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SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE
TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

Westland switches to automated trash collection

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Westland residents will have a new cart to put at the curb on trash day as the city moves to an automated collection system like the one used for its curbside recycling program.

The City Council has approved the purchase of sev-

en garbage trucks and 28,000 garbage and recycling carts as it switches to a refuse and recycling collection system handled by its longtime trash hauler, Midwest Sanitation.

With its refuse, recycling and RecycleBank contracts all up this year, the city is using a plan developed by Paul Ruthenberg of Midwest Sanitation to address the

\$800,000 difference between what the city's sanitation millage raises and what it spends. As a result, the city is dropping Republic Recycling.

"Our goal has been to get all the costs under the current millage," Mayor William Wild said. "The current subsidy comes out of the general fund."

Under the agreement, the city will buy the trucks, which cost \$1.7 million. The money will come from a capital fund the city is creating with the \$8.9 million it's receiving by refinancing Taylor Towers. The money will be paid back with revenue from the Sanitation Fund

See GARBAGE, Page A2

W-W board to interview six candidates for superintendent

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland school board has selected six candidates, including the district's two deputy superintendents, to be interviewed this week as part of its search for a new superintendent.

Board members spent last Monday evening reviewing applicants and narrowing the field to six candidates. They plan to conduct formal interviews Tuesday, May 13, and Thursday, May 15, in the school board meeting room at the district's central offices on Marquette between Wayne Road and Newburgh in Westland.

Invited to be interviewed Tuesday are:

» Josh Alison, superintendent of Beecher Community School District in Genesee County, at 6:30 p.m.

» Deborah Piotrowski, superintendent of the Xenia Community Schools in Xenia, Ohio, at 7:45 p.m.

» Paul Salah, deputy superintendent of educational services for Wayne-Westland, at 9 p.m.

The interviews will continue Thursday with:

» Charles Muncatchy, former superintendent of Mount Clemens Schools and founder of the Jalen Rose Leadership Academy, at 6:30 p.m.

» Michele Harmala, associate superintendent for instructional services and organizational leadership for Farmington Public Schools, at 7:45 p.m.

» James Larson-Shidler, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services for Wayne-Westland, at 9 p.m.

The board is seeking a superintendent to replace Greg Baracy, who announced in December that he'll retire July 1 after 17 years as the district's top administrator. Baracy is the district's longest serving superintendent.

Following these interviews, the board will determine which candidates will be finalists and then conduct a second round of interviews Monday and Tuesday, May 19-20.

Under a plan developed by the Michigan Association of School Board Executive Search Services, the board hopes to select a new superintendent at its regular meeting June 9.

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Allison and Andrew Rupp spent April 30 to May 6 on a healing pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. Everybody who goes is healed, Allison Rupp said, whether it's physically, emotionally or spiritually.

Shared degenerative disease strengthens bond between mom, kids

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Allison Rupp, 31, of Livonia shares a special bond with her children that not many mothers do — they all have the same inherited disorder: Ehlers-Danlos syndrome.

EDS is a degenerative disease that impacts the

elasticity and strength of the body's connective tissues, primarily skin, joints and blood vessels. People with EDS are prone to painful dislocations of their joints, and complications can be life-threatening.

Rupp has undergone 12 surgeries in an effort to help her better manage her EDS, including, most re-

cently, a procedure to fuse vertebrae in her neck.

Daughter Lila, 5½, a kindergartner at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, wears five braces at night to limit her range of motion while she sleeps. Noah, 8, a second-grader, suffers from shoulder dislocations.

"With the kids having the

same genetic defect, it hits me hard as a mother since I deeply know the pain and medical difficulties they will face and continue to struggle with throughout their lives," Rupp said. "I could handle my hip dislocating far more easily than watching my child go

See FAMILY, Page A2

Judge: All-Stars prove schools are producing 'brilliant kids'

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

For 14 years, Franklin High School Principal Dan Willenborg has volunteered as a judge for the O&E Media's Academic All-Star Team.

Every spring, he and one or two other principals spend several hours poring over applications to select the most accomplished students from public, private and parochial schools in Oakland and western Wayne counties.

"It's an honor, a privilege," he said of serving as a judge. "It's exciting to see the quality of the kids' performance. A lot of these kids end up in Ivy League schools, premiere universities. That's motivating for me."

Willenborg said educators can feel downtrodden with education being portrayed today as "going down the toilet," but the truth is, high school is a lot harder than it was even 12 years

"They're getting a much more vibrant, much more enhanced education. There's more academic rigor."

DAN WILLENBORG,
Franklin High School principal

ago. Michigan students are now required to take Algebra I and II, and chemistry or physics in order to graduate. "It's the expectation for all kids," he said. "They're getting a much more vibrant, much more enhanced education. There's more academic rigor."

The Academic All-Stars represent the crème de la crème, he said, representing the top 3-5 percent of all gradu-

See BRILLIANT, Page A2



Dan Willenborg, principal of Livonia Franklin High School. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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INDEX

Community Life B5
Crossword Puzzle C3
Health B9
Homes C2
Jobs C1
Obituaries B8
Services C2
Sports B1
Wheels C4

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BRILLIANT

Continued from Page A1

ating seniors. They take Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes, sometimes maintaining perfect records during their high school years and/or earning perfect SAT or ACT test scores.

"It's always a thrill to review those packets because the kids are brilliant," he said. "If there's any thought that schools aren't producing or working with brilliant kids, that's wrong."

Thirty-two Academic All-Stars were named to the team this year, selected from more than 70 applicants. Their profiles will appear in a special section this Sunday in the *Observer*.

Not only are the Academic All-Stars bright, they are leaders in their schools and communities, Willenborg said. "It's tough trying to draw a line who to choose and who not to choose," he said. Often, when the scores are identical, the student who has shown more leadership will get selected, he said. "It's very competitive. You're up against the tops of the top of each school. There are plenty of great kids that aren't selected."

Motivated students

The Academic All-Stars are either motivated from within, understanding that education unlocks doors to the future, or by their parents who push them to succeed, but they all come from families that highly value education, he said.

Willenborg said while he was a good student at Dearborn High School, from which he graduated in 1978, he was no Academic All-Star. "These kids would have blown me away; I'm not in the same league," he said.

He graduated from

Michigan State University's James Madison College where he earned his Bachelor's of Art Degree in International Relations. He also competed in the discus throw on the track and field team at Michigan State.

After college, he was commissioned as an officer in the United States Marine Corps and served as an infantry officer with the 2nd Marine Division. While in the Corps, he had the opportunity to attend the Army's Ranger School and he earned his Ranger Tab in 1984. It was during his experience in the military service that he realized his passion for teaching, and after leaving active duty, Willenborg returned to Michigan State and earned a teaching certificate. He remained with the USMC Reserves for another four years.

Willenborg landed his first teaching job at Clarkston High School where he taught social studies. After a lay off and two years of substituting for Dearborn Public Schools, he moved to West Michigan to take a teaching and coaching job at Fremont High School. In Fremont, he served as the head football and head wrestling coach and eventually became the assistant principal and athletic director. In 1996, he accepted an administrative position at Churchill High School and served there as an assistant principal for four years. He was named the principal of Franklin High School with the start of the 2000-01 school year.

Willenborg earned his Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Michigan State in 1996 and an Education Specialist Certificate from Wayne State University in 2006.

Lifelong learner

Now he is back in school, earning a second

master's degree in history from Madonna University in Livonia. "I love to learn," he explained. "It's exciting, and (it's great) to have access to great place like Madonna right next door."

Willenborg and his wife, Sonita Harris, the head track and field coach at South Lyon East High School, have four children — Trent, 17; Laine, who turns 16 next week, Brook, 13, and Drake, 11 — "and two dogs and a cat." The family lives in South Lyon.

Willenborg said he is proud of the students at Franklin High, which had two students, Eric Belanger and Joseph Vetula, named among the 39 students receiving Honorable Mention from the Academic All-Star judges this year.

"It's a great mix of kids with many caring families," he said, adding they have grit and fortitude. He said they are talented artists, athletes and student leaders who think creatively and analytically.

Willenborg said he feels very fortunate and privileged to be involved in education. "I always wanted to be challenged in what I do. Kids are great; it's very rewarding."

Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor/Publisher of O&E Media, said Willenborg and Carolyn Witte, principal of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, did all of the work this year because Charlie Hollerith of the new Bloomfield Hills High School was in transition with the new school.

"The *Observer & Eccentric* appreciates the time the principals devote to this project. They give freely of their time so that this program can continue. We couldn't do it without them," she said.

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FAMILY

Continued from Page A1

through it."

But, on the positive side, she said her kids can always count on her to understand. "They don't ever have to feel alone in their struggle."

Daily chores a struggle

Rupp said there are days she isn't up to the task of parenting because of the pain and fatigue that come with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome. That's when her mother and mother-in-law, who lives in Ohio, step in to help until she regains her strength.

"My routine is to drop the kids off at school, go to Mass, then go home and sleep until the kids need to be picked up," she said. "I do this so that I have the strength to do homework and dinner and the dishes or a load of laundry. Then bedtime with my kids."

Rupp said she has learned to accept that she has limitations, and she doesn't try to be super-mom.

"I work hard at finding the little joys in my day instead of the to-do list to find my purpose and worth," she said. "I hope that I'm teaching them that just because life doesn't turn out the way you planned doesn't mean you can't find new dreams and happiness in the life that you are living."

Rupp, who recently moved to Livonia from Westland, is an inspiration to her cousin, Katie Patterson, communications specialist for Livonia Public Schools, who recommended Rupp to the *Observer* for a Mother's Day feature.

"Allison is a phenomenal mother," Patterson said. "She loves her children so completely, and she is so involved in their lives, even though her EDS limits her in ways."

"It would be easy for Allison to grow bitter and



Allison Rupp with Lila and Noah on "a good day" when everyone felt well enough to go to the ballpark.

resentful of the things she can't do because of her disease; instead, she allows her struggles to strengthen her spiritually and mentally. Her loving example is evident in her children, especially when they play with their younger cousins. She inspires me to be a better mother to my own children," she said.

Healing pilgrimage

Rupp will spend Mother's Day reunited with her children after spending April 30 to May 6 with her husband Andrew in Lourdes, France, on a healing pilgrimage.

Rupp was one of about 50 sick individuals who accompanied the Federal Association of the Order of Malta on its 2014 international pilgrimage to the Marian Shrine at Lourdes, France. Archbishop Allen Vigneron of the Archdiocese of Detroit traveled with the group. Rupp was nominated by a Knight of Malta that her father knows.

"I never dreamed I would be chosen, but apparently dreams come true," she said.

Everybody who goes to Lourdes is healed, she said, whether it's physically, emotionally or

spiritually.

"It may not even be recognized during the visit, but maybe weeks or months later," she said. "You're changed."

She said her most treasured parts of the trip were the baths, candlelight Mass and vigils at the grotto, where the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared in 1858 to a very poor 14-year-old girl.

"It hits you in a raw way that makes words useless, only tears seem to come," Rupp said.

"There is a serenity and love that emits from the flicker of the candles, hymns of Ave Maria and the hush of the river Gave (de Pau.) Beautiful seems so bland a word. It was once described as a 'place fixed between heaven and earth.'"

Rupp hopes to take her children there some day, so they too may experience healing.

"Being with the Blessed Mother has given me a new glimpse into what all encompassing love she had for her son," she said. "She understands and hears every mother's prayer."

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GARBAGE

Continued from Page A1

over seven years at 2 percent interest.

Blue and gray

The city is also buying the gray 64- and 96-gallon carts and the fuel for the trucks, while Midwest Sanitation will provide the labor and insurance and maintain the trucks.

Residents will continue to use blue carts for recycling and will be able to get a second one for free. However, the city will provide only one gray trash cart. There will be a charge for a second one.

"With our government discount on buying the trucks and with our status on buying fuel, we can save \$500,000," Wild said. "By having automated trucks and one driver, he saves money on labor."

Ruthenberg implemented the system, which he calls P4, in Taylor several years ago.

"When the mayor brought it to the council, it was approved 6-1," Wild said. "The council president voted no because he thought the city was taking on too much risk. He's now saying that it was the smartest thing the former mayor ever did."

Ruthenberg also will look at the current collection routes and make adjustments. Wild said that hasn't been done in 20 years and could mean new collection days for residents.

Wild hopes to have everyone educated on the changes by the time the new trash bins are delivered. One idea is to have the new day on the bins when they're delivered to homes.

Recycling rewards

The last piece of the puzzle is the RecycleBank program, which rewards residents for recycling.

Under Ruthenberg's plan, the city will have a fund balance of more than \$140,000 each year

of the five-year agreement, but the cost of RecycleBank program would put the Sanitation Fund into a deficit.

RecycleBank awards points to people who recycle based on the amount collected in a neighborhood. The points can be redeemed for different things. According to Wild, it gives out some 1 million points monthly, but only 500 points are redeemed.

With all parts of the RecycleBank program put in place when it started, Wild believes the cost should be far less than the current \$175,000.

"The goal of RecycleBank was to give people a reward for changing their behavior," Wild said. "We got 80 percent participation to start and we're still at 70-80 percent."

The city council will discuss the contract with RecycleBank at a study session at 6 p.m. Monday, May 12.

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Wayne council looks at specifics in budget plan

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

A combination of nips and tucks have gotten Wayne's looming budget deficit down to \$731,000, but more has to be done to curb expenses and increase revenues.

That was the message last week at a budget study session in which Finance Director James Ghedotte walked the city council and residents through the proposed 2014-2015 budget.

"We're still looking at a \$731,000 deficit, but we're looking to get to zero," Ghedotte said. "We're estimating we will finish the current year with a negative \$190,000. If we do finish with that we will have to present a deficit elimination plan to the state. We have some difficult decisions ahead."

Part of the reductions included the loss of 14 full-time equated positions. The number of

employees will drop from 88 to 74 in the new budget year. The reduction includes the loss of one sergeant and four police officers, one deputy, two lieutenants and an administrative position in the fire department, and two foremen in the Department of Public Works.

DPW director Ramzi El-Gharib, currently the interim city manager, also will retire and return July 1 as a contract employee, serving a dual role for Wayne and Westland. He will oversee the Department of Public Service director and Engineering in Westland and the DPW in Wayne. Wayne's share of the cost will be \$30,000.

"With that change in DPW, we will save about \$180,000," Ghedotte said.

More reductions

Two positions also will be reduced at the district court and a clerk will be transferred to personnel

from Community Development.

According to Ghedotte, the city will bring in an additional \$231,658 in property taxes because of a lower than anticipated decline in property values. It had been projected that property values would dip another 5 percent, but the figure is now 1.83 percent. Additionally, it anticipates a 3 percent increase in state shared revenue.

It also plans to increase the street lighting assessment to erase a \$200,000 subsidy from the general fund. Street lighting currently costs the city \$620,000. The assessment brings in \$400,000, leaving the city to pick up the remaining expense.

The city also is looking at a partial shutdown of the Wayne Community Center, but is entertaining a proposal from HYPE Athletics Inc. to take over its operation.

"Last year we subsidized the community center by \$1 million, it's about \$800,000 this year and it would be \$667,000 next year," Ghedotte said. "We could close the entire building, but we would still have to keep the heat and lights on. There would be some costs that won't go away."

The city also was hoping to bring in more revenue from the DDA with a special 2-mill tax levy. That would have raised \$350,000 and would have been used to cover the cost of police and fire services in the DDA district which represents one-third of the city. However, the DDA Board declined to take action on the request at its meeting Thursday.

The tax levy was "a big item," according to Ghedotte.

Mayor Al Haidous noted that "the economy is tough on businesses, but sometimes we have to

make tough decisions. The city needs the extra revenue to survive. It's a tough issue."

El-Gharib pointed out that both the council and the DDA Board would have had to approve the tax for it to be levied.

"There are multiple solutions in this proposed budget," he said. "This is a miracle. If you had asked me in January how we would cut \$3.6 million, I couldn't have answered."

Retirement costs

But the biggest issue the city faces is employees' retirement. According to Ghedotte, that line item was zero several years ago. The city pays a percentage of payroll to the fund, that amount keeps escalating.

"Last year we paid \$679,704, this year \$930,222. Next year it will be \$1.146 million," Ghedotte said.

The city also is looking

at a \$2 million cost for medical insurance for retirees "and that number is going up." It currently costs \$15,000 for a retiree and his family.

"We can't spend the money in that fund for anything other than employee health care," he said. "That's \$2.9 million, but we have an unfunded liability of \$44 million. We pay as we go. We pay the premium and that's about \$2 million."

Ghedotte added that Wayne isn't the only city with a large liability. In the state of Michigan, only Oakland County is fully funded.

The city council will hold a second budget session for 7 p.m. Thursday, May 15, at the Wayne-Westland Fire Station on Wayne Road, before it comes up for a vote at its May 20 meeting.

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AROUND WESTLAND AND WAYNE

Buddy poppies

The American Legion Westland Post 251 will hold its annual poppy sale Thursday through Saturday, May 15-17. Members will be at various businesses raising funds.

For more information, call 734-326-2607 or 734-455-3415 or visit www.post251.org.

Alumni picnic

McKinley Cooperative Preschool will host an alumni reunion picnic at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5, at Nankin Mills Picnic Area in Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. All students who attended the school are invited, along with their families.

Preschool teacher Carol Miles will greet former students and their parents. Attendees are asked to bring their own paper products, beverage and a dish to pass. For more information and to RSVP, email Mary Biber at ambiber@yahoo.com.

Parade committee

The Wayne-Westland Veterans Memorial Day Parade Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post on Wayne Road at Avondale.

Anyone interested in helping organize and present the annual parade held on the Sunday before Memorial Day is welcome to attend.

Wayne DDA Board says 'no' to tax levy

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Wayne city officials were counting on an influx of new money from its Downtown Development Authority to help erase a projected \$3.6 million deficit for fiscal 2014-2015. But that won't be happening.

The DDA Board on Thursday declined to vote on a 2-mill tax on real and personal property within the district and instead give \$60,000 to the city's Main Street Program and Wayne Public Library.

The board voted 6-1, with Mayor Al Haidous dissenting, to give \$40,000 to Main Street and \$20,000 to the library. The \$40,000 is in addition to the \$10,000 that was already included for Main Street in DDA's proposed budget.

Councilman John Rhaesa, who serves on the board, made the proposal.

"I think we need to put more into Main Street and the library," he said. "As the DDA, the general fund isn't our issue. Our issue is the downtown and what we can do for it."

The DDA, by law, can levy up to 2 mills in the district. The money such

a levy would have raised — \$350,000 — would have gone to the city to pay for police and fire services in the district.

Proposed budget

In a proposed DDA budget presented by Community Development Director Peter McInerney, the DDA would have contributed \$933,000 to the city's general fund. The amount included the revenue from a 2-mill levy. With the board taking no action on the tax request, that amount is reduced to \$583,000.

The DDA's budget must also be approved by the city council.

"Unless you take action on the millage, nothing will happen," McInerney said. "If this is approved in May, it would be collected in July. If it were approved after May, it would be collected next July."

The 2-mill levy was a recommendation the city received from state treasury officials who reviewed the city's financial last month.

"On April 15 we received fiscal recommendations from the state treasury on what to charge for services in the DDA district," said Councilman Albert Damitto,

"As the DDA, the general fund isn't our issue. Our issue is the downtown and what we can do for it."

JOHN RHAESA, councilman

who also serves on the DDA Board. "Our DDA covers one-third of the city. That's large in comparison to other cities. I can understand the concern about increasing it. If you say no, that's fine, but the state indicated we need to increase taxes."

"This needs to be taken seriously; it might not be the right thing to do," he said.

Difficult issue

Haidous, who chairs the DDA Board, acknowledged that the 2-mill levy was a difficult issue to look at and that the money it would raise wouldn't solve the city's problem. With layoffs, retirements and the partial closing of the community center, the city still has a deficit of more than \$700,000 and it will grow with the board's decision not to approve the special tax.

"I feel this affects the

small businesses who are struggling now," he said. "We need to come together, work together and find the right solutions. We're all paying the price for this economy."

Other board members expressed concern that the tax would have a negative impact on business, especially attracting new business to the district.

"When a businessman walks into town, he wants to see growth," he said. "I have people coming in who say they want to see Wayne's downtown to be like downtown Plymouth," Saad said. "The only way to come out of this is to come up with a solution."

"Unless it can be put toward something to help the downtown and help business, unless we do something for them, I'm not for this," added board member David Steinhauer. "I'm not for this unless you can change my mind."

The board, at Rhaesa's urging, also decided to begin meeting monthly as stated in its bylaws. The group will meet at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of the month. Its next meeting will be June 5.

smason@hometownlife.com
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DUPREYTON'S CONTRACTURE

Dupreyton's Contracture is a condition that comes on in middle to old age. The term refers to a thickening in the palm of the hand of the tissues beneath the skin. The thickened tissue acts a barrier to movement of the tendons that start in the arm and end in the finger tips; the result is a hindrance to the tendons as they slide in their channels. The individual feels the obstruction as an inability to curl the fingers or close the hand as in making a fist or turning the cap on a milk bottle.

The hand with a Dupreyton's contracture is particularly stiff in the morning on awakening. The reason is that during the night the body cools, the lower temperature cause the tissues in the hands to thicken, become less pliable and more difficult to move. The action of placing the hands under warm water or taking a shower to "loosen up," works because the hot water warms the body tissues and returns tissues to their pliable state.

Treatment for Dupreyton's Contracture is unsatisfactory. Injection into a thickened tendon is excellent for a single tendon, but if the whole palm of the hand has flexure involvement this therapy becomes ineffective. Hand doctors are reluctant to intervene. The only surgery possible is to open up the palm and clean the sheath of every tendon in the palm, a difficult and long operation whose after-effect often is to cause thickened tissue to re-appear.

The only practical treatment is to wear gloves at night and use a wax bath dip to provide heat in a manner that softens the tendon sheaths.

Daniel Centers appointed to Livonia school board

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Daniel Centers, 29, a Livonia Jaycee and district executive with Boy Scouts of America, was appointed Wednesday to fill the open seat on the Livonia school board.

He beat out Roy Watts, a former Garden City school board member, following three tie votes by the board. There were 26 applicants interviewed.



Dan Centers

Centers had filed to run for the Schoolcraft College board of trustees in November, but he said he will now run for a seat on the Livonia school board instead. The appointment is through Dec. 31, 2014.

"I'm humbled and honored," Centers said of his appointment. Trustee Randy Roulier switched his vote from Watts to Centers to finally break the tie. Tammy Bonifield, Dianne Laura and Eileen McDonnell also supported Centers.

"We ended up with two tremendous candidates. We had to choose one," Roulier said, explaining why he switched his vote. "When you got to these final two, they were extremely qualified."

Laura said Centers is a fresh new face on the board. "He's got a great personality."

Other top contenders were Elizabeth Jarvis, president of the Livonia PTSA Council, and Kevin Sutton, an attorney based in Bloomfield Hills.

During his interview, Watts told the board he would still want to be involved if not selected. "I won't disappear unless you want me to. I'm here," he said. He said he learned some lessons serving on the Garden City school board. "I think there should have been more homework done, I would ask a lot harder questions," he said, adding he lost his bid for re-election to that board by 27 votes.

Centers replaces Julie Robinson, who resigned to move from the area. The remaining two years left on Robinson's term will be up

for grabs in the November general election.

