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City's financial picture improves

Westland ended fiscal year with \$5.5 million reserve

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland officials received praise from auditors for their successful efforts at downsizing and ending the fiscal year with a \$5.5 million fund balance.

During a presentation on the 2013-14 financial audit,

Mike Swartz of Plante Moran warned city officials that building up that reserve fund was only half the battle.

"Taxable (property) values can decline quickly but they are slow to grow back due to Headlee (Amendment)," Swartz said. "Your ability to keep that unrestricted fund balance will be harder. If any community is up to the challenge, it's you guys. You made changes when you had to make them."

During the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2013, Westland had added \$500,000 to the fund balance due to increased revenues and decreased spending.

"The benefits of a stabilized fund balance mean a better bond rating, which helps the city realize lower interest costs when bonding for larger capital projects," Westland Finance Director Steven Smith said. "Residents benefit from this because the city pays less in interest costs, leaving funds

available for city services."

Significant changes

Faced with dropping property values — a prime source of municipal funding — and increasing costs, in 2009 Westland had projected annually increasing deficits. Without significant changes, that deficit was projected to reach \$37 million during the current fiscal year.

"From our standpoint, everything is being managed

well. You've made significant progress on financial issues," said Swartz, citing downsizing, reorganization and shared services. "You've really grabbed on to things where you needed to get creative."

After years of declining property values, Westland property values are expected to rise an average 4.56 percent this year. As referenced by Swartz, the Headlee Amend-

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Shaelyn Newberry not only is the recipient of the "Female Youth of the Year Award" but carries a 4.0 GPA in high school. Behind her are State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland, (left), Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Youth, mentor successes celebrated at annual dinner

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Local youths and the adults who help them move forward in their lives were honored recently at the annual Westland Youth Assistance dinner.

Held at Angelo Brothers Restaurant, the program celebrates the success of teens who overcome problems or bad choices.

"It's truly an honor to be here to represent the mayor and the city, but also as a (Youth Assistance) board member," Westland Deputy Mayor Jade Smith said. "(Youth Assistance Director) Paul

Motz and his entire staff make a big difference. My hats are off to the kids and the parents."

The annual dinner normally recognizes three teens who have participated in the Youth Assistance programs.

"Paul was saying that this year was so outstanding that they would recognize four youths," Smith said.

Sharing his usual patter of jokes — largely groaners — Motz said he appreciated the support from City Hall and noted the improved relationships with the city in recent years.

Recognized at the program for their efforts in 2013 were:

» Thomas Treger was honored as Male Youth of the Year. Treger was described by case manager Justin Thomas as someone who went above and beyond to overcome obstacles.

"He was the first to come to mind (when considering an award recipient). He'd had troubles and wanted to prove he could do the program," Thomas said. "He was mature in group session and a really good role model."

» Female Youth of the Year Shaelyn Newberry was honored for making changes in her life to overcome obsta-

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Weather has schools counting the days

W-W students have had 6 days off since break

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

January was the snowiest month on record, but it's got a hold on another record — school closings.

For the sixth time since school resumed after the Christmas break, Wayne-Westland students were treated to a day off Wednesday due to severe weather conditions.

Overnight temperatures dipped well into negative territory and coupled with strong winds, created a wind chill of -15 to -25 degrees. Not quite as bitterly cold as Tuesday, but enough to give students a second day off.

By Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy's recollection, closing school for six days due to weather hasn't happened in more than two decades.

"In my 23 years at Central Office and during my 17 years as superintendent, school has never been closed for this number of days," Baracy said. "We're allowed the equivalent of six days. If we go above that, we'll have to talk to the governor and the legislature."

As it now stands, Wayne-Westland students have missed almost one-third of 19 days of school scheduled for January.

Making the decision to cancel school is no exact science for superintendents.

In Wayne-Westland, a number of criteria are used. Taken into consideration are condi-

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Competency exam sought for man charged in robberies

Judge approves referral, schedules next hearing

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A competency examination has been ordered for a man charged with robbing several Westland stores.

Peter Greenway, 39, was scheduled for preliminary examination in Westland 18th District Court Thursday on multiple felony charges, in-

cluding armed robbery, attempted armed robbery and felony firearm.

Defense attorney David Lankford requested that Greenway be referred for a mental competency examination after meeting with him. Greenway is being jailed in lieu of \$250,000 cash/surety bond and held in the Wayne County Jail psychiatric unit.

"He's pushing 40. He has no substantial record. He did work," Lankford said. "On some issues, he speaks in a

rational manner. Other issues, he doesn't. I'd request a psychiatric referral."

The Wayne County Prosecutor didn't object to the referral to the forensic center. Westland 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell approved the referral and set the next hearing for March 20, adding it could be moved up, if the competency report is available sooner.

Greenway was arrested at a home on Hazelwood in Inkster after police received a tip in

response to surveillance photos from the robberies distributed to the media.

Police sought to identify a suspect in three reported robberies in which the robber implied he had a gun in his pocket:

» On Jan. 12, an attempted robbery reportedly occurred at 7-Eleven, 1826 S. Merriman. The clerk reportedly refused to give him any money and the man fled.

» On Jan. 15, a man reportedly robbed the Family Dollar,

31926 Michigan Ave. He reportedly implied that he was armed with a gun and escaped with an unknown amount of cash.

» On Jan. 16, a man reportedly robbed the Dollar General, 8208 N. Merriman. Once again, a gun was reportedly implied and the man fled with an unknown amount of cash.

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AUDIT

Continued from Page A1

ment limits property tax increases to 5 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower.

» Although the city's taxable value decreased again last year, the auditors noted a more than \$1 million increase, largely due to additional library millage which had been approved by voters.

» The city's second largest source of revenue after property taxes — state shared revenues — rose for only the second time in the last decade. That was because the

city met all three requirements of the state's Economic Vitality Incentive Program, formerly state shared revenue, and earned \$1.2 million. That was \$200,000 more than the prior year.

» Revenue at 18th District Court increased \$950,000 — the first year the court revenue has increased since 2009-10.

» The city continued to utilize grant money, where available, to help fund programs and equipment purchases. The Police Department received several grants for capital needs while the Fire Department was in the second year of a

SAFER grant that allowed the city to hire nine new firefighters. The city is seeking an extension of that federal grant.

» "The overall financial forecast for the City of Westland continues to improve and we want to keep that positive momentum going," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "Improving Westland's finances is fiscally responsible, prudent and necessary for the long-term viability of the city."

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DINNER

Continued from Page A1

cles and developing into a leader. She also carries a 4.0 grade-point average.

Newberry was described as having a lot of charisma and being very smart.

» Special recognition awards were presented to Domonic Ward and Kourtney Alexander.

"I spoke with Domonic's mother on the phone, and we talked about his struggles," Thomas said. "He was only 10 years old. I was concerned about his being mature enough."

"He was very mature. He had a calm confidence and went through the older group. He handled himself very well. He's comfortable in his skin."

Alexander was described as struggling to find out who she is and is now making plans for college.

"I want to thank everyone made the program possible," Alexander said. "It kind of turned me around."

» Culver's Restaurant of Westland was recognized as Business of the Year for their support of the Youth Assistance program. Manager Jamie Bell accepted the award.

"I was in Culver's and Jamie asked if I worked with kids. Several of his workers had said they had been in my program," said Motz.

"He said he had more than one Youth Assistance kid working for him."

Culver's has supported Youth Assistance with dinners and fundraising.



Domonic Ward, with caseworker Justin Thomas, received a Special Recognition Award from Westland Youth Assistance. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Kourtney Alexander receives a Special Recognition Award from Westland Youth Assistance. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Thomas Tregenza received the Male Youth of the Year Award from Westland Youth Assistance. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN



Barry Rossi was honored as Westland Youth Assistance Mentor of the Year. PHOTO BY TOM BEAUDOIN

» Barry Rossi was recognized as the Mentor of the Year. A Wayne Memorial High School graduate and Navy veteran, Rossi earned a degree and worked in mental health facilities until retiring in 2002.

"He started to volunteer at the Friendship Center and also do Meals on Wheels. One day he wandered into our office. He asked questions about what we do," Motz said.

"He's a tremendous guy and always had a tremendously positive attitude."

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Free legal help

Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan will provide a free legal presentation and assistance to all Wayne County residents, age 60 and older, 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis, in Wayne.

An expert legal staff will provide free legal assistance to seniors on most civil cases, including guardianship, conservatorship, wills, trusts, power of attorney, nursing homes, Medicare/Medicaid and much more.

Participants must preregister by Wednesday, Jan. 29, through Wayne Senior Services Office at 734-721-7460.

Railroadiana

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club will sponsor a buy and swap, toys and trains show, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, at the church, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman, Westland.

Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food is available and the parking is free. There will be operating train layouts and more than 100 dealer tables with various gauges of trains.

Tables are available at \$10 per table. To reserve tables, call 734-595-8327. Dealer set-up is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

Sometimes Travelers

Sometimes Traveler offers group travel for anyone 30 years and up. Upcoming trips include the DSO presents "Century of Broadway" Sunday, Feb. 9, the Firekeepers Casino Tuesday, March 28, and Arizona Tuesday, March 25-31.

Call Wayne Senior Services at 734-721-7460 or stop by the Community Center for detailed fliers.

Date nights

Circle your calendar for the annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis, Wayne.

The cost is \$12 per couple or \$16 per dad and two daughters. Non-resident fees are \$13 for a couple and \$18 for a

dad and two daughters. Cost includes snacks, square dancing and a memory photo.

The community center also is holding a Mother-Son Sports Night 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27. The evening of sports, games and food is for mothers and their sons ages 5-12. Cost is \$12 for couples and \$16 for a mother and two sons and \$13 for and \$18 respectively for non-residents.

For more information, call 734-721-7400.

Wayne Rotary

Wayne Rotary meets noon every Tuesday at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne, for lunch, except the last Tuesday of the month, when the club meets at 6 p.m. at US12 on Michigan Avenue for dinner. Be their guest to see what the Wayne Rotary is all about. Call Trish Hampton at 734-890-6934.

Bowling benefit

Throw strikes and help the Westland Historic Village Park from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford, west of Newburgh, Westland.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. They include three games, shoe rental and two slices of pizza. There also will be raffle prizes for adults and children and more.

Tickets are available at the village on Wayne Road between Cherry Hill and Marquette, 1-4 p.m. Saturdays. For tickets or more information, call Ryan at 734-756-0769.

Library program

The William P. Faust Public Library in Westland will host The "Spirit of Rosa Parks" 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8.

Talented Rosie Chapman — an educator, storyteller and actress — has performed throughout the United States, as well as overseas. Rosie's stories come alive through songs, musical instruments and audience participation. Children age 7 through adult are sure to be captivated by her moving dramatic performance.

Light refreshments will be served.

The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road. For more information, call 734-326-6123.

Gospel meetings

Ministers Matthew Jensen and Alijah McCormick are holding gospel meetings 7:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays through Feb. 5 at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

The meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. The goal of these meetings is to inspire greater faith and commitment in Christ. No collections will be taken.

For more information, call 515-851-2939.

Smart Drivers Program

The AARP Smart Drivers Program will at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis, in Wayne, in April for a two half day program.

The program is a refresher course for motorists age 50 years plus. Refresh your driving skills, learn the new rules of the road and research-based driving strategies to help stay safe behind the wheel.

There are no tests to pass. Some insurance companies offer discounted rates to individuals who complete this course.

The program will be offered from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, April 1-2. It costs \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Register and prepay at the Wayne Senior Services Office by Wednesday, March 26.

Casino trip

The Wayne Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Casino bus trip to Motor City Casino in Detroit on Saturday, March 15.

The bus leaves from the Wayne Community Center at 10 a.m. Saturday. Participants will be at the casino 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and return to the Wayne Community Center at 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$30. The purchase of a ticket includes \$30 in free slots play.

Space is limited, so register by the end of February by calling 734-721-0100.

SNOW DAYS

Continued from Page A1

tions like a combination of snow, sleet and wind or a wind chill of -20 degrees or below, which is serious and significant, especially for students who walk to school or wait at bus stops. Road conditions also are a significant factor in a district where 60-65 percent of students ride school buses.

"We try to make the best call in the best interest of the children," said Baracy, who with two other employees are out at 3:30 a.m. in snow-

storms to determine if roads have been plowed and salted and if buses can make it through. "We don't go by the news. We go out and touch and feel it before making the call. There are three of us on the roads."

"What has made it worse this year is the cutback in plowing and salting in some municipalities that has impacted our decisions. We have to know the buses will be able to get through," he added.

Baracy consults with surrounding school districts and Michigan State Police. The district even gets severe weather warnings. The superin-

tendents "look at the pros and cons and typically get a consensus."

"I converse with Livonia, Plymouth-Canton and Dearborn superintendents," he said. "We're the four largest districts in the area; we bus a lot of kids."

The cold weather also will impact the district's heating costs. Baracy expects Wayne-Westland will not exceed the amount budgeted for 2013-2014. However, he believes there will be no savings this year unlike years when costs came in hundreds of thousands of dollars under budget because of milder weather.

"I think we'll use all of our allocations," he said. "We'll use a couple of extra loads of salt we hoped we wouldn't have to order, but as long as this doesn't continue, we should be OK."

But even if the polar vortex leaves, the forecast for this week shows the possibility of significant snowfall on Wednesday — and the potential for yet another snow day.

