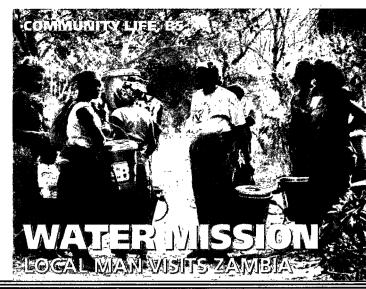
WOMEN'S HEALTH: Tips from TV's 'The Doctors' – USA Weekend

NE-WESTLAND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2013 • hometownlife.com





Gate Demon, Samantha Burns of Trenton, keeps watch on all those who enter the Hush Haunted House in Westland. TOM BEAUDOIN

Hush: Haunting with a TOUCH

Empty warehouse on Ford Road transformed into frightening site

By LeAnne Rogers

Demons, ghouls, a mad scientist experimenting on your brain - the stuff of nightmares are a dream come true for Cody Bailey.

The Hush Haunted House, open through Nov. 2 on Ford Road in Westland, is the brainchild of Bailey.

"I started out in 2008 and did a haunted house in the garage. I did one at a campground," said Bailey, a Garden City resident.

"This year, we had the space. I decided to do this six months ago."

The space is an unused warehouse adjoining the family business, Sparks Automotive, which relocated



Stephanie Honaker of New Boston undergoes a little surgery by the Mad Doctor, Joel Spencer of Garden City. TOM BEAUDOIN

from Garden City in April. "We had the warehouse and we were not using it,"

said Sparks Automotive owner Gary Bailey, Cody's father. "Cody has wanted to do this for years."

'Pretty intense'

The theme for Hush is a journey through the mind of person being institutionalized in a mental facility.

"It's pretty intense but there is no profanity or nudity. We keep the gore to a minimum," said Cody Bailey. "It's more the mind of an insane person. We pulled it off well. It's a cohesive unit it's interesting."

About 30 volunteers provide the live action element of Hush, which was developed with Helton Brothers, a Detroit-based company that makes props and scenic painting.

See HAUNTED, Page A2

Wayne council candidates answer public questions

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

City finances, the two 345 pension plan ballot proposals and department mergers with Westland were among the topics Wednesday as Wayne Council candidates participated in a public fo-

Participating in forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne — at the Wayne Public Library were incumbent council members James Hawley and James Henley, challengers Jamie Conn and Brenda Ozog, former council woman Susan Rowe and Shari Welch. Voters will fill three

four-year council seats and elect a mayor for a two-year term on Nov. 5.

Mayoral candidate Donald Flynn participated in the forum. Long-time incumbent Mayor Al Haidous wasn't able to attend, but provided a written statement to be read during the event.

The first question from audience members asked candidates about the biggest challenge facing the city. With the exception of Flynn, the candidates all talked about the city's declining revenues and the ballot proposals that would establish a 345 pension plan for police

See FORUM, Page A2

Mayoral candidate has recent indecent **exposure conviction**

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Convicted in 2010 of aggravated indecent exposure, Wayne mayoral candidate Donald Flynn appealed, arguing the court had no jurisdiction over him since he had severed his relationship with the State of Michigan nearly

30 years earlier. Court records show that in his appeal, Flynn, 80, represented himself and argued that in 1986 he had declared his independence from the state and as a result, he was immune to prosecution without his consent. Flynn further argued that the state's authority was limited to regulating commerce.

The Michigan Court of Appeals rejected the appeal as without merit and let stand the conviction, including the sentence of one year in jail. Flynn served time in jail for the conviction but as of Friday still owes \$770 in court

The conviction came following a bench trial before **Wayne County Circuit Court** Judge Daniel Hathaway. Flynn was acquitted on a second charge of distributing obscene material to children.

The complainant in the case testified that he was riding a bicycle in front of Flynn's home on Hayes Street. He testified that Flynn

See FLYNN, Page A2

Ceremony marks new City Hall building

Public invited to symbolic groundbreaking at former Circuit City store

> By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Work on Westland's new City Hall symbolically gets underway 11 a.m. Monday with

a groundbreaking ceremony. The public is invited to attend the ceremony in front of the former Circuit City store, 36300 Warren Road, west of Central City Parkway. The store, vacant for several years. has been purchased by the city and will be renovated to become the new City Hall.

"We are celebrating much more than renovation of a vacant building," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "We are hailing resurgence in economic and community development that is sure to follow the city's reinvestment in our Shop and Dine District and we are charting a positive course

for Westland's future."
The City Hall project, along with a new fire station on Nankin Boulevard and yet undetermined improvements to Central City Parkway, will be funded through a \$16.5 million bond sale.

The bonds will be repaid by the Tax Increment Finance Authority and not result in a

property tax increase.
Once the construction is completed, city offices will move from the current City Hall on Ford, built in 1966. At 64,000 square feet, the new facility will have nearly five times the space of the current building.

As a result, Wild said the new building will provide a more functional City Hall with significant space for community meeting rooms and storage

Due to space constraints at the current building, the city has had to utilize off-site rental storage.

Joining the current City Hall departments will be the Department of Public Service Administration, the Building and Planning Departments, the Youth Assistance Program and WLND, the city's Cable Department.

The current City Hall has had long-standing problems with basement flooding which caused mold issues and erosion creating a sinkhole that compromises the building founda-

It also has limited meeting space and isn't handicapped accessible.

"The Warren Road City Hall will be a welcoming, accessible, functional, modern and energy-efficient public facility that will well serve the residents and businesses of Westland for years to come." Wild

The groundbreaking ceremony on the new City Hall property will include short presentations, followed by tours of the site. Boxed lunches will be provided.

We welcome everyone to come out and join us for this historic celebration," Wild

The city expects to have construction on the new City Hall completed and city offices relocated next year.

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HAUNTED

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"I always loved horror movies - the classics with mind play. We really play off that," said Cody

"We worked on this for six months. The last month or so, we were here until 4 a.m. It is all painted by hand.'

For the recent opening night, Hush hosted a visit by members of Just Hearse'N Around who showed off their rides.

'I wanted to buy one (a hearse) as a kid. My mom thought I would outgrow it," said Shirley Reinhart. "I bought my hearse in service. It went from the cemetery dropping off a body and came to me."

Purple coffin

Reinhart bought her 1998 Cadillac hearse six years ago – it was the

newest model on display at Hush. Inside was a purple coffin - it started out black but Reinhart sandblasted it and repainted it.

"I take the kids to school in the hearse they squeeze in next to the coffin," said Reinhart, a Taylor resident.

A costume and wardrobe person, Reinhart was in charge of putting together costumes for the Hush performers.

"Some of the costumes weren't made by me some I pulled together. It was a last minute job," she said. "I think the haunted house is pretty good. The rooms are really awesome.'

Hush, 34043 Ford west of Radcliff, is open 7 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, then nightly Oct. 28-Nov. 2.

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Westland resident Shantelle Hawkins screams, "Leave me alone" as she scares those who dare to enter the Hush Haunted House in Westland. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Don't mess with the Pigman and his chainsaw, Randy Grubbs of Garden



Keith Dziedzic of Romulus helps hearse owner Shirley Reinhart of Taylor pull a coffin out of her 1998 Cadillac hearse at the Hush Haunted House in Westland.

Graffiti won't stop park dedication

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Norwayne's Liberator Park is being spruced up for an historic district dedication Oct. 17, but someone has been putting graffiti on its pavilion.

The Westland Department of Public Services repainted the pavilion but the graffiti was back the next day.

"We'll repaint it Oct. 16. I've asked the community watch to make a routine check," said Henry Johnson, chairman of the Norwayne Community Citizens Council.

"Our hope is that as people see improvements that this is going to stop. We will not be

defeated." The former Dorsey Park was renamed Liberator Park in recognition of the World War II bomber built by the original residents of the

Norwayne community. Norwayne is also being recognized with a national historic designation as it celebrates

developed. "I think it's an important thing for us to let

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people know that people who were once in the community are still attached to the commu-

nity," Johnson said. For example, Chicago residents Michael Cayley recently donated \$4,000 for improvements to Cayley Park which was named after his father Charles, a Nankin Township trus-

"It's a challenge. There all these people outside the community donating and people are doing graffiti," Johnson said. "We'll win the fight."

At their meeting 6 p.m. Monday at the **Dorsey Center, the Norwayne Community** Citizens Council will be putting together plans for the Oct. 17 dedication; the annual Octoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 26; Trunk or treating on Halloween night, Thursday, Oct. 31; and Founders Day on Nov. 14, which will include beautification awards and recognition of longtime residents.

