

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014 • hometownlife.com



IN MEMORY

Golf outing benefits scholarship fund honoring Salem, WMU grad

COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

Work continues on Wayne's budget shortfall

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Wayne's revenue shortfall for the current fiscal year is at just under \$500,000 in a \$16.9 million budget.

"We don't have recommendations (for resolving the deficit) yet, we are still working on it," said Wayne City Manager Joseph Merucci. "We still have to cut \$490,000."

The big question mark in

terms of city finances is the Wayne Community Center. Cost-saving measures, including closing about 60 percent of the building, were delayed to allow Merucci 90-120 days to look at alternatives for the community center.

"If we come up with other budgets before that we will do it at a regular council meeting," said Merucci. "If we have several big ideas, we would have a special meeting."

Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams resigned effective Friday. In the interim period before a budget recommendation and without a director, Merucci said the community center and recreation programs will continue as in past years.

The city saw a significant savings when four low-seniority firefighters from Wayne resigned and will not be replaced.

Two of those firefighters had taken positions in another community but all four were moved to the top of Westland firefighter hiring list. That move keeps the firefighters, who are replacing retiring Westland firefighters, with the Wayne-Westland Fire Department.

The city also reached an agreement approved by the council to sell the State Wayne Theater to an arm of Phoenix Theaters, the current opera-

tors. The deficit has been reduced from over \$1.5 million.

At the same time, the council decided not to ask voters to approve a 5-mill levy to establish a 345 millage to fund police and fire retirement costs for five years. That funding would take pressure off the city's \$16.9 million general fund.

Even if the council placed the 345 millage question on the

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Valerie and Gerard Romej have a new roof on their Caspian Court home thanks to the housing rehabilitation program. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland has rehab funds to aid low-income homeowners

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland has federal Community Development Block Grant money for housing rehabilitation available but unused.

"People are afraid of the (property tax) lien," said Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell when asked for the main reason people don't take more advantage of the program. "When the housing market crashed people were reluctant to participate and use the funds."

The homeowners aren't required to repay the loans until the home is sold and depending on income, have zero, 3 or 6 percent interest.

"Some people are paying the loan back even if they aren't selling. We love them," said Campbell, adding repayments serve as income that can be used for repairs at other homes.

Currently, Westland has \$100,000 available for emergency rehabilitation work such as heating and cooling, roof, siding/gutters and similar work. Limited repairs to bring the home to total code compliance have \$150,000 in funding available.

For homeowners qualifying under federal low-to moderate income guidelines, funding is available for home repairs including new furnaces, water heaters, roofs, flooring, plumbing and electrical upgrades.

"There is a \$24,900 maximum amount on a project. If a project costs a little more once in awhile it's OK," said Campbell. "We focus on bringing the homes up to code. We don't do fencing but we will do concrete

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Rehab program helps owners maintain their homes

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

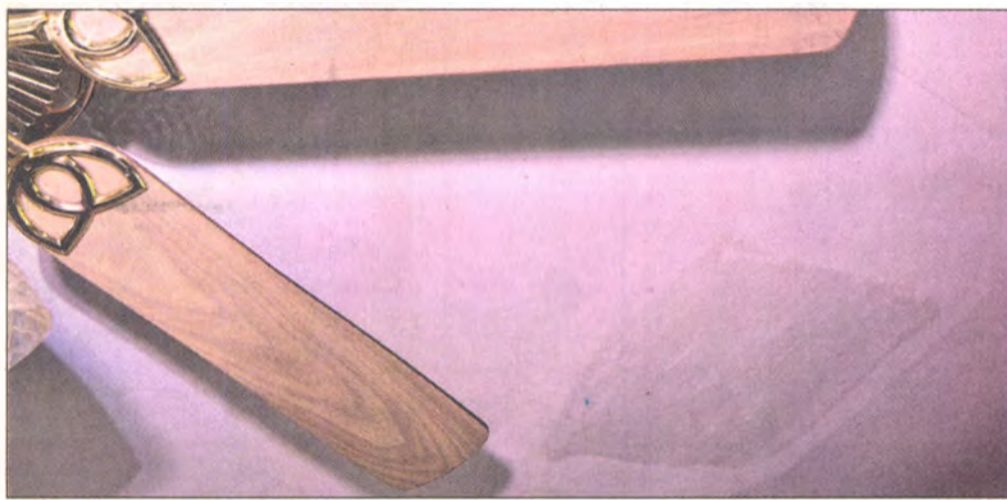
Living in a home on Otsego Court in Norwayne since 1999, Joyce Cornelius knew that her house needed a lot of work—roof, siding, windows, floors.

"I have a limited income. I knew I'd never have the money together to do the repairs," said Cornelius. "I was afraid I would have to sell the house as a fixer upper in a year and go into a low income apartment."

Instead, Cornelius is staying put and those repairs have been made thanks to the federally-funded Community Development Block Grant housing rehabilitation program.

"Getting this whole thing done was

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Between the fan blades is a patch that repaired damage from a roof leak at the home of Gerard and Valerie Romej.

Wayne-Westland hosts info meetings on tax request

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Six Wayne-Westland schools will be holding informational sessions for parents and voters about the Wayne County RESA education enhancement millage which will on the Tuesday, Aug. 5, primary ballot.

Voters in school districts throughout Wayne County are being asked to approve a 2-mill tax levy for six years. This is the first time since the passage of Proposal A in 1994 that such

a request has been brought to voters in Wayne County. It is the only additional millage that state law allows to generate additional operating funds for school districts under Proposal A.

Only Wayne County RESA can seek the tax levy, which required the approval of school district boards representing more than 50 percent of K-12 students in the county to put it before voters. If approved, the 2 mills will be assessed on all taxpayers in the county, then

distributed on a per-student basis to each public K-12 school district in Wayne County. The Education Achievement Authority, charter schools and Wayne RESA will not receive any of the revenue.

The informational meetings will be:
» 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, at Stevenson Middle School, 38501 Palmer Road, west of Newburgh, in Westland and at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth St., at Glenwood, in Wayne.

» 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, at John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.

» 8 a.m. Thursday, July 31, at Marshall Upper Elementary School, 35100 Bayview, east of Wayne Road, in Westland.

» 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 4, at Franklin Middle School, 33555 Annapolis, west of Venoy, in Wayne.

» 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 4, at Edison Elementary School, 34505 Hunter, east of Wayne Road, in Westland.

School officials have said that Wayne-Westland would be a receiver district if the millage is approved, meaning that the tax levy would collect \$3.8 million, but put \$4.7 million into the district's general fund, based on enrollment.

Officials also are saying that the millage would cost the owner of a home with a taxable value of \$50,000 approximately \$100 per year, which equates to less than \$4.16 a month.

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PRICE: \$1

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Win a Christmas in July gift



We invite readers of the *Observer* to try your luck at our holiday icon contest found in the Christmas in July special section delivered to subscribers with your Thursday, July 24, edition. Search carefully each page in the Christmas in July special section for the holiday icon pictured here. Then fill out the entry form found on page 4 or go online to the Facebook link at hometownlife.com.

Winners can select from a long list of cool prizes, including a pair of tickets to see the legendary Tony Bennett in concert Friday, Aug. 15, at Freedom Hill Amphitheater in Sterling Heights. Other prizes include a paring and trimming knife set from Cutco Kitchen in Novi, a \$50 gift card from Meijer, six gift certificates worth \$25 each for Schokol Chocolate Factory in Northville (good at that location only) and

three gift certificates from MassageLuXe Spa (each worth \$89) for a one-hour massage or LuXe facial plus 15-minute HydroLuXe massage. Certificates are good at Novi and West Bloomfield locations only.

Ten other prize winners will receive a pass to Imagine Theatre and a coupon from Buddy's Pizza.

The deadline to enter is midnight Monday, Aug. 4. So put on your reading glasses or get out your magnifying glass and find all the holiday icons for a chance to end your summer with a terrific prize ... and Merry Christmas in July.

HOMES

Continued from Page A1

more or less an accident. When I made the appointment (with Westland Community Development) it was for an emergency roof repair," said Cornelius, 66. "I had read a story in the *Observer*. I put in an application for the roof but there was a waiting list."

That was in 2013. Earlier this year, Cornelius went in to meet with Rick Gowan, deputy Community Development director.

"I said I would like a new roof, vinyl siding, windows and floors," Rick said. "We can do that, except the facelift," Cornelius said.

Concern about cost

A big concern for Cornelius was the cost to her. Housing rehabilitation loans don't have to be repaid until the home is sold - it becomes a lien on the property. Due to her low income, Cornelius won't be charged interest on the loan which is required with higher incomes.

In all, the work done on Cornelius' Norwayne home cost about \$26,000. She is required to maintain insurance and taxes on the home. The program also provides the

option of making payments on the loan but it's not required.

When talking about being forced to sell her home, Cornelius got emotional. She and boyfriend John Perkins bought the house together. A truck driver, Perkins died at age 54 from complications of diabetes in 2013.

Perkins' illness had kept him from maintaining his commercial driving license while Cornelius lost her job of 22 years when Key Plastics moved their operation from Plymouth in 2009.

"I had been extremely depressed about it. It had been an uphill battle keeping the house the last three or four years," Cornelius said. "It (housing rehabilitation) was overwhelmingly easy to do."

Fixing a hole

Norwayne residents Gerard and Valerie Romej have lived in their home for 41 years and have no plans to move. They were having a problem with hole in the roof that was letting water pour into their kitchen.

"Years ago, his mom got block grant money. I asked (Norwayne Community Citizens Council President) Hank Johnson if they still had the program," said Valerie Romej, who eventually talked with Gowan

about getting a new roof.

The couple's home got a new roof, gutters and workers patched the hole in the kitchen ceiling where water poured in during rainy weather. The new roof was a big improvement over the old one, not just for keeping out rain, but also in appearance.

"The old roof was green. This makes such a difference," Valerie Romej said.

Employed at the Ford Michigan Assembly plant for 33 years, Gerard Romej retired seven years ago. Valerie Romej provided child care but said she largely gave that up due to health issues.

"My flowers are my life now," she said.

