Janitorial •Parking Attendants Apply Mon-Fri, 8-5 at: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River, Novi</p> <p>PERSONAL ASSISTANT For the South Lyon, New Hudson, Novi & Wixom areas. Rewarding positions available serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be over 18 & have valid MI driver's license. Paid training. Please call to join our team: 734-239-9015, 248-946-4425</p> <p>Help Wanted - Office Clerical</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST 30-35 hrs/week. We are looking for a friendly, reliable person w/ some computer knowledge. Starting at \$10/hr. Please send resume to: visioneyesonyou@hotmail.com</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT With exp., approx 28 hrs/week. Competitive pay. Pd hol. Busy Garden City IM practice. Submit resume to: Email: GCMCP@aol.com Fax: (734) 425-1337</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT, FT Must know EKG, injections and vital signs for fun Farmington Hills family practice. Minimum 2 yrs exp. A MUST. Fax resumes: 248-478-0709</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT Full-time for busy Internal medical office in Troy. Must have excellent computer skills, be able to multi-task & good communication skills. doovansktmsd@gmail.com</p> <p>Food - Beverage</p> <p>ALL STAFF: Bode's Corned Beef, Breakfast, lunch and dinner. Days & weekends. Plymouth: 734-644-1884</p> <p>•COOKS •WAITSTAFF •BARTENDER Exp. a must. Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.</p> <p>WAITSTAFF Positions avail. on Mackinac Island, MI. Mary's Bistro and 1852. Housing available and discounted meals. Nov thru October. (906) 847-7198. www.theislandhouse.com</p>	<p><i>Observe & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers</i></p> <p>Reach even more potential employees with an O&E Recruitment Package!</p> <p>1-800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com</p> <p>You can put yourself in any of these shoes</p> <p>Check Out Today's Jobs & Careers Classified Section</p> <p>RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER</p>
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MILESTONES

BIRTHDAY

Celebrating 90 years

Herman Priebe marked his 90th birthday on Aug. 1.

Priebe has lived in Redford Township since 1952 and was employed with the township's DPW for more than 40 years.

"Dad has probably read every meter in the township. The residents of the township would remem-

ber him by the one with the big smile and positive attitude," his daughter Robin Behrend, of Rockford, wrote in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "My parents raised all girls in a two-bedroom, one-bathroom and ONE phone in this house. Unbelievable by today's standards. He still has the original rotary phone." Priebe's daughters are

Behrend, Jackie Lahtinen of Livonia, Gail Normand of Howell, Judy Priebe of Rose Center, Maggie Eberhart of Redford Township and Eileen Poole of Redford Township.

Behrend said her father enjoys playing bingo every week and occasionally visiting local casinos.

Priebe celebrated his birthday at a Detroit Tigers-themed party July 21



Herman Priebe marked his 90th birthday this month.

at St. Aiden Activity Center in Livonia. More than 80 family members and friends attended.

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

WEDDING

Pietraz-Langholz

Jennifer Marie Pietraz and Benjamin Daniel Langholz were married June 29 in Grand Rapids.

The bride, daughter of Jim and Janet Pietraz of Livonia, graduated in 2009 from Grand Valley State University. She is a registered nurse at Saint Mary's Health Care in Grand Rapids.

The groom, son of Linda Langholz-Proch and David and Melissa Langholz, all of Grand Rapids, graduated in 2011



Benjamin Langholz and Jennifer Pietraz

from Grand Valley State University and teaches at Grand Rapids Public Schools.

The couple lives in Grand Rapids.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oebits@hometownlife.com

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



BROWN, DEBORAH ANN

Age 56 August 8, 2013. Beloved wife of Timothy. Loving mother of Matthew & Michael. Dearest daughter of Mary (the late Jerry) Weiss & the late Peter Varani. Sister of Joe, Mike, Donna, Patty, Eddie, Danny, Johnny & Steven. Visitation Sunday 4-8 pm and Monday 2-8 pm at McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. Twelve Rd. (W. of Orchard Lake Rd.) Farmington Hills. In state Tuesday 10 am until time of funeral 11 am at Antioch Lutheran Church, 33360 W. Thirteen Mile Rd. (@ Farmington Rd.) Farmington Hills. Memorials may be made to Gianni Ferrarotti Lung Cancer Foundation or Antioch Lutheran Church.
www.mccabefuneralhome.com