"These are extraordinary weather conditions," Baracy said.

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Seniors rally early for summer Olympics

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

At age 94, Canton resident Jerry Gawura has won 99 medals for her athletic skills.

She hopes to cross the 100-medal mark by tossing a softball, football, Frisbee, bean bag and horseshoes when the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics celebrates its 10th year in August.

"My favorite has always been playing softball," said Gawura, who joined 80 seniors and Wayne County officials Wednesday afternoon for an early kickoff party at Canton's Summit on the Park recreation center. "I love playing softball."

Gawura had her medals displayed on a table — honors she earned not only in Wayne County, but also from Michigan Senior Olympics and the National Senior Games Association. She is proof senior athletes can participate in shot put, javelin and discus competition, though she always returns the conversation to softball.

"I was a tomboy when I was a little girl living in Dearborn, but the boys wouldn't let the girls play softball," she said. "One day they let me play and then they let me keep on playing."

Seniors from Canton, Plymouth, Westland, Livonia, Garden City, Redford and other western Wayne County communities braved a brutally cold winter day to attend the kickoff party in hopes of inspiring others 50 and older to get involved in the 2014 games, Aug. 18-22.

Participants are expected to start signing up in early April at their local senior centers, whether their interest is golf, billiards, Wii bowling, horse-



Jerry Gawura of Canton shows off most of the 99 medals she has won in Senior Olympics competition. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

shoes, bowling, card games, softball or numerous other competitions.

Plymouth resident Patti Mackiewicz, 67, said she intends to compete in Wii bowling.

"This will be my first year. I'm very excited," she said, after winning a pair of Detroit Tigers tickets during a kickoff party raffle led by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

Susan Doughty, Canton senior specialist, said Senior Olympics games allow seniors

to celebrate fitness with long-time friends and new ones.

"They love the camaraderie and doing things they may never have done before," she said. "They have so much fun."

Inkster resident Leroy Watson, 62, said he intends to compete in bowling. "Hopefully, I can win the whole thing," he said.

Canton senior Mickey Stachurski hopes to add medals to her previous golfing honors. "I love golf — and cards, sometimes," she said.

Janet Brady, part-time Can-

ton senior coordinator, has accumulated scores of medals after participating in county, state and national competitions for track and field, horseshoes and tennis, among other activities. She is most proud of the bronze medal she won last year during the national horseshoes competition for athletes 55 and over.

"I always meet so many different people," Brady, 56, said.

The first Western Wayne County Senior Olympics drew 200 people — a number that



Canton Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin and Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc address seniors.



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano talks about the importance of Senior Olympics.

grew to more than 700 last year.

"We're probably going to break that record this year," Ficano said.

Maybe, just maybe, Gawura can earn her 100th medal. One thing is certain: The boys won't be telling her that she can't play.

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Lunch and Learn series looks at eye diseases

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Lunchtime at the Maplewood Center is the perfect time to learn something new.

Since Lisa Watts was hired as senior activities director at the Maplewood Center last year, she's worked to attract an audience to the Lunch and Learn series, where the public can share in the daily congregate meal and then listen to interesting and informative speakers.

Everyone is invited to another free presentation in the series: "Age-Related Eye Issues — What You'll 'see' as You Age." It begins at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Presenter Roxanna Martin is the clinical coordinator of Akler Eye Center and has nearly 20 years of experience in the field of ophthalmology. Akler Eye Center is a comprehensive ophthalmic practice that focuses on the medical and surgical management of eye diseases.

"Martin will speak about cataracts and other conditions — such as glaucoma — that are common in older adults and the importance of having your eyes examined on a regular basis," Watts said. "This is particularly important if you have risk factors or a family history of eye problems."

Adults should see an eye doctor at least every two years and annually after age 50. People with a history of eye problems or other medical conditions that increase the risk of eye disease, such as diabetes, may need eye exams more frequently.

Eye disorders

In the discussion about eye disorders the seniors will learn about cataracts, macular degeneration and glaucoma, as well as the different types, causes, symptoms and signs of each condition, diagnosis of each disorder, treatment options, risks of each

condition, complication and prevention.

Cataracts are a frequent eye condition. A cataract is a clouding of the eye's natural lens, which lies behind the iris and the pupil. Cataracts are the most common cause of vision loss in people over age 40 and are the principal cause of blindness in the world.

Glaucoma is the term applied to a group of eye diseases that gradually result in loss of vision by permanently damaging the optic nerve that transmits visual images to the brain. The leading cause of irreversible blindness, glaucoma often produces no symptoms until it is too late and vision loss has begun. Glaucoma usually causes no symptoms early in its course, at which time it can only be diagnosed by regular eye examinations.

The frequency of examination is based on age and the presence of other risk factors. Once lost, vision cannot normally be recovered, so treatment is aimed at preventing further loss.

Worldwide, glaucoma is the second-leading cause of blindness after cataracts, according to experts. It is also the leading cause of blindness among African-Americans. Glaucoma affects 1 in 200 people aged 50 and younger and 1 in 10 over the age of 80. If the condition is detected early enough, it is possible to arrest the development or slow the progression with medical and surgical means.

There will also be a question and answer session following Martin's presentation. All seniors who would like to have lunch prior to the presentation must call Regina Jackson at 734-793-1874 at least 24 hours in advance. The cost of the lunch is \$2.25.

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The Northwood University Mock Trial team shows the awards it earned at the recent Polar Bear Invitational at Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio. Matthew Williams, a junior from Livonia, is a member of the team.

Westland collegian scores with mock trial team

A Northwood University Mock Trial team joined 33 other teams competing at the Polar Bear Invitational held at Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio. This was the first invitational competition of the winter term.

Northwood Team 930 earned first place by winning their rounds against the University of Chicago, Hillsdale College and two separate teams from Ohio State University. The team of: Stephanie Hentschel, a senior from Midland; Matthew Williams, a junior from Livonia; Ameer Cox, a senior from Liverpool, England; Yancy Cobb, a senior from Detroit; Brittney Newton, a sophomore from Southfield; Ibrahim Lawton, a junior from Pontiac; and Myisha Ishmeal, a senior from Southfield, finished with seven wins and one loss.

Northwood Team 931 earned 10th place by winning their rounds against the University of Michigan, Loyola University and the University of Chicago. Northwood split

ballots in their final round against the University of Kentucky, where one scoring judge's ballot declared Northwood the winner by 5 points and the other scoring judge's ballot identified University of Kentucky as the winner by 5 points.

The team of: TC (Thomas) Sample, a junior from Westland; Terrence Green, a junior from Hesperia; Jalisa Harris, a sophomore from Belleville; Aaron Grace, a junior from Flushing; Kathleen West, a junior from Birch Run; Holly Redlawski, a junior from China, MI; and Anthony Wnoroski, a junior from Uniontown, OH, finished 5-3.

In addition to the team awards, Anthony Wnoroski won individual recognition in the form of an Outstanding Witness Award.

Northwood Team 932 faced teams from University of Chicago, University of Kentucky, Loyola University-Chicago and the University of Pittsburgh. The team of: Matt Jensen, a junior from Bay

City; Adrian Camacho, a freshman from Bellflower, Calif.; Chelsea Howe, a freshman from Davison; Ashley Calloway, a senior from Flint; Crystal Chen, a senior from Malaysia; and Marlies Klekner-Alt, a sophomore from Ottawa, Ontario, finished 3-5.

Sample also was on a mock trial team that placed fourth in the Michigan State University Invitational held recently in East Lansing, the final invitational competition of the fall term.

Sample, along with: Jalisa Harris, a sophomore from Belleville; Stephanie Hentschel, a senior from Midland; Crystal Chen, a senior from Malaysia; Holly Redlawski, a junior from China, Mich., and Jeremiah Dohms, a senior from Mildmay, Ontario, finished 5-3 in the tournament.

In addition to the team awards, three students on this team won individual awards. Redlawski and Dohms won Outstanding Witness Awards while Hentschel won an Outstanding Attorney Award.

LPS seeks nominations for 2014-15 Teachers of the Year program

Livonia Public Schools is accepting nominations for its 2014-15 Teachers of the Year program. The district's Teachers of the Year committee — comprised of teachers, administrators and parents — is accepting nominations for exemplary elementary level and secondary level full-time LPS teachers.

The committee seeks nominations of teachers who have demonstrated excellence and made a lasting impression on the lives of students, district

and community. Selections for next school year will be announced in May.

To download a nomination form, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org/toyform. Email the nomination to Stacy Jenkins, in the LPS Communications Office, at sjenkins3@livoniapublicschools.org or call 734-744-2533 for a hard copy of the nomination form.

All nominations are due of the end of the day on Friday, Feb. 28.

ACHIEVERS

Adam Bonner of Garden City was among more than 1,900 students from Coastal Carolina University who made the Fall 2013 Dean's List. To qualify for the Dean's List, freshmen must earn a 3.25 grade-point average, and upperclassmen must earn a 3.5 grade-point average. Bonner, a freshman, is a marketing pre-major.

Evan Biers of Garden City has been named to the Dean's List for the 2013 fall semester at Michigan Technological University. To be included on the list, he had to achieve a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. Biers is majoring in mechanical engineering.

Iwona Laskowski and **Stephanie Bay** of Garden City have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2013 semester at Davenport University. To achieve the Dean's List, they had to maintain a minimum 3.5 grade-point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular course work.

Clifton Adams and **Robert Le Feve** of Garden City were named to Davenport University's named to the President's

List for the fall 2013 semester. The President's List recognizes Davenport University's top students who excel with outstanding academic performance. To achieve the President's List, a student must maintain a minimum 3.8 grade-point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular course work.

Joshua Piehl and **Peter Raub**, both of Garden City, have been named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the fall 2013 term at Lawrence Technological University. To be named to the honor roll, a student must maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average for the term. Piehl is majoring in mechanical engineering, while Raub is studying electrical engineering.

Irene Prevost of Garden City has been named to the Honors List at Walsh College for the 2013 fall. Students must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or better and have completed 12 semester credit hours at Walsh to be eligible for honors.

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	HOSPITALITY & TOURISM		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality Management
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Competitor Thomas Barnes, an eighth-grader at Stevenson Middle School, waits for the middle school competition to begin. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A way with words

Wayne-Westland crowns its spelling bee champions

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

It was a "war" of words Thursday as 31 fifth- through eighth-graders squared off in Wayne-Westland's Earle Chorbagan Spelling Bee.

Students tackled words that ranged from simple to difficult as spelling champions were picked from among fifth- and sixth-graders from Adams and Marshall upper elementaries and seventh- and eighth-graders from Franklin and Stevenson middle schools.

Students tried their luck with words like "verdure," "exorcism," "betroted," "bebop," "ostracism," "charioteer" and "armistice" in hopes of winning a chance to compete in the regional spelling bee that will be held March 8 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

The spelling bee was hosted by Adams Upper Elementary, which it got its start 34 years ago. It's named after Chorbagan, retired middle school principal who has only missed the bee once when he was sick a few years ago. It started out as one spelling bee for students in the fifth through eighth grades, but was split into two spelling bees four years ago.

Winning word

It took 20 rounds and 174 words to crown the upper elementary champ, sixth-grader Jazlyn Gaton of Westland, who correctly



Cassidy Kenny, a seventh-grader at Franklin Middle School, waits for the judge's decision on her spelling. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

spelled "netiquette." "I was a little bit nervous watching her," her mother Windy said. "She practiced almost every day."

Jazlyn said she was "kind of confident" in her spelling abilities and found none of the words hard. She practiced with her mother and by herself.

"I practiced by writing them down," she said. "It took about an hour a day. I'm glad I'm bringing the trophy back to Adams after three years."

The middle school trophy, however, is going to Franklin after eighth-grader Nakiah Bendolph of Wayne correctly spelled "tomahawk" in the 21st round to claim the crown.

"The word I was most worried about was a really simple word, 'disarray.' I couldn't figure out the double letter at first," she said.



Anthony Thibodeaux, a seventh-grader at Franklin Middle School, spells his word while Stevenson eighth-graders David Kaiser and Matthew Essa wait for their turn. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The students were given lists of words to study and Nakiah was "frantic" on her way to bee that those words would be used, but was "more comfortable" when she realized they were using other words.

"I was up until 1 a.m. studying," she said. "I studied with my sister Lashay, who really helped me in going to websites for the pronunciations, and my sister Daija."

Third appearance

This is her third appearance in the spelling bee and second time by herself. Two years ago, both she and her sister Daija were in the contest together.

Her mother, Shana Wilson, threw her hands in the air when her daughter won.

"Words can't explain how I feel. I'm at a loss for words, I'm overwhelmed by the excitement," Wilson said. "I felt it in me that she would



Jazlyn Gaton, a sixth-grader at Adams Upper Elementary School, receives the district spelling bee plaque from retired school administrator Earle Chorbagan and district Superintendent Greg Baracy after correctly spelling "netiquette."



Nakiah Bendolph wins the 34th Earle Chorbagan Spelling Bee. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Sixteen students in the seventh and eighth grades take turns spelling as the bee begins. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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DARE TO CARE ABOUT PUBLIC EDUCATION

Internal conflicts vs. doing the right thing

Theodore Roosevelt said, "In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing." Upon reflection, as a leader in education, I have always had the courage to do something. My intention is to always do the "right" thing. However, there are many times when there are various perspectives and thoughts that define the "right" thing.