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HOW TO REACH US

FORUM

Continued from Page A1

and fire for 10 years funded by an up to 7-mill

'No one likes it — I didn't like to approve it (the ballot questions) as a council member, but we had no choice," Hawley said. "Our property values are down, business personal property taxes are being eliminated. We've cut as far as we can go."

'Lack of revenue'

Rowe, who left council after unsuccessfully challenging Haidous for mayor two years ago, agreed that the city's budget was the city's most critical issue.

"There is a lack of revenue. We've cut, we've laid off. Almost everyone who works for the city are part-time,"

Rowe said. "We've done all that is possible to shore up the budget shortfalls. I support the millage. There is no other option.'

Not a supporter of the millage to fund a 345 plan, Conn said he hadn't seen a list of what would be cut, if the millage

"We need to determine what is a critical service. I don't support the millage. It's not good for us," he said.

Noting legacy costs are a tremendous burden on the city, Henley said he supports the 345 mill-

age proposals.
"The (city) administration recommended police and firefighter layoffs. I don't agree," he said. "I'd rather see service cutbacks on snow plowing, maybe every other week trash pick-

Another question asked candidates if they would consider an auction of city-owned land and buildings to raise revenue. Most candidates indicated support.

Wayne needs to consolidate into one building like Westland is doing,' said Ozog, adding the city has a lot of parks that aren't being utilized.

"I'd have to assess exactly what we have to work with before I could make a decision," Welch

Support for WRE

The candidates also voiced support for the Wayne Ripple Effect efforts to revitalize downtown Wayne, including eventual participation in the Main Street program.

'Some places (businesses) have been empty for the 28 years I've lived here," Ozog said. "We have to make sure the sale or lease is appropriately priced. We need a

place for families who want to spend money."

"We need to market the city proactively to the business community," Conn. said

Responding to another question, the general consensus from the council candidates was that there wasn't really anything the city could do to reduce water bills.

"We're passing along the Detroit water rates. Wayne paid the increases for many years," Henley

A video of the forum can be viewed at www.lwvnww.org. It will also be shown on Wayne's municipal cable channel. Printed voter guides are available at the Wayne Library.

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FLYNN

Continued from Page A1

was standing in door of his home and attracted his attention. The complainant testified Flynn had lowered his underwear to expose his penis and was masturbating.

In his appeal, Flynn didn't challenge the testimony but unsuccessfully argued it should be rejected as "incredible."

Flynn hasn't responded to requests for information from the Wayne-Westland Observer about his candidacy. He did, however, participate in a recent Wayne candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne. Incumbent Al Haidous was not able to attend but agreed that Flynn should be included and provided a written

"I often hear people say they don't like me until they get to know me. Then they hate me. I'm for the taxpayers. Detroit is a ghost town that's what will happen to us." **DONALD FLYNN, Wayne mayoral candidate**

statement to be read at

the meeting. "Corruption in the city, especially dealing with Detroit water and DTE (Energy). There is some collusion between them and officers of the city," said Flynn in response to a question asking the biggest challenge

facing Wayne.

Wayne water bills are three times higher than those in Wyandotte, Flynn said, since they have their own water and electricity departments. He said Wayne should establish its own water department.

'Can't isn't in my vo-

cabulary. If Wyandotte can afford their own water system and they are smaller than us, then we can," said Flynn. "If it takes 100 years to pay for it, it will be worth it.

Asked about the 345 millage to fund police and fire pensions, Flynn said, "This is welfare for police and firefighters. l'm against a welfare proposal."

Responding to other questions, Flynn supported auctioning city-owned property and opposed incentives or marketing by the city to attract businesses.

"I'm against any rob-

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bing Peter to pay Paul proposals. I'm against taxpayers paying to help businesses," said Flynn. 'If it costs money, I'm against it until it is shown to be beneficial to taxpayers - not businesses or police.'

Describing himself as a former automotive engineer, Flynn said he would weigh, measure and calibrate before taking any steps.

"I often hear people say they don't like me until they get to know me. Then they hate me," Flynn said in his closing statement. "I'm for the taxpayers. Detroit is a ghost town - that's what will happen to us. I'll stop all welfare programs. If it costs money, I'm against it until I am shown it is a good investment."

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announces the addition of Funeral Director Jim Henley to their staff.

Jim is a graduate of Wayne Memorial and Wayne State Mortuary School, he has worked in funeral service since 1996. He recently accepted a position at Vermeulen Funeral Home and is happy to be back in the area to be closer to his family and community, "I like to take care of people I know and see every day in the community". Jim married his high school sweetheart April, they have a daughter Tommi Ann and son Jay. He has served on the Wayne City Council since 2009, the Zoning Board of Appeals since 2004, longtime member of the First Congregational Church of Wayne, past Master of the Wayne Masonic Lodge, 2004 and proud parent of a WYAA's Comet football player.

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Fire prevention: Stand by your pan

By Steven Rhea Guest Columnist

s a Firefighter/ Paramedic with the Garden City Fire Department, I often talk to people about ways they can stay safe at home. Too often, we have that talk after they've suffered a damaging fire.

It's my hope that people reading this article won't have to learn the hard way. If I could give iust one fire warning, I'd say, "Don't be a careless cook; keep an eye on what you fry!"

Why? Because cooking is the leading cause of home fires, according to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The latest statistics from NFPA say U.S. Fire Departments

responded to an estimated annual average of 156,600 cooking-related fires between 2007-2011.

We're joining forces with NFPA and thousands of other fire departments across North America to commemorate Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 6-12, "Prevent Kitchen Fires." The theme reminds us that leaving cooking unattended and other unsafe kitchen practices are recipes for disaster.

Often when we're called to a cooking-related fire, the residents tell us they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes for a dangerous fire to start. The bottom line is that there's really no safe period of time for the cook to step away

from a hot stove. A few key points to remember: » Stay in the kitchen

when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you must leave the room even for a short period of time, turn off the stove and remove the pan from the cooking surface. Many of the new burners stay hot enough to start a fire minutes after they are shut off.

» When you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you.

» Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles (e.g. potholders, towels, drapes and food packaging).

» Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free

zone" of three feet around the stove.

» If you have a fire in your microwave, turn it off immediately and keep the door closed. Never open the door until the fire is completely out. If in doubt, get out of the home and call the fire department.

» If an oven fire starts, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. If the fire does not go out, get out of the home and call the fire depart-

Join us at the Garden City Fire Department Open House from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct

Steven Rhea is a firefighter/paramedic with the Garden City Fire Department.

Detroit man to face charges in robbery, assault of elderly couple

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

A Detroit man continues to be held in lieu of \$2 million bond after being ordered to stand trial on multiple felony charges over the assault and robbery of an elderly Westland couple in their home.

Oliver Thornton, 47, was arraigned in **Wayne County Circuit** Court Thursday on charges of home invasion, carjacking, unarmed robbery, unlawful imprisonment and assault. A recent parolee, Thornton is also being charged as a fourthdegree habitual offender due to a lengthy criminal history.

The incident began about 10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 31, at a home on Joy between Merriman and Middlebelt. The residents, a couple both 77, were getting ready for bed.

The police investigation indicated the intruder came in through a bathroom window after cutting a screen. The male resident came into the bathroom and was confronted by the intruder who assaulted the elderly man, police

After the man was tied up, police said his wife offered the intruder the money he had demanded. The woman was then reported to have been assaulted, tied up and shoved into a closet. She required hospitalization for her injuries.

The couple reported cash, credit cards, jewelry and a television along with a 2003 Honda Accord stolen when they managed to free themselves after several hours.

Within hours, Westland Police reportedly located the couple's stolen car unoccupied in the area of Fenkell and Greenfield in Detroit.

After a lengthy investigation, police arrested Thornton at his apartment in Detroit. At the time of his arrest Sept. 12, police said the suspect was in possession of much of the couple's stolen property.

Officers also reportedly recovered numerous stolen items that linked him to several recent home invasions in Livonia.

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2013 Michigan Reads! author visits Westland

The 2013 Michigan Reads! author will stop in Westland on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

Leslie Helakoski, the author of Woolbur, will be at the library for an 11 a.m. story time and then meet with first-thirdgraders at P.D. Graham at 2 p.m.