McCabe Funeral Home



DUNNE, HAROLD

Was born in Detroit, Michigan on November 22, 1929 and died on August 4, 2013. A loving, wonderful husband, he is survived by his wife Dorothy, daughter Carrie, and his two sons, Robert and Daniel. As an adult Harold began as a member of the ILWU under the leadership of Harry Bridges and then as a member of the UAW, under the leadership of Walter Reuther. He worked at the General Motors Buick, Olds and Pontiac Plant in South Gate, California as a member of the UAW's Local 216 starting on the assembly line and working in many capacities including as President of his local Union where he was recognized by Leonard Woodcock, second in command to Walter Reuther for how he was able to close a wildcat strike in 1949, all to the benefit of the workers, the Union and the Company. Then he was asked to become International Representative for the GM department of the UAW where he spent 25 years negotiating contracts and settling disputes to the benefit of all concerned. Later he ran twice for president of his Local and lost. On his final attempt he was fired. His case went to Arbitration and won. But seeing that the Union was heading toward what he thought was not in the direction for the benefit of the workers, at the age of 42, he decided to become an attorney going to school at night and working during the day, he received his BA in Sociology, his Juris Doctorate and a BA in Spanish at Wayne State University. He spent the next 30 years working at representing the men and women wrongly discharged by the Unions to the Auto industry and all people who needed his help. He never forgot his roots and where he came from. His father worked at the River Rouge plant during early years of the toughest fights fighting for better representation and benefits. Being politically active, Harold and his wife of nearly 63 years have worked side by side for the basic human rights, decent wages and safe working conditions whether it was an attorney and before that on picket lines, where they met, or marching for social causes. All these things he passed on to his children who have carried on his ideals. Harold was an extremely well read, articulate and intelligent person and has touched so many lives and they are better off for having had the privilege of meeting him.



DRUMM, LOUISE LEONA KAISER

Born in Detroit, Michigan on August 18, 1917. Departed to meet God and her loved ones on August 6, 2013 just 12 before her 96th birthday. She resided in Birmingham and Beverly Hills Michigan since 1957. She was a member of Embury Methodist Church in Birmingham. Louise "Lee" Drumm was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, professional, and friend. She dedicated her life to the service of others. The major focus of Lee's life was raising and guiding her children and grandchild. She provided every opportunity for her children to be well-rounded and responsible persons of integrity. She was also actively engaged in her community, both as a caring and involved neighbor and friend and as a citizen who sought to enhance the lives of others. She was actively involved in the PTA, Pinewood Derby, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Groves Big Band Jazz Series, and numerous school events for both of her children. She also worked as a volunteer for Dr. Jonas Salk's initial polio vaccine campaign. Lee's service to others also took the form of providing expert leadership in her work. She helped others in need, and mentored and trained dozens of workers to become skilled artisans, craftsmen, and productive members of the community. Lee overcame incredible challenges in her life as a child of the Great Depression, a wife of a WWII veteran, and as an early widow. She was one of the women who assumed a supervisory industrial position during WWII. She also worked for the Harrison Luggage Company where she helped to develop some of the first airline carry-on luggage. Lee graduated from Lincoln High School in Warren, Michigan. She also attended Business College. She was an incredibly intelligent woman who went back to work after raising her children. She worked at Amber Management Company in Royal Oak for approximately 20 years. At Amber she supervised a large staff and oversaw the maintenance of all their properties throughout Southeast Michigan. Lee was married to Ralph J. Drumm for 31 years until his death in 1971. She moved and was at his side in Corona, California when he returned injured from service in the Pacific during WWII. Her parents were John and Maryann Kaiser. She was predeceased by all of her siblings, Bernadine Cain, and John, Norbert, and Werner Kaiser. Her children are Brenda Drumm Kidd (Clyde) and Mel Drumm (Elizabeth). Her beloved granddaughter is Amy Drumm. She has many nieces and nephews in both the Drumm and Kaiser families. Lee was a very strong and independent woman, yet she was also charming and amazing. People loved spending time with her, and she enriched many lives. She will always be remembered and loved, especially by her children. Funeral service was held Saturday at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 248-549-0500. Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial tributes Focus: HOPE, 1355 Oakman Blvd, Detroit, MI 48238 appreciated. View obituary & share memories
DesmondFuneralHome.com
AJDESMONDSONS



GILBERT, BRENDA K.