When you are making personal decisions that affect just you, the "right" thing is easier to define. When you are making decisions as the leader of an entire school district, the "right" thing becomes a great deal more complex. One example of a very tough decision I faced was the task of reconfiguring our district. Over the past few years, like many districts, our student population has been declining. We were in a deficit when I was hired as the superintendent. One option for our deficit elimination plan was to reconfigure our district.

During our latest GCPS Board Meeting, a parent and a teacher in our community invited my reflection with the following comment, "Our superintendent was quoted as at other times progress is inhibited by the lack of courage to try something new. Well, progress is sometimes inhibited by not having the courage to reflect that you have failed at something new."

While she ran out of time (and I have no doubt she would have gone into greater detail as to which failure she wants me to reflect upon), I am quite certain reconfiguration would have been at the top of her list. First of all, a committee comprised of teachers, parents, administrators and community members studied the various options for reconfiguring our district. The goal of this committee was to look at this issue from both the financial perspective (saving the district money) and the educational perspective (providing an equal or better learning environment for our students). The committee overwhelmingly selected the current configuration of four elementary campuses - PreK-K, 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6. This proposal was then taken to the board for approval.

Reconfiguration
Was this reconfiguration a failure?



Michelle Cline
GUEST COLUMNIST

Whereas some people will say yes, there are others, including me, who do not think it was a failure. This change resulted in sufficient dollar savings to the district, without which the district would likely have remained in a deficit and would have been vulnerable to an emergency manager. There are many additional benefits that have resulted from this new configuration. They include a greater number of students reading on grade level in our primary grades, more consistency with the academic programs and instructional strategies being used across the same grade level, more targeted use of Title Resources, more grade level appropriate assemblies for students, greater autonomy of and leadership opportunities for younger students, and an easier transition into the middle school for sixth graders.

Unfortunately, this configuration is inconvenient for parents who prefer to drive their students to school. Some people claim reconfiguration has created a loss in our student count. While our student count is declining, we do not have any indication that a large percentage is due to the reconfiguration. There are many factors contributing to student loss. (This is a topic for a future article in the series.)

There are many things I could be doing, along with writing and organizing this series of articles, to improve public education. However, the biggest issue I have as a superintendent has to do with an internal issue in our public education district. Until this issue is addressed, the bigger issues that are pressing upon us from external forces, such as decisions being made in Lansing, will have to take a back burner. This internal issue has existed for decades here and was actually the reason I decided to apply for the position as superintendent of Garden City Public Schools, in the first place.

The issue is the relationship between the Garden City Education Association (GCEA) and the Administration (in this case, it is focused

mostly on the executive administrative team). I came here with the hope that I could change the relationship to a more positive, collaborative one. If you follow educational articles or get the *Observer* in Garden City, you are most likely aware of the current issues our district is having with insurance. It is not this one issue but the underlying matter of the negative relationship between the GCEA and administration that needs to be addressed. This is a complex problem to deal with, as there are many perceptions, misunderstandings, and history that come into play.

Least resistance

One of the most famous, courageous people in our history who has confronted these types of relationships was Martin Luther King Jr. He said, "If you choose not to deal with an issue, then you give up your right of control over the issue and it will take the path of least resistance." Unfortunately, this issue needs to be addressed because "the path of least resistance" will lead to the demise of this district.

There is a blatant disrespect for the executive administration and, at times, members of the Board of Education, as demonstrated by a member of the GCEA and parent in Garden City, at the latest GCPS Board Meeting. This member made the following statement:

"I just wanted to follow up some from my speech at the Dec. 9 meeting, not sure if my disdain with some of administration really came through. Mr. (John) Thackaberry, I just want to thank you for showing everyone your true colors. While many teachers were here at this mic on Dec. 9, some even tearing up, you did nothing more than doodle away on your agenda with your head rested in your hand. I saw it on TV a couple times over Christmas break ... I truly hope at the next November election, and I believe you are up, that name recognition is no longer enough for you to get re-elected. You do not deserve power and responsibility that comes with that seat; sorry it has to come on board recognition night."

"Mr. (Gary) Murrell, you were not at that meeting either. I'm glad to see, however, that your foot procedure went well.

DARE TO CARE

Dare to Care about Public Education is a series of articles written by the educational community of Garden City Public Schools intended to bring attention and understanding to issues of concern surrounding public education.

This is the sixth article in the series. In the last article I discussed that "Daring to Care" often takes courage, and as we continue to inform you of our concerns for public education, we have to be willing to look in the mirror and ask, "If we truly care, what is our responsibility to improving public education?"

This article continues that reflection. In the last article I wrote that one of the biggest obstacles to public education is the willingness and/or courage to progress. In some cases, progress can be stifled due to lack of funds. At other times, progress is inhibited by a lack of courage to try something new. In some public education communities, groups of people or the culture of the educational community can get in the way of progress and present challenges which impede them from addressing the most important task - educating our students.

In this article, I will take a look in the mirror and reflect on my own responsibilities to public education and some concerns I have for our district.

Michelle Cline

I hate to see you only have one good foot to kick the teachers with. See, I used to feel bad for you; I thought you were the person Ms. Cline sent in to do her dirty work. God forbid she gets her hands dirty herself, but this insurance backstabbing is further proof that you are nothing more than a manipulative ... words spinning the truth to us makes CO look like lifesavers and teachers appear greedy and selfish. I wish I had more than three minutes to pull the truth out of many of those articles that Ms. Pummill spoke about, because in all of your quotes there's a lot of lies and not enough time to pull it out. Just know that from this day forward I'll be looking at every quote you put out there to reveal the truth, and this scenario between you and I. If you're a car salesman consider me your car fax.

"Lastly, Ms. Cline, you know I couldn't forget about you. I just want to make it clear that when I thanked you at the end of my last speech it was covered in sarcasm, like many of Murrell's quotes are covered in lies. I've heard you were a little confused by that. You see, Ms. Cline, I find it interesting. If you take the letters in your last name you can't spell the word we, but you can spell the word I. We all know how much you love the word I; it always has to be about you. Know this, your reign of bullying and terror can only end in two ways, first as a superintendent that completely destroyed Garden City Schools or second as the one that nearly did, but never as someone who helped them. Every day that you are in control you bring us closer to what happened in Inkster. God bless our students, God bless our community, and God help us de-"Cline" to stop the decline. Thank you."

Real voice

The students are watching. What are we modeling for them? Is this really the voice the teachers and parents want speaking at board meetings? This is just one of many negative, disrespectful comments that are heard regularly at the board meetings by teachers and teachers who are community members and parents.

There is no doubt in my mind there are things I need to do, but honestly, I am running out of energy and ideas. These are some of the major things I have done to date:

- 1) the first two years as superintendent, I donated 10 percent of my salary back to the district because I knew we would have to reduce salaries to get out of a deficit.
- 2) I took a more affordable health care option for the district from the beginning until this new change, hoping I could model for others that we need to adjust the level of our health insurance away from the "Cadillac plan" we are still offering to our employees.
- 3) I initiated a variety of recognition formats for our staff to be acknowledged and celebrated for their contributions.
- 4) I created the opportunity for our staff to receive graduate credit at an extremely reduced rate to allow them to maintain their teacher certification, as well as increase their salary, through educational steps.
- 5) I initiated Teacher Curriculum Facilitators in the district to make sure our teachers had a voice in curriculum and instruction and professional development decisions.
- 6) I have turned the other cheek when disrespected over and over again. I have always done my best to communicate with the staff. This is becoming increasingly challenging as I am being stifled by legal counsel, as the GCEA is threatening to take legal action

or because we are in the midst of a lawsuit. For example, when my staff was extremely upset about the change in health insurance, I had a communication ready, and the district legal counsel advised me against sending it due to the fact the GCEA had filed for an injunction. The actions of the teachers' leadership team prohibit me from doing the most important thing - communicating.

Resolve conflict

Abraham Lincoln said, "The people themselves, and not their servant, can safely reverse their own deliberate decisions." The only hope this district has to resolve the internal conflict is for the positive members of the GCEA to speak up, because the only voice being heard is a negative, disrespectful one. According to Lincoln, the teachers themselves are the only ones that can reverse their own voice. Public education is under attack; we have to work as one in this district, because the real issues are not the ones we are dealing with internally. Our district employees have high quality insurance, and the working conditions are good. There are residents in Garden City who are unemployed and many who have no insurance or pay extremely high insurance premiums for minimal services. The real attacks on public education are coming from the state and federal government.

I reflect on my strengths and weaknesses as the superintendent in this district constantly. Neither the executive team nor the Board of Education are involved with or have endorsed this article. There are times when the leader has to make a decision and stand alone because he or she believes it is the right thing to do. In order to be the best leader to move us forward and help this district speak with a positive voice of collaboration then I need the positive teachers to join me. We need to speak with one solid, positive voice.

I am the leader of this district and I will no longer tolerate disrespectful comments being made about any of my administrators or the public servants who serve this city as members of the Board of Education. The students are watching. What are we modeling? Martin Luther King Jr. said it best: "In the end, we will not remember the words of our enemies but the silence of our friends."

Michelle Cline is the superintendent of the Garden City Public Schools.

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Diamond tribute deemed success

Turns out the Neil Diamond tribute concert made some beautiful noise for the



Brad Kadrich

With Brian LaBlanc on vocals, Simply Diamond, the headliner at the recent fundraiser that benefits those two organizations and the Westland Chamber of Commerce, played to raucous crowds in a pair of Saturday shows that nearly filled the main stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Nearly 300 people saw the matinee show, while another 350 filled the theater for the evening performance to listen to the music of Diamond, the pop icon whose hit songs include *Sweet Caroline* and *Cracklin' Rose*.

"It was an amazing day," said Jill Engel, executive director of the Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities. "The band was crazy good and the crowds were wonderful."

Final totals weren't yet available, but Engel said she's confident the shows went well. The proceeds will be divided using a formula between the three partners.

The Partnership will direct all of its proceeds toward its arts complex project at the old Ford factory in Cherry Hill Village, designed to create a regional arts

complex. First up is the World War II Veterans Dormitory, the first phase of its future Arts District project.

The goal for the dormitory, once completed, is to offer art therapy services to local veterans, "creating an indoor and outdoor location for them to find peace," Engel said.

Henry Ford had created the Village Industry in Cherry Hill "so that disabled veterans returning from World War II had a place to live and work while receiving rehabilitation and training," Engel said. "This will also tie the building back to its original heritage."

Westland Community Foundation President Glenn Shaw said the partners were "ticked" to get nearly 300 people to the matinee and called the evening audience "lively."

"The group was great, the crowd got right into the music and they were dancing ... it was unbelievable," Shaw said. "It was a great event."

Shaw estimated the Westland Community Foundation took some \$30,000 away from the fundraiser, which will be added to some \$800,000 he estimates the foundation has "put right back into the community" in its 19-year existence.

Main Street Catering donated desserts, while Bigby Coffee in Westland donated coffee. Hors d'oeuvres were provided by LaBistecca Italian Grille, The Sardine Room, Antonio's Cucina Italiana, Courthouse Grill and Hayden's Bar & Grill.

Engel also praised the



Simply Diamond, a Neil Diamond tribute band from the east coast, played matinee and evening performances at the Village Theater.

Village Theater staff, who helped transition between the matinee and evening shows without a hitch.

"The staff is amazing," she said. "The restaurants brought plenty

of food and everyone was so happy and having such a wonderful time. It was an absolutely delightful evening."

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Library hosts program about 'The Talk'

Heart-to-heart conversations can be difficult with loved ones at different times.

Parents talk to their children about the dangers of drugs. Husbands and wives sit down and talk to each other both about planning for retirement and each other's last will and testament. But what about "The Talk" to navigate a confusing and overwhelming medical event like a heart attack or stroke, cancer, a chronic illness like diabetes or Parkinson's Disease?

A gradual decline in health and independence can also require assistance from loved ones.

"No one wants to talk about what to do in case of a medical emergency," said Garden City Public Library Director James Lenze.

To assist patrons with talking about such issues, the library has invited the Hospice of Michigan to make their presentation called, "Have You Had The Talk" at 6:30



Sue Buck

p.m. Monday, Feb. 3. The library is on Maplewood, west of Merriman. Use the Balmoral entrance.

The Hospice of Michigan created the "Have You Had the Talk" Campaign to urge all adults to consider and choose the care they want if they ever need to rely on someone else for their medical care and decision making.

The presentation will walk patrons through the "Have You Had the Talk" kit that Hospice of Michigan has developed. This kit offers worksheets, tools and resources.

All Garden City Library programs are free and open to the public. Call the library at 734-793-1830 to reserve a spot.

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Gov. Rick Snyder (center), Sen. Glenn Anderson (right) and State Rep. Amanda Price (left) are joined by members of Anderson's staff and representatives of the Susan G. Komen organization for the ceremonial signing of Senate Bill 101.

Michigan to offer Pink Ribbon license plates

Gov. Rick Snyder has signed Senate Bill 101 — introduced by Sen. Glenn Anderson of Westland — which will create a Pink Ribbon license plate in Michigan to raise money for breast and cervical cancer screenings for low-income women.

