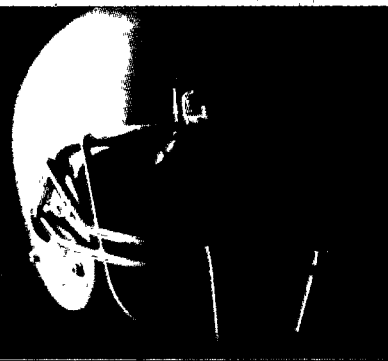




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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2013 • hometownlife.com

SPORTS, B1



# W-W school board sets goal of student achievement

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

A year ago, Wayne-Westland school officials were talking about a customer service plan, now they're talking about the implementation of that plan.

Getting the staff and administrators trained and implementing the program is one of two goals the school board has set for Superintendent Greg Baracy and getting that same training is one the board set for itself.

"If there's training to be had, shouldn't you be among the first group to take it," said Scott Morrell, a facilitator with the Michigan Association of School Boards. "Take the training and then write your engagement plan. Do what you expect everyone else to do. Set the bar and say this is what we're going to do."

The school board spent three hours coming up with goals for the 2013-2014 school year. In addition to implementation of the customer service plan, the board has set a goal of continuing to improve student achievement for Baracy.

"My goal is to bring a level of increased achievement to every child," Baracy told the board. "A superintendent should produce categorical improvement in a majority of the areas. I want to do the very best I can to improve student achievement."

See GOALS, Page A2

# 'Diamond in the rough'

McMurray honored for his commitment to Wayne

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. The Wayne Commission on Aging and Senior Services sees Ed McMurray as a diamond; McMurray sees himself as not so clear cut.

"I'm a diamond in the rough," said McMurray, who will have his chance to sparkle when he is honored by the commission as the 2013 Diamond of the Community on Tuesday, Sept. 17. "It's nice to hear their thank yous and congratulations, but I've never sought public recognition for what I've done. I see a need and I fill it."

This is the 19th year for the award given to someone 70 years or older who continues to volunteer throughout the Wayne community. McMurray had been nominated last year and had an inclination his name was submitted this year when "my sister asked me for a list of the things I do."

"I don't like to toot my own horn," he said. "Nancy (Wojewski-Noel) said 'that's OK, we're going to do that for you,'" said McMurray.

"It's been quite a pleasure knowing Ed," said Wojewski-Noel, the Wayne senior services supervisor. "He is a very positive person. He's always willing to give a helping hand. He worked for me with the chore program. He was always willing to do something

See MCMURRAY, Page A2



Pam Prough and the staff at My Lady's Florist will give away 1000 roses Wednesday, Sept. 11 for Good Neighbor Day. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Florist offers free roses to... BRING A SMILE

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

A Westland florist will have a dozen roses waiting for you Wednesday, Sept. 11.

Of course, it's not that simple — you get to keep one rose and then give away the rest of the flowers to 11 people to brighten their day.

"When someone comes in, we say 'by the way, it's Good Neighbor Day' here are a dozen roses. But there is a catch," My Lady's Florist owner Lawrence Derderian said. "At first blush, it's like 'what are you talking about.' Last year, we gave out 700 roses to about 60 people."

This year, Derderian will give away 1,000 roses. The roses are given out to customers who stop into the business on South Wayne Road at Avondale and dropped off at area offices and businesses.

"We don't usually promote it anyway. This year, we've been so involved in community projects," Derderian said.

"I mentioned this to some people and they said I should let people know about it."

### Sharing the news

So this year, Derderian said he let City Hall know about Good Neighbor Day, dropped fliers at local business, put information on the business Facebook page and told customers who came into the store.

"We call it Good Neighbor Day, it's a chance to do something nice for anyone," said Derderian, who has been participating in the FTD initiated program for the six years. "People are stunned and surprised more than thankful (at receiving the flowers)."

See ROSES, Page A2

# Rouge-a-Palooza: It's all about the river

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

There will be plenty of activities on land but as the name suggests, the river will be the focus of Rouge-a-Palooza.

Scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12, in Wayne's Goudy Park, Rouge-a-Palooza will feature a canoe race, a rubber duck race and a race of paper boats built by local youngsters.

"My goal since day one was a canoe race. Talk about changing perceptions of the river," said Kurt Kuban, Rouge Rescue coordinator. "We hope to have 30 canoes in the race."

The Wayne Rotary Club is co-hosting the event with Kuban and is sponsoring the kids' boat race. A rubber duck race will be sponsored by the Wayne Ripple Effect. The Wayne Civitans and Wayne Chamber of Commerce also are expected to participate.

### Educational activities

Along with the river activities, Rouge-a-Palooza will have educational displays from the Friends of the Rouge and the Wayne County Department of Environment.

There will also be bounce houses and a beer tent run by the Rotary and Civitans, which Kuban said he hopes will feature Michigan beers.

"It's all about changing perceptions of the river. We want people to see what we have to offer," Kuban said. "Goudy Park is a great place for an event."

Following years of clean up on the river, Wayne officials are hoping the Rouge River, where a dam removal project was recently completed, will become a natural attraction to help with economic revitalization of the city.

The council voted recently to approve a special event permit for Rouge-a-Palooza and waive all fees.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous thanked Kuban and the various community organizations for their efforts.

### 'Crystal clear'

"It's been our dream to see the Rouge pick up recreational speed. You're Mr. Rouge," Haidous said to Kuban. "You started when the water was so muddy that people said, 'Are you kidding?' Now you can see the bottom (of the river). It's crystal clear."

Cleaning up the Rouge River is something that everyone can agree on, regardless of political affiliation, Kuban said.

"We're always looking for significant events and this is one," Wayne Councilman Skip Monit said.

Rouge-a-Palooza has a Facebook page and more details will be forthcoming. The canoe race is expected to be held about 11 a.m. with live entertainment and food, along with activities, offered until 8 p.m.

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# Fall recreational activities offered

Wayne's nature trails will be featured at the Mill and Washington Fitness Trail Explosion event Saturday, Sept. 28. In honor of Michigan Trails Week, Wayne is offering a high- or low-fitness walk for everyone age 5 and older. Check in begins at 9:30 a.m. in Goudy Park at the Lookout Deck. Leg 1 is one mile; Leg 2 is a half mile. A nature scavenger hunt for ages 3 and older will be held at 11 a.m. with registration at 10:45 a.m.

It's a free event and no advance registration is needed. From 6-10 p.m. Sept. 28, kids ages 6-13 can come back for the Flashlight Candy Hunt Kids Night Out at the Wayne Community Center. There will be swimming, games, pizza, pop and more. Kids are to bring their lined bathing suit, towel, flashlight and tennis shoes. The cost is \$13 per child for community center members/residents and \$16 for non-residents. The registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 27. A \$3 additional charge will be required for late registration. A parent or guardian is responsible for drop-off/pickup and a photo identification will be required. It's not too early to start thinking about fall activities like the Family Hoedown scheduled for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, in the Attwood Park Pavilion. There will be square dancing, hayrides, a bonfire, pumpkin hunt,

cider and doughnuts. Participants are encouraged to come in their best Western or festive wear. The cost for Wayne and Westland residents is \$6 per person or \$20 for a family of four, \$7 per person or \$25 for a family of four for non-residents. For more information on recreation programs, call 734-721-7400 ext. 1309 or visit www.ci.wayne.mi.us. The Wayne Community Center is at 4635 Howe, Wayne.

field where "we could do no harm." "When we were growing up as kids, we used to play baseball until lunch," McMurray recalled. "Some kids whose parents worked would pack lunches; the others would go home to eat. We'd gather back there and play until it was time to go home for dinner." His adult role models were a college-aged Ted D'Pulos and Ron West who helped get the kids organized to do things. "Parks and Recreation is what has kept me in Wayne," said McMurray. "It was by far the best. I thought about moving and the real estate agent said I was picky. I told him I know what I want because I know what I have. I ended up staying in Wayne." He and his wife, Donna, have four adult children and 16 grandchildren. A large number of his family, including his two sisters and their husbands, will be at the dinner to see him receive an engraved plaque and \$75. After the dinner, he has a date with city officials at Wayne City Hall where he will be presented with a resolution by Mayor Al Haidous. "What makes me most proud about this is my friends," said McMurray. "I'm pleased to be selected, but I know there are others out there who have done as much if not more than me. I'm in good company."

## GOALS

Continued from Page A1

### Evaluation tool

The goals represent a portion of what the board will use in conducting Baracy's annual evaluation. Each goal has a numerical scale ranging from one point for ineffective to four points for highly effective. They also agreed that growth would be measured by meeting at least 13 of 18 areas of the state's MEAP tests. It also stripped the word some out of the descriptions for each plan; and the emphasis is on growth not some growth. Local and state data for elementary, upper elementary, middle and high schools will be used to determine indications of student growth and achievement. "I don't know why we can't set the bar and reach for it," Trustee Sally Madison said. "Why is everyone afraid to say we're going to meet that standard? Let's set the bar and the expectations for our students. I don't see us as effective if we're not meeting what we did last year." Morrell, however, cautioned the board about "setting each other up for failure." "The board has to do the evaluation, the board has to set the bar," Morrell said. "It's your responsibility. This will not make or break Greg's career; this will set the baseline for his successor." "All of the issues are a great, great challenge for us," Baracy said. "We're doing everything I think we can do with the resources we have available. If a student comes into the district reading at the second-grade level and is in fourth-grade, I would hope we can improve that by one year by the end of the year."

Customer service Baracy also wants to implement the customer service plan he was charged with developing last year throughout the district by the end of the current school year.

Training will be done in each building and a facilitator will work with the staffs to develop their own plans. In being evaluated on the goal, he will have to show that the plan has been implemented and produce documentation of individual engagement plans. However, Morrell noted that the customer service plan may need a third year to reinforce what is rolled out this year. For its part, the school board agreed to speak well of the district, its employees and the superintendent; write its own customer service engagement plan; and write and distribute a welcome letter to all new students in the district. The school board also agreed to finalize and adopt its succession plan policies and make changes to its procedures by Dec. 1. Baracy will be retiring in 2015, and the board has been working on policies and procedures to handle the hiring, whether due to retirement or an emergency. It also looked at completion of specific MASA board member classes related to the selection of a superintendent, specifically classes on the Open Meetings Act, superintendent selection and experienced based interviewing. En lieu of pursuing honor board status, the members decided to have at least one trustee take the classes and then share the materials with his or her colleagues. "The selection of a new superintendent has to be a consensus, it can't be a 4-3 vote," Morrell said. "You want to have this goal all done by the first of December so you're prepared to start the search process." "You have a lot on your plate, you have a pretty awesome list," he added. "Yes, but I don't want to bite off more than we can chew," board Treasurer Shawna Walker said. "I want to have some success."

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## MCMURRAY

Continued from Page A1

on his own if it didn't fall into the specifications of the program."

### History of involvement

McMurray has a history of being involved in his community, including his current work on the city's Housing and Historical commissions and almost eight years on the Commission on Aging. He also was a member of the Centennial Commission in 1969. He has volunteered for two Playscape Community Builds, works polls for city and school elections, and serves on three committees at his church, Westland Free Methodist.

But his name is synonymous with a one-day-a-year project that has been helping improve the appearance of homes in the community - the Wayne Friends Project: People Helping People.

A Ford Motor Co. retiree, McMurray used his experienced with the UAW's Paint the Town program to propose doing something similar in Wayne. Since 1998, he has been at the helm of the Friends Project which has volunteers spend one Saturday in September, painting and doing minor repairs on a preselected home in the community.

"I was taught that you can't submit an idea, then sit back and let someone else do it, you get involved," said McMurray. "It's about

## DIAMOND OF THE COMMUNITY

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17  
**Location:** Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis, Wayne  
**Details:** Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased through the Wayne Senior Services office, located in the Community Center. Tickets must be purchased by Monday, Sept. 9.  
**Contact:** For more information, call the Wayne Senior Office at 734-721-7460.



Ed McMurray will be honored on Sept. 17 as the 2013 Diamond of the Community award recipient. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN

ownership when you get involved. You come to care about what's going on in your community."

The McMurray family moved from Detroit to Wayne in 1947. A second-grader, he attended Jackson, then Monroe Elementary schools and South Side Junior High School. He graduated from Wayne Memorial High School in 1958.

He became connected to the city while in high school, working at the ice rink behind what is now the 29th District Court.

He belonged to the Wayne Jaycees which furthered his involvement in the community and, after his daughter came home and said her softball team needed a

coach, he began a 10-year stint as a girls softball coach with Wayne Parks and Recreation.

He remembers sitting on the dam under Wayne Road and catching fish, so when the Wayne County Rouge River survey was being done, he decided to get involved. He also has worked on Rouge clean-ups.

"I got to revisit the places I'd been when I was a kid," he said.

### Growing up in Wayne

Growing up in Wayne for McMurray meant spending summers playing baseball at Jaycee Park. The younger players, McMurray recalled, were stuck in the out-

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## ROSES

Continued from Page A1

"It should be common to do things for people." The Good Neighbor Day roses giveaway operates on the honor system, but Derderian said he knows most people hand out the 11 flowers.

"You always get that one or two who get something for free. We get people who have received roses (handed out) who call us," Derderian said.

Not too many florists in this area participate in the Good Neighbor Day program, but Derderian said brightening someone's day with a small token like a flower makes both the giver and recipient feel good.

### Something nice

"We've gotten away from the niceties — the tender mercies of life. Southeast Michigan could use some tender mercies with the economy and worrying about jobs," he said. "There is no notoriety or brass bands unless you do something big. How wonderful you feel doing something nice for someone. You get a little smile when you hand someone rose. We're all in it together."

My Lady's Florist will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 11. Most of the flowers will have been distributed by mid-afternoon, Derderian said.

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**HAND PAIN**  
When hands hurt, the first thought is that arthritis has set in. If the fingers are swollen, if the hands are stiff in the morning and it take over an hour before it is possible to button a shirt, brush hair, or pour a cup of coffee, then arthritis is the likely diagnosis. It is the responsibility of the doctor to take a history, perform an examination and take appropriate x-ray and laboratory studies and on the basis of the results of the total evaluation, provide a diagnosis. Commonly the cause is osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis, rarely it is gout. However, there are conditions involving the hands' nerve endings that on first look are mistaken as arthritis. In these nerve ending conditions, the hands feel swollen, even though to an onlooker the fingers look fine. Hand pain is present day and night, often being worse in the early hours of the morning. The hand pain is not so much a pain as a burning, tingling sensation, or the fingers feel like a buzz is running through them. All the fingers are involved as are both hands. The feature of having all fingers involved helps distinguish nerve ending pain from carpal tunnel syndrome in which only the thumb, 2nd and 3rd fingers are involved. Doctors can distinguish nerve ending pain from a pinched nerve in the neck, because a pinched nerve will give discomfort in a line from shoulder to finger. Distinguishing nerve ending pain from arthritis is important as treatment for each condition is distinct. Nerve ending pain often responds to medications such as Lyrica or Neurontin. Arthritis needs anti-inflammatory medications such as aspirin or methotrexate.