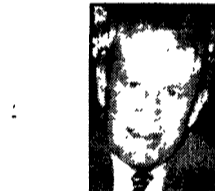
Age 74 of Commerce Twp. died August 7, 2013. Beloved wife of the late James (d. 2011). Wonderful, fun-loving, affectionate mother and best friend of Dean (Cindy) Gilbert, Cindy (Terry) Slavin, Janet (Mark) Smith, and Marsha (Brian) McCormick. Also survived by 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Sister-in-law of Linda (Chuck) Brannon. Also survived by numerous extended family members and loving friends. Mrs. Gilbert enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and other family members. She lived life to the fullest and loved going to the casino. She had an easy-going spirit and will be missed by all who knew her. Memorial service from Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 340 N. Pontiac Tr., Walled Lake (3 blks. S. of Maple Rd.) Tuesday 6 PM. Friends may visit Tuesday 3 to 6 PM. Memorial contributions to American Cancer Society or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital appreciated. Condolences at: lynchfamilyfuneraldirectors.com

LYNCH & SONS
Funeral Directors



MAKINEN, WILLIAM MARION (BILL)

Age 87, died July 31, 2013 at Hiland Cottage Hospice, Petoskey. A lifelong Michigander, Bill was born August 5, 1925 in Kaleva, the 10th child of John Victor and Kathryn Elizabeth Makinen. He is survived by wife Emma Skinner Makinen (married December 30, 1946), daughter Kitty Janowiak (Lake Stevens, Washington), and sons Marty (Bethesda, Maryland), Jerry (South Bend, Indiana), and Alan (Richfield, Minnesota), seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Family and friends already miss him greatly. Bill graduated from Manistee High (1943) and earned a Bachelor's degree (Cum Laude) from Central Michigan College (1949) and a Master's from the University of Detroit (1953). He became a Second Lieutenant in the US Army Air Forces 1943-46. Bill's career in personnel management at Ford Motor Company spanned 29 years and let him travel extensively. In retirement since 1984, he and Emma wintered in Farmington Hills and watched summer sunsets on Walloon Lake. They participated in Elderhostels to continue lifelong learning. Bill loved crosswords and taught himself piano. He was an avid reader, birdwatcher, sports fan (Tigers, Lions, Pistons, etc.), and sports participant (golf, tennis, sailing). Bill was active in nature conservation, family genealogy, home repair, and carpentry and he enjoyed jazz and Saturday-night saunas. He organized the Walloon Lake Forest Lane sewer system, co-authored the goals statement of the Walloon Lake Association (WLA), and was a leader in creating the Wildwood Harbor Preserve. Bill was recognized for efforts on water quality and wilderness preservation, and earned the WLA's President's Award. A memorial will be scheduled at a later date. Contributions in Bill Makinen's remembrance can be made to: the Walloon Lake Trust and Conservancy, PO Box 621, Petoskey, MI 49770, the Little Traverse Conservancy, http://www.landtrust.org/Donations/memorialpsychoiceTABLE.htm or Whitefish Point Bird Observatory, 16914 N. Whitefish Point Road, Paradise, MI 46768.



WOLFE, DONALD R.

Passed away peacefully on Thursday, August 1, 2013 in Naples, Florida. He was surrounded by his loving family. Don was the youngest child born to Harry & Irene Wolfe on July 11, 1933. He was born in Livonia and spent his first 60 years living in Michigan. After graduation from Michigan State University he married Shirley Wade in 1955 and joined his brother and father at the Harry S. Wolfe Real Estate Company and eventually became President until his retirement in 1993. Shirley passed away from Cancer in 1984. In 1985, Don married Julianna Lindbloom. After retirement, Don & Julianna moved to Naples, Florida. Don was an avid hunter, fisherman, golfer and sports fan. He always enjoyed coming back to Michigan and especially enjoyed spending time in Northern Michigan. Don is preceded in death by his parents, all four of his siblings, and his first wife, Shirley. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Julianna, his daughter, Cheryl (Charles) Gremban, his son Jim, and his daughter Cynthia Carrino. He is also survived by his five grandchildren, Patrick (Yelena) Gremban, Daniel (Danielle) Gremban, Mark Gremban, Olivia Carrino, & Helena Carrino. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church at 30900 6 Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to The Salvation Army or the Wounded Warrior Project (www.salvationarmy.org or www.woundedwarriorproject.org)