The governor also signed a companion bill, House Bill 5138 — introduced by Rep. Amanda Price — which establishes the fund within the Treasury Department for collecting proceeds from the sale of the license plate. Anderson first introduced this legislation in 2011, motivated in part by firsthand experience with his mother's fight against breast cancer. Anderson worked to raise awareness of the need for this legislation and move it along the process toward becoming law.

"We all know someone who has suffered from cancer and the devastating impact it has on friends and family," Anderson said. "This license plate will help raise money for a program

that saves lives."

Anderson was joined at the bill signing by members of the Susan G. Komen organization, who work to raise funding and awareness of breast cancer issues and have consistently advocated for the passage of the legislation to create this license plate.

The funds raised through the sale of the license plate will fund the Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program within the Department of Community Health. The BCCCP provides low-income women throughout Michigan access to life-saving cancer screening services and follow-up care, including cancer treatment. With these cancers, early detection often makes the difference between life and death, and the services provided by the BCCCP save lives.

Recent budget reductions and federal sequestration have resulted in a combined loss of more than \$1.3 million to the BCCCP budget. Funds raised through

the sale of this license plate will help fill this reduction and continue the vital services that the program provides. The increase in revenue will greatly increase the number of women that this program is able to screen.

Each new license plate design in the state has a \$15,000 start-up cost, and the entirety of this cost has been raised from donations.

"Getting this bill passed has taken some real effort. It really has been a bipartisan, bicameral effort, and I am glad that everyone could work together to do the right thing," Anderson said. "I will be putting my order in for a new license plate as soon as they are available."

For more information on the license plate, call Anderson's office at 866-262-7306 or Price's office at 888-238-1008. The license plate is expected to be available for purchase through the Michigan Secretary of State in late June or July.

Area woman faces charges in IKEA scam

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Westland woman used fraudulent gift cards at the Canton IKEA store to remodel her kitchen and buy a cowhide rug for her home, police say.

The 51-year-old woman could be facing a 93-day stay in jail.

Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said the suspect is facing a misdemeanor charge of receiving and concealing stolen property after merchandise was stolen from IKEA and then returned, apparently without receipts, to obtain credit on gift cards.

The woman then allegedly used the gift cards to go on a spending spree that police reports estimate at \$1,197.

According to police reports,

the suspect returned stolen merchandise such as chair covers and eventually accumulated enough to buy items such as a kitchen table and chairs.

Canton police arrested the woman last week and released her with charges pending. She is accused of carrying out the scheme last fall.

Police had searched her residence and found the IKEA items she allegedly bought using fraudulent gift cards, authorities said. Police also confiscated a .38-caliber pistol from her home.

The investigation was continuing.

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Bank robbery suspect faces competency hearing

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton bank robbery suspect is expected to learn in February whether he will be found competent to stand trial following allegations he

seized money from a Comerica branch inside the Kroger store near Canton Center and Ford roads.

Nathan Michael Kuhn, 28, faces a competency hearing Feb. 24 in front of Wayne County Circuit Judge Richard Skutt, whose ruling also is expected to determine whether Kuhn should be held criminally responsible.

Kuhn, described as a drifter who has lived in Livonia and Westland, remained jailed this week as he awaits his next court date. His release would require \$50,000 toward a \$500,000/10-percent bond.

Kuhn was arrested at a Wayne motel after the Comerica branch was robbed last Oct. 24 by a man who passed a note to a teller, implying he had a gun and de-

manding money, Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh has said.

No shots were fired and no one was injured as the suspect escaped with an undisclosed amount of money. Kuhn could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if he is convicted as charged.

Kuhn's arrest in Wayne came after police received a tip that he had been seen there. Baugh has said officers forced their way into the motel room "without incident" after the suspect tried to block police from entering. A not-guilty plea has been placed on Kuhn's record as he awaits the outcome of his case. Kuhn had been scheduled for a competency hearing this month, but it was delayed by the court.

According to court records, Skutt has ordered Kuhn to stay away from the Kroger store and its employees — if he is able to post bond and be released from jail.

Just 11 months prior to his arrest, Kuhn had been paroled for incidents involving uttering and publishing, or forging a check or other financial document.



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PREP BOYS HOCKEY

Late Sparks goal ignites Chargers

Churchill overcomes city rival Franklin, 4-3

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill's hockey team can sometimes be its own worst enemy, but the Chargers somehow avoided their own nagging pitfalls Wednesday night at Edgar Arena.

Despite being outshot 33-24 and taking nine penalties to Livonia Franklin's three, Churchill was able to squeeze out a key 4-3 KLA South Division win.

With the victory, the Char-

gers improve to 6-11-2 overall, but more importantly moves them temporarily into first place in the KLA South at 5-4-1 overall.

Andrew Sparks' power play goal with only 3:24 left in the final period broke a 3-3 deadlock and gave Churchill the victory.

Dylan Smith and Dan Hudy assisted on the game-winner, which came after Franklin's Nick Salisbury tied it just 57 seconds earlier with a short-handed goal from Trevor Lasaline.

"We're probably not as happy about that performance as we should be," Churchill coach

Jason Reynolds said. "Again, crosstown rivalry matchups ... emotions run high. It's one of those things where you have to stay composed otherwise these games are closer than they should be. But give Franklin credit. They came to battle. They know they have us in the (state) playoffs and I think they were ready to send a message tonight."

Churchill, however, sent an early message itself jumping out to a 2-0 lead on Smith's power play goal from Sparks at 12:13 followed by Drew Puishes' unassisted rebound



Churchill's C.J. Cromie (middle) gets squeezed by Franklin's Josh Dudek (left) and Johnny Parkinson (right) in Wednesday's KLA South clash. DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

See CHARGERS, Page B3

BOYS BASKETBALL



Churchill's Jalen Davis (middle) is trapped by Glenn's Wayne Woodard (right) and Mychael Bradley (left). DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Glenn uses 'team concept' to stop Chargers, 60-45

Pruitt, Kirksey post double digits to lead the way

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

On a night when its best player struggled, Westland John Glenn showed Thursday night it has some other dependable help on its roster.

The team's top scorer, 6-foot-4 senior forward Isaac Everette, had a season-low

eight points, but the Rockets controlled play from start to finish en route to a 60-45 boys basketball win at Livonia Churchill.

Glenn got 18 points and eight rebounds from senior forward James Pruitt, while senior guard DeAngelo Kirksey chipped in with 14 points and eight boards to win its sixth straight while improv-

ing to 8-4 overall.

The Rockets also have a two-game cushion in the KLA South race with a 6-0 record with four games with four division games remaining.

A consistent 20-point per game scorer, Everette missed Glenn's first six games with a broken finger as the Rockets sputtered to a 2-4 start.

But his absence may have been a blessing in disguise. "We've been telling our

guys all year that we have a very balanced group," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "And having Isaac miss the first six games of the year helps us on a night like tonight. They put a lot of emphasis on him, too, but he was also out of sync and out of rhythm. The first six games of the year - even though we lost a lot of those - that helped us on a night like tonight beat a very good team in their

See TEAM, Page B2

BOYS HOCKEY

Novi hands Spartans 3rd straight loss

Goalie shines as Wildcats post 3-2 division victory

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Novi players poured off the bench and jumped for joy as they skated toward their fans along the glass Wednesday night at Edgar Arena.

The celebration was certainly state-championship caliber.

It was just another regular season win, but it was a big one as far as the Wildcats were concerned as they upended defending Division 2 state champion Livonia Stevenson on its home ice, 3-2.

It was the third straight loss for the Spartans, who slipped to 16-4 and 9-2 in the KLA's Central Division. And the defeat all but eliminated them from gaining at least a tie for first place with Brighton (13-5, 8-1).

Novi, meanwhile, improved to 12-5 overall and 8-2 in the Central thanks to some superb goaltending from senior Austin Petty, who during the final period stopped 16 out of 30 total shots to maintain a one-goal lead and preserve the victory.

"I don't think it was a good win, it was a great win," Novi first-year coach Mark Vellucci said. "Total team effort from top to bottom. You hear by the sounds of it, we're pretty happy. We knew it was a big game coming in and hats off to the guys. They played their hearts out."

Novi had a lot of jump during the first period and it resulted in a 1-0 lead thanks to James Hole's goal from Ryan Baxter and Patrick Wojtylo at 7:44.

The goal came after the Wildcats successfully killed off a five-minute penalty.

And just 29 seconds into the second period, Novi's Bradley Hofelich scored from Joshua Ward and Michael O'Reilly to make it 2-0.

The Wildcats then added a power-play goal just 2:01 later on Baxter's goal from Hole and Hofelich for a 3-0 advantage.

"We put ourself behind the eight-ball," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "We had a five-minute power play there and didn't capitalize. When you're playing teams like Novi and the roll that they've been on, you have to capitalize when

See TRIPPED, Page B3

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

DeMolay was far greater than just the 'stats guy'

John Glenn football games are never going to be the same after the passing of Keith DeMolay, who succumbed to cancer a couple of weeks ago at the age of 60. For those of us who have been associated with the program over the years, the sidelines during games will almost seem empty without him. We will never again hear "Son of a gun!" — which he would gleefully yell nearly every time the Rockets scored a touchdown.

For more than three decades, countless players and coaches came and went, but Keith, who graduated from Glenn in 1971, was always the constant. During those years, he kept the stats for the team, served with its booster program, recruited future players and was the team's biggest cheerleader. Anybody who knew Keith will tell you the man bled Rocket red, white and blue.

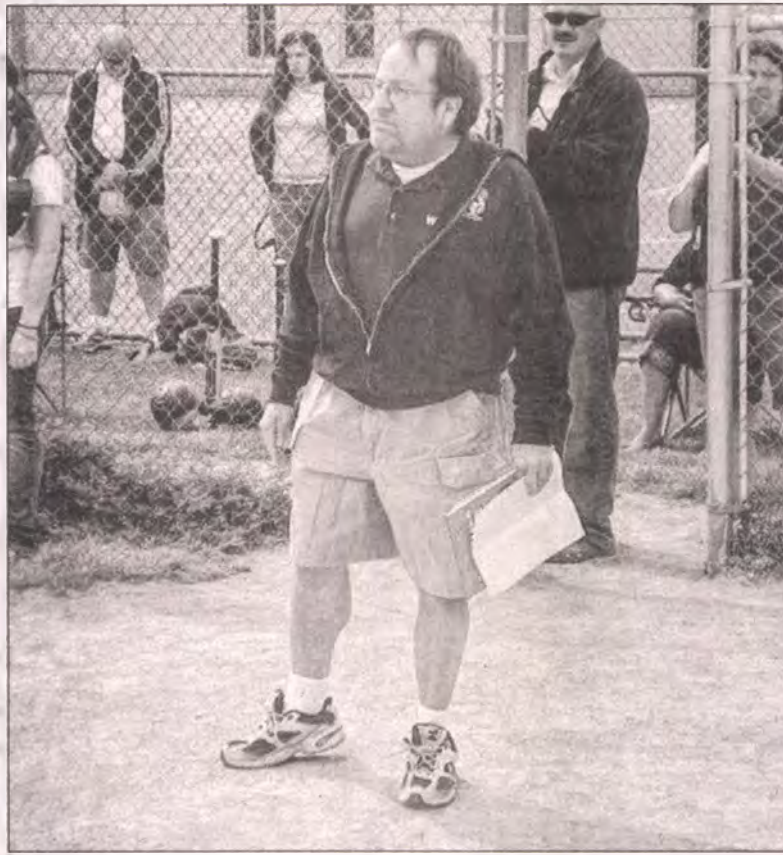
I first met Keith when I played football at Glenn back in the mid-'80s. To most of us players, he was the slightly kooky "stats guy" who always seemed to be around. Even back then, players knew if you wanted to find out how many tackles you made or yards rushing you gained in a game, Keith had the numbers. Likewise, if you wanted to know anything about the history of the

football program at Glenn, he had all the answers. Like during my junior year, when he informed me I was the first second-generation football player in the team's history (my dad played there in the late '60s). To this day, I'm not sure how or why he figured that out. But I never doubted him.

During recent years, I would run into Keith around town — usually at Beaver Creek — and I would always ask him how the Rockets were doing, whether it be in football, basketball or baseball. In response, I would get a 15-minute breakdown of the latest victory or loss. I was always amazed at how he could compare current players with those from my era. He had an incredible memory.

Now that I have children of my own, I have come to learn that Keith was so much more than just the stats guy at Glenn. Over the years, he spent a tremendous amount of time and energy mentoring the youngsters of this community through his involvement with the Westland Youth Athletic Association. Both my boys play baseball in the league and Keith would drop by our games from time to time. He would also come out each year for the opening game ceremonies and usually ran the program.

In addition to running the WYAA's football and basketball programs for many years, Keith was also "the voice" of the WYAA's Comets football teams, calling all their home games from the



Keith DeMolay was a fixture at John Glenn High and with the Westland Youth Athletic Association. TODD KANGAS

Looking at his life now, I just wonder where he found all the time and energy to serve so many people.

a hospital room, Keith found out just how much of an impact he had on people. He had countless visitors and cards sent to him. People at Oakwood were amazed by the outpouring of love he received.

Looking at his life now, I just wonder where he found all the time and energy to serve so many people. There is no doubt his loss will be felt deeply for years to come in the Wayne-Westland community, especially over at John Glenn. Oh sure, Glenn will find someone else to keep stats at all the games in the future. But they will never truly replace Keith.