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## AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

### Garage sale

Lighthouse Home Missions in Westland is holding a garage today through Monday, Sept. 9, and then Wednesday-Saturday, Sept. 11-14, at the Missions, housed at the Full Gospel Temple, 34033 Palmer, east of Wayne Road in Westland. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

There are 32 tables filled with items inside the mission while furniture is set up outside. Everything from TVs, computers, toys, Christmas items to household goods are for sale.

Lighthouse Home Missions maintains a food pantry and soup kitchen, provides clothing and a warming center January through March for the needy and homeless. Proceeds from the garage sale will benefit food pantry.

For more information, call Lighthouse 734-326-3885.

### Meet the Candidates

The Westland Democratic Club is holding a Meet the Candidates from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, at the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, east of Venoy and south of Palmer, Westland. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County will hold a candidate forum from 6-7:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2, for Wayne mayoral and council races. The forum will be held at the Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, between East and West Michigan Avenue,

### Wayne.

#### Safety Event

The Norwayne Community Watch is having a Safety Event from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, east of Venoy and south of Palmer, Westland.

The Police Department will be represented with a police canine unit and provide home safety suggestions. The Fire Department will have the Smoke House on site and also have smoke detectors.

The community is invited to attend.

#### Coffee hour

Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, State Sen. Glenn Anderson and State Reps. Robert Kosowski and David Knezek will hold their September coffee hour from 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 9, Mr. Mike's Grill, 6047 N. Wayne Road.

Knezek and LeBlanc will hold Garden City coffee hours from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 9, at the Maplewood Center, Community Room 117.

Anderson also will host a district coffee from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 9, at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with the Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909, by phone at 866-262-7306 or by email at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

# New day, new acts at Blues, Brews and Barbecue

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Now in its third year, Westland's Blues, Brews and Barbecue will have a change in days and also feature new musical acts.

"The first year, it was one day. The second year it was Saturday and Sunday," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "We found that on Sunday, there was a huge fall off in attendance from Saturday."

The event, held on the Westland City Hall grounds, started at noon both days but on Sunday, Wild said, there weren't crowds until 4 p.m.

"The restaurants kind of agreed that Friday night would be better — people would purchase more food and micro brews," Wild said. "We wanted to keep our arms around the barbecue — we do have a good relationship with them."

Unlike some community events, the participating restaurants aren't asked to donate to Blues, Brews and Barbecue. The businesses make a profit from food ticket sales, as do local services clubs who volunteer during the event.

Among the participating restaurants will be Hickory BBQ, Longhorn Steak House, Famous Dave's, Malarkey's, Texas Roadhouse and Max and Erma's. Ashley's of Westland will be offering Michigan craft beers.

Most of the music will be provided by first-time performers at Blues, Brews and Barbecue including Friday night headliner Robert Penn.

An Inkster native, Penn, during his long career, has opened for headliners including Bobby "Blue" Bland, Little



Robert Penn, "Motor City Blues Gentleman," will headline opening night of the two-day Blues, Brews and Barbecue Sept. 22-23, in Westland.

Milton, Johnnie Taylor, Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, Coco Taylor, Buddy Guy, Albert Collins and many others.

"We like to change it up. Last year, we brought back the original bands (from the first year) — they were so well-received," Wild said. "I think we have a pretty good lineup this year."

Wild's sister Gabrielle, a professional singer, will perform at the annual POW/MIA program preceding Blues, Brews and Barbecue starting, then open for Penn.

"She's doing it for free. She does a lot of classic rock — we're mixing it up with some blues," Wild said.

On Saturday, Sept. 21, the entertainment starts at noon with Jones'n followed by the Chris Canas Band, the Randy Brock Group, the Rick Stel Project and the Zydeco Hepcats closing the event.

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# Earlier start time for POW/MIA remembrance

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

A shift of Blues, Brews and Barbecue to a Friday, Sept. 20 opening inadvertently created a scheduling conflict with Westland's annual POW/MIA remembrance.

As a result, the POW/MIA program will be moved up to 5:30 p.m. and utilize the stage set up for Blues, Brews and Barbecue, which will open once the ceremony is concluded.

The program has been held in varying degrees for over 25 years on the third Friday in September on National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

"When they backed the festival up to Friday, they didn't realize it was the same night as our program," said Rick Patry, who chairs the program sponsored by the Bova VFW Post and the Westland Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America 387.

Along with the earlier start time, Patry said another change this year will be to have the Westland Police Department Color Guard raise the colors. In the past, the Livonia Churchill High School Junior ROTC had done the color guard honors.

"I'm sure in conjunction with Blues, Brews and Barbecue we will have a much bigger group attending," Patry said. "We usually pull in 50-60 people through word of mouth. I assume we will double that."

This will be the last year the POW/MIA program will be held on the City Hall grounds.

With a new City Hall set to open next year in the former Circuit City building on Warren Road, Patry said the memorial of Westland POW Refugio Thomas Teran will be relocated to the Bova VFW Post on Hix.

A staff sergeant, Teran served in the U.S. Army, Company E 2nd Battalion, 501st Airborne. Teran was listed as MIA May 6, 1970. His remains were identified and returned for burial at Arlington National Cemetery in 2002.

"The memorial is like a headstone. We'll pay for the expense to move it," said Patry, an Army veteran who also served in Vietnam.

Both Teran's parents are now deceased but Patry said he has siblings still in the area.

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## 7 W-W schools transform students into leaders

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Students in seven Wayne-Westland elementary schools are starting the new school year learning more than the three R's. This year they will be learning how to be leaders as part of the Leader in Me program being piloted at Hicks, Hamilton, Hoover, Roosevelt-McGrath, Schweitzer, Taft-Galloway and Wildwood elementary schools.

Based on the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, the program aims to build students' leadership skills while improving the school culture. According to Jennifer Munson, executive director of school improvement and innovation, Leader in Me builds leadership skills and problem solving and fosters a pride in school.

"Schools that use it have seen a highly improved school culture and a dramatic increase in the reduction of discipline issues," she said. "School becomes an exciting place to be at."

More than 1,000 schools worldwide are using the program which represents a "whole school transformation."

Its key aspects include such things as being proactive, beginning with the end in mind, putting first things first, thinking win-win, and first seeking to understand before being understood.

The changes result in higher academic achievement, fewer disciplinary problems and increased engagement among teachers and parents, Munson said.

### Re-inventing school

The Leader in Me got its start in 1999 when a struggling school was asked to reinvent itself or be shut-down.

The principal asked parents and business leaders what they wanted in schools and heard such things as leadership, accountability, responsibility, problem solving, adaptability, creativity and teamwork.

According to the Leader in Me website, the feedback represented "what most people believe — that schools should not merely be focused



Hicks Elementary Principal Andy Rosinski has special education paraprofessional Kathy Fairchild shows off the message — "Empowered to Lead and Succeed" — on the T-shirt the staff wore Tuesday promoting the new Leader in Me program.

on improving test scores, but should provide opportunities for students to develop their full potential."

Using *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, the principal and her staff developed a leadership theme and school mission statement — to develop leaders one at a time — and integrated the *7 Habits* into the curriculum, traditions, systems and culture of the school.

According to Munson, Wayne-Westland's seven elementaries are "fully engaged" in the pilot program and two more — John Glenn High School and P.D. Graham Elementary — are beginning the process.

The John Glenn staff is looking through the material, while the Graham staff is starting the book study,

she said.

The program is being supported by federal Title I grant money during the pilot phase to determine its success and possible expansion. Four schools also have applied for Leader in Me grants.

The staffs — including teachers, administrators, secretaries and custodians — researched and visited other high functioning Leader in Me buildings to see the benefits of such a school culture.

They did a five-day training program and then built lighthouse teams to guide the ongoing implementation of the program in their respective schools. Two-three teachers also were trained to become trainers for the district staff and parents.

"This program teaches children to set goals and encourages them to be strong leaders," Munson said. "It infuses leadership into the curriculum."

### Simple question

Jennifer Keats, Roosevelt-McGrath principal, said the training started by asking a simple question of what they would like to see as a leader.

"The 2<AF>1/2<XA> days on habits was very powerful, the ideas were very powerful," she said. "We take them from adults and push them to the kids. They're now the seven habits of happy kids."

Hicks principal Andy Rosinski said staff and students set short- and long-term goals.

"We are taking personal ownership, we are determining our own path," he said. "We infuse that into everything. Each student has a leadership book. It doesn't isolate the brain and the heart, it empowers the entire person."

Munson said feedback has already been positive from the staff with comments like it "directly applies to teaching excellence" and that it "all makes so much sense."

"We teach our kids to set goals, we teach them to be better, and we encourage them to be strong leaders," she added.

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## Three students receive Parkside scholarships

Parkside Credit Union used its eighth annual Classic Car Show to introduce its 2013 scholarship winners.

Held in July at Westland Shopping Center, proceeds from the car show were donated to the Lyman Foundation, which supports the Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City.

The scholarship winners were Emily Best of Westland, Sierra Scott of Romulus and Mollie Crowl of Garden City.

Event attendees enjoyed oldies music, face painting, and, of course, classic cars. A&W of Westland Shopping Center also offered root beer floats, hot dogs and merchandise.

A&W's mascot Root Bear made a special appearance during the show as well.

"We congratulate our 2013 scholarship winners and thank the Westland Shopping Center and A&W for their help in making this event a success," said Martin Carter, CEO at Parkside Credit Union.

"We look forward to next year's event."

Parkside Credit Union, a Michigan-based nonprofit financial institution, has been serving the community since 1953.

It has offices in Livonia and Westland and offers a full line of financial products and services to its members.

For more information, visit its website at [www.parksidecu.org](http://www.parksidecu.org) or call 734-525-0700.



Parkside Credit Union CEO Martin Carter (right) congratulates the 2013 scholarship winners - Emily Best (back row, from left) of Westland, Sierra Scott of Romulus and Mollie Crowl (kneeling) of Garden City.

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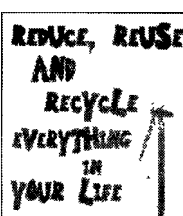
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# Westland teacher receives national award

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Teachers hope to have an impact on their students, something that might not always be evident.

Westland resident Jeff Koslowski has tangible proof of his impact on a student — a national award he received through a nomination from one of his students at the Henry Ford Academy in Dearborn.

"A student has to write a letter to explain why they feel the teacher deserves to win the award," said Koslowski, who was recognized as an educator of distinction by the National Society of High School Scholars.

Andrea Bruno, who graduat-

ed from the academy in 2013, wrote the nomination for Koslowski, a history teacher.

"She's a really good kid, quiet. I enjoyed having her. I didn't believe I had that much impact on her," Koslowski said. "It was a great honor."

### Passion for history

Koslowski traveled to Washington, D.C., earlier this year to receive the award in person. It was presented by Claes Nobel, great-nephew of Alfred Nobel, who chairs the National Society of High School Scholars board.

A 2001 Westland John Glenn High School graduate, Koslowski graduated from Eastern Michigan University where he is currently working on a master's degree in history.

"I have a lifelong love and



Westland resident Jeff Koslowski shows off the medal he received from the National Society of High School Scholars.

passion for history — understanding what people went through in events or personally," said Koslowski, chairman of the Westland Historical Commission. "Since I was 12, I really started to enjoy history. My parents were very suppor-

tive and I always had books on history."

That love of history is contagious, said Cora Christmas, principal of the Henry Ford Academy Dearborn where Koslowski has started his sixth year teaching. "We are so proud and excited about Jeff receiving the award," Christmas said. "We're so proud of him. He's the epitome of an historian."

### Student nominated

It's significant that a student nominated Koslowski for the award, Christmas said, particularly since he teaches history.

"Kids usually think history is really boring. Jeff is a terrific teacher," Christmas said. "He's history, history, history."

He comes through in his teaching. It's really a joy for him to teach. The kids learn how we got to where we are today."

Teaching at the Henry Ford Academy, located on the grounds of the Henry Ford, Koslowski gets to use real artifacts and simulations while teaching history, Christmas said.

His students are often motivated to seek independent study on particular history topics, she said. Koslowski and his wife Stephanie live in Westland, as do his parents Dwight and Gail.

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## GC Coalition: Keep talking with college students

By Sue Buck  
Staff Writer

Now that most area college students have settled into their dorms, it's important to keep the conversation going about the dangers of alcohol abuse and underage drinking.

Liz Shalhoub, an assistant at the Garden City Community Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse, has been informing parents on the topic of underage drinking since prom season last spring.

The coalition is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for all who live in Garden City, particularly for youth by reducing youth substance abuse and promoting lifestyles free from the abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

As part of the Show You Care, Be Aware Campaign, Shalhoub compiled a tip list for parents. College is an exciting time and parents need to reinforce the best and safest ways for students to handle it.

"Sometimes, when

they are out on their own, their judgment can become clouded by peer pressure and the excitement of the moment," Shalhoub said.

### Underage drinking

The conversations should continue about the possible consequences of underage drinking.

"Talk soon, talk often," she advises parents so students know what to do when confronted with tempting situations.

She suggests that parents and teens develop a plan about how often they will contact each other and agree on a weekly phone call, email or Skype.

"In most places if you are under 21, you can be cited, if you are just holding an alcoholic beverage," Shalhoub said. "Everywhere in the country, the legal drinking age is 21."

During campus visits check out the university's policies for underage drinking and substance abuse prevention and ask how they enforce these policies.

"Make sure that your teen understands the

consequences for these behaviors," she said "Explain to your teen that alcohol use can lead to date rape, violence and poor academic performance."

Don't forget to talk about the dangers of taking drugs that are prescribed for others.

Teens should be reassured that help is always available, not only from their parents but also from health and counseling resources on campus.

Binge drinking also is an issue.

"Discuss the fact with your teen that young people are more likely to binge drink — five or more drinks for males and four or more for females in one incident — potentially leading to blackouts, withdrawal signs and alcohol poisoning," Shalhoub said.

### Alcohol poisoning warning signs

Teach teens how to recognize the signs of alcohol poisoning, which each year brings teens to the emergency room. Signs of alcohol poisoning can include mental confusion, stupor, coma,

or the person cannot be roused. It can also include vomiting, slow or irregular breathing, hy-

pothemia or low body temperature, bluish or pale skin.

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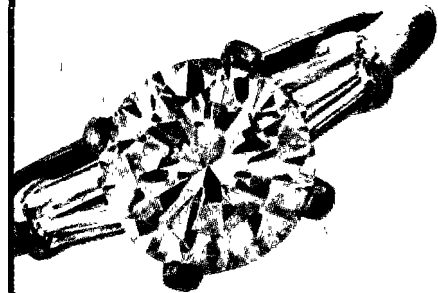
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# State tackles trafficking problem

Commission co-chair: 300 incidents in state last year

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Kurt Heise has two teenage daughters and he's pretty sure how he'd react if either of them got dragged into the slave trade.