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HUTCHINS, RUTH

Of Bloomfield Hills and formerly of Grosse Pointe died July 31st in Fort Myers, Florida. Ruth was a member of Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield Hills and a former member of its women's association. She was an original member of Cranbrook House and Gardens Auxiliary and worked as a Docent there for many years. She also had served as a Docent for the Detroit Institute of Arts. Ruth loved to entertain and was an outstanding cook, preparing many a memorable meal for family and friends. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Colton. Ruth is survived by one daughter, Marcia Fenton, three step-daughters, Pam Liedtke, Gail Duty and Nancy Mallon and seven grandchildren.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

ENGAGEMENT

Palaian-Michetti

Lisa Palaian and Chris Michetti announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Steven and Carol Palaian of Farmington Hills. Her fiancé is the son of Michael and Lauren Michetti of Naples.

A May 2014 wedding is planned.



Chris Michetti and Lisa Palaian

ENGAGEMENT

Burry-Black

Caitlin Elizabeth Burry and Matthew Paul Black announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Keith and Lisa Burry of Livonia, graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in dietetics. She is a certified clinical dietitian at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Her fiancé, son of Kathi and Paul Black of Novi, graduated from Michigan State University Broad College of Business with a degree in



Matthew Black and Caitlan Burry

finance. He is a senior associate, Economic Valuation Services at KPMG.

A September 2013 wedding is planned in Charlevoix.

ENGAGEMENT

Wood-Hoffmeyer

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wood and Claudia Sabo are pleased to announce the engagement of Kevin M. Wood and Kendal Hoffmeyer.

Kendal, daughter of Claudia Sabo of Livonia, is employed as an LPN at Botsford Nursing Home. She attends Schoolcraft College and is pursuing an RN degree.

Her fiancé, son of Michael and Carolyn Wood of Livonia, is employed at Ford Motor Company as a skilled tradesman in the Ford Rouge Plant complex.

Their wedding will take place in September 2013 at Newburg Church



Kevin Wood and Kendal Hoffmeyer

at Greenmead Historical Park. A reception is planned at Northville Hills Golf Club.

REUNIONS

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

or 313-706-3266.

BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1963

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

DEARBORN FORDSON

CLASS OF 1954

A 59-year reunion luncheon will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, at the Stitt American Legion Hall, Post 232, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Nancy Barlow Gaspar at (313) 581-6623 or email Pat Gaston Chiesa at patc629@aol.com.

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.

CLASS OF 1948

A 64-year reunion luncheon is planned for Sept. 19. For more information, call 734-421-1485 or 734-455-9428.

DEARBORN HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1963

A 50th reunion dinner is planned 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Dearborn Hills Golf Course, 1300 S. Telegraph, Dearborn. Advance tickets are \$50 per person. For more information, contact Chris Baldwin at cbaldwin@wowway.com

DETROIT CASS TECHNICAL

CLASS OF 1958

A 55-year reunion dinner will be held 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan, Warren. For more information, visit www.casstech58.com or call Kathy at 248-652-0094.



Aaron Martinuzzi is surrounded by friends at the walk/run held last year for his benefit. This year's event is Sept. 7.

Golf event benefits leukemia, diabetes research

The Jake & Johnny Club will hold its third annual charity golf tournament, dinner and auction Sept. 23 at Fox Hills Golf Club in Plymouth.

The nonprofit organization was founded by attorneys Phil Goodman of Birmingham and John Hubbard of Detroit to raise money to battle childhood leukemia and juvenile diabetes.

Goodman's grandson Jake was diagnosed with acute leukemia in 2006 and Hubbard's son Johnny subsequently was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes. Since its inception in 2009, The Jake & Johnny Club has raised nearly \$100,000 and contributions have been made to research organizations working to cure childhood leukemia and juvenile diabetes. Both C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation have received substantial support from the club's fundraising.

