

Wayne-Westland's Jefferson-Barns to become new Dorsey Community Center

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

A former Norwayne elementary school will soon take on new life as the Dorsey Community Center.

The Westland Council and the Wayne-Westland School board have both approved an agreement to lease the former Jefferson-Barns Elementary School building to the city for use as a community center.

"This is a chance to bring back to Norwayne something that has been missing since both elementary schools closed — a sense of community," said Henry Johnson, chairman of the Norwayne Community Citizens Council.

"It's a great thing for the community.

It's very exciting," said Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell, who is based at the Dorsey Center.

Wayne-Westland Schools Superintendent Greg Baracy agreed.

"This is a win-win for the entire community. We won't have to demolish that building and spend a significant amount of money in doing so," Baracy said. "It will alleviate utility costs and certainly serve the community well. It's a win-win for everyone involved."

The agreement is for 50 years and expires in 2064.

Move offices

Moving from current offices further west on Dorsey near Venoy, the city will utilize about one-third of the school, Campbell said. That will provide room for community service organizations to be housed, she said.

"We haven't received a commitment yet but we're hoping Wayne Metro (Community Services) will move with us," Campbell said. "We will have a gym. There will be a Norwayne boxing club. The rest of the building can be used for community programs."

The city has applied for a Section 108 loan through the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for the new community center.

"The Detroit HUD office forwarded it to Washington, D.C., with the recommendation of approval but we haven't heard anything yet," Campbell said. The current programs run out of the Dorsey Center and the Housing and Community Development Department will move into the former elementary school in early 2015. Jefferson-Barnes Elementary was built in 1943, at the same time as the Norwayne Community in which it is located.

Unlike the Westland City Hall retrofit into the former Circuit City building, Campbell said that work on the Jefferson-Barns building, closed in June 2010, won't involve major renovations.

"We anticipate a January 2015 movedate. We will paint and carpet to turn the classrooms into offices," Campbell said.

See DORSEY, Page A2

Volunteers sew 'angel' gowns for babies who never make it home

By Karen Smith Staff Writer

Sewing has always made Dawn Lafferty happy. Now the Garden City resident is using her sewing skills to help ease the sadness of parents who miscarry, deliver a stillborn baby or lose an infant shortly after birth.

Lafferty, who volunteers as a seamstress for the Friendship Center in Westland, started a nonprofit called Angels Above Baby Gowns, where she and a group of women sew burial gowns for babies out of donated wedding gowns.

The group made its first delivery Tuesday to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, dropping off 18 handmade gowns ranging in size to fit micro-preemies all the way up to full-term babies. Some gowns are for boys, some for girls, and some are unisex. Lafferty got the idea after reading an article about a woman in Georgia who lost a baby and fashioned a burial gown out of her own wedding dress and then started making them for others. "I couldn't stop thinking about that article," she said. "There's such a need for it. Most of those people haven't had baby showers (yet); everybody should have recognition for their baby." She said she couldn't find anyone in Michigan doing something similar so she decided to start her own nonprofit.



Lafferty, 57, was unable to have biological children be-

See GOWNS, Page A2

St. Mary Mercy's Deborah Ainsworth, R.N., director of the Birthing Center, of Canton, and Pamela Wrigley, R.N., assistant unit manager of the Birthing Center, of Livonia, look at outfits made by Jennifer McDonald of Redford and Dawn Lafferty of Garden City. Lafferty founded the new nonprofit organization Angels Above Baby Gowns. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Councilman Henley resigns because of personal reasons

1

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Wayne Councilman James Henley has submitted his resignation from office a little more than eight months after being reelected to a four-year term.

"I resigned Thursday (June 12) effective immediately," said Henley, 38. "I resigned for personal reasons."

Married with two children, ages 11 and 8, Henley served a four-year term before being reelected in November.

"My daughter was sick. I'd been gone a couple of weeks," Henley said. "I'd been thinking about it (resigning). I'd been kicking it around. There were a lot of things I wanted to see through. When I was gone, that kind of made the decision for me."

A funeral director, Henley said he needed to spend more time with his young children.

The council was scheduled to accept Henley's resignation at the

regularly scheduled Henley meeting Tuesday.

Under the city charter, the council appoints a replacement to serve until the next regularly scheduled election in November 2015. The seat would

See RESIGNS, Page A2

June 30 deadline to apply for vacant Wayne City Council seat

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Wayne residents interested in serving on the city council have until 4 p.m. Monday, June 30, to submit a letter of interest and resume to the city clerk's office.

There is a short window — 30 days — for the council to appoint someone to replace James Henley, who resigned from his council seat effective June 12. Reelected to a second fouryear term in November, Henley cited personal reasons for resigning.

"You need to appoint on July 15. It is a short time frame but you have done it before," City Clerk Matthew Miller said.

Council will schedule applicants for 20-minute public interviews beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 8. Miller said he will need a couple of days to verify addresses of applicants and also make sure the applicants aren't in arrears on any city taxes.

Miller had suggested a council subcommittee be used to review the applications and recommend candidates to be interviewed by the council.

"I think all who apply should be interviewed by the entire council. There is more transparency," Haidous

See APPLY, Page A2



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Residents also have

the Vectolex Water Solu-

mos Briquettes from the

Service, located at 37137

ble Pouches and Bacto-

Department of Public

dusk and applying

pellent.

Marquette.

Summer is not only the season for sunny skies, warmer temperatures and barbecues; it's also mosquito season.

In order to repel the pesky bugs, the City of Westland is launching the Mosquito Abatement Program.

The Department of Public Service will apply Vectolex Water Soluble Pouches and Bactomos Briquettes to more than 11,000 catch basins and ditches that have been identified as possible mosquito breeding grounds. This will cost approximately \$7,500.

Westland launched this program in 2003, and the catch basins and ditches have been treated annually in an effort to shield residents against the West Nile Virus. Residents are also encouraged to contact ordinance enforcement if they are aware of vacant homes with pools or other stagnant water, which become breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Ordinance enforce-

ment can be reached online through the city website or by calling 734-467-3201.

City crews will be out today on the streets and in the neighborhoods making drops. This will continue into next week to cover the city's 11,000 catch basins.

"The City of Westland is committed to health and safety of our residents, and this program is critical to ensure our community can enjoy the summer months," Mayor William Wild said.

Residents should take precautions due to the

monthly pasta dinner

year; it will return in

September

has ended for the school

For more informa-

tion, call 734-419-2020.

Meet the Director

is holding a Meet the

Wayne Ripple Effect

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Open House

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool, 36660 Cherry Hill, south of Wayne Road, Westland, is having an open house for enrollment 6-8 p.m. today. Willow Creek offers classes for 4-yearolds and 3-year-olds and a tot-to-toddler class.

For more information, call 734-326-0078 or

GOWNS

Continued from Page A1

cause of a kidney disease, but she was a foster mother to many babies through the years. She stays in touch with three of her foster daughters, including one who has blessed her with a grandchild.

Lafferty taught herself how to sew at age 10. When she worked for Michigan Bell, she would take home coworkers' dresses and slacks to hem them.

"I always said if I could sew every day, it would make me the happiest person in the world," said Lafferty, who had to retire for medical reasons several visit willowcreekpreschool.com.

Game Night

The Dyer Senior Center in Westland is holding its monthly game night at 6 p.m. today at the center, 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland.

The center will be closed on Fridays, June 20 through Aug. 8. Its

years ago. "Now I am sewing every day."

Meets weekly

Lafferty said she expects to surpass her goal for the nonprofit of 200 gowns by the end of the year. She has converted her basement into a sewing center, where a handful of women join her from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Thursday to make the gowns. "We always have dessert and friendship with it," she said. Others volunteer by making gowns in their own homes.

One of Lafferty's former Michigan Bell coworkers, Jennifer McDonald of Redford, is a member of the sewing circle at Lafferty's house. "It's a wonderful thing," McDonald said, Director Mixer 6-7 p.m. today in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church, 3

adding there is a need for the gowns, and they may "help someone at one of the worst times of their life."

The mother of four and grandmother of three said she never lost a child. "I can't imagine the pain," she said.

Getting donations of wedding gowns has not been a problem — the group has a dozen right now. It also accepts donations of lace, buttons and other decorative trim. Contact Angels Above Baby Gowns, Garden City on Facebook or call Lafferty at 734-421-2322.

Lafferty has contacted several hospitals, and St. Mary Mercy was the first to call back, she said. The donation was based on the need of about 15 gowns per year. Towne Square, Wayne. Stop by and meet Lindsay Wooten, executive director of the Wayne Michigan Main Street program. Enter the hall through the north or south entrance. Coffee, water and cookies will be available. Call 734-629-6822 or

send an email to info@downtownwayne.org for more information.

Lafferty said the gowns come packaged with a prayer book and a tiny keepsake angel ornament. There is no charge to the families. Some parents like to have their baby photographed in the gown, and then put the gown back in the box to keep as another memento along with a lock of the baby's hair and hand and footprints. "The directors at St.

Mary, they cried," Lafferty said. "They were just so touched. Before we were back home, we had already received a call from one of the nurses who would like to donate her wedding

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dress.

DORSEY

Continued from Page A1

Efforts praised

The Westland City Council voted unanimously to approve the agreement. The school board approved the agreement with opposition from board member Sally Madison. Baracy credited the efforts of Campbell in moving the project forward.

"Joanne is really responsible for applying and receiving a significant grant for \$500,000 in order to pursue this partnership to take over this school with the intent of turning it into a community center for the Norwayne Community," he said.

School board member Charles "Trav" Griffin

APPLY

Continued from Page A1

said. "We are in tough times. We need some unity."

The person appointed to replace Henley will serve until the next regularly scheduled city election in November 2015. At that election, someone will be elected to serve the two years remaining on Henley's term. After that, the regular cycle of three council members being elected for four-year terms every two years will resume.

As the council voted to

RESIGNS

Continued from Page A1

then be filled for two years so that it would expire in 2017.

The charter allows council 30 days to fill the vacancy, Wayne Clerk Matt Miller said.

"I'm recommending that the council put out a call accepting letters and resumes," Miller said. "Then that they establish a council vacancy subechoed haracy's win win comments, saying, "I really look forward to this and the kind of things that will happen there — better housing, people who want to come there to live and children that will be in our school district."

hometownlife.com

In recent years, Westland has made significant investment in Norwayne — including demolition of blighted housing and a community garden — to make it a community of choice once more.

"I think this will make a big impact on the area and provide services that are so desperately needed," board member Cindy Schofield said.

Staff Writer Sue Mason contributed to this story.

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accept Henley's resignation, Mayor Al Haidous threatened to vote no on the motion.

"He (Henley) served with a great deal of love towards the community and good intentions," Haidous said. "He did a good job, spoke his mind and took time to study the issues. He proved his heart was in the right place. I can't thank him enough."

Haidous and council members wished Henley, who is married with two children, ages 8 and 11, well.

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committee."

The schedule proposed by Miller would have council candidates interviewed July 14 and appointed July 15.

The last time council appointed a member — it was when Councilman James Hawley was appointed — council conducted interviews as a committee of the whole.

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LOCAL NEWS



Amelia Gadde of Novi gets her face painted by Natalie Guenther from Inside Out Church during the Garden City Relay for Life.



Tramping Out Cancer members Wendy Barthold, Shannon Hicks, Darlene Sabagh-Richmond, Debbie Smith and Anna Kulsa-Rosenthal held a cookie sale to raise funds.



Garden City in 2007. They raffled off Tigers baseball tickets to raise funds for Relay for Life.

fight against cancer at Relay for Life eams share in

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

hometownlife.com

Call it karma or maybe just payback but Toni Lupanoff found herself behind bars Saturday with a cup pleading for donations from passersby to make her bail.

The bail was only \$3 at a jail cell made of PVC pipe at the Garden City Relay for Life.

"This is the first time I've been locked up. The bad part is the jail was my idea last year — I had it built," said Lupa-noff of the Briscoe Family Ties team. "You stay until you get your bail. My family had me put in.

It's a two-way fundraiser - donations get people arrested and bailed out. Lupanoff was arrested by her niece Sam Michaluk.

"I locked up my boyfriend and my niece," said Michaluk, offering her aunt a dollar toward her bail.

Midway through the 24-hour American Cancer Society fundraiser at Garden City Junior High School, 27 teams with 261 participants had raised nearly \$52,000.

Many teams raise money throughout the year and continue during the event with food, games and by selling a variety of beads, bangles, buttons and stickers. A couple teams had

games of bra pong. One theme had a Road to Recovery lap with a team creating a car to carry around the track.

Eighth year

The Garden City Relay for Life started in 2007 when then Garden City employees Penny Albitus and Margo Ciercerski joined Councilwoman Jaylee Lynch to organize the event.

We had a meeting and decided to take on relay. This is the eighth year," Lynch said. "It's going wonderful based on the number of tents and people walking. It's excellent."

Albitus was Relay chairperson the first two years. Like Lynch she still participates in the Garden City employees team, Checkmate, which is a gold-status team after raising more than \$5,000.

Relay kicked off at 10 a.m. Saturday with a cancer survivor lap, followed by a lap of survivors and caregivers. One team, the Walking Warriors, was taking photos of cancer survivors holding large numbers reflecting the years they had been cancer free

Rebels with a Cause is anticipating gold-level fundraising in its fourth year of participation.

"We raised a little over \$1,000 the first year, and I believe we are over \$5,000 this year," said team chairman Patrick Crosby, a teacher at the Burger School for Students with Autism. "The first year, people said, 'Relay for Life?' The second and third year people wanted to get in on it. We have a lot coworkers and family."

Crosby's wife is a teaching assistant at Burger, and a lot of the team are teachers.

Fundraisers

Selling T-shirts -Burger staff alone purchased 60 shirts - along with a raffle are the big fundraisers for Rebels with a Cause. The team was formed in 2011 after Crosby's brother in-law Eric Wien of Garden City died of cancer in the summer of 2010.

Garden City Relay for Life kicks off with special cancer survivors lap. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

OR LIFE

John Fleming had a Relay team for several years, which disbanded and kind of folded into Rebels with a Cause.

"John's diabetes golf outing benefits from us and we benefit from John's outing," Crosby said.

In addition to the food, games and music, there was an annual silent luminaria walk remembering those lost to cancer held just before 10 p.m. Saturday

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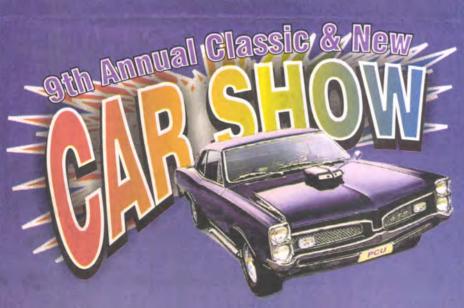
Helping to raise money to get out of "jail" are Amanda Michaluk and Sierra Fugitt who are part of Briscoe Family Ties team.



Penny Albitus and Jaylee Lynch founded Relay for Life in

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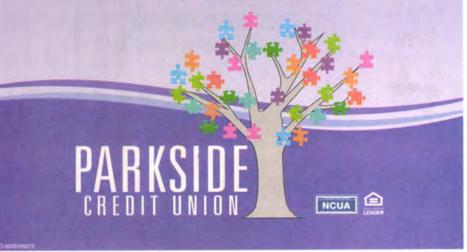
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Classic and New Vehicles as well as Motorcycles are welcome.

> Registration is \$10 per vehicle. Cash and Checks are accepted.



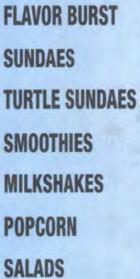
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THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014

PUBLIC SAFETY

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A family photo shows Jodi Kozma leaving Walmart after being accused of stealing hair ties. They say the receipt proves her innocence.



Lawsuit against city of Livonia, Walmart moved to federal court

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

The lawsuit filed against the city of Livonia, its police department and a local Walmart has been moved out of Wayne County Circuit Court and into federal court.

Deborah Gordon, the attorney representing Novi residents John and Wendy Kozma as well as their daughter, Jodi, in a lawsuit filed last month against the city and Walmart, said the request was made by the city and the retail giant. Because the complaint alleges the Kozmas' daughter had her Fourth and 14th Amendment rights violated by an unnecessary search and seizure, the defendants can ask to have it moved since it deals with the U.S. Constitution, Gordon said.

"That gives them the right to move them into federal court," said Gordon, a Bloomfield Hills attorney. "It's the same lawsuit."

Gordon said the complaint filed in Wayne County Circuit Court is the same one being used by the federal court, which is the District of Eastern Michigan in Detroit.

The case was originally filed last month by Gordon on behalf of the family, who says their daughter was shopping August 2012 at the Livonia store at 29574 Seven Mile and was unlawfully detained by store employees and Livonia police, who believed she was shoplifting.

Jodi Kozma, 25, has hypoxia and persistent fetal circulation and is mentally impaired and requires constant supervision from a family member when in public, according to the complaint. She purchased some hair ties and began to walk out of the store when she was stopped by loss prevention agents at the store and became confused. They prevented her from leaving until police arrived. Police detained her until it was determined Jodi Kozma had not taken anything illegally from the store and let her g0.

The city's attorney, Don Knapp, has said the police officers properly determined there was probable cause for retail fraud. Police must also determine the facts after their own investigation, he said, and not just rely on statements made.

The case was originally scheduled for a status conference in August before a circuit judge in Wayne County, which will not take place. No date for a hearing in federal court has been scheduled, Gordon said.

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Fraud

On June 11, a Westland woman told police that she had been notified by the Internal Revenue Service that her 2013 tax return was being audited. She said she responded that she had not filed income taxes.

The woman said she was told that a return with her Social Security number had been filed electronically and a \$9,000 refund was electronically deposited in an unknown bank account. The IRS told her to file a police report.

Vandalism

A resident of an apartment at 36700 Parkcrest told police June 16 that his friend was using his car to take trash to

WESTLAND COP CALLS

the dumpster. As he backed out, the friend said he heard a noise like he had backed over something but found nothing when he got out and looked.

The friend said he drove several hundred yards and heard another noise. This time he said the right rear tire had fallen off and the lug nuts were missing. The officer noted several lug nuts loosened on the remaining three tires on the 2014 Ford Fusion.

Larceny

A resident of the Heather Ridge Apartments, 37104 S. Heather, told police June 12 that someone had stolen \$100 he had hidden in a shoe in his closet. He said there had been \$200 there when he last checked on June 6 and found only \$100 left.