Her visit is sponsored by Target, the Library of Michigan Foundation, HarperCollins Publishers and the Institute of Museum and Library Ser-

The story time will be held in Meeting Rooms A and B of the library (6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford) and includes a reading of her award-winning picture book, Woolbur.

Helakoski has authored several children's books, including Woolbur, Big Chickens and Doggone Feet! She wrote Woolbur in honor of freespirited children who inspired her to think differently, according to Cari Fry who works in Youth Services at the library.



Helakoski

Originally from Louisiana, Helakoski remembers that as a child "when I dreamed of doing

something, I was told 'Of course you can do it!" Fry said.
"She now lives in

southern Michigan and still likes to hang around with people who tell her 'Of course you can do it,' now and then," she said.

The Michigan Reads! program highlights the importance of reading and sharing books with children, especially toddlers through early elementary school age. It also recognizes the vital role of libraries which provide access to quality books, programs and services to children and families that lay the foundation for reading and school success.

Each year a book is selected based on literary merit, readability and appeal to children. Preference is given to a Michigan or Great Lakes children's author. The 2013 Michigan Reads! One State, One Children's Book Program title is Helakoski's Woolbur which was illustrated by Lee Harper. The book is published by HarperCollins, copyright 2008.

This isn't Helakoski's first Michigan Reads! book selection. Her Big Chickens won the honor in 2007.

Previous Michigan Reads! have included Barnyard Song by Rhonda Gowler Greene, Bed Hogs by Kelly DiPucchio, Raccoon Tune by Nancy Shaw, The Pout-Pout Fish by Deborah Diesen, The

Runaway Garden by Jeffery Schatzer, Memoirs of a Goldfish by Devin Scillian and Moose on the Loose by Kathy-jo Wargin.

Michigan Reads! raises awareness of the intergenerational nature of literacy and the value of sharing books with children, especially during their critical developmental stage between birth and age 5.

Michigan Reads! promotes early childhood literacy in Michigan and engages teachers, librarians, caregivers and parents in reading and sharing books with children ages birth to 8.



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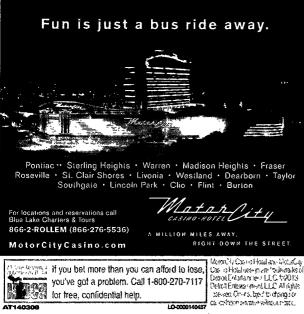
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SHOULDER

It would be useful to know how to assess the pain and be able to distinguish between a temporary problem and one that could require a doctor's visit.

The first feature is to be sure the pain is coming from the shoulder, if shoulder movement doesn't cause pain in the shoulder but in the arm or neck, or if the pain radiates from the shoulder down the arm, then the shoulder is not the likely cause of the pain. It is true that over days, if pain remains, it spreads to the back, neck and arms. The reason is that if pain becomes chronic the whole upper limb, upper back and neck are involved in strain. But initially shoulder pain should

The second feature is how long the pain lasts. Common sense dictates that a pain that comes on suddenly and goes away just as fast is not worth bothering about. But shoulder pain is rarely that simple. The pain may come and go quickly but returns with movements such as reaching for a glass high in a cupboard, or on putting on a coat or seat belt. If the pain keeps returning, or if the shoulder pain awakens one from sleep, then a doctor's evaluation is in order.

Finally, if shoulder pain interferes with normal activity or limits usual exercise, then seeking medical advice is the right move.

If one wants to wait and give time a further chance to heal, then the best therapy is heat, massage if possible, and



















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Shoulder pain is as common as headache or back pain.

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ACHIEVERS

Arthur Danlin of Garden City has enrolled in Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for the Deaf, the nation's first and largest technological college for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

He is a graduate of Model Secondary School for the Deaf in Washington, D.C., and the son of Vera and Bob Starkey of Gar-

den City. RIT is internationally recognized for academic leadership in computing, engineering, imaging technology, sustainability and fine and applied arts, in addition to unparalleled support services for more than 1,250 students who are deaf or hard of hear-

Sarah Braden, who attends Lutheran High School Westland, has been named a semifinalist in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

A high school senior, Braden has an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,000 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$35 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, she must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level.

About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and more than half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

LPS staff sends school supplies to Hurricane Sandy victims in New Jersey

As Super Storm Sandy set its. sights on the New Jersey shoreline last October, school supplies and backpacks were not likely the first priority for residents who scrambled toward safety.

Thousands of families were displaced and damage from the deadly hurricane topped billions of dollars.

Approaching the one-year anniversary of the storm is bittersweet for one Livonia Public Schools employee, who grew up in New Jersey and still owns property in Seaside Park.

"By the grace of God, Sandy missed us," said Joanmary Nen-ninger, president of the Livonia **Education Association.**

The devastation is not far from her condominium - and it's even closer to her heart.

One of the well-known boardwalks in Seaside Park was recently rebuilt – only to be destroyed by a Sept. 12 fire that swept through the town, destroying about 60 businesses.

There are about 100 families of students at Lavallette Elementary School in Lavallette, N.J., who are still homeless, almost a year after the hurricane.

Still suffering

"They're still really suffering," Nenninger said, of the residents in the Seaside Heights, Lavallette and other areas along the shore.

Nenninger and Nancy Stramecki, also an LPS employee who is president of the Region 2 Livonia Coordinating Council, approached the council with the idea to collect school supplies for students at Lavallette Elementary. Collection boxes were placed at all LPS schools and the district's administration building. The council dedicated the project to the memory of Mike Baumann, who was the Uniserv director from the Michigan Education Association, for Livonia Public Schools.

The response was impres-



for victims of Hurricane Sandy.

"We had 550 pounds of school supplies," Nenninger said.
"When you think of that in glue sticks, it's a lot."

LPS employees who are in the MEA unions representing teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries and custodial supervisors chipped in.

We made it a real group effort," Nenninger said. "They went out and bought these things — things that they probably needed for their own children or their own classrooms. It was from every level, too. People were just so good.'

Donations even came in from

the Red Olive Restaurant on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

The boxes were shipped in mid-June, ahead of Nenninger's visit to New Jersey with her grandchildren, Glenn and Abby Nenninger, who are LPS stu-

Recipients 'thrilled'

Lavallette Superintendent Peter Morris and other staff members were overwhelmed by the generosity from Livonia Public Schools.

'It was like, 'Wow!'" Nenninger said. "He was so thrilled he said he could never thank



The devastation was widespread following Hurricane Sandy last October.

us <u>en</u>ough."

The school sent "thank you" notes to the council and LPS.

Patricia Christopher, who is Lavallette's business administrator, sent a letter, expressing their appreciation.

"For two months, we operated the school in the basement and hall of a church in Toms River," she wrote. "Your gener-ous donation helped give the students of Lavallette School a sense of normalcy during a traumatic time."

Nenninger, whose family has had a connection to the Jersey Shore for 80 years, knows that the boardwalks, restaurants and mom-and-pop shops that create the classic shore towns will be rebuilt and the people will remain "Jersey Strong," with a little help from friends.

The school supplies may not have been a lot, in the big picture of New Jersey's plight, but they made the students and staff at one school know that they're being thought of by others.

Everyone pitching in makes it feel even better," Nenninger







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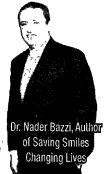


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Residents asked for input on Wayne parks and recreation

Master Plan being updated

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Wayne and Westland residents have a chance to provide their thoughts about current parks and recreational facilities and changes they'd like to see going forward.

"We're updating our Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Part of the process is that we need public input," Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams said.

Surveys have been circulated and are on the recreation department portion of the Wayne website, www.ci.wayne.mi.us.

"We would like to have an informal discussion. We want to hear what people want for parks and recreation - indoors and outdoors," Adams said.

Five-year plan

Wayne's current five-year Parks and **Recreation Master Plan** expires at the end of

the year.
"It acts as an overall guide for operating our parks and recreation system," Adams said. "The master plan not only acts as a guide, it assists if we want to apply for DNR (Department of Natural Resources) funding. It also helps us get Wayne County parks millage money. They are able to

see its part of the long-term planning process." The three main areas of focus for Wayne, based on interest and funding opportunities, are: water trails along the Rouge River, nonmotorized trails and indoor/outdoor recreation at the community center and ball fields.

With the merged parks and recreation department, Adams said Westland residents are welcome to provide master plan input but at this point the plan will

focus on Wayne parks. "We use Westland athletic fields but Westland still is responsible for their facilities and

"The master plan not only acts as a guide, it assists if we want to apply for DNR funding. It also helps us get Wayne County parks millage monev."