The annual golf tournament can accommodate up to 72 golfers, who will enjoy an afternoon of fun on the links and dinner afterward.

To learn more about The Jake & Johnny Club or to register for the outing, sponsor a hole, beverage cart or be a corporate sponsor, visit www.jakeandjohnnyclub.org.

Annual walk benefits man with spinal cord injury

Family and friends have never given up on Aaron Martinuzzi of Redford Township.

"This is a fourth annual charity fun run/walk we put on for my nephew, Aaron, who was injured in a diving accident," Lisa Richardson wrote in an email to the *Observer*. "Therefore, unlike an auto injury, insurance is limited as far as medical expenses, home care (not at all) and rehabilitation. He was quite sick this past year but has recovered and is doing great!"

The Friends of Aaron Martinuzzi group has held a walk/run every year since the former medical school student was injured in a diving accident. Martinuzzi was 25 years old and a student at the University of New England-College of Osteopathic Medicine when he broke his neck in the accident and became a quadriplegic.

Proceeds from the annual walk/run go a long way toward assisting Martinuzzi with medical and rehabilitation expenses.

"Last year we had a wonderful turn out and raised over \$20,000," his aunt noted.

This year's event will start at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, at the West Boat Launch, at Kensington Metropark, located off I-96 exit 151 in Milford. Registration will run from 8-9 a.m.

Participants may choose a one-mile, three-mile, five-mile or 8.5-mile route through the park, through the park. Water stations will be available along the way for all distances. Stroll-

ers and dogs are welcome at the event, which will include prize drawings and a raffle.

Although the park charges a \$5 entry fee, there is no registration fee for the event. Participants collect pledges. All runners and walkers will receive a free T-shirt.

Several local businesses provide shirts, fruit, bagels, protein bars, water, coffee, and more.

For online registration, visit the Friends of Aaron Martinuzzi on Facebook or

www.CaringBridge.org/visit/aaronmartinuzzi. Forms can be downloaded from the website and emailed to lrichards59@comcast.net or mailed to Friends of Aaron Martinuzzi, PO Box 401586, Redford, MI 48240 by Aug. 29.

Make donation checks or pledge checks out to Friends of Aaron Martinuzzi.

For more information, email Richardson at lrichards59@comcast.net.

— Sharon Dargay

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Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Packey
Family Medicine

Due to the high number of inquiries and the importance of the subject matter, this segment of "Ask a GCH Health Expert", will be broken into two parts. Look for the final segment next week.

In just a few short weeks, children of all ages will be heading back to school. In addition to new clothes and supplies, make sure immunizations are on your "back-to-school" to do list. Dr. Nicholas Packey, of the Garden City Hospital Center for Family Medicine and an expert on how to protect your children, set's the record straight on vaccinations.

Q: Recently, it feels as if I receive more and more information telling me my children must have certain immunizations before attending classes. The list is getting longer and yet I don't really ever here about most of the issues any more. Are all these required immunizations really important?

A: It's great you don't hear much about these diseases anymore. This means vaccines are working. Since the start of widespread vaccinations in the United States, the numbers of formerly common childhood illnesses have declined dramatically. Immunizations have protected millions of kids from potentially deadly diseases and saved thousands of lives.

Since certain diseases crop up so rarely now, it's a common misconception to think vaccines are no longer necessary. The truth is most diseases which are preventable still exist in the world. Vaccinations still play a crucial role in keeping kids healthy. Unfortunately, misinformation about vaccines could make some parents decide not to immunize their children, putting them and others at a greater risk for illness. It's important to have your children up-to-date on all of their immunizations.

Q: Will my child's immune system be weakened because of a vaccine?

A: No, the immune system makes antibodies against a germ, like the chickenpox virus, whether it encounters it naturally or is exposed to it through a vaccine. Being vaccinated against one disease does not weaken the immune response to another disease.

Q: Will the immunization give someone the very disease it's supposed to prevent?

A: This is one of the most common concerns about vaccines. However, it's impossible to get the disease from any vaccine made with dead (killed) bacteria or viruses or just part of the bacteria or virus.