Break-in

An Ypsilanti man told police he has been working at a vacant home in 5900 block of N. Parent and arrived June 12 to find the overhead garage door partially open. He said the back door to the home and garage were also ajar.

The officer noted that it appeared someone had forced the garage door open and damaged it. There were some tools moved in the garage, he said, but nothing appeared missing.

The man said about a week earlier two men had showed up at the home looking for his employer.

bike when he was visiting

Hill east of Merriman. He

said that after he used the

and his Schwinn bike was

Property damage

gone.

Garden City Park on Cherry

men's restroom, he came out

The police believe that

June 13 in the 30000 block of

Krauter on purpose. When the

tracks leading up to the fence

accident. The driver fled and

By Sue Buck

someone damaged a fence

police officer came to in-

vestigate, the officer saw

indicating that it wasn't an

couldn't be located.

By LeAnne Rogers

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Stolen property

A representative of a property manager reported June 16 that the furnace and air conditioner were stolen from of a home in the 520 block of Harrison. The air conditioner condenser located on the outside of the home was also taken. The total value of the items was estimated at about \$5,000.

The man said that it had been a few months since he last checked on the home.

When police talked to a neighbor, they said that a man and a woman had been staying at the house but she hadn't seen them for a few days. Since no one had permission to be there, the officer said in his report that the man and woman were likely to have been squatters.

Stolen license plate

A resident in the 800 block of Cardwell came to the police station June 12 to report that the license plate from his 1990 Dodge was stolen.

The vehicle had been parked in front of the house.

Stolen bike

A Westland man came to the police station June 16 to report that someone stole his

WAYNE COP CALLS

Break-in

A resident of an apartment at 35641 Brush told police June 10 that someone stole miscellaneous clothing valued at \$300. The resident said she had been hospitalized May 16-19 and has been ill and unable to walk unassisted.

On June 10, the resident said she finally felt well enough to go out. As she was getting dressed, she said she discovered the clothing was missing. She told police someone likely entered through the front door.

Stolen vehicle

On June 16, an employee at Micro Plating Services, 38300 Van Born, told police someone stole a 2007 Ford F-150 Econoline van from the parking lot. The white van was described as having the number 76 on the driver's side front fender. The officer noted a pile of glass on the ground where the van had been parked.

Larceny from a vehicle

Catalytic converters were reported to have been cut off an unspecified number of vehicles parked at Polk Auto, 31443 Michigan Ave., June 13. By LeAnne Rogers







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Cheryl Partin of Garden City and Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc and wife Cheryl shop at the Lucky Squirrel Festival in downtown Garden City. PHOTOS BY KIM DOLD

Lucky Squirrel Festival draws shoppers

By Sue Buck Staff Writer

Nancy Bowman knew that it was time to downsize and get rid of things that she won't have room for.

"I'm retiring and moving to Yuma, Arizona," Bowman said.

She found the perfect place to sell her items the recent Lucky Squirrel event, held for the first time by the Garden City Downtown Development Authority.

The event was held in the Farmers Market area at Ford and Middlebelt

With three curios of cat items, Bowman knew that she would have to part with some. She has donated some cat items to the American Legion in Garden City.

A cat owner and cat lover, she has taken in cats, too, through the years. Her niece, a veterinarian, influenced her to take in cats in need, strays and rescues.

"I'm just a cat lover," Bowman said.



Autumn Jennings, of Garden City, and friend Emily Green manned a table at the Lucky Squirrel event in downtown Garden City.

felt that she got a deal when she purchased an old VCR and rewinder for \$3.

The grounds of the festival were divided into garage sale sections and crafts and organizations sections. The DDA also had a table where it sold food items and Tshirts of the famous Willy the Pig sculpture

clothing residents have placed on Willy.

"Every time we have visitors, we always point her out," she said. "She has babies now, too.' Someone placed "pig-

lets" at Willy's base. The festival also drew artist Kelsy Zsidor, a Detroit resident who grew up in Holly. She plans to attend Wayne

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She was also looking for homes for her cats. "It's too hot for my

cats in Arizona," Bowman said.

Reduced prices

Along with household items, those customers who came to her booth found bargains. Bowman reduced the prices of many things and often threw in a free item to spare. Julie Barton, a Garden City resident,

located in downtown Garden City. Garden City resident

Autumn Jennings, Kim Dold's granddaughter, manned that table with friend, Emily Green, a Westland resident. Dold is an assistant to Stacey Tobar, executive assistant to the DDA.

The Willy T-shirts caught the eye of Sue Prajzner. A Westland resident, she has followed the different

CITY OF WESTLAND

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LIBERATOR PARK CEMENT REMOVAL

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or

State University in the

fall. "I do commission paintings," said Zsidor, who does caricatures. "I draw someone by how I feel about them.

The first time event was called a success. "I would guess that

we have 65 vendors,' Dold said.

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CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION FOR PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD **AUGUST 5, 2014**

A Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, in the City of Wayne. Persons who wish to vote in this election must be registered to vote by July 7, 2014 and possess the following qualifications:

*Citizen of the United States

- ^e Michigan resident for 30 days prior to August 5, 2014
- *Eighteen (18) years of age on or before August 5, 2014

Voter registration application can also be made at an office of the following agencies:

Secretary of State Department of Social Services Department of Mental Health Department of Public Health Michigan Rehabilitation Services

City of Wayne electors who have moved to a new address within Wayne should notify the City Clerk's Office.

> Matthew K. Miller City Clerk

Publish: June 19, 2014



After clearing a classroom, the team prepares to move farther into the school.



One gunman is neutralized, but there may be more.



The team carries a victim to safety. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

'AS REAL AS IT GETS' – OFFICERS TRAIN FOR SCHOOL SHOOTING SITUATIONS

They may use bullets filled with paint, but Livonia Police Capt. Ron Taig knows the school shooting training session done Tuesday by several Wayne County police agencies has the feel of being authentic.

"This is as real as it gets," he said. "We're trying to test their abilities in the struggle."

Several police officers from agencies such as Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, the Wayne County Airport Authority, Dearborn Heights, Northville and Northville Township are participating in a four-day training session, learning the ropes of proper tactics when dealing with a school shooting situation. Officers ran real-time simulations Tuesday morning at Dickinson School, 18000 Newburgh, in Livonia, complete with "gunmen" opening fire on police. The training runs through today.

The training was made possible by a federal grant obtained by the Wayne County Department of Homeland Security, totaling about \$45,000 for eight days of training for officers. No local dollars funded the sessions.

Officers used Dickinson, which was not in use, as a training ground. Several officers donned blue jerseys, indicating their status as a shooting victim, while others wore red, labeling them as a shooter in the school.

And these aren't SWAT team officers, either: Taig said the goal is to train every first responding officer to step in and handle a shooter situation inside a school.

"We want to make sure patrol officers were given the equipment and also training to be able to react to an active shooter," he said. "So we put the training together."

Bullets containing paint were fired by officers and shooters during the training, leaving a mark and showing where someone had been shot. Teams of officers covered themselves going through the hallway, actively searching for the "shooter" and carrying "victims" lying in the hallway to safety.

After the simulation, officers will gather for a debriefing session and break down positives and negatives.

Students become teachers

And as well as learning tactics, participants will then turn around and be able to teach others who were not able to attend. Timothy McGillivary, director of Wayne County's Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, said once these officers are trained, the expectation is that they will return to their departments and conduct the training themselves. "We can't touch every police officer in Wayne County," he said.

The hope is that every one of more than 1,000 law enforcement officers will receive similar training. In addition to police, Taig said several firefighters have also taken part in the training, including firefighters from Canton and Livonia.

Taig said the hope is that other communities, such as Redford, Garden City, Westland and Wayne, that have not participated in the training could take part in another session they hope to hold in 2015.

McGillivary said it's hoped the skills learned this week will not ever be needed, but it's important officers in the county know how to handle the situation properly if the need arises.

"We deal with lowfrequency and high-consequence events. God willing, this training will never be utilized," he said. "But we know all these police departments have tight budgets. What we bring to the table are the financial resources: the equipment, the training, the support equipment for the guys out on the front lines. And this is an example of that. "School safety is defi-

nitely a priority."

dveselenak@ hometownlife.com 734-678-6728 Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

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Review, compare fees for financial services

recently read a story about a man who took a large amount of loose coins to the bank and deposited the money into his checking account. He was upset because when he received his monthly statement, he noticed the bank had charged a fee for counting the coins.

The man wrote that even though there had been other bank fees, this one upset him enough that he ended his relationship with the bank and took his business elsewhere.

The story dealt with the hassle that he had with things like direct deposits and automatic withdrawals, but as he said at the end of the column, it was worth it.



Over the last few years, most consumers have gotten used to paying fees. Whether it is a hotel charging a resort fee in addition to the room rate or an airline charging for checked bags or an aisle seat, fees have become a fact of life.

In many situations, consumers have to accept the fees. However, in many situations, there are options. One of those is a banking relationship. Banks have a history

of charging excessive fees. Look at what banks have charged for things such as bounced checks, wire transfers or even the cost of printing checks. And banks have instituted even more fees. Some are charging to talk to a teller, closing out an account or even sending a statement. Banks have imple-

mented these and other new fees because they know that on the whole the American public is unaware when it comes to fees.

Many people tend to believe that bank fees are standard and that every bank or financial institution charges the same fees. This is not the case. Every bank has its own set of fees and different accounts at the same bank also have Look at what banks have charged for things such as bounced checks, wire transfers or even the cost of printing checks. And banks have instituted even more fees. Some are charging to talk to a teller, closing out an account or even sending a statement.

different fee structures. The key is to focus on the fees for services that you use.

Once you understand your bank's fees, you can begin to compare other banks and financial institutions. In addition, also check with credit unions. Typically, credit unions will have lower fees and just as many amenities as banks.

I recognize banks are

a business and need to make a profit. However, just as banks look for ways of cutting costs, consumers need to look for ways to be more effi-

cient and control costs. Don't forget that fees can be waived. If your bank assesses a fee that you are unaware of, contact the bank to see if it will waive it. You may be surprised how often banks and even charge card companies will waive fees if you request it.

Changing banks is a bit of a hassle and shouldn't be done on a whim. However, if you can save money on a regular basis, it may be worth the change.

Whether you make a change or not, it is important to review your banking relationship to determine if your bank deserves your business. Good luck.

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

Annual Bird Fair to perch at Redford VFW post this Sunday

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in Your Neighborhood

This fair is for the birds.

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Club's 17th annual Bird Fair will be held in Redford this year from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 22, at the VFW post.

Exotic birds from Africa, Asia, Australia and South America will be at the fair.

People come from all over the state and out of state to the bird fair, according to Tammy Carol of the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club.

"This is our biggest fundraiser," Carol said. "We raise the funds to help take care of the rescue birds that we take in and care for."

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Rescue helps more than 100 birds a year, she said.

Finches, cockatiels, macaws and African greys are among the birds rescued, she said.

Often the club takes in birds that are no longer wanted by their owners.

"Some of these birds are very long lived. They live as long as a person, some of them."

Avian scholarship

The money raised at the event also funds an avian scholarship to Michigan State, Carol said.

The fair usually draws 300 to 400 people, she said.

This is the second year the fair is being held in Redford at VFW Post 345, which is at 27345 Schoolcraft, just east of Inkster on the south side of Schoolcraft. The fair used to be held in Romulus.

Michigan avian artist Tim Marsh will be featured and a raffle prize will include some of his artwork.

Birds and related products will be for sale.

Admission is \$3 for adults and children 12 and under are admitted

Two door prize draw-

ings will be held with the prize of a \$50 Visa gift card.

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the drawing, which will be held at the end of the fair.

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Club and Rescue,

Rehabilitation

Novi Center

Novi, MI 48377

Institute of Michigan

42005 W. 12 Mile Road

based in Garden City, is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit caged / companion bird rescue and a bird club. The club meets once a month at the United Methodist Church located at 6443 Merriman Road in Garden City.



As part of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' 3rd Annual Fortnight for Freedom, St. Michael the Archangel Church invites you to a special evening of reflection and information on Religious Freedoms in the United States.

"The Future of Religious Freedom in America: Where are We?" Featuring

AL KRESTA, President and CEO of Ave Maria Communications, former evangelical pastor, well-known Catholic author, speaker, and host of "Kresta in the Afternoon" Wednesday, June 25th, 7 PM



St. Michael the Archangel Church 11441 Hubbard Rd., south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia 734-261-1455, ext. 207 • www.livoniastmichael.org



Father's Day & Fun at Independence Village

Events At:

Independence Village of Plymouth 14707 Northville Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-2600

Rock Around the Clock

Wednesday, June II | 1:30 pm

Grease your hair and grab your leather jacket. Put on your saddle shoes and poodle skirt. It's time to join us for a 50's-style sock hop with entertainment provided by "The Dance DJ's." Soda shop favorites will be served.

Father's Day Celebration Friday, June 13 | 1:30 pm

Join us to celebrate Father's Day a little bit early as we honor dads with great music, great food and a very special surprise. You won't want to miss this exciting event!

Estate Planning & Asset Protection Workshop

Tuesday, June 24 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Elder Law Attorney Nicole Wipp will show you the simplest, smartest path to planning for your family, protecting your assets. Get info on the Veteran's Improved pension benefit as well. Light refreshments will be served.

Presented by: Family & Aging Law Center

Father's Day Brunch at All Communities

Father's Day Brunch

Sunday, June 15 White Lake: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm Plymouth: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Enjoy a delicious brunch prepared especially for your family by our expert chef and culinary team.

Share a meal. Share a memory. Share a laugh. Celebrate dad together with us.

Adults \$17.00 Children 12 and under \$13.00 Children under 4 eat free

Events At:

Independence Village of White Lake 935 Union Lake Road, White Lake, MI 48386 248-360-7235

Taste of Italy

Wednesday, June 4 | 12:00 pm

That's Amore! Come and enjoy an afternoon Italian style. Experience delicious Italian food and listen to the song stylings of Mario Messina as he sings some of Dean Martin's most popular songs.

Presented by: Mario Messina

Father's Day Celebration Thursday, June 12 | 1:30 pm

Celebrate Father's Day a little bit early with the amazing sounds of The Paint Creek Boys And Fiddler.

Nashville Nights Tuesday, June 24 | 6:00 pm

Pull on your boots and grab your cowboy hat. It's time to join us for some foot stomping music and entertainment with the very talented Nashville stage performer Mark Edwards. Light refreshments will also be served.

Presented by: Mark Edwards

PLEASE RSVP THREE DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT



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A8 (WG) THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

BUSINESS

SUE MASON, EDITOR SMASON@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-6751 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

DTE helps utility customers in Westland with energy bills

Utility customers received assistance with their energy bills at a DTE Energy Customer Assistance Day event held recently in Westland

The goal was to help approximately 400 families manage - and ultimately reduce — their energy bills. DTE was able to help 267 customers at the June 6 event.

DTE customers were be able to apply for energy assistance and meet with human service agencies. Participants received information about home weatherization services and tools to help lower energy costs.

The Customer Assistance Day was the latest in a series of customer events hosted by DTE

throughout the state each year. As a participant in the international Compassionate Cities Movement, Westland is committed to connecting those who are in need of resources with volunteers who can help.

Customers had to register by May 30 to be eligible to attend the **Customer** Assistance Day. Customers had to

be income eligible to receive the energy assistance and had to bring a valid Michigan state ID, their most recent DTE Energy bill and proof of income.

DTE serves 2.1 million electric customers in Southeastern Michigan and 1.2 million natural gas customers across the state.



Madelyn Williams, DTE Energy regional manager for Downriver and western Wayne County, talks with Westland Mayor William Wild and Faye Nelson, DTE Energy vice-president of public affairs and president of the DTE Energy Foundation, at the recent Customer Assistance Day. DAVE MITCHELL

Schoolcraft center holds contracting session

The Procurement Technical Assistance Center of Schoolcraft College has been meeting over coffee with companies throughout Oakland and Wayne counties for informal discussions on government contracting.

The PTAC of Schoolcraft College's Coffee and Contracting sessions are an avenue for business owners and managers to engage and discuss topics such as government contracting, procurement assistance and other relevant contracting subjects or challenges.

"Although early in the morning, these sessions have proved to be very valuable to business owners and managers," said Alexander Masters, the PTAC Procurement Counselor leading these events. "Our goal is to share some insight, learn best practices from current government contractors, and engage the business community to explore

the many federal and state contracting opportunities that exist today.

Carol Wolff, Environmental Manager of **Environmental Testing** and Consulting Inc., said the sessions provide an opportunity to ask government contracting questions. "The Coffee and

Contracting sessions have been valuable to **Environmental Testing** and Consulting, providing opportunities to discuss questions concerning governmental contracting one-on-one with Alexander in an informal setting," Wolff said.

The Coffee and Contracting session will be held from 7-8 a.m. The next session is Thursday, June 26, at Panera Bread, 22208 Michigan Ave., Dearborn.

The PTAC of Schoolcraft College is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense, State of Michigan and Schoolcraft College.

Help prevent auto theft with these safety tips

Summer is upon us, and residents across the state are traveling to downtown Detroit to enjoy outdoor activities and sporting events. However, high temperatures are often accompanied by high rates of crime as opportunistic criminals are attracted to easy targets for vehicle break-ins, carjackings and other auto theftrelated crimes.

In the wake of recent car thefts and car vandalisms in downtown Detroit, as well as increased auto theft-related crime during the summer months, H.E.A.T. urges downtown goers to consider a few safety tips to prevent falling victim to auto theft-related crimes this summer.

Help Eliminate Auto Thefts (H.E.A.T.) is Michigan's statewide auto theft prevention program that coordinates citizen action with law enforcement agencies through a 24/7, confidential toll-free tip line (1-800-242-HEAT) and website (1800242HEAT.com).

"Concerts, sporting events and other sum-



Warm weather often is accompanied by high rates of crime like vehicle break-ins, carjackings and other auto theft-related crimes.

mer activities bring cars and fill parking lots which attract criminals in search of easy to steal property," said Terri Miller, executive direc-tor of H.E.A.T. "Summer is a special time for families across the state to enjoy the great attractions Detroit and other large cities have to offer, but it's important to remain diligent and aware of surroundings as you travel during summer vacation."

H.E.A.T. recommends residents consider the following tips as a way to ensure safe downtown experiences this summer

» Park in well-lit, secure lots. Try to park in a well-lit area with pedestrian traffic or in a lot with an attendant. If possible, park in a secure, city-owned lot. For a list of downtown parking facilities in Detroit, visit www.detroitmi.gov.