Centers is a 2002 Churchill High School graduate. He and his wife, Janice, who's also a Livonia Jaycee, helped to raise \$4,000 for specialized tricycles for special-needs children at Webster Elementary.

Centers, a 2007 Madonna University alumnus, was also recently honored with the university's Franciscan Values Award for commitment to education and community service.

The board received 32 applications, but six people dropped out. The board interviewed all 26 remaining candidates on Tuesday and Wednesday. Board President Mark Johnson thanked them all. "This has been a very difficult decision ... given the quality of the applicants," he said.

The board narrowed the field to the top two contenders after several rounds of voting. The vote to appoint Centers was unanimous.

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Twitter @Karen587

ACHIEVERS

Over 130 Alma College students participated in Alma College's 18th annual Kapp Honors Day program on Thursday, April 3. The day provides a forum when traditional classes are canceled and students share their original research, creativity and talents with an audience of their peers.

In sessions spanning nearly eight hours, students perform in music and dance productions, give oral presentations of scholarly research and lead poster discussions. Nearly 10 percent of the student body participated.

Participating were senior **Zakkary Hardyniec** of Wayne, who presented "Efficacy of a Novel Strength and Conditioning Program;" senior **Adam Karson** of Wayne, who presented "Risky Courtship Behavior of the Male Wolf Spider, *Schizocosa ocreata*;" and senior **Frances Jackson** of Westland, who presented "The Effects of Body Composition on Physical Activity and Heart Health in Fifth-Grade Students at Nikkari Elementary."

Jessica Coatsworth of Garden City received a Heart and Soul Award from the Michigan Campus Compact (MiCC) in recognition of her time, effort and personal commitment to her community through service.

MiCC promotes the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens, through creating and expanding academic, co-curricular and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service-learning and civic engagement.

Lauren Daniels of Westland recently received an academic award at Albion College's annual Honors Convocation. The Albion College faculty chooses these recipients from among the most exemplary students in all academic departments.

Daniels received a Ballard Family Endowed Scholarship in Art and Art History. Daniels is majoring in art. She is the daughter of David and Donna Daniels of Westland and a graduate of Ladywood High School.

Amanda Quartz of Garden City graduated with high distinction at the University of Michigan winter commencement. She received a dual degree in human resource management and Hispanic studies.

A Chancellor's Medallion candidate, she was recognized as a dean's scholar of her graduating class at the Celebration of Excellence on April 4. She was also recognized at the annual Honors Convocation as a James B. Angell Scholar and University Honors. She also was the recipient of the 2013 Honors Scholar Award for Human Resource Management.

Quartz, a 2009 graduate of Garden City High School, was the first female recipient of the MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award/Scholarship. She also was a substitute teacher for Garden City Public Schools while attending college and is now a Human Resource Generalist with Aisin World Corp. of America.

She is the daughter of Patrick and Katrina Quartz.

W-W teachers attend Galileo Leadership Academy

Three Wayne-Westland teachers were among educators in a Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties who displayed their work at a recent Inquire and Learning Fair at Oakland Schools in Waterford.

The fair showcased the projects of teachers completing their first year in the Galileo Leadership Academy. Participating were Lindsay Derocher, Chris Swanson and Piper Grenfell.

The academy is collaboration between K-12 and community college educators aimed at creating dynamic learning communities through the development and support of a network of educational leaders. The ultimate goal is the transformation of the learning



Joyce Fouts (from left) of the Galileo Leadership Consortium joins Wayne-Westland participants Lindsay Derocher, Chris Swanson and Piper Grenfell at the recent Inquire and Learning Fair at Oakland Schools in Waterford.

communities into "positive, joyful and reflective places of hope, where meaningful, challenging and powerful learning is celebrated and achieved by all."

The program offers 14 seminars spread over two years and two three-day summer retreats.

As Galileo Leaders, the teachers have been evaluating what they learn through the completion of assignments that can include reflective writings. As leaders they

are expected to meet with school administrators and the school board, and one session includes a trek to the state capitol to discuss educational issues with legislators.

The capstone of the first year was their action research projects which were on display at the May 1 fair. The project is designed to help the teachers answer questions by identifying and collecting data that already exists in their classrooms or schools.

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Indie film 'Monsters' to shoot in metro Detroit

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Monsters is an indie film, a fantasy-thriller, in which the crew is scouting metro Detroit locations.

"This is a passion project for everyone involved," said Josh R. Jones, a Pontiac resident and locations manager for *Monsters*. Filming is set to start May 16, 17 and 18 at a to-be-determined metro site.

"We're trying to keep this under wraps as much as possible," said Jones, 23, who earned a bachelor of science degree in mass communications from Rochester College, and has worked in the industry since 2011.

Monsters was penned by local musician and author Josh Malerman. Last January, Malerman met Luke Jaden at the Detroit premiere of Jaden's documentary film, *Madman or Martyr?*

Jaden is founder and



Luke Jaden, 18, directs a scene on a recent project.

owner of the Detroit-based production company, SOS Productions. Malerman is frontman for Detroit band The High Strung and author of *Bird Box*. The High Strung's song, *The Luck You Got*, can be heard on the Showtime Channel's *Shameless* starring William H. Macy and Emmy Rossum.

Malerman's book, *Bird Box*, will be released through HarperCollins everywhere May 13 and was recently picked up by a major Hollywood studio to be made into a feature film.

"Josh (Malerman) actually wrote the film

we're working on," Josh Jones said of *Monsters*. Malerman met Jaden and they hit it off. Jaden will direct and produce *Monsters*.

Jaden said, "Detroit is an interesting city. I truly believe it's going to be the start of something new." He calls it the "comeback city."

"I think *Monsters* is a story that needs something mysterious and unique," Jaden said. "Detroit is a city that's very surreal. It has a never-ending list of artistic possibilities. I chose Detroit for a reason," he added, noting *Monsters* could have

been filmed in L.A. or New York City.

The crew is looking for the perfect house, which on the outside will have an appearance of normalcy. The "haunted house" will be central to *Monsters*.

DePaul-bound

Jaden, 18, of northern Oakland County is headed to DePaul University in Chicago. "I'll attend college and study film and television," Jaden said. After DePaul, he plans to head to L.A. to pursue a film career.

"Pretty much school's over for seniors," the director/producer said of his final year at Detroit Country Day wrapping up. He's eager to get working on *Monsters*.

"I'm very looking forward to it," Jaden said. "It's a fantasy that hasn't necessarily been told before. There are many elements dealing with fantasy and horror," as well as a thriller. "It should be pretty inter-

esting how it turns out."

He compares it to work of David Lynch. "It's dark," Jaden said. "It's fantasy-like. It's quite out there."

Jones said some homeowners are happy to work with the film crew.

"As of right now, we do have some hot prospects we're working with," he said. That portion of filming will be three days, not too much of an inconvenience for the residents.

"We want the homeowners to be as much a part of this as possible," Jones said of the collaborative effort to "support local artists."

"We're a small operation. We're not going to have a large cast," Jones said. The *Monsters* story will be told through "sensory visuals" of sight and sound.

'Awesome script'

"It's an awesome script Josh (Malerman) wrote," Jones said.

There's no release date yet for *Monsters*, which will be introduced to national audiences through film festivals.

Jaden's documentary *Madman or Martyr?*, about abolitionist John Brown, attracted attention and critical praise, Jones said: "This is looking to take it a step farther. I was very impressed with his level of professionalism. He's definitely the youngest director I know."

Jaden has filmed his last two productions locally, including *The Neverlands*, which is in post-production and set to wrap up this summer.

"I definitely think I'll be back in Detroit doing some kind of film," Jaden said. "That's definitely on my radar."

Other producers on *Monsters* are Michael Zervos of Northville (director of the new feature film *Papou*) and Cort Johns of Ann Arbor (producer on *The Neverlands* and *Anagram*).

Hear Detroit success stories at Citizens for Peace meeting

Jon Barth, marketing and outreach director of Urban Neighborhood Initiatives, will talk about building a healthy and peaceful community in the Springwells Village area of southwest Detroit at the Citizens for Peace meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road.

Urban Neighborhood Initiatives, a 501(c)3 nonprofit with a 17-year history, works to build safe and thriving neighborhoods for a community of 5,000-plus Detroit households by

investing in youth and families, engaging community, and inspiring hope.

Barth grew up in nearby Oak Park, and had a transformational experience while in his early 20s that led him to live and work in Detroit and dedicate his career to the city's revitalization.

The Citizens for Peace meeting is free and open to all. For more information, call Colleen Mills at 734-425-0079, or visit www.citizensforpeace11.blogspot.com.

How to invest money for income in today's world

Q: I am 62 years old and retired. I'm collecting Social Security and I have about \$20,000 to invest for income. I am considering CDs or U.S. treasuries. I consider myself moderate from a risk standpoint. I was hoping you could give me some ideas as to how to invest this money.

A: Generating income is one of the more difficult dilemmas that investors face. Unfortunately, with U.S. treasuries and CDs paying such low rates of return, they generally are not viable alternatives when it comes to investing for



current income. After all, CDs aren't even paying 1 percent and, unfortunately, it doesn't appear that rates will increase anytime soon.

In today's world, the only time I recommend CDs is for emergency funds or to hold money for the short run.

In reviewing your situation, the investments I recommend are commission-free, which means that 100 percent of your money goes to work for you at all times. The first suggestion is T. Rowe Price Spectrum Income Fund (www.troweprice.com). This is a fund that invests in a variety of income-type funds managed by T. Rowe Price. The fund provides you with a diversified income port-

folio — domestic bonds, international bonds, as well as some preferred stocks and income-producing stocks. This is a very good fund with a good long-term track record that would fit your needs for producing income.

Another alternative to consider is Vanguard, a great company that offers the best customer service and low investment costs. I would consider taking the \$20,000 and dividing it equally into Vanguard Wellesley Income and Vanguard Total Bond Market index. This will give you diversification within the income areas.

Generating income from investments has become more difficult over the last few years. With the Federal Reserve artificially keeping interest rates low, it has adversely affected income investors. That is why in today's low interest rate environment,

investors who need to produce income need to think out of the box and not automatically invest in the traditional income-producing investments such as CDs and U.S. treasuries.

I recognize the risk level is different when you invest in mutual funds; however, it's not like things such as CDs and U.S. treasuries are risk-free. Yes, if you purchase a CD or U.S. treasury, your principal is guaranteed and you will get your money. However, that doesn't mean it is risk-free.

I wish I could recommend an income investment that is totally risk-free, but there are none. Every investment has risk and the key is to manage that risk. Good luck.

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

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MEMBER FDIC

RFP FOR EXTERIOR SIGNAGE CONTRACTOR SERVICES
PROPOSAL DUE DATE AND TIME: **May 22, 2014 @ 10:00am**

SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO: Purchasing Division
City of Westland
36601 Ford Rd.
Westland, MI 48185

DESCRIPTION OF PROCUREMENT:
The City of Westland is requesting response to the RFP to provide exterior digital signage for the five (5) locations as identified within the RFP. All RFP responses are to be all inclusive of proposed materials, installation, taxes, permits, and delivery to site. Proposals must include conceptual drawing of proposed exterior signage included within the submission.

A. All RFP documents may be obtained at the City of Westland's e-Builder site <http://app.e-builder.net/public/publicLanding.aspx?QS=550d6a2897d5403e88ef5f4602c23c1e>

B. If there are any questions or issues accessing the file on E-Builder please contact LaMerra Hobbs at LaMerra.Hobbs@PlanteMoran.com for assistance if necessary.

- The City of Westland will not consider or accept proposals after the date and time specified for submission in the advertisement.
- Proposal shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the company and the City of Westland.
- The City of Westland will not consider or accept proposals that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement
- The City of Westland has adopted and implemented a local policy that gives a preference to a City of Westland-based business in awarding a contract under this section. The policy may provide for a preference based on the status of the primary contractor as a City of Westland-based business or based on the status of 1 or more subcontractors of the primary contractor as Westland-based businesses, or both. A policy adopted under this subsection shall be consistent with federal statutes and regulations and shall not be applied to a contract that is to be paid with federal funds.

The City of Westland may require this project to be Prevailing Wage. Please familiarize yourself with the Bid Specifications and Prevailing Wage and Benefits section of the City of Westland's Ordinance.

- The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein.

Publish: May 11, 2014 LO-000194209 3x8

ORDINANCE NO. 31-A-1

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 90, ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 90-263 OF THE WESTLAND CODE CONCERNING THE LANDOWNER'S DUTY TO REPAIR AND REPLACE SIDEWALKS, AND THE CITY'S RIGHT TO DO THE WORK.

THE CITY OF WESTLAND ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 90, Article VIII, Section 90-263, of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 90-263. -Landowner duty to build, maintain, repair and replace; right of city to do work; procedures.

(a) All sidewalks and aprons for side drives in the city shall be built, maintained and repaired by the owner of the adjacent land improved thereby. In the event that any landowner shall fail to comply with this requirement, the landowner shall be liable to the city for any damages recovered against the city sustained by any person by reason of such sidewalk being unsafe or out of repair.

(b) In the event that any such landowner shall fail to comply with the provisions of subsection (a), the city may rebuild, replace, maintain, repair or cause to be built, replaced or repaired, such sidewalks or aprons for side drives, and assess the entire cost thereof against such landowner and the land improved thereby, in accordance with the procedures set forth herein.

(c) If the director of public services or his designee determines that a sidewalk or apron for a side drive is in need of repair or replacement in accordance with the criteria contained in subsection (d), the city or its designee may send the land owner a notice that the applicable portion of the sidewalk or apron for a side drive must be replaced within 30 days. The notice shall provide the landowner with four options:

- (1) the landowner may perform the work and acquire the necessary permit from the city within ten days of receiving the notice;
- (2) the landowner may have the work performed by a contractor and acquire the necessary permit from the city within ten days of receiving the notice;
- (3) the landowner may, within ten days of receiving the notice, file a written appeal with the director of public service or his designee stating clearly why the work does not need to be performed. The decision of the director or his designee shall be made within five days of receipt, and shall be final; or
- (4) if the landowner fails to comply with subparagraphs (1) through (3), the City or its contractor may perform the work at the expense of the landowner and the land, as provided below.

(d) Interpretations of this article and the conditions which require the replacement of sidewalk or apron sections shall be made by the director of public services or his designee. Such conditions shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) There is a vertical separation of one inch or more at a sidewalk crack or joint.
- (2) The surface has deteriorated to a depth of one inch or more below the original sidewalk surface elevation.
- (3) There are holes in the sidewalk surface which exceed 2 inches in diameter and one inch in depth.
- (4) There are signs of advanced deterioration at the sidewalk joints resulting in crumbling (loose stones, etc.).
- (5) There are abrupt changes in the longitudinal or transverse grade of the sidewalk which will cause water to collect.
- (6) There is a condition which, in the discretion of the inspector, may be considered as being unsafe to the walking public.

(e) In the event that the repair or replacement is performed by the city or the city's contractor, the city shall invoice and assess the entire cost thereof against the landowner and the land improved thereby. Such cost shall be calculated on a square foot basis, and shall include the cost of all labor, materials and administrative expense as determined by the finance director. If the invoice from the city is not paid within 30 days, the costs shall be a charge and lien against the land improved thereby until payment has been made, and an additional late charge shall be included in the costs charged against the landowner and the property in the amount of thirty percent of the amount of such costs.

Section 2. That all other provisions of Chapter 90 of the Westland City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Repeal. All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

Section 5. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

ADOPTED: May 5, 2014
EFFECTIVE: May 15, 2014
PUBLISHED: May 15, 2014

Publish: May 11, 2014 LO-000194209 3x8

Guinness recognizes Tribute Rosies' world record

It's official. The Yankee Air Museum has announced that the publishers of *Guinness World Records* have officially recognized the 778 "Rosies" who gathered at Willow Run Airport on March 29 as establishing a new world record.

The communication received from the publishers of the Guinness book said that, "We are delighted to confirm that you have successfully achieved a new Guinness World Records title for 'Largest gathering of people dressed as Rosie the Riveter.' We would like to congratulate you on your record-breaking achievement. You are officially amazing."

The event was staged by Tribute Rosies who have part of the museum's Save the Bomber Plant Campaign aimed at the purchase of a portion of the original Willow Run Bomber Plant as the new home of the Yankee Air Museum. Officials announced May 1 that they are entering into a purchase agreement with RACER Trust after raising close to \$8 million to buy the building a part of the former GM Willow Run Powertrain Plant.

Museum officials are "delighted" that the record was achieved but even more so that so many women, many with family members in tow, took time out of their

busy lives on a cold March Saturday to help set the record. Campaign leaders were especially moved by the participation of 18 original Rosies, actual WWII female war workers.

Among the tribute Rosies, younger women dressed as Rosie in honor of the originals, was Vickie Croston who came from Texas to participate in honor of her mother, Rose Will Monroe. Monroe was the very first Rosie, the Willow Run riveter featured in the War Department film in which the phrase "Rosie the Riveter" was first applied to female war workers. "All of us are incredibly grateful to every

one of the Rosies, all 778 of them," said Dennis Norton, founder of the Yankee Air Museum and President of the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, which has been conducting the Save the Bomber Plant Campaign. "Ranging in age from three months up well into their 90s, these women came out on a cold Saturday in March to set this record and help Save the Bomber Plant."

"We were especially honored that so many of the original Rosies came out to set this record and help mobilize support around our effort to save a piece of the Bomber Plant for future generations," added Ray Hunt-

er, Chair of the Yankee Air Museum Board. "Watching these amazing women march out to take their places at the front of the group was incredibly moving."

"The enormous turnout for this event is an unmistakable expression of the passion of this community to never forget the important role of Willow Run and the women who played a crucial part in World War II to help preserve our freedom," said Airport Authority Public Affairs Director Michael Conway.

The Yankee Air Museum was founded in 1981 to preserve and honor southeastern Michigan's aviation his-

tory. Since then, it has acquired and returned to flying status four World War II aircraft, including the *Yankee Lady*, a B-17G that was used in the movie *Tora! Tora! Tora!* and is the museum's flagship.

The aircraft are flown and displayed at numerous air shows from May through September, including the Thunder Over Michigan air show at Willow Run, which will be Aug. 9-10.

Yankee Air Museum is located at Willow Run Airport and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

For more information, visit www.yankeeairmuseum.org.

House bill sparks concerns about toll roads in Michigan

By Kathleen Gray and Paul Egan
Gannett Michigan

A spokesman for a highway-user group has accused lawmakers of trying to sneak toll roads into Michigan through a package of bipartisan bills intended to raise an extra \$500 million a year to repair the state's crumbling infrastructure.

House Bill 4925, one of a package of bills now before the Legislature as part of the road-funding plan announced in April by House Speaker Jase Bolger, R-Marshall, has the primary purpose of allowing the Michigan Department of Transportation to enter into "public-private partnerships" on road projects.

Michigan has never had toll roads, which are found in Ohio, Illinois and 27 other states. The federal government has put severe restrictions on states placing tolls on most interstate highways built with federal funds,

but the Obama administration's latest transportation bill, released this week, would remove those restrictions.

James Walker of the National Motorists Association, a group that lobbies on highway issues and opposes toll roads, told the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Thursday the user-fee provision in HB 4925 "opens up an entirely new area of taxation ... without legislative oversight."

He said the idea of toll roads, which was not highlighted in news releases about the road-funding package, should not be "quietly wrapped up" inside a package of bills without public comment. "Michigan does not need and should not have toll roads that the Legislature has not approved in advance on a case-by-case basis," Walker testified.

'At major crossings'

Rep. Marilyn Lane, D-Fraser, the lead spon-

sor, said toll roads "at major crossings," such as Michigan's borders with Ontario and neighboring states, should be part of the conversation. But she said she has no plan to push for toll roads, noting a federal waiver would be required before tolls could be put on any Michigan road.

Ari Adler, a spokesman for Bolger, said Lane's bill was an existing bill that is being moved as part of the Speaker's proposed road-funding package.

But Bolger does not favor toll roads as part of Michigan's road-funding plan. As federal law now stands, Michigan would have to repay federal money used to build its interstate highways if it wanted to place tolls on those roads, Adler said.

The bill does provide for toll roads in the context of new public-private partnerships, and if there are concerns about that, "the bill could be left behind and it wouldn't affect the transportation

package at all," he said.

Central to Bolger's plan to raise an extra \$450 million to \$500 million a year to fix roads is removing the 19-cents-per-gallon tax on regular fuel and the 15-cents-per-gallon tax on diesel fuel and replacing them with a 6 percent tax on each, paid at the wholesale level.

He said the change would be revenue neutral for regular fuel at current prices, but unlike the present system would assure tax revenues increase with the price of fuel. It also would improve fairness by equalizing the tax rate on regular and diesel fuel, a change that will generate \$47 million more a year at current prices.

Bolger also wants to make sure the sales tax collected from fuel sales — other than the amounts dedicated by law to schools and local governments — all goes to roads, while also dedicating 1 percentage point of the state's 6 percent use tax

to roads. Together, those measures would raise \$269 million, he said.

More funds

The Senate also is looking at the possibility of coming up with more money for roads than what Bolger's plan would produce.

"We've been looking at it," said Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, R-Monroe. "The brutal winter made people change the way they're looking at the issue."

He suggested that

generating new revenues through increased taxes are a possibility to reach the estimated \$1.2 billion a year Gov. Rick Snyder has identified as needed to repair the roads.

But whether that gets done before November's election is questionable, he added.

"That's going to be tough," said Richardville, who, like Bolger, is not discussing toll roads. "I'll have to see what's the most palatable because I'd like this to be bipartisan vote."

Vote for a cover star

Go to hometownlife.com and vote for your favorite Christmas in July cover star. The winner will be on the cover of O&E Media's Christmas in July special section and be noticed by more than 125,000 readers in print and thousands more online at hometownlife.com.

The winner will be selected in part by readers voting at facebook.com/OEHometown and by O&E Media staff. Voting on Facebook ends May 23. Staff selection will follow May 27.

The winner will get a \$100 gift card.



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Madonna University graduates 1,300, including seven from Haiti

Before Madonna University's commencement ceremonies Sunday, Cheryl Nawrocki of Northville, a social work student, adjusted her graduation cap to make sure it was on correctly. On the top of her mortarboard, Nawrocki had spelled out "for U dad" in big purple letters.

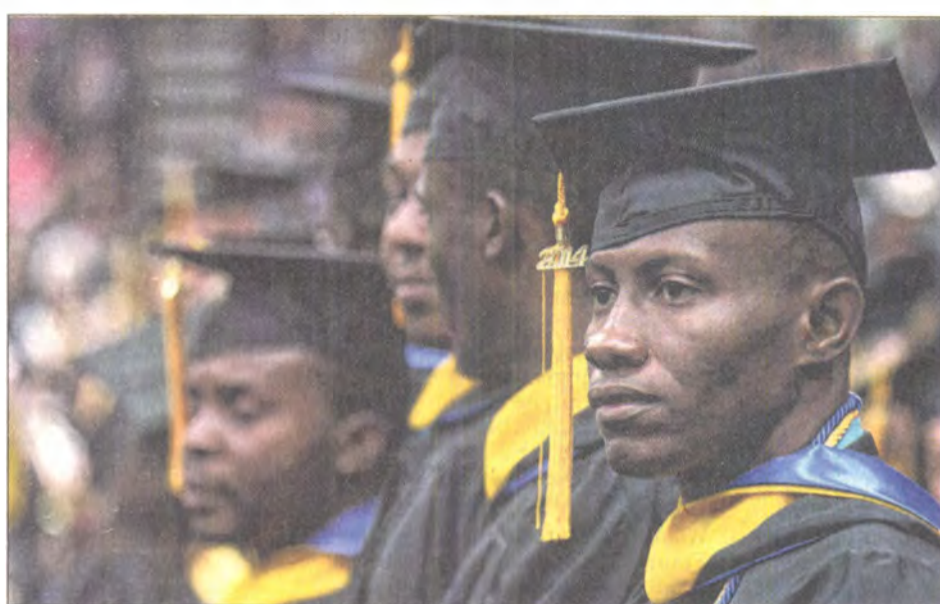
It was his desire that she complete college. "He was a firm believer in education," she said. Although her dad died seven years ago from

skin cancer, "he has been my driving force," Nawrocki said.