I realize now that Keith was so much more than just the "stats guy." Yet I think I'll always remember him standing on the sidelines under the glare of the Friday night lights, holding his clipboard and cheering on the Rockets. That's where he was happiest. And I'll bet anything, in the future when the Rockets score a touchdown, somewhere up above there will be a loud voice yelling "Son of a gun! Son of a gun!"

Kurt Kuban is an editor with O&E Media and a 1988 graduate of John Glenn. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com.

press box; from what I understand, he rarely attended a name wrong.

Keith also had a real job, working as a para-pro for Wayne-Westland Community Schools for three decades, helping students in the classroom and teaching them what he thought were the three most important things in life: integrity, character and values.

At his funeral Monday, I also learned that he was heavily involved at his church, First United Methodist of Wayne. Several church members mentioned Keith could always be counted on to participate in church events, which I'm sure

surprised nobody who attended the funeral.

While Keith never married and had no children of his own, his "family" was large if you count all the people he touched or influenced over the years. That's why the church was packed for his funeral. Several of those people spoke during the service, including my old football coach Chuck Gordon, who was at Glenn for three decades and was a person Keith respected a great deal. Gordon described him as "unselfish" and having never said a bad word about anyone. Similarly, current Rockets coach Tim Hardin said Keith was

one of the most "selfless" people he knew.

"I think about all he did for our program and our kids and I don't ever remember him asking for anything for himself," Hardin said.

That might be one of the reasons he didn't really tell anyone when he found out he had cancer. From what I'm told, he checked himself into Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn and it took a couple of days for people to figure out what was going on. The news of his illness spread through the community like wildfire. There was general shock. Fortunately, during the last couple of weeks of his life that were spent in

WRESTLING RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 48
DEARBORN 15
Jan. 30 at Edsel Ford
103 pounds: Alhassan (Dbr.) pinned Dyland Brigham, 1:13; 112: Ghawilouche (Dbr.) decisioned Joseph Sanchez, 6-0; 119: Stephenson (Dbr.) p. Jayson Fitzpatrick, 5:20; 125: Zack Richards (C'ville) p. Bazzi, 0:22; 130: Seth Soto (C'ville) won by void; 135: Kevin Marzolo (C'ville) won by void; 140: Joey Walker (C'ville) won by void; 145: Alan Baumgardner (C'ville) won by void; 152:

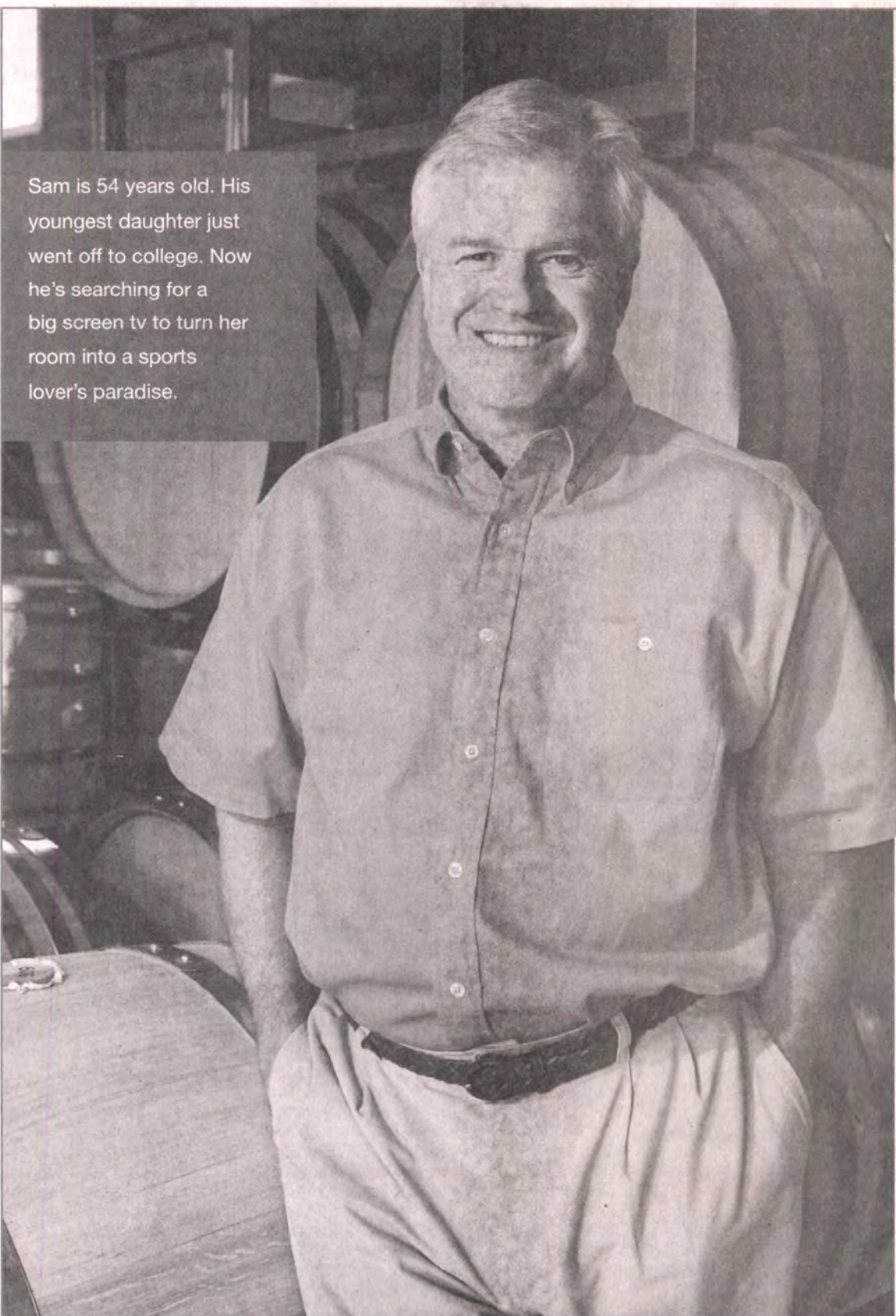
Domanick Slagle (C'ville) p. Saleh, 0:54; 160: Cameron Fyffe (C'ville) won by void; 171: double void; 189: James Ascott (C'ville) won by void; 215: double void; 285: double void.
Clarenceville's dual meet records: 10-14 overall.
DEARBORN EDSSEL FORD 56
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 16
Jan. 30 at Edsel Ford
103 pounds: Wyka (DEF) won by major dec. over Dyland Brigham, 12-1; 112: Salim (DEF) pinned Darin Topolewski, 1:01; 119: Abou Ghadia (DEF) p. Zack

Richards, 3:54; 125: Nagi (DEF) p. Sam Wakefield, 1:40; 130: Almadhagi (DEF) p. Seth Soto, 2:54; 135: Awad (DEF) won by major dec. over Kevin Marzolo, 19-10; 140: Joey Walker (C'ville) p. Rashdan, 1:58; 145: Alan Baumgardner (C'ville) p. Bankley, 1:29; 152: Domanick Slagle (C'ville) dec. Allen, 8-2; 160: Camron Fyffe (C'ville) won by major dec. over Crites, 9-0; 171: Furuu (DEF) won by void; 189: Caldwell (DEF) won by void; 215: Burnstead (DEF) won by void; 285: Martelli (DEF) won by void.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

DUAL MEET RESULTS
PLYMOUTH 140.75
LIVONIA RED 133.8
Jan. 30 at Plymouth
Vault: 1. Rebecca Simu (P), 9.3; 2. (tie) Julia Twigg (Red) and Haley Metz (P), 9.2 each; 4. Kayla Janeveski (P), 9.1; 5. Mikaela Hillie (Red), 9.0.
Uneven bars: 1. Simu (P), 8.6; 2. (tie) Molly McSween (P) and Metz (P), 8.55 each; 4. Jackie Dziurgot (Red), 8.25; 5. Marissa McVey (Red), 8.05.
Balance beam: 1. Metz (P), 9.3; 2. McVey (Red), 9.25; 3. Brenna Connelly (P),

9.1; 4. Katie Salanga (P), 9.05; 5. Olivia Ryktarsyk (Red), 8.35.
Floor exercise: 1. (tie) Connelly (P) and Salanga (P), 9.0 each; 3. Metz (P), 8.75; 4. (tie) Maddy Pargoff (Red), McVey (Red) and Janeveski (P), 8.6 each.
All-around: 1. Metz (P), 35.8; 2. Simu (P), 35.0; 3. McVey (Red), 34.80; 4. Janeveski (P), 32.75; 5. Hillie (Red), 30.25.
Dual meet records: Plymouth, 5-0 overall, 4-0 KLAA Kensington Division; Livonia Red, 4-5 overall, 1-3 KLAA Kensington.



Sam is 54 years old. His youngest daughter just went off to college. Now he's searching for a big screen tv to turn her room into a sports lover's paradise.

Do you know what sparks Sam? (We do.)

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ANNIE'S GHOSTS

Author tells story of family secrets at Schoolcraft College

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Annie Cohen was 21 years old in 1940 when her parents committed her to Eloise, an asylum for the mentally ill, that was located in what is now Westland.

Annie's older sister, Beth, kept her sibling's existence a secret, later telling own children that she was an only child.

Six months after Beth died in 1999, her son, Steven Luxenberg, discovered a letter — meant for his mom — from the cemetery where his grandparents were buried. His mother had been paying custodial fees on her parents' graves. But there also was a third grave — for Annie Cohen. The mystery sent Luxenberg on a journey to unlock his mother's lifelong family secret. The Detroit native, who is an associate editor at the *Washington Post*, turned his research into a book, *Annie's Ghosts*, which became the Michigan Humanities Council's selection for its 2013-14 Great Michigan Read program, a biennial statewide reading discussion.

"It's a wonderful program that's been in existence about eight years. It's a big honor for me to be chosen for this year," Luxenberg told an audience Thursday, Jan. 30, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Page-turners, the campus book club, had arranged the event which included a Q&A after Luxenberg's talk and a book signing.

Annie's Ghosts is a combination of detective mystery, family story and an exploration of the mental health care culture of the 1940s-60s.

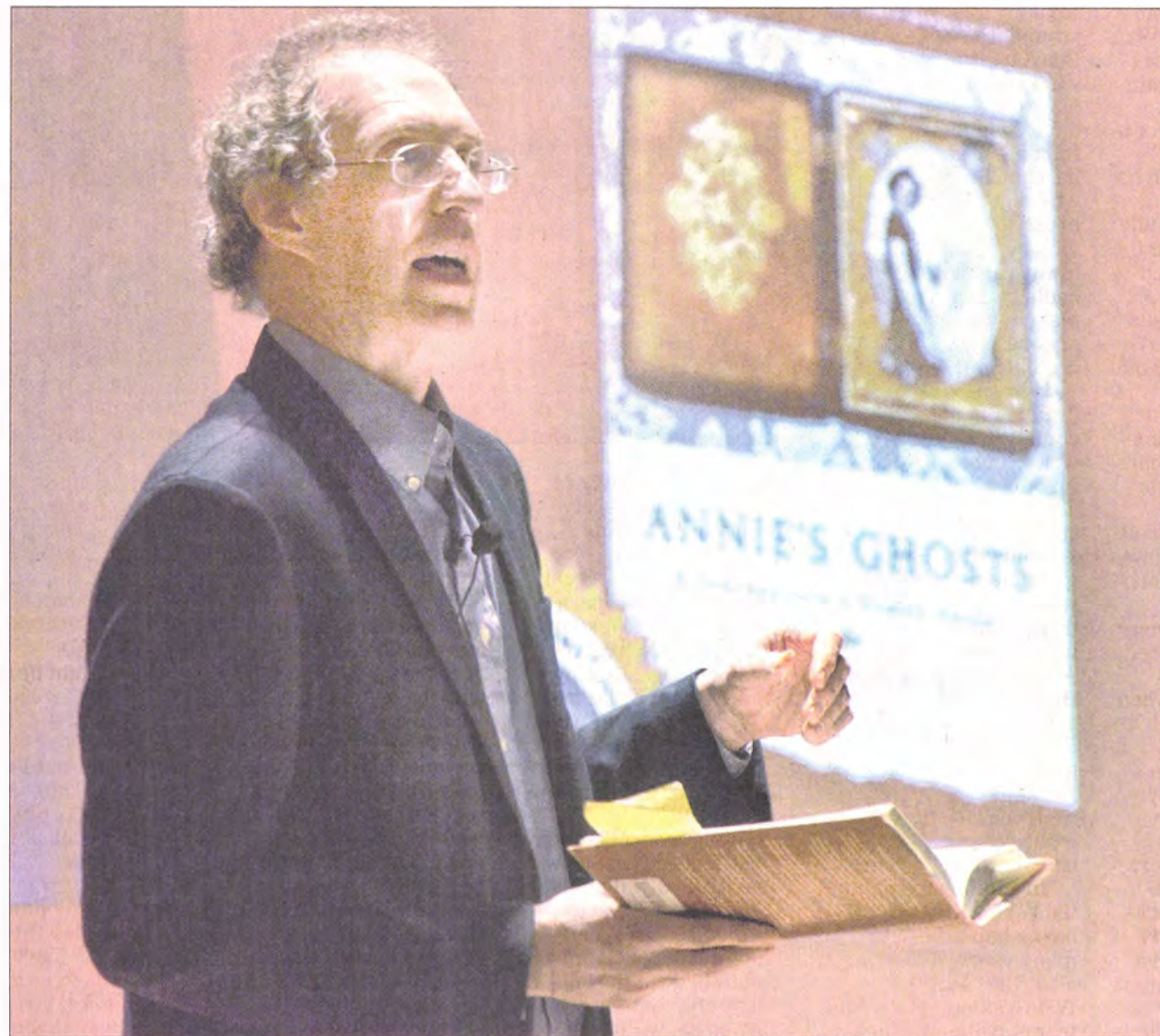
"I'm not a genealogist. I am a storyteller. And the stories in this book are enriched by my genealogical techniques, as amateurish as they were. I came to this book not knowing anything about family research. It's something I had to learn."