» Consider where you park. Avoid parking near jects that block your view of the surrounding area, such as dumpsters, bushes, large vans or

trucks and avoid parking next to cars with darktinted windows that you cannot see through.

» Place valuables in the trunk or out of sight. Personal items account for a large percentage of auto-related crime. Do not leave valuables in plain view as it attracts thieves. If you must leave something in your vehicle, lock it in the trunk or place items out of sight.

» Invest in extra security. Arming your car with extra security can help deter criminals. Electronic immobilizers, as well as visual and physical deterrents, such as steering wheel locks, floorboard and pedal locks, gearshift locks and wheel clamps can make your car less appearing to criminals.

» Use common sense. Always roll up your windows and close your sunroof. Never leave your car unlocked or your vehicle running unattended, even if you are just going into a store for a quick errand.

» Be alert. As you approach your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings. Remember where your car is parked and walk directly to it. Avoid talking or texting on cell phones or digging for keys as it can be a distraction and can make you an easy target to

criminals.

thieves are moving towards carjacking. Most carjackings involve a weapon so don't resist or argue. You are more important than your vehicle, purse, wallet or other valuable. Give them up and get out of harm's way. » If you witness an

auto theft, carjacking in progress, or anything suspicious, call the police immediately. If you have any information regarding auto theft, insurance fraud or carjackings call H.E.A.T.'s 24/7 confidential tip reward line at 1-800-242-H.E.A.T to register your tip after you have informed local law enforcement.

H.E.A.T. works with Michigan law enforcement agencies to followup on tips. Tipsters are awarded up to \$1,000, if the tip leads to the arrest of or issuance of a warrant for a suspected car thief or a person suspected of auto theft-related insurance fraud. H.E.A.T. rewards up to \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect. Rewards of up to \$10,000 are issued, if a tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of a suspected theft ring or chop

shop operators. The H.E.A.T. tip line is monitored by the Michigan State Police and funded by Michigan's auto insurance compa-Follow H.E.A Facebook and on Twitter @1800242HEAT.

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BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Free Movie Night

Co-op Services Credit Union is hosting a free movie night, featuring The LEGO Movie from 7-10 pm. Saturday, June 21, at Westland Shopping Center, 3500 Warren Road at Wayne, Road, Westland. The family-fun event will be held in the mall's East Court. "You can wear your

pajamas, and bring pillows and sleeping bags so you can be comfortable while watching the movie on a huge inflatable screen," said Jeremy Cybulski, Co-op Services' youth and community development coordinator. "Our Rock Star mascot will be on hand to greet families as they arrive."

The credit union also will provide free popcorn and water while supplies last and have lots of giveaways, including Rock Star cups and Rock Star LEGO coloring pages. There will also be contests to guess how many LEGO bricks are in a jar and "Name the LEGO Movie characters" contest. One lucky winner will receive a \$150 mall gift card to Westland Shopping Center.

According to Patrick Derrig, marketing manager for Westland Shopping Center, the East Court provides a great indoor venue for this type of event which would normally be held outdoors.

"The mall's East Court offers great ceiling heights to accommodate the huge movie screen, which also provides great natural acoustics,"

Derrig said. "Being indoors, families will not have to worry about the bugs or weather. Thanks to Co-op Services Credit Union we are able to show a free movie that's current and enjoyable for the entire family."

"We welcome the opportunity to give families in our community a fun and memorable way to kick off the first day of summer," Cybulski said.

Headquartered in Livonia, Co-op Services Credit Union has more than 51,000 members and maintains eight fullservice branch offices in metro Detroit. Members also have access to more than 3,000 shared branches and nearly 28,000 ATMs nationwide. For more information about Co-op Services, visit www.cscu.org or call 800-321-8570.

Prevention training

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration is hosting a Workplace Violence **Prevention Training** session at Schoolcraft College for college staff members and local businesses from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, June 26, at Schoolcraft College's main campus on Haggerty north of Six Mile in Livonia.

With the number of incidents of violence at businesses and on college campuses throughout the U.S. on the rise over the past several years, this training could save lives.

Local businesses can register for the training session by contacting the Schoolcraft College Cam-

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pus Police Authority at 734-462-4424.

Free financial event

Thrivent Financial is hosting free educational events to help attendees start to develop a strategy to maximize social security benefits.

The 60-minute event will be held at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main St, Plymouth, and at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 23, at Denny's Restaurant, 39550 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth.

The events are presented by Jeffrey S. Long, a financial associate with Thrivent Financial in Plymouth.

The event will seek to answer common questions about Social Security, including when to apply for Social Security, how to maximize benefits and how will this will affect the spouse. Social Security mistakes can be costly. Thrivent Financial can help participants sort through the options to help ensure the choices they make are tailored to their needs.

"There are hundreds of different ways to apply for Social Security," Long said. "They all have far-reaching consequences to your financial future. We want to help provide clarity to those decisions.'

The event is available to the public but space is limited. To register, call The Huron Valley Group at 734-455-9272, email huronvalleygroup@thrivent.com or visit thrivent.com/findaworkshop.



call a location near you.



LOCAL NEWS

2014 CAMPAIGN SHORTS

With election season now underway, several local groups and a candidate are holding meet and greets and an incumbent candidate is holding a veterans forum.

On the calendar are: » While U.S. Rep. John Conyers Jr. will face the Rev. Horace Sheffield in the Democratic primary election in the 13th Congressional District, Republican candidate Jeff Gorman of Garden City is launching his campaign with some two-way conversation in an informal, family-style, neighborhood establishment.

On Tuesday, June 24, Gorman will be at the Toast restaurant at 28340 Ford, Garden City, from 6-8 p.m.

Modeling his campaign on what he believes public service should be, Gorman will be there to hear what residents in the 13th District have to say, he said.

He has his opinion and solutions as a fellow district resident but he needs to hear all sides, he said.

For more information, call 760-390-6573. » The Westland Dem-

ocratic Club and the Southwest Homeowners Association are hosting a Meet the Candidates for Wayne County Executive at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 24, at the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey at Venoy, Westland.

Following introductions and brief statements by the candidates, guests will have the chance to meet and mingle with them before voting in the August primary.

For more information, call Democratic Club President Nan Melke at 734-674-7327 or send her an email at nmelke@gmail.com.

» State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, who is up for re-election in the 7th State Senate District, is hosting a forum for veterans at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at the Lloyd H. Green American Legion Post 147 in downtown Northville. "Veterans' Forum -

Serving Those Who Served Us" will feature an overview from Colbeck, the Canton Republican who represents the 7th State Senate District, and subject-matter experts to talk about issues and provide direction and guidance.

Colbeck will be joined by state, Veterans Administration and other veterans' groups' officials.

For more information, contact Gordon Cole at P2R Associates (248-348-2464) or email GCole@p2rassociates.com

Families cool off at Kensington Metropark's Splash-N-Blast

By Laura Colvin Staff Writer

Scott Young and his family came from Howell on Saturday for some fun family time at Kensington Metropark's Splash-N-Blast water park in Milford.

"We came out to enjoy a nice day," Young said, noting that, while they frequently spend time at Kensington Metropark, Saturday was the family's first-ever visit to Splash-N-Blast. "My wife and I both work all week, so this is a great place to come on the weekends to enjoy some time with the kids. It's a fun place, and it's nice, after a long winter, to finally get out of the house."

Located on the north end of Martindale Beach, Splash-N-Blast, opened in 2006 and includes two 240-foot twisted water slides and an adjacent spray area where water shoots from colorful cannons, palm trees, serpents and a whale.

Riders also choose between the open slide or ride down in the dark through the enclosed slide.

"I love the closed slide," said Katie Stephenson, Splash-N-Blast supervisor. The water park is appropriate for all ages, but those who

Zachary Young, 3, fires a water cannon at Kensington Metropark's Splash-N-Blast water park. PHOTOS BY LAURA COLVIN

wish to ride the water slides must stand at least 48 inches tall. "It's like a tunnel, and you don't know what's coming next."

The Splash-N-Blast is open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. through late summer. Entry to the Splash-N-Blast is \$5 for adults and \$4 for kids. After 5 p.m., adults pay \$4 and kids enter for \$3. A Metroparks vehicle entry permit also is required to enter any Metropark.

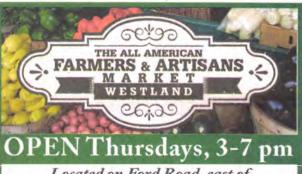
"We get a lot of repeat customers," Stephenson said.

Entry also includes a

wristband, which allows Splash-N-Blast visitors to come in and out of the park during the day.

lcolvin@hometownlife.com 248-390-7396





Author of 'Joy, Inc.'to speak at Westland library

Richard Sheridan, author of the book Joy,

Inc. and CEO of Menlo Innovations in Ann Arbor, will speak at the William P.



Faust Public Library of Westland from 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 25. Sheridan will speak about his game-changing software company and how the work of Thomas Edison inspired him to create a joyful, awardwinning workplace.

"Founded in 2001, Menlo Innovations was inspired by the creative and productive work environment demonstrated at Thomas Edison's Menlo Park, New Jersey, Invention Factory. By 2007, Menlo had become one of Inc. 500's fastest growing privately held firms in the U.S. What makes this story truly remarkable is that it occurred against the backdrop of an IT industry that everyone assumed was leaving the U.S. for offshore.

According to the history page at menloinnovations.com, "Like Edison, the driving factor behind everything Menlo does is to create useful and marketable products that deliver real business value. The principles of the team environment that Edison established over 120 years ago still hold true today."

A book signing will follow the program. Copies of Joy, Inc. will be available for sale. Register for the program under the events tab at www.westland.lib.mi.us.



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disabled that is recognized educational agency.	r the mentally or physically d by a State or local public at the sites listed below:
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Inkster, MI 48141	Westland, MI 48186
Hamilton Elementary	Hoover Elementary
1031 Schuman	5400 Fourth
Westland, MI 48186	Wayne, MI 48184
Taft Elementary 4035 Gloria Wayne, MI 48186	Wayne Memorial High School 3001 Fourth Street Wayne, MI 48184
35100 Bayvier	
Westland, MI	
Meal Service will start Mon., *Hours vary	June 23, 2014 at all locations* by locations.
Meal Service will start Mon., *Hours vary for hours, program end dates, and n For more information, p	by locations. neals provided, please call the school please call 734-419-2118
Meal Service will start Mon., *Hours vary For hours, program end dates, and n For more information, p In Accordance with Federa of Agriculture policy, this i	Charles of the second

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THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM **OPINION**

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS

Proposal 1 helps improve jobs climate

A proposal that helps Michigan businesses without hurting local governments and schools is a good deal for everyone, including homeowners.

That's why voters should support Proposal 1 during the Aug. 5 state primary. Proposal 1 eliminates Michigan's personal proper-

ty tax, an equipment tax paid only by businesses and collected by local governments. It also reconfigures the Michigan Use Tax, a separate state tax, to make up for municipalities' lost revenue.

Businesses have long complained that the tax, levied in perpetuity against the equipment they use, hurts their ability to expand.

State officials have argued the tax hurts their ability to bring new businesses - and jobs - to Michigan.

Among Great Lakes region states, only Indiana levies such a tax and even that tax lessens as equipment ages. Michigan's tax dates back to the 1890s and is a throwback to a long-ago time when geography trumped all other factors and even big businesses were local, rather than international, in scope. With all that in mind, Michigan Legislators last

year, authorized a phase out of the tax.

But they overlooked one important point - what the phase out would mean for municipalities already struggling to balance their budgets.

In a rare move, Legislators agreed to scrap the phaseout unless voters pass Proposal 1. But the onerous tax would remain in place if voters say no. A full exemption given this year to small businesses would also be scrapped.

A better option is to support Proposal 1.

Here's what it would do:

Split state use tax revenue into two shares with one share, called a community stabilization share, going to Michigan municipalities to offset losses from the personal property tax elimination.

In real terms, slightly more than \$96 million would be generated in replacement local revenue for 2015-2016. That share would jump to \$380 million by 2016-2017 and rise for many years after that under the state's formula.

Individual municipalities shares would be deter-mined by new agency, the Local Community Stabilization Authority.

The use tax is levied against a host of activities from boat and off road vehicle sales to telephone services. At present, it all goes to the state.

School districts, which already receive use tax money, would see their share increase, another plus under Proposal 1.

To cover the state's loss of revenue, large-scale manufacturers would pay a new Essential Services Assessment while select tax breaks granted mostly during the Granholm Administration would be allowed to expire without being replaced.

That action alone should find favor with local vot-

ers concerned with governmental "picking winners" among favored industries while ignoring others.

Proposal 1 would also keep the use tax at its current 6 percent level, dispelling any notion that it is a tax increase lying in the weeds.

It's a somewhat complex formula and not everyone is convinced it will work.

State Sen. Gretchen Whitmer, the Senate's Democratic leader, is perhaps the proposal's leading critic on just those grounds.

Yet, critics are in the minority.

An overwhelming majority of state Legislators from both parties supported putting Proposal 1 on the ballot.

The proposal itself has received support from a wide-ranging number of organizations, including the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Fraternal Order of Police, the Michigan Association of School Boards and the Michigan Farm Bureau, among many others.

All these groups agree that Proposal 1, while perhaps not a cure all, is a vital step toward making Michigan more competitive. It's another step toward changing Michigan from a job loser to a job leader.

But their endorsements aren't the most important. Yours is.

It's an endorsement we strongly urge you to give. We urge you to vote YES on Proposal 1 in this year's primary

STAFF COLUMN

Wayne County executive candidates attempt to break through voter anger

nne Gautrau probably summed up a sentiment shared by many Wayne County residents after she sat through a League of Women Voterssponsored candidates forum last week that featured 10 of the individuals running for Wayne County executive.

"I just wonder how many lies I heard tonight," the retired Dearborn school teacher said June 12 as she walked out of Henry Ford Commu-

nity College's Mazzara Conference Center.

Her statement goes to the heart of what so many feel about the current state of Wayne County government. There just isn't much trust anymore.

The forum itself was pretty uneventful. Perhaps the most noteworthy aspect of it was the fact that most of the heavy hitters were on

one stage - with the exception of state Rep. Phil Cavanagh, who was stuck in Lansing working on the state budget

All the other candidates with a legitimate shot of winning the race were there: incumbent Robert Ficano, Wayne County Commissioner Keven McNamara, Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans and Westland Mayor Bill Wild. I suppose you could include Christo-pher Wojtowicz in that group, due solely to the fact that his father, Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz, is a near institution in county government, and Detroiter Bettie Cook Scott, who has served as a state representative. Other Democrats participating included Westland resident Russell George Leviska and Adam Salam Adamski, neither of whom has much chance to win. There were also two Republicans - Canton's Fred A. Bolden and John Dalton, who probably have no chance considering Wayne County leans so heavily toward the left.



Some of the candidates participating in the League of Women Voters-sponsored Wayne County executive candidates forum at Henry Ford Community College included (from left) Fred Bolden, John Dalton, Robert Ficano, Bettie Cook Scott,



Kurt Kuban

All in all, there were few surprises during the event. The candidates answered a series of questions, including what their thoughts were on the failed jail project that is going to cost taxpayers dearly.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the night was when Ficano said that he has brought "fiscal integrity" to county government since being elected 10 years ago. Integrity probably isn't the adjective most Wayne County voters would use when describing Ficano's stewardship of Wayne County.

There's just no getting around it - there likely aren't many Wayne County residents happy with Ficano right now, which isn't surprising considering the

Russell Leviska, Kevin McNamara, Bill Wild, Warren Evans and Christopher Wojtowicz.

controversies that have surrounded him in recent years, including the failed jail project that has cost taxpayers about \$160 million so far, federal investigations and indictments of members of his administration or the fact the county has only had one balanced budget during his tenure as executive.

The most recent poll in the race, conducted by Washington-based Greenberg Quinlan Rosner for the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, reflects the dismay with Ficano, who is polling dead last at 10 percent. Wild, Cavanagh and McNamara are all in the 12- to 14-percent range.

While many of us out here in the suburbs probably thought the race would be won by one of those four candidates, it is clear Detroit still rules the roost of Wayne County politics. If the poll is to be believed, they are all far behind Evans, who is up double digits at 28 percent. Evans is polling well among black voters, who make up 92 percent of the voters in Detroit, which comprises about half of the eligible voters in Wayne County. So it may just be a longshot for any of the suburban candidates to catch him, though if there is one positive for them it's the fact that nearly 40 percent of those polled said they haven't yet made up

their mind for whom to vote.

There is the thought out there that Ficano could slip through and win the Aug. 5 primary election, because the other major candidates would carve up the vote. But the reality is Cavanagh, McNamara, Wild and even Ficano are all vying for the same bloc of votes and if they want any chance at winning are going to have to chase the Detroit vote - and chase it hard - because absentee ballots are going to start being mailed out at the end of the month. So there is little time to waste to make up the ground and, in the case of Ficano, do enough damage control to turn around his prospects.

Perhaps they can take heart, though, because even the wary Anne Gautrau said she felt pretty good about a couple of the candidates after the forum and wants to learn more about them. She didn't say who those candidates are but, like a lot of Wayne County residents, she is hoping to find the right candidate that she can trust and throw her support behind.

Kurt Kuban is editor of the Northville Record. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com or 248-437-2011, ext. 245.

LETTERS

Fix the roads

Common sense dictates that the state has to fix the roads. But why do they have to raise our taxes again?

Instead of a 10 percent raise in the gas tax, why can't they divert 10 percent of their office fund to fix the roads. Instead of a 1 percent raise in the sales tax, divert 1 percent of the general fund that they put the lottery money in. And how about raising the income tax on casino revenue. Now there's some revenue.

The Republicans, the Democrats and the Tea Party could brag they did not raise our taxes. Oh, but then they'd have to tell the powerful lobbyists that they failed them. Now that would be a problem.

Skip Wehrle Garden City

Curbside recycling

Regarding the article that seems to say to all people who recycle, "you are costing us expenses when non-recycling material is deposited, requiring the



Sue Mason, **Community Editor** Susan Rosiek. Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

company to throw out the whole container" seems to defy logic. It makes sense not to include the trash, but there are individuals who abuse every system.

I find it doubtful that the recycle company would dispose of the entire container due to trash. However one should consider that those who do recycle are doing it because they care, otherwise, they could just toss it into the large garbage containers at home, which is more simple than sorting it, packaging it, loading the car or truck, using gas to drive to the recycling center, depositing it and returning home.