Nawrocki, along with 1,300 fellow graduates, celebrated Madonna University's 67th commencement at Compuware Arena in Plymouth. Among this group were seven students from Haiti, who received a bachelor of science degree with a major in business administration and an embedded certificate in community development.

Launched in 2011, Madonna's Haiti Educational Leadership Program is a degree completion program that is delivered via distance learning technology and designed to prepare business leaders to help rebuild Haiti.

Graduates are encouraged to use their leadership and entrepreneurial skills to create jobs and promote volunteerism that will improve families and neighborhoods in Haiti.



Madonna University graduates from Haiti stand together during the commencement ceremony. These seven graduates are the first from Madonna University's Haiti Educational Leadership Program. PHOTOS BY ALAN PINON



Cheryl Nawrocki of Northville adjusts her mortarboard before Madonna University's commencement ceremonies on Sunday, May 4. She earned a bachelor's degree in social work.



Madonna University sign language interpreting studies graduates (from left) Natalie Sanborn of Livonia, Stephanie Mayack of Washington, Laurie Kuhlman of Novi and Iris Haynes of Southgate sit together before graduation.

Westland library seeks youth volunteers

The William P. Faust Public Library is looking for teen volunteers to help with the 2014 Summer Reading Program, "FIZZ, BOOM, READ!"

Volunteers will help in the Youth Services Department and assist at many summer events. It offers an opportunity for teens to earn experience and service hours for their school or communi-

ty organization.

Volunteers should be entering ninth-grade or above in the fall of 2014.

Applications are available at the library or can be downloaded from the library's website, www.westlandlibrary.org. Applications should be submitted to the Youth Services Desk before attending one of three "walk-in" training

sessions on Thursday, May 22, Wednesday, May 26, or Monday, June 2, in the Youth Activity Room of the library.

Most applications are accepted as long as space allows, but earlier applicants have priority in scheduling.

For more information, contact Claire.mueller@westlandlibrary.org or call 734-326-6123.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Board of Education will receive sealed bids for:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM SYNTHETIC FLOOR REPLACEMENT

Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: May 19, 2014
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: Board of Education
Garden City Public Schools
1333 Radcliff
Garden City, MI 48135
Attn: Drew McMechan, Chief Financial Officer

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 28, 2014.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; the MCGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION DODGE PLAN ROOM, Livonia, Michigan; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and reusable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Compliance Form must be included as well. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include both of these statements, which are included on the proposal execution form.

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

Publish: May 11, 2014 **END OF SECTION** LO-0000194268 3x5.5

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Board of Education will receive sealed bids for:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL BOILER REPLACEMENT

Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: May 19, 2014
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: Board of Education
Garden City Public Schools
1333 Radcliff
Garden City, MI 48135
Attn: Drew McMechan, Chief Financial Officer

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 28, 2014.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; the MCGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION DODGE PLAN ROOM, Livonia, Michigan; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

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This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

Publish: May 11, 2014 **END OF SECTION** LO-0000194263 3x5

Rain doesn't dampen farmers market opening

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

A late afternoon shower didn't put a damper on the opening of the 2014 Farmers Market in Wayne on Wednesday.

Shoppers who stopped by Goudy Park behind Wayne City Hall found a variety of fresh baked breads, cookies and muffins, garden plants, fresh vegetables, homemade soap, candles, garden art, cake pops and even an opportunity to plant seeds in repurposed empty toilet paper tubes.

"We're a non-profit that goes to elementary schools to talk to students about eating more fresh vegetables," said Javon Gatewood of Eating Gardens, a component of the North Woodward Community Foundation. "We teach them that food doesn't just come from the supermarket, it comes from farms."

With the help of UAW Local 900 and employees at Ford's Michigan Assembly Plant, Eating Gardens has amassed cardboard toilet paper tubes that — with four scissor cuts and four folds — become planting pots. People who stopped by the EG booth could make one ready for planting by filling it with dirt, seeds and water.

"We're very excited about helping youth get back to the basics," said Vickie Miller, director of Eating Gardens. "I have a 20-acre farm in Belleville and have 1 1/2 acres that is a garden. I've had it in my heart to do something with the land."

Local support

Miller works at Michigan Assembly and is grateful for the employees support.

"They have a huge box they've collected for us," she said. "We've also had volunteers from the University of Michigan come out and help prepare the garden. We've even gotten a Wayne County Food Unit grant to put up a hoop house. We have \$7,100 to spend on it, but need another \$3,000 to get it up."

Food grown in the garden will be donated to food banks and the local Veteran's Haven.

"It's great to come together and share ideas," Miller said. "We'll be here every week throughout the season."

Next to Eating Gardens was Beth Celeste of Walking Owls Gardens, also in Belleville. Her table was filled with fresh greens, herbs and radishes grown in a hoop house.

The farm is a CSA, Community Support Agriculture — the community helps with everything and in exchange shares in the produce.

"It's nice to have the help in exchange for food," Celeste said. "This is our first time at the market. We just moved to the farm last fall, although we've been in farming for 10 years. We use very organic methods but not certified."

The community has helped plant radishes, peas, carrots, fava beans and herbs. The farm also has raspberries in season and apples.

"People can find out what we're growing at localharvest.com," she said.

Garden plants

While Eating Gardens was showing shoppers how to plant seeds for their garden, Darla Bruck of Stotz Farm in Ada was selling garden-ready vegetable and herb plants, fresh asparagus and range-free eggs, including duck eggs.

"There's a demand out there for them," she said of the very large eggs. "They're very good."

The farm has been part of the Wayne market for five years.

"I'm glad to see the market open, although we could have done without the shower at 3 p.m.," she said. "I'm seeing a lot of familiar faces."

Beverly Martin was at the market to specifically make a purchase at the Jar Head Salsa and Tortilla Company booth.

"I was going to buy some last fall at the Westland Farmers Market but my daughter told me to wait, we'd get it here," she said. "For some reason we never made it. I like it. I wished I'd gotten it last year for my camping."

The salsas are the creation of retired Marine Gunnery Sgt. David Smith. While in the service, Smith would make salsas when he got fresh ingredients. When he got out, he continued to make them as a benefit for VFW Post 882 in Flint.

"When he got, he started making it as a fundraiser for veterans," Glen Brittingham of Grand Blanc said. "We've been around for five years. It took two years to sell our first 10,000 pints. We hit 50,000 pints last November and will hit 60,000 pints by the end of this year."

Fresh baked goods

Across the way, the Traffic Jam Restaurant, Dairy and Brewery of Detroit was back for a new season with its popular breads, gigantic cookies and muffins.

"This is a great market," said Greg Reichelt of Hamtramck. "We do well here. People wait for us. They're glad to see us."

Reichelt had the Traffic Jam's regular whole grain bread as well as flavored selections like white cheddar cheese



Darla Bruck of Stotz Farms sells a chive plant to Leslie Nicholas, who also purchased sausage, bread and salad greens from different vendors at the Wayne Farmers Market. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and potato dill.

"Traffic Jam is a great name, it has a good reputation and good baked goods," Reichelt said. "We feel fortunate they let us come back again."

The Wayne Farmers Market is open from 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays now through Oct. 29 in Goudy Park behind Wayne City Hall.

The market also is looking for family-friendly musicians to perform each Wednesday during the season. The market pays each week's performer a \$25 courtesy to help cover gas/travel expenses. For more information, email christine@growing-hope.com.

smason@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason



Grace Alexander of Michigan Hoop Girls performs at the farmers market.

Are You Fatigued?

“All The Time!”

**Do you feel worn out?
Do you wake up tired?
Do you need caffeine just to
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Because of fatigue, you may not enjoy important things like helping your kids, making dinner, or even taking a walk. No one really understands how you feel because outwardly, you look "fine." Your problem is — you feel anything BUT "fine!"

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- Chronic Fatigue
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- Narcolepsy
- Afternoon low energy
- Loss of memory or concentration
- Pain

Nothing is worse than feeling so wiped out that you are unable to take part in your daily activities.

**“Your Symptoms Mean
Something Is Wrong!!!”**

Fatigue may be caused by many systems gone bad... anemia, hypoglycemia, thyroid, adrenals, parasympathetic nerve stress, insulin resistance, electrolyte imbalance... the list goes on.

Do you see in the simple diagram I drew how every system is connected? You may have one or two physiological systems dragging down your entire body. Your fatigue could be caused by a number of systems winding down.

The Map of Fatigue

There must be a reason you are tired all the time. You cannot keep up the demands of your body. What will happen if you continue this way?

You cannot drug yourself back into more energy. You cannot sleep yourself into more energy by napping all day. You cannot think yourself into more energy.

**“Isn't it time to find out
what is REALLY going on?”**

Fatigue is not a one-pill problem. If you use coffee or sweets or energy drinks to get through the day, you know you are prolonging the problem and may be making it worse. Fatigue is a series of systems gone bad for a long time.

Are you frustrated with your attempts to resolve fatigue? You have probably tried all you know to get to the bottom of your fatigue problem... except get...

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For the first 25 people who call only, I'm running a special offer; this is how you can find out if you are a candidate for our Fatigue Recovery Program.

At your appointment we will read and interpret your latest laboratory blood chemistry in functional ranges to find what pathologies you already have. We will perform a neurological evaluation to determine what sensory and motor functions need repair. We will do a metabolic examination to determine which major metabolic engines are not functioning properly.

In all, this is one of the most thorough evaluations, interpretations, and reports you will ever receive. Then we will interpret all of your information and design a program of care that, if you qualify, will put you on the road to healing your health imbalances, improving your energy, and getting your life back again. What would that be like?

The first 25 callers only! You can get everything that I've listed here for only \$65! Our normal fee for this is \$140... I hope you are one of the 25 callers.

Do you wish your fatigue will slowly go away like it came on? Not very likely. If you have fatigue all the time you have a dysfunction somewhere with your metabolism or in your nervous system causing your body to wind-down. The symptoms you have may reveal where the dysfunctions are coming from.

“Here is your chance to find out!”

Here is what to do now:

Every time we tell people about our fatigue program, they fill up our workshop, 2 or 3 times over. Now instead, you will call and schedule an appointment right on the spot (instead of the workshop you will watch it on video). You will schedule an appointment with me for your consultation and examinations. I will go over everything and report back to you at another visit, all included in the \$65. I will give you my best recommendations at this second visit.

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I look forward to meeting with you and if you qualify, helping you reduce and eliminate your fatigue.

Imagine how GREAT you will feel without your constant exhaustion!

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“Before seeing Dr. Kramer I could only walk 10 minutes, had general weakness, joint/muscle pain, anxiety, brain fog and heart palpitations. Now I'm doing great! I can walk an hour, pain is 85% BETTER AND HEART PALPITATIONS AND SHORTNESS OF BREATH are GONE.” - Constance T
See More Patient Successes at www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com

Mackinac Island: National Historic Landmark

Mackinac Island is an island, National Historic Landmark and tourist destination located in Lake Huron between the Upper and Lower peninsulas of Michigan. The island can be reached by plane or by ferry from either Mackinaw City in the Lower Peninsula or St. Ignace in the Upper Peninsula. Around 80 percent of the island is preserved

most of the federal land on the island was dedicated as the nation's second national park. Motorized vehicles have been prohibited on the island since 1898, with the exception of snowmobiles, emergency vehicles and construction equipment. Travel on the island is accomplished either by foot, bicycle or horse-drawn carriage.

The library carries a variety of materials related to Mackinac Island. For adults, check out *Mackinac Island: Its History in Pictures* by Eugene Petersen, *Seasons of Mackinac* by Terry Phipps, or the DVD movie, *Some-where in Time*, which was filmed on Mackinac Island. For kids, check out *Legend of Mackinac Island* by Kathy-Jo Wargin, *Let's Go to Mackinac Island* by Karen Dean or the DVD *U.S. Geography for Children: Michigan*.

If you'd like to learn more about Mackinac Island or other Michigan historic places, visit the library website at www.westlandlibrary.org, give us a call at 734-326-6123 or stop by the Reference Desk.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays before Memorial Day. The library will be closed on Sundays over the summer.

Highlighted Activities

History of Eloise, 6-7 p.m. May 13, Kay Beard Building, 30600 Michigan Ave., Westland — Join the Friends of Eloise for a presentation on the history of the famed Westland hospital, which is the setting for much of this year's *Annie's Ghosts*. Local



Mackinac Island from above.

historian Jo Johnson will lead a presentation on the former hospital's grounds and buildings while Georgia Becker will discuss what it was like growing up at Eloise during its heyday. This is an outdoor program and is offered as part of our Great Michigan Read programming. To read this year's book, *Annie's Ghosts: A Journey into a Family Secret*, or to hear about more GMR programming happening at the Westland Public Library, stop by the Reference Desk or call 734-326-6123.

Friends of the Library Meeting, 2 p.m. May 13 — The Friends of the Library is an independent group of local residents and library users that helps support and promote the library and its mission. They plan book sales and other fundraising activities for the library. They meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome.

Help for Healthy Michigan Plan/Medicaid, 6-8 p.m. May 13 and every Tuesday throughout May and 4:30-8 p.m. May 15 and every Thursday throughout June —

Meet with a Health Care Navigator from Community Bridges for help filling out your Healthy Michigan Plan/Medicaid application or your Health Care Marketplace Application. You must schedule an appointment. Stop by the Reference Desk or call 734-326-6123 to schedule an appointment. You will need to bring the items with you listed on the Marketplace Application Checklist and bring your spouse/family if you're hoping to decide on a plan. Keep in mind that some appointments can last longer than others, so you might be seen later than your scheduled appointment time.

Academic Enrichment, 3:30-5 p.m. May 14, grades 5 and up — Bring your assignments for free homework help and study help. No advanced registration needed, however, parents must sign a waiver upon arrival in order for child or teen to participate.

Tween Writing Workshop: Comic Strips, 6 p.m. May 14, grades 5-8 — Do you like to write? Come to our Tween Writing Workshop! Each month, we'll explore different genres, play writing games, and, of course, write! Have you ever wanted to create a comic strip of your own? Come to this month's workshop and give it a try.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 p.m.

May 14 — The Library Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month in one of the library's meeting rooms. Board meetings are open to the general public.

Preview Book Sale Friends of the Library, 3-6 p.m. May 15 — The Preview Sale is a chance for members of the Friends of the library (or those who wish to join) to get first pick in this month's book sale. The Book Sale will be open to the general public May 16.

Friends of the Library Public Book Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 16-17, and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday May 18 — Great prices for great books! All proceeds go to the Library.

Dinner and a Movie, 6 p.m. May 16 — What's better than dinner with friends? Well, dinner and a movie with friends, of course. Come join us for the last of our Friday Night Dinner and a Movie for the season. Tonight's movie, *Philomena*, is about: "A world-weary political journalist [who] picks up the story of a woman's search for her son, who was taken away from her decades ago after she became pregnant and was forced to live in a convent" (imdb). This Academy Award Best Picture nominee is rated PG-13 (98 min). Tonight's dinner will be pizza and salad. For each movie, we provide movie-related trivia and prizes, snacks and refreshments. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at 7 p.m.

First and Second Grade Book Club, 2 p.m. May 17, first- and second-graders only — This book club meets once a month to discuss books and engage in other fun activities. May's book is *Hi, Fly Guy!* by Tedd Arnold. Register online or at the Youth Reference Desk. Upon sign-up, indicate any food allergies your child may have.

Beginners Computer Lab, 2-4 p.m. May 17 — During this two-hour

drop-in lab, we will provide guided activities and librarian assistance to help you become computer literate for today's digital world. Build confidence while practicing common tasks at your own pace. Topics include using a mouse and keyboard; selecting, copying and pasting; navigating the internet; learning what you can do with email; and getting acquainted with Microsoft Office.

Lego Read & Play, 2 p.m. May 18, age 12 and under — A nice big room with friends who like to build = FUN. We'll have lots and lots of Lego® bricks for building, along with books for inspiration. No registration required.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Job Seekers Lab, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays — Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an email account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help. Drop in. No reservation needed.

Computer classes and one-on-one computer classes are offered all year long. Contact the library at 734-326-6123 to find out more.

The library also conducts several story times for children each week, including: Toddler Tales, Sleepytime Story Time, BabyTime, Preschool Story Time and Family Fun Story Time. Call the Youth Desk for more information or check out our website at westlandlibrary.org/kids. No sign-up required. Call 734-326-6123, ext. 2831.

Information Central was compiled by Katie Dover-Taylor. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call 734-326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.



As of the 2010 census, the island has a year-round population of 492. The summer season hosts a population boom on the island, as hotels, restaurants, bars and retail shops hire short-term employees to accommodate as many as 15,000 visitors per day.

Today, Mackinac Island is known for its historic downtown and harbor, beautiful views, and the confectioneries that make Mackinac Island fudge.

Mackinac Island was settled by Native Americans around the year 900 and called Michilimackinac. The island was first explored by Europeans in the late 1600s and was an important French fur trading post. The British took control of the island during the French and Indian War and built Fort Mackinac there in 1780 to protect their settlements in the upper Great Lakes region.

The Mackinac straits were first acquired by the United States in 1793, but the island was briefly recaptured by the British during the War of 1812.

After the Civil War, Mackinac Island became a popular tourist destination. In 1875,

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CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **on May 8th, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

Kitchen Equipment

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams
Controller

Publish: May 11th, 2014 LO-0000194287 3X2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Board of Education will receive sealed bids for:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL WINDOW REPLACEMENTS

Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: May 19, 2014
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: Board of Education
Garden City Public Schools
1333 Radcliff
Garden City, MI 48135

Attn: Drew McMechan, Chief Financial Officer

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 28, 2014.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; the MCGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION DODGE PLAN ROOM, Livonia, Michigan; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and reusable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Compliance Form must be included as well. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include both of these statements, which are included on the proposal execution form.

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

END OF SECTION

PUBLISH: 5/08/14 LO-0000194288 3X7

Driver ordered to stand trial in fatal car crash

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

A 27-year-old woman has been ordered to stand trial on charges that she drove her ex-girlfriend's car into the intersection of Warren and Wayne roads Feb. 17, causing an accident that resulted in the death of a Ypsilanti woman.



Lee

Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli bound Lee over for trial in Wayne County Circuit Court, following a preliminary hearing Thursday in Westland's 18th District Court.

In custody since Feb. 17, Lee is charged with second-degree murder in the collision that killed Patricia Nwaneri, 55. Lee is also charged reckless driving and malicious destruction of property over \$20,000 related to the fatal accident, as well as felonious assault and vandalism related to a domestic violence incident at a Westland apartment later on Feb. 17.

Nwaneri survived the accident but died a few days later at the hospital. The Wayne County Medical Examiner determined that she died of blunt trauma injuries caused by the accident.

On Thursday, Cynthia Dozier testified that she

and Lee had recently ended an almost two-year relationship and that she planned to take Lee to her mother's home in Indiana on Feb. 18. She believed the breakup had been amicable until she received a call on Feb. 16 from Westland police that her Hunter West apartment had been vandalized.

Vandalized apartment

Dozier testified that there were holes punched in the walls, a window was broken, the door was kicked off its hinges and tables and her TV were broken. Because she couldn't secure the apartment, she spent 12 hours in her car, a 2014 Chevy Impala, with Tracie Hale, who also lives in the apartment complex.

"I couldn't lock the door because the handle was broken," said Dozier, who told the court that she had parked her car on the other side of the complex so that Lee wouldn't see her. "I'm afraid of Ponya. I don't feel comfortable with her."

Both Dozier and Hale testified that Dozier began receiving text messages from Lee after they had been in the car for about six hours. Dozier said Lee asked if she could stay at the apartment "because it was cold outside and she had no place to go."

Dozier returned to the apartment by herself to freshen up and found Lee asleep on a futon. She cleaned up and went to Hale's apartment. That's where she received another call from Lee.

"She told me to come and get my car. She told me it was at Target," Dozier said. "When she heard Tracie in the background, she flipped out. She said, 'Oh, OK, so this is how it is. I'm about to crash your car.'"

Dozier added that Lee said she could not return her car because her wrists hurt her. She said she attempted to cut her wrists.

"She wanted me to find her dead in my apartment," she said.

Within seconds of saying she would crash her car, Dozier said she heard the sounds of a crash and her car's On-Star system saying her name. She ran from the apartment down Yale to Target and saw the crash at Warren and Wayne roads.

Dozier added that she had left her keys at her apartment.

'Not comfortable'

Hale, who had seen the apartment, said Dozier didn't feel comfortable returning to it, so she stayed with her in her car. She also said she was sitting close enough to Dozier that she heard what Ponya said on the phone before the crash.

"We were just sitting there, chilling; Ponya had been calling on the phone," Hale said. "I turned to Cynthia and asked why it was a Target. I heard her say 'I see how it is going to be and I'm going to crash it.'"

Also called to testify were Westland Police Officers Kevin Cullum and Stephanie Pelow, who happened to be at the intersection when the accident occurred. Both were en route to help the fire department at another incident. Pelow was on Wayne Road and Cullum was on Warren Road.

Cullum noticed the Impala because it had its headlights on. He testified that it appeared to be going the speed limit of 40 mph or better when it switched lanes and

struck Nwaneri's vehicle. The vehicle "gave no appearance of stopping," he said.

"I thought I was going to be a part of the accident," he said. "Literally pieces from both cars ... the debris was coming at me. The Camry (Nwaneri's vehicle) was coming right at me. It ended up on the south lawn of McDonald's."

Pelow was on Wayne Road behind Nwaneri's vehicle and testified that when the cars hit, they spun around and into Warren Road. After the crash, Cullum had gone to see about Nwaneri while she went to the car driven by Lee.

"I asked her why she didn't stop at the light and she said she was on her phone," Pelow said.

While Lee's attorney argued that the two women's testimony wasn't "quite credible."

"She received countless calls from her and never picked them up, but miraculously she picked up this call," he said. "Sometimes it's too incredible not to deserve consideration."

"I find that certainly at a minimum there was a wanton and great disregard that caused death, and there's probably cause to second-degree murder," Cicirelli said.

Lee will be arraigned on the charges in circuit court May 15. She remains in the Wayne County Jail where she is being held without bond.

smason@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny from a vehicle

Two cars were broken into during the night of May 3 in the Westland Meadows complex.

One woman told police she was awakened by her neighbor May 4 and told that the passenger window had been broken out

and that the door was open.