Like Cornelius, the Romejs found the housing rehabilitation process easy to complete. Due to their higher income, the couple will accrue 3 percent annual interest on the \$3,900 cost of the roof but said they plan to pay back at least that amount annually.

"Anyone who asks, we tell them how we got our roof done. They have money (for housing rehabilitation) but no one is doing it," said Gerard Romej.

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REHAB

Continued from Page A1

work, if there is a trip hazard."

While the program recently covered the costs to demolish a dilapidated garage that was a hazard, it usually doesn't deal with garages, she said.

With its income guidelines, the housing rehabilitation program clients are often senior citizens, Campbell said.

This year, 15 Westland families have utilized housing rehabilitation funds. Campbell said 40 percent of funds were spent in Norwayne with the other 60 percent used in other areas of Westland.

For information on housing rehabilitation, call 734-595-0288.

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Democratic Club picnic

The Westland Democratic Club will hold a picnic at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, at Liberator Park behind the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, Westland.

Chicken, hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by club. Club members are asked to bring salad or dessert to pass.

The guest speakers will be state Rep. Rose Mary Robinson who will speak in opposition to Proposal 1, Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Michele Harmala to speak in favor of the Wayne County RESA millage and Megan Owens, executive director of Transportation Riders United who will speak in favor of the SMART Transit Millage.

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student money from the state. The district plans to use the new revenue to maintain student programs - academic, student technology, athletics and extracurricular activities - for school bus replacement, update curriculum materials and maintain facilities and equipment.

More information can be found on the district's website at wwcsd.net.

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CORRECTION

A photo of Westland Mayor William Wild that ran in the Thursday, July 24, issue of the *Observer* should have stated that it was taken by photographer Kathy Hansen.

BUDGET

Continued from Page A1

November ballot, it wouldn't be levied until the summer taxes which are collected after the end of the current fiscal year on June 30.

Voters will be asked to renew a 1-mill levy for police and fire services which is expiring after five years. The mill generates about \$370,000 currently.

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MEETINGS

Continued from Page A1

The new revenue would be a boost for the district, which saw its state school aid slashed by Gov. Rick Snyder, who several years ago eliminated an \$8 million revenue enhancement tied to millage loss due to Proposal A. The decision cut the district's per-pupil payment by more than \$900 and put it near the bottom of districts in per-

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The Wayne County executive candidate forum was conducted by the Livonia Chamber of Commerce and held at Schoolcraft College. HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne County executive candidates discuss issues at chamber forum

Business owners and residents had the opportunity Thursday to see several of the Democratic candidates running for Wayne County executive in next month's primary election.

The Livonia Chamber of Commerce held a candidate forum Thursday night in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College. Of the candidates running, five were invited, with four appearing on stage, all Democrats: current state Rep. Phil Cavanagh, Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, Westland Mayor William Wild and incumbent Robert

Ficano.

Former Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans was invited, but informed the chamber the morning of the event he would not be in attendance, said Dan West, president of the chamber.

Several issues were discussed at the forum, with much of the discussion circling back to the county's current financial status and the Wayne County Jail project in downtown Detroit, which has garnered a large amount of attention since work was halted.

Cavanagh said while some in the public are already looking toward

moving the criminal justice center to the Mound Road facility that closed as a state prison, that's something that is not an automatic at this time, especially after the hundreds of millions of dollars that have already been invested in the new downtown facility.

"We, at this point, can't move to the Mound Road facility," he said. "I know maybe public opinion, the way the media has portrayed it, they have portrayed it as a failed jail project. It's a failed jail project because the commission and the execu-

See FORUM, Page A16

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ACHIEVERS



Each year the Wayne Lions club gives out three scholarships to one student from each of the Wayne-Westland three high schools. Receiving a \$1,200 scholarship from Lions Club President John Rondeau (center) are Alana Savage of Wayne Memorial (left) and Haley Trierweiler of John Glenn.

Rachel Rodriguez of Garden City is the recipient of the Fillmore C.F. Earney Endowed Scholarship at Northern Michigan University for the 2014-15 academic year.

To be eligible for the scholarship students must be pursuing a degree within the department of Earth, Environmental and Geographical Sciences.

The Fillmore C.F. Earney Endowed Scholarship was established in 2003 with a gift from Dr. Frederick E. Nelson '73 in honor of Dr. Fillmore C.F. Earney, Geography Department Professor Emeritus, Northern Michigan University.

Grace B. Anderson, Nathan D. Kalinowski and Kyle S. Martin, all of Garden City and **Robert H. Woodson and Michelle L. Wyniemko**, both of Westland were among nearly 2,900 who received their degrees during commencement ceremonies at Grand Valley



Rondeau presents **Coty Gilbert** of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center with an \$800 scholarship.

State University in April.

Anderson received a bachelor of fine arts degree and Martin a master of education degree while Kalinowski, Woodson and Wyniemko were awarded bachelor of science degrees.

Joshua Piehl of Garden City has been named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the Spring 2014 term at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield. To be named to the honor roll, a student must maintain at least a 3.5 grade point average for the term.

Piehl is majoring in mechanical engineering at LTU.

Ceremony finishes deal to bring WSU programs to Schoolcraft

The presidents of Schoolcraft College and Wayne State University recently hosted a special signing ceremony acknowledging the latest of several agreements to making it possible to offer a variety of Wayne State University programs to western Wayne County residents on Schoolcraft College's main campus in Livonia.

Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, president of Schoolcraft College, and Dr. M. Roy Wilson, president of Wayne State University, were joined by administrators, staff and members of the Board of Trustees to celebrate the Reverse Transfer Agreement. The agreement will allow for students who transfer to a Wayne State University program (at any WSU campus including the main campus in Detroit or the SCtoU facility at Schoolcraft College) before completing their associate degree requirements at Schoolcraft the opportunity to use WSU credits to complete an associate degree while continuing to pursue a bachelor's or higher degree.

"Throughout the past decade WSU has consistently been one of the top five colleges to which Schoolcraft students choose to transfer



Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, president of Schoolcraft College, left, and Dr. M. Roy Wilson, president of Wayne State University, at the signing ceremony July 18.

and continue their education," said Dr. Jeffress.

"Today is just one of many in a long list of acknowledgments of the very successful partnership Schoolcraft and WSU have had for many years, all of which have been for the benefit of students in the region," said Dr. Wilson.

Schoolcraft College and WSU are also entering a whole new era of opportunities for students with the Schoolcraft to U partnership. "As of this week there are nearly 100 students who have enrolled in the WSU Schoolcraft to U programs being offered at Schoolcraft," Dr. Jeffress said.

Beginning Fall of 2014 WSU will be offering the following programs through the Schoolcraft to U Partnership: Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting or Management; Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Computer Technology, Electric Transportation Technology, Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology, Electromechanical Engineering Technology or Mechanical Engineering Technology; and Masters in Business Administration.

Visit www.schoolcraft.edu/SCtoU for more information.



Westland church to give away 100 backpacks

The belief is that as God's disciples, people are called to serve Him. And one way the congregation of the Kirk of Our Savior is serving is by providing backpacks and school supplies to those who cannot afford them.

The Westland church will be giving away 100 backpacks to children in the Wayne-Westland and Garden City School Districts on Wednesday, Aug. 6.

Registration to receive the backpacks will be 3-6 p.m. in the lounge on the main floor at the Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

Only low-income families will qualify for the backpacks and a Medicaid card for each child with their name on it must be presented. There will be a form to fill out, which will include some specific interests of the children so that backpacks can be purchased to match their interests.

Parents will not be able to register children other than your own, regardless of the reason, because of the limited supply. There also will be no late registrations and only 100 backpack registration forms will be available. Children must be registered by 6 p.m. Aug. 6 to be included in the giveaway.

Backpacks will be distributed on Sunday, Aug. 24, during worship. The service will begin at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a picnic on the front lawn. Backpacks can be picked up at the church on or after Aug. 24.

For more information, call the church office at 734-728-1088.

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Man accused in ref's death due in court

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The man accused in the death of a referee in Livonia last month is scheduled to return to court later this week.

Bassel Saad, 36, of Dearborn is slated to return to Livonia's 16th District Court at 1 p.m. Wednesday before Judge Sean Kavanagh for a preliminary examination in the case.

Saad is charged with second-degree murder in the death of 44-year-old Westland resident John Bieniewicz, who died earlier this month after being assaulted during a soccer match June 29 at Mies Park in Livonia. Police say Saad assaulted Bieniewicz while Bieniewicz was in the process of ejecting Saad from the match. After the incident, police said Saad fled the scene. He turned



Bassel Saad in court. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

himself in at the Livonia police station the next day.

Saad was originally charged with assault after the incident, but those charges were enhanced to second-degree murder a week after Bieniewicz died. He was arraigned on the new charges July 10 by 16th District Judge Kathleen McCann, just hours before Bieniewicz's funeral in nearby Redford. If convicted, Saad faces up to life in prison.

As of Friday after-

noon, Saad remained locked up in the Wayne County Jail on a \$1 million cash or surety bond.

Several fundraisers are scheduled to take place to benefit Bieniewicz's family in the coming weeks. An all-you-can-eat pasta dinner will take place Wednesday evening at Doc's Sports Retreat, 19265 Victor Parkway, in Livonia, complete with prizes and raffles. Tickets cost \$10 at the door.

A golf outing, sponsored by the John Bieniewicz Foundation, will take place Aug. 22 at Cattails Golf Club, 5737 Nine Mile, in Lyon Township. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. and the cost is \$75. Those interested can find more information at johnbieniewiczfoundation.org.

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John Bieniewicz died earlier this month.


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Activist Ron Scott to speak at Citizens for Peace meeting

Ron Scott, an activist and media personality for more than 40 years, will discuss his successes at the Citizens for Peace meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 12, at Unity of Livonia, 26880 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Scott is the spokesperson for Peace Zones for Life, an organization that provides support to Detroit neighborhoods to create safe and viable communities. They take a holistic approach including residents of all ages, especially the youth, as well as local

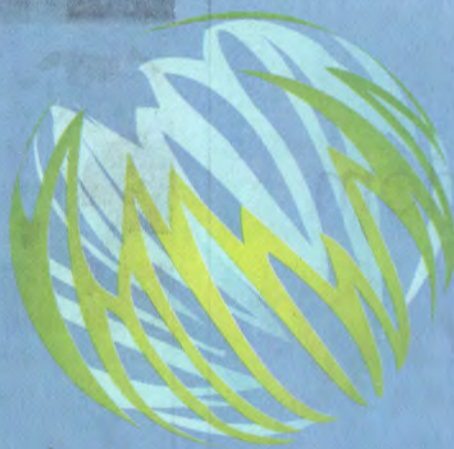
businesses, religious and government institutions. Through the practice of Peace Circles, residents are taught methods of conflict resolution, and intervention is taken with youth who have or are at risk of engaging in violent behavior.