We have recycled for many years and have no love for those who do not. We should try to stop the trash, but our major goal should attempt to educate those who do not recycle to understand the implications to the earth. Our recycle percentage should be in the 70-90 percent range not the low teens.

Another concern are those who run a business from their homes and generate plenty of recycling material, especially cardboard and use our trash to dispose of it without any financial penalty. Why not revert back to curb pickup?

Tony Risha Garden City

Supports Coleman

This letter is written in response to our new councilman, Kevin Coleman, who had the courage to speak his mind despite the ire of the other council members and Mayor (William) Wild.

I have supported Kevin Coleman from the onset as I could read his thinking, and he was open and honest and would be an asset to our city. Some of the other council members have become embittered at the

thought that a newcomer would dare to vote against their wishes.

Kevin Coleman, I have been a resident of Westland for 42 years and have never had the privilege of meeting someone of your honest character.

> Diana Hage Westland

Schauer needs plan

As one famous Democrat political consultant said, "It's the economy, stupid." It's kind of important, and in Michigan it is especially important. Many people do not consider how education impacts economic growth, but education helps build for the future, so it is really important in terms of having that strong base moving forward.

Mark Schauer has claimed that Rick Snyder's education plan has been hurting the economy. This is a claim that is hard to believe when Snyder has been able to reinvest money into the education system. Snyder even raised the per-pupil funding by 9 percent. These strides show Snyder's desire to help education and the economy moving forward.

Criticize the governor's education plan all you want but at least he has one. Schauer has yet to even come out with a plan. Schauer's lack of commitment to even just come up with a plan should be alarming to voters.

Snyder has really been key for paving the way for future economic growth by reinvesting into education. His plan has really helped set Michigan ahead for the future. An investment in our children is an investment in our future.

> Yasser Khan Novi

Oakwood Hospital-Wayne Presents

Stroke Symptoms, Signs and Treatment

Hosted by Oakwood physician and clinical expert

Surindar Jolly, MD Board Certified Neurologist

Join us to learn about signs and symptoms of stroke and the importance of preventative treatments and the critical nature of treatment within the shortest time frame from onset.



Surindar Jolly, MD holds Board Certification with the American Board of Psychiatry & Neurology and American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine. He completed Residency in Neurology at New

To register for this FREE event, please call

York University Medical Center, and Fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital.

800.543.WELL (9355)

Seating is limited and registration is required.

DATE: Thursday, June 26, 2014

TIME: 6 – 8 pm

LOCATION: Oakwood Hospital - Wayne Conference Room 2 33155 Annapolis Street Wayne MI 48184

> Enter at the West Lobby -Valet parking will be available at no charge

A complimentary light dinner will be served.

Visit oakwood.org to learn more about stroke or to make an appointment with an Oakwood physician call 800.543.WELL.





INSIDE: ENTERTAINMENT, B5 • FOOD, B6 • CLASSIFIED, B9-10

SECTION B (W) THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

BRAD EMONS, EDITOR BEMONS@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-6851

Falvo was tough, thoughtful coach

Longtime Mercy softball skipper succumbs to cancer at age 63

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Jack Falvo is remembered as a demanding and toughminded softball coach who cared about his players and wanted to make them winners in life as well as sport.

His purpose and objective was very much instep with the Mercy High School mission of preparing young women for college and the career world.

Mr. Falvo, the highly successful coach of the Marlins for 17 seasons, died Friday at his home following an eightmonth struggle with pancreatic cancer. He was 63.

"When the players were between the lines, he was competitive and hard-nosed," longtime Mercy assistant coach Jerry Ashe said.

"But those student-athletes

DIVISION 2 GIRLS SOFTBALL FINALS

were better prepared for the real world and what a woman of the new millennium would face in life and in the corpo-

Falvo

rate world. "He was a

hard-nosed guy, but he was really a teddy bear off the field — and so generous to his players, as well as the Mercy program."

Dana (Falvo) Haller, who played four years on the Mercy varsity for her father, said she had the best of both worlds.

"He was my dad and he was my coach," she said, citing the many former players who called on the family this week to share their memories.

"I'm glad I was able to share him in that way, as a coach. You really see the impact he had on so many lives.

"For me personally, he was my first coach in life. So often in my career, he would call me and coach me through different things and give me advice." A former all-area outfielder,

Dana Haller played at Hillsdale College and is now a television producer with NBC in New York.

Always a teacher

While the details of the play are now forgotten, she recalled her dad using a game situation to teach more than softball.

"He said to me, 'Dana, what you experienced at that moment is a lot like you'll experience in business," she said.

"He would always give these lectures in the car after a game, equating a play to business, and I never understood



Jack Falvo is inducted into the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

what he was saying. Then, when I had my own career, he would say, 'See, it was just like that play!""

"When I was in college, he

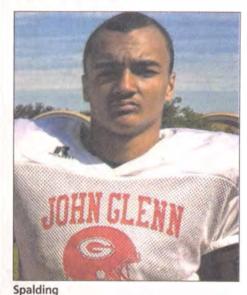
would send clippings and motivational cards. He always believed there were bigger les-

See FALVO, Page B4

PREP FOOTBALL

Blazers thwarted in state title bid





Glenn back Spalding is co-MVP in Border War

Ladywood's Christina Meyer tries for a diving catch during fifth inning action against Stevensville Lakeshore in the Division 2 girls softball final. PHOTOS BY KIRTHMON DOZIER | GANNETT MICHIGAN

Stevensville Lakeshore holds off Ladywood, 4-3

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood finally ran out of lady luck in Saturday's MHSAA Division 2 girls softball finals.

The Blazers, making a bid for their second title since 2012, fell one run short in a 4-3 setback to Stevensville Lakeshore, which garnered its seventh championship since 1997 under coach Denny Dock, in a game played at Michigan State University's Secchia Stadium.

Ladywood, which could only muster three hits off Lakeshore senior righthander Haley Thibeault, ends its season at 29-14 overall.

Lakeshore (35-9) spotted the Blazers a two-run deficit in the top of the first inning.

Lead-off hitter Christina Meyer was hit by a pitch and Haley Lawrence reached base on an error. Rozlyn Price's grounder was misplayed at first bringing Meyer home and Lawrence tagged up from third on Hallea Garcia's sacrifice fly to right field to make it 2-0.

But Stevensville tied it with two in the fourth and took the lead for keeps with two more in the bottom of the fifth inning.

The big blow came in the fourth when Rachel Riedel took Rozlyn Price's first pitch and belted it over the left field fence to cut the deficit to 2-1.

Rebecca Meyer then singled. Courtesy runner Mahri Younger stole second and took third on a fielder's choice before



Ladywood catcher Anna Lewis (left) waits for the ball as Stevensville runner Mahri Younger scores at the plate in Saturday's Division 2 final.

coming home on Rachel Clem's successful suicide squeeze bunt to make it 2-2.

The Lancers then took the lead when Price, the junior right-hander, walked both Haley Thibeault and pinch hitter Mackenzie Sanders to start the inning. Hunter Thibeault was hit by a pitch to load the bases which led to the go-ahead run thanks to Alex Forsythe's bloop RBI single to center.

Riedel then followed with an RBI sacrifice fly to right field to put Stevensville up 4-2.

"I think it was just adjustments between the ears as much as anything," Stevensville coach Denny Dock said of his team's slow start. "Just from the standpoint that you can't make errors. We were a little nervous, I think. We just needed to get a grip, get a hold of things a little bit. We struck out six out of the first nine times.

"Then, Rachel Riedel got us going. She put a charge into one there. I think that relaxed us a little bit. We said, 'We can do this.' And we had a beautiful squeeze bunt, a suicide to tie it up."

With two-out in the top of the sixth, Ladywood mounted a rally. Price singled, Hallea Garcia reached base on an error and Lauren Holdsworth walked to load the bases.

Rachel Hendrickson,

the hero in Ladywood's 4-3 state semifinal win Thursday over Wayland Union, then hit a chopper in front of the plate and reached first safely in what was ruled a single to cut the deficit to 4-3.

But Haley Thibeault, who struck out three and walked two, got out of the inning when Michaela Warner flied out to center.

Ladywood then went down in order in the top of the seventh as Thibeault got senior shortstop Haley Lawrence to pop out to third to end the game. Ironically, just the batter before, the Blazers' Christina Meyer made a bid for an extra base hit near the

See BLAZERS, Page B2

Rocket's 60-yard TD run fuels 27-13 win against Team Ohio

> By Brad Emons Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's Devon Spalding wanted to do the state proud in Saturday's first-ever Ohio Michigan High School Border Classic.

And the Rockets' All-State running back, who will report to Central Michigan University on June 28, came up with one of his signature plays when he broke free for a 60-yard touchdown run to help spark Team Michigan to a 17-7 third-quarter advantage en route to a 27-13 football victory over Team Ohio in a game played at the University of Findlay.

"We pulled our right tackle through the hole to seal off the linebacker, then we just split the seam," said Spalding, who was named the game's co-MVP along with Jared Wangler, a linebacker from Warren De La Salle headed to the University of Michigan.

Spalding, who rushed for 1,761 yards and 25 TDs in his senior season at Glenn, had 79 yards on six carries. The 6-foot-1, 197-pound Spalding was

The 6-foot-1, 197-pound Spalding was more than happy to share the load as Team Michigan ran for 240 yards on 47 rushing attempts.

"That game was the most fun I've ever played in because it wasn't all about me," said Spalding, who once ran for a school-record 491 yards in a regular season game against Livonia Churchill. " I wasn't getting the ball every play. In order to win a game like that you have to play as a team. And like I said, we came together really well. We bonded like we were brothers actually. And we were representing the state of Michigan."

Some pre-game banter during Friday night's banquet from Team Ohio fueled Spalding and his teammates.

"We took what they (Ohio) were talking at the banquet," Spalding said. "They were pretty much saying that it was it was going to be easy. They kept saying Ohio has 159 scholarships (play-

LOCAL SPORTS

Shaw's free camp stresses character as much as technique

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

You can file Saturday's fifth annual Tim Shaw "Dream It! Do It!" Football Camp inside the "The Best Things In Life Are Free" folder.

For the modest investment of four hours of sweat equity, close to 130 area youngsters soaked in the teachings both football- and life-related - of Shaw and a roster of stellar coaches and former players who he has befriended throughout a sterling gridiron career that took him from Livonia Clarenceville to Penn State University and the National Football League.

In addition to learning some of the intricacies of their favorite positions, the campers were educated on several character-based skills — a point Shaw emphasizes.

"Yes, I want the kids to learn a little football while they're here, but more important than that is I want them to be around some positive role models," said Shaw, who currently resides in Nashville, Tenn. "I want them to see that, just because I was in the NFL, I'm a normal guy. I want to help them answer the questions, 'How do I get somewhere I want to go?' and 'What does it take to be successful?"

Despite being undersized by NFL standards, the 6-foot-1, 230pound Shaw was a special-teams force for four NFL teams from 2007 through 2012. Prior to announcing his retirement prior to the 2013 season, he compiled 127 career tackles and earned a spot on the USA Today's "All-Joe Team."

"When I first got into the NFL, I wanted to find a way to give back to my community, my school and the area that I grew up in and love," Shaw

said, when asked why he decided to start the annual camp. "At first, I thought I had to make a name for myself (in the NFL) before I could do something like this, but even after I got cut a couple of times, I decided it doesn't matter if I'm playing or not, I'm going to do it."

Despite a modest advertising campaign, Shaw's camp has drawn at least 100 kids each June. Saturday's draw was the largest to date.

Holmes Middle School eighth-grader-to-be Jack Nolta said he's attended the camp three straight years and has enjoyed every minute of it.

"I like how they divide us into positions, so everybody isn't crammed into one big group," said Nolta, a tight end for the Livonia Eagles. "I've gotten a lot better at making sharper cuts on my routes thanks to coming here."

Nolta said he's



learned a lot of valuable off-the-field lessons from Shaw and his staff.

"Probably the most important thing I've learned is to surround myself with people who want to do the same things I want to do," he said.

Thirteen-year-old Dan Sweikowsky, a two-year veteran of Shaw's camp, said it's non-football advice that he'll remember the most from the "Dream It! Do It!" gettogether.

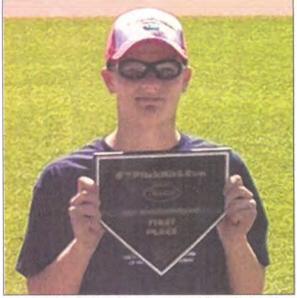
"I've learned how important it is to do well in school, not just in football," said the former Westland Comet. Looking as fit and

trim as he did during his playing days, Shaw said he doesn't have an itch to return to the gridiron.

"The game and I have definitely run our course," he said, smiling. "I currently have some business interests that are keeping me busy while I figure out what that next passion for me is beyond football."

ewright@hometownlife.com

Comerica champ



Livonia's Shane Rakowski, 12, captured first place in the 11-12 age division the the Major League Baseball's Pitch, Hit & Run contest, sponsored by Scotts, held June 7 at Comerica Park. The top three winners from each age group among all 30 MLB teams will have the opportunity to compete in the national competition during All-Star Week on July 14 at Target Field in Minneapolis. The top three winners will be announced June 29 on the MLB Network. Earlier at the third annual Diamond Dig Tourney at Livonia's Rotary Park, Rakowski, who will attend Holmes Middle School in the fall, went all seven innings throwing a one-hitter and striking out 18 in a recent 7-0 victory over the South Farmington Blues travel team. STEVE RAKOWSKI

Despite the tough times, Blazers persevered

ven when times got tough this season, Livonia Ladywood's softball team stayed the course.

The Blazers would be the first to admit they were downright awful at times, but when the MHSAA Division 2 tournament started, something radically changed.

Maybe Hallea Garcia's walk-off three-run homer in the district final proved to be a turning point. And maybe the Blazers' recent history of tournament success also played a factor.

Ladywood walked off the stage Saturday at Michigan State University one run short of its ultimate goal in a 4-3 loss to Stevensville Lakeshore, which won its seventh state title since 1995 under coach Denny Dock.



they're going to miss the most. The girls had to take so much responsibility being the only two seniors. Usually we have four or five. But having only two they had to take a lot of responsibility. That's what they're going to miss about those two. They're quality people."

They're quality people." Ladywood's 29-14 final record was a bit deceiving because the Blazers played a mostly Division 1 schedule this season trying to get ready for the tournament.

But it became certainly a season of hard knocks as Combs divided the first half of the spring juggling two ferent programs after taking over the University of Michigan-Dearborn softball team. "For this team, the only word I have is perseverance," Combs said. "There were a couple of times in midseason tournaments when I just had to grab my bag and walk out and tell them they didn't deserve to be on the field. We took four or five days and just conditioned. We never saw a softball. So our attitude adjustment worked. They realized they just couldn't flip the light switch on and they need-

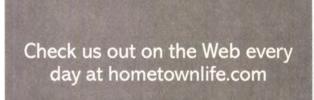


Ladywood players react following a tough 4-3 loss Saturday to Stevensville Lakeshore in the Division 2 girls softball final at MSU's Secchia Stadium. KIRTHMON DOZIER | DETROIT FREE PRESS

ed to get going. And they did get going, my hats off to them. They all made adjustments, they got better. And that's what I'll remember about th team. They persevered and they knew they were supposed to be here because they couldn't wait too long and go through the motions. Ladywood's signature win came Thursday at MSU when they upended top-ranked Wayland Union, 4-3, in 10 innings, surviving a tough call by the first base umpire in the bottom of the seventh which would have ended the game right then. But the Blazers perservered and won it with a run in the top of the 10th to hand Wayland only its second loss in 44 games.

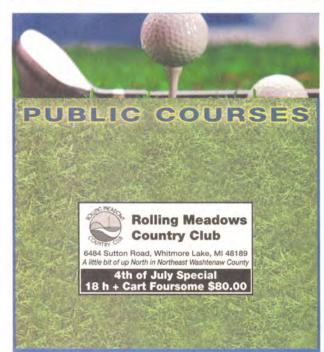
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Among the assistants at Tim Shaw's football camp were former Penn State offensive lineman Gerald Cadogan. ED WRIGHT



CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE

The City of Westland Summer 2014 tax bills will be mailed on or about July 1, 2014. The Summer Tax Bills are payable through Friday, August 15, 2014, without additional interest. Publish: 06/19/14



re information about Golf in Michigan visit www.TeeltUpMichigan.com To Advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at 313-223-3246 DOCK.

But despite the heartache, there was some satisfaction from getting to the finals for the third time since 2009 and the fifth trip to the Final Four in seven years.

"I think the seniors always take it hard and they're going to miss those two seniors (Haley Lawrence and Garcia), and we only have two and they're like the ultimate mother hens," Ladywood coach Scott Combs said. "They're really taking care of the sophomores and freshman that are there throughout the lineup and that's what

BLAZERS

Continued from Page B1

200-foot mark at the base of the

right field fence only to have it

Meyer, however, struck out.

"If we could have gotten one

more hit at a crucial time ... might have been the difference," said

finals appearance since 2009. "But that's softball and baseball. It's an

Ladywood coach Scott Combs,

who was making his third state

inch. That last hit by Christina

whether it's a home run or hits fair, she's on third. There's no

question of that. It's that close.

In six innings, Price allowed

five hits, walked three, hit three

batters and struck out nine. After giving up two runs in the fourth,

the two fifth-inning walks and hit

"I'm not sure those were bad

innings," Combs said. "She (Price)

was getting the pitches she want-

three inches and it's a hit batsmen

pitches. We went to the change-up

more a little later and I think that

was effective, but you'll take that

pitched ballgame any day of the

week to keep you right there and

"I just think they (Stevensville)

ed and she's trying to jam them

inside. It's a matter of two or

started sitting on a couple of

rather than a pop out.

keep you right in."

batter proved costly in the fifth.

Mever down the right field line,

curve barely foul.

Good ballgame.'

looks bright once again in 2015.

Eight of the Blazers'

starting 10, including

return, so the future

starting pitcher Rozlyn

Price, are scheduled to

But the way Ladywood came together as a team late in the 2014 season could not be overlooked.

"I'll remember all the personalities," said Lawrence, a senior shortstop who will play next season at Hillsdale College. "There's so many different personalities and they're just really, really upbeat people. And they're always positive, no matter what's happening."

Brad Emons is a sports editor for the Livonia-Westland Observer.

somehow, and I don't know how. Knowing that they weren't hitting the ball hard off me gave me a little bit of confidence because I knew my team could get it under control."

And when she took the mound in the seventh, the intensity heightened.