The woman checked her car and found \$8 missing from the console. She told police the money had been left in plain view. She said the vehicle had been locked and she didn't hear the car alarm go off. A brick was found by the car, and

the passenger door had several dents in the molding.

The other woman checked her car and found it also had been broken into. She discovered the center console was broken off its hinges and papers were missing. She told police she had left the car unlocked.

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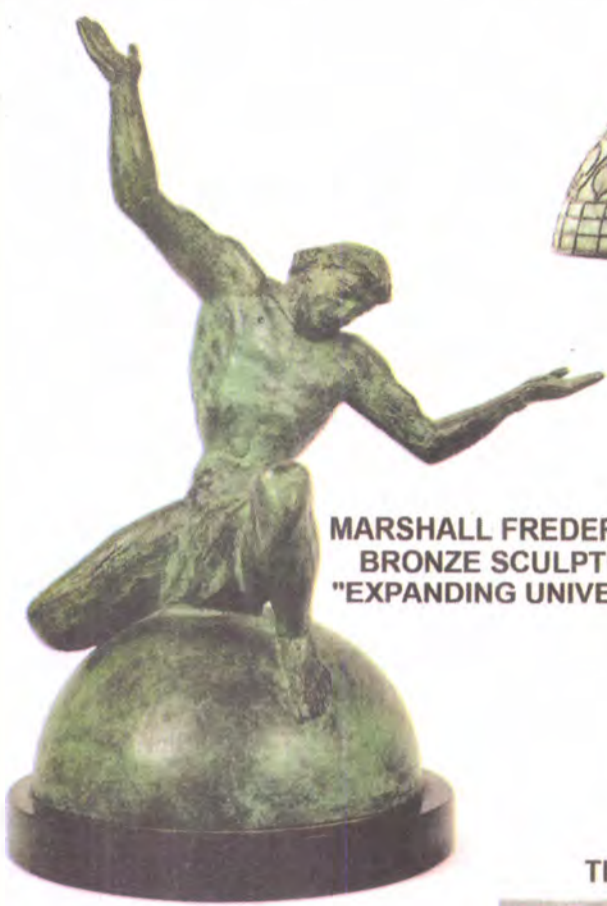
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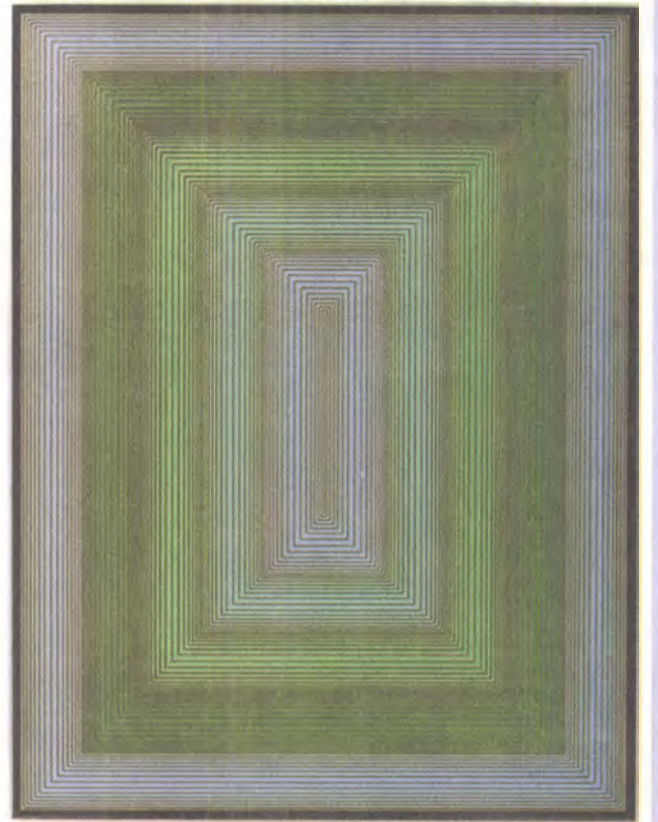
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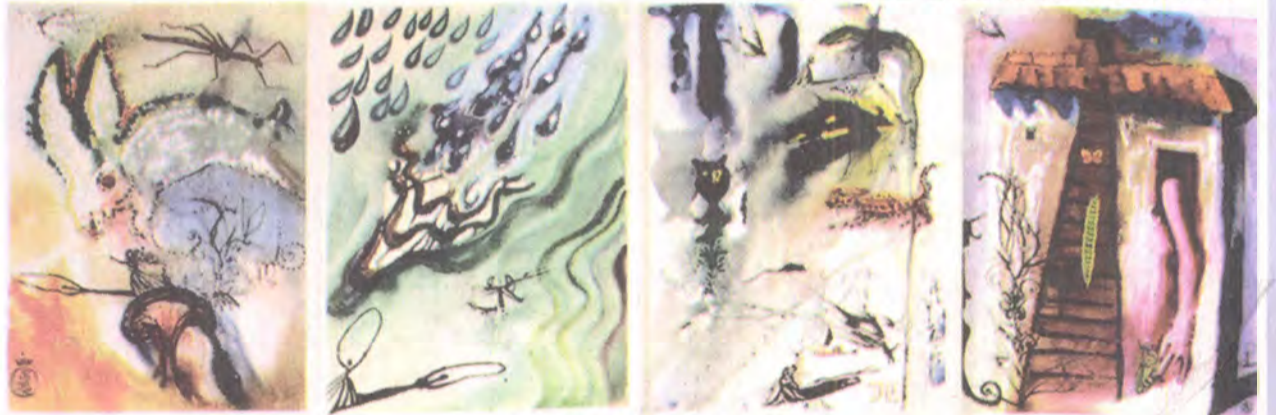
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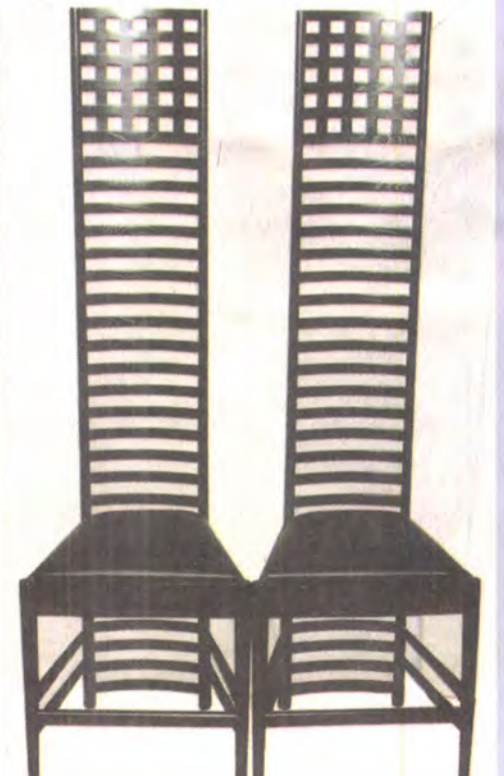
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SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

Huron Valley routs Liggett in MIAC Blue 1st-place test

Hawks club three HRs to take divisional lead in D4 regional rematch

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Call it a signature win Thursday for the Westland Huron Valley Lutheran softball team.

The Hawks were clicking on all cylinders, scoring a convincing 11-2 Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division triumph over visiting Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, the same team which knocked HVL out in the Division 4 regional final last year.

The Hawks, who improved to 11-0 overall and 7-0 in the MIAC Blue, were led offensively by senior Ashley Hewer, who went 4-for-4, including a homer, three RBIs and three runs scored.

Sarah Setian's two-run homer in the second inning got the Hawks going.

HVL's big inning came in the fifth, when they scored five times on six hits thanks to junior Anne St. John's homer, along with doubles from Nikki Alcini and Julie St. John.

Anne St. John wound up going 3-for-3 with a double, homer and three RBIs. Junior Jessie Strauch also contributed three hits, including a triple, to go along with three runs.

Hewer's two-run homer in the sixth put the game completely out of reach.

Losing pitcher Zarine Minwalla gave up a total of 14 hits.

"We hit the ball really well today, everyone had quality at-bats and it showed with only one strikeout," HVL coach Eric Ruth said. "We had to play defense today, too, and the girls played well in the field. I'm

See SOFTBALL, Page B4



Huron Valley Lutheran's Julie St. John scattered nine hits and didn't issue a walk in an 11-2 victory over University-Liggett.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

I'm very proud of the way our team played. This is a great win ...

ERIC RUTH
Huron Valley Lutheran softball coach

PREP SOFTBALL

Errors haunt Chargers in DH against Chiefs

Ace hurler's return bolsters Canton in KLAA South sweep

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill learned quickly Wednesday there's little margin for error when you play a perennial area softball power like Canton.

The host Chargers missed a golden opportunity to put themselves in the thick of the KLAA South Division race, but came up short in a double-header, falling to the Chiefs, 4-1, in the opener, followed by an 8-3 setback in the nightcap.

With the two victories, Canton improved to 13-1 overall and 10-1 in the division (a half-game behind first-place Plymouth in the South standings).

The Chargers, who committed seven errors in the first game, followed by five more in the second, fall to 13-9 overall and 7-4 in the KLAA South.

"I told my girls and my assistant coaches before the game that we've got to play error-free," Churchill coach Steve Gentilia said. "And we did, for the most part. But when you get a little pressure on us, we tend to not make the sure play and try to make the perfect play instead of just making the play."

Canton ace Hanna Warren was back on the mound for the first time in three weeks.

And despite nursing what is still a noticeable gimpy ankle, the Central Michigan University recruit proved effective as she handcuffed Churchill on three hits while striking out 11 and walking only two.

Gentilia thought about playing some small ball to test Warren's mobility around the mound, but decided to play it straight up.

"I didn't want to take the

bats out of our girls' hands because we've really been hitting the ball lately," the Churchill coach said. "But when it came down to it and the first time through the order, we tried to make something happen a little bit. But she (Warren) is a good pitcher. And even with her being a little sore on her leg, she's still has good movement on her pitches."

"Her being sore didn't change how we approach the game. I told the girls not to worry about her, just use the mental approach and be in there and hit it when she gets it to you."

Churchill's lone run came in the fourth inning, when Julia Cavagnini walked and scored on Mellanie Richardson's double.

Meanwhile, senior shortstop Paige Aresco drove in three of Canton's four runs, including a two-run single in the seventh to put the game out of reach.

Elizabeth Yager also went 3-for-4 and Bryn Birchler went 2-for-3 to spearhead Canton's 11-hit attack.

The Chiefs' other run came in the fifth on a Churchill error.

"We had that one in the first game, where our shortstop made a great play up middle," Gentilia said. "She fielded the ball, but tried to turn around and throw it to third. There was no need. The girl was safe ... you try to do too much sometimes. Instead of making the simple play we turn the simple plays into mistakes."

Richardson, who threw all seven innings, took the loss for the Chargers.

In Game 2, Hannah Shuler started for the Chiefs, but reliever MacKenna Payne came on to notch the victory.

Canton broke a 3-3 tie with one run in the top of the

See CHARGERS, Page B4



Stevenson's Sari Rakowicz (right) tries to steady the pass in Thursday's KLAA Central clash against South Lyon. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

GIRLS SOCCER ROUNDUP

Goodfellow's shutout carries Lutheran Westland to 3-0 win

Goalkeeper stops PK in non-conference victory vs. Livonia Clarenceville

Goalkeeper Kylie Goodfellow made six saves, including a penalty kick in the final minute, to preserve the shutout Thursday as Lutheran High Westland blanked host Livonia Clarenceville, 3-0, in a non-conference girls soccer encounter.

The Warriors, who improved to 7-2, led 1-0 at half-time on Bethany Hoehne's goal off a corner kick from Sadie Schultz.

In the second half, Julia Yancy made it 2-0 off an assist from Mara McMahon. Samantha Benner converted Schultz's corner kick to complete the scoring.

"We lost the intensity and fight where it led to scoring opportunities for Lutheran Westland," said Clarenceville coach Amanda Moody, whose team slipped to 4-7 overall.

"We had a few scoring opportunities, a couple just nicking the inside post, but couldn't finish tonight. We had solid control in the middle tonight from Brianna Tuuri-Cesarz and Samantha Franco."

Clarenceville goalkeeper Jillian Bunker made nine saves.

CHURCHILL 2, W.L. CENTRAL 1: Goals by Lauren Wynns and Sara Taylor enabled Livonia Churchill (8-2-1) to earn a KLAA crossover win Friday at Walled Lake Central (5-5-2).

Kacie Murray set up Wynns' first-half goal, while Alexis Lubonja's feed to Taylor on a header accounted for the game-winning goal with 15 minutes remaining in second half after the host Vikings had tied the match with 10 minutes to go in the first half on a free kick.

Churchill freshman Brittany Hayes was in goal as the Chargers were playing their third game in as many days.

"We played well defensively and we created and created chances until we were able to convert."

Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said.

JOHN GLENN 1, HARRISON 0: It was a happy senior night Friday as host Westland John Glenn (5-5-1) edged Farmington Harrison thanks to Marissa Edwards' unassisted goal in the 49th minute.

Glenn goalkeeper Courtney Schaber made 13 saves with back line defensive help from Kendra Pennington, Susie Bryan, Kaitlyn Balko, Elyse Penhollow and Raven Buck.

"They played better than the score indicated," Glenn coach Ralph Cabildo said.

STEVENSON 2, SOUTH LYON 0: Alia Baserbie and Paige Ackman each tallied a second-half goal Thursday to propel host Livonia Stevenson (6-5-2, 2-5) to a KLAA Central Division win against the Lions (0-9-2, 0-7-1).

Baserbie's tap-in, coming in the 51 minute, was a result of a long throw-in by Maddy Caves, followed by a flick on a header from Katelyn Foster.

Ackman's goal, coming in the 74th minute, was roofed home from six yards out. It was set up by a Sari Rakowicz corner kick.

Goalkeeper Rylee Jayson made two saves for her seventh shutout of the year.

CANTON 2, FRANKLIN 0: On Thursday, the visiting Chiefs (6-4-1, 6-2) got a goal in each half to down stubborn Livonia Franklin (2-6-2, 1-5-1) in a KLAA South Division clash.

Canton Rachel Winters got what proved to be the game-winner on a free kick from 25 yards out at the 25-minute mark.

Hannah Lapko added a rebound goal in the second half to put it away.

See SOCCER, Page B3

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Giving ways: Farmington Hills mom runs free supply closet for foster parents

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Michele Austin is making life a little easier for foster parents and their children by offering free clothing, toys, books, and other items through a local branch of Foster Closet of Michigan.

Austin is president of the nonprofit organization, which has eight locations statewide, including the Oakland County branch in her Farmington Hills home.

She and her domestic partner, Tammy Gabourie, are parents to three children, ages 11, 12 and 16, and currently care for three foster children, ages 20 months, 3 and 13.

"We originally started out wanting to adopt," said Austin, a stay-at-home mom. "There are 13,000 children in foster care and a tremendous need for foster families. It was a natural segue for us. We found we're helping a lot more children by fostering than we would by adoption."

The couple has fostered 15 youngsters. Gabourie works as a foster navigator at the Justin Center in Royal Oak, serving as a liaison between foster parents, the Michigan Department of Human Services and private agencies that have been contracted by the state to offer foster care.

Helping children

Foster parents offer a safe, nurturing, family environment for youngsters, who have been taken from their homes



Michele Austin runs the Oakland County branch of Foster Closet out of her Farmington Hills home. PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

because of abuse or neglect. The goal is to reunite children with their families and if that's not feasible, to find a permanent adoptive home. Children can stay with foster parents anywhere from a few days to a year or more.

"Our family motto is we love them as long as God needs us to," Austin said. "We try to make sure that while they are here they feel safe, loved and that the things they were doing before they are still doing."

"We have a child in our home now who is extremely athletic. We are getting him involved in athletics as much as we can. We live in Farmington Hills, but he's still in the Wayne-West-

land school district. It can get challenging. We have five kids in five different schools in four districts. I've always been a very organized person. I love what I do and I couldn't see doing anything else.

"And I have a passion for Foster Closet. It benefits not only my kids but kids throughout Michigan," she said. "When we got our first few (foster) kids, they came with a garbage bag of their belongings. One came with a box. That was all of their belongings. The state does subsidize you, but when they come with a bag, a box or nothing ... we felt a need from the beginning. We're creating a network to fill that need."

Foster children are eligible for Medicaid, which pays for medical, dental and mental health care. Foster parents also receive a semiannual clothing allowance, as well as twice-monthly payments based on the age and needs of the foster child.

But that may not be enough to cover all clothing costs for fast-growing youngsters, sports equipment, car seats and cribs.

Getting involved

Austin began collecting gently-used clothing soon after she became a foster parent. She discovered Foster Closet of Michigan and decided to become a member, rather than create her



Foster Closet offers clothing, books, toys and other items for free to foster parents.



Toys await youngsters at Foster Closet.

The Oakland County site is open to Wayne County residents.

Donations to Foster Closet consist mostly of clothing, but Austin has received everything from bedding to car seats, toys to books. She also obtains grants to pay for enrichment items, through One Simple Wish, a New Jersey nonprofit.

"We're getting things like Zoo memberships, lap tops, bikes, tablets. We had a kid that needed specialized medical equipment. It's 100 percent free to us and to foster families. We don't have the ability to buy bikes for kids, but we have this organization to go through. It's another way of networking."

Foster parents can make an appointment to visit the Oakland County site by calling 800-554-4966, Ext. 206. Or by emailing Oakland@fosterclosetofmichigan.org. Volunteers interested in helping out at the site, leading a fundraising drive or donating items may also call or email.

own group. She set up the Oakland County branch last September, filling her basement with clothing, toys, books, furniture and other items for children. A month later she became president of the statewide organization.

"We're looking to expand into any county and all they have to do is to contact me and we'll get the process rolling. We'd like to have a Closet in all of the counties. I'm desperately working on Wayne County," she said.

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Kenya trip helps Canton church members serve God, others

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Lisa DeGroot of Canton is Kenya-bound.

She's among six, including the pastor of Geneva Presbyterian Church of Canton, who will take a mission trip to Limuru in Kenya, about 40 miles north of Nairobi, in the mountains. Her husband, Art, can't get away from work for the trip.

"I think at this time in my life I needed to see what life is like in other countries," said Lisa DeGroot, who's visited such places as Mexico and the U.K. but never done a mission trip. "In other areas where there is such poverty."

DeGroot, who works in culinary arts at the Wayne-Westland school district's William D. Ford Career Technical Center, stood before the congregation Sunday, May 4 and asked, "When I say pilgrim what thoughts come to you?"

The Geneva pilgrims have studied author Trevor Hudson's *A Mile in My Shoes: Cultivating Compassion* to prepare for their June 21 through July 6 trip. They will leave behind toys and some supplies in Kenya.

Toys will include the new popular Rainbow Looms, invented by a man who calls metro Detroit home, as well as spinner toys, scissors and craft paper. Church members plan a special offering to help buy supplies, with leaders noting they're limited in what they can carry to Africa.

"I'm excited," said



Beth and Keith McBain of Canton are among the six members of Geneva Presbyterian Church who'll visit Kenya for mission work soon. PHOTOS BY JULIE BROWN

DeGroot. "I guess what the apprehension is is seeing life in such a different framework than what I'm used to. Will I serve in the way God wants? In serving God, it's serving the people that are there. How will I best help them?"

The missionaries don't have their specific assignments yet. Some will be at the Nazareth Hospital, and some at a K-3 school tutoring and possibly doing some science projects. There's a Joy Village orphanage. "To love the kids," she

said. "To hug them. It's that listener and learner component I spoke of" in church. The pilgrims will be conscious of how they spend their time and not too rigid on that, she explained.

First mission trip

Also among pilgrims are Beth and Keith McBain of Canton, he a Ford Motor Co. retiree and she a retiree of Tower Automotive.

"We both always wanted to do a mission trip," Beth McBain said. "Initially, I wanted to be a missionary."



Lisa DeGroot of Canton is looking forward to the mission trip to Kenya with the others from Geneva Presbyterian.

This is their first time overseas. "It's more of a pilgrimage," explained Keith McBain. "It's more about interpersonal, showing the kids we care."

Many children throughout Africa have been orphaned by AIDS. "The kids live in pods with eight kids in a pod," he said, adding each has an assigned "mother" for care.

They'll make home visits in the nearby countryside to pray for doctors and nurses there. "It's very sobering to see that type of pover-

ty," he said. "We all expect to be changed. It's through that suffering that God will be working in our lives. Soften our hearts and make us more aware of suffering in the world."

Beth McBain noted the very low wages the Kenyan workers in tea fields receive for their long days. "We don't want to go in and be seen as a savior," she said. "Basically it is just to have a presence."

Online updates

When their pastor, the Rev. Bryan Smith of

Canton, visited the Kenyan site last year, he was the first white man many there had seen. Beth McBain recalled how impressed locals were with the postage stamps he brought.

"It's a very different experience for us, just something new and exciting," she said.

Additional information is available, and online donations welcome, at www.treeoflives.org. There is also a Facebook page. If you like the Facebook page, you'll see updates posted during the Geneva trip.

When Smith visited Kenya in June-July 2013, he took school supplies and provided other help to orphans and victims of AIDS/HIV. Smith had met the Rev. Jim Wood of the First Presbyterian Church of Norfolk, Va. Wood's congregation visits Kenya for mission work regularly, and Smith went along last year.

Smith, who has been away on a backpacking trip, recently emailed his congregation: "I also ask that you keep the six of us in prayer as we draw closer to departing. Our team is deeply committed to being used by God, knowing that this trip will be a true pilgrimage for all of us. We go not only to share and bless, but to learn and to be changed by the experience. What a joy to share in the ministry of Christ with you all!"

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

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For more information contact Char Wilson at 586-826-7082



Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program To Out-Of-District Students

Eight seats are open to students entering 1st or 2nd grade, and Eight seats are open to students entering 3rd or 4th grade for the 2014-15 school year.

Limited Registration window: May 9-May 23, 2014.

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 9 - 23, 2014 at Webster Elementary School, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia, MI 48152 from 8:00a.m. - 4:00p.m. Monday - Friday.

All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org or contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

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Date: May 19, 2014
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: Board of Education
Garden City Public Schools
1333 Radcliff
Garden City, MI 48135
Attn: Drew McMechan, Chief Financial Officer

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 29, 2014.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; the MCGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION DODGE PLAN ROOM, Livonia, Michigan; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and reusable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Compliance Form must be included as well. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include both of these statements, which are included on the proposal execution form.

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

Publish: May 11, 2014

At risk for diabetes? These classes aim to help boost health

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan and Priority Health will offer an informational session at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, on the My Choice ... My Health program designed to help individuals at high risk for developing type 2 diabetes.

The informational session and the My Choice ... My Health classes will be held at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, at Five Mile and Levan in Livonia. The My Choice ... My Health classes begin Tuesday, May 20, and will be held

at 7 p.m. weekly for 16 weeks. Meetings are one hour long and take place in a classroom setting where a trained lifestyle coach helps participants learn about behavior changes. After the 16 sessions, participants will meet monthly for one year for additional support.

To qualify, participants must be overweight and at a high risk for developing diabetes, or overweight and diagnosed with pre-diabetes. Potential participants have the option of attending the information-

al session to learn if they are at risk, or they can talk with Leigh Vogelsong at the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan to find out if they qualify.

The program is free to Priority Health members. A limited number of free spaces, funded by St. Mary Mercy Hospital, are available to nonmembers.