Citizens for Peace member Ann Abdoo will also talk about the Youth PROMISE Act, that when passed by Congress will greatly help organizations like Peace Zones for Life.

Scott is a well-known co-host on CW50 public

affairs show, "For My People." He also was the producer/co-host on WDTW-1310 AM radio program "Fighting for Justice," and one of the first producers of the public television program "Detroit Black Journal." Currently he serves on the Board of Directors for the Boggs Center to Nurture Community Leadership, founded by Grace Lee and James Boggs.

For more information, call 248-943-8610. All are welcome.



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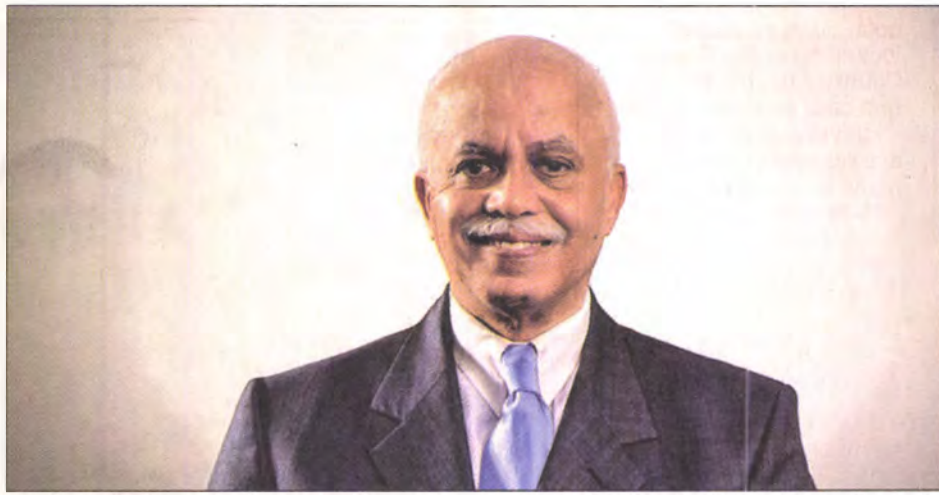
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For additional information, please contact Community Relations at 734.416.2757 or contact@pccsk12.com



Evans still on ballot after judge dismisses lawsuit

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer



It only took about 10 minutes for Wayne County Circuit Chief Judge Robert Colombo Jr. to dismiss a lawsuit challenging the candidacy of Warren Evans.

Wayne County Circuit Chief Judge Robert Colombo Jr. dismissed a lawsuit challenging the candidacy of Warren Evans, who is running to become Wayne County executive.

At the Friday morning hearing, which lasted about 10 minutes, Colombo cited several reasons for throwing out Canton Township Trustee Tom Yack's lawsuit, which alleged county officials broke state election laws by allowing Evans to appear on the Aug. 5 primary ballot because he did not meet residency requirements. It is Yack's contention that Evans changed his residency from Salem Township in Washtenaw County to an apartment in Detroit just one day before the April 22 candidate filing deadline and wasn't a Wayne County resident for 30 days prior to that deadline.

However, Colombo said the Wayne County Charter specifically says that executive candidates "must be a qualified elector" — meaning a legal voter — 30 days before the election and not the filing deadline.

In addition, Colombo ruled that the lawsuit, which was filed July 18, was filed too late in the election process, noting thousands of absentee ballots have already been turned in across the county. He noted that it would cost the county roughly \$300,000 to reprint ballots, plus there is no way the county clerk's office would have the time to reprint them and get them to local clerks before the election — and would thus violate state law.

"The plaintiff could have and should have brought this lawsuit sooner than 18 days before the primary elec-

tion," Colombo said. "There would be a significant cost incurred by Wayne County. The election process would be undermined because voters have already cast absentee ballots."

John Pirich, Evans' attorney, was happy with the judge's decision, but showed a flash of anger that the lawsuit, which he called "garbage," was even filed in the first place.

"It's frustrating that we have to go through this. This lawsuit came way too late," Pirich said. "He's (Evans) qualified to run for office and the court reiterated that."

Pirich went on to say that the lawsuit wasted taxpayer dollars and hoped the publicity surrounding the case wouldn't distract voters from his client's qualifications for the office.

Evans, the former Wayne County sheriff and Detroit police chief, is locked in a battle for the Democratic nomination against incumbent Robert Ficano, Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, Westland Mayor William Wild and state Rep. Phil Cavanagh. There are 11 candidates in all vying for the Democratic nomination.

Cavanagh, who has in

the courtroom, filed a similar lawsuit Thursday, claiming Evans was not a Wayne County resident for 30 days leading up to the filing deadline, as is stipulated by state elections law. Cavanagh, a Redford Township resident, said he became aware this week that Evans changed his home-stead exemption the day he filed to run for office. A hearing on the matter is scheduled for Monday in the same courtroom.

As he left the courtroom, Cavanagh said he wasn't sure if Colombo's ruling would impact his own suit.

"We'll see on Monday," he said.

Yack, who was in the courtroom with his attorney, John Harrington, was not happy with Colombo's decision and wasn't sure if he would appeal. He scoffed at the notion that his lawsuit was a political tactic.

"We felt this was a reasonable request. The judge ruled and that's all you can ask for," Yack said.

Harrington said Yack would have filed the lawsuit earlier had he known Evans was living in Washtenaw County a day before the filing deadline. He disagreed with Colombo's decision.

"We respectfully dis-

agree with the decision," Harrington said, noting that if a candidate could be eligible if they are a registered voter 30 days before the election rather than the filing deadline, Evans could have changed his residency July 3. "We don't think

that was the intent of the state Legislature or the county planners who created the charter." Harrington said, according to state law, all of the other countywide positions — including prosecutor, register of deeds, drain commissioner — require 30 days of residency before the filing deadline. He questioned why the county executive position would be any different.

Harrington also shot down the notion that Yack's lawsuit was "pure politics."

"We believe there is a clear-cut law in place about residency requirements," Harrington said. "We don't think Mr. Evans has met those requirements. We believe he simply saw a political opportunity at the 11th hour and he jumped in without meeting the requirements as defined

by the law." The Evans campaign issued a statement shortly after the decision, saying Yack's attempt to "disenfranchise" voters had failed. Evans, who was not in the courtroom, said he was glad about the ruling and will continue working hard to earn every vote.

"I've never lost sight of this campaign or what this case was really about," Evans said. "I'm going to continue to talk to the voters and work hard through Aug. 5."

As Yack was leaving, he said he had no regrets about the lawsuit and felt it was an important issue for Wayne County voters.

"Now it's up to the public to decide," Yack said.

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LONG AND WINDING ROAD

Woman tours Liverpool
50 years after Beatles concert

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Fifty years after Christine Jonasz Wofford and a screaming mob welcomed the Beatles to Olympia Stadium in Detroit, she has finally traveled to the seaside town of Liverpool, England, where the Fab Four began.

She loves them yeah, yeah, yeah.

Wofford, a Canton resident, was a 12-year-old student at St. Damian School in Westland when she and a friend witnessed the Beatles' invasion in 1964. She still has her ticket stub.

Wofford recalls riding her bike to the corner store to buy teen magazines sporting pictures of John, Paul, George and Ringo. She listened to their music on a transistor radio and bought their albums.

"I have always wanted to go see Liverpool," she said.

Wofford, her brother Bruce Jonasz of Novi and her 26-year-old daughter Olivia spent a week there this month, touring places where the Beatles grew up and performed. They also enjoyed a trip to the British Open golf tournament.

Liverpool was nothing like Wofford imagined.

"I expected dilapidated buildings, smokestacks and (long and winding roads," she said. "It was fabulous."

Unlike her mother, Olivia didn't know much about the Beatles.

"It was really exciting for me," she said. "I now have a greater appreciation for the Beatles. I didn't really know much about their history, but they were a really talented group of people. I

like the metaphors in their lyrics. I'm going to listen to more of their music now."

Wofford and her companions toured The Beatles Story, which is a museum at Albert Dock, and they took a Magical Mystery Tour named after the landmark album. The outing included a trip to Penny Lane, where they saw the barber shop mentioned in the hit song by the same name. And they saw the gatepost to Strawberry Field, once a Salvation Army children's home near when John Lennon lived as a child.

They saw a church where Paul McCartney sang as a child and toured two homes where McCartney and Lennon once lived. They also visited - but couldn't go inside - houses where George Harrison and Ringo Starr had lived. Starr's home was abandoned.

Wofford, her daughter and her brother saw a school Lennon had attended and toured the Casbah Club and Cavern Club, where the Beatles once performed. Their outing to the Casbah was led by a brother of Pete Best, an early drummer for the Beatles, and they saw an impressive cover band at the Cavern.

"They're exactly like the Beatles," Olivia said. "That was a lot of fun."

In a nod to another British band, Gerry and the Pacemakers of *Ferry Cross The Mersey* fame, the Michigan travelers, well, took a ferry across the Mersey River.

Much has changed since Wofford, as a 12-year-old girl, saw the Beatles in Detroit. Wofford saw all four members individually in con-



Olivia Wofford writes a message on the door of an abandoned house where Ringo Starr once lived.



Christine Wofford, flanked by daughter Olivia and brother Bruce Jonasz, tours Liverpool after seeing the Beatles as a child. In the background is the Rubber Soul oyster bar.

cert after they split up, most recently Starr and his All-Starr Band at DTE Energy Music Theatre.

Yet some things haven't changed. The Beatles' music remains popular and the passing of time hasn't swayed

Wofford's opinion on which Beatle she liked best. She summed it up in a sign she made and took to Liverpool. It read: "I Love Paul."