"I was praying the whole time, holding back so many emotions," she said. "After that strikeout, the second out, I had to hold it together because I was about to lose it."

Combs said his team tried to make some slight adjustments at the plate.

"I think maybe they were outthinking themselves at the plate," the Ladywood coach said. "I tried to tell them to cut the plate in half. Go inside or outside because I watched her (Thibeault) pitch and that's really what her game plan was, to go either in or go out. I think they were thinking a little too much instead of relaxing than going one side or the other."

The Blazers did made contact, but couldn't find the holes against Thibeault.

"We hit off her pretty well," said Lawrence, who will play next season at Hillsdale College. "I think we were just in our own heads today a little bit. We just didn't come up with the one. It was just unlucky. We knew what we had to do. It's just unlucky that we didn't come up with what we wanted."

bemons@hometownlife.com

Advanced nitcher Backur Price firer

Ladywood pitcher Rozlyn Price fires toward the plate in Saturday's Division 2 girls softball final against Stevensville Lakeshore. KIRTHMON DOZIER I GANNETT MICHIGAN

Thibeault was a member of Stevensville's 2010 Division 2 state championship team, but as a second baseman and left fielder.

This time she was on the mound and the central focus.

"I knew we could pitch and she's a competitor," Dock said of his ace. "And in that seventh inning she threw five great pitches in there."

Thibeault allowed just one hit through the first five innings and the 2-0 deficit failed to faze her.

"I was a little nervous, but I knew we could come back and get it," the senior pitcher said. "I wasn't panicking very much. It actually took a little stress off me

LOCAL SPORTS





Vonn Pallett Joe Ghafari



Max Bradley

Farmington

N

Danny

Cebula

Franklin



Jamal Dixon Canton

Alex Perelli

Franklin



Opie

Jacob Hage Churchill



Michael Ojemudia Harrison



Aaron

Johnson

Harrison

Jourdan



Max Austin Rogowski Harrison Plymouth

Steven

Salem

Homrich

Jaron Flournoy John Glenn



Hood

Wayne



Jonny Dalton Plymouth

Keenan Jones Franklin





John Reed Harrison Plymouth

Blerim

Mema

LL-OBSERVER HONORS FOR AREA'S ELITE ATHLETES

FIRST TEAM Vonn Pallett, shot put, Farmington: Pallett had the area's best shot at 54 feet, 2 inches. He is the city and OAA White Division champion and was second in the Oakland County and regional meets. He was ninth in the state.

Pallett threw a personal record in the discus (155-4) at the state meet to advance to the finals and earn all-state honors (seventh place).

"Vonn is a hard-working athlete who loves the weight room and is a fierce competitor," coach Kim Sturm said.

'Vonn's throwing never looked better than in the last few meets of his junior year, when he set personal bests in the shot put and discus - a fantastic time to do that!

"He had a phenomenal junior year and is poised to have a great senior year. We are very thankful to have Vonn on our team and are thrilled we don't have to compete against him!'

Joe Ghafari, discus, Farmington: Ghafari broke a 28-year-old school record in the discus with a throw of 166-5 at the state meet. He finished fourth and was all-state.

Ghafari is the city, OAA White, Oakland County and regional champion in the discus. He also qualified for state

Jess Shough said. "(High jump coach) Xavier Clais did a masterful job in making him a very consistent jumper and we are very proud of Jamal's accomplishments."

Dixon this week participated on Team Michigan in the Midwest Meet of Champions in Granville, Ohio.

Malik Benison, long jump, Harrison: Benison had the area's best jump at 21 feet, 9 inches and finished eighth in the Division 1 state meet.

He was second in the regional, third in Oakland County and fourth in the OAA White Division.

Johnson also helped the Hawks win the long jump relay at the Observerland Relays with teammates Iwarri Smith and DeAndre Lipscomb.

'Malik has consistently improved each year,' coach John Reed said. "It was great to see him go out as an all-stater in his senior year."

Jacob Hage, pole vault, Churchill: Threetime state qualifier wound up sixth in this year's Division 1 finals after placing fifth as a junior.

Hage bound for Siena Heights, posted a personal best 15 feet even as a senior and is a two-time Livonia City and Kensington Conference champion (2012 and 2014). He also was runner-up in the regional and captured the Lakeland Coaches Invitational, Huron Relays and qualified for the New **Balance Indoor Nationals** in New York City. He also led Churchill to an Observerland Relays record of 41-0. "Jacob has been a steady varsity performer since his freshman year,' coach Rick Austin said of the team MVP. "Through hard work, dedication and year-round commitment to training, Jacob has improved each season, culminating with a personal best. Jacob is one of the most focused athletes that we have coached at Churchill. He is a funloving kid who is always searching for the next challenge. Michael Ojemudia, 110 hurdles, Harrison: Ojemudia came into his own and made great progress this year. He went from being a good hurdler to an outstanding one. He is the Observerland and OAA White Division champion in the high hurdles. He finished third in the regional and seventh in the state. "He's really done a great job with putting in the effort necessary to be an elite hurdler," Reed said. "The sky is the limit for Michael next year." Aaron Johnson, 300 hurdles, Harrison: Johnson had an outstanding season as a hurdler, too,

and concluded his high school career by finishing eighth in the state meet.

He also won the OAA White Division championship in the 300 hurdles, placed third in the regional to earn an additional qualifying berth and was 11th in Oakland County.

"Aaron is the hardestworking athlete on our team," Reed said. "He willed his way to being all-state in the 300 hurdles. We're very proud of him.

Steven Homrich, 100, Salem: From the start of his career at Salem, Homrich has had a knack for breaking records and that didn't change during his senior season.

Homrich's time of 10.7 seconds in the 100-meter dash broke a school record that stood since 1985. During his career, he ran 10.9 or faster 10 times when no other Rocks runner surpassed that feat three times.

At the D-1 regionals, he finished fourth with a mark of 11.19

He also is ranked No. 6 in school history in the 200 and was an integral member of Salem's sprint relays (part of recordsetting 400 and 800 relay teams in 2013).

"He is extremely coachable and will do whatever is asked of him, including running a number of 400s throughout his Salem years," coach

the 400, also won the Brighton and Saline invitationals and ran the second fast 200 time in school history (22.09) in a dual meet against Canton. 'Montel's success in

the track, especially the 400, doesn't come as a surprise," coach Tom Gibson said. "When you see the effort he puts in every single day at practice, you expect him to win races. From the beginning of the season, he has been an outstanding athlete, but more importantly, an outstanding leader. Normally with success at such a young age comes cockiness and a poor attitude, but he hasn't picked up any of those attributes. He has remained humble and extremely coachable. Due to injuries this year, Montel's potential hasn't truly yet been scratched."

Jonny Dalton, 800, Plymouth: Dalton already has established himself as one of the most dominant distance runners in the state and can add to his legacy next season.

He was the hallmark of consistency, finishing first in the 800 in the city, **Kensington Conference** and Division 1 regional meets. In the latter, he finished in 1:58.34.

At the D-1 state finals in Rockford, he placed 13th with a mark of 1:55.98 the fastest time in the

carry him through to a great finish.

Mayur Patil

Plymouth

Max Bradley, 3,200, N. Farmington: The senior ran an area-best time of 9:28.42 when he shattered the school record and finished third in the Oakland County meet May 23.

Bradley is the OAA White Division champion in this event. He was a regional runner-up and finished 12th in the state meet.

"Max is a phenomenal athlete and an ultimate team guy," coach Todd Schultz said. "Whatever the team needed, he wanted to contribute to that. He's just a humble guy and it's fun coaching those kind of guys.

400 relay, Franklin: This quartet finished 16th in Division 1 (43.37 seconds), runner-up at the regional and Kensington Conference and captured an Observerland title.

Alex Perelli, a fouryear letter winner, qualified for the D-1 state final in the 100 after taking second at the regional. Spencer Opie, a four-year member, and Danny Cebula, who was in his second season, are seniors. Nathan Rodgers, who broke the school record in the 200 (22.64), is a junior.

This is a group that has really come together well this year," Koelzer said. "Perelli was hampered by an injury last year and also qualified for states and broke the school record in the 100 this season. Spencer steadily improved each year and had the best hand-offs of the group, while Danny was excellent out of the blocks and was also a good high jumper. Nathan always either caught people or separated from them on the anchor leg."

son, Josh Barnes and Jourdan Austin ran an area-best time of 3:29.19 to win the OAA White **Division** championship May 8 at Farmington

High. "They're a hard-working group of guys who love to run the 1,600 relay," Reed said. "Their refuse-to-lose attitude really inspired their performances this year. 3,200 relay, Ply-

mouth: The talented quartet of Jonny Dalton, Max Rogowski, Mayur Patil and Blerim Mema continued the tradition of the Wildcats sending a 3,200 relay team to the D-1 state meet. This marked the eighth year in a row for that.

The relay set a season's best at the state meet with a time of 7:58, one of the fastest in school history and good for 10th in the state.

Leading off the quartet was junior Dalton, who Mikosz said "always gave the team a lead from the start. He brought our team in first place in every meet that we ran in this season after the first leg.

Taking the baton for the middle legs were Rogowski and Patil.

'Max came back from injury and was still able to run well ... and is a big reason for the team's success," Mikosz said.

"Mayur was always able

Spencer Nathan Rodgers Franklin Franklin

Josh Barnes Harrison

in the shot put, taking third at the regional. He was seventh at the county meet

"Joe has improved tremendously since he came to FHS his sophomore year," Sturm said. "He's a hard worker who truly loves throwing. He loves working with other throwers and seeing everyone improve.

"Joe's best attribute is his short memory in that he is able to clear his mind before each throw and truly believes, when he steps in the ring, his best throw is about to happen. He will be greatly missed next year.'

Jamal Dixon, high jump, Canton: The senior captain capped his stellar high school career with a third-place (all-state) finish in the high jump. He registered a jump of 6 feet, 7 inches.

But that wasn't Dixon's best mark of the season. At the D-1 regionals at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, he hit the 6-9 mark. That was the best showing in the event among athletes from the Observer coverage area. He also finished first at the Kensington Conference meet, posting a record jump of 6-8 in the process, and went undefeated in dual meet competition.

"Jamal Dixon had an outstanding year," coach Steve Aspinall said. "He has been fun to watch and we wish him the best in the future."

Jaron Flournoy, 200, John Glenn: The junior placed third in the Division 1 finals in the 200 (21.9 seconds), while adding a 10th in the 100 and 12th in the 400.

Flournoy posted area bests of 10.78 (100), 21.84 (200) and 48.59 (400). He was regional champion in 100, 200 and 400. In the **Kensington Conference** meet, he was champ in the 400 and runner-up in the 100 and 200. He was also Observerland champ in the 100.

"Jaron is a must-see athlete, a rare triple threat to say the least who can contest in all three open sprint events, coach Jason Dixon said. "Three school records (100, 200, 800 relay) have fallen victim to his killer speed. He is now beginning to realize the talent he holds within and what he can do with hard work. More determined than ever, he has set his eyes on the 2015 state championship title.

Montel Head, 400, Wayne: The sophomore ran the third fastest 400 in school history at the Kensington Conference meet (48.88 seconds), where he finished second.

Hood, who ran sub-52.0 in seven of eight races in

800 this season for any runner from the Observer coverage area.

"He will be one of the fastest returning 800meter runners in the state next year," coach Jon Mikosz said. "Jonny has the potential to make it to an elite level next year in the 800.

Keenan Jones, 1,600, Franklin: The junior, who led the Patriots with 138 total points, wound up 10th in the Division 1 finals in the 3,200 (schoolrecord 9:29.67) and was regional and Livonia City champion in the 1,600

Undefeated in dual meets in both the 1,600 and 3,200, the two-time state qualifier in track and cross country also posted season bests of 1:58 (800) and 4:24.0 (1,600).

"Keenan is a very special athlete and not your typical distance runner," coach Pat Koelzer said. "He can excel in the mile, two-mile and 5K, yet he also has the leg speed to win the 800 and compete with the top 400 runners. He has been a key contributor since his freshman year and this year he proved he can race with the best in the state. He is a fierce competitor who never backs down from a challenge. He trains hard and is mentally strong enough to know his conditioning will

800 relay, John Glenn: The foursome went an area-best 1:28.50 en route to a third-place finish at the Division 1 finals after finishing runner-up at the regional and winning the **Kensington Conference** meet.

All four return next season as Flournoy and Austin Hickerson are both juniors, while Kenyatta Mason and Freddie Thompson are sophomores.

"This 4 by 200 team is a force to deal with, Dixon said. "They've made themselves top competition in the state. These four young men are talented, dedicated and hard-working athletes. They will definitely keep you on the edge of your seat during race time. It was those type of performances that led to the school record being broken twice in one season.

1,600 relay, Harrison: The team of Michael Ojemudia, Aaron Johnto told the spot that his teammates would give him.'

Closing out races was Mema, who proved to be an outstanding finisher.

"Blerim has one of the best kicks I have seen in a 400 and 800 meter runner," Mikosz said. "His (relay split) time of 1:56 puts him as a top runner in the area."

COACH OF THE YEAR John Reed, Harrison:

Reed led the Hawks to a perfect record in dual meets, the Observerland Relays championship, a second consecutive city title and the OAA White Division crown.

Harrison had four individual athletes, including junior Iwarri Smith in the 100, finish among the top eight in their events at the D-1 state meet.

"It was an excellent season for the Hawks, Reed said. "We had a great mix of dedicated athletes and excellent assistant coaches - John Schumacher, Steve Gallero, Jon Herstein and Patrick Winsler-working closely together to accomplish our success.

"Everyone really enjoyed this season, and we had tons of fun along the way. Our success this season was a direct reflection of our team motto: "Attitude is everything!"

ALL-AREA BOYS TRACK AND FIELD SQUAD

2014 ALL-OBSERVER **BOYS TRACK AND FIELD** INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Shot put: 1. Vonn Pallett, Jr., Farmington; 2. Michael Jordan, soph., Plymouth; 3. Deshawn Baker-Williams, jr., Westland John Glenn.

Discus: 1. Joe Ghafari, sr., Farmington; 2. Danny Pocalujka, sr., Livonia Stevenson; 3. Nick Hitchcock, jr., Stevenson.

High jump: 1. Jamal Dixon, sr., Canton; 2. Terry Buford-Pendergast, sr., Stevenson; 3. Felix Daniel, jr., North Farmington.

Long jump: 1. Malik Benison, sr., Farmington

Harrison; 2. Josh Craven, sr., Farmington; 3. Leroy Fedorko, sr., Garden City. Pole vault: 1. Jacob Hage, sr., Livonia Churchill; 2. David Mittelbrun, sr., North Farmington; 3. Stephen Fedak, sr., Churchill.

110-meter hurdles: 1. Michael Ojemudia, jr., Harrison; Z. Nathan Falzon, sr., Stevenson; 3. Austin Olson, jr., Lutheran High Westland.

300 hurdles: 1. Aaron Johnson, sr., Harrison; 2. Keyon Thomas, jr., Redford Union; 3. Freddie Thompson, soph., John Glenn.

100 dash: 1. Steven Homrich, sr., Salem; 2. Iwarri Smith, jr., Harrison; 3. Alex Perelli, sr., Livonia Franklin,

200 dash: Jaron Flournoy, jr., John Glenn; 2. Nathan Rodgers, jr., Franklin; 3. Donte Eubanks, jr., Harris

400 dash: 1. Montel Hood, soph., Wayne Memorial; 2. Colin McCormack, sr., Salem; 3. Jamal Allen, fr., Churchill,

800 run: 1. Jonny Dalton, jr., Plymouth; 2. Kimani Dooley, sr., Livonia Clarenceville; 3. Blerim Mema, sr., Plymouth.

1,600 run: 1. Keenan Jones, jr., Franklin: 2. James Weekley, soph., Harrison; 3. J'Haira Johnson, sr., Garden City.

3,200 run: 1. Max Bradley, sr., North Farmington; 2. Zane Berlanga, sr., Plymouth; 3. Matthew

Pahl, jr., Plymouth

ALL-AREA RELAYS 400 relay: 1. Franklin (sr. Danny Cebula, sr. Alex Perelli, sr. Spencer Opie, ir. Nathan Rodgers), 2. Harrison (ir. Iwarri Smith, sr. Malik Benison, ir. Ramone Dawson, ir. Josh Scott), 3. Salem (ir. Ty Traylor, soph. Jacob Miller, sr. Brenden Sherrod, sr. Steven Homrich).

800 relay: 1. John Glenn (jr. Jaron Flournoy, jr. Austin Hickerson, soph. Kenyatta Mason, soph. Freddie Thompson), 2. Canton (soph. Darren Davis, jr. Jacob Mallad, fr. Brennon Pelland, soph. Alan Jones Jr.), 3. Franklin (sr. Danny Cebula, sr. Alex Perelli, jr. Josh Hannah, jr. Nathan Rodgers).

1,600 relay: 1. Harrison (jr. Michael Ojemudia, sr. Aaron Johnson, jr. Josh Barnes, sr. Jourdan Austin), 2. John Glenn (soph. Freddie Thompson, jr. Austin Hickerson, soph. Kenyatta Mason, jr. Kimari Johnson), 3. Plymouth (jr. Jonny Dalton, sr. Blerim Mema, sr. Aaron Bergmans, sr. Mayur Patil).

3,200 relay: 1. Plymouth (jr. Jonny Dalton, sr. Max Rogowski, sr. Mayur Patil, sr. Blerim Mema), 2. Stevenson (sr. Stephen Fenech, soph. Alex Oquist, sr. Kevin Callow, jr. Zach Miastowski), 3. North Farmington (sr. Dillon Putrus, jr. Nathan Elby, sr. Noah Garber, sr. Max Bradley).

COACH OF THE YEAR John Reed, Farmington Harrison

LOCAL SPORTS

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

McDonald's 4-hitter puts Rams back in 1st

Targus tosses 3-hit gem in Hurricanes' win over Lightning

Chris McDonald's four-hitter has the Michigan Rams all alone in first place again in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League.

The right-hander from Livonia Stevenson and Hillsdale College struck out seven and walked only one in going the distance as the Rams upended the Michigan Bulls, 4-1, in a game played at Livonia's Ford Field.

Mark Weist went 3-for-4 with two RBI, while Trent Drumheller and Travis Harvey (Stevenson/Henry Ford CC) each added a double and RBI as the Rams improved to 9-2 in the LCBL.

Jordan Frayer, who went five innings allowing three runs on seven hits, took the loss for the second-place Bulls, who slipped to 7-3-1 in the LCBL.