So when the Michigan Commission on Human Trafficking decided to get involved in trying to stop the burgeoning human trafficking trade in Michigan, Heise was one of the happy to help.

Heise, who co-chairs the committee with Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, said the Legislature is putting together a package of bills that will empower law enforcement agencies, educate the public and put criminals on notice that Michigan won't be a party to it much longer.

"(Schuette) is active with the National Association of Attorneys General and human trafficking is one of their major initiatives," said Heise, a Plymouth Township Republican who represents the 20th House District. "I thought, 'Let's make

this our major focus for the next two years.'"

A major FBI raid in Detroit earlier this year brought the issue to the forefront and Heise said the Detroit area is a prime target for traffickers because of events like the North American International Auto Show where, he said, traffickers bring prostitutes in to "work the show," putting the word out for prospective clients via the Internet.



Heise



Kowall

### Hot spot

Heise said there were at least 300 incidents of human trafficking in Michigan last year and pointed out Detroit was ranked No. 1 nationally in pimp arrests and second nationally in girls rescued.

"Unfortunately, southeast Michigan is a very active area in human trafficking and that FBI raid earlier this year proves the point," Heise said. "It was an incident that really drove home the seriousness of the problem in our area. It encouraged us to double our efforts."

### TACKLING TRAFFICKING

What: League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County meeting

When: 7-8:45 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 12

Where: Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile  
Details: Deena Policicchio, director of the Outreach and Education Services Department at Alternatives for Girls, a women's shelter in Detroit, will address the problem of human trafficking and the local impact of this growing business.

For more information: Call the League of Women Voters at 734-421-4420.

State Rep. Eileen Kowall, R-White Lake, said she "felt compelled" to get involved when she realized "the magnitude" of the problem. She said statistics about show a high-percentage increase in such activity around events like the Super Bowl and the auto show.

In fact, according to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, some 63 percent of human trafficking incidents involve the sex trade, another 23 percent involve labor and 3 percent involve both.

"When confronted with this issue, you're in kind of disbelief," Kowall said. "When you realize it really is going on, you want to help people being victimized. The more you read about it, you realize it's not in some other country. You start to learn about the fact anybody can be snatched up. In many cases, runaway

children within 48-72 hours are involved in the sex trade."

### Approaching stakeholders

The legislative committee, Heise said, is taking a holistic approach to the problem, involving law enforcement, the Department of Human Services, corrections officials, the Michigan State Police and the FBI. Eventually, the committee will have to involve other stakeholders, such as faith-based organizations and churches.

"We don't have the money to spend huge dollars on this," Heise said. "We're going to have to partner with third-party groups."

When the package of bills — some 15-18 of them, according to Heise — is put together, it's going to include a variety of measures. Among them are things as simple as making it mandatory to post a toll-free help line number in places like rest rooms, truck stops and massage parlors and as complicated and controversial as authorizing wiretaps in human trafficking cases.

The legislation, he said, will also expand the definition of sex crimes and prostitution.

"Some of our laws haven't been updated since the 1930s ... They're anachronistic and gender-biased," Heise said. "We're not

going to be able to address every nuance of the problem. But at the end of the day, I want (Schuette) and law enforcement to have more tools to deal with the problem."

The Michigan Advisory Commission on Human Trafficking is due to issue a report in October; in the meantime, the committee is collecting as much data as it can, talking to various committees, putting out public information and gathering as many facts as it can.

### Tough to tell

"We're attacking it on multiple fronts," Kowall said. "The first one was public awareness and professional training for law enforcement, the medical community, etc. We are also trying to collect as much data as possible. It's been very hard to nail down, because it's often not recognized for what it is."

That's because, as Deena Policicchio, director of the Outreach and Education Services Department at Alternatives for Girls, a women's shelter in Detroit, points out, trafficking "never looks the same." It can be, she said, someone being forced into it by a family member or a dancer who is forced to also prostitute herself.

"It's never going to look the same way twice," said Policicchio, whose center serves some 20-50 people a year who in one way or another identify with some level of sex trafficking. "The consistent thread for all trafficking is vulnerability and the trauma that happens during it. This is not something we as a society should want going on in our lives."

Policicchio said Alternatives for Girls served some 875 women last year who were in the

sex industry. She said that industry has at its core an exploitative essence, one girls often can't escape once they're in it.

She also said statistics are hard to come by, because women involved in trafficking often don't reveal that fact until they're out of it.

"Unfortunately, there are no real, consistent and traceable statistics," Policicchio said. "Someone can be trafficked for several years and not appear in any system. There's no number that can be given."

### More education

Part of the commission's plan is to help educate people such as hotel owners to better identify people who may be being transported against their will. Another part of the plan is to prosecute people like hotel owners who allow it to go on.

The commission's October report, Heise said, could provide "a road map" the state can follow, possibly using it to leverage any federal money that might be available to help. Heise said he believes the state will come up with funding, once legislators understand the enormity of the problem.

"If we want to follow up, it's going to take money," Heise said. "I think (the state) will be very supportive of any efforts we make."

Heise said he need look no farther than his own family to know why attacking this problem is so important.

"My girls are 16 and 14 and that's the age of the girls being trafficked," Heise said. "I can't imagine my kids, or anyone else's kids, being forced into that environment."

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Proposals will be received by J.S. Vig via fax or email to 734.282.5320 or Joe@jvsvig.com, on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

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# State news, sports added to lineup

If you are anything like me, you are probably a bit bleary-eyed this morning after staying up late to watch the University of Michigan take on Notre Dame last night.

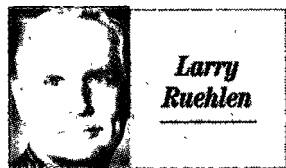
This column was written before the game, so I have no idea who won, but I do want our readers to know that they can now find coverage of college football on our website, Hometownlife.com.

Local news is what we do but it isn't all we offer online. Thanks to a new partnership, Gannett Michigan, we are pleased to announce that coverage of state news and college sports has been added to our online content.

Dedicated readers already turn to us for the best prep sports coverage in Michigan and adding college is a natural extension of what we already do. Readers can now find out everything they need to know before and after all the big games.

We also added a state news section so our readers can keep tabs on what is going on in Lansing. If there is an issue with state-wide implications, you'll now be able to read about it on Hometownlife.com.

People are more busy than ever these days. Between working extended hours, fighting traffic and running a household, there just isn't as much time to devote to staying current.



Larry Ruehlen

Some people devour news and others nibble. While one reader may live and breathe local politics, the next may turn first to sports, features or public safety news.

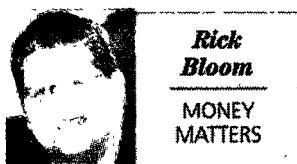
That's why extending offerings into college sports and state news makes so much sense. So the next time you are reading us online, scroll a bit lower down the site for college sports and news from around the state.

I'd also like to invite our readers to get more involved with O & E Media. If you know of an interesting person or new business in town, drop me a line and I'll share your story idea with our news team. If there is an issue brewing in your town, give me a call and I'll make sure it gets the attention it deserves. And last but certainly not least, if you haven't already checked out our Facebook page, it is a great way to keep up with breaking news and win tickets to games and concerts. To join in the conversation on Facebook, go to [www.facebook.com/OEHomeTown](http://www.facebook.com/OEHomeTown).

Larry Ruehlen is managing editor of digital content and audience development for O & E Media. He can be reached at 313.595.1007. Email: [lruehlen@hometownlife.com](mailto:lruehlen@hometownlife.com). Twitter: @Hometownlife.

# Divorcing couples need separate attorneys

**Q:** Dear Rick: Eight years ago I got divorced. At the time we were able to work out everything amicably and because of that I did not have my own attorney. The attorney for my wife handled everything. In the divorce settlement, in addition to some other things she got the house which was fine with me. The only caveat is that she was responsible for the mortgage. Last year, I received notice that the loan was in default and the property would be foreclosed. I ignored the notice because my ex-wife was responsible for the mortgage. Recently, I received notice that the bank has foreclosed on the property and they are holding me responsible for the mortgage. I notified the bank of my divorce and they don't seem to care. Is there any way that the bank can hold me responsible? Do I need an attorney?



Rick Bloom  
MONEY MATTERS

responsible for the mortgage only affects you and her - it does not impact the bank's rights. Therefore, the bank is within its right to seek restitution from you.

Just because the bank is coming after you does not mean that you don't have a course of action. You do have an action against your ex-spouse. You can bring litigation against her seeking payment.

After all, she is contractually obligated between the two of you to pay off the mortgage and she has liability to you.

Of course, if she has no resources then there is very little that you can do.

Consult an attorney about bringing a course of action against your ex-spouse. The attorney also may be able to negotiate with the bank; not necessarily to relieve you of 100 percent of the liability, but to potentially try to reduce what you owe. It makes sense for you to consult an attorney.

I recognize that in order to reduce the cost of divorce it's not unusual for parties to use the same attorney. Unfortunately, in many situations this is a mistake. Technically, attorneys don't represent both sides in a divorce; they only represent one side.

I believe because divorces by nature is adversarial, it does pay for each side to have his/her own attorney. If nothing more, to make sure that the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed.

In your situation, an attorney may have required your spouse to refinance or to seek an agreement to remove you from the mortgage. Either way, some sort of arrangement could have been made to remove your liability.

I recognize that attorneys are expensive, however, in many situations they are needed. One sure sign that you should have your own attorney to represent your interest (and only your interest) is if the party on the other side of a transaction has an attorney representing them.

Good luck!

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

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# County discusses ending jail contract

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Talks of ending a contract to hold Livonia and Westland's overflow inmates in one mid-Michigan county does not have area police concerned.

A presentation before the Isabella County Board of Commissioners last week indicated the county could end its contract with the two Wayne County cities in order to cut costs.

But those talks are not a concern for Livonia Lt. Tom Goralski, who said the department has not been notified of any talks of ending the decades-old contract.

"We have no concerns," he said. "We're solid, and we don't have to have prisoners out." Talks of ending housing for Livonia and Westland inmates at the jail in Mount Pleasant come as that county looks to tighten up costs. No decision has been made yet.

### Inmates increasing

Isabella County Sheriff Leo Mioduszewski said his agency is now holding more inmates from its area communities, including the sovereign Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and traveling costs back and forth to the Metro Detroit area have decreased revenue for their county.

"Years ago, we had excess bed space. Our local inmate population is increasing," he said. "Something sooner or later, something's gotta give. Right now, we're still in the discussion phase."

The Isabella County Jail can hold inmates from Livonia and Westland who have been sentenced to one year or less of imprisonment for a misdemeanor charge. If the Wayne County Jail cannot accommodate those inmates, they can be sent to the 196-bed jail up north. Mioduszewski said about 25 percent of inmates in the Isabella County Jail come from the Metro Detroit area.

Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik said inmates who are sent up north to serve their sentences will typically serve the full duration of them. Serving those same sentences in Wayne County doesn't always lead to the full time because of overcrowding issues.

"It's for truth in sentencing. Wayne County always has a problem with early releases," Jedrusik said. "We know they will serve their full sentences in Isabella."

### No termination notice received

Since no notice of the contract termination had been received, Jedrusik

said no alternatives had been looked at for prisoner housing.

Mioduszewski said no decision had been made, but expects one could be complete sometime within the next month.

Goralski said Isabella County is the only other county Livonia contracts with to house inmates. If the contract were to end, he said the department would look for another facility in the state to house inmates, something he expects would not be difficult to do.

The current contract between Westland and Isabella County requires a 30-day notice of termination and no notice has been received, Jedrusik

said. "I did hear through the grapevine that there was overcrowding (at the Isabella County Jail). Livonia and Westland are the largest customers and that they might possibly not have room," he said. "We'll reach out to them."

Mioduszewski said the talks do not reflect poorly on the relationship between the communities. Working with Livonia and Westland has been great, he said.

"It was just a matter of time before the population in Isabella County increased," he said.

-Staff Writer LeAnne Rogers contributed to this report.

# Colbeck eyes top Senate job

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

A year before voters will decide whether to send him back to the Michigan Senate, Patrick Colbeck has set his sights on the top leadership role there.

Colbeck, a freshman Republican from Canton Township who also represents Plymouth and Plymouth Township, confirmed Friday he plans to seek the job of Senate majority leader if he is re-elected in 2014. Current majority leader Randy Richardville, R-Monroe, cannot seek re-election next year because of term limits.

Colbeck said he is already a part of Senate leadership and has shown bipartisanship in co-founding, with Rep. Jim Townsend, D-Royal Oak, a caucus of southeast Michigan legislators from both parties.

"I've got a lot of experience cooperating with folks of all kinds of ideas and persuasions," Col-



Colbeck

beck said in a phone interview.

The senator, elected in 2010 with strong support from Tea Party

activists, will have to convince Senate colleagues he should be chosen as their leader. Colbeck has been a voice for Tea Party ideas of limited government. He recently led the Senate opposition to Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's bid to expand Medicaid to cover more uninsured people through the federal Affordable Care Act and came up with an alternative proposal.

The Senate eventually voted with Snyder, 20-18, Aug. 27 after Colbeck sat out the first vote, which prevented Lt. Gov. Brian Calley from casting a tie-breaking vote.

"I think people are looking for principled leadership, folks who say what they are doing to do and do what they say

they are going to do," Colbeck said.

He said he will continue to focus on representing his district and on re-election efforts and that his work should speak for itself when it comes to making his case to fellow senators next year.

Others reportedly considering bids to succeed Richardville are Sens. Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive, the majority floor leader; Mike Kowall, R-White Lake Township; and John Proos, R-St. Joseph.

Colbeck brushed off the movement among some Tea Party activists, pleased with his opposition to expanding Medicaid, to draft him to challenge Snyder next year. A bid for governor, he said, would take more resources than he could muster and "is not in my wheelhouse" for 2014, he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com  
313 222-2405  
Twitter: @mattjachman

# Rep. finishes leadership training

State Rep. Robert L. Kosowski, D-Westland, was among 37 select lawmakers to complete a leadership training program that identifies and assists emerging state leaders in the Midwest.

Kosowski met with fellow lawmakers from Michigan, 10 other Midwestern states and four Canadian provinces Aug. 9-13, in Madison, Wis., for The Council of State Governments' 19th annual Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD).

"I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in the 2013 Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development program," Kosowski said. "The program was enlightening and has provided me with new tools and knowledge that will help me to better serve the constituents of the 16th District and their interests."

"The Bowhay Institute is one of the premier leadership training programs in the nation,"



Kosowski

said Indiana Rep. Ed Clere, who serves as co-chairman of the institute's steering committee.

"The legislators in the region have benefited greatly from the skills their members have gained through this unique educational experience. Many of the graduates now hold leadership positions in their state."

Legislators from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan were chosen to participate through a competitive, nonpartisan selection process.