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

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Christine Wofford stands by the Penny Lane barber shop.

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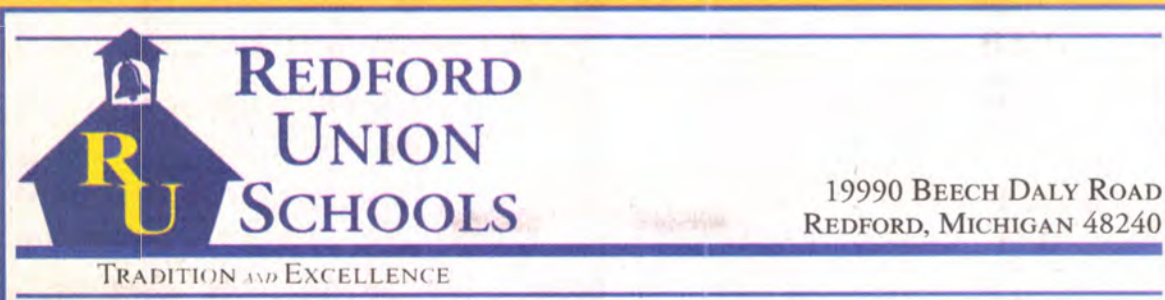


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Volunteers needed for annual Cruisin' Hines

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

In 2011, Don Nicholson was blown away by the response to his inaugural Hines Drive cruise. Cruisin' Hines attracted more than 24,000 classic car owners and hot rodders who spent the day driving from Ann Arbor Trail in Westland to Outer Drive in Dearborn.

That number more than doubled by year three and Nicholson is expecting an even bigger crowd for this year's Cruisin' Hines, set to start at 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 24.

"We had over 50,000 cars last year; the response was phenomenal," the Westland resident said. "The car count has continued to grow by



Now in its fourth year, the annual Cruisin' Hines event is attracting a record number of classic cars and hot rods, as well as fans who line the route to watch. FILE PHOTO

huge numbers every year. This year we have been hearing from car clubs and individuals coming from far away."

But the problem Nich-

olson has faced since the first year is how to get the cars onto the parkway efficiently. Making cruisers register slowed the process the first year,

so he dumped that for the second year and it still remained a slow process. Last year, he moved the cruise entrance to Merriman, thinking access from a four-lane road would help. It was "a hindrance," he said.

New entrance

So for the fourth installment, he's moved the entrance to Ford Road in Dearborn to use the long approach to Hines Drive as the staging area. Spectators will still be able to access the park at Ann Arbor Trail, Merriman and the Warrendale entrance near Telegraph.

"It'll give us a more efficient entrance and we knew that even opening one entrance at each end, the majority would still enter near Nankin Mills," Nicholson said. "So we would not have fixed anything, just spread out our manpower."

"Hopefully that will end that problem. It's a good problem to have when you have so many people come to an event," he added.

The popularity of the cruise is due in part to its inclusion in the Autopaloza lineup, which promotes car cruises, races and car shows in southeast Michigan that is promoted not only throughout the state, but around the U.S. and the world. Last year, the event had people come from seven states and two provinces and even had a couple from Germany plan their vacation around the cruise, Nicholson said.

Volunteers needed

And with the cruises popularity growing - it's Nicholson's goal to make it the biggest such event in Wayne County - he's in need of volunteers to

help. Last year, he had 20 volunteers, but this year, knowing how participation has doubled each year the past three years, he's looking for 50 volunteers.

Volunteers will help put up banners and mark areas for car clubs and vendors and work at the spectator entrances and main gate. Shifts will start as early as 1 a.m. "In addition to being part of a great event," volunteers will receive a free T-shirt and will be provided with food and water throughout the day, Nicholson said.

"I hope to have enough so volunteers only have to work four-hour shifts," he added.

Nicholson will hold a volunteer meeting before the cruise. People interested in being involved can contact him at Don@DonNicholson.net or by calling 734-658-5296.

The cruise also has added new sponsors, Rory Gamble and UAW Region 1A.

"They are a big part of all of our events," Nicholson said. "With our commitment to the history of the automobile and the local car people, the UAW was the perfect partnership to work with. The UAW members are our customer base. We look forward to adding the UAW 1A logo to our growing list of great organizations."

smason@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 2014-2015

Regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District shall be held at 7:00 p.m. on Mondays, in the Board of Education offices, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 734-744-2500, on the following dates:

July 21 & 28, 2014	August 18, 2014	September 15, 2014	October 20, 2014
November 17, 2014	December 15, 2014	January 12, 2015	February 9, 2015
March 16, 2015	April 20, 2015	May 18, 2015	June 8 & 22, 2015

There are two regular meetings in July and two regular meetings in June in order to cover all start-of-the-year and end-of-the-year school business. The Board regularly holds Committee and Study Session meetings throughout the year. Additional Special Meetings and/or Board Workshops may also be scheduled as needed.

Special meetings of the Board of Education may be called by the President of the Board, or any two members thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the day, time, location and purpose of such meetings. Service of the notices shall be made in accordance with Board Policy BCAC and with the provisions of P.A. 267 and the General School Laws of the State of Michigan, and may be made by a member of the Board or any employee of the Board.

The Secretary of the Board shall cause public notice to be given of all meetings of the Board of Education in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Proposed minutes of Board meetings will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Board of Education offices, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, not more than eight business days after the date of each meeting, and approved minutes of each meeting will be on the LPS Web site and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same location not more than five business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved.

The President and/or Secretary of the Board shall be authorized to sign all contracts and legal documents on behalf of the Board of Education following approval by resolution of the Board, unless the Board specifically designates other members of the Board or administration in its resolution to approve the contract or legal document.

Publish July 27, 2014

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

A public accuracy test will be conducted at the time and location listed, for the purpose of testing the accuracy of the tabulating equipment, and programs, which will be used to record and tabulate voted ballots for the Primary Election, to be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 in Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan.

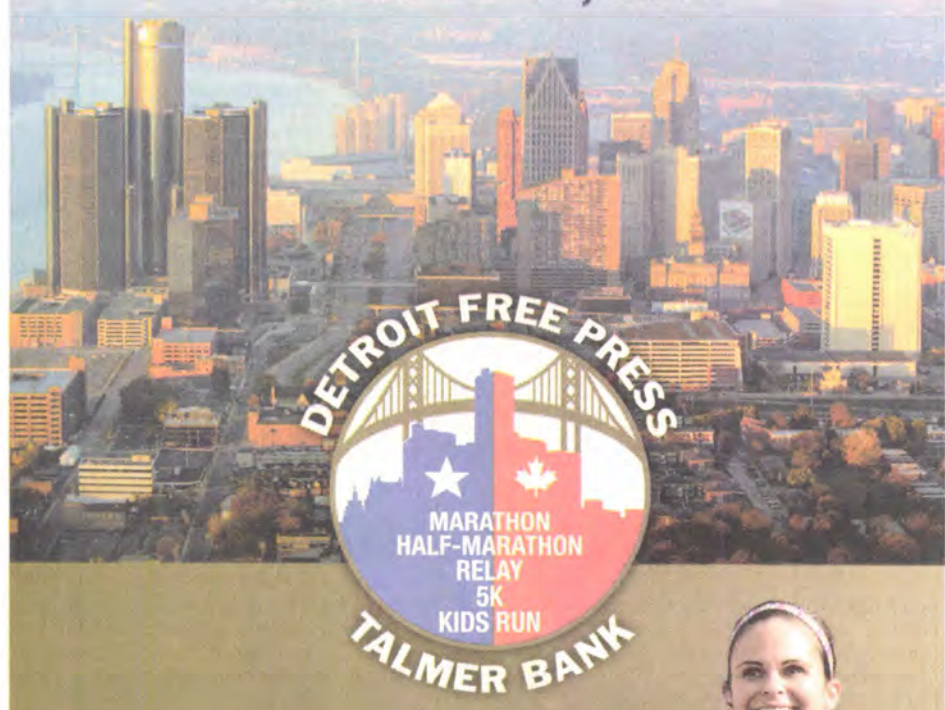
Location: Civic Center
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Date: July 30, 2014
Wednesday
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Inspire Theatre leaves 'No Stone Unturned'

Fresh off its successful run of *Steel Magnolias*, Inspire Theatre allows no grass to grow beneath its feet or *No Stone Unturned* as it amps up for its summer spectacle of the same name.

Written by local playwrights Joe Davis and Len Fisher, *No Stone Unturned* is a farcical takeoff of the murder mysteries of the 1940s. Spade Stone is a struggling private investigator with too few cases and one too many girlfriends. The trouble starts when the beautiful film star Lola Winkelman walks in and offers Stone and his partner, Patrick O'Malley, \$2,000 to find her missing sister.

The show times are 3 p.m. Sunday, July 27, and 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Aug. 1-2. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door, online at inspiretheatre.com or reserved ahead of time by calling 734-751-7057.

No Stone Unturned was originally written as an untitled after dinner sketch. After losing its lease in the spring of 2013, Inspire Theatre began looking for material that had no scene changes and could rely on few props and set pieces. IT costumer LaDonna Davis approached her son Joe, a local comedian who does stand-up. Also the executive producer of Motor City Improv, he wrote a funny sketch about a down on his luck private investigator for his mother.

Davis passed the sketch on to Fisher, artistic director of Inspire Theatre. Fisher thought the sketch was great, just too short for a play. After securing a building in Westland, Fisher revisited the sketch and began adding characters, plot twists and more action. Calling the untitled play *Joe* in honor of its original author, Fisher searched for a more suitable name. *No Stone Unturned* seemed like a

logical choice, given its lead character's name, Slade Stone.

Playing the part of Stone is John Donnelly of Redford, who is in his first leading role with Inspire Theatre. Donnelly, a fixture with Inspire Theatre since his first show in 2006, is more than just an actor with IT. He assists in the behind the scenes activity, such as set construction and theater maintenance.

Mark Steinhauer of Livonia plays the product spokesman Dr. Chesterton. Steinhauer has been in numerous shows around western Wayne County, mostly with The Park Players of Detroit. He readily admits however, that his wife is the talent in the family. Also of Livonia, are retired police detective Bill Petersen and Bobbi Gladden. Petersen, who is usually cast as a cop, finds himself as the great inventor, Leopold Johnson, for this outing. Gladden plays the blonde receptionist to Stone.