Register for the informational session or ask for a risk assessment by calling Vogelsong at 800-482-1455 or emailing preventdiabetes@nkfm.org.

Senior Helpers offers dementia seminar

Teepa Snow, a dementia care and education specialist with more than 30 years of experience in geriatrics, will speak at free seminars, Monday-Tuesday, May 12-13, in Southfield and West Bloomfield.

The sessions, sponsored by Senior Helpers of Southeast Michigan, will help families and health care profession-

als gain a better understanding of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. During the three-hour accredited presentations, Snow will talk about the links between brain activity and new behaviors, changes in reactions and responses, different language comprehension and speech patterns, and more.

The seminars will run 1-4 p.m. or 6-9 p.m. Monday, May 12 at Evergreen Health & Living Center, 19933 W. 13 Mile, Southfield; and 8-11 a.m. or 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, at West Bloomfield Nursing Center, 6445 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. Register at 248-865-1000.

Study links regular doctor visits with fewer skin cancer deaths

The risk of dying from the most dangerous type of skin cancer is significantly reduced with regular doctor visits, according to a Henry Ford Hospital study.

Researchers found that deaths from melanoma dropped 70 percent in patients who had at least one visit to their family doctor or to a specialist in the five years prior to their diagnosis. When factoring in age, gender, socioeconomic and comorbidities, mortality decreased by 90 percent in patients who visited a specialist.

Researchers also found substantial reductions in mortality in patients who underwent preventive screenings like a fasting blood test or colonoscopy.

The study was presented Friday, May 9, at the Society of Investigative Dermatology's annual meeting in New Mexico.

"This study is important because it's not about having health insurance or having access to care. It's about tapping into that care," said Melody Eide, M.D., MPH, a Henry Ford Hospital dermatologist and the study's lead author.

"We know that people are always going to have struggles in their lives. They're going to have unreliable transportation, children that they're caring for, co-pays that are too expensive to pay. What this study suggests is that these types of barriers may impact your prognosis for cancer if they impede your ability to make your

medical care a priority."

While all cancer deaths declined 1.5 percent annually from 2002-11, the number of melanoma deaths increased 5 percent in the early to mid-1990s but have since leveled off, according to the National Institutes of Health.

However, disparities and poor outcomes exist in melanoma patients who are older, male and from ethnic and lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Researchers sought to examine whether these disparities, when coupled with patients who have insurance and access to care, could be predictors of melanoma mortality.

Seeking care

Researchers reviewed melanoma cases of 251 Caucasian patients from 2001-07, of which 158 were men. The patients all had health insurance and were eligible for care in a health maintenance organization during the study period. The patients' average age was 60, the age at which patients are typically diagnosed with melanoma.

Surprisingly, researchers found that visiting a specialist prior to melanoma diagnosis may reduce their risk of dying by 90 percent.

"This suggests that these patients who do better may be more engaged in their care or have less outside demands distracting from their care," Eide said. "It's not just about having insurance and having a doctor you see, it may be about being invested and an advocate for your own health. We found that regardless of their cancer stage at diagnosis, these patients who

saw more specialists and had compliance with their fasting lipid panels and other screenings had a better prognosis. This may suggest a role for the patient in improving their health by being engaged and prioritizing their care."

With health care under transformation from the Affordable Care Act, more patients than ever before will have access to care covered by insurance including preventive services without copays. However, having access to care is not the same as using the care available in the community.

In 2012, the percentage of people who had a usual place to go for medical care was 85.8 percent compared to 86.8 percent in 2011, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2012 National Health Review Survey. The survey also found that 6.2 percent of the population failed to obtain medical care because of cost.

"As we have more and more patients becoming insured through opportunities with the Affordable Care Act," Eide said, "we now have the burden going from not having insurance, to not using the insurance, to not seeking care. The patients in our study all had insurance and in theory all had the same equal opportunities for care. But they received different degrees of care. Some of that may have been at their direction. That is important, perhaps, with cancer prognosis."

The study was funded by Henry Ford Hospital, Henry Ford Medical Group and Dermatology Foundation.



Melody Eide, M.D.

Best nurses



The St. Mary Mercy Livonia Senior Emergency Department is among the national winners in the annual Best Nursing Team award and the award for best team in the Mid-Atlantic and Lower Great Lakes region from *Advance for Nurses*, a website and magazine. The award recognizes the team for improving the transition of care for older adults who live in care facilities. The team partners with nursing facilities, home health care professionals, hospice and emergency medical service to improve care quality.

Endocrinology?

Oh, I know what that is ...I think.

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Alzohaili
Endocrinology

While many of us have heard the term endocrinology, if you haven't dealt with an endocrine issue, you probably don't know much about this important area of our bodies or the physicians who specialize in it. Endocrinologist and GCH Health Expert, Dr. Opada Alzohaili, treats patients with issues from hormone imbalance to thyroid disease, and provides insight on several of the more common health conditions he sees everyday.

Q: What is the endocrine system?

A: It's a collection of glands, each of which secretes different hormones that regulate metabolism, growth and development, tissue function, sexual function, reproduction, sleep and mood, and more. The endocrine system gets some help from organs such as the kidney, liver, heart and gonads, which provide us with secondary endocrine functions.

Q: As an endocrinologist, what are some of the medical issues you deal with?

A: Because hormone and chemical balance is so important to proper metabolic function and good health, I see patients for a wide range of issues, including:

- **Diabetes** – a rapidly growing problem on both a national and local level, and the most common endocrine disease in this country. It's a condition that occurs when the body does not properly process glucose. This is due to the lack of insulin or, if the body is producing insulin, it is not working effectively.
- **Hormone Imbalances** – which can have a significant impact on the reproductive system, particularly in women. Endocrinologists treat patients with fertility issues and assess and treat patients with health concerns surrounding menstruation and menopause. Hormone imbalances can even impact our bones. Osteoporosis and osteomalacia (rickets), which causes bones to soften, come under the guise of endocrinologists.
- **Hypothyroidism** – occurs when the thyroid gland does not produce enough thyroid hormone to meet the body's needs. Insufficient thyroid hormone can cause many of the body's functions to slow or shut down completely.
- **Metabolic Disorders** – which occur when there is an imbalance of substances needed to keep the body functioning – hormone levels may be too high or low, or when some organs, such as your liver or pancreas, become diseased or do not function normally.

Q: When should I see an endocrinologist?

A: Like most specialists, your primary care physician will usually decide when to consult an endocrinologist. However, if you're dealing with any issues related to those we discuss in this article and wish to see an endocrinologist, talk to your doctor.

Read more about Thyroid Activity from Dr. Alzohaili in the Spring Issue of GCH's Healthy Generations Magazine, available online at GCH.org. Make an appointment with Dr. Alzohaili today by calling his office at 313.914.5591.

Meet any of the more than 350 GCH Health Experts, by visiting GCH.org or calling our Physician Referral Line at 877.717.WELL.

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How to get the most out of a recruiter

By Kelly Services

Using the industry knowledge and networks of recruiters can be a critical component of any job search. A professional recruiter can offer career advice, inside knowledge of your target industry or company, compensation guidance and "cultural fit" insight on prospective employers.

The right can make a difference

Avoid the general inbox: Recruiters have relationships with human resources and hiring managers, so your resume goes directly to them, not a "job response inbox" containing hundreds of resumes.

Access unadvertised opportunities: Recruiters often know about and fill positions well before they are advertised.

Gain valuable insight regarding company culture: A good recruiter should be able to tell you about the company culture and what to expect from individual interviewers on your schedule.

Get your own advocate: As an advocate, a recruiter can present you in the best way, provide feedback and follow-up, and provide assistance through the negotiation and hiring process.

Different types of recruiters

Staffing recruiters work for staffing firms to provide a wide range of candidates to customers. Staffing recruiters may place administrative, professional or technical candidates, ranging from entry level to senior level, in temporary contract or permanent jobs.

Corporate recruiters handle most aspects of the employee recruitment process for their own organization. Corporate

recruiters are typically in the human resources division.

Executive contingent recruiters work for search firms that are engaged by clients to perform a specific search for a range of mid- and senior-level positions. Contingent recruiters receive a fee only upon the successful placement of a candidate.

Executive retained recruiters work for search firms that are engaged by clients to perform a specific search for a senior executive position. Retained recruiters receive a retainer (up-front fee) to execute a search.

Make a recruiter shortlist

There are many types of recruiters, and each may have a specific industry or area of expertise. Ideally, you should focus on building relationships with the recruiters that can best help you with your career aspirations.

Don't just engage a recruiter, build a relationship

The best recruiter-job seeker relationships are mutually beneficial. A candidate receives access to unadvertised career opportunities and gains an advocate. A recruiter will appreciate reciprocal access to your network of potential referrals as well as specific company or industry insight.

A common job-seeker mistake is to engage with a recruiter only when actively searching for a new job. A strictly transactional relationship candidate needs a job, recruiter needs a candidate to fill a job is less valuable for you, the recruiter and ultimately the hiring organization. Be prepared to invest time in building and maintaining a long-term relationship.



Consider these guidelines to strengthen a good working relationship with recruiters:

Make a good first impression: Approach a recruiter as you would a prospective employer, and send an email with a professional cover letter or social media message.

Make an introduction: Introduce yourself during the first conversation, just as you would in an interview. A recruiter will need to be comfortable with you before advocating for you as a candidate to a prospective employer.

Provide information: Let recruiters know how you found them and if you're interested in working for a specific company or targeted industry.

Think longer term: Be prepared to stay in touch over the short, medium and long term to find the right opportunity.

Keep your information current: Ensure they never have an out-of-date resume on file, and update your recruiter when things change.

Be open to constructive feedback: A recruiter can share a great deal of information about the company, job requirements and even specific interviewer characteristics before an interview. After the interview, ask for and be open to constructive feedback.

Share insights: What did you learn in the interview that would help both you and your recruiter? Was the job as described by the recruiter or has it changed? Was there a new interviewer in the process? Is this the right role for you based on your career goals?

Keep the communication open: Maintain a positive relationship for the future, even if you secure another job.

Become a resource: Share your industry knowledge and network of contacts who may be interested in learning more about an opportunity.

Consider all kinds of work: Short- or long-term project and contract work can often be a steppingstone to a permanent job and allows you an opportunity to evaluate the job and company.

Be clear: An open dialogue regarding your work experience, career goals and salary requirements will increase the chances of a successful placement.

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Estate Sales

FARMINGTON - May 15-16, 9a-5p

Garage/Moving Sales

BIRMINGHAM FARMS

Bloomfield Hills:

CANTON

CARRIAGE HILLS SUB SALE:

CANTON - CENTURY FARMS

LIVONIA: May 16 1-6pm

Garage/Moving Sales

Canton: "Man's Garage Sale" toolboxes, power & hand tools

CANTON May 15-17 9-4

47109 Yarmouth Dr. Thomsville bdrm. 2 wing

CANTON

May 16-17, 9am-4pm

CANTON

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Okavale, Stonegate & Cherry Hill Orchards

CANTON

Pheasant Glen, Condo-Wide, at Cherry Hill

CANTON

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May 15-17 9-4pm

Canton: Sunflower Sub

Thursday (5/15) through Saturday (5/17)

Canton - Whole Block Sale!

CANTON: Windmere Sub-Wide Garage Sale

LIVONIA: Burton Hollow Sub Sale

Over 50 homes. May 17-18, Sat-Sun

Livonia: Huge Garage Sale!

Friday, May 16th, Saturday, May 17th

FARMINGTON

May 15, 9am-9pm & May 16, bag sale

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FARMINGTON - May 15-16, 9a-5p

Garage/Moving Sales

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Bloomfield Hills:

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Fri-Sat, May 16-17 9am-3pm

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May 15 & 16, 9-3pm

PLYMOUTH

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PLYMOUTH May 14-17, 9-5

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Answer to Previous Puzzle grid with words like TOM, LAMP, JEEP, OLE, ALAI, AURA, WINGS, SPAN, PRAM, SODAS, MESA, LOS, SNOBS, ISLE, TENT, MEA, RAIN, MMI, FOAL, ABS, STUN, LOU, QUARK, EPA, HICK, AIMEE, YOGI, HORN, RIMS, MIEN, IHAD, RIP, ALTO, ALMA, ARN

- DOWN 1 JFK lander 2 Promise to pay 3 Make lace 4 Brainpower 5 "Jeopardy!" host Trebek 6 Terhune collie 7 Suffice 8 Generally (3 wds.) 9 Travel far and wide (hyph.) 10 Launching platform 11 Gorilla 16 Jeans go-with 18 Cager - Holman 20 Was able to 21 Reunion attendee 22 Synthetic fabric 23 Kind of property 24 Check endorser 25 "Nick of Time" singer Bonnie - 26 Agrees with 28 Curdles 31 Pusher 35 Sneezer's need 37 Toshiba rival 38 Make faces 40 Singer - King 41 Overly glib 42 El Dorado loot 43 Wintry cry 44 Hall-of-Famer Mel - 45 Radiator part 46 Gulf st. 49 Battery size

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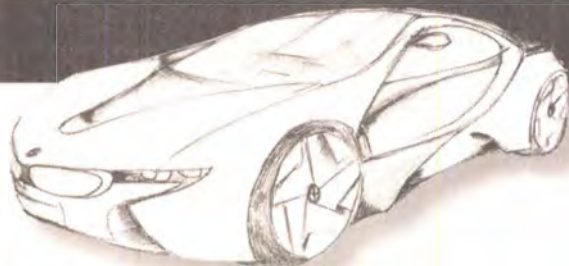
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Car Report



Nissan Altima Keeps Surprising Consumers, As 'Ride of Your Life' Campaign Illustrates



By Dale Buss

In its new "Ride of Your Life" campaign for Altima, Nissan is roaring an answer to questions such as: Do American consumers really care about "performance" anymore? In a market increasingly focused on fuel efficiency, "green" chops, digital connectivity and occasionally

stylish design, do enough mainstream buyers still focus on "vroom" to make it an effective pitch?

Beginning with a new TV commercial on cable and a volley of social-media efforts, Nissan launched



Here's how the Nissan Altima looked to participants in the ad.



"Ride of Your Life" campaign takes consumers on a race-track thrill ride.

the campaign for its flagship four-door family sedan on Monday around a time-honored advertising device: fooling consumers into singing the brand's praises.

In this case, Nissan got a few dozen actual consumers to a race track, geeked them up about the brand's performance credentials and convinced them that they were getting a ride around the Horse Thief Mile at Willow Springs Raceway in a race-spec Altima. Only when their thrill ride in the Altima "racer" was over did Nissan strip away the decals and other track accessories -- and reveal to these people they actually had been passengers in a stock Altima that they could purchase not too far from the Rosamond, Calif., racetrack.

"I would never imagine a four-door car could do any of that," one white-knuckled "race-car" passenger said in the Nissan video after her thrill ride.

That's exactly the kind of response Nissan wanted. "Performance is still

very relevant to the audience for Altima," Jon Brancheau, Nissan's U.S. CMO, told me. "In this case, we're trying to show that in an entertaining fashion with consumers who are genuinely surprised."

Altima was redesigned last year and remains what Edmunds.com called "one of the best choices available for a midsize sedan." The model always has looked sharp -- styling long has been a big advantage for Nissan -- and also presents a markedly upscale look and feel inside the car, with high-quality materials and above-segment workmanship.

When it comes to the experience of driving Altima, its advantages include well-tuned ride and handling that take maximum advantage of a standard 2.5-liter, four-cylinder engine that generates 182 horsepower and 180 pound-feet of torque, transmitted by a continuously variable transmission.

The racier version of Altima features a 3.5-liter V6 engine good for 270 horsepower and 251 pound-feet of torque, accelerating from zero to 60 mph in just 6.2 seconds -- good enough, apparently, to impress at the Horse Thief Mile.

Meanwhile, Nissan is performing like a race car these days as it attempts to jockey seriously with Honda for the place as the No. 2 Japanese brand in the U.S. market, to Toyota.

The Nissan brand's April sales were up 19 percent over a year ago, and for the year to date, they rose more than 13



Here's an Altima in real life.

percent over 2013. Altima sales already were riding along at a 5-percent-better clip than the first four months of 2013.

"It's kind of a boring segment," Brancheau allowed. "It's big in rental cars. But some mid-size sedans are more expressive than others. So part of this campaign was trying to take a sleepy but large segment and shake it up a bit with the notion of performance, to differentiate" Altima.

Millennials' relative lack of enthusiasm about horsepower really isn't an issue here. Altima is squarely aimed at Gen X and older consumers, mostly with families. "When you create the kind of excitement the consumers in these ads are exhibiting, even boomers can appreciate it," Brancheau said. "And of course we tend to shoot younger in our communications brief than the people you're actually selling to."

Indeed, the average age of the U.S. Nissan buyer is 50.1 years old, according to new research by IHS. That placed Nissan No. 8 among non-luxury brands

in the study, but it still ranked younger than main rivals Honda, Ford, Hyundai, Toyota and Chevrolet.

Another new aspect of the initiative is that it's solely focused on Altima, whereas Nissan -- and rivals -- typically use their late-spring marketing platforms to draw interest to the closeout-deal possibilities for a range of their models.

One more dimension of the new campaign: a heavy outreach to Hispanic consumers. There's a Spanish-language version of the TV ad that tells the story of how a cohort of Hispanic consumers enjoyed their race-track rides in Altima. Nissan, like other Japanese brands, over-indexes heavily with Hispanics compared with non-Hispanic U.S. consumers.

"We're the No. 1 brand in Mexico," Brancheau said, "with a 25-percent market share. They have a great image of the Nissan brand in Mexico. To some degree that also benefits us in the U.S."

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2014 Academic ALL-STARS

PROGRAM HONORS TOP STUDENTS

The 2014 Academic All-Star Team represents the most accomplished students from public, private and parochial schools in Oakland and western Wayne counties.

This year's team is composed of 32 students, seven of whom posted perfect high school records and/or perfect test (SAT or ACT) scores.

Another 39 students are honorable mention and their scores are separated in most cases by a mere fraction of a point. All of the students profiled here are examples of academic excellence.

The 2014 team represents the 29th consecutive year that the *Observer & Eccentric* has honored and celebrated academic excellence in our readership area.

This year's section is made possible by O&E Media in cooperation with our major partner, Madonna University.

Based in Livonia, Madonna is committed to teaching, scholarship and service.

Other community partners include Community Alliance Credit Union, a section sponsor, and Parkside Credit Union, the essay sponsor.

This year's all-star judges were Carolyn Witte, principal of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, and Franklin High School Principal Dan Willenborg.

Both Witte and Willenborg have been part of the program for more than a decade. The principals met in March to review 71 applications. The All-Star Team



Franklin High Principal Dan Willenborg and Carolyn Witte, principal of Mercy High School.



is selected solely on academic achievement in academic subjects and ACT or SAT test scores.

"The *Observer & Eccentric* is pleased to have the cooperation of the education community," said Susan Rosiek, publisher. "We appreciate the time our judges take to review the applications and the

time spent by other principals and counselors who nominate the students."

For the third consecutive year, one all-star will receive a \$500 scholarship awarded by Parkside Credit Union of Livonia for an essay on financial responsibility.

The scholarship winner will be announced at the awards breakfast later this month.

The 2014 All-Star Team (in order of ranking):

Seven students tied for the No. 1 ranking. They are Anshu Chen of Bloomfield Hills High School, Collin Chow of North Farmington High School, Benjamin Drews of Harrison High School, Rashmika Goswami of Harrison High School, Elbert Han of Detroit Country Day, Rohan Sinha of Bloomfield Hills High School and Katherine Young of Detroit County Day.

Next is Arkady Frasinich of the International

Academy in Bloomfield Hills.

Ten students tied for No. 3: Riley Dankovich of Marian High School, Madhurima Das of Plymouth High School, Jonathan Greenberger of Seaholm High School, Neha Hafeez of Canton High School, Tapan Naik of Farmington High School, Kevin Ni of Plymouth High School, Ian O'Rourke of Seaholm High School, Nitin Ram of Salem High School, Savannah Sikorski of Stevenson High School and Alex Yue of Canton High School.

Next are Joo Yung Park of Cranbrook Kingswood (fourth), Vinayak Bhatia of Farmington School (fifth), Shannon Stork of Marian High School (sixth), Stephanie Liu of Cranbrook Kingswood (seventh) Barbara Scupholm of Stevenson High School (eighth), Hemant Chittela of Salem High School (ninth), Aditya Vemulapati of Churchill High School (10th) and Siba Alzohaili of the International Academy (11th).

Tied for 12th are Bradley Smith of Groves High School and Steven Spens of Clarenceville High School.

Next are William Markey III of Brother Rice High School, Hanna Pfershy of Groves High School and Sammy Stevens of Brother Rice High School.

Rounding out the outstanding team is Stephen Fedak of Churchill High School.

Read more about the students (all-stars and runners-up), their college choices and career dreams and the teachers who influenced them in today's special section.

ANSHU CHEN

Bloomfield Hills High School



Anshu Chen of Bloomfield Hills is considering the University of Michigan, the University of Rochester and the University of Pennsylvania. She plans to major in economics or finance and minor in French. As far as a career, Chen plans to pursue economics, law or academia.

Her academic honors include AP scholar with distinction, Presidential Scholars program candidate, National Merit Finalist, Ball State Best News Story Award, University of Rochester Rush Rhees Scholarship recipient and Michigan State University professorial assistant.

Chen is editor of the school newspaper, president of the History Club, a member of the National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, played J.V. golf, ACT teacher for 11th grade, after-school tutor, quiz bowl.

Chen said her most influential teacher was Susan Feigenson in British literature. "Ms. Feigenson taught me to question scholarly authority and trust my own analysis. She was always honest when my work was below par, pushing me to convey my ideas logically and concisely. She shared her wonder and passion for literature with me, for which I am extremely grateful."

Her father is Hongbing Chen and her mother is Xiaowen Jiang.

COLLIN CHOW

North Farmington High School



Collin Chow of Farmington Hills will attend Northwestern University this fall, with a goal of becoming either a medical researcher or physician. His major will likely be chemistry.

Chow is a member of the Chemistry Club, Health Occupational Students of America, North Farmington Brothers and Sisters in Christ and Chinese Bible Church, where he is in the Salt and Light Youth Group, on the Praise Night planning committee and is a music leader and guitar player.

Also, he plays trumpet with the North Farmington Symphony Band, North Farmington Jazz Band and Zenith Brass Ensemble. He holds a second-degree black belt in choi kwang do, is instructor and member of the Farmington Martial Arts Demonstration Team and trains in jiu-jitsu and bo-jitsu.

Chow's academic honors include National Merit finalist, Presidential Scholar Candidate, Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award and AP Scholar.

He credits Susan Szegedi as his most influential teacher. "She has been my teacher for both honors chemistry and advanced chemistry, as well as being the adviser for Chemistry Club. Mrs. Szegedi's teaching is able to make even the duller topics fun and interesting to learn," Chow said.

"Mrs. Szegedi has encouraged my interest in

chemistry and the sciences and that support has continued up until the present. After taking AP chemistry this year, I hope to take the knowledge she has given me and continue to pursue chemistry in college," he added.

Chow is the son of Christopher and Hannah Chow and the brother of Carolyn, 14.