BILLD was founded in 1995 to help new legislators meet the demands of federal devolution and, in many states, term limits. These two emerging forces have highlighted the shortage

of training available for legislators, a void that BILLD aims to fill.

A program of The Council of State Governments' Midwestern Office, BILLD is held in partnership with the University of Wisconsin's Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs. Courses and seminars are conducted by La Follette faculty, Midwestern legislative leaders and professional development experts. In addition to courses designed to develop leadership skills, the program analyzes a variety of public policy issues, including corrections and the regional economy.

The Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development is named in honor of the late James Bowhay, longtime director of The Council of State Governments' Midwestern Office. The Council of State Governments has national headquarters in Lexington, Ky., and offices in Atlanta, Lombard, Ill., New York City and Sacramento.

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# Theater group hopes to turn on lights

By Beth Jachman  
staff writer

The Motor City Youth Theatre's artistic director wants to light up the stage with more than just talent. She wants new lights and hopes donors will help.

"We have very old hand-me-down lights from a deejay lighting system," said Nancy Florkowski, Redford resident and Motor City Youth Theatre founder and artistic director.

A fundraiser is being held on power2give.org through Sept. 25 to try to fund a new system. So far, the nonprofit group has reached about a quarter of its \$10,000 goal.

"It's not a theater system," she said of the current lights. "It's sufficient on the lowest, lowest level." People on stage can be seen, but they are in shadow, she said.

Motor City Youth Theatre began in 1990 as Redford Youth Theatre and Tinderbox Productions and had worked out of many different venues until 2005 when a permanent location was created by purchasing an old VFW hall in Livonia. Built as a church in 1949, the building is at 27555 Grantland in Livonia.

Florkowski, who has a long history of working with children's theater, formerly worked in the South Redford School District. When the building was acquired, they made do with what they could to light their productions.

The first MCYT kids'



Andy Gaitens of Detroit reads along with assistant director Julie Norbeck of Livonia.  
THOMAS BEAUDOIN

"stage lights" consisted of colored cellophane (gels) attached over the existing fluorescent ceiling lights. During the first show, the cellophane dropped to the floor, one piece at a time.

Then, MCYT purchased a used deejay lighting system with hand-me-down lighting instruments. It was a great improvement, but for the past five years most of the performers have been in the dark as the system is not powerful enough to light the entire stage.

A complete lighting system, which includes energy-efficient LED light fixtures, dimmers, control board, electrical cable and installation, is estimated to cost \$11,968, according to Florkowski.

"However we are confident that we will be able to raise the addi-

tional funds if we receive up to \$10,000 from Power2Give," according to the fundraising website information.

"The hope is to at least buy used equipment that is much higher functioning than what we have," Florkowski said.

Seating about 100 people, the theater usually draws 80 to its youth performances. The kids put on two major productions a year.

MCYT starts kids at age 5 to keep their creativity from being quashed and goes all the way up to 12th graders, Florkowski said. "We attract really great kids," she said.

The Motor City Players, a new adult group, is

beginning auditions and rehearsals this month for a production later this fall. It will also put on two major productions a year.

Karaoke, poetry slam and improv workshops are also planned, Florkowski said.

"Having an adult group will help so much," Florkowski said, not to make money, but to have activity at the building.

With the adult group she hopes to create something that attracts people from other community theater groups, not as competition but just as added opportunities to be part of a show.

"The theater is a great place and every-

## MORE ABOUT MCYT

For information on the fundraiser, visit Motor City Youth Theatre on Facebook and look for the power2give.org link.

» \$1 to \$25 donors will be listed in the Motor City Youth Theatre program and will be invited to a special lighting tour.

» \$25-\$50 donors will receive the above and will also receive a personal "thank you" note from a Motor City Youth Theatre actor.

» \$50-\$99 donors will receive all of the above and will be listed on the theater's web page.

» \$100-up donors will receive all of the above and will be the theater's guest lighting operator for the opening scene of a future MCYT production.

### Upcoming shows

Auditions for the youth production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* are scheduled for Sept. 22 at the theater: 1-2 p.m. Grades 1-3, 2-4 p.m. Grades 4-7, 4-6 p.m. Grades 8-12. Performances will be in November.

The Motor City Players adult group will perform *The Mousetrap* by Agatha Christie Oct. 25-27 and Nov. 1-3. All rehearsals and performances will be held at Motor City Theatre, 27555 Grantland, west of Inkster Road and south of the railroad tracks in Livonia.

MCYT includes kids of all backgrounds and abilities (ages 5-18). Past productions include: *OLIVER!*, *ANNIE Jr.*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *CATS*, *Rats*, *Noah*, *The Pied Piper*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Into the Woods*, and *The Wizard of Oz*.

one has something to offer," she said. Usually adults who are in community theater are in it for life, she said.

Much like she is, as she takes theater classes, teaches theater classes and acts in productions at Wayne State and works with the Motor City Youth Theater.

She says she owes a lot to treasurer Mary Jane Elliott and volunteer Phil Denbo.

She also gets a lot of help at the theater from her husband Fred, an

associate professor at Wayne State, and a scenic designer and technical director at the Bonstelle Theater at Wayne State.

She is hoping his connections in that area will help them find a lighting system in their price range.

If everybody who saw the fundraiser on Facebook gave a dollar, "we'd have a lot of money," Florkowski said.

"People don't realize their tiny donation will help us."

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# TV star brings anti-bullying message, live music to Franklin

Contest resulted in appearance

Franklin High School students were likely the envy of most high schools across Metro Detroit and beyond, as they hosted Lucy Hale from the ABC Family television series *Pretty Little Liars* on Wednesday.

The special appearance by the actress known as Aria Montgomery on the popular teen drama was the result of a contest offered by 99.5 WYCD country radio, in partnership with Defeat the Label, a nationwide anti-bullying organization.

Franklin senior class president Michelle Tuyu entered her school into the contest and was surprised to find out it won. She shared a few words about keeping bullying out of the school.

"It's never okay to put others down, and it's never okay to stand by and watch it happen," said Tuyu. "You never know, you could be saving a life (by standing up against bullying)."

*Pretty Little Liars*, which is based on a series of novels by Sara Shepard, has tackled the topic of bullying numerous times and the show's cast members have publicly supported anti-bullying initiatives. Hale's appearance is no exception.

But, Franklin Patriots were treated to another side of the 24-year-old actress. She brought along her band and performed a country music concert for students.

She told the crowd that she was excited to be at Franklin High School and to be in Michi-



Lucy Hale brought along her band and performed a country music concert for Franklin students.

gan to debut her music. Students, and even Principal Daniel Willenborg, clapped and did a little dancing during the performance.

"This is an exciting day at our school," Willenborg told the students.

Following the performance, students were able to get Hale's autograph and have a photo taken with her. She, in return, took photos of the crowd and said she planned to Tweet about her visit to Livonia.

Representatives from WYCD posted a photo gallery on the radio station's website [wycd.cbslocal.com](http://wycd.cbslocal.com).



Students laugh and clap as Principal Daniel Willenborg does a little dancing during the performance.

## GARDEN CLIPPINGS

### Lunch and Learn

Come and learn about bullying when Garden City Hospital hosts Lunch and Learn at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, in the East Court of Westland Shopping Mall, Warren at Wayne roads, Westland.

The topic will be "Why Kids Bully: What Everyone Must Know." Garden City Hospital is partnering with two experts in the field, Diane Back and Lauren Fardig-Diop. The discussion will hone in on the roles that victims, aggressors and bystanders play and the links between self-esteem and empathy.

Black is a University of Michigan master's of social work candidate in Community Organizing and Child, Youth and Family who works at the National Center for Institutional Diversity and interned at Bright Futures, a 21st Century funded after-school program addressing youth voice and needs for at-risk youth.

Fardig-Diop is an educator who is currently a Bright Futures site coordinator in Wayne-Westland. Diane formerly taught high school English and sociology in the Bronx, N.Y., and co-directed United Playaz, a youth-led anti-violence organization.

The lecture is free and open to all, and light refreshments will be served.

### Zumba class

Zumba fitness is back at Merriman Road Baptist Church, on Merriman just south of Ford, Garden City. The class is for women age 18 and older. Class is 8-9 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 12 through Oct. 24. Registration begins at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Girlfriends of Grace Ministry at Merriman Road Baptist Church, the class will be held on Thursdays at the church. Donations will be taken at the door to cover the cost of the instructor.

For more information, call 734-421-0472.

### Town Hall

Join State Rep. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights, and John Austin, president of the State Board of Education, for an Education Town Hall meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, in the library of Riverside Middle School Library, 25900 Warren Road, Dearborn Heights.

Parents, students, teachers, support staff, administrators, and concerned citizens are encouraged to attend. Topics include but are not limited to Early Childhood Education, K-12 Education, Higher Education, funding and the future of education in Michigan.

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# TRAILBLAZING

## Botsford Hospital surgeon uses robotics for hysterectomy

A Botsford Hospital physician recently became Michigan's first in his field of expertise to lead a surgical team in performing a hysterectomy using robotic technology and just one small incision in the naval — dramatically reducing blood loss during surgery, post-operative pain and recovery time.

Dr. Burton S. Brodsky, skilled in a variety of robotic-aided surgeries since 2007, began offering the single-site da Vinci hysterectomy a few weeks ago to patients with benign conditions that warrant removal of the uterus.

"Robotic-assisted surgery and single-incision surgery aren't new, but combining the two to remove the uterus is a safe and virtually scarless option for patients," Brodsky said.

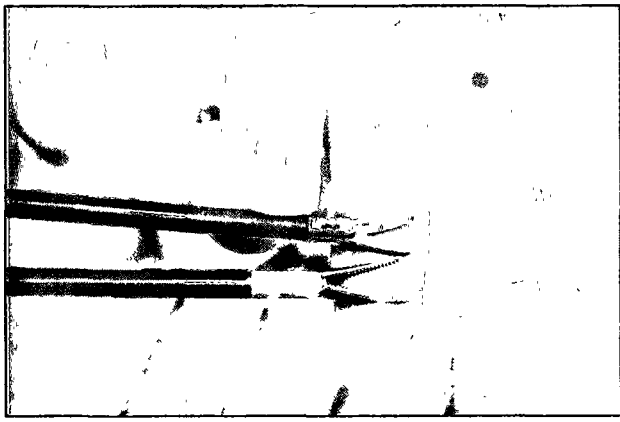
### First in Michigan

While certain gynecological cancers have been treated with the single-site hysterectomy, Brodsky and his team were the first in the state to use the procedure for nonmalignant conditions.

Christina Shollack, a registered nurse from Canton, was the first to undergo the procedure by Brodsky and his team. For years, she suffered from significant pelvic pain.

"I was in agony for 20 days every month," Shollack said.

Initially, Brodsky wasn't sure if Shollack was a candidate for the single-site robotic-aided surgery, due to three prior C-sections, and other abdominal surgeries to remove her gall bladder and appendix. Fortunately for her, Brodsky determined she



As shown here, the da Vinci single-incision surgical instruments are shorter than the width of Dr. Burton Brodsky's index finger.

could, indeed, undergo the new procedure.

"I got to go home within 24 hours of my surgery," Shollack said, adding that Brodsky and his team at Botsford "performed perfectly."

The surgical team included Botsford Hospital obstetrics-gynecology residents Drs. Rachel Kaplan and Sweta Mehta, as well as registered nurse Michelle Jaskowicz and surgical technologists Janet Trobaugh and Patrick Mayowski.

A traditional hysterectomy typically requires a hospital stay of three-four days, Brodsky said. Yet with the single-site da Vinci procedure, 60-70 percent of patients go home the same day of surgery — and are back to full activity so much sooner than the six weeks they would otherwise need for recovery.

"That's the biggest thing for patients — to get back to normal activities as soon as possible."

And average blood loss during surgery is reduced by up to 90 percent, he added.

### Three-dimensional

The procedure calls for the specially trained

surgeon to sit at a console, viewing a 3-dimensional, high-definition image of the patient's anatomy. Controls below the viewer move the instrument arms and camera, and in real-time, the system translates the surgeon's hand, wrist and finger movements into more precise movements of the miniaturized instruments inside the patient. The uterus is removed through the navel.

For a surgeon, Brodsky said, the procedure offers "better visuals, better control, better accuracy and a smaller incision," leading to fewer complications and "a happier, more content patient."

"It just all makes sense," he said.

Brodsky said he feels "beyond honored" to be trailblazing with the single-site "for being exceptionally well-trained and prepared for our first patient using this new surgical technology."

"This is a perfect example of the great strides Botsford has made in becoming a multidisciplinary robotic surgical center," he said.



Botsford Hospital obstetrician-gynecologist Dr. Burton Brodsky is pictured here with the da Vinci single-incision HD surgical robot.

## Races benefit First Responders Memorial

Wayne County Parks will sponsor the Heroes on Hines half-marathon and 5-kilometer races Saturday, Oct. 5, with proceeds going to the First Responders Memorial to be erected at Hines Drive and Haggerty.

The half-marathon starts at 8 a.m., followed by an 8:30 a.m. start for the 5K. The event is sponsored by Running Fit and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The cost is \$34 (5K) and \$59 (half-marathon) through Oct. 3.

For more information, visit [www.heroesonhines.com](http://www.heroesonhines.com).