Luxenberg researched records at archives, libraries, government offices, museums, courthouses and spoke with family members, friends, acquaintances, government officials and mental health professionals.

Although the notion of secrets is a major theme in the book, *Annie's Ghosts* also raises questions about memory and identity. Luxenberg pointed out that his mother "re-invented herself when she left Annie behind in that institution," moved away from the old Detroit neighborhood where she grew up — and where neighbors remembered her sister — married and raised her own family.

Entering the asylum

Annie, who walked with a wooden leg, insisted she was not insane when her parents committed her to Eloise. Her mother said her daughter had become paranoid, wasn't eating and refused to leave the



STEVEN LUXENBERG SPEAKS

» 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 21, at Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit, 6555 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

» 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, at the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills

» 10 a.m. Thursday, May 22, at the Westland Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland

» 7 p.m. Thursday, May 22, at The Rust Belt Market, 22801 Woodward Ave., Ferndale

Steve Luxenberg talks about family secrets. A photo of his book, *Annie's Ghosts* is on the screen in the background.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Steven Luxenberg drew students, mental health professionals, book club members and other listeners to his talk at Schoolcraft College.

house. The two doctors who evaluated her made different diagnoses. One said Annie was insane and required treatment in an institution. The other said her physical disability had caused an inferiority complex and that although she had difficulty finding employment, was nervous and "feeble-minded" she was not insane. A third

doctor, the tie-breaker, decided that "a little treatment in an institution may help" and Annie was committed — at first on a temporary basis — and then permanently.

"In the 1950 census record, you find she has no address," Luxenberg said, adding that his aunt was among some 5,000 "inmates" at Eloise, which by

then had been renamed the Wayne County General Hospital and Infirmary. "In 1940 the legal standard for commission to a mental health institution was that the state owed care and treatment to its defectives. That's not the standard today — you're a danger to yourself and others. It's a much tougher, more reasonable standard.

"In my aunt's time, patients didn't have a lot of rights. Today you can't force someone to have treatment without a lot of very good reasons. And then you have to have a review of their case every six months."

Luxenberg said the peak of mental health care institutionalization was 1955 when a half million individuals were housed in asylums. Today that figure is around 40,000, he said.

During the Q&A, two former mental health nurses in the audience defended institutions, saying they gave patients shelter, food and treatment.

Luxenberg said that although he believed his aunt had mental health issues, some of the medication she received likely wasn't appropriate.

"She ended up with a lot of side effects that were the result of one medication in particular," he said, also pointing out that Annie was barred from attending her own commitment hearing "because it was expensive" requiring transportation and security.

"Today we start with the premise that the patient has a right to participate. We don't start with the premise that a

patient has no rights."

Audience members react

Suzanne Martoia-Gordon of Redford, a student nurse at Eloise in 1973 and now a nursing instructor at Schoolcraft, identified with the book's theme of family secrets.

"My family secret was always alcoholism, the family disease," she said, during the Q&A. "And it went on from generation to generation in our family. Finally I was a child let out the secret and I was severely punished for letting out the secret. And I think mental health is also a secret that many of us carry."

Kathleen Richardson of Canto, who attended the lecture after reading the book, said she believes "every family has a secret."

She regrets not having asked her late mother about family secrets and stories.

"I think it's not just secrets, but family stories, so we can pass them on to the next generation. Share some things when you can, before it's too late."

Luxenberg said his book is meant to strike a universal chord with readers.

"It's a book about everybody's family. It's a book about any woman who confronted a situation like my mother did in 1940 and any woman like Annie whose parents felt would do better going to an institution and so they made the hard choice of agreeing with the medical authorities and sending Annie to Eloise. And it's for every son who inherits these stories."

Telethon, comedy show help animal groups

Valentine's Day telethon

What better way is there to say "I love you" than to support a furry friend this Valentine's Day?

The Michigan Humane Society will present its 2014 Valentine's Telethon from 5 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, on WXYZ-TV Channel 7. News anchor Alicia Smith will host the telethon, which will air in commercial breaks throughout the day. Funds raised help MHS care for homeless animals.

"So many animals in our community rely on the Michigan Humane Society, and this extremely cold, snowy winter only increases the need for our care services," said Debby MacDonald, MHS chief cruelty investigator, in a press release.



"But we can't do it alone. We rely on the support of pet lovers across Michigan to help us care for animals who are homeless, hungry, neglected and abused."

The 18th annual MHS Telethon will feature adoptable pets and stories that show how MHS assists area animals. As a private, nonprofit agency, MHS receives no government funding and is not affiliated with any national humane organizations. It relies on donations from supporters.

Donations can be made on or before Feb. 13 either online at www.michiganhumane.org/telethon or by calling 855-MHS-GIVE (647-4483), 24 hours a day.

Save the date
Guardian Angel Animal



Alicia Smith holds "Rosie" during the 2013 Michigan Humane Society's Valentine's Telethon.

Rescue in Livonia wants your donation — and laughter — March 14 when it holds its annual comedy fundraiser at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Seating starts at 7:30 p.m.

and the show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. In addition to proceeds from ticket sales, 25 percent of the sale of appetizers and pizza ordered during the show will go to GAAR.

GAAR re-homes animals rescued from the streets of Detroit, from shelters and dangerous situations. It accepts surrendered, abandoned and abused animals into its program, which is run on a foster home basis.

For advance tickets to the comedy show, call Sandy at 734-788-6857 or Pete at 734-716-8743. Or email guardian_angel_rescue@hotmail.com.

Partnership

Detroit Bully Corps is partnering with Pets for Patriots Inc., a nonprofit organization that helps ease rescue animals into the homes of military veterans and servicemen and women.

"Every day a canine is in our program, it costs us \$5.30 or more if they need extra medical care," said Missi Bel-lottie, co-founder of Detroit

GARDEN CALENDAR

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

Farmington Garden Club

"Plants that make you itch and twitch and maybe even kill you" is the topic of the Farmington Garden Club's meeting, 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, at the Spicer House in Heritage Park, 24914 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. For more information, call Pat at 248-943-6026.

Livonia Garden Club

John MacInnis, a master woodland manager, will speak at the club, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, in the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. MacInnis runs the maple syrup project at Michigan State University's Tollgate Farm in Novi. The presentation will include a video and maple syrup samples. For more information, visit livoniagardenclub.org.

4 Seasons Garden Club

Joanne DeBruhl from Stone Coop Farm will be the guest speaker at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb.

4, at the senior center at South Lyon High School, located on 11 Mile and Pontiac Trail, in South Lyon. Stone Coop Farm specializes in vegetables and fruits, including many heirloom varieties. For more information, call 248-437-8291 or email melcheratgang@yahoo.com.

60-Minute Seminars

Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County presents four hourlong seminars in February at the Wayne County Extension Office, 5454 Venoy, Wayne. Cost is \$10 each or \$30 for all if registered in advance. Each runs 7-8 p.m.

» Feb. 4 — Unorthodox methods of growing plants includes gutter gardening, spuds in a tub, cukes in a crate, and straw bale gardening, led by Paul Rodman, advanced master gardener.

» Feb. 11 — Diane Post, advanced master gardener, teaches the basics of backyard composting, including the process, stages and methods.

» Feb. 18 — Brian Hintz, co-owner of Wild Birds Unlimited in Canton, explains how to create a bird-friendly yard.

» Feb. 25 — Scott Bates, owner of Grass Roots Nursery in New Boston, will talk about tub gardens.

Register by emailing mgwwcorg@gmail.com.

English Gardens

» Learn how to get orchids to re-bloom at home, along with other tips in a free demonstration, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. At 2:30 p.m. get tips on re-potting orchids. Speakers include Kathy Mykolajenk, past president of the Michigan Orchid Society, at the Ann Arbor store; Carolyn Butcher, past president of the Michigan Orchid Society, at the Dearborn Heights store; Patti DeMaire, orchid hobbyist, at the Royal Oak store; and Joe Peterson, an accredited judge for the American Orchid Society, at the West Bloomfield store.

» Get advice on planning a "four-season" garden at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

» The store's floral staff will demonstrate flower arranging, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. Free Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; 248-851-7506.

Heritage Park

» The Junior Naturalist club meets 10-11:30 a.m. the second Saturday of each month. It's for ages 5-11 and is a "drop-off class." Topic for this month is owl prowls on Feb. 9. The fee is \$10 per class in advance and \$12 per class paid at the door. Register online at recreg.fhgov.com.

» The nature center at the park offers classes for preschoolers Monday-Thursday mornings through March 6. Each class offers a different nature theme each week and time outdoors if weather permits: Nature's Little Artists, for ages 1<AF>1/2<XA>-4, 10-11:30 a.m. Monday; Little Trekkers, ages 1-4, 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; Young Explorers, ages 4-6, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday. Preregistration is required for Nature's Little Artists. The fee is \$56 for residents and \$66 for nonresidents. Little Trekkers and Young Explorers Preschool offer a drop-in fee of \$8 per class, paid at the door. Preregister at a discounted rate, also available online at recreg.fhgov.com or at the Costick Center. Heritage Park is located at 24914 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills; 248-477-1135.



English Gardens' annual Orchid Festival continues Feb. 8 with free demonstrations and displays of more than 20 varieties of orchids. This flower is a speckled purple phalaenopsis orchid.

ANIMAL

Continued from Page B5

Bully Corps. "Working with Pets for Patriots, we hope to motivate our local veterans and service members to give these animals a loving home. This will help us place more hard-to-adopt pets with good people who need or want a companion animal."

Veterans join Pets for Patriots for free, although they are responsible for the Detroit Bully Corps adoption fee. To help transition the animals into their new homes, Pets for Patriots sends a \$150 gift card upon proof of eligible adoption to help with food and other essentials, and provides access to local veterinary partners who agree to offer ongoing discounted care.

"We are able to place about 10-20 dogs each year," said Bill Bellottie, president of Detroit Bully Corps. "Through our partnership with Pets for Patriots, we hope to provide forever homes to even more canines with the many service members and veterans in our area."

Individuals must first apply through Pets for Patriots and provide proof of their military service or honorable discharge. Approval typically takes one to two business days, after which they can contact Detroit Bully Corps for assistance in choosing their new dog.

Visit Pets for Patriots at petsforpatriots.org. For more about Detroit Bully Corps, visit dbcdog.org.

COMMUNITY LIFE BRIEFS

Open house

New Morning School will hold an open house 1-2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, at 14501 Haggerty, Plymouth Township.

The open house is designed for prospective families interested in preschool through eighth grade. The school's annual Museum Experience follows the open house from 2-3 p.m. It showcases student in self-selected research topics and projects, including dioramas, graphs, maps, models, characterizations and more.

New Morning School is a nonprofit, parent cooperative offering individualized education, daily student planning, and multi-age classrooms. For more

information, visit www.newmorningschool.org or call 734-420-3331.

Peace group meets

Motivational speaker Robert Weir will lead the discussion at the next meeting of Citizens for Peace, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia.

He'll raise the question "What does peace look like?"

Citizens for Peace's three-part series on nonviolence also starts this month. The sessions are based on Michael Nagler's book, *The Search for a Nonviolent Future: A Promise of Peace for Ourselves, Our Families, and Our World*. They each include a video and discussion designed to aid

in understanding the principles of nonviolence, learning strategies and applying the principles to one's life.

The sessions run 7:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 13, March 13 and April 10 at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia.

For more information about Citizens for Peace, call Colleen Mills at 734-425-0079 or email cmills0079@yahoo.com.

Art critique

Local artist Jean-Paul Abou Dib will offer tips on art technique as he analyzes artwork by members of the Three Cities Art Club, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, in the lower level of Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill

Road, in Canton.

Abou Dib received a scholarship to the College for Creative Studies where he earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts before receiving a master's degree of fine arts from Wayne State University. Since then, he has taught art in Canton, Northville and Dearborn. His works have won numerous awards and are in collections owned by such notables as music legend Eminem.

For more information about this free event, contact Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939. To learn more about the art club, visit www.threecitiesartclub.org.

Enter to WIN!



Valentine

Dinner for two

at Joe & Aldo's Italian Tavern in Novi

Dinner Includes:

- Artisan Bread Basket
- One Appetizer to Share
- Two Soups or Salads
- Two Entrees
- One Dessert to Share

How to enter:

In 50 words or less tell us what makes your Valentine so special and you could win dinner for two at Joe & Aldo's Italian Tavern.

Go to facebook.com/oehometown and look for the Valentine Contest icon. You can also go to hometownlife.com and select the Valentine Contest icon located in the DON'T MISS section of the website.

Winners will be selected by a panel of judges.

Entry Deadline:

Sunday, Feb. 9 11:59 p.m.