Billy Whitehouse of Rochester and Toni Hammond and Courtney Nixon of Farmington Hills round out the cast.

Fisher is fond of saying that Nixon was with IT even before it was IT. Inspire Theatre was formally established in 2005. Nixon was part of Fisher's productions of

Godspell and *A Christmas Carol* in 2004. Since 2005, IT has performed in borrowed and rented spaces in churches in Westland and Dearborn before finding permanent housing in the warehouse district of Westland. The 5,000-square-foot space at 5767 Executive Dr., is shared by

First Impressions Acting, led by local film actress Tonya Dallas of Belleville.

First Impressions teaches children and adults to act for television and film. Dallas was cast in another Fisher creation, *KORK-TV*, in 2010.



Bobbi Gladden of Livonia, Courtney Nixon of Farmington Hills and Deanna Lee of Redford are appearing in Inspire Theatre's "No Stone Unturned."

**CITY OF LIVONIA
ELECTION NOTICE**

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA,
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, at which time, candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties for the following office will be voted upon in the City of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan:

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Representative in State Legislature
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County Executive
County Commissioner (Districts 8 and 9)
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A proposed amendatory act to reduce State use tax and replace with a local community stabilization share to modernize the tax system to help small business grow and create jobs.

Livonia School District - Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Livonia School District - Building and Site Sinking Fund Tax Levy

Renewal of 1.12 mills (\$1.12 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) which may be assessed against all property, to be renewed for a period of 5 years, 2015-2019, inclusive, to continue to provide for a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings.

Intermediate School District - Wayne RESA - Enhancement Millage Proposal

Pursuant to state law, the revenue raised will be distributed to local public school districts based on pupil membership count. Shall the limitation on the amount of ad valorem taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, Michigan, be increased by 2.00 mills (\$2 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of six (6) years?

(Full text of the above proposal language that will appear on the ballot, is available at www.ci.livonia.mi.us - Vote Livonia page - Sample Ballots. Sample Ballots may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office: 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI)

THE VOTING PLACES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Precinct	Location	Address
1A	Clarenceville JHS	20210 Middlebelt Road
1B	Clarenceville JHS	20210 Middlebelt Road
2A	Clarenceville HS	20155 Middlebelt Road
3A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
3B	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
4A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
7A	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
8A	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
8B	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
9A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
10A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
11A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
12A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
13A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
14A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
15A	Buchanan School	16400 Hubbard Road
16A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
16B	Buchanan School	16400 Hubbard Road
17A	Hoover School	15900 Levan Road
17B	Hoover School	15900 Levan Road
18A	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
19A	Randolph School	14470 Norman Avenue
19B	Randolph School	14470 Norman Avenue
20A	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
21A	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
22A	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
22B	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
23A	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
23B	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
24A	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
24B	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
25A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
31A	Churchill High School	8900 Newburgh Road
31B	Churchill High School	8900 Newburgh Road
32A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
33A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
34A	Grant School	9300 Hubbard Road
34B	Grant School	9300 Hubbard Road
34C	Grant School	9300 Hubbard Road
35A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
35B	McKinley Center	9101 Hillcrest Avenue
35C	McKinley Center	9101 Hillcrest Avenue
36A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
36B	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave

RELATIVE TO THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF POLLS

The polls of said election will be open at seven (7:00) o'clock A.M. and remain open until eight (8:00) o'clock P.M. Eastern time of said day of election.

VOTER INSTRUCTIONS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

To comply with the voting accessibility requirements, the voting instructions will be provided on a CD. Any voters who request the voting instructions in an "alternative format" in advance of the election will be supplied with a copy of the CD. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in an "alternative format" should be made by contacting the clerk in advance of the election no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Election. Braille instructions are available in the polling place.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR CITY OF LIVONIA RESIDENTS

Voter's may obtain an absentee ballot by submitting an application to the Livonia City Clerk's office. Applications may be printed from the City of Livonia website (www.ci.livonia.mi.us), you can call the Clerks office at 734-466-2121 and leave your name and address to have an application sent to you, or you can pick up an application at the City Clerk's office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI, 48154. The last day we can mail an absentee ballot is Saturday, August 2, 2014. Voted Absentee Ballots must be returned to the Livonia City Clerk's office by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2014.

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964

Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJCIWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of June 01, 2014 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increase are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

**WAYNE COUNTY
Wayne County, Michigan
City of Livonia**

Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increases Effective
County of Wayne	November 3, 2009	1 mill	2019
Wayne County Jail	August 7, 2012	1 mill	2021
Wayne County Parks	November 2, 2010	0.25 mills	2015
Clarenceville School District	May, 2005 May, 2006 May, 2005	18 mills 4.5 mills 1.210 mills	2016 (non-homestead only) 2016 2016
Livonia Public School District	November, 2009 November, 2009	18.4568 mills 1.12 mills	2015 (non-homestead only) 2014

Date: June 1, 2014 Signed: RAYMOND J. WOJCIWICZ
Wayne County Treasurer
TERRY MARECKI
Livonia City Clerk

**CITY OF LIVONIA
PUBLIC NOTICE
TO ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE
CITY OF LIVONIA
COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

A public accuracy test of the election software and tabulation equipment will be held at 3:00 P.M., on Wednesday, July 30, 2014, at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan.

The accuracy test will be conducted for the **STATE PRIMARY ELECTION** to be held on **TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2014**, in the City of Livonia.

TERRY MARECKI, CITY CLERK

PUBLISH ON: SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
15125 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474
(734) 744-2500**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of **sealed bids** for the purchase of:

**On-line Ordering System (Web-based)
Custodial Supply JIT Bid for the 2014-2015 School Year**

Sealed bids will be received until **12:00 noon, on the 7th day of August, 2014**, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, at which time, all bids will be publicly opened and read. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. **No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified. Oral, telephone, fax, or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. All vendors are invited to attend opening.**

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled QUICK LINKS, Purchasing Bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education, Wayne RESA Board or the Superintendent of the Livonia Public Schools or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized affidavit of compliance- Iran Economics Sanctions act of 2012. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement attached. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.**

A bid bond executed by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company acceptable to the owner, or a cashier's check in the amount of 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Livonia Public Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of \$22,766.

Prices bid are to be **F.O.B. Livonia, Michigan**. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

Any bid submitted will be binding for sixty (60) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid form are to be addressed to the attention of:

Nick Armelagos
Administrator of Finance
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154-5474
"CUSTODIAL JIT BID"

One (1) copy of the bid form should be retained for your files. Any questions **regarding bid specifications** should be referred to the Livonia Public Schools, Harry Lau, Operations Dept., hlaul@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED



The "Godspell" includes (top, from left) Clare Hermes, Clarenceville; Kat O'Donnell, Livonia; and Brian Welsh, Lincoln Park; (middle, from left) Quinn O'Donnell, Livonia; and Allison Range, Plymouth. and (bottom, from left) Joseph Debbs, Livonia; Bernard Pagarigan, Livonia; and Olivia Ryktarsyk, Livonia. Also in the cast are Max Trombley, Livonia; and Brian Wilson, Redford.

LIVONIA THEATER GROUP PRESENTS 'GODSPELL'

Paul's Players presents *Godspell*, a musical based on the gospel of Matthew with modern-day lyrics and music by Stephen Schwartz. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. July 30-31 and Aug. 1-2 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students.

"The music has been updated because the show recently had a new run on Broadway," director Pat Hutchison said. "It's a fun, family-friendly show and we've set our version on a sandy beach, so it's perfect for summertime."

Rachel Kain of Livonia is assistant director. A group of children from Livonia, Plymouth and Redford is also participating as part of a show choir which appears in group numbers throughout the show.

Tickets are available by calling 248-347-4134. Tickets will be available

at the door.

Paul's Players is a community theater group based in Livonia, and housed in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road. Its 2014-15 season is tentatively scheduled to include the plays *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Odd Couple* and the summer musical *Fiddler On the Roof*. It also hosts summer theater camps for middle school and elementary school aged children.

The group was founded in 2011 by Patricia Hutchison, a retired Livonia Public School music and drama teacher. Its mission is to provide opportunities for people of all ages to participate in drama and musical theater.

For more information about Paul's Players, contact Hutchison at 248-347-4134 or by email at paulsplayers@gmail.com.

No injuries reported in truck fire on I-96 construction project

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

A truck being used for work on the I-96 reconstruction project caught fire Friday morning.

Jeff Horne, a Michigan Department of Transportation engineer, said a vacuum truck caught fire just east of Middlebelt along the freeway, which is currently closed for reconstruction.

"One of the vacuum trucks caught fire, but it's under control," he said. "Just a little, small fire."

He was unsure of what caused the fire at the site, but said no injuries were reported. He was unsure of any other details surrounding the

fire or its cause.

The truck was most likely being used on work for the sewer lines that run along the median of the freeway, Horne said. He said there was no threat to water quality in the area as a result of the incident.

Livonia police have advised motorists to avoid the area around I-96 and Middlebelt, saying traffic backups could take place.

The freeway, currently closed to motor vehicles, is expected to re-open sometime no later than October after the \$148-million reconstruction project.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com | 734-678-6728
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Roundtable ponders business environment

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Count Ron Runyan among business leaders who believe elimination of the personal property tax, a move businesses hope will happen Aug. 5 with the passage of Proposal 1, will be a huge leap forward in promoting a business environment where growth can happen.

Runyan, chief financial officer at Fraza Forklifts, said the money his company would save without the tax would be enough to hire two additional employees.

"We are so excited about this," Runyan said of the potential passage of Proposal 1. "This is so critical for our business."

Runyan was speaking Thursday at a business roundtable at the Plymouth Township business, a meeting led by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who has now chaired more than 20 such meetings. In addition to Calley, the meeting included state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, state Rep. Kurt Heise, executives from the MEDC, the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Department and chamber of commerce leaders Wes Graff (Plymouth) and Dan West (Livonia).

Calley was in town to talk about the Snyder

administration's efforts to grow Michigan's economy and create jobs. He said the discussions are providing the administration with solid feedback.