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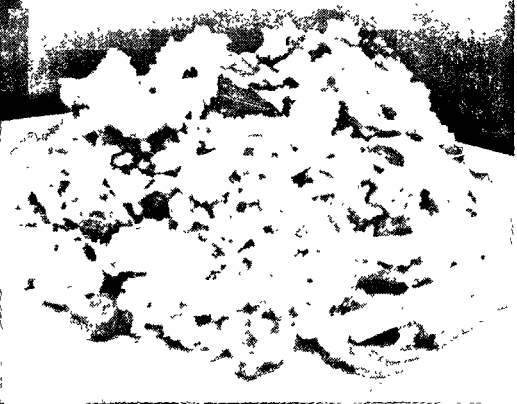
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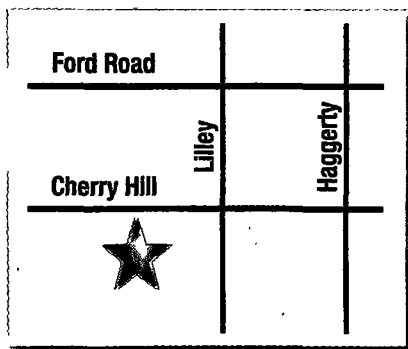
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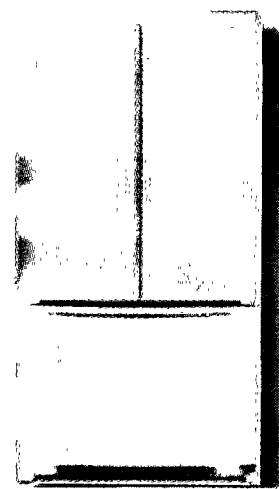
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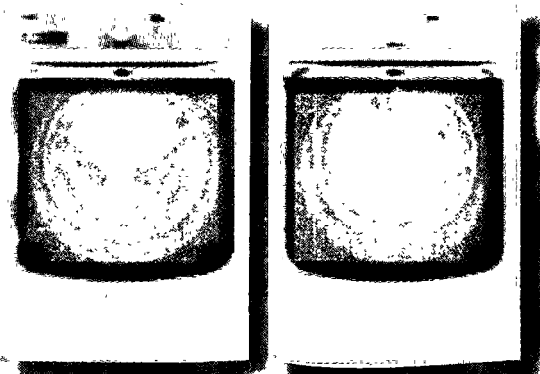


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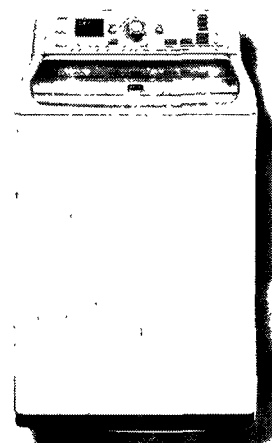


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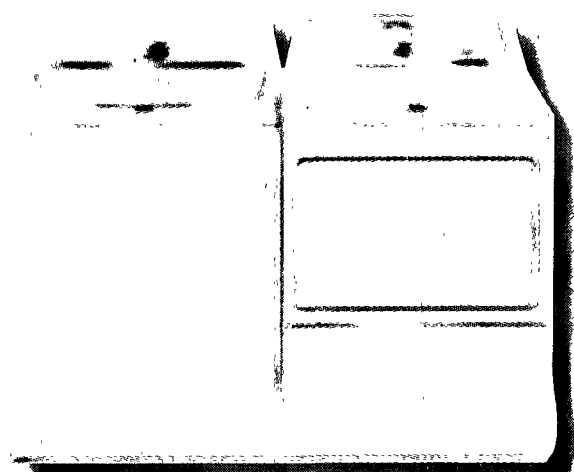


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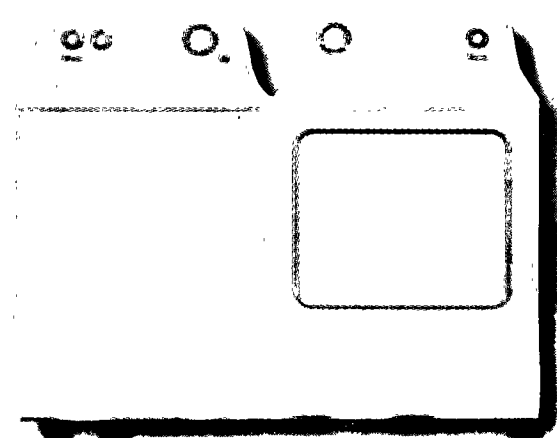


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## Stevenson stand-in QB sinks Vikings

Weiss helps key offense as Kelly scores four TDs in win

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

C.J. Weiss proved to be more than an emergency quarterback Friday night as he answered the call, leading host Livonia Stevenson to a 34-12 football victory over Walled Lake Central.

The speedy 5-foot-8, 175-pound Weiss, who moved from his slotback spot for the injured J.T. McCallion, kept the offense humming as he rushed eight times for 93 yards.

Senior tailback Devin Kelly scored four touchdowns and added 85 yards on nine attempts, while Dom Ferrera (10

carries, 61 yards) and Austin Petrie (eight carries, 61 yards) also got into the act as the Spartans had 305 yards on the ground.

"J.T. was banged up and hadn't practiced all week and C.J. came in and did an absolutely marvelous job," said first-year Stevenson coach Randy Micallef, who notched his first victory with the Spartans. "We had great blocking up front. Our left side of Jake Ivey and Ben Tabor really opened up some big holes and helped us out and gave us a lot of advantages on the edge."

Central's Nick Krumm weaved his way through a host of Stevenson tacklers for a 91-



Stevenson's Austin Petrie (2) eludes the grasp of Walled Lake Central tackler Nick Krumm (5). BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See STEVENSON, Page B3

## Packers sign WR White

The Green Bay Packers assigned wide receiver Myles White (Livonia Stevenson) to their practice squad on Tuesday.

The 6-foot, 182-pound White caught eight passes for 90 yards in four exhibition games with the Packers.

After transferring from Michigan State, the 23-year-old White played in 22 contests during his two seasons at Louisiana Tech while earning second-team All-Western Athletic Conference honors.

As a senior, White caught 56 passes for 718 yards (12.8 average) and six touchdowns.

White caught 30 passes for 414 yards (13.8 average) and three TDs as a junior in 2011.

In his one season at Northwest Mississippi Community College, White led the team in catches (53), receiving yards (712) and receiving TDs (six) in 2010.

## Heroes on Hines races

Wayne County Parks will sponsor its first Heroes on Hines half-marathon and 5-kilometer races Saturday, Oct. 5, with proceeds going toward the creation and maintenance of the First Responders Memorial to be erected at Hines Drive and Haggerty.

The half-marathon starts at 8 a.m., followed by the 5K at 8:30 a.m. The event is sponsored by Running Fit and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The cost is \$34 (5K) and \$59 (half marathon) if registered by Oct. 3.

For more information, visit heroesonhines.com.

## Golf and triathlon

PGA professional Tami Bealert will be staging a 5-kilometer run-walk, 20K bike and nine-hole golf scramble at 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 29 at Hickory Creek Golf Course.

The cost is \$65 (if registered by Sept. 15) or \$75 (by Sept. 24). Included in the cost is two free group golf lessons, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, and Friday, Sept. 27.

The event includes greens fees (with cart), wrist band, prizes and lunch on race day.

For more information, visit TrainWithTami.com; or call (734-731-0238).

## PREP FOOTBALL

### Trojans get WWAC win, go to 2-0

Livonia Clarenceville overcame a sluggish first half to win its Western Wayne Athletic Conference football opener Friday night against host Dearborn Heights Robichaud, 26-6.

"It was a whole team effort, especially in the second half," said Clarenceville coach Ken Fry, whose team took advantage of six Robichaud turnovers to improve to 2-0 on the season.

It was 6-6 after one quarter as James Hill scored on a 5-yard touchdown run for the Trojans, while William Melchor countered with a 5-yard TD run for the Bulldogs (0-2).

Clarenceville then scored 20 unanswered points in the second half.

Quarterback Jake Kubiak hit Carlton Davis on a 4-yard TD pass and Hill added the two-point conversion run, while Brandon Uren added a 1-yard TD run, both coming in the third quarter.

Uren then scored again on a 5-yard run in the final quarter to put the game away.

Kubiak was 9-of-16 passing for 99 yards as Clarenceville outgained Robichaud in total yards, 169-119.

Drake Taylor recovered two fumbles, while Doug Wible and Jesse Stallings added one each for the Trojans. Elijah Bean (second quarter) and Kimani Dooley (third quarter) also came up with key interceptions.

HARTLAND 37, JOHN GLENN 28: Austin Pierce rushed for 151 yards and scored three TDs

See FOOTBALL, Page B3

## Spartan girls seize cross country title

Franklin's Douglas first to hit tape at LPS invite

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

There was a changing of the guard in Wednesday's Public Schools of Livonia Invitational girls cross country meet at Cass Benton Park.

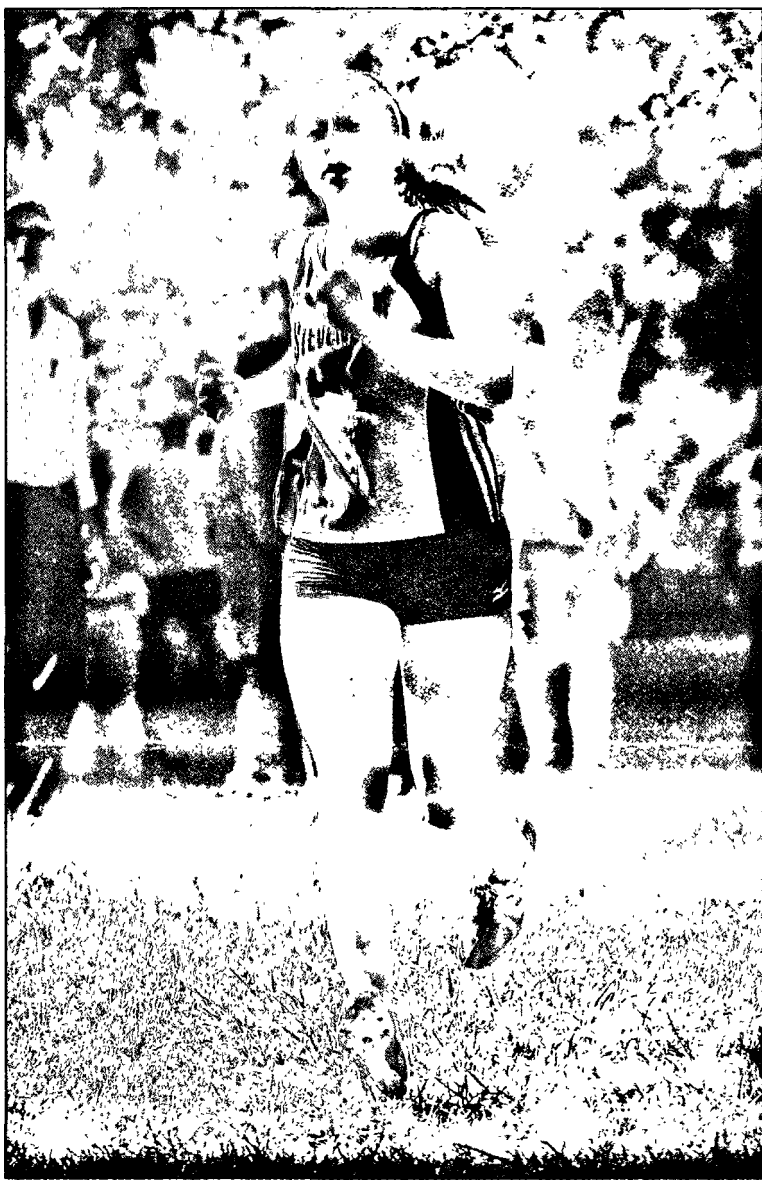
Stevenson claimed its first title in five years by edging Franklin for the team title, 34-39, while five-time defending champion Churchill fell to third with 52.

Stevenson's balance offset the Patriots' one-two individual finish by sophomore Natalie Douglas and junior Ellery Marano.

Douglas covered the hilly and challenging 5,000-meter course in 20 minutes, 51.5 seconds, while Marano was clocked in 21:02.6.

The Spartans, however, placed five in the top 11 led by junior Emily Chapski, who took third in 21:08.2 followed by Lindsey Gallagher, fourth (21:40.8); Barbara Scupholm, seventh (21:40.8); Jackie Green, 10th (21:53.1); and Grace Lamerson, 11th (21:56.0).

"We were hoping to win and we made that happen," Stevenson coach Chris Inch said. "Grace Lamerson, and Jackie Green, both freshmen, raced very nicely. They looked good and I'm not completely surprised, but at the same time we needed them to make sure we



Emily Chapski was Stevenson's top finisher in third place (21:08.2) for the Spartans, who captured the team title Wednesday at Cass Benton Park. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See LPS INVITE, Page B4

## C'ville spikers go 5, win WWAC opener

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Judging by the intensity level and heightened level of play, you'd have thought Thursday night's Western Wayne Athletic Conference crossover volleyball match between Livonia Clarenceville and Garden City was being played in the days leading up to Thanksgiving - not a few days after Labor Day.

With compelling drama saturating every late-match point, the Trojans outlasted the host Cougars in a five-set thriller - but just barely.

The two-and-a-half-hour encounter's outcome was in serious doubt until Clarenceville senior torpedo launcher Ayanna Buckley put down a Nicole Kurdziel set to give the Trojans a 24-26, 25-23, 25-14, 18-25, 16-14 victory in their WWAC debut.

The Cougars led the fifth set, 14-12, before Clarenceville rallied behind the clutch serving of Summer Reddick.

"When we were down two in the fifth, I just told the girls to win one point at a time," said Clarenceville coach Wendy Merschman. "Both teams played really well. It was back and forth all night and either team could have won."

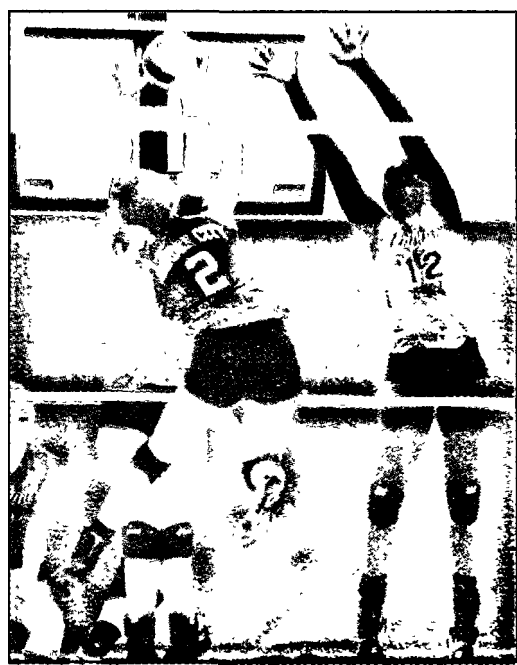
How did Merschman feel with her team leading 15-14 and the final set floating above the net for the elevating Buckley to gobble up?

"I guess you could say I was confident," she said, smiling. "But that was first time all night."

Clarenceville improved to 3-3-1 while Garden City slipped to 0-3-2. It was the Cougars' first home loss in close to two years.

"We split with Clarenceville a couple weeks ago at the Ladywood tournament, so I knew it was going to be a competitive match," said GC coach John Pace. "It's a good thing for our team to be able to play a five-set match so early in the season."

See SPIKERS, Page B2



Clarenceville's Christine Hurmiz (left) and Ayanna Buckley put the block on Garden City's Allie Lynn (2) during Thursday's WWAC opener.