NATHAN ADAMS, parks and recreation director

fields," Adams said. Westland extended their Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which was to expire in 2012, one year so that it would become in sync with Wayne's plan expiration. At some point, the two plans will need to be merged, Westland Mayor William Wild said.

Help process

To help merge the plans, Wild said he is recommending that Westland pick up the costs for hiring an outside firm to make recommendations on the

process. "One thing we've been talking about ways for Westland to contribute to Wayne Parks and Recreation." Wild said. "In the past, both cities did five-year

Instead, Wild said he likes Canton's plan, which is geared to go after grants nation-

wide.
"Year after year, Canton gets awards for to model ourselves after Canton," Wild said.
"We could move toward that model. It will take a little more manpower than we have in-house

In both cities, the master plans would be presented to parks and recreation advisory boards before moving to city councils for adoption.

W-W Young Woman program holds orientation

High school senior women in Wayne and Westland are invited to participate in the 2014 **Distinguished Young** Woman of Wayne/Westland scholarship pro-

Formerly known as Wayne/Westland Junior Miss, Distinguished Young Women of Wayne/ Westland promotes excellence in young women demonstrated by scholarship, leadership and talent.

The scholarship program is for high school senior girls who reside in the cities of Wayne and Westland. An orientation for the program will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 7, at 36955 Glenwood, Wayne.

Distinguished Young Woman of Wayne/Westland is one of six programs in the state and is an official local preliminary of Distinguished

Young Women, a national scholarship program that promotes and rewards scholarship, leadership and talent in young women.

Local winners compete in the state program where they will vie for the chance to represent Michigan at the 57th Annual Distinguished Young Women National Finals June 26-28 in Mobile, Ala.

Participants are judged on scholastics, an interview with judges, talent, fitness and selfexpression. Last year's **Distinguished Young** Woman of Wayne/Westland was Dallas Rohraff.

More information about the Distinguished Young Woman scholarship program is available from high school counselors. Young women also can register at www.distinguishedy-

plans geared for DNR grants. We've always done a low level plan."

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Citizens for Peace to show documentary 'Ghandhi's Children' at Unity of Livonia

The film Gandhi's Children will be shown at the Citizens for Peace meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livo-

The documentary focuses on the lives of several groups of modern-day untouchables in India. "The untouchables are forced to lead a heartrending life. They are not allowed to drink from the same wells, attend the same temples, and wear shoes in the presence of the upper caste, or fall in love with a member of another caste," said Vishnu Vasu, the film's

director, narrator and producer. "After realizing the untouchables are socially and physically excluded, I decided it was high time that someone spoke about it at an international level." The film has played at more than 30 film festivals and has won eight awards for Best

Documentary Cinematography.

The public is invited to view and discuss this powerful film about the powerless in India.

For more information go to citizensforpeace11. blogspot.com or call 734-425-0079.

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Midwest Roundup sends clowns into town

By Beth Jachman Staff Writer

There's an event where no one is going to tell you to quit clowning around.

It is the annual Midwest Roundup of the Midwest Clown Association. Where else can you take classes called "Throwing up with Jewls," "Stupid Stuff for Funny People," and "Intermediate Balloon Twisting"? This year's event, the 40th annual, was held last week at the Holiday Inn in Livonia.

Hosted by Clowns Around Redford, the annual Midwest Clown Roundup brought about 160 people to Livonia for

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the week to enjoy everything clowns. It was the first time Clowns Around Redford had hosted the event, which is hosted somewhere in the Midwest each year.

"For a lot of people it's old home week," said Jim Caffrey, Midwest Clown president or "chief joey" as he's called in clown lingo. Caffrey, who is "Jay J" the clown, traveled from Colona, Ill., to be at the roundup.

Caffrey said many feel their fellow clowns are like an extension of their family. "Look at what a clown is - a person really willing to give of themselves freely," he

Clowns also attend the convention to enter competitions in makeup. group and single skits, and parade-ability to earn points toward membership in the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame.

For Janice and Dan Priest, aka Lovely and Derby, clowning is a way of life and how they make their living. Owners of 2clowns.com based Downriver, they helped set up educators and dealers for the roundup.



Competitions help clowns push themselves to be better. Dan Priest said. The Priests entered the makeup competitions, which include cheek, full face and cre-

He used John Herrmann, 9, of Livonia as a model. Herrmann, who is home schooled, had his entire face painted to look like a wolf. Priest pointed out the contouring and shading done with makeup as well as speckles to make the boy's face look more furry.

Her face painted as a witch - green with a wicked mouth - Amy Ansara of Northville also attended the event as a model. "I actually know



John Winslow of Southgate is known as Rusty Bathwater. He's heading for a workshop on clown makeup. Rusty toured with Ringling Brothers Circus for several years. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dan (Priest). He asked me if he could borrow my face," she said as she waited to go in for the makeup judging.

She runs a business called AmyZingfaces-.com which includes face painting and party planning and found herself inspired at the roundup. "Everybody is very friendly and creative," she said.

"I love painting faces - it's so therapeutic," she said.

Mary Ann Lund of Milwaukee, a retired radiation therapist who is also a member of Clowns of Waukesha, said she has been a clown since 2000. "A friend of mine dragged me. 'I know you'd be a great clown, Lund said her friend told

Miss Sparkles, aka

Corinne Smith of Dryden, entered the creative portion of the makeup competition meaning anything can be used such as head pieces, balloons, sparkles and sequins. The roundup offers the chance to bounce ideas off of other people, she said.

Bubbles the clown, aka Nancy Opatich of Livonia, who is president of Clowns Around Redford, taught one of the makeup classes during the roundup. An organizer of the event, Opatich has been a clown for 25 years and is in the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame. She was inspired by her dad who was a Shriner clown.

She loves helping people forget their stresses through her work as a clown, she said.



Miss Sparkles hawks her clown DVD at the trade show area of the convention.



Tim Thurmond holds a Guinness Book of World Records title for blowing up the most balloons, by mouth. At right, workshop student Sexx Davis.

Clown culture

David "Silly Billy" Kaye, John "Rusty Bathwater" Winslow, and J.T. "Bubba" Sykes are wellknown and attract people to come to the convention, Opatich said.

Young people are also involved in the roundup. Known as Junior Joeys, they learn the art of clowning from many angles, Dan Priest said.

Other classes included "Parade-ability," "Faerie Faces," "Fearsome Faces" and "Towel-ga-

mi." Not everyone who attends is a clown; some just offer their expertise. John Pullum of Redford taught Towel-gami, the art of twisting towels into animals or shapes without the use of pins or needles.

"There are places clowns can't do balloons such as hospitals," he

said. "But they have towels."

One "clown" Shih Tzu named Tiana, dressed in a colorful ruffled costume, showed the tricks she is practicing to become a therapy dog. She rolls over and jumps on queue in preparation for visiting nursing homes.

Many of the clowns volunteer at hospitals and nursing homes, according to Dan Priest. Belonging to a clown association such as Clowns Around Redford is kind of like the Kiwanis for clowns, he said.

In fact Caffrey, who is being inducted into the Clown Hall of Fame this year, said volunteer work was his inspiration. A clown since 1990, Caffrey said his clowning days began with a desire to give back to the community. "Hospital visits are very important to me," he said.

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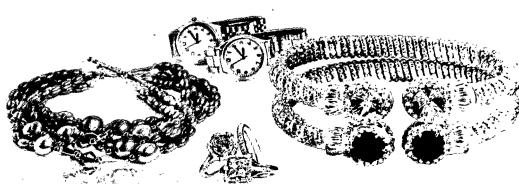
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By Diane Gale Andreassi Staff Writer

Jacqueline Dobson doesn't believe in coincidences, so when a series of events related to a proposed substance abuse home for teens happened, she believed she was being nudged by God, or maybe her 32-yearold son, who died from a heroin overdose a month earlier.

She didn't know about a fundraiser that was being held at a farm next to hers at Eight Mile and Chubb until she was in Plymouth in late August having dinner with friends. She thought she was reaching for a menu when she grabbed a flier announcing the second annual picnic held by the Constantino Del Signore Foundation at Sweet Acres Farm - a stone's throw from Dobson's Lvon home.

The importance of the fund-raiser was especially poignant to Dobson since the July 4 death of her son, Jared Norwood, was so fresh. She learned firsthand the importance of transitional housing for drug abusers during her son's 12-year struggle.