Less red tape

"We're hearing a couple of things," Calley said after the 90-minute roundtable, which included a tour of Fraza's Schoolcraft facility.

"We're getting feedback that the changes (in the business atmosphere) have improved the ability (for a business) to be successful."

Much of the discussion centered around regulatory changes Calley said the administration has made. He said departments have eliminated "upward of 1,500" regulations, on their way to a goal of 2,000 by the end of the year.

LARA has cut the state's licensing process from six or seven weeks down to less than two weeks and eliminated "maybe 1,000" forms.

Greg Blackwell, Fraza's CEO, said the lessening of the regulatory pressures has simplified things.

"Everyone is really busy and time becomes very valuable," Blackwell said. "It's great they're on track to improve these things."

One thing everyone at



Lt. Gov. Brian Calley (center) and Dan Wyant, the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, get a tour of Fraza Forklifts from CEO Greg Blackwell (right).



Lt. Gov. Brian Calley leads the business roundtable flanked by Fraza Forklifts CEO Greg Blackwell (left) and Fraza President Tim Blackwell.

the roundtable agreed on was Proposal 1's potential effect on growth. According to Runyan, Fraza employees spent 160 man-hours just managing personal property tax obligations, including the paperwork.

Skill search

The company, he said, had to file 110 personal property tax returns and pays \$105,000 annual in PPT. "It's a big thing for us," Blackwell said of

the PPT. "When we were smaller, it was a real challenge."

Another impediment to success, participants agreed, is finding enough qualified people to fill jobs that are coming open. According to information provided by LARA, more than 275,000 new private-sector jobs have been added, some 37,000 of them in Wayne County.

West, president of the Livonia chamber, said finding skilled workers to fill them is the problem.

"We have about 700 manufacturers in Livonia alone," West said. "We have companies who are turning down work because they don't have the manpower to do

the work." Calley said the roundtables have been effective in getting feedback on how the administration's business policies are playing in the field.

And he said Plymouth Township is a perfect place to host such an event.

"Fraza is a company that has a great history," Calley said. "Plymouth is a very dynamic community ... an area that has been a bright spot in the state. It's a community that found a way to make it through the recession in a way that had people pulling together to make their community work."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Notice of Intent

Synergy Counseling Services, LLC has applied for a substance abuse license through the Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs, Substance Abuse Program. The license will allow us to provide outpatient substance abuse services. Comments should be directed to SEMCA 25363 Eureka Road Taylor, MI 48180
Publish: July 27, 2014

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Spaghetti dinner to benefit Livonia man injured in accident

A spaghetti dinner fundraiser will be held 5-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8, for a 24-year-old Livonia man in need of specialized medical treatment for injuries he sustained in a motorcycle accident in September 2013.

Cameron Johnson, who suffered a traumatic brain injury, collapsed lungs, broken bones and two fractured vertebrae, is in need of hyperbaric oxygen therapy, his mother Elaine Johnson said. Insurance will not cover the \$5,400 cost, she said.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy involves breathing pure oxygen in a pressurized room, according to the Mayo Clinic website. In a hyperbaric oxygen therapy room, the air pressure is raised up to three times higher than normal air pressure. Under these conditions, the lungs can gather up to three times more oxygen than would be possible breathing pure oxygen at normal air pressure. The blood carries this oxygen throughout the body, stimulating the release of substances called growth factors and stem cells, which promote healing.

All the money raised at the dinner will go to the therapy costs, his mother said. The treatment is expected to be administered five days a week for eight weeks.

Cameron was a few semesters away from graduating college with a business degree when he had the accident. He is at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

The spaghetti dinner will take place at St. Rafka, 32765 Lyndon St.,

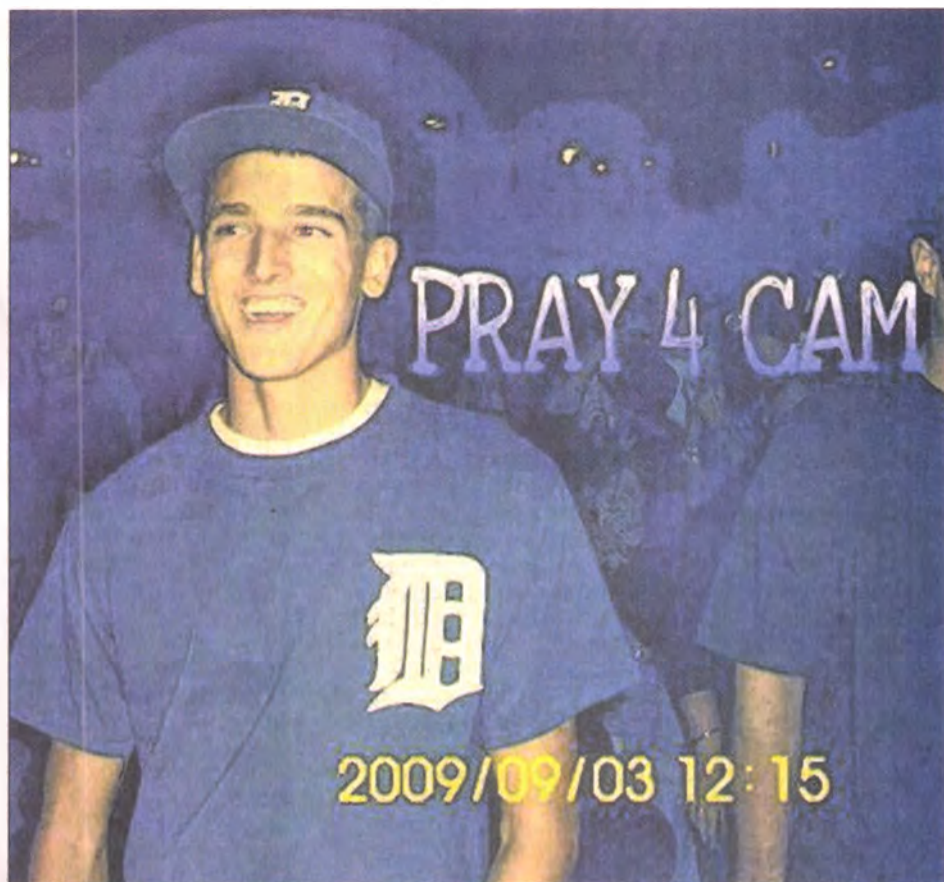
Livonia. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Included are bread sticks, salad, all-you-can-eat spaghetti, water and coffee. Pizza and pop will be available for an additional charge. There will also be gift basket and 50/50 raffles.

Coca-Cola Co., Cameron's employer, is donating all of the beverages and a number of raffle prizes for the benefit, his mother said.

More information is available at www.facebook.com/PrayingForCameronFund.



Cameron Johnson is awaiting hyperbaric oxygen therapy at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.



Cameron Johnson was a few semesters away from graduating college with a business degree when he had the motorcycle accident.

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for Wayne County Executive on August 5th

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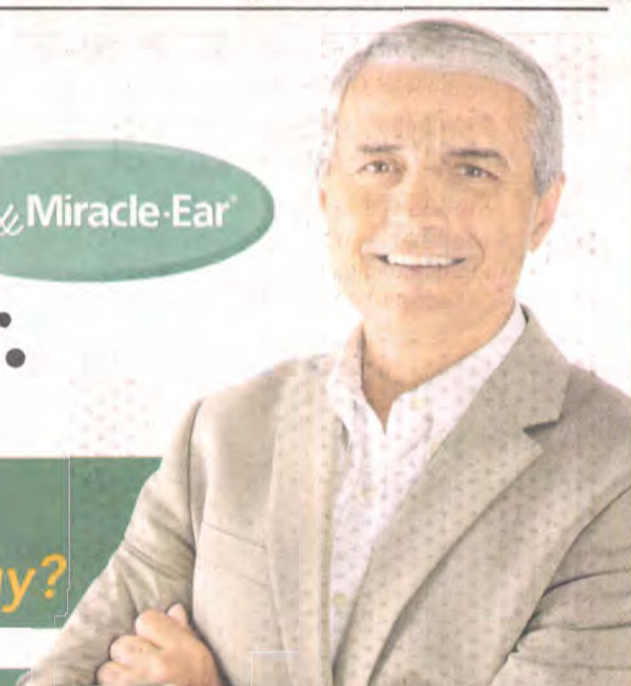
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FORUM

Continued from Page A3

utive took their eye off of it. Suddenly, it's over budget, so let's start suing people."

Ficano defended his track record of managing the jail project, saying he ordered building to stop when it came to light that the costs would be more than the original budgeted amounts for the county. "I took a lot of heat, but I said, 'No, stop, we're going to sue you,'" he said. "Now there's a 200-page report, it's on our website; it's been given to the commission. And yes, we can finish it at Gratiot. That would be the best business decision to do, unless we go to Mound and the state helps us with the courts."

Wild said he'd like to get more details on the financial figures of the projects and said he questions some of the

"business decisions" the county has made in recent years. The projects he questioned included the Pinnacle Race Track in Huron Township, which closed after only a few years of operation.

"What you see out there, they've sold \$200 million worth in bonds. When you add the interest on it, it's a 30-year bond, it's actually \$530 million," he said. "What you see out there, we're on the hook for \$530 million, no matter if they do anything else to it or if they tear it down."

McNamara said the financing portion for the rest of the jail project is still undecided, but said completing the jail in its originally proposed location would make it a state-of-the-art facility and model for other communities when it comes to a justice center.

"We would be the envy of the Midwest area. If we move to Mound, it will cost us roughly the same

amount of money, but it will basically be a makeshift jail, a makeshift court system, nobody's even mentioned how we're going to handle juvenile justice in that area," he said. "We will need help from the state of Michigan in order to do it."

Other candidates

Other candidates running on the Democratic ticket for the upcoming primary include: Adam Salam Adamski, Cindy Darrah, Russell George Leviska, Bettie Cook Scott, Sigmunt John Szczepkowski Jr. and Christopher Wojtowicz.

The winner of the Democratic primary will go on to face the winner of the Republican primary. The candidates running in that race include Fred A. Bolden, John Dalton and Daniel K. Wenderlich.

The primary election is Aug. 5, while the general election is Nov. 4.