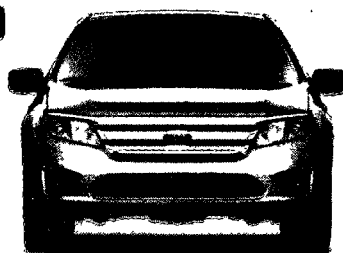
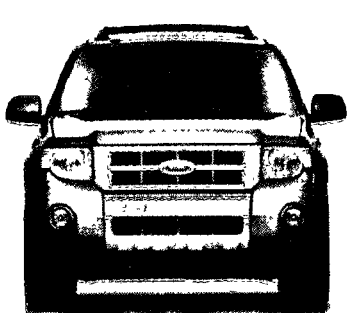


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# Madonna University spikers capture Martin Classic opener

The No. 11-ranked Madonna University women's volleyball team continued its early sea-

son roll with its 10th straight victory Friday at home in the opening round of the Julie Martin

Memorial Classic. Senior Emilie Freeman (Livonia/Lutheran Westland) finished with 11 kills as the Crusaders handed Roosevelt (Ill.) University its first loss of the season, 25-14, 25-16, 25-11. Kayla Vogel added eight kills, while setter Evia Prieditis added 11

assist-to-kills for the Crusaders, who improved to 10-0 overall. Stacey Catalano and Amanda Obrycki combined for 19 digs, while Arielle Nausieda had 14 for Roosevelt (6-1). On Wednesday, MU rolled to a 25-21, 25-8, 25-20 victory in the home opener over Rochester

College. The 6-foot-3 Freeman was the lone Crusader in double figures in kills with 11, while Obrycki and senior Evia Prieditis recorded 15 digs and 32 assists, respectively. Brenna Pelloni recorded six kills for Rochester (8-6). The Crusaders, who

improved to 9-0 overall, returned to action on Friday with a pair of matches at the 13th annual Julie Martin Memorial Classic at the MU Activities Center. MU faced Illinois Tech in the second match of the Martin Classic on Friday night.

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## SPIKERS

Continued from Page B1

"When you play against someone who can terminate the ball at will like Ayanna Buckley, you have to really buckle down defensively, and I thought we did that for the most part tonight. When she was hot, we couldn't stop her. But when the set was off just a little, we were giving her some competition, which was nice to see."

Buckley, who is being recruited by several Division 2 college volleyball programs, finished with a match-high 14 kills and eight blocks.

Erica Katz chipped in with five blocks for the winners, who received stellar defensive play from Reddick (14 digs) and Kelsey Griffin (12 digs).

Sophomore Allie Lynn powered the Cougars'



Clarenceville players celebrate after beating host Garden City in their inaugural WWAC opener. ED WRIGHT

offense with a team-high 11 kills. Kennedy Gossett was a defensive wizard for GC as she handled all 28 serves that came her way along with picking up a team-high 26 digs.

Junior Holly Sayer also sparked at the net for GC, netting six kills. Clarenceville con-

trolled the opening set from the get-go and never trailed until Sayer terminated a Taylor Bejma set to give the Cougars a 25-24 lead. GC took the opening stanza when the Trojans knocked a hit just deep of the end line. The two teams fol-

lowed an almost identical script in set two. Clarenceville owned a 24-20 edge thanks to a Brianna Brown kill, however, the resilient Cougars rallied to within 24-23 before the visitors survived following a mishit GC serve.

One of the defensive highlights of the night for the Trojans unfolded in set three when Buckley registered a block in the wake of two scintillating digs by her teammates to give Clarenceville a 17-12 advantage. GC made sure the match was going to go the distance when it closed out set four with a 12-6 run, which featured three kills by Lynn and a clinching service ace by Sayer.

The Cougars led by as many as four points in the finale, but Clarenceville stormed back to make its WWAC opener a memorable experience.

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## Extravaganza: Event serves everything, vegetarian to pub food

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Whether you say “tomA-to” or “tom-AH-to, chef Steve Allen of Steve & Rocky’s Restaurant in Novi hopes you’ll get a chance to taste his fresh, heirloom varieties at this year’s Culinary Extravaganza at Schoolcraft College.

“I grow a huge garden. I grow a lot of heirloom tomatoes. So I’ve got to imagine it’s something that’s going to be with heirloom tomatoes,” said Allen, envisioning his menu for the event, an annual fundraiser for the college’s culinary department and student scholarships.

“Last year, it was a pretty big success. I brought 300 pounds of beautiful colored tomatoes. We had a tomato frenzy. People were lined up out the door for just beautiful tomatoes (in) different vinaigrettes, different salads, sauces. I’d ask them what they’d like, I’d season it up.”

Steve & Rocky’s will be among approximately 50 food and beverage vendors that will serve tastings of their signature dishes, delectable desserts, fresh fare, wine and more, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 22 in the VisTaTech Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Tickets are \$50, \$20 of which is a charitable contribution. Order them at 734-462-4689 or visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation). For sponsorship information, call 734-462-4518.

In addition to food and beverage sampling, Culinary Extravaganza will feature a silent auction and a raffle of cash and dinner gift certificates at the American Harvest Restaurant at Schoolcraft College.

Certified master chef Jeff Gabriel, and wine expert Lee



Chef Jeffrey Gabriel checks chicken consommé prepared by student Dawn Shock at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hershey will share their expertise in a joint session on wholesome, healthful food and wine pairings. In the past they’ve presented separate programs.

“We talked and said we should combine these,” Gabriel said. “I have to give him a menu. I know I’m going to do a salmon dish and I’m probably going to do something vegetarian.”

“I think people are more health-conscious in general.

Every culinary school is now cooking lighter. We’re trying to limit the amount of fat and salt and we’re trying to incorporate more vegetables.”

### Watch the Lions

But guests who prefer traditional football fare to lighter cuisine will find it at this year’s Extravaganza. Marjorie Lynch, special events coordinator, said she hopes to attract a few restaurants that serve pub-style food. They’ll be stationed

near a viewing area for the televised Detroit Lions-Washington Redskins game.

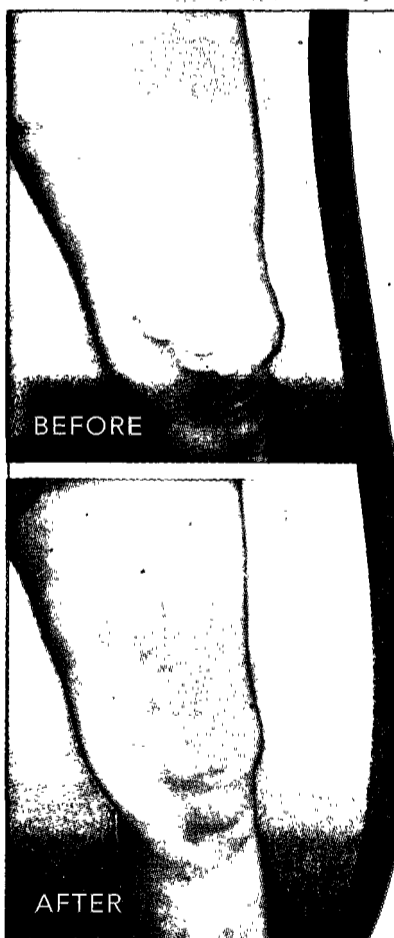
“We usually don’t plan to turn the Lions game on the TV,” Lynch said. “But people see the TV and ask if we can turn it on. Last year it was an exciting game that was tied until the end.

“This year we’re planning for it. This year we’re making it festive in one area that will highlight the game.”

Lynch said Culinary Extrav-

aganza raises approximately \$60,000-\$65,000 every year. Some of the proceeds benefit the culinary arts program, funding its special projects, seminars by guest chefs and the culinary competition team. The rest of the money goes toward scholarships. It’s not limited to culinary studies.

“It’s a worthy cause,” said Allen, a former Schoolcraft student. “Not everyone can meet the financial obligations to go to college.”



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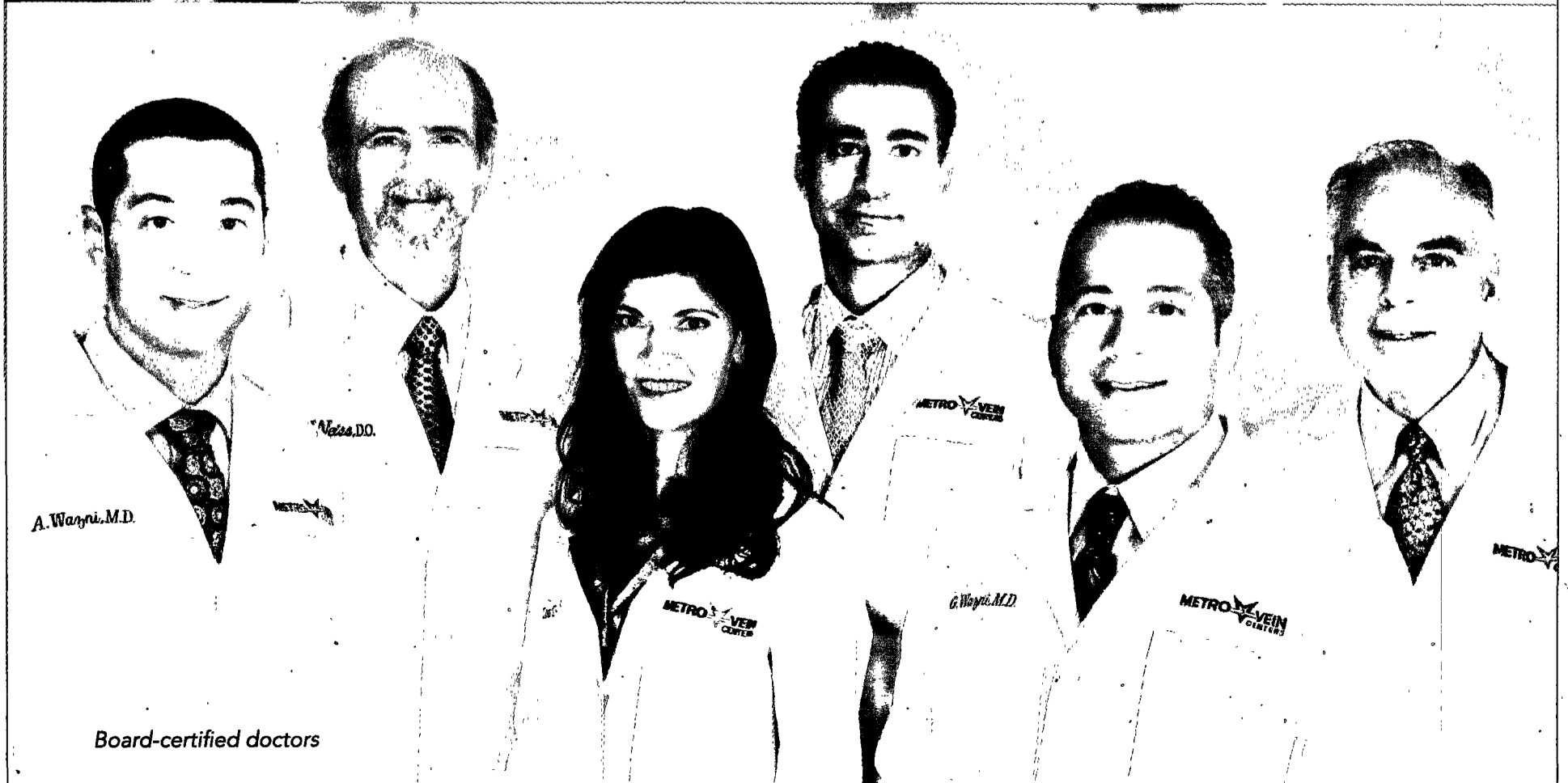
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# Poet Lewis hopes to 'nourish soul' with words

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Jeffrey Lewis says he has always enjoyed writing poetry.

But like most "closet poets" the Farmington Hills man kept his work to himself.

"I'm on the op-ed page around the country (writing) on health policy and retirement policy all the time," said Lewis, 59, a former political adviser and now COO for Employee Health Insurance Management in Southfield.

"But for years I wrote poetry the way most people do. You write it but you might share it with just one person. This is the first time I decided to print it. It was something I decided to share."

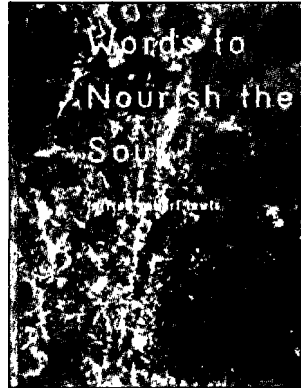
He'll share the \$10 per book profits, too. All monies earned by *Words To Nourish the Soul* will benefit the United Way of Greater Detroit. Use of the book as a fundrais-



Jeffrey Lewis of Farmington Hills has penned a book of poetry, the proceeds of which benefit United Way of Greater Detroit.

ing tool was just one reason why Lewis decided to go public with his

writing. He also wanted to give readers "a vehicle to look at the world and



Jeffrey Lewis' book of poetry was inspired by conversations overheard in airport cigar bars and restaurants.

see if it might help nurse their souls" and speak to their hearts.

"Inside, everyone will find a small part of themselves or in some cases, a larger part," he wrote in the book's forward.

The poems are based on conversations — some direct and some overheard — that took place in cigar bars, watering holes, and airport lounges as Lewis trav-

eled the country, as staff director for Republican Sen. John Heinz of Pennsylvania, and after Heinz died in an airplane crash, as president of the Heinz Family Philanthropies and currently COO for EHM.

Lewis would forgo a drink at the airport bar and instead, soak up conversations with his fellow travelers.

"I've been fortunate because I have the ability to talk to people about their lives and they share."

### Poetic message

One of the poems, "My Largeness," was inspired by conversations Lewis has had with a woman "of size" that he met while traveling. His objective in writing the piece was to tell others "be comfortable with who you are, the rest of the world will figure it out."

The first poem in the book, "The Mask," came after listening to a tearful woman talk on her

cell phone about a relationship break-up.

"I felt bad for her. I was trying to figure out a way to capture it, to say to others that it happens to all of us."

Lewis is a native Detroit native who holds a bachelor's degree in English and history and a master's degree in gerontology. His law degree is from Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law in Oregon, which is where he met his wife. They have two grown children.

Lewis is working on his second book of poetry, with the emphasis on children, based on conversations he's had with parents. Proceeds from that collection also will benefit a charity.

To get a copy of *Words To Nourish the Soul*, send \$10 to The United Way of Greater Detroit, c/o Otis Press, 5851 Upton Street, McLean, VA 22101. Or email Lewis at jeffreylewis@gmail.com.

## Tips: Get your writing on track at annual conference

Thinking about penning a screenplay or writing a novel?

Michael Dwyer, organizer and founder of the annual Rochester Writers' Conference, wants to help turn your dreams into action.

"Our goal is to motivate attendees to write and to do it right now," Dwyer said, in a press release. "Professional development gives attendees the push they may need to work on

their writing; and this conference includes the tools to market and sell it as well."

"Write Now!" is the theme for the sixth annual conference, set for Saturday, Oct. 5, at Oakland University in Rochester Hills.

The keynote speaker, Stan Williams, from last year's event, will return this year to deliver a two-part lecture for novelists, screenwriters and directors. Part one will

discuss the 18 secrets to story structure and part two will cover characters, plots and subplots.

New this year is a Children's Literature Panel, featuring three authors with different paths to publication. Attendees will have a chance to ask questions of three Michigan authors.

Kelly Fordon will lead a workshop called Who's on First, about the use of first person vs. third

person in a story. Alice Spielburg and Dawne Prochilo will present a literary panel with the focus on book publishing. And Lev Raphael will tell writers how to do a "killer reading" from their books.

"We have presentations for all levels of authors. Whether you're just getting started, in the middle or just finished your book, there is workshop for you," Dwyer said.