The CDS foundation is trying to raise \$500,000 to build a transition center for eight to 10 teens recovering from substance abuse on the 37-acre farm in Lyon Township. When Dobson's 20-year-old daughter asked what she could do for her August birthday, Dobson

suggested a donation to the facility. Dobson wrote a check, too, but she wanted to do more. CDS Foundation hopes to open the transition house within two years, said Richard Asztalos, CDS president.

Someone else's kid

"Everyone thinks it's some one else's kid." Dobson said. explaining that Jared was active in many sports at South Lyon High School and was a popular and bright student, even skipping a grade.

"He went to Central (Michigan University) and his second year someone introduced him to cocaine," Dobson said, add-ing that the episode seemed to mark the beginning of his battle with drugs. Another traumatic milestone for Jared, she said, was when he was 13 and his brother died from complications of muscular dystrophy.

Jared fought his addiction for years and went from "countless" rehabilitation facilities and from one drug abuse program to another.

He was ashamed and disappointed with where his life had gone, Dobson said.

"He couldn't reconcile where his life had gone," she said.

"His most successful time was when he was in an AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) program in a three-quarter house in Plymouth," Dobson said. "But, there's very little avail-



Jacqueline Dobson lives across the street from a proposed rehabilitation center. She supports the cause, because her son was 32 when he died from an overdose. HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

able for young people."

The CDS Foundation began to focus on drug awareness after Tino Del Signore died in a tractor accident three years ago on the farm. Del Signore, the 47-year-old son of John and Lina Del Signore, owners of

Laurel Manor in Livonia, was known for his generosity and philanthropic work, Asztalos

"The best way to celebrate (Jared's) life is to do something," Asztalos said. "I already have designs on what I'd

like her to do. My whole focus is to get people to own it. There's such denial. People want to deny their kids are involved. Awareness is the biggest part."

Tino Del Signore was among a group of people who started CDS Foundation 20 years ago. Since then, \$475,000 has been donated to various causes. The transition house is intended to carry on that legacy. Dobson hopes to start her own memorial by volunteering at the proposed facility.

Helping is healing

"Reaching out to other people is healing," said Dobson, a longtime Girl Scout leader, Muscular Dystrophy volunteer and active with a number of programs at her church, First United Methodist in South Lyon. "One of my passions is hands-on work.'

She already knows some of the struggles young people will be facing.

"Jared used to say, People with addictions already feel isolated." she said, explaining that they're often left out of social gatherings. "People should ask. They might not come, but invite them.

For more information, go to cdsfoundation.net. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to CDS Foundation, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. Call Laurel Manor at 734-462-

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Fall Festival

Enjoy St. John's Episcopal **Church Fall Festival and Trunk** or Treat from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12.

There will be music by The Optomystics (Doo-Wop and Oldies) an old car show, vendors, crafters, food and drinks to purchase, crafts to make, bake sale, pumpkins to buy and bouncers.

Trunk or Treat will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat cars will enter the parking lot and set up from 5-6 p.m. There will be treats, prizes for costumes and fire pit with s'mores.

St. John's Episcopal Church is at 555 S. Wayne Road, south of Cherry Hill, Westland. For more information, call 734-721-

'Passionately Pink'

Garden City Hospital will hold a Love Your Breasts Lunch and Lecture at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, in the East Court of Westland Shopping Center at Warren and Wayne roads in Westland. The lecture is free and open to all.

October is National Breast **Cancer Awareness Month and** a time to share knowledge about treating a disease that has affected 2.5 million Amer-

ican women. Radiologist and Medical Director of Garden City Hospital's Center for Breast Care, Dr. Evita Singh, will discuss lifestyle, breast health, mammogram screening guidelines and cancer prevention, with a focus on risk assessment.

"Passionately Pink" features a free lunch, health screenings, and prize drawings (\$25 gift card, spa package and more). Like Garden City Hospital on Facebook, stop by the event and get a free gift.

Cut-A-Thon

The second annual cut-athon fundraiser for Children with Hair Loss will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13, at Santa Fe Salon,

34367 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Hair cuts will cost \$10 for

adults (cash only), \$5 for kids and \$5 for brow and lip wax. There will be raffles, prizes, refreshments and 20 percent off Paul Mitchell products.

All proceeds go to Children with Hairloss, a Michigan based company that provides hair pieces to children with medically related hairloss.

For more information, call 734-427-8228 or visit www.childrenwithhairloss.us.

Surplus Food

The City of Westland will be distributing surplus federal food at the Dorsey Community Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17. All residents north of Michigan Avenue will

pick up their commodities at the Dorsey Community Center.

Residents of Westland living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the second Monday of each month at St. James United Methodist Church, at 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. Call 734- 729-1737.

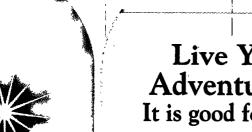
Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers pick up food at Taylor Towers and must call their building manager for their day of distribution.

For the month of October, frozen chicken quarters, rice, mixed fruit, cream of chicken soup, tomato juice and possible additional items will be distributed. For more information, call 734-595-0366.



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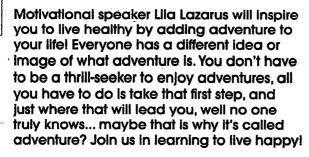
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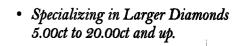
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Household hazardous waste collection announced

The Wayne County Department of Public Service will hold this year's final household hazardous waste collection from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Southland Shopping Center, 23000 Eureka Road, in Taylor.

This free event is open to Wayne County resi-

dents only and is an opportunity to make your home and environment safe by properly disposing of waste that is considered toxic, flammable or corrosive.

Examples of acceptable waste being collected include household paints, stains, dyes, floor wax, floor care products, carpet cleaner, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, stain removers, pharmaceutical waste (noncontrolled substances only), solvents, nail polish, glue, fertilizer, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, anti-freeze, motor oil, gasoline, automotive batteries and dry cell batteries, fluores-

cent bulbs, fire extinguishers, mercury fever thermometers, smoke detectors, computer monitors, printers, scanners, mice, keyboards, cell phones, fax machines, copiers and televisions.

Only household generated products from Wayne County residents will be accepted. Items that will not be accepted include commercial waste, industrial waste, radioactive materials, explosives, ammunition, shock sensitive materials, household trash, 55-gallon drums, refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances, tires, yard waste and concrete.

For information on how to dispose of these items, contact the Wayne County Resource Recovery Coordinator at 734-326-3936. For more information on the collection or to obtain a complete list of what will and will not be accepted, call 734-326-3936 or visit www.waynecounty.com.

Say 'cheese:' October is Photographer Appreciation Month

t wasn't all that long ago that if you wanted to see the photographs you took at a family function you had to wait until you used up all of the shots on your roll of film and then have it processed. After that, you would then see that there weren't that many good shots.

Because of the cost of a good camera and the processing, photography was once viewed as a hobby for the elite. The Polaroid camera, most popular in the 1960s and 70s, was the first instant camera where you can see the photo just taken. With the advent of digital cameras and camera phones, anyone can take a picture, edit it and post it online almost instantly using programs like iPhoto and Instagram.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland would like to help you find your inner Matthew Brady or Annie Leibovitz. Some titles that may be helpful for basic information about cameras and photography include the following: Beginner's Photography Guide by Chris Gatcum; Confessions of a Compact Camera Shooter by Rick Sammon; Digital Cameras & Photography for Dummies by Mark Hinton; **Understanding Exposure** by Bryan Peterson; and Click by Charlie Styr.

There are a lot of special effects and features a photographer can add to his/her photographs using special



computer programs, such as Photoshop. For more information on this aspect of photography, you might want to look at Photoshop CS6 All-in-One for Dummies by Barbara Obermeier; Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 2 How-Tos by Chris Orwig; and Photoshop Elements 7 in Easy Steps by Nick Vandome.

Other special photography topics are covered by the following: Landscape Photography by Neil Crighton; Jerry D's Extreme Makeover Techniques by Bill Hurter: Lonely Planet's Guide to Travel Photography by Richard I'Anson; and Photographing Your Family by Joel Sartore. Take a look at digitalphotography-school.com for information on how to take stunning pictures plus advice on cameras, equipment and processing.

Fun fact: the reason why people say "cheese" before taking a photograph is that saying "cheese" makes a person appear to smile by the formation of the lips pronouncing the "ee" sound and the teeth showing when saying "ch." President Franklin

D. Roosevelt is given some credit as being the person to popularize the "say cheese" phrase. In Victorian times, photographic subjects would say "prunes" to give the closed mouth feature that was popular.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon-5 pm Sunday.