Only those immunizations made from weakened live viruses — like the chickenpox (varicella) or measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine — could possibly make a child develop a mild form of the disease, but it's almost always much less severe than the illness that occurs when someone is infected with the disease-causing virus itself. However, for kids with weakened immune systems, such as those being treated for cancer, these vaccines may cause problems.

Join Garden City Hospital every month at Westland Mall, for our wellness lecture series. At 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month, a GCH Health Expert will provide helpful and in depth information on a variety of issues that impact our health every day. The next lecture entitled "Children & Bullying" is Saturday, September 14.

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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 PER MONTH \$1,057 Cash Due at Signing
 EPA-estimated rating of
23 city / 33 highway MPG

Buy a 2013 Ford Explorer for
0% APR Financing for 60 months³
OR receive \$2,000 in Customer Cash!⁴
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Lease a 2013 Ford Explorer XLT FWD for
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 PER MONTH \$1,116 Cash Due at Signing
 EPA-estimated rating of
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Buy a 2013 Ford Taurus for
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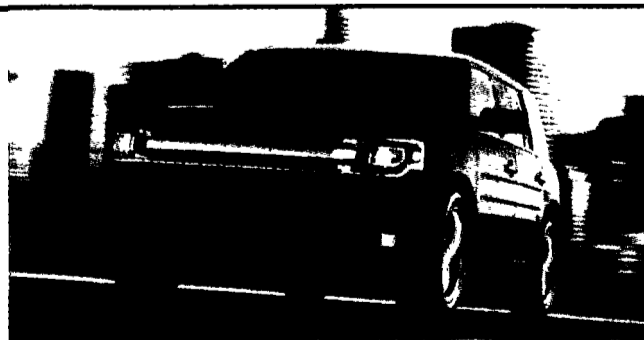
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 EPA-estimated rating of
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(1) Not all customers qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low-mileage lease (10,500 miles). Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Some payments higher, some lower. Residency restrictions apply. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash, with the exception of Focus, for RCL/RCO customers who currently lease a Ford product and lease again through Ford Credit. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 9/30/13 with the exception of the F-150 which ends 9/3/13. Not all buyers will qualify. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. (2) 2013 Fusion SE FWD 2.5L Duratec I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 22 city/34 highway/26 combined MPG; 2013 Focus SE FWD 2.0L Ti-VCT direct-injection I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 26 city/36 hwy/30 combined MPG; 2013 Edge SE FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine EPA estimated rating of 19 city/27 hwy/22 combined MPG; 2013 Escape SE FWD 1.6L EcoBoost I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 23 city/33 hwy/26 combined MPG; 2013 Explorer XLT FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine EPA estimated rating of 17 city/24 hwy/20 combined MPG; 2013 Taurus SEL FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine EPA estimated rating of 19 city/29 hwy/23 combined MPG; 2013 F-150 5.0L Ti-VCT V8 FFV engine EPA estimated rating of 14 city/19 hwy/16 combined MPG and 2013 Ford Flex 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine EPA estimated rating of 18 city/25 hwy/20 combined MPG. Actual mileages will vary. (3) Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. 60 months at \$16.67 per month per \$1,000 financed regardless of down payment. Excludes Fusion Energi and Fusion Hybrid. Other exclusions may apply. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 9/30/13 with the exception of the F-150 which ends 9/3/13 (4) The \$1,500 Fusion customer cash includes \$1,000 customer cash and \$500 Ford Motor Credit cash; the \$2,750 Focus customer cash (valid only on 5-door hatchback) includes \$2,250 customer cash and \$500 Ford Motor credit cash; the \$3,000 Edge Customer Cash includes \$1,500 customer cash, \$1,000 retail bonus cash and \$500 Ford Motor Credit cash; the \$2,000 Escape customer cash includes \$1,000 customer cash, \$500 Ford Motor Credit cash and \$500 Retail Bonus Cash; the \$5,000 Taurus customer cash includes \$3,250 customer cash, \$1,000 retail bonus cash and \$750 Ford Motor Credit cash; and the \$3,500 Flex customer cash includes \$2,000 customer cash, \$1,000 retail bonus cash and \$500 Ford Motor Credit cash. (5) Total cash savings includes \$2,500 Customer Cash, \$1,000 Ford Motor Credit Cash, \$500 5.0L Cash, \$500 XLT Retail Bonus Cash, \$1,000 Retail Bonus Cash, \$1,750 in Trade Assist (excludes STX) and \$1,750 XLT Discount Package. \$9,000 in total savings only valid on XLT 5.0L. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 9/3/13. See dealer for complete details. Vehicle images shown in order: 2013 Fusion Titanium, 2013 Focus ST, 2013 Edge Limited, 2013 Escape Titanium, 2013 Explorer Sport, 2013 Taurus SHO, 2013 F-150 Super Cab and 2013 Flex Limited. The vehicles in these images do not represent the advertised lease offers.