Development sessions

will be held for nonfiction writers and journalists Presentations on the author's platform, engaging social media and using photo images online will help writers get their message to readers.

The Rochester Writers' Conference offers 12 presentations within four sessions. With three choices per session time, attendees may select the ones that best suits their needs. Fiction, nonfiction and business topics are presented in panel dis-

cussion, lecture or workshop style. All sessions, keynote speaker, lunch and refreshments are included in the registration fee.

The early bird rate is \$99. Buy online or by mail. A full list of the speakers and presentations is available at the website, [www.RochesterWriters.com](http://www.RochesterWriters.com). Secure payment options are available at the site. Contact Michael Dwyer at 248-651-6869 for more information.

# HEROES ON HINES

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Wayne County's  
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**Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013**  
**Hines Park  
in Plymouth Twp.**

All proceeds will go toward the maintenance and upkeep of the new **First Responders Memorial** (Hines Drive and Haggerty Rd.)

For registration and race details go to [HeroesOnHines.com](http://HeroesOnHines.com)  
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## SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

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](http://www.ssdfighter.com)

## GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, Observer & Eccentric, sdargay@hometownlife.com

### Birding basics

Search and listen for birds with a park naturalist and other bird lovers, 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15, in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Participants will meet at the Nature Center in the park. Cost is \$5 per person, ages 7 and up. Pre-register at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile or online at [recreg.fhgov.com](http://recreg.fhgov.com). Call the Nature Center at 248-477-1135 or email [asmith@fhgov.com](mailto:asmith@fhgov.com) for more information.

### Friends of the Rouge

The group will sell native plants, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 21 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile, Novi. The sale will be held during the Fall for Novi event. Call 313-892-9621 for more information.

### Garden design

The Farmington Garden Club will hold a design workshop at its next meeting, Sept. 9 at the Spicer House in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. The club meeting is at

noon with the workshop to follow at 1 p.m. Participants should bring flowers and a container. Jan Dolan, member of the Greater Detroit Flower Guild and National Council of Master Judge, will guide you in making fun and creative arrangements. For more information call 248-943-6026.

### English Gardens

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

» Get tips for fall lawn care and learn how to keep it healthy through the winter, at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at all stores.

» Get information on designing, planting and maintaining flowers and plants in outdoor containers at a free presentation, 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 21 at all stores.

» Make a fall porch pot for \$79.99 at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 21, at all stores. Sign up online at [englishgardens.com](http://englishgardens.com).

» Get an overview of spring bulbs, along with planting tips at a free presentation, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28 at all stores. Kids can learn how to plant bulbs that will bloom in time for the holidays at a workshop, 11:30 a.m. Saturday Sept. 28. Cost for the children's

workshop is \$5.

» Learn what needs pruning and dividing before winter sets in at a free presentation, 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, at all stores.

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

### Bible garden

The Louis and Fay Woll Memorial Bible Garden, is open sunrise to sunset from spring-fall, on the campus of Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. The garden contains plants mentioned in the Bible and is meant to serve as a place of inner reflection, of education, and for social and community gatherings. It is available for group tours as well as for informal individual visitation. Group tours can be arranged for any day of the week except Saturday. If interested in a group tour of the garden, along with a visit to the sanctuary with a Beth Ahm docent, call Rabbi Steven Rubenstein at 248-851-6880, Ext. 17, or email [ravstev@cbahm.org](mailto:ravstev@cbahm.org). Garden visits are free, although donations are accepted. [www.wollbiblegarden.org](http://www.wollbiblegarden.org).

## Refresher class aimed at senior drivers

The Canton Senior Center will offer a three-part refresher driving course for area seniors, 9 a.m. to noon, Sept. 24-25 and 9-11 a.m. Sept. 26. All classes will be held at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

The classroom refresher course is aimed at motorists, 50 and older.

The AARP Driver Safety Program was developed by American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in 1979 and is a driver refresher course especially designed to meet the needs of older driv-

ers. This program covers such issues as: age-related physical changes, declining perceptual skills, defensive driving techniques, local driving problems, license renewal requirements, and more. In addition, participants will receive an update on the current rules of the road and will discuss when it may be time to stop driving.

Class fees are \$13 for AARP members and \$15 for nonmembers. Reserve a spot by calling the Canton Senior Center at 734-394-5485.

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LYSO rehearse Saturday mornings at Madonna University - Music Bldg.

Performances include a Winter concert in January, Spring concert in May and many smaller performances from groups for charities and private events throughout the year.

To schedule an audition or for more information, e-mail [dilinden@me.com](mailto:dilinden@me.com) or call Dave at 734-634-5250.

\*Auditions held in the Music Building at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia 48150

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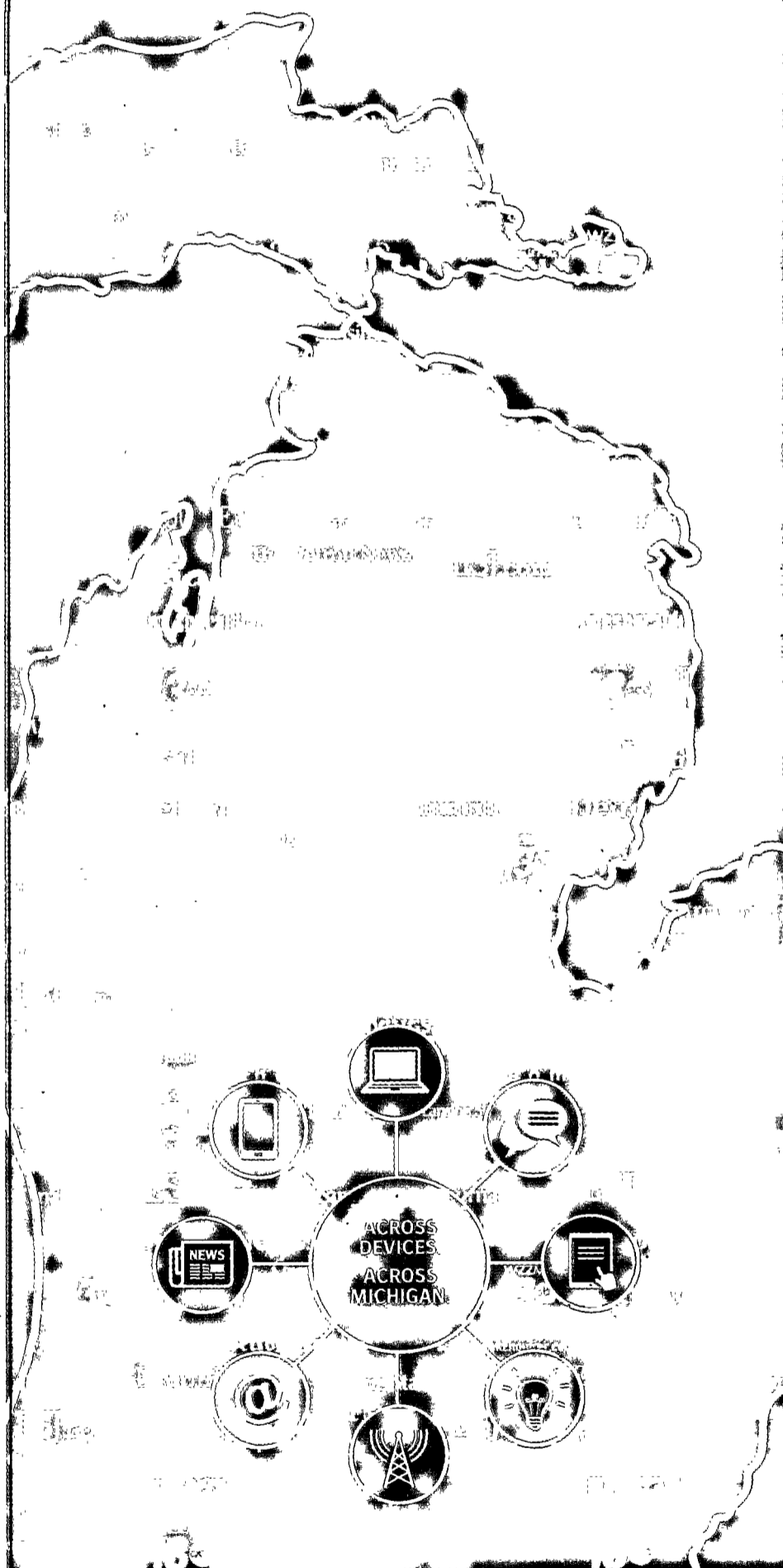
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\*Source: Monthly unique visitors. comScore Multi-Platform Report, March 2013

AT15601

## Scrub your dishwasher clean with Tang drink

I have written about this subject in previous columns and bacteria keeps coming up over and over again in worldwide publications. A recent story on radio pointed out that you can use your dishwasher to wash items other than the dinner dishes for instance, baseball caps, toys, potatoes and I guess just about anything you want to put in there.

I for one don't think these are items suited for the dishwasher. The simple fact is that I don't like the hidden bacteria that come with the procedure. I know that there are enough bacteria on dirty dishes and I expect my dishwasher to eliminate it. I am not going to add an extra load to wash potatoes which I can do in a sink full of water.

Recently published in the journal *Fugal Biology* is an article published by researchers at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. They sampled over 180 dishwashers from around the world and found black yeasts are growing on rubber door gaskets of more than half of the units sampled. They know that this yeast can pose a danger to humans with compromised immune systems but not to worry because it is rare for someone to die from this black yeast. This writer happens to be an old guy whose immune system isn't what it used to be. I don't want to be an unwilling test patient for a problem I think can be serious. One of the last



**Joe Gagnon**  
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

statements from these scientists is: "The yeasts can survive in the extreme environment of a dishwasher, where temperatures frequently top 158 degrees Fahrenheit, water can either be acidic or alkaline and salt is in high concentration. No other fungi have been found that could live in such a harsh habitat." The Slovenian researchers theorized that the yeasts found in dishwashers had evolved to live there, and may have the potential to be a greater threat to humans. Folks, I've written and read enough to scare myself and I will continue to load the dishwasher and to be in charge of dishwasher cleanliness.

As my good friend Diane Armstrong would say, "There is no cleaner dish than the one you wash by hand." At one time in this world it was good character building to have families gather around the kitchen sink and select who washed and who dried. Today, time is precious in other ways. As you may know, there is currently a large class action suit filed against manufacturers of front load washing machines. Again, the subject of controversy is the mold growth so prevalent in some of these products. I will bet that when

they get in front of a jury there will be some pretty well-known scientists testifying on the dangers to health from a washing machine.

Not long ago a man approached me and said, "Have you become the expert in appliances by just reading and writing and or have you ever really worked on these appliances?" The question knocked me back on my heels and I came forward like a jet plane. "I spent many 80-hour weeks fixing and taking appliances apart and putting them back together. I used to wash my hands 25 times a day and sometimes my body was so sweaty I would change shirts three times a day. I brushed my fingernails until they bled and kicked dogs that thought I was a raw steak bent over behind the refrigerator. Yes sir, I also read a lot because I wanted to understand the workings of everything I took apart."

Now back to the dishwasher I mentioned earlier. I invented the best method of cleaning a dishwasher and it is using the Tang orange breakfast drink to give it a bath. I have the formula in print form and if you would like a copy, send me a note.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WJAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to [appldr@twm1.rr.com](mailto:appldr@twm1.rr.com).

### REUNIONS

Send reunion information to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com)

#### BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1963

50th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Contact Kathy (Toth) Hay at [khay@reinhardrealtors.com](mailto:khay@reinhardrealtors.com) or Dianna (Basnaw) McDaniel at [djmcDaniel45@comcast.net](mailto:djmcDaniel45@comcast.net).

#### CLASS OF 1973

40th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Send inquiries to BellevilleMi1973.40@comcast.net or call Laura (Kingsley) Delsh at 734-485-2744 or Sterling at 734-265-6132.

#### CANTON AND SALEM HIGH SCHOOLS CLASSES OF 1993

A 20-year reunion is set for 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, at EG Nicks in Plymouth. Get tickets at <http://www.payitsquare.com/collect-page/15213>.

#### 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](mailto:cbaldwin@wowway.com) or

313-706-3266.

#### 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 [patc629@aol.com](mailto:patc629@aol.com).

#### CLASS OF 1948

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

#### FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1973

A 40-year reunion is set from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday, Nov. 29, at the Iroquois Club, 43248 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Call 248-451-9653. Tickets are \$75 presale only. Includes dinner, dancing, good times. Get tickets from [www.73fns40.reunionmanager.com](http://www.73fns40.reunionmanager.com). Join the reunion Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/503456823023714](http://www.facebook.com/groups/503456823023714). Reunion contact is Sande Eastwood Rouke.

#### GARDEN CITY CLASS OF 1983

A reunion is set for Sept. 21 at Roma Banquet Hall, Garden City. Cost is \$50 per person. Make checks payable to Karen Boyd and mail to her at 28445 Rock, Garden City, MI 48135.

#### GARDEN CITY EAST-WEST CLASS OF 1973

A 40th reunion will be held Oct. 5 at The Henry Ford and Best Western-Greenfield Inn. Register on: [www.eventbrite.com/event/7527708579](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/7527708579). Email 1973greunion@gmail.com. Call or text: Donna Sly at 734-552-0485.

#### LIVONIA BENTLEY CLASS OF 1966

A birthday reunion will be held Friday, Oct. 11, at the Marriott, 17100 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Call 734-462-3100. Check-in and cash bar at 6 p.m., buffet dinner at 7 p.m., followed by dancing and DJ. Cost is \$65 per person. Email Kathy Sindon Shinn at [theshinns2@att.net](mailto:theshinns2@att.net).

#### CLASS OF 1973

A reunion is set from 6 p.m. to midnight Sept. 13, at Livonia Marriott, located at Six Mile and Newburgh. Tickets are \$60 for alumni and \$50 for teachers. The event is also open to other classes. Contact Marcia Elliott at 269-327-0657 or email [mickie55@chartermi.net](mailto:mickie55@chartermi.net) for ticket information.

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## Eat your veggies to help prevent diabetes worries

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is observing Fruit and Veggies More Matters Month by promoting the importance of eating foods that can help manage and prevent diabetes.

According to the foundation, diabetes causes more than 40 percent of all kidney failure cases. In Michigan, an estimated 10 percent of adults have diagnosed diabetes — about 758,300 individuals. An additional 250,200 Michigan adults are suspected of having diabetes but have not been diagnosed. When diabetes is not managed properly, it can lead to kidney failure as well as heart disease, blindness, lower-extremity amputations, and other health complications. However, many cases of type 2 diabetes can be prevented, delayed and controlled through a healthy lifestyle.