Highlighted Activities

Yoga for Beginners, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Oct. 7, Adults – Join experienced yoga instructor Lois Gannon as she leads a beginning Hatha yoga class. Yoga mats will be provided, if you don't have one. Please wear loose clothing. One of four morning classes this month. The yoga classes will be drop-in only, no sign-up re-

quired.
Special event for children – Michigan Reads!
Author Visit, 11 a.m. Oct.
8 – The library is very pleased to welcome Leslie Helakoski, author of this year's Michigan Reads! book selection, Woolbur. All children and families are encouraged to attend this special author visit, listen to the book, meet the author, and enjoy some refreshments

Michigan Reads! is presented by Target, the Library of Michigan and the Library of Michigan Foundation. Learn more about Michigan Reads! at www.michigan.gov/michiganreads.

Friends of the Library Meeting, 2 p.m. Oct. 8 – The Friends of the Library is an independent group of local residents and library users that helps support and promote the library and its mission. They plan book sales and other fundraising activities for the library. New members are always welcome.

Parenting Workshop/ Training: Let's Pretend!, 6:30 p.m. Oct. 8 - Starfish Family Services' Early **Learning Communities** presents a monthly Parenting Workshop/Early Childhood Training at the library Each month focuses on a different topic for parents, teachers and childcare providers. This month's topic is 'Let's Pretend!" (#26): Identify and use elements and strategies for supporting pretend play. Attend five workshops and your child is eligible to receive free books from the Imagination Library. Free childcare provided for children of participants. Register by clicking on "Sign Ups" at westlandlibrary.org/kids/ events or go to www.greatstartconnect-.com. Walk-ins accepted, if space allows.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 p.m. Oct. 9 – The Library Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in one of the library's meeting rooms. Board meetings are open to the general

public. Third and Fourth Grade Book Club, 7 p.m. Oct. 9 - The Third and Fourth Grade Book Club meets once a month to discuss books and enjoy related activities, we'll explore different genres with memorable characters and themes. Each session is 45 minutes long with light refreshments. Please stop by the Youth Services desk to pick up a copy of the October book The Silver Balloon by Susan Bon-

ners.

Meditation for Beginners 7 p.m. Oct. 9 – Get blissed out during this simple and powerful meditation from Isha Kriya-trained instructor, Shanthi Balakrishnan. For more information on Isha Kriya, visit www.ishausa.org. Register by calling or visiting the library or visiting westlandlibrary.org/

Starfish Little Learners Playgroup, 10 a.m.
Oct. 10, Age range: 1-4
years - This free program, presented by Star-

fish Early Learning Communities, meets once a month at the Westland Library. Children and their caregivers will enjoy interactive time together that includes stories, songs, group activities, play time and a snack. Siblings welcome. No registration.

Fifth and Sixth Grade Book Club, 7 p.m. Oct. 10 – Welcome to book club! Our first selection this school year, Half-Moon Investigations, is by Eoin Colfer. Fletcher Moon, known around school as 'Half-Moon" due to his size, has qualified as a private eye after taking Internet classes. So far he has only used it to solve petty schoolyard crimes, with payment in candy. But now, he's on to something much bigger - and more dangerous.

Register and pick up your copy of this mystery, with a twist of humor, at the Youth Services Desk and join the discussion. Refreshments and book related activities will round out the evening.

Magic: The Gathering Tournament, 6 p.m. Oct. 7, ages 12-18 – We will have a round robin tournament as well as free play. Bring a standard format deck to play in the tournament. Plus we'll give out some free booster packs!

Open Mic, 7 p.m. Oct.

10 – Let your muse run
wild coffee shop-style
with singer-songwriter,
John Latini, as your emcee. Writers, poets, singers/rappers, bands, performers of all sorts are
welcome. See video from
past Open Mics at
www.youtube.com/user/

WestlandPublib.
ESL (English as a
Second Language) Class,
9:30-11:15 a.m. Oct. 11 –
Get help practicing your
English skills in a classroom setting with a conversation emphasis
taught by Diane and
Richard Goers. Classes
run from through Nov. 8.
Students with children
are welcome.

Friday Night Movies, 7 p.m. Oct. 11 - Come join us as for some of best recently-released DVDs as part of our Friday Night Movies series. Tonight's movie, World War Z, "United Nations employee Gerry Lane traverses the world in a race against time to stop the Zombie pandemic that is toppling armies and governments, and threatening to destroy humanity itself (imdb)." This movie is rated PG-13. Snacks and refreshments. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at 7 p.m.

New Hobby Show-case, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Oct. 12, All ages – Learn
how the art of plastic
model building lives on
and how you can become
involved in a lifelong
hobby. Come in and see
detailed and authentic
replicas of plastic models during an informative event to encourage
the craft. Drop in.

Beginners Computer Lab, 2-4 p.m. Oct. 12 -During this two-hour drop-in lab, we will provide guided activities and librarian assistance to help you become computer literate for today's digital world. Build confidence while practicing common tasks at your own pace. Topics include using a mouse and keyboard; selecting, copying and pasting; navigating the Internet; learning what you can do with email; and getting acquainted with Microsoft Office.

Lego Read & Play, 2 p.m. Oct. 13 - Come build with us! A nice big room with friends who like to build = fun! We'll have lots and lots of Lego® bricks for building, along with books for inspiration.

Job Seekers Lab, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays - Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other jobrelated activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to neip. Dro reservation needed.

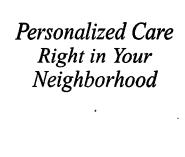
Chess Group, 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays – Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess Masters are all welcome. No signup required.

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

Information Central was compiled by Susan Hanson, Technical Services Librarian. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.









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Bill Bresler poses for a photo with his award. He is pictured with (from left) state Rep. John Walsh, Hall of Fame founder Bill Joyner, Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox and state Sen. Glenn Anderson. ANN ESPINOZA

Observer photographer inducted into Livonia Hall

By Karen Smith Staff Writer

For 34 years, Bill Bresler has documented local news through photographs for the Livonia Observer news-

On Thursday night, Bresler made news himself as he was inducted into the 1835 Livonia City Hall of Fame for his three decades of work as a community journalist chronicling the history of the city.

"I believe Bill is one of the greatest photographers that's ever been in this community," said state Sen. Glenn Anderson, who introduced him at the induction ceremony. His work preserves the history of the city in pictures for future generations, Anderson

Bresler was one of seven inductees in the Hall of Fame's Class of 2013. The ceremony was held at Madonna University's Franciscan Center.

Bresler said it seemed "very different" being on the other side of the camera lens. He didn't even bring his work camera to the event, leaving it at home in Livonia instead.

Over the years, Bresler has photographed every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan except Bill Clinton when they visited Livonia. He photographed Pope John Paul II in 1984, shaking hands with him right in the middle of Mass.

While the assignments were exciting, they weren't the most important,

he said. "To me, it's the day-to-day documentation of life in our community that is the measure of what we do."

He said if he worked for a large daily paper, he might have an assignment in Livonia every few years. But working as a community journalist, he's in the city every day. "And that gives me context, which helps me better understand our community."

He said his assignments range from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Just recently, he photographed retiring Sister Mary Modesta Piwowar, 88, founder of the No One Dies Alone at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, as she comforted a hospice patient, and a tater tot eating contest in which one of the contestants faltered and blew all of his tater tots all over the floor.

His work schedule changes from day to day, even on a second's notice. "My greatest thanks goes out to my wife Susan," he said. "I've gone racing out the door early on a holiday morning to photograph a breaking news story," he said, like the Easter morning apartment fire that killed a father and daughter this year.

Other inductees were:

» Mary Dumas, a political pioneer who served for a time as the only woman on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners. She was also a Schoolcraft College Trustee and a volunteer probation officer who testified before Congress in an effort to improve the juvenile justice system. Dumas died in 2011. Her husband, Richard, was at the

ceremony to accept the award. "I'm very proud of her record," he said.

» Joan McCotter, the first woman elected to the Livonia City Council. She served from 1986 to 1991 before being elected city clerk, a position she held until 2003.

» Janet Welch, the first woman to lead the 39,000-member State Bar of Michigan.

» Robert Nash, a Livonia City Councilman from 1965 to 1982 and then city clerk from 1983 until 1993. Nash served during the time when Livonia was the fastest-growing city in the United States, jumping in population from 61,000 in 1960 to 118,000 in 1970. Nash, now deceased, was represented by his son.