Be cautious with early withdrawal from IRA

Q: Dear Rick: I'm divorced and have been living with my significant other for the past seven years. We have a home, but it is in his name only. My daughter from my first marriage wants to buy a home, but she needs some assistance with the down payment. I want to give her the \$10,000 that she needs for the down payment. Her Realtor suggested that I take the money from my traditional IRA. She said that although I'm in my early 50s, I can withdraw the money without cost because it's for the purchase of a home. My significant other says the Realtor is wrong and that it's going to cost me thousands in taxes and penalties. The only other place I can get the money from is from my 401(k); however, I already have an outstanding loan and I can't borrow any more. Who is right?

A: Both the Realtor and your significant other are incorrect.

However, the Realtor is correct in that there is an exception to the rule regarding withdrawals from an IRA prior to 59½. One of those exceptions deals with first-time home buyers.

The way the law is written, this provision doesn't just apply to the owner of the IRA, but also immediate family. Therefore, you would be able to withdraw the money from your IRA and use that to assist your daughter.

The maximum that you can withdraw under this provision is \$10,000. However, this withdrawal is not tax-free.

What confuses people is the difference between taxes and early



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

What confuses people is the difference between taxes and early withdrawal (10 percent before age 59½) penalty. The penalty is waived when you withdraw money from an IRA and use it for the purchase of a home. Taxes are not waived.

withdrawal (10 percent before age 59½) penalty. The penalty is waived when you withdraw money from an IRA and use it for the purchase of a home. Taxes are not waived.

Therefore, when your significant other tells you it will cost you money, he is correct. However, he is not correct when it comes to penalties.

When you withdraw money from an IRA, whether it's prior to 59½ or after 59½, that money is always subject to income tax. In your situation, when you withdraw \$10,000, it will be taxed at your ordinary income bracket. If your ordinary income bracket is 28 percent, you will pay \$2,800 in federal taxes. There also is Michigan tax.

Even though the penalty would be waived,

between state and federal taxes, you are going to pay around \$3,000.

One issue to consider is whether you're jeopardizing your retirement in order to assist your daughter's purchase of the home. I know this is difficult, however, it is something to consider.

I believe that you cannot put your retirement at risk. Before you make a withdrawal, you have to make sure that you are going to have more than enough for your retirement. I hate to tell people to be selfish, but this is the one time that you have to be selfish.

Remember, it's just not the \$10,000 that you're gifting to your daughter, but also the amount that money would have grown over the years. Your daughter may have other options with regard to the purchase of the home. However, if you do not have enough for retirement, your options may be severely limited.

Be very cautious about using money from your IRA. After all, you already have an outstanding loan in your 401(k).

Retirement money is sacred and – unless under unusual situations – should not be used for anything but retirement. We may live in the most generous nation in the world, but there's nothing worse than being old and poor. You need to be selfish and err in your favor.

Good luck.

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

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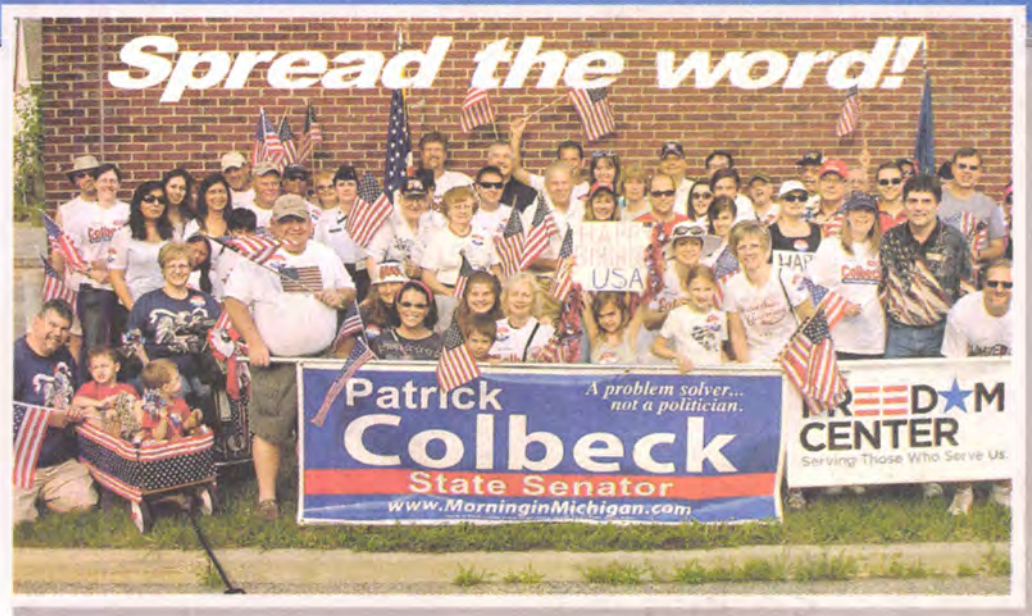
ABOUT PATRICK

Patrick Colbeck is currently serving his first term in elected office as the State Senator for MI's 7th District which will include Livonia starting in 2014 along with the communities of Northville, Plymouth, Canton and Wayne. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan with Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Aerospace Engineering as well as a graduate of the International Space University in Strasbourg, France. Included among his over 20 years of engineering and management work in a variety of industries, he has worked on systems for the International Space Station and instructed students at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Space Camp.

While currently residents of Canton, Patrick and his wife, Angie, have deep roots in Livonia. Patrick attended Hoover Elementary School and Holmes Junior High School before graduating from Catholic Central High School. His parents were founding members of St. Colette. His late mother, Barbara, was the organist at St. Colette and later the music minister at St. Edith. His dad, Bill, was an active member of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce of which Patrick is a member. Angie attended Dickinson Junior High School and graduated from Stevenson High School. Angie and Patrick's parents live in Livonia.



Patrick received the Good Citizenship Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution while in high school



"Like many of you, I dearly love our country but I am very disappointed by our current political environment. I am disheartened by attempts to transform our nation from one of a free and independent people to one of increasing government control and dependence. How do we change this course? Well, my wife Angie and I left the comfort of a relatively obscure private life and successful small business to change the direction of the state we love. With your support, we have made a significant difference by focusing on actual solutions to the problems that we face rather than politics as usual. I am working hard to faithfully represent your voice in Lansing. I will need your vote to continue to provide your voice of common sense."

- Senator Patrick Colbeck



Grand Opening of the MI Freedom Center
November 11, 2011

JOBS	EDUCATION	SENIORS	VETERANS	ROADS	PUBLIC SAFETY
Did you know that there are ~26,000 job openings right now within commuting distance of the 7th Senate District? See MorninginMichigan.com for link to job openings	Total funding per pupil by state for Livonia school district has increased by \$1,450. Over \$1.9B has been dedicated to protect the public school retirement system alone. See MorninginMichigan.com for school funding facts	Senator Colbeck has been awarded The Senior Alliance Legislator of the Year Award for his work to safeguard our seniors. He voted NO on the Senior Pension Tax.	In 2011, Senator Colbeck co-founded the Michigan Freedom Center to "serve those who serve us". As Chairman of MI Veterans Agency budget, he has driven performance improvements in veterans services.	Did you know Michigan already spends 53% more per mile for our roads than the national average? We can fix our roads without raising taxes. See MorninginMichigan.com for plan to fix roads	As Chairman of the State Police budget, Senator Colbeck added more police, more truck weight enforcement officers, and grants to keep our schools safe.

ENDORSEMENTS

- The Detroit News
- Observer & Eccentric Media
- Right to Life of Michigan
- National Federation of Independent Businesses
- Small Business Assoc. of MI
- Michigan Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Metropolitan Association of REALTORS
- REALTORS PAC of Michigan
- Associated Builders and Contractors PAC
- Medical Doctors PAC
- Docs4PatientCare
- Police Officers Assoc. of MI
- Retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association
- National Rifle Association
- Citizens for Traditional Values
- The Madison Project
- Bruce Patterson, Former State Senator, Canton
- Laura Toy, Former State Senator, Livonia
- Jack Kirksey, Mayor of Livonia
- Astronaut Jack Lousma

MORE INFORMATION

Elect Patrick Colbeck to be your state senator and you will be among the best informed citizens in the state. His Senate website at MorninginMichigan.com contains links not only to his editorials, press releases, office hours, and floor speeches, it also provides links to what he calls the "Solution Center" and "Data Center". His Senator Patrick Colbeck Facebook® page provides almost daily updates on events, issues, and votes happening in Lansing and throughout the district.

Colbeck's views on the issues

JOBS "I started my public service in January 2011 at a time when Michigan was suffering from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Our unemployment had skyrocketed and our auto industry was struggling. Many referred to this downturn as our "lost decade". During that decade, Michigan was the only state in the nation to have lost population. Times are better now. *Michigan is coming back!* I am happy to report that Michigan has created over 250,000 private sector jobs. In fact, there are now ~ 26,000 job openings within a 30 mile commute of the 7th Senate District. Our population is growing again and our youth no longer have to seek employment in other states."

HEALTHCARE "As one of a handful of legislators who have actually read the federal Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), it is obvious that this act is neither affordable nor caring. Putting 159 new organizations between a doctor and patient does not lower costs or improve care. This is why I strongly opposed Obamacare and applied my experience in the healthcare and IT industries to develop a free market alternative called "Patient-Centered Care". This approach has been described by Forbes.com as "Two parts Marcus Welby, M.D. and one part Steve Jobs". Not only would this solution lower costs, it would also improve care by providing patients of all income levels access to life-saving, preventive care. My solution keeps healthcare decisions between you and your doctor. See MorninginMichigan.com for more info."



Sharing biography of Neil Armstrong with students

EDUCATION "Like many parents, my parents were always passionate about ensuring that their kids received a quality education. A quality education is a team effort that requires hard work from students, parents and teachers. In Michigan, we helped students and parents by expanding dual enrollment programs that significantly lower the cost of higher education. We also changed teacher tenure law to reward educators on the basis of performance not length of service. We have gone on to provide over \$1B in additional funding during my tenure, but we still need to remove roadblocks to innovation like Common Core. The Common Core Standards Initiative adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010 not only micromanages our state standards and assessments, it also micromanages the classroom by mandating not only what kids are taught but also how they are taught. The teaching profession has been reduced to following a script rather than allowing teachers to tailor instruction to suit the individual student. Furthermore, we have no objective proof that these new standards will actually improve student performance. That is why I have been the most outspoken opponent of Common Core in the Senate and will continue to be if re-elected."