The foundation recommends that individuals who are at risk for type 2 diabetes prevent or delay the onset of the disease by losing 5 to 7 percent of their body weight. That's 10-14 pounds for someone weighing 200 pounds, for example. For those who have type 2 diabetes, losing weight can be helpful in controlling diabetes. To lose weight safely, make healthy food choices and be physically active for 30 minutes a day, five days a week. The National Diabetes Education Program recommends these ideas for increasing fruit and vegetable consumption to aid in weight loss and lowered diabetes risk:

- » Visit an ethnic food store or farmers market to try a new fruit or vegetable each week.
- » Substitute spinach, onions, or mushrooms for one of the eggs or half of the cheese in omelets.
- » Buy produce in season and freeze some to use later, or buy frozen, dried, or low-sodium canned vegetables and fruits.



The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan says that consuming more vegetables and fruits helps control and prevent diabetes, one of the major contributors to kidney disease. GETTY IMAGES

Choose fruit without added sugar or syrups and vegetables without added salt, butter, or sauces.

» Add strawberries, peaches, blueberries, or bananas to your waffles, pancakes, cereal, oatmeal, or toast.

» Add broccoli, carrots, zucchini, or eggplant between the layers of your favorite lasagna recipe.

» Combine different fruits and vegetables such as tomatoes, mangoes, onions, and peppers with lime juice and cilantro to make salsa.

» Try steaming your vegetables or using low-salt spices and lemon juice to add flavor.

» Choose pineapples, peppers, mushrooms, or tomatoes as pizza toppings.

» Add lettuce, tomato, onion, and cucumber to sandwiches, wraps, and burritos.

Eating more fruits and vegetables also supplies essential vitamins, minerals, and fiber that may help protect against chronic diseases.

For more information on how to manage and prevent diabetes, visit [www.YourDiabetesInfo.org](http://www.YourDiabetesInfo.org). Find out about prevention programs, disease management classes, and more offered by the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan by visiting [www.nkfm.org](http://www.nkfm.org) or by calling 800-482-1455.

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### SEPTEMBER ADDICTION CLASSES

Dawn Farm offers two classes about chemical dependency, starting with "Addiction 101" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17. James Balmer, president, Dawn Farm, will examine the dynamics of alcohol and other drug use, review addiction as a brain disease and provide an overview of the process of recovery from addiction. Participants will learn how individuals experience initial and continuing alcohol and other drug use, gain an understanding of the basic process and diagnosis of addiction, gain a basic understanding of how the brain functions in a person with alcohol/other drug addiction, and become familiar with tools used to treat addiction. Charles Gehrke, M.D., will present "How To Support Recovery and Not Support Addiction" at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 24. The session is designed to help participants find effective methods to support another person's recovery while maintaining their own health. Both sessions are free and will be held at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti; 734-485-8725, [www.dawnfarm.org](http://www.dawnfarm.org)

### CANCER SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Transitions, a new support group, meets from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 9, in the second floor conference room at Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. The group is aimed at individuals that have finished cancer treatment and want to connect with other survivors. The support group will continue to meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of the month. Questions? Call Jenny Bailey at 248-465-5466.

### JAMBOREE

Dawn Farm will hold its 40th Anniversary Jamboree, a celebration of recovery from chemical dependency, 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8, at Dawn Farm, 6633 Stony Creek Road, Ypsilanti. Admission to the family-friendly event is free. It will include live music by Noteworthy, hayrides, pony rides, a children's tent and midway, live and silent auctions, food and beverages, and farm animals. Dawn Farm's gift shop will be open.

### SENIOR WELLNESS

The City of Farmington Hills presents a free wellness fair for adults, 50 and older, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17, at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills. The event will include health screenings, demonstrations, health vendor exhibits, door prizes and a free lunch for attendees.

60 and over. For more information, call the city's Senior Division at 248-473-1830

### UROLOGIC COMPLICATIONS

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will offer a free educational seminar, Urologic Complications of Diabetes, from 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11, in the hospital's North Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile. John Harb, M.D., a urologist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, will discuss frequent bladder and urinary tract infections, urinary incontinence and retention, erectile dysfunction and neurogenic bladder dysfunction. For more information call 734-655-8961.

### WEIGHT LOSS SEMINAR

Julissa Hernandez, a naturopathic doctor from New York, will talk in Spanish about weight loss techniques, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, at the Courtyard Marriott, 3205 Boardwalk, Ann Arbor. Cost is \$35 per person. Participants will receive informational materials. For more information, call Lili Alvarez at 248-259-7010.

### WOMEN'S HEALTH

Dr. Paul Makela, M.D., director of gynecological robotic surgery, will present a series on women's health topics 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, in Classroom 10 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan, Livonia. Bladder dysfunction is the topic this month and pelvic prolapse is next month's topic. Presentations are free but registration is required. Call 734-655-1980.

### WALK WITH A DOC

Dr. Jeff Pierce of Botsford Hospital will talk about managing back pain during the walk, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For more information, call the Nature Center at the park, 248-477-1135.

### ONGOING AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit [www.ymcadetroit.org](http://www.ymcadetroit.org).

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## TEETH IN AN HOUR!



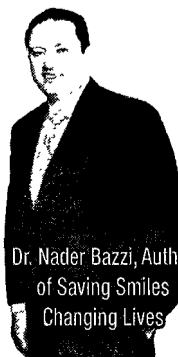
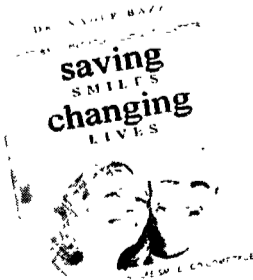
### Denture

- Ruins the Taste of Food
- Unnatural Plastic
- Goopy, Unsanitary Adhesive
- Weak Bite, Poor Chewing
- Gagging & Choking
- Embarrassing Accidents
- Fake Smile
- Makes You Look Old

### Dental Implants

- Tastes Food Again!
- No Excess, Bulky Plastic!
- No More Goo, Ends Bad Breath!
- Strong Bite, Chew Everything!
- No More Gagging!
- Ends Accidents, Security Returns!
- Beautiful Natural Smile!
- Instantly Look Younger!

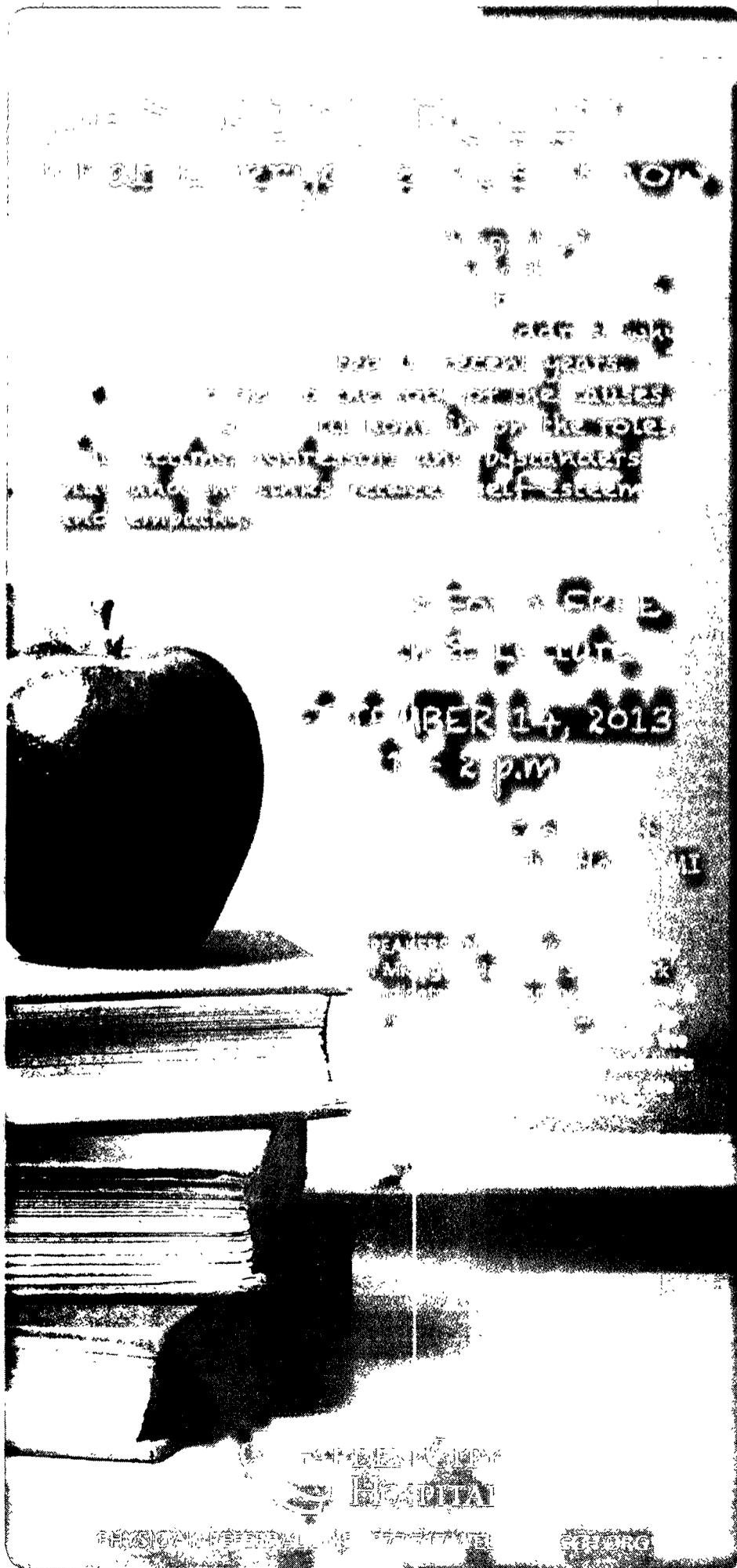
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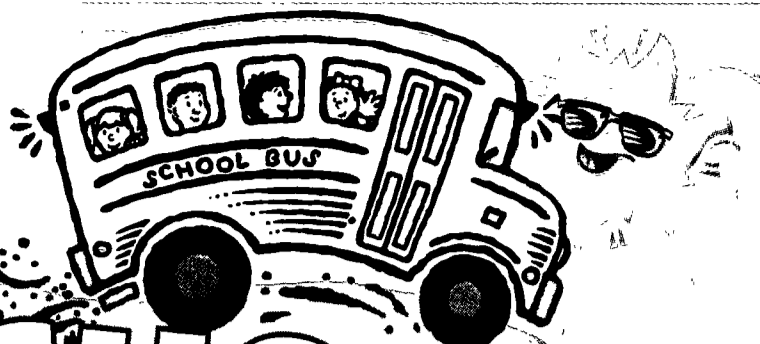
Dr. Nader Bazzi, Author  
 of Saving Smiles  
 Changing Lives

BAD TEETH? BAD GUMS? BAD BREATH? MESSY ADHESIVE? Finally, A PERMANENT Answer!

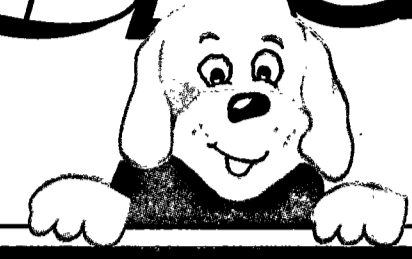
AT16328D



# Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights



## Are you excited to go BACK to SCHOOL?



"I'm looking forward to doing math, science, and seeing all of my friends"

"I'm excited to play with my friends on the playground"



"I'm just happy"

Pictured from rear left to right: Allen Morgan, age 9, Redford Edward Jordan, age 6, Redford Symea Jordan, age 5, Redford

### Movie Contest

What is your favorite movie? Tell Scoop about it and you could win movie passes for you and a friend to go to the movies.



### Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boy or Girl: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Parent's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!  
 \* Required for Birthday Club

### Riddles & Giggles

#### Education Word Find

Just in time for school, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

BOOKS	GRADUATE	READING
CLASSROOM	LEARNING	SCHOOL
DESK	LESSONS	SEMESTER
EDUCATION	MATH	TEACHER

E I O E P K L H N P C  
 F G E D Z C U J R L L  
 V O H U C B L H A S E  
 T E A C H E R S R T S  
 S O W A I W S E A K S  
 K O D T D R A U S U O  
 O D Q I O D D E F E N  
 O H F O I A D K V X S  
 B Q M N R I A Z S M O  
 T K G G Z E K K O Z Q  
 O O H C S T M M A T H  
 U W P G N I N R A E L



Pictured from left to right: Juwan Rogers, age 12, Redford "I'm going into the 8th grade and I am looking forward to the out of state field trip." Julius Rogers, age 12, Redford "I'm Looking forward to making new friends at school and the field trips." Deshawnte Thomas, age 11, Redford "I'm looking forward to learning new things." Nytavious Wright, age 13, Redford "I'm going to my first year in high school. I'm looking forward to going to a new school and meeting new teachers."

### BIRTHDAY WISHES

- |   |   |                                       |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Noah Trackwell<br>Redford<br>9/3            | ★ | Mikey Palmer<br>Plymouth<br>9/21      |
| Hanna Richardson<br>Farmington Hills<br>9/5 | ★ | Isaiah Bonner<br>Romulus<br>9/25      |
| Liam Born<br>Highland<br>9/9                | ★ | Ryan Stallworth<br>Southfield<br>9/29 |
| Patrick Kerrigan<br>Livonia<br>9/18         | ★ |                                       |

### Did you know?

ACCORDING TO SOME STUDIES, SCHOOL CHILDREN CARRY UP TO 30% OF THEIR BODY WEIGHT IN THEIR BACKPACKS.

Courtesy of Metro Creative

### SCHOOL Spirit

Let's hear from YOU!

Give a shout out to your classmates and show your school spirit. Send a photo of you (or you and your friends) and a message. Email to [cbjordan@hometownlife.com](mailto:cbjordan@hometownlife.com) or with subject line "School Spirit".

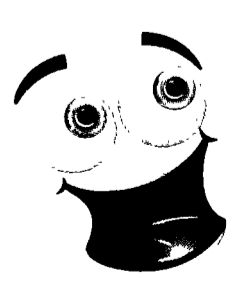


Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about?

### LUNCH TIME CRAFT

Make lunch time even more fun with a personalized decorated lunch bag. Think of something clever to say with a cool drawing, printout, stamped or cut out graphic. You'll be the envy of all of your friends.

**SHARE YOUR TALENT**  
 We may share your extraordinary talent in an upcoming Scoop's Hound Dog highlights.



Visit Us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/Scoop The Newshound](https://www.facebook.com/ScoopTheNewshound)  
 Coordinator/Contributing Writer: Choya Jordan, Marketing Manager  
 Design/Layout: Randall Masters, Graphic Artist  
 Interested in becoming a sponsor of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights or have general questions? Email [cbjordan@hometownlife.com](mailto:cbjordan@hometownlife.com)

### Deadline for Submissions:

Mail entry forms and talent submissions to: Scoop the Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170  
 All items need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on **September 27**  
 or email your submission to: [cbjordan@hometownlife.com](mailto:cbjordan@hometownlife.com)  
 Winning submissions will be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.