» Friends of the Wilson Barn, an 18-member volunteer organization that has worked to preserve the historic Wilson Dairy barn. The barn was slated for demolition to make room for a bank in 1974, and the group has been active ever since.

» Alpha USA, a design-based manufacturing company that gives back to the community and treats its employees as family members.

The 1835 Hall of Fame was founded nine years ago by Bill Joyner, a former Wayne County Commissioner, to recognize residents, organizations and businesses that have helped to make the city great.

Previous honorees have included Observer & Eccentric Media Executive Editor and Publisher Susan Rosiek.

Dance center to host Disney auditions

Walt Disney World is coming to metro Detroit to search for character performers and college students for its college program.

Auditions will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, at Central City Dance & Fitness Center, 6700 N. Canton Center Road, in Canton.

Advanced registration is not required. However, auditions start promptly with sign-in required 10:30-11

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and authorized to work in the United States.

All performers will learn a simple movement and dance routine. Please wear comfortable clothing, allowing for a full range of movement. Additional directions will be provided at the audition, and audition scores are valid for six months only.

Male and female performers are needed to bring to life the world famous Disney characters.

Characters perform before thousands of guests each day in "meet and greets," as well as performing in parades and events at the Walt Disney World Resort.

Full-time character performers have the chance to be part of Disney parks shows such as Festival of the Lion King and Fantasmic.

Disney is also seeking female Disney princess look-a-likes. Performers develop improvisational skills, poise and grace while working for one of the world's leading entertainment compa-

Additionally, Disney Creative Entertainment is seeking energetic college students interested in the Walt Disney World College program.

College applicants must be enrolled in college/university for at least one semester.

For full details on the Disney College program, visit http://cp.disneycareers.com.

Full-time applicants must be willing to relocate to the Orlando, Fla., area and be available for at least one year of full-time work.

For more information, visit www.centralcitydance.com and click on the Disney auditions icon.



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Westland voters to fill 4 council seats, re-elect mayor

Residents in Westland will fill four positions on the city council in the November general election and re-elect incumbent Mayor William Wild who is un-

opposed. In the council race, incumbents Christine Cicirelli Bryant, Meriem Kadi, Michael Kehrer and Dewey Reeves are being challenged by Kevin Coleman who is making a second bid for a council seat — and

newcomers Donna Stottlemyer Beaupre and William

The top three vote-getters will receive four-year terms, with the fourth-place finisher getting a twoyear term. The basic compensation for members of the city council is \$12,515 annually, with higher amounts for the council president and council president pro tem.

Campbell.

The candidates were asked: 1. Why are you seeking this position?

2. What do you see as the three main issues facing Westland?

3. As a council member, how would you address those issues?

4. With mergers and consolidation of services, do you believe the city is headed in the right direction? Explain.

5. If elected to council, what is your main goal, and

how do you plan to accomplish it?

KEVIN COLEMAN

Answer 1: Our city is changing rapidly and I'm concerned about the direction things have been going. The focus needs to

come back to our neighborhoods and I have the energy and a plan to get working Coleman on them



with an emphasis on public safety and fiscal responsibility.

Answer 2: This is the time for us to get aggressive about improving neighborhood safety and reducing crime, getting blight under control, and supporting our image in the region by creating an atmosphere of transparency and respect in government.

Answer 3: We don't live at city hall. We live in our neighborhoods and they should come first. I will prioritize budgeting towards improved police protection, getting a clear, realistic ordinance policy in place, and work with city-employees at all levels to improve customer service for the residents.

Answer 4: Consolidating city-service departments with neighboring communities to save tax-dollars has been accelerating and some of it has helped us out. On the other hand, I would only approve further

KEVIN COLEMAN

Age: 30 **Employment:** Music Instructor at Westland Music Family: Single **Education:** Bachelor's degree 2005, Western Michigan University **Community Involve**ment: Fundraised for Alzheimer's Association and JDRF, volunteered on school board campaigns, Rouge River Cleanup, and Westland Friendship Center, served on Westland

Festival Committee.

Attends community

events.

merging of departments if there was a clear benefit to Westland residents and taxpavers. This isn't the time to bail out other

Answer 5: If someone asks where a good place to open a business is or where to move their family, I want people to say Westland. In order to re-establish and restore this kind of community pride, we need to become known for having clean, safe neighborhoods again. Let's budget towards putting neighborhoods first.

DONNA STOTTLEMYER **BEAUPRE**

Answer 1: To listen to the needs of the community, bringing increased

action and communication, then actively address those needs. I want to



Beaupre

be directly involved in helping ensure recreational assets in our community are part of a larger effort to continue to enhance our city.

Answer 2: 1. Citizen Complacency 2. Consolidation/Mergers 3. Blight

Answer 3: Work with current administration to adapt stricter enforcement of our ordinances and not allow us to become complacent. We need to look at the needs, expectations and cooperation of the citizens. They are the stakeholders.

Answer 4: No. I understand the need for sharing some services. however what ramifications does this mean for our city down the road? Are we forfeiting our cities individuality as we consolidate and merge in order to get a large portion of Revenue Sharing Monies?

Answer 5: To give the citizens a voice that

DONNA STOTTLEMYER BEAUPRE

Employment: (Cur-

rent) - Education: Wayne-Westland School District, (Past) Criminal Justice Field -18 Years Family: Two adult Community Involvement: Growing up with my father, and the values he instilled in me, I was always involved and continue to be involved with fundraisers for many individuals and organizations, including **Wounded Warrior Project, Veterans** Haven, Miles for Memories Alzheimer's Walk,

Relay for Life, West-

land City Festival,

Fundraisers for

S.P.A.R.K.

will be honest, effective, efficient and accountable. I plan to study the pros and cons that come before us and to meet with citizens in their precincts, neighborhood or associations. I want to be open with and available for the citizens.

BILL CAMPBELL

Answer 1: I want to change the way politics are run in Westland. The citizens need to have trust in the people

who are running this city. It's time for new ideas on the council. I'm not a



career politician. I have pledged half my council pay to the American Cancer Society.

Answer 2: Westland must stop unwanted spending. No new luxury City Hall, no new fire station, no to the new Central City Parkway concept.

We need to bridge the gap between our local businesses as well as our schools. Both affect every home own-

We must restore citizens right to speak five minutes at council.

Answer 3: 1. No new fire station we just had merger. Central City Concept needs to move to the shopping district not in the middle of a residential area.

2. Small business should get tax incentives first not just the larger corporations. Our school board and council must pull together and develop near term objectives to be "best in class" as school district.

3. Restore the five minutes and grant a second opportunity to citizens to make comments at the end of the

BILL **CAMPBELL**

Age: 46 Employment: Engineering Program Manager **Education:** University of Michigan, Behavioral Science/Business (BS) 1992, Studied at Lawrence Technological University MBA Program (5 courses completed in 2000) Community Involvement: HOA President

for three years

council meeting. Answer 4: No on mergers. I think it will create less accountabilitv. We must keep our identity as a city. Sharing services access a region spreads things to thin, it will just create diluted services in the long run. Mergers only create (larger cities) a Megalopolis.

Answer 5: I have two main goals:

1. Stop unwanted spending and grow Westland amenities. Start quarterly council "Action Team" meetings that bring cost cutting ideas to the table in conjunction with growth ideas for amenities, such as music in the park.

2. Restore citizen's right to speak five minutes at City Council and create more transparent meetings that have public meeting minutes and videos for all meet-

ings

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CHRISTINE CICIRELLI BRYANT

Answer 1: Over the ast 4 years, I believe I have made a positive impact in the city. I have always been and continue to be dedicated to helping Westland be and grow as a safe,

family oriented city. 2: » The

Answer budget is always a number one priori-



Bryant

ty; staying fiscally responsible and providing good service to the residents.

» Hiring more police officers.

» Fighting blight Answer 3:» I will continue to monitor the budget and question spending that is proposed by the Administration.

» As we continue to meet state requirements to receive full EVIP monies and other grants through mergers, I will urge the Mayor and Council colleagues to seek areas that we can put more civilians to use within the police department allowing more officers to be on the streets. » Fighting blight is

still a concern because the economy is taking a slow turn upward. My focus has been and will continue to be to keep our neighborhoods clean and safe.