Jeremy Shay doubled in the Bulls' only run, while Todd Phelps tripled and Theo Piccirilli doubled in a losing cause

On Saturday, the two teams split a doubleheader at Ford Field as

Spartan grid outing

The Livonia Stevenson Football benefit golf outing will beginning with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Sunday, June 22, at Idyl Wyld Golf Course, 35786 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Included in the \$80 is 18 holes of golf (with cart), lunch at the turn, dinner and raffle prizes.

A registration form can be printed at www.stevenson football.com

For more information, email mlmicallef25@gmail.com.

Pro wrestling card

the Bulls took the first game behind Nick Sarmiento's four-hitter, 3-1, but the Rams came back to win the nightcap, 3-1, as left-hander Jeff Sorenson (Livonia Stevenson/Wayne State) picked up victory with six scoreless innings.

The Rams salvaged the split as Sorenson struck out 10, walked only two and scattered five hits. Reliever Jake Balicki gave up a run in the top of the seventh, but picked up the save.

Losing pitcher Jimmy Chase went the distance, allowing just four hits, but he walked eight in six innings of work.

Offensively, Drum-heller led the Rams, going 2-for-3 with a RBI and RBI. Adrian Morales also knocked in a run

Phelps went 2-for-4 with an RBI, while Kevin Conway added two hits for the Bulls.

In Game One, Sarmiento allowed just one run over seven innings. He struck out four and walked six.

Losing pitcher Brody Harris went the first 64 innings for the Rams. He allowed all three runs on six hits without a walk, while striking out six.

Mike Battistelli went 2-for-3 with a triple and

SPORTS ROUNDUP

two RBI, while Conway went 2-for-2 with a double and scored twice for the Bulls.

Mark Weist and Johnny Slater each tripled, while McDonald knocked in the lone run for the Rams.

for the Rams. HURRICANES 6, LIGHTNING 0: Jon Targus (livonia churchil) tossed a complete game three-hitter Monday leading the Michigan Hurricanes (4-6-1) to an LGBL win over the Southfield Lightning (1-11) in a game played at Ford Field. Targus struck out four and walked only up to reven livence. two in seven innings, while Lightning starter A.J. Garza-Hall, who gave up five runs on seven hits in four innings, took the loss.

Ben Matigian (Churchill/Madonna University) and Dan Cameron (Churchill/ Henry Ford CC) each went 2-for-4 with an RBI apiece for the Hurricanes. Jerrid Terrill (Owens CC) also went 2-for-3, while Jared Hagan doubled in a

HURRICANES 8-3, LIGHTNING 2-2: On Saturday, the Michigan Hurri-canes (3-6-1) took both ends of a canes (3-6-1) took both ends of a double-header from the Southfield Lightning (1-10) at Ford Field. In Game One, Hurricanes pitcher Jared ergilt went all seven innings scattering four in a 3-2 victory. Terrill's shutout bid was spoiled in the seventh when he gave up a two-run homer to Joe Killian.

Meanwhile, the Hurricanes collected 12 hits led by Dan Cameron, Alex Olezkowiz and Jake Makowski with two apiece. Tyler Keeter also had two RBI, while Makowski contributed the other RBI. A.J. Garza-Hall, who went the first five

Bilkovic, took the loss. In the nightcap, Ben Matigian collected two hits, two RBI and scored twice in an

8-2 victory. Terrill also added three hits, while Jose

Ternil also added three hits, while Jose Salinas chipped in with two hits, an RBI and two runs scored. Makowski also added two RBI and scored a pair of runs. Winning pitcher Demitrius Bryant went the first 5½ innings getting seven strikeouts, while walking four. Reliever Jared Hagan got the final four outs in relief. The two combined on a four-hitter. Bilkovic, who went just two innings before nivein seva to Kevin Reck took the before giving way to Kevin Reck, took the

Killian had two hits in a losing cause.

MERCY Jacks Later

Jack Falvo always coached third base for the Marlins.

FALVO

Continued from Page B1

sons

"What he contributed and offered to us as young women was the confidence, the determination, the focus (to succeed). Those things meant a lot to us in the long run.

Mr. Falvo was a dentist with a practice in Canton until recent years. When he left coaching after the 2011 season, he traveled and did consulting work for other dental offices.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Falvo was a well-organized, detail-oriented individual, according to his daughter.

"He would show up to practice with this meticulously written schedule," Dana said. "Every 10 minutes was perfectly scheduled - warmup, throwing, hitting drill.

We always had a plan for practice, and we always knew what we were doing.

Highly successful

Mr. Falvo's teams compiled a 410-200-1 record at Mercy, twice winning 35 games in a season.

Under his leadership, the Marlins

Mr. Falvo also was a huge Red Wings fans. He was recognized at a game last November for a being a longtime season-ticket holder (since 1976).

"He loved any sport, whether it was baseball or hockey," Dana said. "We recently took up golf as a family. He just loved to be on the field or on the course. He was a big sports fan.

'He taught us to be scrappy. That competitive spirit is something I got from my dad that I will never forget."

Not just softball

could."

Mr. Falvo was a wrestler at Dearborn Fordson High School and Western Michigan University before going to dental school at the University of Detroit

He also coached his oldest son, Nick, in the South Farmington Blues baseball organization. Nick later played at U-D Jesuit High School and is now a lawyer.

"He really wanted people to toughen up," Nick said. "Part of him telling you that was also telling you to grow up, to be more mature on the field and in life, to be a better person as well.

"He always pushed us to be students of the game. That led us to be better athletes, but his big thing was definite-

ly to compete." He really loved what he did and we

The card includes a MPWA championship triple threat match between Buddy Hanlon, "The Righteous Maker" Rick Baker and Joe Coleman, along with a tag team tornado match with the Punch Drunk Saints against the Sons of Strongstyle. Also scheduled to wrestle are Leah Von Dutch and John Bolen.

There will also be a V.I.P. meet and greet for \$15 starting at 5:45 p.m. along with an after party. Merchandise and concessions will also available.

For more informa-

gun for the four-person scramble starting at 8 a.m. The cost is \$65 (includes prizes, contests, hot dog and pop at the turn, dinner and afterglow at the 1 Under Bar & Grill).

Checks should be made payable to Franklin football and mailed to: 9623 Westmore, Livonia, MI 48150.

For more informa-tion, call Chuck Roth at 734-637-6719 (cell) or Dan Cline at 734-748-5283 (cell). You can also email chuckrothcarpentry@gmail.com or dan.cline@trw.com.

The Midwest Pro Wrestling Alliance will stage its MPWA Retaliation card beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at the Sgt. Romanowski Veterans of Foreigan Wars Post No. 6896, 28944 Joy Road, Westland.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and general admission tickets can be purchased the day of the event, for \$10 (adult) and \$5 (children). Discount tickets are also available on MPWAPro Wrestling.com.

tion, call 734-525-9454.

Hole-in-one club

Livonia's Dennis Drabicki used a 6-iron to aced the 136-yard, No. 15 hole Monday at Raisin River's West Course.

Drabicki, who carded his second hole-in-one, 75 for his 18-hole round.

Franklin grid outing

The 2014 Livonia Franklin football golf outing will be Saturday, July 26 at Idyl Wyld Golf Course, 35786 Five Mile Road, Livonia. There will be a shot-

Coaches wanted

Livonia Churchill is seeking a girls and boys head varsity swim coach following the recent resignation of Aaron Rieder, who spent 10 years with the boys and 11 with the girls.

Livonia Red (Churchill and Franklin) is in need of an assistant high school gymnastics coach for the 2014-15 season.

If interested, contact Churchill athletic director Marc Hage at 734-744-2650, ext. 46117, or fax resume and letter of interest to 734-744-2824.

won 10 district and eight regional championships. They went to Battle Creek for the state semifinals four times and were the state runners-up in 2002

Mercy also won seven Central Division titles and two Catholic League championships (2001 and 2003).

"He was a great coach," Nancy Malinowski, the director of athletics at Mercy and an assistant softball coach, said. "He was tough on the kids; he was a competitor.

"But he got results. He put his heart and soul into the program. He turned out some excellent teams.

"He was very generous man with his time, his giving back, to different things for the school. He was always quick to offer help in any way he

all picked up on his passion," Dana said. "He stayed (at Mercy) long after me, so it was a love of the game and influencing young women.

"He was really proud of all his players. I'm proud of what he contributed to so many lives that I didn't even know about. It made me proud to be his daughter."

Mr. Falvo is also survived by his wife, Kris, daughter Michele (Kendall), son Jonathon, grandchildren Jack and Katherine and mother Caroline. A funeral mass was said Tuesday at St. James Catholic Church in Novi.

Memorial donations may be made to the KIND-Unicef (www.unicefusa.org) or St. Vincent de Paul Detroit Dental (www.svdpdet.org).

Matt Cohan (Churchill) 4:33.98

David Vandekerckhove (C'ville) 4:35.49

Chaz Jeffress (Salem) 4:35.63

Jonny Dalton (Plymouth) 4:37.00

Max Rogowski (Plymouth) 4:38.34

SPALDING

Continued from Page B1

ers) and Michigan has only 89, something stupid like that. And we took it personal. Just because they have more scholarships doesn't mean anything. We bonded like brothers and it wasn't Devon's show.

Despite the limited practice schedule leading up to the game, Spalding said the team came together quickly.

"We're all there for a reason," the Glenn back said. "One of the reasons being is that we can adapt to situations. For us coming all together, that was off the equation and we didn't have a problem doing that at all.

"I'm not going to lie, the week was pretty tough. We had a lot of practices in the three days, a walk through the day before the game on Saturday. The week was actually tough, but I had a good time with it. I got to meet some new guys and I got to meet some real good athletes as well and I made some new friendships, met some really good guys."

Spalding also struck a good relationship with

Team Michigan head coach Mike Zdebski (Walled Lake Western). "He told us, 'We're not

here to have a good time, we're here to play and we're here to win," Spalding said. "That was his mentality the whole time. He was my positional coach.

"I got to know him a little better than a couple of players on the team. The only thing he wants to do is win. He doesn't sugarcoat anything. He's right to the point, a really good coach.

Team Michigan defense also did its part by limiting the Buckeye squad to minus-four yards rushing on 22 attempts.

Detroit King cornerback Jalen Embry led the way with seven tackles. while Wangler added five, including a sack and tackle for loss.

Farmington High's Curtis Brunson, who is headed to Ohio University, finished with one solo tackle and one assist.

"In order to win that game we had to play as a team," Spalding said. "We played really well as a team and I really enjoyed the experience, the most fun I've ever played in.'

bemons@hometownlife.com

FINAL BOYS TRACK AND FIELD HONOR ROLL

SHOT PUT

Vonn Pallett (Farmington) 54-2 Joe Ghafari (Farmington) 51-3 Michael Jordan (Plymouth) 51-0.5 Deshawn Booker (John Glenn) 50-5.5 Jannik Schmitt (Salem) 47-11 Colin Caflish (Canton) 47-3 Jon Smith (N. Farmington) 46-7 Nick Hitchcock (Stevenson) 46-7 Michael Hoover (Salem) 46-1 Zack Barrick (Churchill) 45-11 DISCUS

Joe Ghafari (Farmington) 166-5 Vonn Pallett (Farmington) 155-4 Danny Pocalujka (Stevenson) 146-1 Nick Hitchcock (Stevenson) 141-1 Zack Barrick (Churchill) 138-2 Colin Caflish (Canton) 137-7 Thomas Krueger (Luth. Westland) 136-7 Daniel Goertz (Plymouth) 133-5 Jannik Schmitt (Salem) 132-9 David Johnson (Harrison) 127-11 **HIGH JUMP**

Jamal Dixon (Canton) 6-9 Terry Buford-Pendergast (Stevenson) 6-5 Dan Roberts (Luth. Westland) 6-3 Felix Daniel (N. Farmington) 6-2 De'Andre Lipscomb (Harrison) 6-2 Dhruv Patel (Salem) 6-2 Kevin Brown-Bayko (Garden City) 6-1 Aaron Johnson (Harrison) 6-0 Brett Lee (Canton) 6-0 Allante Wheeler (Salem) 6-0 Cameron Grace (Salem) 6-0 Nathan Harris (Plymouth) 6-0 LONG JUMP Malik Benison (Harrison) 21-9 Josh Craven (Farmington) 21-7.25 Iwarri Smith (Harrison) 21-2.5

Leroy Fedorko (Garden City) 20-7 Drake Jordan (Salem) 20-5 Shakur Lockett (Churchill) 20-3.75

LeDell O'Bryant (Wayne) 20-3 De'Andre Lipscomb (Harrison) 20-1.5 Brenden Sherrod (Salem) 20-0.5 Mike Licata (Stevenson) 19-11 POLE VAULT

Jacob Hage (Churchill) 15-0 David Mittelbrun (N. Farmington) 14-10 Stephen Fedak (Churchill) 13-10 Kyle Zander (Canton) 13-6 Michael Farner (Stevenson) 13-6 Ethan Burke (Churchill) 13-0 Matt Morgott (N. Farmington) 13-0 Matt Boris (Stevenson) 13-0 Grant Mast (Canton) 12-8 Ted Lang (Canton) 12-7 110 HURDLES

Michael Ojemudia (Harrison) 14.70 Aaron Johnson (Harrison) 15.14 Nathan Falzon (Stevenson) 15.39 Austin Olson (Luth. Westland) 15.46 L. Giddings-Whatley (Thurston) 15,60 Josh Craven (Farmington) 15.61 T. Buford-Pendergast (Stevenson) 15.65 Keyon Thomas (Redford Union) 15.70 Kevin Brown-Bayko (Garden City) 15.74 Freddie Thompson (John Glenn) 15.79 **300 HURDLES**

Aaron Johnson (Harrison) 39.10

Michael Ojemudia (Harrison) 39.34 Keyon Thomas (Redford Union) 41.67 Freddie Thompson (John Glenn) 41.76 Nathan Falzon (Stevenson) 41.77 Kevin Brown-Bayko (Garden City) 42.10 Jeremy Sheppard (Franklin) 42.14 Jopsh Hannah (Franklin) 42.44 Ryan Bragiel (Churchill) 42.45 Jemal Vaunado (Canton) 42.49 100 DASH

Jaron Flournoy (John Glenn) 10.78 Steven Homrich (Salem) 10.94 Iwarri Smith (Harrison) 10.98 De'Andre Lipscomb (Harrison) 11.04 Alex Perelli (Franklin) 11.04

Shakarri Hill (Wayne) 11.07 Nathan Rodgers (Franklin) 11.23 Jacob Mallad (Canton) 11.23 Randolph Fry (Thurston) 11.31 Montel Hood (Wayne) 11.34 Ramone Dawson (Harrison) 11.34

200 DASH Jaron Flournoy (John Glenn) 21.84 Montel Hood (Wayne) 22.34 Nathan Rodgers (Franklin) 22.64 Darren Davis (Canton) 22.76 Donte Eubanks (Harrison) 22.83 Steven Homrich (Salem) 22.83 Alan Jones (Canton) 22.89 Delan Wynn (Harrison) 23.00 Chauncey Bridges (N. Farming.) 23.02 Austin Hickerson (John Glenn) 23.13 400 DASH

Jaron Flournoy (John Glenn) 48.59 Montel Hood (Wayne) 48.88 Colin McCormack (Salem) 51.03 Jamal Allen (Churchill) 51.14 Blerim Mema (Plymouth) 51.34 Delan Wynn (Harrison) 51.74 Joseph Gaton (Wayne) 51.84 Kimari Johnson (John Glenn) 52.00 Nathan Rodgers (Franklin) 52.15 Josh Barnes (Harrison) 52.44

800 RUN Jonny Dalton (Plymouth) 1:55.98 Kimani Dooley (Clarenceville) 1:56.44 Blerim Mema (Plymouth) 1:56.98 Keenan Jones (Franklin) 1:58.01 James Weekley (Harrison) 2:02.00 Matt Cohan (Churchill) 2:02.60 J'Haira Johnson (Garden City) 2:03.00 Kevin Callow (Stevenson) 2:03.39 Jacob Bailey (Ply. Christian) 2:03.69 Joey Fanelli (Ply. Christian) 2:04.54 1,600 RUN

Kennan Jones (Franklin) 4:24.31 James Weekley (Harrison) 4:27.53 J'Haira Johnson (Garden City) 4:32.24

Zane Berlanga (Plymouth) 4:39.50 Micah Orr (John Glenn) 4:39.89 3.200 RUN Max Bradley (N. Farmington) 9:28.42 Keenan Jones (Franklin) 9:29.67 Zane Berlanga (Plymouth) 9:45.50 Matthew Pahl (Plymouth) 9:46.42 James Weekley (Harrison) 9:52.96 Devin Gibson (Wayne) 9:58.45 Malik Jordan (Wayne) 10:02.14 Chaz Jeffress (Salem) 10:02.20 Tony Floyd (Franklin) 10:04.83 Stephen Fenech (Stevenson) 10:10.11 400 RELAY Livonia Franklin 43.37 Farmington Harrison 43.90 Canton 44.12 Salem 44.14 Westland John Glenn 44.21 800 RELAY Westland John Glenn 1:28.50 Canton 1:31.39 Livonia Franklin 1:31.42 Farmington Harrison 1:31.54 Salem 1:31.70 1,600 RELAY Farmington Harrison 3:29,19 Westland John Glenn 3:29.76 Plymouth 3:31.76 North Farmington 3:32.18 Livonia Franklin 3:32.76 3,200 RELAY Plymouth 7:58.32 Livonia Stevenson 8:13.29 North Farmington 8:21,25 Salem 8:25.44 Livonia Churchill 8:28.64

B5 (WG) THURSDAY, UNE 19, 2014 ENTERNAINMENT **OBSERVER &** ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWN JUNE 19, 2014 LIFE.COM

Jazz sax artist brings award-winning sound to Schoolcraft College

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

Student jazz musicians at Schoolcraft College will rub elbows with a Grammy Award-winning saxophonist Monday, June 30.

Kirk Whalum will teach a music clinic from 2:30-4 p.m. in the Presentation Room at the VisTaTech Center, on cam-pus, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. At 8 p.m., he'll perform with the college's jazz ensemble and jazz improv bands in the DiPonio Room at the VisTaTech Center. Both events are open to the public.

"He is at an international level of incredible achievement. He has performed with the most notable musicians. It's a pleasure to have someone of that caliber here," said Riccardo Selva, Ph.D., director of jazz studies. "This is a gentleman of international reputation who also plays in nursing homes."