BENJAMIN F. DREWS

Harrison High School



Benjamin F. Drews of Farmington Hills will attend Williams College, Swarthmore College or the University of Michigan. His areas of study will be computer engineering, mathematics and economics.

"It is my goal to major in computer science and engineering prior to working professionally in the field of game and virtual design," Drews said.

He is a member of RoboHawks (robotics) Science Olympiad and DECA and has served as a Hawk Help tutor and Civitan Literacy Program volunteer.

Drews' academic honors include AP Scholar with Distinction, Commended Student National Merit Scholarship, National Honor Society, Phi Beta Kappa and Harrison High School Academic Hall of Fame.

He considers Jeremy Robinson, AP world history teacher, his most influential instructor. "Mr. Robinson encouraged me to actively participate in class discussion and debate. He also directed me to interesting outside resources," Drews said.

Drews is the son of Martin and MiSuk Drews.

RASHMIKA GOSWAMI

Harrison High School



Rashmika Goswami of Farmington Hills is considering attending the University of Michigan, to major in engineering, computer science and/or applied math.

"I would like to pursue an engineering or math-related career," she said.

Goswami is a member of rhythmic gymnastics, National Honor Society, Robotics Club and plays viola in the Detroit Metropolitan Youth Symphony. She scored 24th position in the Michigan Math Prize 2013-14 competition and qualified for the American Invitational Math Exam for 2013 and 2014.

Her academic honors include National Merit finalist, Presidential Scholars Program candidate and AP Scholar with distinction. She credits math teacher Cheryl Golden, chemistry teacher Kevin Meisner, physics teacher Steve Dail and history teachers Jeremy Robinson and Dan Gardner for being the most influential, due to "enthusiasm and for encouraging questions."

Goswami is the daughter of Partha Goswami and Sreela Datta and the sister of Rahul Goswami, 14.

ELBERT HAN

Detroit Country Day



Elbert Han of Troy has been accepted to the University of Michigan School of Engineering. He intends to study engineering and business with the future goal of opening a jewelry and watch business using advanced additive manufacturing.

His academic honors include National Merit Scholar, Presidential Scholar Award candidate, four years summa cum laude, Cum Laude Society and top 200 in the Michigan Math Prize Competition. Han also won the national silver medal at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards for his jewelry portfolio and the 3D Systems Future New award, one of three given in the nation.

Han is a member of the cross country team, FRC robotics team co-captain, a volunteer at the Troy Library, a Brooksie Way Half Marathon volunteer and a volunteer at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

Han said his most influential teacher was Jiro Masuda, who teaches metals and AP art History. "Mr. Masuda had been instrumental in my development as an artist and critical thinker," Han said. "He stood beside me as I began my journey into CAD and encouraged me to explore 3D printing and additive manufacturing. His enthusiasm for my projects inspired me to push myself to design the most innovative jewelry. Mr. Masuda has been and will always be an inspiration to me and every student who has ever had the honor of having him as a teacher."

Han's parents are Hueymeijou and Hengchu Han.

ROHAN SINHA

Bloomfield Hills High School



Rohan Sinha of Bloomfield Hills is deciding among Washington University, Vanderbilt University and the University of Michigan. He intends to study business/engineering and entrepreneurship. Sinha wants to own his own business someday, be a consultant and high-level thinker.

His academic honors include National Merit Scholar finalist, AP Scholar with Distinction, OAA Scholar-Athlete and Presidential Scholar Award candidate.

Sinha is captain of the varsity tennis team, captain of the Model United Nations, plays varsity lacrosse and is founder of the Money One Financial Literacy organization.

His most influential teacher, Sinha said, is Matthew Macleod, who teaches AP history. "He teachers with immense passion and introduced me to the value of a strong humanities education," Sinha said.

Sinha's parents are Sanjay and Rajani Sinha he is brother to Varun, 11.

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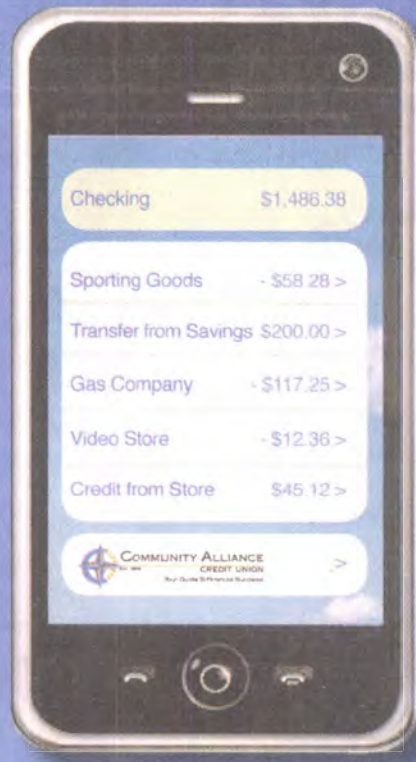
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2014 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

KATHERINE YOUNG

Detroit Country Day



Katherine Young of Bloomfield Hills will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Young said she is undecided on a major, but is leaning toward physics or biology, with a minor in one of the humanities. She is considering neurosurgery and dermatology as possible career paths.

Her academic honors include National AP Scholar with Distinction, National Merit finalist, High School Honors Science Program, University of Chicago Book Award, Blue and Gold Scholar Athlete, eighth place in the National Brain Bee, summa cum Laude, Cum Laude Society and the Mabel Peng Memorial Scholarship.

Young is concertmaster and president of her school orchestra, plays first violin in the Detroit Civic Orchestra, was a member of the Michigan All State Orchestra, earned 12 first division ratings at Solo and Ensemble Festival, is a varsity member of track and field and cross country, is a member of her school's Peer Tutorial Service Board and is captain of the Science Olympiad team.

She said her most influential teacher was Donald Corwin, who teaches AP U.S. history and AP government. "His class was the first history class I truly enjoyed," she said. "Without him, I would not have understood how studying the past and politics could be so fascinating."

Young's parents are Li Wang and Tao Yang and she is sister to Chris, 14.

ARKADIY FRASINICH

International Academy, Bloomfield Hills



Arkadiy Frasinich of Oak Park has been admitted to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is still waiting to hear from Princeton University, the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan. He plans to pursue graduate school in mathematics and possibly academia as a career.

His academic honors include taking 19th place in the Michigan Math Prize Competition and scoring a 36 on the ACT test.

Frasinich is a member of the National Honor Society, German Honor Society, Science Olympiad, played French horn in band and was president of the school math club.

Frasinich said his most influential teacher was Robert Uleski. "My history teacher, Robert Uleski, has helped me expand my interest in history and as an intricate subject with many incredible stories," he said.

Frasinich's parents are Viktoriya and Vyacheslav Frasinich.

RILEY DANKOVICH

Marian High School



Riley Dankovich of Royal Oak hasn't selected a college yet, but her short list includes the universities of Georgetown, Vanderbilt, Princeton and Wake Forest. She plans to study linguistics and international studies, with a goal of entering the publishing field.

"No matter what my profession, I want to bring awareness to the necessity of becoming global citizens through cultural understanding and communication," Dankovich wrote in her all-star application.

Her academic honors include National Merit finalist, Scholastic All-Catholic Award and Marian 1st Honors Honor Roll. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Marian Melodies and Marian Liturgical Choir.

Dankovich said history teacher Dante Melotti helped her immensely. "He influenced me greatly because of his enthusiasm for teaching, his high expectations for students and his role as a mentor to me," she said.

Dankovich is the daughter of David and Lynn Dankovich and is sister to Logan, 19.

MADHURIMA DAS

Plymouth High School



Madhurima Das knows she wants to major in engineering. Now she just has to figure out where.

Das, a Canton resident, is considering the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Michigan and Cal Tech.

"I want to become an engineer, most likely working with nanotechnology's applications in biomedical engineering," she said.

Among her academic honors, Das is a National Merit Scholarship finalist, a semifinalist in the Siemens Science Competition, earned the Madame Curie Medal for Achievements in Science and Mathematics from the Society of Women Engineers, Rensselaer Medal winner (with \$15,000 scholarships each for four years of college), a National AP Scholar with distinction, first-place winner with an invitation to Intel ISEF, special

award from Mu Alpha Theta (Mathematics Honor Society), Science and Engineering Fair of Michigan, Lawrence Technological University Excellence in Science and Math award, a \$40,000 University of Michigan Engineering College Scholarship, a \$20,000 scholarship from Kettering University and various awards at Science Olympiad regionals.

Das is part of the Science and Research Fair; a senior captain of the Science Olympiad team; on the leadership board for Math Olympiad; she's part of the leadership for buildOn, an international organization that provides education to third-world countries; she's on the varsity diving team; National Honor Society; she plays piano; part of Everyone is Beautiful, a website that promotes positive self-esteem in teenagers; and a contributor of humor articles to Sparklife (the community portion of the Sparknotes website).

Among her most influential teachers, Das names AP calculus teacher Karen Ludema, AP biology teacher Sharon Caldwell, AP English literature teacher Gretchen Miller, AP chemistry teacher Scott Milam and AP computer science teacher Phil Sands.

"(Ludema) was a wonderful math teacher and coach for Math Olympiad and she was very enthusiastic about the math research I was doing ... which made me love it even more," Das said. "(Caldwell) was so passionate about her subject and held her students to such high standards that it was impossible not to love the subject by the end of the year."

Das is the daughter of Shuvra Das and Mitali Chakrabarti.

JONATHAN GREENBERGER

Birmingham Seaholm High School



Jonathan Greenberger of Birmingham has been accepted to the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan and is waiting to hear from a few other colleges. He hasn't declared a major, but is interested in biology, mathematics and economics. As for a career choice, Greenberger is not yet sure what he'd like to do. "I want to have a career that is enjoyable, challenging and meaningful," he said.

His academic honors include National Merit finalist, Harvard College Book Award, MHSAA Scholar-Athlete nominee, Oakland County Scholar-Athlete, Michigan Math Prize Competition Finalist and AP Scholar with Honors.

Greenberger is a member of the National Honor Society, the Seaholm swim team, was vice president in charge of membership at Temple Beth El Young Persons Society, a lifeguard at Pine Lake Club and co-president of the Seaholm chess club.

Greenberger said his most influential teacher was Michael Wicker. "Mr. Wicker always made subjects like economics and western civilization both interesting and relevant to me. He showed me what it means to be professional," he said.

Greenberger is the son of Marc Greenberger and Julie Buch. He is brother to Erin, 21, Alexa, 11, and Mitchell, 9.

NEHA HAFEEZ

Canton High School



While Neha Hafeez isn't completely sure which college she'll be attending, she knows she wants to be a doctor.

So that's the career path she'll choose after completing college at one of the schools she's considering - the University of Michigan, University of Pittsburgh or the MedStart program at Wayne State University.

"I am extremely passionate about the medical field and academically driven, making being a doctor the ideal profession for me," she said. "For me, one of the particularly attractive aspects of medicine is the potential to form close and meaningful relationships with a wide array of patients."

Hafeez accumulated a variety of academic honors during her scholastic career. She was a National Merit finalist, a National AP Scholar (with all 5s on eight AP exams), actively participated and been recognized in various mathematics competitions including Michigan Math Prize Competition, AMC 10/12, Fryer, Mandelbrot and Michigan Math League, was a state finalist in the Economics Challenge, was an AP Scholar with Distinction and won Special Recognition for Student Government Service.

She was board secretary for the Canton Congress, which she said "taught me many valuable skills in leadership." She was the business sponsorship coordinator for the Feed My Starving Children program, during which she helped pack more than 112,000 meals for hungry children around the world. She was a researcher for the Henry Ford Hospital Research Program, where she observed autopsies and surgeries.

Hafeez said her AP biology teacher, Sharon Caldwell, had the greatest influence on her because "she was the first teacher I had for a formal biology course. She made me fall in love with the topic, making medicine an even more suitable profession for me. Besides this, she is a fantastic teacher. She teaches with a lot of energy, making the class entertaining as well as informative."

Hafeez is the daughter of Mohammed and Yasmeen Hafeez. She is a sister to Adeb, 15.

TAPAN NAIK

Farmington High School



Tapan Naik is planning to attend the University of Michigan's College of Engineering this fall, but is still unsure of a specific major - either biomedical, chemical or mechanical engineering.

"As of right now for my career goals, I have absolutely no idea," the Farmington Hills resident said. "One thing that I'm sure of is that my education won't end with undergraduate studies. I hope to make an impact on the lives of at least a few people."

Naik is involved with the Farmington Run for the Hills for the Special Olympics, National Honor Society, Relay for Life, serves as an after-school tutor and participates in the after-school recycling program.

He is secretary for the Farmington Hills Mayor's Youth Council, a board member of the Health Occupations Students of America, a Varsity Quiz Bowl member and Michigan Math League participant.

Naik is an AP Scholar with Distinction, a regional finalist and state competition qualifier for HO-SA-Future Health Professionals. He has also qualified for the second round of the Michigan Math Prize Competition.

Naik credits two teachers as most influential. Jeremy Gold, who teaches advanced placement U.S. history, helped his transition to high school. "Mr. Gold's passionate and enthusiastic lectures helped me transition into my new school. His love for history helped me develop my own passion for learning," he said.

Naik credits Mark Azeez, who teaches advanced placement calculus, with showing him how much fun learning can be.

"Mr. Azeez's class was a combination of fun and learning," he said. "Many jokes were thrown around in class, along with anti-derivatives. He showed that learning and fun aren't two separate entities."

Naik is the son of Girish and Sangeeta Naik. He is a brother to Rohan, 15.

KEVIN NI

Plymouth High School



Kevin Ni of Canton wants to be a computer programmer and plans to major in computer science at the University of Michigan.

"I plan on becoming a software engineer for a leading tech company such as Google or Microsoft," Ni said.

Ni is a National Merit finalist and a National AP Scholar.

Among his extracurricular activities, Ni has volunteered for the Feed My Starving Children program, he's a board member of the Math Olympiad, he's part of the Science Olympiad team and he volunteers with the National Honor Society.

He calls computer science teacher Phil Sands his most influential teacher. "He turned computer science from an interest to something I want to do throughout my life - computer programming," Ni said.

Ni is the son of Ben and Jun Ni. His a brother to Kelly, 14.

IAN O'ROURKE

Seaholm High School



Ian O'Rourke of Birmingham plans to attend the University of Michigan School of Engineering to study aerospace engineering.

"I would like to be a part of the upcoming developments in the manned spacecraft field, like the SpaceX Dragon capsule that could soon take Americans astronauts into low Earth orbit and beyond NASA's Orion spacecraft, which will take astronauts into deep space for the first time since the Apollo era," he said.

His academic honors include National Merit Scholarship finalist and Michigan Math Prize part two qualification.

O'Rourke plays alto saxophone in the Seaholm marching band, symphony and jazz band and is a Fellow in the Institute of Innovation in Education at the University of Michigan-Flint. He also developed the Seaholm Highlander Mobile Application.

O'Rourke said his most influential teacher has been Eric Burns. "Mr. Burns really cares about his students," he said. "He wants them to succeed and strive in society. His teaching style for AP calculus BC was one of the most intriguing and effective styles that I have witnessed. His classroom is never a serious place and pranks are often played in good humor."

O'Rourke's parents are Beth and Michael Shawn O'Rourke he is a brother to Connor, 14.

2014 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

NITIN RAM

Salem High School



Nitin Ram of Canton said he'll "most likely" attend the University of Michigan and will study engineering.

"I am interested in pursuing a career in engineering, particularly in computer science," he said.

Ram counts among his academic honors being a National Merit finalist; qualifying for the American Invitational Mathematics Exam; scoring in the top 50 on the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition; qualifying for the Quiz Bowl national finals; leading Salem's Science Olympiad team to the state competition at Michigan State University; and qualifying for and participating in the six-week Ross Mathematics Program at Ohio State University.

He led the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Math Club, captained the Salem Science Olympiad team, participated in Quiz Bowl, was involved in an independent service project through the National Honor Society and helped found the STEM club at Levey Middle School in Southfield.

He's also a third dan black belt in tae kwon do and served as an instructor.

He names programming AP statistics and AP computer science teacher Phil Sands, AP calculus teacher Karen Ludema and AP Spanish teacher Alicia Maturen as his most influential teachers.

"(Sands) sparked my interest in computer science. His way of integrating current events and technology into the course content made the subject very interesting to me," he said. "(Ludema) has been immensely supportive throughout my high school career, both as a teacher and as the teacher-sponsor of Math Club. (Maturen's) classes were among the toughest I've ever taken, but they were always engaging and relevant."

Ram is the son of Ram Chilkunda and Mridula Ram.

into a passion," she said. "That is why dealing with the brain interests me. I hope to develop a new technology to make things better for anybody with a disability or injury."

She is captain of the varsity pom team, a junior coach for the Livonia Falcons, a member of the Mid American All Star Pom Pon team, a volunteer at North Ridge Church in the special-needs ministry, special-needs counselor for Spring Hill Day Camps and a math and science tutor.

Her academic honors include being a member of the National Honor Society, a Scholar-Athlete, AP Scholar with Distinction and summa cum laude.

She credits teachers Paula Nowell and Scott Sherburne with having the most influence on her. Nowell, who taught Sikorski's accelerated analysis and AP calculus classes, made seemingly dull subjects interesting, she said. "She is deeply invested in my academic success, but even more so in my success," Sikorski said. "She genuinely cares about me - as a student and as a person."

Sherburne's biology class was the highlight of Sikorski's day. "His teaching was incredible and he gave me many new methods of learning and studying science that still aid me three years later," she said.

Sikorski is the daughter of Kelly and Gary Sikorski. She is a sister to Shaylyn, 22.

piad state tournament. He was fourth at the Robofest BTOS World Championship and finished first in the Robofest Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition.

Yue was captain and team member of Canton Robofest Robotics; captained the Canton Science Olympiad team; is president and founder of the Computer Applications Club at Canton High School; attends the Ford Motor Co. High School Science and Technology Program; and is the junior varsity leader of the PCEP Quiz Bowl.

He has volunteered at the Canton Public Library, the Plymouth-Canton Chinese Learning Center and has done volunteer work with the National Honor Society.

Yue said AP computer science teacher Phil Sands had the biggest influence on him. "He introduced me to the world of computer science and the countless real-world applications of computer science," he said. "He encouraged me to always do my best even in times of failure and to be the person who I am today."

Yue is the son of Junping Yue and Yulie Liu.

JOO YUNG PARK

Cranbrook Kingswood



Joo Yung Park will attend the University of Michigan or the University of Western Ontario to study biology. He is planning a career as a physician or a dentist.

His academic honors include cum laude. Park has been active as president of Horizons-Upward Bound, a group which connects Cranbrook students working as tutors with inner-city Detroit youth. He is also president of the French Club, editor of the yearbook and member of the Science and Engineering Club.

Park is vice president of the Chamber Ensemble and member of the golf team and soccer club. He worked as a full-time intern in the National Assembly of South Korea. He also worked as a student volunteer in the emergency room at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital in Pontiac.

He plays the alto saxophone in the symphony band and has received honors at State and Solo Ensemble festivals.

Park named Debra Viles (AP U.S. history) and Bruce Kohn (AP chemistry) as the teachers who most influenced his academic career.

Park is the son of Soo Hyun Park and Min Sun Song of Ontario, Canada. He is the brother of Eugene Park, 14.

ALEX YUE

Canton High School



Alex Yue of Canton wants a career in the software industry when he gets out of college.

Yue has already been accepted into Princeton University. He plans to major in computer science, specializing in software engineering and artificial intelligence/machine learning.

"I aim to work in the software industry and, hopefully, launch a successful start-up company," he said. "I truly believe computer science will revolutionize the world with creations such as self-driving cars and intelligent voice assistants. I hope to participate in the countless innovations that are emerging from this industry."

Yue was a National Merit finalist, was first place in the Robofest VCRC World Championship, took sixth place in robot arm and 10th place with a gravity vehicle at the Science Olympiad, was a state finalist in the MCEE Economics Challenge and was a National AP Scholar.

He finished fourth at the Robofest R2R World Championship and placed in robot arm, gravity vehicle and thermodynamics at the Science Olym-

SAVANNAH SIKORSKI

Stevenson High School



Savannah Sikorski of Livonia will attend the University of Notre Dame or the University of Michigan, where she will study engineering and possibly neuroscience.

"I have worked with special-needs children since I was in elementary school and it has turned



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MADONNA FORENSIC SCIENCE RESEARCH GETS FEDERAL FUNDING

A bloody fingerprint found at the scene of a crime could be the evidence police detectives need to solve the case, but often the process for lifting and enhancing the print can destroy the crucial and delicate evidence.

This obstacle led Jessica Zarate, a forensic science faculty member at Madonna University, to develop and patent Zar-Pro lifting strips; a less complicated way to lift, enhance, and preserve bloody impressions.

The Forensic Science program at Madonna recently was awarded a \$250,000, two-year grant from the National Institute of Justice to further research in this area. The faculty members hope to develop a spray that offers a simple, timely, cost effective and non-toxic method to aid in the collection of bloody impression evidence.

"This is the first major research grant for Madonna," said Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, president. "It is a testament to the depth of our faculty's experience in forensic science, as well as our state-of-the-art science labs. The results of this research have the potential to significantly enhance how crime scene evidence is collected, and that's exciting."



▲ Jessica Zarate, a faculty member and researcher at Madonna University, uses a fluorescent light to look at an impression of a human hand that was lifted and enhanced using a method she developed.

GRANT HELPS LAUNCH PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS OF DEAF CHILDREN

Madonna University has been awarded a \$30,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan to create a master's degree program to prepare teachers to educate Deaf children.

The first program in Michigan to offer this level of specialized instruction, the Deaf Education program will qualify students for teacher certification with a graduate-level endorsement in teaching the hearing impaired. A distinctive feature of the program is its foundation in a bilingual and bicultural approach based on fluency in American Sign Language.

With its history as an educational leader in the deaf community, and a reputation for excellence in teacher preparation, Madonna University is well-positioned to develop a program that meets Michigan requirements and the unique needs of this very special population.

The College of Education offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in early childhood, elementary and secondary education, educational leadership, autism spectrum disorders and more. The College received an exemplary rating from the State of Michigan, on the Educator Preparation Institution Performance Scores for 2011-2012.

STUDENTS LEARN AND SERVE IN COSTA RICA

During Spring Break in March, Costa Rica became the classroom for students enrolled in either humane studies or biology, as part of Madonna University's Study Abroad and Service-Learning programs.

Andrew Domzalski, humane studies professor, along with Veronica Riha, biology professor, planned the trip for their respective courses. "Humane studies is about protection of the environment, along with social justice for the local people and protection of animals," said Domzalski. "That is what really happens in Costa Rica. They are known for their preservation of the rainforest and biodiversity."

Chemistry major Stephanie Mackley, described her trip to Costa Rica as an educational adventure and found it difficult to select the most memorable aspect of her journey. "We captured sea turtles, went snorkeling, toured an organic farm, and so much more!"

For students who wish to enroll in this course in the future, Mackley advised, "If you can get past the bugs, sign up!"



2014 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

VINAYAK BHATIA

Farmington High School



Vinayak Bhatia of Farmington Hills plans to study biology and mathematics, likely at the University of Michigan, with the long-term goal of becoming a physician.

"I love helping people and want to do that for the rest of my life," he wrote in his all-star application.

Bhatia has been honored as an AP Scholar, a state finalist for Business Professionals of America and Health Occupation Students of America and a semi-finalist in the Michigan Math Prize Competition.