Answer 4: Mergers and consolidations have saved our City almost \$1 million in one year. We have also been the recipients of full EVIP monies and several grants because we have met the state's requirements. As long as our Westland residents are receiving excellent services, we see cost savings, and we continue to receive state funds, we are on the right track.

Answer 5: My main goal is to hire more police officers. Along with the idea of working with the department and the Mayor to find areas to use more civilians, the economy is beginning to turn around which will allow the city to see an increase in tax revenue that can be used to hire more officers.

CICIRELLI BRYANT

Employment: Wayne-Westland Community School District Family: Husband, John, two boys: Zachary 17 and Adler 9 Education: John Glenn graduate, graduate from University of Michigan-Dearborn Bachelor of Education, graduate from University of Michigan-Dearborn Master of Education. Currently enrolled University of Phoenix Master of Education Administration Community Involvement: Current City

Council member, Westland Youth Assistance Advisory Council, Relay for Life Chair, Rouge River Cleanup, Goodfellow volunteer, parent volunteer for schools and church



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

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

1. Dimensional Variance Request, the applicant is proposing to operate a new indoor recreational facility, Commando's Air Soft Guns, at 29145 Warren Avenue, and is requesting a variance of 41 feet to permit the new use to be located in an existing building that is setback 9 feet from a residential district.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting and should be addressed to the Building Department at 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135.

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

Publish: Sunday, October 6, 3013

LO-0000159449

MERIEM KADI

Answer 1: My vision and mission has not changed. I want to continue to be a part of the growth and improvement of our city and keep helping to make it a



place where proud to

people are

Answer 2: The property values, the water rates

and keep our Recycle program moving forward.

Answer 3: The real estate market is in an upward swing so continuing the City moving forward will help keep property values going up and encourage people to buy and residents to stay. I will continue to work to stabilize the water rates to keep the cost down. Recycling has been successful, so we need to keep it on the right path to serve residents and businesses.

Answer 4: Yes I do. It not only helps our community financially for our budget but also helps us meet the criteria for the state Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP) funds. Change is not always easy but I feel that when we make these decisions I have the best interests of the residents of our

MERIEM KADI

Employment: WCA & National Realty Centers Family: Agif (father deceased), Nina Kadi (mother), Eddie Emin (brother), Susanne and Diane (sisters) **Education:** High school, some college, **Real Estate** Community Involvement: Friends of the Westland Library President (for over 10 years), Westland Relay for Life (now Westland-Wayne) / Team Family & Friends for Life for 12 years (Event Chair 2013 and 2014), Wild About Youth Program, Mission Green. Westland Com-

City and the communities involved I feel that

munity Foundation

it is a win-win situation. Answer 5: To continue to stay focused on keeping the City on a balanced budget which not only helps the residents but the employees that help keep the City of Westland moving forward. I have faith that as long as the best interest of the residents of the community is at the fore front this can be accomplished.

MICHAEL A. KEHRER

Answer 1: I want to finish helping Westland through this transition period of change in local governments. We have the challenge of



ing core services while revenues are decreasing. I also care about the future well being

of the city where my family has lived for five generations. Answer 2: 1) Main-

taining core city services with decreasing revenues. 2) Hiring more po-

lice officers and keeping Westland a safe place to live. 3) Continuing to look at sharing services and other ways to save tax

Answer 3: I think the **Mayor and City Council** have done a great job balancing the budget and finding ways to save money. We were smart enough to make some of these decisions several years ago. I would continue to chip away and try new solutions like we have been

Answer 4: Yes, we are headed in the right direction. Not only have the sharing and mergers of services saved money, the state is practically mandating it in

MICHAEL A.

KEHRER Age: 59 **Employment:** Project



manager for Duo-Gard Industries Inc. Family: wife Debra, three grown children and two grandchildren Education: Bachelor of science in Public Administration and a Certification in local government Fiscal Management

Community involvement: I have volunteered in my community for more than 30 years. I have been a member of the Jaycees, Goodfellows, and coached youth sports teams. I have also worked with the Relay for Life and First Step.

order to receive the maximum amounts of revenue sharing. Westland has been a leader in this area and has been recognized around the state.

Answer 5: To continue moving Westland forward on the path of fiscal responsibility. We are in good shape compared to other cities in Michigan. We accomplished this by taking action instead of clinging to the past. Managing your tax dollars is a brave new world with all possibilities open to

discussion.

DEWEY K. REEVES

Answer 1: I have been proud to serve the residents of Westland since 2007 and have worked hard to earn and keep the residents' trust.

> I truly believe the City of on the

Westland is verge of some very incredible

things and

I want to continue to help in any

Answer 2: • Employee legacy costs (pensions, post-retirement benefits)

• Improving the effi-ciency of our Water and Sewer infrastructure while working to stabilize water rates

 Fixing the city's aging roads

Answer 3: I will continue to ask all employees to contribute to their pension and health care costs and seek continued pension reform.

Council will soon be adopting a water/sewer improvement plan. I will advocate for stabilizing water rate increases.

It's time to reinvest in our neighborhood

streets and sidewalks. Answer 4: Absolutely, Lieutenant Governor Calley called our Wayne-Westland Fire Department merger "The type of teamwork that will help reinvent Michigan" and the Parks merger with Wayne saves the

DEWEY K. REEVES

Age: 60 Employment: Sartorial Impression: Personal Shopper, Custom Clothier, Wardrobe Consultant, Westland City Council: Current Seated Council Member. Family: Wife Gail C. Reeves, married 33 years

Education: Eastern Michigan University, 3 Years, Madonna College, MELOTC Police Certification. Community Involvement: South East Westland Home Owners Association, Executive Committee Member, Westland Downtown Development Authority, Nankin Transit **Authority Transporta**tion Commission

city a million dollars annually and gives our résidents access to one of the largest parks and trails portfolios in the state.

Answer 5: As a former Washtenaw County Sheriff, my background is in law enforcement. I understand how important safety is to a community. I will continue to seek creative solutions and possible shared services to get more officers on the streets and in the neighborhoods.

Cavanagh bill would help break cycle of unpaid property taxes

State Rep. Phil Cav-anagh, D-Redford Township, has introduced a bill requiring a person purchasing property through a county auction they will not be using as their personal homestead to place three years' worth of tax payments in escrow at the time of purchase.

House Bill 5034 is designed to specifically address a situation in Wayne County where it has recently been report-ed nearly 80 percent of 18,568 properties bought at foreclosure auctions in the last two years are now again delinquent on their property taxes. News reports indicate

that the city of Detroit is owed \$70 million in taxes from the properties.
"My legislation will

thwart these buyers who have no intention of ever paying property taxes on the foreclosed homes they purchase. It's aimed at helping counties like Wayne County better manage foreclosed properties, and will give county governments more tools to break this continuous cycle of delinquent taxes caused by speculators who are purchasing properties, doing nothing to reduce blight and simply aren't paying their tax bills," Cavanagh said. "This cycle undermines and erodes

community stability, and makes it difficult for the investors out there who are playing by the rules and operating in good

Earlier this year, Cavanagh introduced House Bill 4882, the Distressed Communities Bill. Under this legislation, a county treasurer could declare a community distressed. The treasurer of a distressed community could then work with homeowners who have outstanding tax bills and work out payment plans. Upon successful completion of a payment plan, the treasurer would waive incurred fees.

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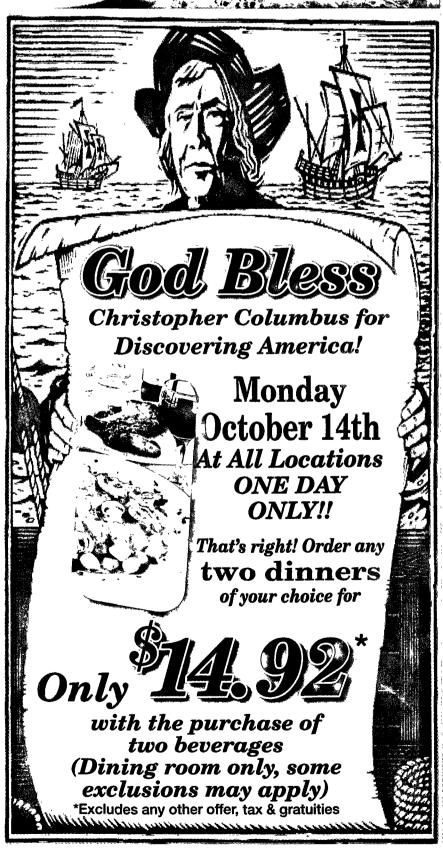
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