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www.joeandaldo.com

* Restrictions may apply. Expenses exceeding gift value is the winner's responsibility.



Two winners will be selected!

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GO RED FOR WOMEN DRIVE SETS KICK-OFF EVENTS

The American Heart Association launches its monthlong heart disease awareness campaign, Go Red for Women, Feb. 7 with National Wear Red Day.

The organization encourages everyone to don red attire and reminds women this month to:

» Ask your doctor to check your blood pressure and cholesterol.

» Stop smoking, lose weight, exercise and eat healthy.

» Consider the risk that heart disease kills one out of three women. It's the No. 1 killer of women.

» Make healthy food choices and teach your children the importance of staying active.

» Remind other women to "go red."

Locally, a Kick Off Rally and Lighting Ceremony will be held 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 6 at Freudenberg North American Corporate Center, 47774 W. Anchor Court, Plymouth. The event is free and will feature Annette Sciberras, R.N., a national spokeswoman for the campaign.

Sciberras, 54, Cardiac Progressive Care administrative manager for the Beaumont Health System, is among 11 women chosen to represent Go Red for Women nationally. They were selected from hundreds of women who have

shared their stories about heart disease and stroke at local events and on the American Heart Association website.

Born with a congenital heart defect, Sciberras had open-heart surgery in 1965 to repair a faulty valve. As an adult, Sciberras became interested in health issues and pursued a career in cardiac nursing. She soon found herself taking care of her patients and her aging parents, who both battled heart disease. But like many caregivers, she put her own health aside to focus on her family, ignoring cardiac warning signs.

"In retrospect I know the signs were all

there — I see patients with heart disease every day," she said, in a press release. "But I was juggling my four children, a demanding job and my parents' declining health and I just ignored the chest pains I was having."

Becoming an advocate

When her mother died after a heart attack and a stroke, Sciberras collapsed and was diagnosed with "broken heart syndrome," a kind of cardiomyopathy caused by extreme stress. Ironically, her mother had been warning her months before that she needed to focus on her own health again.

"My mother spent her last months of life trying to convince me to take better care of myself," she said. "This event was a wake-up call and it made me feel closer to her than ever."

"I wanted to help people the way my mother had helped me."

She became an advocate for women's heart health with the message that balancing work and family obligations must become a priority.

"We have to learn to manage stress and all the demands of daily life better. As women we worry about others but we must also recognize the importance of

our own health."

According to the American Heart Association, more women than men have died each year from heart disease and stroke since 1984, yet women comprise only 24 percent of participants in all heart-related studies. The Association also reports that 90 percent of women who get involved in the Go Red movement make at least one healthy behavior change. More than half have increased their exercise and six out of 10 have changed their diets.

For more information on the Plymouth event, email Melissa.Thrasher@heart.org. RSVP at freudenberg@fmacc.com.

The campaign's main event in southeastern Michigan is the annual Detroit Go Red for Women Luncheon, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 14, at the MGM Grand in Detroit. The luncheon will include a health expo and a heart-healthy lunch at noon. Tickets are \$250. Call Catherine Smith at 248-936-5820 or visit www.detroitgoredforwomen.org.

Girlfriends Go Red, a free event, is set for 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at Beaumont Hospital, 2601 W. 13 Mile, in Royal Oak. Sciberras will be on hand and attendees may wear their red shoes. The event includes a health panel followed by dance and fitness demos, health screenings and prizes. RSVP on the American Heart Association's Southeast Michigan website. Visit heart.org, click on "local info" and type in your ZIP code to bring up the page.



Annette Sciberras, R.N., a Cardiac Progressive Care administrative manager at Beaumont Health System, is among the national spokeswomen for the Go Red for Women campaign.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

UPCOMING

ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

Dipak Shah, M.D., a cardiologist, will offer a free seminar on atrial fibrillation, the most common abnormal heart rhythm, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, in conference room A at the Outpatient Center, Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. He'll talk about diagnostic and treatment options. The likelihood of developing atrial fibrillation increases with age and increases the risk of stroke. Pre-registration is recommended by calling 888-751-5465.

BREAKFAST WORKSHOP

Learn how eating a healthy breakfast can help you stay healthy in an interactive workshop led by a dietitian from Botsford Hospital. 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$5 and includes recipes, samples, nutritional advice, and a \$5 Busch's coupon. Tickets available from Busch's guest services counter or by calling 734-779-6100. Registration required.

HEARING LOSS SUPPORT

Learn about hearing aids at the next meeting of the Hearing Loss Association of America, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. The meeting also will include an open forum on dealing with the problems associated with hearing loss. Questions? Call Tony at 734-664-3297 or email afe-rack@comcast.net.

Heart Disease

Is Often Avoidable, Make It Personal!

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Habhab
Cardiology

Heart disease is not only the leading cause of death in this country, it's also a major contributor to disability. So if you could significantly reduce your chances for heart disease, wouldn't you? Well, the good news is you can. Cardiologist and GCH Health Expert, Dr. Nizam Habhab, explains how small steps can lead to big strides in your personal fight for heart health.

Q: What is the primary cause of cardiovascular disease?

A: Coronary heart disease (CHD) is a narrowing of the small blood vessels that supply blood and oxygen to the heart, caused by the buildup of plaque in the arteries to your heart. The plaque build up is a combination of fatty materials and other substances that adhere to the walls of your coronary arteries, and increase your risk for heart disease.

Q: What are the risk factors for heart disease?

A: There are several risk factors for heart disease. Some are controllable, others are not. Uncontrollable risk factors include:

- Being male
- Older age
- Family history of heart disease
- Post-menopausal
- Race (African Americans, American Indians, and Mexican Americans are more likely to have heart disease than Caucasians)

Still, there are many heart disease risk factors that can be controlled. By making changes in your lifestyle, you can actually reduce your risk for heart disease. Controllable risk factors include:

- Smoking
- High LDL, or "bad" cholesterol and low HDL, or "good" cholesterol
- Uncontrolled hypertension (high blood pressure)
- Physical inactivity
- Obesity (more than 20% over one's ideal body weight)
- Uncontrolled diabetes
- Uncontrolled stress and anger

Q: What can I do to lower my risk of heart disease?

A: Making changes in your lifestyle is a proven method for reducing the risk of heart disease. While there are no guarantees that a heart-healthy lifestyle will keep heart disease away, these changes will certainly improve your health in other ways, such as improving your physical and emotional well being. Also, because some risk factors are related to others, making changes in one area can benefit other areas. If you're a smoker, quit. If you sit at a desk all day, find reasons to walk more. Try to eat a healthy well balanced diet and control portion sizes. Most importantly, see a physician for regular check ups, especially if you have one or more risk factors.

Remember heart disease is almost always avoidable. Eat right, stop smoking, get active and join GCH for "From the Heart," a FREE Lunch and Lecture on Saturday, February 8 at 1 p.m. at Westland Mall. Learn how to take care of your heart for life. Lunch, giveaways and health screenings included.

TEETH IN AN HOUR!



Denture

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Public Notice Required by MCL 324.20120d(3)
Part 201 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, as Amended
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Remediation and Redevelopment Division
Southeast Michigan District Office
27700 Donald Court
Warren, Michigan 48092-2793

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A NO FURTHER ACTION REPORT FOR A SITE SPECIFIC CLEANUP CRITERIA CLOSURE

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has received a proposed No Further Action Report for the Red Spot Paint and Varnish Co., Inc., a site of environmental contamination located at 550 South Edwin Road in Westland, Wayne County, Michigan. Contamination at the site was caused by releases at a former exterior aboveground storage tank (AST) area located on the property.

This notice is provided according to the requirements of Part 201 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.20120d(3) et seq to notify interested persons that the MDEQ has reviewed the proposed remedial action plan for a Limited Non-Residential Site cleanup category and finds it to be in compliance with the requirements of the Act and the administrative rules for the Act in place before December 21, 2002.

This notice is to provide a brief summary of the completed remedial action and to offer an opportunity for public review and comment prior to final action upon the No Further Action Report. Written public comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM on February 14, 2014. The MDEQ will carefully consider and address significant public comments before a final decision is made regarding the proposed plan.

The proposed No Further Action plan for the site includes monitoring of groundwater on the site for three years. It also includes the placement of a restrictive covenant on the property that will prohibit use of on-site groundwater for potable purposes, will prohibit construction of wells to extract groundwater for consumption, irrigation or other use, and will prohibit construction of buildings without approval from MDEQ.

The No Further Action Report will be available for review beginning January 15, 2014 during normal business hours at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Southeast Michigan District Office, 27700 Donald Court Warren, Michigan 48092-2793. The review period will not be less than 30 calendar days from the date of this publication.

Comments should be addressed to:
Joseph DeGrazia
MDEQ Southeast Michigan District Office
27700 Donald Court
Warren, Michigan 48092-2793
(586) 753-3812

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NEW FDA CLEARED TREATMENT RELIEVES KNEE AND JOINT PAIN WITHOUT SHOTS OR SURGERY

Dr. Sol Cogan offers a FREE consultation to patients suffering with chronic or severe joint pain

Did you know that over 100 million Americans suffer from knee and joint pain? In fact, this pain accounts for one fourth of all visits to primary care physicians and half of all anti-inflammatory drug prescriptions. If you suffer from any degree of knee or joint pain Dr. Sol L. Cogan of HealthQuest personally invites you to regain control of your life by scheduling a FREE consultation. Call now. You deserve to live pain free!

Is surgery the answer?

If you have knee or joint pain and are worried, concerned, or afraid of the possibility of surgery, you're not alone. Most likely, you've heard stories about surgery and the outcome not being good. You may also know someone who had surgery and their knee or joint was never the same. You don't want the next unnecessary and preventable surgery story to be about you but the pain is not going away and your life is being altered because of it. In fact, your knee or joint may be getting worse and now, worry has become a fear. You may have tried getting information on the internet about the best course of action for you to take, but there's so much conflicting advice that you're scratching your head about who you can believe and trust. If you are considering surgery, you owe it to yourself to schedule a free consultation with Dr. Cogan and his staff first.

What else is available to treat knee pain?

Dr. Cogan has taken years to carefully develop a customized treatment program for those suffering with knee and joint pain. This new treatment protocol utilizes the latest high tech solutions available combined with super pulsed cold laser and ReBuilder® technology, physical therapy, chiropractic care and joint mobilization & stimulation. The patient's lifestyle is also taken into consideration as stretches, exercising, and lifestyle skills are taught for a lifelong approach to relieving pain.

How soon will I feel better?

Many people can feel better in a matter of weeks and begin enjoying normal everyday activities. Play with your grandkids again, go for a walk or even ride a bike. You deserve your life back!

Why choose Dr. Cogan and the Health Quest staff?

Dr. Cogan offers some of the most advanced non-surgical, FDA Cleared procedures for relieving chronic pain. He has also treated thousands of patients over dozens of years. He has such a great track record that the Detroit Lions have endorsed him as their official team chiropractor. Dr. Cogan has helped players before and after game time to feel and perform at their best. If the Lions trust him to work on their players, imagine what he can do for you!



What are patients saying?

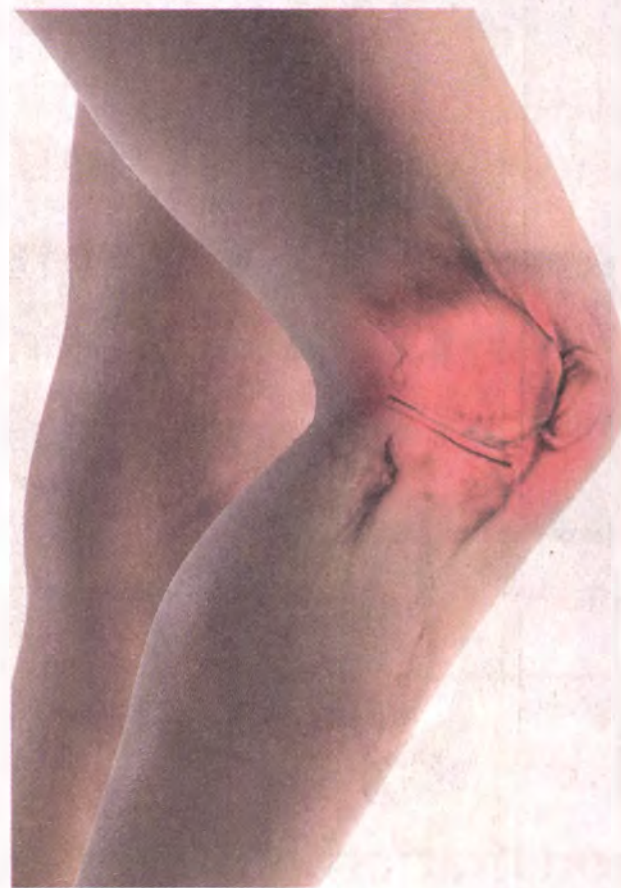
"I finally have my life back. Since having treatment on my knee at HealthQuest I've started hiking again with my husband and we can even go dancing. Thanks to Dr. Cogan and the HealthQuest staff I'm pain free"

— Brenda D.

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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC



Who is a good candidate for this treatment?

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- Do you wake up with knee, shoulder, or joint pain?
- Does your knee, shoulder, or joint pain keep you from certain activities?
- Have you been told you need a knee replacement?
- Are you active and sometimes suffer from sore knees or joints?
- Do you take medications for knee or joint pain?
- Do you have difficulty going up and down stairs due to knee pain?
- Are you considering surgery to alleviate knee pain?
- Does your knee ever feel like it is "giving way" or unstable?
- Has a recent car accident caused you a knee or joint injury?