He is vice president on the Mayor's Youth Council, a member of the National Honor Society, as well as the Health Occupation Students of America and Business Professionals of America.

Bhatia is a cello player and has earned first-chair in the high school orchestra. He also volunteers at the Farmington Community Library.

He named Mark Azeez, who teaches math, Steve Dail in physics and Peg Convery, who teaches chemistry, as his most influential teachers.

Bhatia is the son of Naresh and Gori Bhatia. He is a brother to Roma, 23.

and creative teacher and driven scientist." She described Zidansek "as enthusiastic and challenging." "She encouraged thinking outside the box," Stork added.

Stork is the daughter of Mary Coffey and Gary Stork.

STEPHANIE LIU

Cranbrook Kingswood



Stephanie Liu of Bloomfield Hills plans on studying math and physics or electrical engineering in college.

She is undecided about what university she will attend.

She is planning a career in electrical engineering.

Her academic honors include cum laude (top 10 percent of her class), Dean's List and Cranbrook Academic Honors.

Liu is president of Model United Nations, news editor-in-chief of the newspaper, vice president of the Math Club and president of Gold Key Club.

Herbert Snitz (math/pre-calculus), David Watson (Spanish) and Frank Norton (AP physics) are the teachers who most influenced her learning career.

Liu is the daughter of Youyi Le and Gordon Liu and the sister of Justin, 11.

bell ringer for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign.

Her academic honors include being a National Merit finalist and AP Scholar.

Teacher Paula Nowell's sense of humor and personal connections to students made Scupholm enjoy going to AP calculus and accelerated analysis. "She also taught me many life lessons that are valuable beyond the classroom," Scupholm said.

Teacher Tim Gabel inspired Scupholm to pursue a business-related degree. "Mr. Gabel taught AP micro-economics and AP macro-economics in an interesting, relatable way," she said.

Scupholm is the daughter of Lois and Jeff Scupholm and sister of Beth, 15.

HEMANTH CHITTELA

Salem High School



Hemant Chittela of Canton plans to attend the University of Pennsylvania in its Artificial Intelligence dual-degree program, majoring in computer science and cognitive science.

He wants to work as a software engineer in the field of robotics and says his career goal is to develop "machine learning and artificial intelligence to revolutionize interactions both between humans and machines and among machines."

He is a National Merit Scholarship finalist, an AP Scholar with Distinction and a Presidential Scholars Program nominee and scored a perfect 36 on his ACT test.

He was captain of Salem's Science Olympiad team, captain of its National Science Bowl team, public relations officer for the Android Applications Club and mentored the Science Olympiad team of East Middle School. He has helped underprivileged students apply for college and prepare for their ACT tests, has volunteered at the Canton Public Library and both practices and instructs in Isshinryu karate.

Chittela named Scott Milam as the teacher who had the greatest influence on him, saying Milam's AP chemistry class was one of his favorites. "Mr. Milam's engaging teaching style and fun, spontaneous sidetracks fueled my interest in chemistry," he said.

Chittela is the son of Arun and Padmaja Chittela is brother to Nikitha, 12.

SHANNON STORK

Marian High School



Shannon Stork of Farmington Hills plans to attend Case Western Reserve University or Wooster College. She will double major in biochemistry and music.

Her career goals include that of a college professor and researcher in the field of behavioral genetics.

Stork's academic honors include National Merit finalist, salutatorian, Honor Roll (First Honors), Honors French II, Honors Precalculus Certificates of Achievement, National Honor Society and National French Exam Award.

Stork was a member of the Marian-Rice Players (cast and crew and dance lifts co-captain), Marian Melodies (audition vocal choir producer) and Marian Liturgical Choir. She is also a member of the Our Lady of Sorrows Adult Vocal Choir and takes private voice lessons.

She cited Barbara Webb (chemistry) and Jan Zidansek (algebra) as the teachers who influenced her the most.

Webb because she is a "challenging, passionate

BARBARA SCUPHOLM

Stevenson High School



Barbara Scupholm of Livonia plans to attend the Central Michigan University Honors Program to study accounting and French.

Her goal is to attain a master's degree in accounting and to become a certified public accountant at a large international public accounting firm.

She is captain of varsity cross county and varsity track and a member of the National Honor Society and French Honor Society. She also is a peer mentor and after-school tutor.

Her volunteer activities have included working as a junior counselor for church day camp, participating in the Livonia Relay for Life, packing food boxes for the Redford Goodfellows and being a

FORD COMMUNITY CORPS STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As members of the Ford Community Corps, Madonna University students were matched with local non-profit organizations that fit with their interests, skills and academic majors, which included: biology, education, dietetics, communications and social work.

Through this service-learning experience they gained skills in leadership and mentoring, while working with faculty and such organizations as First Step, Adult Autism Spectrum Disorders, Livonia Seedlings Braille Books for Children, and The Education Experience of Detroit. This year 17 students and seven faculty mentors worked with eight community partners to design, develop, plan, implement and evaluate a project for the non-profit.

Ford Community Corps scholars gain valuable insight in career options and are exposed to the significant roles and responsibilities of corporations in civic life. They also see firsthand the commitment of Ford Motor Company to sustainable communities, and are able to demonstrate how their own participation is making a difference in the community.

► Mike Schmidt, director of education programs for Ford Motor Company Fund talked with students about their projects.



BCA STUDENTS PRODUCE ASL MUSIC VIDEOS

Students from Madonna's broadcast and cinema arts (BCA) and sign language studies programs worked together to produce four American Sign Language (ASL) music videos. The students masterfully incorporated the creative requirements of the class with the aesthetic expectations of members of the Deaf community.

As the student teams developed creative interpretations of popular songs, they were coached by actor Daniel Durant, who plays Matthew on ABC Family's *Switched at Birth*.

This year's music videos interpreted these songs:

- Unconditionally* by Katy Perry
- Pompeii* by Bastille
- Anything* by Hedley
- Wings* by Little Mix

See all the videos at www.madonnasls.com/musicvideos. They also are posted on YouTube; search Dan McDougall sign language.

▼ Daniel Durant, pictured here with the "Unconditionally" team, flew in to surprise the students for their music video premiere. (L-R: Durant, Natalie Sanborn, Marissa Winn, Laurie Kuhlman)



MADONNA OFFERS ONLINE CERTIFICATES RELATED TO AGING

Thanks to a \$30,000 grant from Felician Services Inc, Madonna University is offering three online certificates for professionals and family caregivers of aging adults. "People 65 and older are among the fastest growing segment of the population, and these certificates will prepare caregivers to better serve this group," said Sue-Anne Sweeney, chair of Madonna's Gerontology program.

Beginning in Spring/Summer semester 2014, the following certificates are offered on a credit and non-credit basis:

- Certificate in Aging and Older Adults (3 courses, 9 credits)
- Certificate in Dementia Care (5 courses, 11 credits)
- Essentials in End-of-Life Care Certificate (5 courses, 15 credits)

Those who will benefit from the end-of-life care certificate include, "Social workers, chaplains, nurses, nurse's aides, grief counselors and other staff in palliative care settings," said Kelly Rhoades, chair of Madonna's Hospice and Palliative Studies program.

These certificates provide access to professional development, credentials and enhanced educational resources for those people involved in day-to-day service with patients and families.



▲ For the past three summers, Madonna nursing students have travelled to Lourdes, France, where they assisted the sick and disabled who were making the pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes. Madonna President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa and nursing faculty members are pictured with the students who made the trip in 2013.

2014 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

ADITYA
VEMULAPATI

Churchill High School



Aditya Vemulapati of Westland has decided to attend the University of Michigan, where he plans to major in neuroscience and minor in psychology. He plans to go to medical school and become a doctor and wants to do medical research.

He is a member of Churchill's National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society chapters, won an academic letter and a scholar-athlete award. He is also a National Merit Scholarship finalist, an AP Scholar with distinction and was a finalist in the Michigan Math Prize competition.

He is president of the Success Strategies Club, a mentoring and tutoring group; co-founder of the Young Liberals Club and its vice president; a Quiz Bowl team member and captain; and was a representative on the Student Council. He played on the Churchill tennis team and was a student teacher in Balavihar, a program to educate people about Hinduism.

Vemulapati's volunteer work includes helping out at Relay For Life; co-chairing an American Red Cross blood drive, tutoring struggling students in various subjects; and working at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital.

He named three influential teachers: Frost Middle School science teacher Carim Calkins, Churchill advanced biology teacher Joel Meloche and Churchill language arts teacher Andrew Wood.

Vemulapati is the son of Satyanarayana and Padmaja Vemulapati and is a brother of Anoosha, 12.

SIBA
ALZOHAILI

International Academy



Siba Alzohaili of Bloomfield Hills will study neuroscience and Spanish at Wayne State University or the University of Michigan.

"I want to be a psychiatrist or social worker," Alzohaili wrote in her all-star application. "I would like to work directly with people to help them be happier and healthier."

Alzohaili's academic awards include Spanish Honor Society, French Honor Society, National Honor Society and summa cum laude. She is also a National Merit finalist.

Alzohaili was editor of the Literary Magazine and a contributing author. She is a member of the Students for Human Equality and the Muslim Student Association. She also tutors at Alcott Elementary School in Pontiac.

Robert Uhelski (history) is the teacher who most influenced her. "He taught me to always strive for excellence," she said. "He also taught me more than I ever needed to know about Stalin."

Alzohaili is the daughter of Hala Alkhatib and Opada Akzihaili. She is sister to Wehbe, 15, Dana, 12, and Mohamad, 8.

BRADLEY E.
SMITH

Groves High School



Bradley Smith of Beverly Hills is deciding between the University of Pennsylvania and Northwestern University. His career goals include a master's degree in education and a job as a high school or college mathematics instructor.

Smith is a National Merit finalist, a member of the National Honor Society, a Groves Scholar, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an AP Scholar with Distinction and has won the Silver Key in Persuasive Writing in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and was a Round II competitor in the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition.

Smith's extracurricular activities include serving as treasurer of the Groves Performing Arts Company executive board; member of the International Thespian Society; awards in scenic design and group musical from the Michigan Educational Theatre Association; and roles in performances of *Shrek the Musical*, *Radium Girls*, *Sherlock Holmes* and *Once On This Island*.

He was also team captain on the varsity forensic team, a ballet student and performer, an executive board member and participant in the Groves Big Brother/Big Sister Mentoring Program and a summer camp counselor at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.

Smith named AP Spanish teacher Jennifer Hoinka as his most influential: "(She) created such an efficient, yet warm and welcoming environment and pushed me to learn and love a new language and culture."

Smith is the son of Miryam and Thomas Smith and brother to Thierny, 23.

STEVEN
SPENS

Clarenceville High School



Steven Spens of Livonia will attend University of Michigan, where he plans to double major in economics and Chinese and possibly minor in physics or biochemistry.

He wants to be an economist, investment banker, researcher or work in public service "to fix America's problems through holding an important public post such as being a U.S. diplomat to China."

He has been on the soccer, wrestling and track teams and plays saxophone in the marching band. He was treasurer and then vice president of chapter activities for the school's Business Professionals of America group. In recent BPA competitions, he took second place nationally for insurance concepts and first place in the state for banking and finance.

His academic honors include the Departmental Math Award and the Leadership Award from the Kiwanis Club.

Chinese teacher Grace Philson pushed Spens and almost single-handedly taught him her language. "She forced me to use Chinese, not just translate words back into English. Now we don't even speak in English to each other anymore," he said.

Spens is the son of Laura and Richard Spens and is brother to Elijah, 15; Kimberly, 12 and Paul, 10.

WILLIAM
MARKLEY III

Brother Rice High School



William Markley III of Bloomfield Hills plans to study science or engineering and will attend the University of Notre Dame.

Markley plans to pursue a career in science, medicine or business.

He is a National Merit Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, ran on the cross country team (earning all-Catholic League honors) and is a DECA letter winner. He has participated in the BEAM&R Club, was a student government representative, a Kairos Retreat leader, member of the Latin Honor Society and member of the Model United Nations.

Markley's community work included involvement with Christ Child Society and as a student volunteer with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Michigan, Holy Name Catholic Church and Brother Rice High School.

He named two teachers as most influential: Leslie DeSimone, honors chemistry - "Her passion for the subject helped fuel my interest in the sciences" - and Daniel Bumpus, AP U.S. history - "He was very energetic and made the classroom interesting."

Markley is the son of Molly and William Markley Jr. and brother to Claire, 16, and Catherine, 15.

HANNA
PFERSHY

Groves High School



Hanna Pfershy of Southfield plans on attending the University of Michigan, where she will major in cellular and molecular biology.

She plans on making a career out of medicine. "I will be entering the medical field, possibly in research in tissue engineering," she said.

Pfershy's academic honors include being a member of both the National Honor Society and Phi Beta Kappa, as well as being a Groves Scholar and scholar-athlete.

Pfershy was director of curriculum for the Groves Student Congress; a team captain of the Groves Big Brother/Big Sister Mentor Program; and team captain for both the Groves swim and dive team and water polo team.

She named Christina Marentette, honors and AP physics, as her most influential teacher. "(She) had the greatest influence on me because she taught me the importance of having a passion for what you do in life. In every aspect of your life, if you truly enjoy what you are doing, then you will be happy."

Pfershy is the daughter of Lori and Jeff Pfershy and sister to Taylor, 19.

SAMMY
STEVENS

Brother Rice High School



Sammy Stevens of Beverly Hills will be attending Georgetown University on a baseball scholarship, where he will study business management and economics.

"I want to get my MBA, then pursue corporation management, as well as study start-up companies and entrepreneurship," he said.

He ranks first in his class at Brother Rice High School and is a National Merit Semifinalist. He was captain of the Brother Rice Band of Brothers, a spokesperson at high school award ceremonies and a mentor group captain.

Stevens was a member of Brother Rice's Division 1 state finalist baseball team and was all-league and all-state as a junior. He has also participated on travel baseball clubs that won a national championship while being named to the all-tournament team. He is a finalist for Michigan High School Athlete of the Year.

He has volunteered with St. Regis Olympics for inner-city children, been a Kairos Retreat leader and been a tutor for Brother Rice Junior Band of Brothers.

Stevens named two teachers as having influenced him: Bob Barnes "because he had an expansive understanding of physics" and Donna Johnson "because she challenged me more than any other teacher in English."

He is the son of Theresa Rizer and Derek Stevens and brother to Sera Stevens, 16, Deaglan McGreevy, 9, and Emir McGreevy, 9.

STEPHEN
FEDAK

Churchill High School



Stephen Fedak of Livonia plans to attend University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, where he will major in biomedical engineering.

"I would like to pursue research into developing new techniques for the diagnosis and treatment of genetic and auto-immune diseases and to use my training as an engineer to improve the lives of others," he said.

Fedak plays snare drum in the drum line and percussion in the wind ensemble. He is a pole vaulter for varsity track and field and a member of the Inversion Vault Club. He has been a fourth/fifth grade small group leader, junior counselor at Ward Kids Kamp and a cast member in Ward FX. He volunteered on a summer mission in Detroit.

His academic honors include being a KLAA Scholar Athlete, AP Scholar with Distinction and receiving MSC certificates of merit in AP calculus BC, AP physics and AP biology.

The teachers who influenced him the most are Doug Coates, Joel Meloche and Sean Senecal.

"Mr. Coates, in addition to accomplishing the difficult task of making calculus not all that daunting, grew my appreciation for math and challenged me to think critically," he said. "Additionally, the care he shows for all of his students outside the classroom is a great example to me," he said.

Meloche's AP biology class is responsible for Fedak's choosing the major he did. "The questions he posed concerning the interactions and relationships of biological systems drove me to go far beyond the scope of the course and consider how I could harness those relationships to create something meaningful," Fedak said.

Senecal, who taught world and U.S. history to Fedak in middle school, showed him "how important attention to details is in analyzing historical events and why keeping up with current events is so important in producing a good understanding of the world."

Fedak is the son of Taras (Terry) and Michele Fedak and the brother of Andrew, 15.

2014 HONORABLE MENTION

ANJALI ALANGADEN

Mercy High School

College: Will likely attend the University of Michigan.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; National Merit Commendation; Spartan Award, Michigan Interscholastic Press Association editor's class; Creative Communications Contest poetry contest.

Extracurricular activities: Editor, student newspaper; senior member, Human Relations Council; senior member and instructor, Nadanta Dance Troupe; secretary-general, Model UN Club; volunteer, Summer in the City; University of Detroit-Jesuit stage crew; student assistant, Henry Ford Hospital microbiology lab; piano student.

Career goals: "I cannot honestly say that I know what I want to do. I enjoy science, especially biology, but I also like studying languages and writing. Ideally, I'd find a way to combine all of those things. I think I'd one day really like to travel with a program like Doctors Without Borders."

Influential teacher: Mike Gruber, English: "I've only been in his class for a single semester, but he is also the moderator for the Human Relations Council and has been an inspiration for me. His dedication to his students, love for teaching and passion for justice and race relations is so incredible to witness."

Alangaden of Dearborn Heights is the daughter of George Alangaden and Nelia Afonso and sister to Keith Alangaden, 21.



SARAH BRADEN

Lutheran High School Westland

College: Selecting among the University of Michigan, University of Michigan-Dearborn and Hillsdale College to study art and creative writing with an eye toward computer-based graphic design.

Academic honors: National Honor Society, National Merit Scholarship finalist.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, vice president of the International Thespian Society, Chambers Choir, equipment manager and member of Honors Choir, Craft Club.

Career goals: "To excel professionally in a field involving art and creative writing."

Influential teachers: Mike Unger, math: "Because he taught me a lot and helped me to enjoy learning." Kate Ulrey, English: "She helped me to appreciate great literature and to enjoy Shakespeare and drama."

Braden of Dearborn is the daughter of the Rev. Mark and Patricia Braden.



JAMES BROWN

Huron Valley Lutheran High School

College: Planning to attend the University of Michigan to study clinical psychology.

Academic honors: Highest Honors; Voice of Democracy Essay Contest; Scholar/Athlete recognition.

Extracurricular activities: Varsity soccer, baseball and basketball; Student Council secretary/treasurer and president; Honors Choir (captain); volunteer at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Career goals: "Become a clinical psychologist and make enough money to comfortably support a medium-sized family."

Influential teachers: Peter Baganz, world and American history, computer essentials and web page design: "Mr. Baganz has always been a fun teacher. He likes sports and makes jokes that the class (especially me) can appreciate." Grace Mattek, English, speech, American government, English and British literature: "Ms. Mattek has always kept things interesting for any class. She's the most experienced teacher at my high school and it really shows."

Brown of Wayne is the son of James Brown Jr. and Wendy Brown. He is the brother of Rachel Luke, 33, Andrew Luke, 32, Matthew Luke, 30, Sam Luke, 28, and Katherine Tykoski, 27.



SARAH GRACE BAKER

Redford Thurston High School

College: Undecided.

Academic honors: Joyce Ivy Scholar.

Extracurricular activities: Youth trustee for the Redford Board of Trustees, treasurer of the National Honor Society, captain of the varsity volleyball team, nursery work and volunteer at church, varsity softball.

Career goals: "I plan on attending law school and then pursuing a job as a public prosecutor. I plan on being involved in different programs of advocacy."

Influential teachers: Jason Brater (advanced history) "Mr. Brater taught me what it is to be a better student and how to take my interests and explore them academically."

Baker of Redford is the daughter of Steve and Michelle Baker and the sister of Timothy, 23, and Ben, 21.



EMILY BAUER

Garden City High School

College: Deciding between Kalamazoo College, Whitman College and Hamilton College.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, Key Club, set crew chief (theater), blood drive, musical (principal role).

Career goals: A career as a neuroscience researcher

Influential teachers: Keith Penski, calculus. "Mr. Penski has pushed me more than any other teacher. He has shown me that learning is more important than your grade. He has devoted his life to helping his students."

Bauer is the daughter of April Bauer of Garden City and the sister of April Costello, 23, Kiana Bauer, 15, and Daniel Price, 8.



ERIC BELANGER

Franklin High School

College: Will enter Ohio Northern University's PharmD program, to study pharmacology.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; LPS Founder's Day honoree; honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: Student Congress president; School Promotions Committee; Livonia Youth Philharmonic violinist; Senior Council member; Patriots Relate member; AIDS Walk Detroit team member; SADD/SLS member; summer school volunteer; Special Olympics; Livonia Passport to Safety.

Career goals: "I plan to pursue a career in pharmacy and am mainly interested in pharmaceutical research or retail pharmacy."

Influential teachers: Jennifer Esparza, language arts, student activities director: "I've known (her) since I was in seventh grade. These five years spent with her have helped me grow so much as a leader and I will forever be grateful for that." Teresa Cirihal, orchestra: "Her lessons taught us a lot about confidence, personal responsibility, mental math and even a bit of Italian. I can't think of one class that I haven't been able to apply the musical knowledge she's provided us. Plus, I've never had a more caring and relatable teacher."

Belanger of Livonia is the son of Candace and Russell Belanger and brother to Zachary, 22.



ERIN BUTLER

Shrine Catholic High School

College: Currently looking at Kalamazoo College or Ohio Wesleyan University to focus on community engagement and international experience. Her probable professional would relate to community development and advocacy, perhaps in foreign countries.

Academic honors: Roberge Scholarship to Shrine Catholic High School; Advanced Placement scholar; principal's list for all semesters.

Extracurricular activities: President and member of National Honor Society; Mackinac Governor's Honor Guard; took mission trip to Managua, Nicaragua; SLEC service committee leader; co-founder of Knights of the Round Table; Sweet Harmony member; Praise Band member; varsity cross country and track; spring musical and fall play member; Summer in the City.

Career goals: "I aspire to start an organization in Detroit that helps youth involved in gang violence to better themselves and to become positive citizens of the city, or an organization that coordinates with other service organizations to better distribute the resources given to Detroit. I also aspire to travel abroad and work with organizations in developing countries aiming to assist impoverished people and communities."

Influential teachers: Maggie George, AP English, and Michael DeBruyn, faculty adviser for Knights of the Round Table. "Mrs. George taught me that in literature and in life, there is always more than meets the eye. Mr. DeBruyn taught me there are two sides to every story. Both of these teachers have had a profound impact on my life in teaching me some very important life lessons. These lessons have helped me develop what I now consider to be my greatest qualities as a person - dedication, respect and a thoughtful perspective."

Butler of Detroit is the daughter of Mark and Nancy Butler and sister to Colin, 14.



KALEN COBB

Academy of the Sacred Heart

College: Picking from among Harvard, Vanderbilt University, the University of Rochester, Washington (Mo.) University, Case Western Reserve University, Duke University and the University of Michigan to study neuroscience, psychology, women's studies or international relations.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; Academic High Honors; Harvard Prize Book Award; Lawrence Technological University Award; University of Rochester, George Eastman



Young Leaders Award; Wansboro Merit Scholarship.

Extracurricular activities: Class president; co-leader, Black Awareness Society for Education; Praise Team choir; student publications; tutor; performing arts, theater and music; community service at Heartland Georgian Bloomfield, Summer in the City and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Career goals: "I want to travel the world and use my talents to help those in need. My career goal is to become a pediatrician and travel to third-world countries to aid in their development. Before that, I want to have a clinic in the city of Detroit to help at-risk children."