Whalum, an ordained minister who has a master of arts degree in religion, reads Scripture in his daily podcast, Bible in Your Ear. In addition to playing at senior residences and nursing homes, he also works with schools and missions. He serves as the creative director of STAX Music Academy and STAX Museum of American Soul Music in Memphis, Tenn.

'Music isn't just about making money. People should support artists, but music is about touching lives and changing lives and making life richer ... music really has a positive effect on people spiritually, physically and psychologically," Selva said.

Gospel roots

Whalum grew up in Memphis, Tenn., where he per-formed with his father's church choir. While at Southern Texas University, he formed a band and began playing clubs in Houston. One night, he opened for jazz pianist Bob James, who invited him to tour and play on one of his recordings. That led to session and touring work with such artists as Barbra Streisand, Al Jarreau, Luther Vandross and Quincy Jones. His sax solo is featured on Whitney Houston's I Will Always Love You. Whalum has earned Houston's I will Always Love You. Whalum has earned multiple Grammy nominations for his own albums throughout the past two decades. His song, It's What I Do, won a Grammy in the Best Gospel Song category in 2011. The tune, with Lalah Hathaway on vocals, is on his album, The Gospel According to Jazz Chapter III. Selva interviewed Whalum while working on his Ph.D. at Northwestern University. His dissertation looked at the way churches included sayonhone into sacred music to

way churches included saxophone into sacred music to connect with the current culture. While researching for the 2003 academic work, Selva discovered that Whalum, early in his career, had learned to model his playing on gospel singers and had been influenced by Ray Charles and Aretha Franklin.

"Mr. Whalum described the tone of the saxophone as a 'voice' rather than as a sound," Selva wrote in his paper. Whalum told Selva the more successful and celebrated saxophonists all demonstrate a "recognizable voice" when they play.

"I was once told by R&B crooner Luther Vandross, with whom I have recorded many times, that I play like he sings. That's a very big compliment and I believe a testament to something innate in the saxophone," Whalum told Selva during dissertation interviews.

Familiar song

After earning his Ph.D. and while working in Chicago, Selva met Whalum again, when he visited the Windy City



to play a church concert. "We spent the day together and got to deepen our friendship. Fast forward years ahead to last August at the jazz festival in Detroit. I was at the jazz festival and heard him play a gospel tune I do myself," said Selva, who also is saxophonist. The experience compelled Selva to invite Whalum to Schoolcraft College.

Selva plans to join jazz students and Whalum in playing the song, I Want Jesus To Walk With Me, at the concert.

Admission to the clinic is free, although donations will be accepted at the door for students scholarships and the Schoolcraft College Jazz Program. Concert tickets are \$15; \$10 for students and seniors and \$5 for children under 12. All tickets are general admission and are available at the door and at the Livonia campus bookstore or by calling 734-462-4409.

Kirk Whalum will perform with jazz students Monday, June 30, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Stretch, breathe, relax with yoga outdoors

By Diana Wing Correspondent

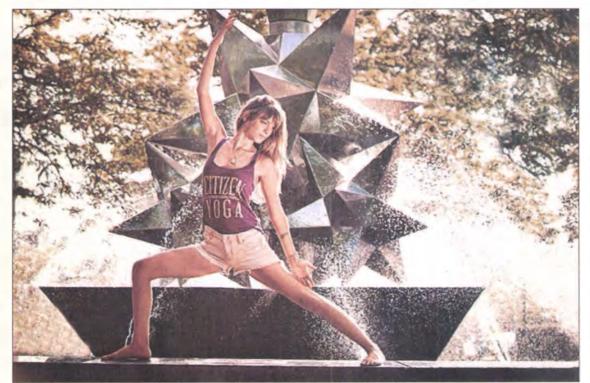
Feeling stressed out? Find tranquility, improve your health, have fun and attempt to set a new Guinness World Record for the "Longest Yoga Chain," Sunday, June 29, at the Detroit Zoo.

Join The Yoga Movement at 8 a.m. in its attempt to create the longest sequence of poses.

"This is a passion of mine. I wanted to do it," said Gabrielle Gagnon, of United Shows, a Pontiac-based company that puts on consumer shows, like senior expos and home expos. "This will be our first yoga event and the first at the Detroit Zoo. It's going to be very exciting.'

The experience includes an hourlong yoga class led by Gagnon's friend Kacee Must, owner of Citizen Yoga in Royal Oak, and two of Must's instructors — Ann Fancy and Todd Tesen. Must said they'll probably teach a Slow Burn class, defined as "slowing down movement so one can move deeper into the muscular system.

"A Slow Burn is completely led, so nobody's going to feel lost. It will definitely be a challenging class," she said. "Because it's going to be such a big



Kacee Must will lead participants in creating the world's "Longest Yoga Chain" Sunday, June 29, at the Detroit Zoo.

crowd, we'll probably do a bit more playfulness, like some inversions or something that takes people out of their comfort zone and allows them to see that they're more capable than what they think."

Practicing yoga for 20

years, beginning at age 10, Must opened her Royal Oak studio nine months ago.

We love doing events that are outside what a normal yoga studio would do," Must said. "We like to participate with mass amounts of people, so

(yoga at the zoo) really fits who we are."

Tickets for The Yoga Movement are \$30 and include a T-shirt, an event bag, zoo admission and on-site parking. Check-in is 6:30-7:45 a.m. You must register in advance at

www.TheYogaMovement.net. Call 248-891-4393 for more info. Visit www.citizenyogastudio.com. The Detroit Zoo is located on 10 Mile (I-696 service drive) at Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak.

Looking for more outdoor yoga? You won't have to travel far:

Farmington Hills

Bring a mat and blanket and dress for the weather in layers for this series of one-hour classes in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile.

The class runs 8-9 a.m. Wednesday through Aug. 20 and is for adults of all skill levels. The series began June 18. The fee is \$10 per class. The class meets in front of the Heritage Park Visitor Center. For more information, call 248-477-1135.

Plymouth

Sun & Snow offers yoga at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, July 23 and Aug. 20 in Kellogg Park, in downtown Plymouth. Refreshments and shopping follow the class until 8 p.m. at Sun & Snow, 388 S. Main, Ply-mouth. A \$5 donation to the Plymouth downtown tree lighting project is suggested. RSVP at meetups@sunandsnow.com.

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE, COM

B6 (WG) THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

on and off the cob

orn on the cob is a popular summer side dish, but you can do much more with the fresh, juicy vegetable.

"Sweet corn is a truly versatile ingredient," said Justin Timineri, executive chef and Culinary Ambassador of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Florida. "There are several ways to enjoy this healthy grain."

When buying corn on the cob, follow these tips from Timineri:

» Look for fresh sweet corn with husks. Ears should feel and look moist and thick, with fat and shiny beads of corn. Corn silk should be somewhat sticky, shiny, stiff and wet.

» To peel, pull the husks down to see the grain. Continue to remove the husks and silk.

» To remove the kernels: Hold the tip of the corn, resting the thicker side firmly on the table. Take a sharp knife and cut downward, removing the corn kernels. Be careful not to cut too deep.

These recipes make the most of fresh, sweet corn and are sure to become family favorites. For more ideas about cooking with fresh corn, visit freshfromflorida.com/Recipes.

Courtesy of Family Features

FLORIDA SWEET CORN WITH SOUTHERN BARBECUE BUTTER

1/4 cup your favorite barbecue sauce 1/4 stick butter 4 ears fresh sweet corn, shucked kosher salt to taste fresh ground pepper to taste

FOOL

Preheat oven broiler on high. In small saucepan over low heat, combine barbecue sauce and butter until melted and smooth.

Place sweet corn in a medium-sized baking dish and pour barbecue mixture over sweet corn. Broil sweet corn, 4 inches from broiler, being sure to watch the whole time. Turn and baste the sweet corn until golden. Serve warm. Other ways to spice up corn on the cob: » butter with basil and garlic

- » cilantro, lime and honey
- » pesto sauce and Parmesan cheese
- » cinnamon, sugar and butter

SWEET CORN AND BLACK BEAN **ENCHILADAS**





1/2 cup onion, chopped 1 cup fresh corn kernels 2 bell peppers, diced 1 teaspoon ground cumin 1 cup salsa, your favorite kind 1 can low-sodium black beans, rinsed and drained 10 (6-inch) corn tortillas 2 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese, divided 1 can enchilada sauce 1 tablespoon vegetable oil pan-release cooking spray kosher salt to taste freshly ground pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Lightly spray an 11-by-7-inch (2-quart) baking dish with pan-release cooking spray. Add vegetable oil to a medium pan. Cook onion, corn and bell peppers over medium high heat for 3 minutes. Add cumin, salsa and black beans and continue to cook for two minutes, stirring occasionally. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Remove pan from heat and let cool slightly.

Place an even amount of the filling mixture in each of the 10 tortillas. Using 1 cup of shredded cheese, evenly distribute it on top of each of the 10 tortillas. Carefully roll up each stuffed tortilla, and place them seam side down in the sprayed baking dish. Pour the enchilada sauce over the rolled enchiladas, spreading to coat all tortillas. Sprinkle with remaining 1 cup cheese. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until cheese is melted and sauce is bubbly around edges. Remove enchiladas from oven and let cool slightly. Serve enchiladas with diced avocado, salsa and sour cream.

SWEET CORN AND RICOTTA FRITTERS

2 ears fresh sweet corn, kernels removed 1/2 bunch fresh cilantro, chopped fine 4 ounces low-fat ricotta cheese 2 large eggs, beaten

1/2 cup self-rising unbleached or whole-wheat flour

olive oil (for shallow pan frying) kosher salt to taste

fresh ground pepper to taste

In a medium-sized bowl, combine corn, cilantro, ricotta, eggs, flour and a pinch of salt and pepper.

Add a small amount of olive oil to a medium-high preheated sauté pan. Carefully add spoonfuls of the corn mixture to the hot pan. Cook on both sides until golden brown. Test the first done fritter, and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper.

Serve with low-fat sour cream if desired.

CREAMY CORN AND JALAPENO SOUP

6 ears sweet corn, cleaned 1 small onion, chopped 1 smal fresh jalapeño pepper, minced, seeds removed 4 cloves garlic, chopped 1 teaspoon olive oil 1 teaspoon ground cumin 2 cups low-sodium vegetable broth 1 ½ cups low-fat milk fresh cilantro for garnish, chopped kosher salt to taste fresh ground pepper to taste



Heat oil in heavy large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onion, jalapeño, garlic and cumin; sauté until onion and jalapeño are tender, about 10 minutes. Cut corn kernels from cobs. Add corn to pot. Stir in broth. Cover and simmer over medium-low heat until corn is very tender, about 20 minutes. Transfer to processor or blender and carefully purée. Add enough milk to thin to desired consistency. Return to pot; stir to heat through. Don't boil. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve in bowls and garnish with cilantro.



LOCAL NEWS

RELIGION CALENDAR

JUNE **CHURCH CLOSING**

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Mass, Sunday, June 29 Location: St. Hilary Catholic

Church, 23901 Elmira, Redford Township Details: A reception and tour of

the church buildings will follow the service. The church is closing after 60 years

Contact: 313-533-1560; sthilaryredford.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 25

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: The Canton Concert Band performs on the north lawn at the church. Bring a chair or blanket. Donations of nonperishable food will be collected and delivered to Open Door Ministry, Canton

Contact: 734-459-3333 FILM

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, June 20

Location: Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia Details: Bring a chair or blanket to see "Lord of the Beans," a family movie, on the church lawn; free popcorn and snow cones

Contact: Rev. Jason Thomas at 313-844-1502

LECTURE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 25

Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Watch the second part of Howard Lupovitch's lecture, "Transforming the Jewish Landscape: Great Jewish Philanthro-pists," on DVD. The topic is "The Bronfmans and Max Fisher." Admission is free

Contact: Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931; nancyellen879@att.net

MUSIC CAMP REGISTRATION

Time/Date: Through July 20 Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 S. Merriman, Garden City

Details: Majestic Melodies music camp, for students enter-ing grades 1-6 in the fall, will run Aug. 18-22 at the church. Classes will include instrumental and vocal instruction, music history and theory. Cost is \$10 per child. Registration forms available at the church or mailed upon request.

Contact: 734-421-0472 or email JessicaKogelmann@gmail.com. **VACATION BIBLE** SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:15 a.m. to noon, June 23-27

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: "Weird Animals -Where Jesus' Love is 1-of-a-Kind!" is the theme. The sesstudents entering fifth grade, will include story time and lessons, music, crafts, recreation and snacks. Cost is \$8 per child Contact: 734-422-1470, ext. 17; www.sppc.org

Contact: 734-427-8743; livoniachurch.net **VACATION BIBLE**

SCHOOL Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m. Sunday,

June 22-Wednesday, June 25; registration will start at 5 p.m. followed by a light supper and the program

Location: First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, Wayne Details: The theme is "Neighbors around the World." Youngsters will visit Australia, Zimbabwe, Japan, the United Kingdom and Mexico through life lessons. There also will be Bible time, music and recreation Contact: 734-721-4801

JULY **MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 26 Location: Hosanna Tabor

Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverne, Redford Details: Free festival with

Christian music performances by This Fire Within, The Repeat Offenders, Bekah Greenman, Aaron Lucas and Co., Connor Roy, Heavenly Embers and more. Crafters and vendors will be on site 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Food concessions will be available Contact: 313-937-2424; www.HosannaTabor.org

YOGA CLASSES

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. July 1,8,15 and 22

Location: St. John Neumann, 44800 Warren Road, Canton **Details:** Lauren Burtell teaches a Tuesday yoga class. Walk in each class for \$10 Contact: Burtell at 313-671-7909

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY Men's Bible study

How to reach us:

BANGAY, BETTY

JANE (NEE TOOLE)

Born September 30, 1934,

passed away on June 15, 2014 www.schrader-howell.com

BONNER.

MICHAEL EDWIN

Age 58 of Westland. Lost his

battle with cancer June 12, 2014

Retired from Ford Motor Co. af-

vears. Beloved husband

ter



The Canton Concert Band will perform June 25 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Canton.

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island,

21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberger at

734-464-9491 **Our Lady of Loretto** Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township Details: Scripture study Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday. Location: School library, 11441

Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Catholic author Gary

Michuta leads a study of Acts of the Apostles. Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200,

or www.livoniastmichael.org Ward Presbyterian Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: 248-374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday Location: Salvation Army,

27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12 MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergart-

ners Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at

734-658-2463 **Dunning Park Bible Chapel** Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first

and third Tuesdays Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope. Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

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

Pingree

HERZOG, ALBERT

PINGREE JR.,

Laura (Thomas) Serruto, Albert

III (Judy)

Elizabeth Ellen (Steve) Eagon, Rose Anne (James) Foley, John P. (Sue) Herzog, Mary Herzog,

daughter-in-law Lisa Herzog and 15 grandchildren. He was pre-

ceded in death by his loving wife

(Betty) and his son Thomas

Herzog. A Mass of Resurrection

will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on

Saturday, June 21, 2014 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in

Onekama, MI. Please sign Albert's online guestbook at

June 21, 2014 at

Of Onekama, Michigan died June 14, 2014. He is survived by his children,

Alison (Stephen) Lang,

Herzog,

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

Contact: 313-563-0162 PRAYER

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests. Contact: 248-476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back Details: Music, singing, prayer Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri

at 734-464-8906 St. Michael Lutheran Church Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-

Friday Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday Location: 7000 N. Sheldon,

Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday Location: 23800 W. Chicago,

Redford, Room 304 Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org **First Presbyterian Church**

Time/Date: 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays. Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

Contact: 313-534-0399

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation. Contact: 248-374-5920

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original **Hebrew**

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net.

MENDRYGA,

LINDA ANN

Passed away suddenly June 9, 2014. Loving wife of Bob for 47

beautiful years. Beloved mother of Robert E. (Chris), cherished

grandmother of Courtney and

great-grandmother of Jaxson,

sister of William, David, Chris-tine, Peter, and the late Michael, Janet, and Larry. A Memorial

Mass will be held Saturday, June

21, 11:00a.m. at St. Genevieve -

St. Maurice Catholic Church in

Livonia. A gathering of friends

begins at 10:00a.m. until Mass

begins. Please visit www.Turows

kiLifeStory.com where you may sign the guest book, upload a

photo, or share a memory.

View Online www.hometownlife.com

Passages Obituaries, Memories & Rememberances,

1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · oeobits@hometownlife.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to noon, June 23-26

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia Details: "Summer JAM" is for grades K-6. Students will learn about parables and making movies. The session closes with a free family movie night at the Phoenix Theater at Laurel Park

of Michele (nee Tuite) and loving father of sons Kelly and Brendan. Dearest brother of Mary (Tom) Currie, Daniel Eaton, Janet (Seburn) Foux and the late Barbara Hawn. Loving uncle of many. Dear son-in-law of Claire-Marie Tuite and brotherin-law of Kevin (Jayne) Tuite. A Memorial service on June 21, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Community Baptist Church, 28237 Warren Rd., Garden City, MI 48135. In lieu of flowers donations can be sent to St. Joseph Hospice of Ann Arbor or American Cancer Society. Michael will fulfill his life long dream of space travel when he is launched into space in a Rocket ship on the Mission Conestoga 1.

services were held at the John N Santeiu & Son Funeral Home. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

CHURCHILL,

DOROTHY A. Age 96 June 12, 2014. Beloved

wife of the lateJohn Ailes and

Orville Churchill. Dear mother

of Jacqueline (Richard) Ball,

Grandmother of seven. Great grandmother of 15. Great great

and Carl

late Charles)

Ailes

(the

grandmother of 12. Funeral

Beverly

Swarthout



Service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd. (between Ford Rd. and Chernolds-ionkhoff com WWW TP The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City, MI. 新闻制

REYNOLDS JONKHOFF

ry Hill), Garden City. www.santeiufuneralhome.com Santeiu Funeral Home Paying tribute to the life

of your

loved one.

KRAFT

BERNARD "CHUCK"

Age 79, June 14, 2014. Beloved

husband of the late Lynn for over

50 years. Survived by sisters

Bess Schuster, Hellen Temmen

and many nieces, nephews and great friends. Visitation Thurs-

day 11a.m. until a 1p.m. Funeral

MOODY.