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Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Floating leaf
4 Former Mets' stadium
8 Guy
12 Andy Capp's quaff
13 Scoundrel
14 Wiesel or Ducommun
15 Gives a false estimate
17 Burglar's item
18 Bert and Ernie's street
19 Moons' paths
21 Six-shooter
22 Canape topper
23 Fourth Estate
26 Knot craft
30 Toon Olive
31 — and Bradstreet
32 Vintage auto
33 Marred
36 Zen origin
38 Come to the plate

DOWN
39 Hey, —!; you there!
40 Ignited
43 Conundrum
47 Tour de force
48 Reduced clutter
50 Lacking refinement
51 Fish for salads
52 Ottoman title
53 Chances
54 Son of Aphrodite
55 Beret

Answer to Previous Puzzle

K	I	M	I	B	I	S	B	E	R	N
G	O	T	S	I	D	E	A	N	T	E
B	U	N	G	A	L	O	L	I	E	S
			M	A	L	L	M	I	D	S
P	I	R	A	C	Y	A	I	N		
I	R	A	N		K	I	N	G	D	O
S	O	N	I	N	F	R	A	I	D	A
A	N	G	E	L	I	C	L	E	O	N
			A	L	B	P	O	E	T	R
N	E	A	R	S		J	U	A	N	
E	S	P	N		S	I	T	S	T	I
B	A	S	E		O	B	O	E	B	E
R	U	E	D		B	E	N	S		M

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Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

		5								
1		3						8		
			8	2					1	
				8					7	
		7		3	1	6	8	4		
	6				5					
9										3
3			9	4				6	8	
6									7	

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

EXERCISE WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ADRENALINE	PERSPIRATION
ARMS	PILATES
BUDDY	POSTURE
CALORIES	PROTEIN
CARBOHYDRATES	REPETITIONS
CARDIOVASCULAR	RUNNING
CLASSES	SETS
EUPHORIA	SPORTS
EXERCISE	SPOT
FITNESS	SQUAT
FORM	STAIRS
FREQUENCY	STRETCHING
INJURY	WALKING
LEGS	WEIGHT
LIFTING	WINDED
MARATHON	WORKOUT
MEMBERSHIP	YOGA
MUSCLES	

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

5	7	9	2	3	1	2	6	8	4	6
8	9	2	7	4	6	9	5	3	1	6
3	1	8	4	1	3	9	7	2	5	6
6	3	9	4	7	5	1	3	8	9	6
1	6	8	4	2	3	1	2	6	7	5
7	9	5	2	7	6	8	9	3	1	4
4	3	1	6	8	9	6	8	6	9	5
7	4	9	8	2	6	3	5	1	7	2
1	2	3	7	5	4	8	9	6	6	6
8	5	6	1	9	3	7	4	2	8	5

Word Search

ADRENALINE, ARMS, BUDDY, CALORIES, CARBOHYDRATES, CARDIOVASCULAR, CLASSES, EUPHORIA, EXERCISE, FITNESS, FORM, FREQUENCY, INJURY, LEGS, LIFTING, MARATHON, MEMBERSHIP, MUSCLES, PERSPIRATION, PILATES, POSTURE, PROTEIN, REPETITIONS, RUNNING, SETS, SPORTS, SPOT, SQUAT, STAIRS, STRETCHING, WALKING, WEIGHT, WINDED, WORKOUT, YOGA

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Car Report

Advertising Feature

Carmakers Dominate Super Bowl Advertising Once Again



By Dale Buss

No industry has come to define Super Bowl advertising quite like the car business. Automakers, after all, are among the biggest U.S. advertisers and marketers by dollar volume. So for the third straight year, on Big Game Sunday the auto industry was expected to be the biggest advertiser for the third straight year.

Hyundai and Chrysler, according to Kantar research cited by USA Today, made the top

game report. Chrysler, as usual, didn't give away its plan for the Big Game, forsaking all the pre-game teasers and other buzz-generating activities that rivals are using more and more before the actual telecast.

Hyundai has a new US CEO but some of the same challenges: how to effectively keep the brand stretched across a broad range of product segments yet battle some supply issues and stiffening competition across the board.

Jaguar, now owned by India's Tata Motors, is continuing its comeback with its first Super Bowl spot. The dramatic 60-second ad featured actors Sir Ben Kingsley, Tom Hiddleston and Mark Strong as a trio of British villains in a spot helmed by The King's Speech director Tom Hooper:

Laurence Fishburne to reprise his role as Morpheus in the cult movie series The Matrix to pull that off.

Toyota last year effectively used actress Kaley Cuoco for a mainstream message, and this year the brand was going back to a proven platform by including the Muppets and Terry Crews as it focused on everything one can do in a new Toyota Highlander.

Volkswagen is more in need of a pick-me-up now than it has been for three years, as US sales have leveled off. So reached for nostalgic levers similar to its Star Wars-themed ad from three years ago, "The Force" (often called "Little Darth Vader" for its adorable mini-Darth), which became the most-shared and YouTube-viewed spot in Super Bowl history. This time around, following a teaser that featured Carmen Electra, VW had "Wings," in which the brand played a bit with the "legend" of how every time a reliable VW turns over 100,000 miles, a VW engineer gets his "wings." Jimmy Stewart, star of It's a Wonderful Life, might have been bemused.

"We are thrilled with this year's creative, which highlights the enthusiasm around our



The Silverado HD stars in one of Chevy's ads in the Big Game.

five biggest spenders in the past five Super Bowls, along with Bud Lite and Budweiser parent Anheuser Busch InBev, PepsiCo and Coca-Cola.

And of course, any more it's not just Super Bowl Sunday but for the entire season surrounding the game that carmakers dominate much of the conversation. It has become standard practice to run pre-Game teasers (trailers, in a sense, of the Game Day spot), and viral videos promoted across YouTube, Twitter and Facebook with hashtags.

is that the German automaker's new A3 sedan, launching in the US this spring, is anything but an exercise in compromise, even though it's priced beginning under \$30,000:

General Motors returned to the Super Bowl after taking a one-year break, with Chevrolet slated to occupy two 60-second spots during the game. One spot, "Romance," featured a voiceover by John Cusack and promoted the 2015 Silverado HD with the hashtag #SilveradoStrong. Two other 30-second ads were to air during the post-



Laurence Fishburne is an ominous presence in the Kia Super Bowl ad.

Kia is facing a similar challenge now as Hyundai did a few years ago. The Korean-brand sibling wanted to use the Super Bowl to further legitimize its pricey first luxury model, the K900 sedan. It called upon actor

brand and our vehicles' German engineering in a humorous spot that embodies the Volkswagen spirit," commented Vinay Shahani, Volkswagen of America's vice president of marketing.

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CONTACT US AT: 800-579-7355
www.hometownlife.com
oeads@hometownlife.com

DEADLINES: Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

NEWSPAPER POLICY

All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric Media, 615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226, 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited. Publishers Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72). Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity, throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers. **DISCLAIMER:** All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Observer & Eccentric Media reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. Observer & Eccentric Media shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

Cemeteries Lots

TWO CEMETERY PLOTS in Glen Eden Lutheran Memorial Park, Livonia. Located in Garden of Faith, sec. 224, graves 3 & 4. Retail for \$1,450ea, asking \$1100ea. Call: 248-344-0119

It's all about results...

Get the BEST results here!

O&E Media Classifieds
800-579-7355

APARTMENT & REAL ESTATE GUIDE

Find the perfect place to call home in the Observer & Eccentric Media classified advertising section. We have apartment and real estate listings every week in the following communities:

- Berkley • Birmingham
- Canton • Clawson
- Farmington • Garden City
- Huntington Woods • Livonia
- Milford • Northville • Novi
- Pleasant Ridge • Plymouth
- Redford • Royal Oak
- Southfield • South Lyon
- Westland



To place a listing in the Observer & Eccentric Media's Apartment & Real Estate Guide call:
1-800-579-SELL

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

RENTALS

apartments.com - HomeFinder.com

Apartments For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS. Spacious 1-2 bdrm, 2 bath, c/a, \$525-\$600. 50% off 1st 3 mos. Rent with good credit & income. **248.473.5180**

Condos & Townhouses

CANTON: All new 2 bdrm, big master, 1.5 bath, washer/dryer, a/c, patio, pool, bsmt, carport. \$1037. 517-655-2753

Need to Rent That House or Apartment?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media newspapers, and have it rented in no time!
800-579-7355

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Duplexes

CANTON - Sheldon & Ford area 3 bd 1.5 bath, 1360 sq/ft., C/A, deck & fenced yard, \$900/mo. 734-502-7660

WESTLAND - taking applications 3 bdrm., 1 bath, \$650/mo., + sec., immediate occupancy. 734-645-9859

Homes For Rent

LIVONIA: 1,000 sq. ft. 3 bdrm beautiful ranch, appliances, nice neighborhood, fenced yard, \$990/mo. 248-342-0314

LIVONIA: 3 bdrm ranch, \$950. **REDFORD:** \$900. Possible ownership, call Jeff for details. (734) 564-8402--

Vacation & Resort Rentals

SARASOTA, Siesta Key, FL 2 bdrm, 2 full bath, turn key ready, all amenities. Across from ocean. 810-231.0264

Rooms For Rent

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen privileges, cable, washer & dryer, all utilities. Retired male preferred. \$360/mo + \$100 deposit. 313-985-3766

REDFORD: Off 5 Mile, btwn Telegraph/Beech. Come share my house with me! Avail now. Rent Negotiable. Call: 313-310-3727

Snow Removal

SNOW PLOWING & SALTING & Emergency Srv - Comm. & Res. Lic & Ins. Free Est. 248-521-8818, 248-489-5955

O&E Media Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
800-579-7355

Drywall

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV. Plaster Repair. All jobs wet-comed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark. 313-363-6738

Hauling - Clean Up

A-1 HAULING Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland. Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Paint Decorating Paper

FRANK'S PAINTING SERV. Residential repainting, work myself. Free estimates. (248) 225-7165

PAINTING BY ROBERT • Wallpaper Removal • Int • Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Staining. 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

O&E Media Classifieds Work Hard!

Need to Rent That House or Apartment?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and have it rented in no time!
800-579-7355

Looking to Buy A New Car? Need to sell the old one first?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and let the Classifieds Sell it For You!
800-579-7355

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1SPMortgage	138501	(313) 215-1766	4.125	0.625	3.125	0.625
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	4.25	0	3.25	0
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	4.125	0	3.125	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	4.125	0	3.125	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	4.25	0	3.25	0
Co-op Services Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.375	0.25	3.375	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.5	0	3.625	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4.5	0	3.625	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.25	0	3.25	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.125	0.75	3.125	0.75
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.625	0	3.625	0

Above information available as of 1/24/14 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.
All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032
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NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR A NEW HOME!

3 months FREE site rent with any AJR owned home purchase!*

Brand New Models Now on Display!

\$1000 VISA gift card with any NEW AJR home purchase!*

\$500 VISA gift card with any PREOWNED AJR home purchase!*

Eat-in kitchen with great amenities

Open concept living room with amazing finishes

PLYMOUTH HILLS

Homes from \$11,900 to \$75,900

Call Ray in Plymouth at 734.414.9760

AJR

www.ajrhomesales.com

*EHL, WAC, Certain restrictions apply. Select AJR homes. See housing consultant for details. Please bring ad along on visit to receive offer. Must close by March 1, 2014.

WAYNE TAE KEUK VILLAGE
Korean American Community Housing Services Inc.
3712 Williams St. Wayne, MI 48184
Phone: 734-729-7920, 729-3432
Fax: 734-729-0938
TTY: 866-656-9626
TDD: 800-649-3777

- Section 8 apartments for the elderly and disabled
- 1 bedroom available, 1 studio available in Jan.
- Applicant must be either at least 62 years of age or disabled
- Emergency Medical Call System
- Rent includes Heat, Water and Trash Removal

tkeukvillage@yahoo.com
Professionally managed by Unified Property Group

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

Your Weekly Guide To Apartment Living

INKSTER THOMPSON TOWER APARTMENTS
Affordable Housing for Seniors 62+ or disabled

1 & 2 bedroom apartments - all utilities included!
Immediate Occupancy
Income Based Rent.
Our features include:
• Spacious floor plans
• Laundry Rooms • Community Room
• Resident Activities

For more details, call **(313) 565-3022**
(800) 567-5857 TDD
Hours: Monday-Friday 8-5; Saturday 9-1
Or visit us at: 27727 Michigan Ave, Inkster
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

WESTLAND CALLING ALL SENIORS!

Fall in LOVE with low rent!

Westgate Tower now has rent based on 30% of your income!

CALL US TODAY!

734-729-2900

34567 Elmwood in Westland

Not 62 yet? Ask us about our temporary age waiver!

Income Limits Apply. Equal Housing Opportunity.

WAYNE You hit the Bullseye...Wayne Tower is the Place for YOU.

WAYNE TOWER APARTMENTS
35200 Sims, Wayne, MI
NOW LEASING - IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
1 Bedroom, Central Air
\$593

We pay Moving Cost of \$500
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Call Today For A Great Rate. **1-800-579-7355**