Influential teacher: Kyalamboka Brown, mathematics: "Her dedication to students inside and outside the classroom is incredible and I admire her with the deepest and utmost respect."

Cobb of Canton is the daughter of Bradley Cobb and Bernadine Irby-Cobb and sister to Shaneka, 10.

JENNIFER CUSHMAN

Ladywood High School

College: University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, University of Miami or University of Chicago for pre-med biology and chemistry.

Academic honors: All-Catholic Scholastic Award and Principal's Honor Roll.

Extracurricular activities: captain varsity tennis team; lifeguard and swim instructor at Lifetime Fitness; volunteer work at the elderly nuns' infirmary; National Honor Society; National Art Honors Society; Yellow Ribbon Club; KIVA Club; volunteer as elementary school teacher's aide.

Career goals: "My dream is to become a doctor. I am not sure specifically what kind, but dermatology sounds interesting to me right now."

Influential teachers: Colleen Vanderveer (English/literature), Paul Stuligross (theology), Erin Petricca (biology/anatomy) and Kristena Stachura (history).

Cushman of Commerce is the daughter of Nancy and Phil Cushman and sister to Philip, 24, and Kristin, 19.



AMELIA DENISON

Southfield Christian High School

College: Bethel College, Rochester College or Olivet Nazarene University, to study nursing.

Academic honors: High honors; National Honor Society.

Extracurricular activities: Captain, varsity basketball team; National Honor Society; mission trip in Detroit; classroom helper, Howard Elementary; Million Meals preparation, North Ridge Church.

Career goals: "My goal is to obtain a nursing degree. I hope to use nursing overseas or in a low-income area of the United States."

Influential teachers: Nancy Horlings (English): "Mrs. Horlings challenges me to improve my writing and gave me a love of literature."

Denison of Dearborn is the daughter of Andrew and Colleen Denison and sister to Ryan, 19, and Seth 15.



ALYSSA EREBOR

Southfield-Lathrup High School

College: Either the University of Michigan or Princeton, to study arts and sciences.

Academic honors: National Honor Society, vice president; Society of Women Engineers; honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: Interact Rotary Club, secretary; Salvation Army Ring the Bell.

Career goals: "I'm not sure what I want a career in, but I'd like to do something in the arts and social sciences."

Influential teacher: Erin Humphrey, fourth-grade teacher: "She was the most caring, patient and loving teacher I've ever had."

Erebor of Southfield is the daughter of Samuel and Phyllis Erebor and sister to Alexander, 23, and Anthony, 15.



JOSHUA FITZPATRICK

Plymouth Christian Academy

College: University of Michigan or Case Western Reserve University, to study engineering, medicine and biomedical engineering.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholar; honor roll, high honors.

Extracurricular activities: ABCs in the D tutoring; robotics team; baseball; tennis (co-captain); NorthRidge Church facilities team volunteer.

Career goals: Biomedical engineer or medical researcher.

Influential teachers: Wes Sherman, science, "created interest in medicine and science in general" and David Murray, math, "generated interest in engineering and made me look at math in new ways."

Fitzpatrick of Canton is the son of Thomas and Irene Fitzpatrick and brother to Caley, 13.



2014 HONORABLE MENTION

BAXTER
GROVES

Redford Union High School

College: University of Michigan-Dearborn to study biomedicine.

Academic honors: Honor roll, perfect attendance.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society; mentoring; student council representative; theater crew captain.

Career goals: "Attend medical school after attending U-M and become a doctor."

Influential teachers: English teacher Steve Beaulieu, because he "helped me see my potential." Psychology teacher Robert Reese because he "gave me an open mind to new ideas."

Groves of Redford is the son of Daniel and Deborah Groves and brother to Jessica Lennox, 25, Sabryna Groves, 19, and Amanda Groves, 15.

HOLLY
GUBACHY

Redford Union High School

College: Boston College to study political science.

Academic honors: Honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, vice president; student council, treasurer; mentor at an elementary school; Irish dance team.

Career goals: Work as a lawyer "to represent people who are less fortunate and to give them a fair chance at living the life they deserve."

Influential teachers: Spanish teacher Kimberly Cuevas and world history teacher Karen Caprara: "Their passion for their subjects brought me to love learning and to see the world more open-minded and through a brighter perspective."

Gubachy of Redford is the daughter of Lisa and John Gubachy and sister to Sheila, 12.

REDJON
HASIMLLARI

Garden City High School

College: Wayne State University for pre-medicine.

Extracurricular activities: Vice president of Class of 2014; Student Council; Key Club; National Honor Society, member and vice president; DECA.

Career goals: "I plan on attending medical school and pursuing a career in cardiology."

Influential teachers: Denise Bills (science), Keith Penske (calculus), Chad Davis (art) and Nicholas Timmerman (history) - "They have all encouraged me to succeed and have inspired me."

Hasimllari of Garden City is the son of Lumturi and Edmond Hasimllari and brother to Deona, 17.

EMMA
HOLCOMB

Royal Oak High School

College: Looking at the University of North Carolina to major in public health or University of Michigan to dual major in biology and statistics.

Academic honors: National Merit finalist; honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: Secretary for the Royal Oak Model United Nations; president of Interact Club; took service trip to Guatemala for Interact Club; leadership intern at Camp Invention; section leader for baritone in marching band; played euphonium in symphony band; plays piano.

Career goals: "I hope to earn a master's degree in epidemiology and work as an epidemiologist for a city, state or the federal government, tracking trends in disease and health. I would like to do research in infant and maternal health, hopefully finding ways to improve infant health in the United States. Eventually, I hope to work for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

Influential teachers: "Steve Chisnell, AP literature, and Alec Snyder, AP world history: 'They have taught me so much about debate and international issues and how I can make an impact in my community and the world. They have provided me with so many opportunities as a delegate and leader. Mr. Chisnell is also the Interact adviser and has provided me with incredible opportunities to lead and serve.'"

Holcomb of Royal Oak is the daughter of Erin and Dennis Holcomb and is sister to Grace, 15.

BRIGID
JACOB

Ladywood High School

College: Will select from among Wayne State, Michigan State University and the University of Michigan to study biology/chemistry.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; Tri-M Music Honor Society; Scholar-Athlete Award; awards in mathematics, science, choir, foreign language, social studies, literature and college writing.

Extracurricular activities: Student Council, executive president; church children/youth choir director; church children's activities director; church pianist; Red Cross volunteer; St. Mary Mercy Hospital volunteer; field hockey; catechism teacher.

Career goals: "I would like to be a medical doc-



tor that travels the world, practicing medicine as part of my missionary work."

Influential teachers: Andrea Cole, biology and chemistry: "She is a great role model of a woman in the science field." Juanita Jeffries, chorus/ensemble: "She inspired me to develop my own musical talent."

Jacob of Livonia is the daughter of Sunny and Jessy Jacob and sister to Mary, 29, and John, 25.

MATTHEW
KARPIUK

John Glenn High School

College: Has applied to Stanford, Harvard, Georgetown, Princeton, USC, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and John Hopkins to study medicine.

Academic honors: Academic Letter Award. Extracurricular activities: Student Council; National Honor Society, vice president; co-lead mentor; Class Council; co-captain of the Relay for Life team.

Career goals: "Attend medical school and move into a residency."

Influential teachers: Daniel Danic, chemistry: "He possesses a great blend of social and educational knowledge. It is a pleasant way to learn and not many other teachers are like this."

Karpiuk of Westland is the son of Rebecca and Henry Karpiuk.

JACOB
KEMPPAINEN

Huron Valley Lutheran High School

College: Trine University or Norwich University to study civil engineering.

Academic honors: Salutatorian, highest honors. Extracurricular activities: Varsity soccer; varsity basketball; varsity baseball; lifeguard and swim instructor, Livonia YMCA; Sea Cadets honor guard, color guard and honor cadet.

Career goals: "Civil engineering with service in the U.S. Navy."

Influential teacher: Jean MacKenzie, math: "Math was my hardest subject. Ms. MacKenzie was patient and yet demanding. She had high expectations for us and helped us to achieve those expectations. She was always there for us."

Kemppainen of Livonia is the son of Bruce and Dorothy Kemppainen and brother to Matthew, 22, and Nathaniel 20.

ABHAY
KOMMANA

John Glenn High School

College: Plans to attend Michigan State University.

Academic honors: Perfect 4.0 grade-point average, two years.

Extracurricular activities: JV and varsity soccer; Student Council; Class Council; mentoring; public library volunteer; art contest winner; track events.

Career goals: Computer science.

Influential teachers: Kristin Drews, accelerated Biology, forensic science. "She helped me in developing a positive attitude and to aspire high."

Kommana of Westland is the son of Suneel and Shalaja Kommana and brother to Akshay, 17.

MARLA
KRASNICK

Berkley High School

College: Looking to study pre-med at the University of Michigan or Tulane University.

Academic honors: Advanced Placement scholar with distinction; honor roll; valedictorian

Extracurricular activities: President of the Friendship Circle; president of the Berkley Volunteer Service Club; varsity cross country, captain; varsity tennis, captain.

Career goals: "Do important medical research and have a profession within the medical field or in health sciences."

Influential teachers: Mike Skowronski, anatomy and physiology: "He sparked my interest in the human body and challenged my thinking skills."

Krasnick of Huntington Woods is the daughter of Jodie and Steve Krasnick and sister to Ellie, 19, and Evan, 13.

COLLIN
MALCOLM

Wayne Memorial High School

College: Applied to Cornell University, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and Kettering University to study chemical engineering.

Academic honors: Outstanding achievement in AP chemistry; outstanding achievement in AP U.S. history.

Extracurricular activities: Varsity track and field, swimming and cross country; plays trumpet in Jazz Band and Symphony Band and at Solo and Ensemble, received 1 at regionals and 2 at states; National Honor Society; Easter and Christmas



Choir at Church.

Career goals: "I wish to pursue a career in which I can use the basic building blocks of matter to benefit society."

Influential teachers: Shannon Pypu, AP U.S. history and AP political science, "taught reasonable tolerance." Robin Thomas, AP chemistry, "got me excited about chemistry applications."

Malcom of Canton is the son of Robert and Laura Malcolm and brother to Douglas, 21, Daniel, 19, and Olya, 14.

GOHAR
MELKONYAN

A.G.B.U. Manoogian School

College: University of Michigan-Ann Arbor to study business, health care administration.

Academic honors: N/A.

Extracurricular activities: Armenian dance; National Honor Society, vice president; peer mediation; St. John Providence volunteer; Sunday School student; church youth group.

Career goals: "To become the CEO of a hospital."

Influential teachers: Judith Kadri: "She is a very good influence on me and has helped me greatly throughout high school."

Melkonyan of Southfield is the daughter of Rita Khachatryan and Armen Melkonyan and the sister to Arsen, 22.

JULIANA
MEZMAR

Southfield Christian High School

College: Covenant College to major in community development.

Academic honors: High honors.

Extracurricular activities: Executive Council, president; volunteer at Central Detroit Christian; National Honor Society.

Career goals: "I am planning on working in the field of community development to empower low-income areas."

Influential teachers: Nancy Horlings, English, "cares about me as a person, has a bold and independent personality, is a woman of character."

Mezmar of Lathrup Village is the daughter of Anita and Marc Mezmar and the sister to Claire, 20.

IAN
MILLER

Berkley High School

College: Drake University to study actuarial science.

Academic honors: Advanced Placement scholar with distinction; salutatorian.

Extracurricular activities: Varsity cross country, captain; all-academic OAA; organization supervisor for the Huntington Woods Teen Council; SAFARI rescue volunteer; math committee leader for National Honor Society; student body treasurer; lifeguard and swim instructor for the city of Troy; private tutor.

Career goals: "I would like to become an actuary. I hope to graduate college as an associate of the Society of Actuaries and become a fellow before the age of 30. After some time in the field, I would potentially like to become a professor at a university. In the ideal situation, I would use this alternative way of thinking and skill set to allow me the opportunity to work in the front office of a professional sports team."

Influential teachers: Todd Fadoir, math: "He was the first one to advise me to become an actuary. ... I can also always rely on Mr. Fadoir for conversation or assistance with anything. Finally, he is the staff adviser for our Math Honor Society and urged us to become a chapter of the national math honor society, Mu Alpha Theta, which we have since accomplished."

Miller of Huntington Woods is the son of Sheri-Aaron and Keith Miller and brother to Shelby, 18.

NIKITA
MUNGARWADI

Livonia Clarenceville High School

College: Either the University of Michigan or USC for film directing.

Academic honors: Diplomat, statesman and Ambassador, BPA Torch Awards; Final Cut Pro X certification.

Extracurricular activities: Business Professionals of America, state executive vice president; co-founder and director of Middle School Initiative bullying program; varsity track and field; treasurer of Farmington Mayor's Youth Council; student teacher of Chinmaya Mission Bala Vihar for fifth- and sixth-graders; wrote and directed *Bad Luck Bella*, a short film that premiered at the Michigan Theatre; played flute in symphony and marching bands; dance at Dancing Feats Dance Centre.

Career goals: "Direct and produce major motion pictures in the Hollywood system."

Influential teachers: Computer teacher Judy Bargerstock and AP literature teacher Megan Kutz: "They both worked with me individually and with complete devotion, whether it was to place in BPA or improve my essays."

Mungarwadi is the daughter of Sanjeev and Sunita Mungarwadi and sister to Monica, 18.



2014 HONORABLE MENTION

KOLE NIEMI

**Lutheran High School Westland**

College: Deciding between the University of Michigan and Grand Valley State University to take a pre-med course and most likely major in biology.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; AP history award for excellence; Lawrence Tech award for excellence in science and mathematics.

Extracurricular activities: Involved in ALIVE, a student-led religious group; president of the Student Council; drama; football, wrestling and track; volunteer at Habitat for Humanity; tutoring grade schoolers.

Career goals: "I am striving to be a cardiac specialist and with the knowledge I gain in my studies, I want to help as many patients as I can. I would also like to travel to third-world countries as a doctor and care for the suffering people in those countries."

Influential teachers: Linda Switzer, third grade: "Mrs. Switzer was the first teacher who showed me how joyful learning can be. Prior to being in her class, I dreaded going to school, but once in her class, I was excited and have been since. She developed a love for learning in me that has led to my great interest in knowledge and how to apply my knowledge to the world around me."

Niemi of Garden City is the son of Brian and Jennifer Niemi and brother to Kameron and Kristen.

ANNE O'DONNELL

**Shrine Catholic High School**

College: Selecting from among Hope College, Villanova University, Miami University, Oakland University and Carnegie Mellon University.

Academic honors: National Honor Society member; Shrine Knight Award; Jacqueline Callanan Tribute Scholarship; Shrine Catholic High School Excellence Awards; Principal's List Award; Diane Kushler Powers '50 Memorial Art Scholarship; Catholic Schools Week Service Award; Gold Key Art Portfolio Winner for the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society; tutor and coordinator of a group of Academy and grade school students; Shrine Service Council; Eucharistic minister and lector.

Career goals: "I am undecided on my career goals, but I am looking at majoring in English or physics with the intention of becoming a professor in either field."

Influential teachers: "Mr. Phillip Chisholm, Mr. Vince Tocco and Mrs. Maggie George have all helped me become the writer, student and individual I am proud to be and opened my eyes to potential career paths for my future."

O'Donnell of Royal Oak is the daughter of Mary and Patrick O'Donnell and sister to Megan, 15.

DAVID PEGOUSKE

**Redford Thurston High School**

College: University of Michigan-Ann Arbor or Michigan State University for biochemistry.

Academic honors: N/A.

Extracurricular activities: Drum major in marching band; president of National Honor Society; Link Crew leader; varsity baseball; French horn player in band and president of the Band Council.

Career goals: "I plan to become a dermatologist and open my own business to help as many people as possible."

Influential teachers: Kevin Santer, math, "has developed my sense of dedication and continued to give me work that challenged me to reach my maximum potential in the field of mathematics." Victor Chen, chemistry, "taught me how to manage both time and resources as well as how to work with others to complete lab work and other tasks in preparation for the AP exam. This has let me become able to take people of different ideas and backgrounds and work with them to a common goal."

Pegouske of Redford is the son of Angela Southworth and David Pegouske and the stepson of Patrick Southworth and Meen Moosavi and brother to Rachel Pegouske, 16, Ryan Southworth, 8, Audrey Pegouske, 8, Dylan Southworth, 6, Alex Pegouske, 6, and Lydia Pegouske, 3.

LENA PIVETTA

**Mercy High School**

College: Selecting from among Michigan State, University of Michigan, Wayne State, Albion College and Hope College, to study mathematics or computer science.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Student; Michigan State University Alumni Distinguished Scholarship, commended semifinalist; honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: Boys and Girls Club, volunteer tutor; working on a novel.

Career goals: "Ideally, I'll find some way to combine my passion for writing with my more technical college studies and maybe even to use foreign language, another interest of mine."

Influential teacher: Patricia Perry, geometry and pre-calculus: "She showed me such sincere support in my studies and her classes played a role in my decision to follow a career path in a mathematical field."

Pivetta of Royal Oak is the daughter of Anthony and Donna Pivetta.

JACK POIRIER

**Royal Oak High School**

College: Oakland University to study computer science to possibly be a software engineer.

Academic honors: Honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: High school co-op employment at Subway.

Career goals: "To keep an open mind in dealing with the exponentially changing world by not keeping all eggs in one basket and being adaptable."

Influential teachers: "Clyde Ewell, calculus, "taught me that there is always a place for fun in seriousness and that change needs to happen, if you can't find it."

Poirier of Royal Oak is the son of Lee and Sandi Poirier and brother to Kari, 21.

JAYME PUTNEY

**Plymouth Christian Academy**

College: Olivet Nazarene University in Kankakee, Ill., for electrical engineering.

Academic honors: Top student in pre-calculus; high honors; class valedictorian; received application for the National Society of High School Scholars.

Extracurricular activities: President of the senior class; National Honor Society, president; varsity soccer, captain; led worship at weekly school chapel (vocals/acoustic guitar); plays the electric guitar for the Plymouth Church of the Nazarene praise team; Eastern Michigan District student representative for Nazarene Youth International; captain of the electrical team for PCA's robotics team 4405 "The Atom's Family."

Career goals: "I don't know exactly what I want to do, but I hope to find a job in the electronics industry which is always evolving and developing, so I can be continuously learning new things about technology."

Influential teachers: David Murray, AP calculus, "is one of the most influential teachers to me because he is involved with my life outside of math class. He is also the teacher/mentor that helps with the school praise team. We can talk about real things in his class like faith and hope and he reaches out to us with wisdom beyond mathematics. He has really become a mentor to me and I appreciate how he has been involved in my life on a personal and spiritual level."

Putney of Livonia is the son of Phil and Debi Putney and brother to Brent, 30, and Breanne, 20.

TAMARIS RATLIFF

**Southfield High School**

College: Hoping to attend the University of Michigan to study business.

Academic honors: Honors in AP English language and arts; honors in AP world history and geography; honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, treasurer; choir; marching band (head drum major); Scholars Plus; student council; class board; Principal's Council.

Career goals: "I plan to graduate from college with a degree in business. Next, become a successful accountant and make my own business out of it."

Influential teacher: Kimberly Wardell-Stone, biology: "She taught me how to strive to do better and work hard because you get what you earn."

Ratliff of Southfield is the daughter of Tomeko Davis and sister to Rico Davis, 11, and Javonte Smith, 20.

JALEN SMITH

**Southfield High School**

College: Either Western Michigan or the University of Michigan.

Academic honors: National Honor society; Engineering Leadership Award; honor roll.

Extracurricular activities: Robotics Team, build team leader; Innovative Vehicle Design; church volunteer.

Career goals: "To become a great mechatronics engineer with my own business."

Influential teacher: Joe Minnick, engineering technology: "He has taught me how to be a leader and have confidence in myself."

Smith of Southfield is the son of Lisa and Mitchell Smith and brother to Michael, 15.

SUDHARSAN SRINIVASAN

**North Farmington High School**

College: University of Michigan, to study biomedical engineering.

Academic honors: AP Scholar with distinction; President's Volunteer Service Award (gold); honorable mention at University of Michigan Model UN;

Extracurricular activities: President, chess club; state qualifier, HOSA club; regional champion, tennis; state champion and national qualifier DECA; award winner, Michigan Model UN.

Career goals: "I hope to attend medical school and eventually become a neurosurgeon."

Influential teacher: Jeffrey Simpson, mathematics: "He influenced my education and life through the methods he uses to teach and coach track."

Srinivasan of Farmington Hills is the son of Srinivasan Muthuswamy and Latha Srinivasan and brother to Srihari, 12.

GRACE TOROSSIAN

**A.G.B.U. Manoogian School**

College: University of Michigan, to study biology or business.

Academic honors: National Honor Society, president.

Extracurricular activities: Student Council, vice president; Royal Conservatory of Music, piano; basketball; volleyball; Henry Ford Hospital-West Bloomfield, volunteer; church school aide.

Career goals: "Hope to do medical research."

Influential teacher: Amanda Clark, biology: "(She) introduced me to biology and sparked my interest in the field."

Torossian of Farmington Hills is the daughter of Shelly and Hosesep Torossian and sister to Galine, 27, and Garen, 24.

TA'LISA TURNER-PITTS

**Southfield-Lathrup High School**

College: Will attend Howard University, to study civil engineering.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; Howard Legacy Scholarship.

Extracurricular activities: Scholars Plus member; Oakland County Parks volunteer; Junior Library Board member.

Influential teachers: Alma Deanemy, eighth-grade English: "(She) taught me how to express myself." David LeClerc, biology: "(He) sparked my love for biology."

Turner-Pitts of Southfield is the daughter of Tamika Turner-Graydon and sister to Gabriel Graydon, 12, Wyatt Graydon, 9, and Ross Graydon, 6.

JOSEPH VETULA

**Livonia Franklin High School**

College: University of Michigan-Dearborn to study German and physics or history.

Academic honors: Honor roll; student of the month honors.

Extracurricular activities: Varsity tennis, captain; school mascot at various events.

Career goals: "German and physics are definite possible career choices for me. Whatever I end up doing as my career, I want it to be something that I enjoy doing every day. I want to have an interesting job that enables me to live a comfortable, but thought-provoking, life."

Influential teachers: Jennifer Esparza, seventh-grade English: "Mrs. Esparza always pushed me to try my hardest in class and also in life. She always reminded me the importance of being the best person I possibly could be." Anastasia Mckorwin, German: "Frau Mckorwin instilled a very thorough work effort within me and really opened my mind to not only German culture, but to appreciate learning a foreign language as a way to connect with others."

Vetula of Livonia is the son of John Vetula and Renetta Jacob and brother to Mary Vetula, 23, and John Vetula, 20.

STEPHENIE WORTHY

**Wayne Memorial High School**

College: University of Kentucky or Lawrence Technological University to study mechanical engineering.

Academic honors: Academic Achievement Award; National Honor Society Award.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society; fifth-grade camp cabin leader; soccer; worked part-time at Canton Pools.

Career goals: "To earn a degree in mechanical engineering and pursue a career in motorsports engineering."

Influential teachers: "David Brinckerhoff has been my art and computer automated drafting teacher throughout high school. He has shown me that I had the potential to be an engineer because I exhibit outstanding achievement in math and design courses."

Worthy of Wayne is the daughter of Teresa and Stephen Worthy.



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