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JOB

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Job hunting? Check out the fastest growing industries

Alina Dizik,
special to CareerBuilder

When you're job hunting, knowing which industries are hiring is part of the battle. In the midst of high unemployment in the private sector, some industries are still emerging as safe bets for the coming years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook. With anything from home health care to finance showing steady demand, you're bound to find your opportunity.

Here's which industries are experiencing high growth:

Rehabilitation

Whether it's occupational therapists, speech therapists or physical therapists working with patients who require this type of medical support, the rehabilitation industry is in demand. As more insurers promote and cover these types of treatments, there will be a great need for therapists of all kinds. Therapists work in different kinds of settings including medical offices, schools, hospitals and specialized rehabilitation centers.

Internet hosting and publication

With constant changes in technology, those who work to maintain and publish websites and online tools are predicted to have an easier time in their

job hunt. Job seekers in the technology sector focused on Internet hosting and publication work on anything from building new websites to helping optimize existing Internet properties. Working in large corporations is common and contract work is often available.

Auto manufacturing

With the nation's car manufacturers back in growth mode, the year may bring openings to those eager to work in the industry. Positions that have had mass layoffs won't come back in the same way, but creation of other auto industry jobs is a safe bet.

Waste management

With recycling programs and constant regulations affecting the waste management industry, those who have an interest in waste management are constantly in demand. Workers deal with anything from collecting and processing to disposing of materials and further monitoring. Within the industry, constantly changing sustainability practices and new ways of dealing with waste can make it a dynamic career. Salaries can be surprisingly high.

Sustainability consulting

"Going green" is definitely on the radar of many compa-

nies these days. Sustainability consultants work on anything from insulating a single building to preventing rapid heat loss to making sure companies are compliant with wide ranging Federal regulations.

Language

As the global market expands, interpreters, instructors and others in the language industry are integral to helping ease the world's communication difficulties. Translators from languages outside of Europe like Mandarin and Arabic are especially needed. In addition to in-person interpreters, online translation is another key area of growth.

Home health care

With an aging population, aides in the home health industry are becoming a much-needed niche in the lives of the elderly. Home health is expected to grow tremendously as more baby boomers live far past retirement age, and are eager to live on their own. Pay is expected to rise by 3.9 percent annually, according to the BLS.

Ophthalmology

Another strong area in the health care sector, ophthalmologists and those who assist them are needed to meet the growing demands of pa-



tients seeking eye care. With new technologies the field is expected to see some of the quickest growth in the sector. Ophthalmologists work on anything from laser surgery to treating diseases associated with the eye.

Accounting

With financial regulation affecting both individual and corporate taxpayers, those who work in areas of finance can find themselves swamped with work. Accounting and auditing firms will continue to see an upswing in business as newer regulatory changes come into place.

Security

As more businesses focus on security and patrol services, corporate security has had steady growth since 2001. Guards typically work within and outside a business to prevent any wrongdoing. Additionally many security officers are now in demand beyond metropolitan areas and working in smaller cities and towns.

Alina Dizik researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder.com. Follow @CareerBuilder on Twitter.

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REQUIREMENTS: An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

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Email resumes to: gperry@hometownlife.com. Attn: Sales Please specify the territory you are interested in on the subject line of your email. EEOC

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AFI Financial (877) 234-0600	2431	4.125	0.312	3.25	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	127931	4.375	0	3.25	0
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	408356	4.75	0.25	3.75	0
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Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3446	4.25	0.375	3.125	1
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Above information available as of 8/2/13 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.