HARRY G. JR. Age 84. June 17, 2014. Beloved husband of the late Joanne and the late Annette. Loving father of Paul, the late Ken, Mike, Duane, Harry, Helen, Debra, Kathy, Denise and Darlene. Also leaves 28 grandchildren; 7.5 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral Friday 11 a.m. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., Downtown Farming-ton (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Visitation Wednesday 6-9 p.m. and Thursday 2-9 p.m. Memorials suggested to GreatLakesCaring.com www.thayer-rock.com

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REAL ESTATE B8 (WG) THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-842-8046 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Survey: Realtor incomes on the rise, younger pros enter field

Reflecting the 11.5 percent growth in home prices last year, income and sales volume jumped for the third year in a row, according to the 2014 National Association of Realtors Member Profile. The survey also found an increase in new and younger members to NAR in 2013.

The survey's results are representative of the nation's Realtors; members of NAR account for about half of the approximately two million active real estate licensees in the U.S. Many nonmember licensees are inactive or part-time. Realtors go beyond state licensing requirements by subscribing to NAR's Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice and committing to continuing education. NAR members also have access to professional resources to better serve their clients' needs.

Lawrence Yun , NAR chief econo-mist, said recovery in the housing market since the downturn continues to improve the earnings of real estate professionals. "Fueled mostly by rising home sales and prices, the median gross income of a Realtor increased to \$47,700 in 2013 from \$43,500 in 2012, marking a 9.6 percent rise and a sharp gain from \$34,900 in 2011," he said. "Although the median number of transactions or commercial deals remained unchanged from last year at 12, this marked a continued return to pre-recession levels after bottoming out at seven transactions in 2008 and 2009.

There are two sides to every real estate transaction — one each for the seller and the buyer. As expected, median gross income and number of transactions generally increases with experience. Last year, NAR members in business for more than 16 years earned \$70,200 and made 15 transactions. On the contrary, those with three to five years earned less than half that amount (\$30,100) and had 10 transactions. Incomes also varied by license type, as members licensed as brokers earned \$66,300 in 2013, while the median earnings for sales agents increased \$1,000 from the previous year to \$35,000.

Last year also brought an influx of new and younger members to NAR. Years of experience in real estate decreased to 12 years from 13 years in 2012; the typical tenure at a firm decreased to six years from seven years; and the age of members decreased to 56 years from 57 years. Three percent of all Realtors are under 30 years of age, 16 percent are between ages 30 and 44, and 24 percent are 65 and older.

"Realtors bring value to buyers and sellers, help build communities, and encourage responsible homeownership behaviors," said NAR President Steve Brown, co-owner of Irongate Inc., Realtors in Dayton, Ohio. The fact that the number of members with one year or less of experience rose to 9 percent in 2013 from 5 percent the year before shows that those agents getting into the field are attracted to the many benefits and



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

business opportunities that come with being a Realtor."

The typical NAR member works 40 hours per week. Women represent 57 percent of all members, accounting for 53 percent of brokers and 62 percent of sales agents. More than three-quarters of all Realtors cite real estate as their only occupation, and 82 percent (up 2 percent from last year) are certain they will remain in the business for at least two more years. This share is higher than the previous two years, indicating the optimism that's seen in today's market.

Most members — 57 percent — are licensed as sales agents; 26 percent are brokers, 17 percent broker asso-ciates and 3 percent appraisers (some hold more than one license). Thirteen percent of members have one personal assistant, while 3 percent have two or more personal assistants.

Several factors limit potential clients in completing transactions. Members said finding the right property was the biggest challenge (33 percent) followed by obtaining a mortgage (25 percent).

"The survey indicates that inventory shortages, overly restrictive mortgage lending standards and the rise in home prices and interest rates last year had an impact on Realtors' ability to help their client find the right property," said Yun. Similar to 2012, eight out of 10

NAR members focus on residential sales and 73 percent have secondary real estate real estate specialties. Of those members with secondary specialties, residential brokerage is the largest at 35 percent. Both residential property management and relocation were next at 17 percent, followed by commercial brokerage at 16 percent. Smaller percentages were also in counseling, land development, auctions and commercial appraisal. Realtors continue to rely on repeat business and referrals. Repeat business accounted for a median 21 percent of activity in 2013 and is higher for those with more experience. For members in the business 16 years or more, repeat business was 42 percent of their activity. Referrals accounted for an additional 21 percent of all business.

NAR members understand the importance of a web presence and communicating with their clients through several channels. More than two-thirds have a personal website operational for a median of eight years - and 91 percent report their firm has an online presence. Sixtyone percent of the respondents use social or professional networking sites — an increase of 5 percent from 2012 — and 12 percent have a blog. Realtors use a variety of communications methods when interacting with current clients or customers, with 94 percent preferring e-mail, followed by telephone at 90 percent and text messaging at 80 percent.

Compensation structures for Realtors and firm affiliation remained mostly the same from 2012. Sixtyeight percent of respondents are compensated through a split commis-sion arrangement, 17 percent receive all of the commission and another 4 percent receive a commission plus a share of profits; 11 percent received some other form of compensation. Eighty-two percent of members work as independent contractors for their firms. The vast majority of Realtors receive no fringe benefits, although 33 percent are covered by errors and omissions insurance. Only 5 percent receive health insurance through their firm.

NAR members are well-educated (50 percent hold a bachelor's degree or higher), own a home (86 percent), invest in at least one residential investment property (39 percent), and bring a wide range of expertise, skills and experience to the profession. Only 6 percent began their career in real estate, with the majority having previous full-time careers in management, business or financial (19 percent) or sales and retail (15 percent). Forty-one percent of those fluent in other languages speak Spanish and 96 percent are registered to vote.

Respondents worked for a firm typically with one office and had been with that firm for six years. Fiftyseven percent of members are affili-ated with an independent firm, and 38 percent are with a franchised company; 5 percent are other. Nine percent of Realtors report their firm was bought by or merged with another firm during the past two years, down for the second consecutive year and

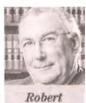
from 11 percent in the 2012 study. The 2014 National Association of Realtors Member Profile is based on a survey of 95,340 members, which generated 6,462 usable responses, representing an adjusted response rate of 6.8 percent. Survey responses were weighted to be representative of state-level NAR membership. Income and transaction data are for 2013, while other data represent member characteristics in early 2014. The study can be ordered by calling 800-874-6500, or online at www.realtor.org/prodser.nsf/Research The profile costs \$14.95 for NAR members and \$149.95 for nonmembers.

Midtown booms, but do homework

Q: I am thinking about buying a condominium in Midtown Detroit. Do you have any suggestions?

A: Just as with any other purchase, find out as much as you can about the developer. Some developers use different

LLC's to develop their condos even though they have gotten in trouble in other condos and do not disclose that information. Some developers may have even filed for bankruptcy which



Meisner

may impact on their ability to complete and/or otherwise develop a condo in a proper fashion. The more you know about the developer, particularly if it is a conversion, the better prepared you are to make a wise investment.

Q: I am a new developer trying to build in a subdivision in a municipality where they are requiring me to make all kinds of improvements to the subdivision which I never contracted to do. Is there any recourse that I have?

A: It may well be that the municipality is trying to "exact" unreasonable concessions from you. There is a legal term called "exaction" that basically means that the municipality, as a condition of permitting you to develop your property, is unreasonably trying to make you do things that are not reasonably related to the proposed development and which you legally do not have an obligation to do. Such conditions can be deemed to be a taking of property without providing just compensation, which is unconstitutional. You should see an experienced real estate lawyer at your earliest convenience to both advise you on your rights and to assist you in negotiations with the municipality.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of " Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. " Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of " Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 3-7, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
32933 Long Bow Ct	\$360,000
16997 Madoline St	\$203,000
BIRMINGHAM	and the say
981 Ann St	\$875,000
655 Chester St	\$595,000
2450 Cole St	\$575,000
2109 Dorchester Rd	\$200,000
1248 Emmons Ave	\$492,000
1146 Henrietta St	\$451,000
1011 Kennesaw St	\$620,000
1823 Pembroke Rd	\$745,000
1410 Yorkshire Rd	\$370,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
5017 Dianna Dr	\$400,000
5307 Echo Rd	\$190,000
1667 Fairford Dr	\$275,000
644 Rudgate Rd	\$1,200,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNS	HIP
150 Billingsgate Ct	\$130,000
1617 Franklin Rd	\$425,000
2550 Lamplighter Ln	\$345,000
755 Oakleigh Dr	\$825,000

4531 Walden Dr **COMMERCE TOWNSHIP** 9431 Arbor Way 2830 Augusta Dr 5092 Carinas Way Ct 8420 Cascade St 8420 Cascade St 1936 Golfcrest Dr 2183 Palmetto 4408 Philip 2395 Solace Dr 8656 War Bonnet Dr FARMINGTON 24074 Colchester Dr 31923 Lamar Dr 31952 Marblehead Rd **FARMINGTON HILLS** 33542 Argonne Rd 22099 Boulder Dr 25327 Chapelweigh Dr 29211 Chestnut Ct 20956 Gill Rd 30300 Gladstone St 31167 Harmony Ln 29805 Hemlock Ave 21728 Manchester Ct 29606 Middlebelt Rd # Gar105 21769 S Brandon St 30567 Sequoia Cir

5160 Provincial Dr

36585 Valley Ridge Dr \$333,000 \$311,000 33780 Vista Dr 25380 Wessex St \$411,000 27804 Westcott \$206,000 Crescent Cir 27243 Winterset Cir \$295,000 \$75,000 LATHRUP VILLAGE \$145,000 26530 Meadowood Ct N MILFORD \$360,000 957 Deep Valley Dr \$258,000 2931 Hiding Pl \$350,000 2933 Hiding Pl \$55,000 \$165,000 3139 Katie Ln 3654 Lake Vista Ct \$131,000 654 Summit Ridge Dr NORTHVILLE \$136,000 52975 Nine Mile Rd \$140,000 22121 Cumberland Dr \$225,000 52347 Ferndale Dr \$395,000 22384 Innsbrook Dr 21481 Woodfarm Dr \$195,000 \$340,000 NOVI 25000 Delmont Dr \$90,000 \$192,000 22468 Havergale St \$70,000 50436 Langley Dr \$145,000 50458 Langley Dr 23582 N Rockledge \$315,000 24603 Olde Orchard St \$101,000 24415 Perceval Ln \$128,000 47690 Rochester Dr \$265,000 24685 Venice Dr

JAKL	AND COUNT	Y
\$319,000	39763 Village Wood Ln	\$78,000
\$146,000	23138 W Le Bost	\$192,000
\$212,000	23392 W Le Bost	\$195,000
\$196,000	24235 Weathervane Ct	\$210,000
	24156 Westmont Dr	\$477,000
\$280,000	28544 Witherspoon Dr	\$111,000
	SOUTH LYON	
\$120,000	1023 Chestnut Ln	\$253,000
and the second	52645 Fremont Dr E	\$352,000
\$338,000	737 Knollwood Cir	\$173,000
\$399,000	1078 Paddock Dr	\$252,000
\$389,000	1190 Paddock Dr	\$273,000
\$348,000	1050 Paddock Ln	\$235,000
\$827,000	28405 Pontiac Trl	\$150,000
\$158,000	22270 Quail Run Cir Unit 4	\$120,000
\$270,000	52437 Trailwood Dr	\$2,000
\$294,000	SOUTHFIELD	
\$100,000	20930 Avon Ln	\$60,000
\$210,000	21055 Concord St	\$160,000
\$370,000	29858 Fall River Rd	\$140,000
	23580 Plumbrooke Dr	\$125,000
\$305,000	29861 Rambling Rd	\$120,000
\$377,000	25322 Saint James	\$117,000
\$636,000	25039 Sherwood Cir	\$53,000
\$587,000	WHITE LAKE	
\$80,000	685 Oxbow Lake Rd	\$318,000
\$101,000		
\$471,000		
\$500,000		
\$324,000		
	348,000 1050 Paddock Ln 827,000 28405 Pontiac Trl 158,000 22270 Quail Run Cir 1158,000 22270 Quail Run Cir 1158,000 22270 Quail Run Cir 1158,000 52437 Trailwood Dr 1294,000 SOUTHFIELD 1100,000 20930 Avon Ln 1210,000 21055 Concord St 1370,000 29858 Fall River Rd 1377,000 25322 Saint James 1636,000 25039 Sherwood Cir 1587,000 WHITE LAKE \$80,000 685 Oxbow Lake Rd 101,000 500,000	

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 24-28, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

\$159,000

\$181,000

\$156,000

\$125,000

\$365,000

\$174,000

\$223,000

\$165,000

CANTON

1960 Brookfield St 156 Cherry Hill Pointe Dr 44997 Coachman Ct 41445 Copper Creek Dr 48158 Covington Ct 43998 N Umberland Cir 44251 Richmond Ct 41992 Saratoga Cir

42238 Saratoga Cir 41462 Strawberry Ct 48370 Wadebridge Dr GARDEN CITY 28820 Beechwood St 32230 Florence St 29149 James St 33021 Sheridan St LIVONIA 9910 Arden St 15068 Berwick St 15196 Berwick St 14183 Cardwell St 15108 Country Club Dr 9057 Laurel St 36731 Rayburn St 14680 Santa Anita Ave

\$159,000 28643 Terrence St \$209,000 9608 Westmore St \$430,000 NORTHVILLE 44926 Broadmoor Cir 5 \$48,000 19824 Irongate Ct \$75,000 46099 Neeson St \$83,000 16745 Northville Rd \$90,000 311 Saint Lawrence Blvd PLYMOUTH \$149,000 45931 Amesbury Dr \$114,000 13275 Cambridge Ct \$137,000 635 Jener Pl 44700 Joy Rd \$120,000 \$161,000 1450 Junction St \$122,000 REDFORD \$174,000 25682 Deborah \$200,000 17133 Delaware Ave

\$187,000	13568 Woodbine	\$26,000
\$140,000	15719 Wormer	\$68,000
	WAYNE	
\$437,000	35726 Brush St	\$48,000
\$114,000	34305 Glover St	\$23,000
\$54,000	WESTLAND	
\$120,000	37631 Beechwood St	\$130,000
\$325,000	8228 Fremont St	\$87,000
	8166 Huntington St	\$23,000
\$415,000	1700 N Carlson St	\$137,000
\$354,000	815 N Hix Rd	\$58,000
\$180,000	32018 Ottawa St	\$14,000
\$270,000	810 Patricia Place Dr	\$195,000
\$177,000	8444 Rae Dr	\$108,000
	38601 Shelby Dr	\$2,000
\$90,000	1167 Shoemaker Dr	\$45,000
\$38,000		

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS On board

Weichert Realtors - Cass Realty has announced that Realtor Eric Waldon has joined the sales team of the agency's Dearborn office. A native and resident of Detroit with nine years of experience in the real estate industry, he will assist property buyers and sellers throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and Livingston counties. He is a member of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors (GMAR) and has a background as a loan officer.

Waldon earned an associate's degree from Henry Ford Community College and studied finance at Wayne State University.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayde Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on governmentinsured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations. RSVP at 800-260-5484.

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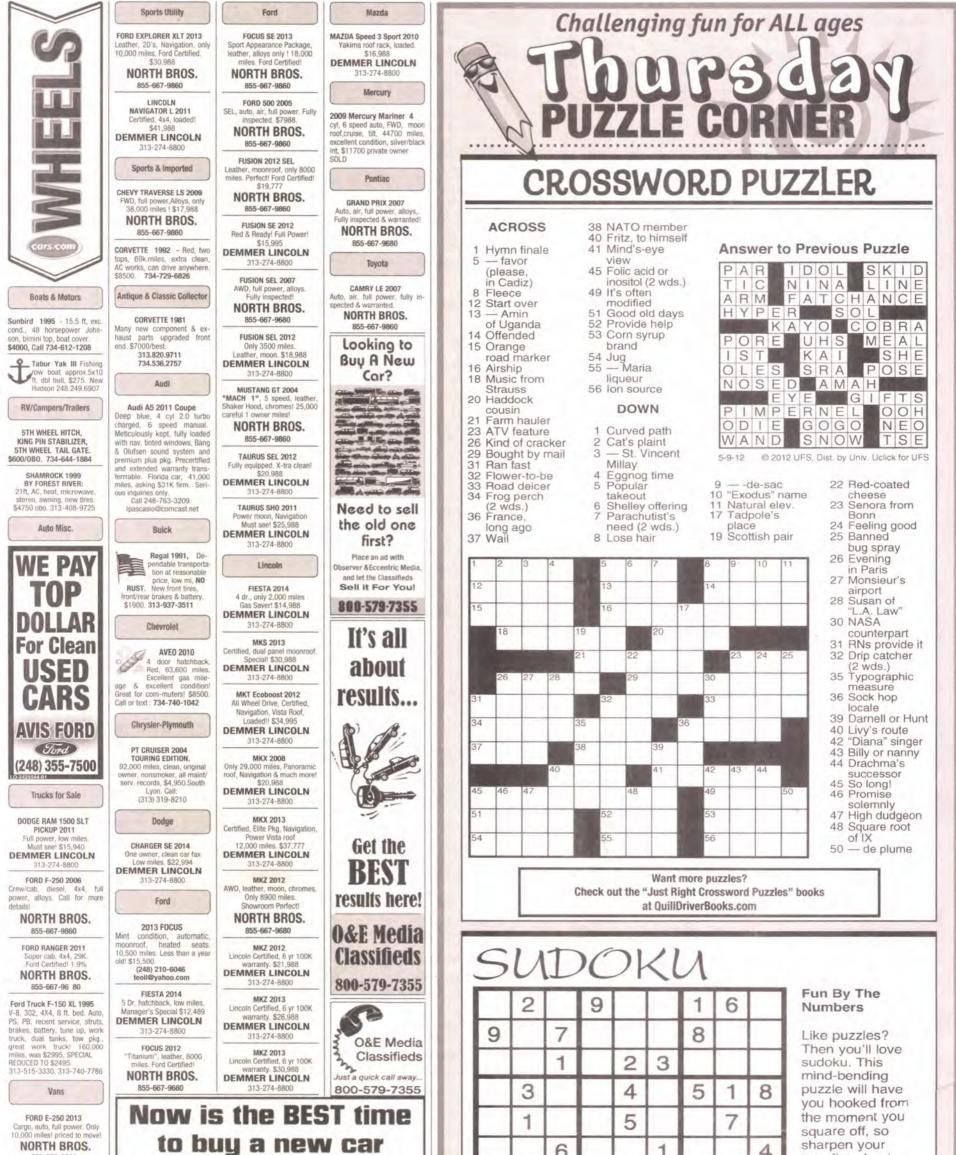


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square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

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

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