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LIVONIA - Multi family sale,
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Car Report

Advertising Feature

Toyota enjoys being on top of the mountain again



By Dale Buss

Three years after it all started falling apart for Toyota, the company is emerging as the biggest winner these days in the global auto industry.

As confirmed by its latest quarterly report issued on Thursday, in sales, output and profitability, Toyota now stands — perhaps a bit uncomfortably — at the pinnacle. That is no mean accomplishment for a once-untarnished giant that recently has battled through a recall crisis, an earthquake and tsunami in Japan, output-cutting floods in Thailand, and stepped-up competition from nearly every brand in the U.S. and around the world.

Toyota even has seemingly made the right call in the difficult-to-tread vehicle-electrification market, where it has backed away from all-electric vehicles even while most of its competitors have gotten bogged down in them. Several rivals have had to cut prices on EVs and plug-in hybrids because mainstream American consumers just aren't buying them.

Toyota nearly doubled its fiscal-first-quarter profit over a year ago, to about \$5.5 billion, helped by a weaker yen and strong sales in the United States. The company also raised its profit forecast by 8 percent for the year ending March 2014 and its global production forecast to 10.12 million vehicles from the previous forecast of 9.94 million units, including output by affiliates.

If Toyota reached that target, it would be the first time any automaker builds

more than 10 million vehicles in a given year. Amid its tightening worldwide competition with General Motors and Volkswagen, a slowing market in China and uncertainty elsewhere, that would be a very significant achievement.

Meanwhile, Toyota in July outsold Ford in the United States for the first time for any month in more than three years. Toyota executives noted that their Toyota brand was the No. 1 retail brand in the U.S. for the fourth month in a row. Division sales were up by more than 16 percent over a year earlier.

Camry set the pace with an excellent sales month of nearly 35,000 units, up by 16 percent and keeping it the best-selling car in America. The Prius family showed an even larger percentage increase in July sales, up by 40 percent to 23,300 units, notching the best July ever for Prius. That performance helped Toyota account for more than 60 percent of all industry hybrid sales in July.

An additional help for Toyota came from the new version of its Avalon full-size sedan, which continued its run of triple-digit sales increases in July over the year-earlier model. And while Toyota awaited the start of production of its mainstay compact sedan, Corolla, the previous ver-



Toyota has begun producing the new 2014 Corolla in Mississippi.



The new version of the Avalon full-size sedan has demonstrated strong sales.

sion enjoyed what one executive called "one of the smoother sell-downs I can remember" as the car sold nearly 24,500 units, up more than three percent.

Sales of the Toyota RAV4 were up by 28 percent for the nameplate's best July ever as it continued to have a prominent role in one of the best-selling segments in the U.S. market these days. With sales of more than 19,500 units, it was the sixth straight record-setting month for RAV4. The large Highlander SUV also sold two percent more during July as Toyota prepared to expand production at its Indiana plant, where it will add 15,000 more units in addition to a previously announced 50,000-unit expansion already slated for fall.

Toyota even began to manage to take advantage of the boom in the U.S. pickup-truck market, where its full-size Tundra enjoyed a 7-percent gain over a year ago and its Tacoma compact truck, in a segment where the Detroit Three don't play, enjoyed a 22-percent increase.

Also, production of new versions of Corolla and Tundra began in Mississippi and

in San Antonio, Texas, respectively. "It couldn't come at a better time," Bill Fay, Toyota Division group vice president and general manager Bill Fay said. "Both vehicles are in relatively short supply."

Overall, the industry remained strong, posting a seasonally adjusted annual rate of sales of about 15.7 million for July, the second-highest monthly mark in six years and an indicator that full-year US sales likely will total around 15.5 million, which would be a 50 percent increase from just four years ago. In July, every automaker posted a sales increase over a relatively weak July 2012.

Toyota's rising profitability in large part is a reflection of Abenomics, the yen-weakening policies of Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, which bolster the value of Toyota products sold overseas even as sales and market share gains in the U.S. haven't kept pace.

"Toyota is doing the right things in not trying to increase market share, but trying to raise profit margins," Edwin Merner, a Tokyo-based investment analyst, told Bloomberg.

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