SENIORS "As a kid I was blessed to grow up surrounded by both sets of grandparents. They helped teach me the value of hard work, integrity and responsibility. I have worked hard to repay their loving guidance with my public service. During the past four years, I have passed legislation to protect seniors in nursing homes and have been an outspoken advocate for retirees including my passionate NO vote on the Senior Pension Tax (Senate Journal #41, Roll Call Vote #170 on HB 4361, May 12, 2011). My opposition to Obamacare is driven in large part by the federal government's push to cut Medicare services for the elderly by over \$700B in order to pay for other services such as the expansion of Medicaid. I am committed to caring for those who spent their entire lives working to leave this nation stronger than they found it and that is why I am honored to have received The Senior Alliance Legislator of the Year award for my work on behalf of all of the seniors right here in our community."

VETERANS "Serving those who serve us is a passion of mine. Active duty, veterans and their families have sacrificed much to preserve our freedom. And it is our duty to honor those sacrifices. As the chairman of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs budget, we brought Michigan from one of the worst performing states for veteran benefit claims processing, to 3rd in the nation. Public service does not always require legislation. In 2011, I teamed up with a group of service-minded veterans to co-found the MI Freedom Center at Detroit Metro Airport. To date, the MI Freedom Center has welcomed over 90,000 active service personnel, veterans and their families with open arms during their travels."



Astronaut Jack Lousma, Angie, and I

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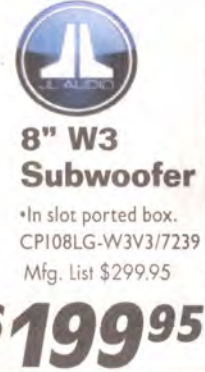
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Van Gorp hired to lead Chargers

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The future of the Livonia Churchill girls swimming and diving program has been handed to someone who has a memorable past with the Chargers.

Lisa Van Gorp, a former swimmer and assistant coach at Churchill, was named the Chargers' new coach late last month.

She will succeed longtime coach Aaron Rieder, who resigned from the school's girls

and boys coaching positions earlier this year.

In addition to competing in the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard individual medley for the Chargers, Van Gorp served as an assistant to Rieder after she graduated.

Van Gorp currently helps coach the Newburgh Swim Club in Livonia and has worked as a lifeguard at West-



Van Gorp

ern Golf and Country Club in Redford Township.

"When I found out I got the job, I was thrilled and a little nervous," Van Gorp said. "But like Aaron (Rieder) told me, the only time you're nervous about something is when you care. I'm looking forward to putting the team in the best possible position to be successful."

Van Gorp said that she anticipates a smooth transition, thanks in part to Rieder's offer to assist.

"Aaron knows the girls

coming back and he said he'd help me in any way he can," she said. "I've talked to the captains and their parents and I'm looking forward to getting together with the entire team as the season approaches. I know we have 12 girls returning, but I'm not sure yet how many new swimmers we'll have."

A resident of Westland, Van Gorp works full time as a new business professional for AAA Life Insurance Co. in Livonia.

ewright@hometownlife.com

They'll get to go to Iowa

An article ran in the July 17 *Observer* sports section about the Intensity Track Club needing to raise \$3,000 to make the trip to the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games in Iowa.

Somebody noticed and came through for the team, which is composed primarily of athletes from Wayne Memorial High School.

Intensity coach Jamal Johnson (also Wayne coach) said an anonymous person donated more than enough money for the group of eight to go to Drake University in Des Moines from today through Saturday, Aug. 2.

Salem wrestling rummage sale

The Salem Wrestling Booster club is hosting a rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 2-3 at the Plymouth Elks Club. All proceeds will support the Rocks wrestling team. Available to buy will be power tools, furniture and kitchen items.

The Plymouth Elks is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Rd. Call 734-453-1780 or e-mail Lee Gross, lgross58@gmail.com, for more information.

Victory for Hall

Canton Victory Hockey Association welcomes Dan Hall, head coach of the new 2005 Squirt A team in Canton.

Hall has been developing young hockey players locally for many years. A Canton native and current resident, Hall has worked with the PCHA Mighty Mini Mites, Squirt and Pee-wee ranks before coming to Canton as an assistant coach for the Canton Crossfire Bantam team last season.

In addition to his head coaching role, Hall continues to serve as an off-ice official with the National Hockey League, where he will be entering his fifth season this fall.

Plymouth's Pilon first

The Michigan Publinx Seniors Golf Association held its ninth of 15 tournaments July 10 at the Polo Fields - Washtenaw Golf Club in Ypsilanti.

Tom Pilon of Plymouth who shot a 1-over par 73 for the low round of the day and took first place in his flight.

The tournament produced 27 winners from a handicapped field of 108 players (50 years and older).

The first-place prize winners by flight were (gross/net) Flight A: Tom Pilon, Plymouth (73/66); Flight B: Mark Iovan, West Bloomfield (75/64); Flight C Tie: Chuck Hirschert, Hartland (89/69); Roger Roley, Livonia (85/69); Allan Toswell, Shelby Twp. (88/69); Eric Williams, Royal Oak (90/69); Flight D: Richard Retman, Harrison Twp. (86/59).

For more information, visit www.mpsga.org or call 734-207-7888.



Former Redford Thurston football player and graduate Travis Farkas prepares to launch a long pass during an alumni team practice Thursday afternoon. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT

REVISTING GRIDIRON GLORY DAYS

Former Thurston football players regroup to play one more full-contact contest

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

In a couple of weeks, 37-year-old Jerry Karpiuk will do what millions of middle-aged former high school football players across America would love to do — pull on the pads and fasten the chin strap for one more hard-hitting, memory-making game on the gridiron.

At 7 p.m. Aug. 9, Karpiuk will join 24 other former Redford Thurston football players as they take on an alumni team from Harper Woods High School in a full-contact contest on the Thurston football field.

The showdown — which will double as a fundraiser for the Thurston and Harper Woods athletic programs — will be orchestrated by Alumni Football USA, a company that helps organize hundreds of alumni football games every year throughout the country.

"I watched my brother-in-law play in a game like this in Trenton last summer and I thought to myself,

See GRIDIRON, Page B3



Among the 25 Redford Thurston alumni players who will take on Harper Woods are (front row, from left) Darius Robinson (class of 2009), Clinton Boyd (2010) and Dre Alexander (2009) and (back row, from left) Ron Jones (1995), Matthew Koskie (1997), Travis Farkas (2002) and Josh Bobbish (2010).



Canton's Donnie Trosper follows through after teeing off during the Memorial Junior tournament this week at Longaberger Golf Club in Nashport, Ohio.

Canton's Trosper nets junior golf crown

Canton High School alum Donnie Trosper fired a final-round 3-under 69 and tournament total 7-under 209 to take the champion title Wednesday in the boys division at the Memorial Junior.

Lexie Toth of Dublin, Ohio, carded a final-round even-par 72 for a tournament total 3-over 219 to take the top spot in the girls division.

The Memorial Junior was

held at Longaberger Golf Club in Nashport, Ohio.

Trosper, who won the 2014 Coca-Cola Junior Championship at Boyne Highlands, went wire-to-wire at the Memorial Junior to secure his second AJGA victory.

In his final round, Trosper carded six birdies and got up-and-down on his last three

See TROSPER, Page B4

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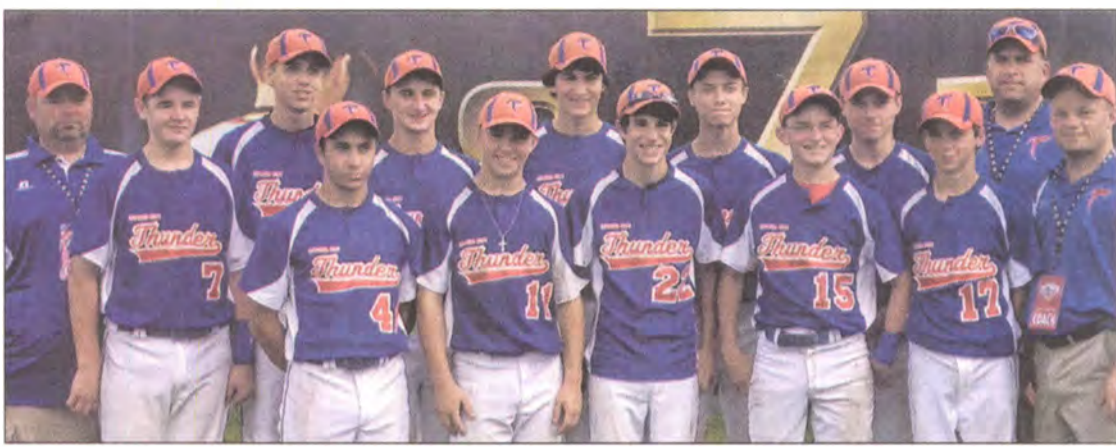
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Thunder make noise in Myrtle Beach

The Livonia City Thunder 14U travel baseball team registered an impressive 5-1 record at the Ripken Experience in Myrtle Beach, S.C., the week of July 6-11. The Thunder's only loss was a 6-3 setback to a team from Illinois. Team members include (front row, from left) Mike Jaafar, Craig Jakacki, Joe Kubshesky, Connor Jakacki, George Ferguson and coach Joe Jakacki and (back row, from left) coach Bob Renner, Nick Renner, Mike Harding, Spencer Weber, Connor Beck, Jake Beaune, Parker Graham and coach Dave Kubshesky. Also on the team is Ryan Francek.

Ex-Thurston standout Kemutambah signs to play basketball at Lourdes

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Not long after he signed a letter of intent to play collegiate basketball for Lourdes University late last month, Redford Thurston graduate Otis Kemutambah Jr. enjoyed a celebratory dinner with dad Otis Sr. at a coney island restaurant.

Given the high-flying 6-foot-5 forward's around-the-rim skills, a trip to Dunkin' Donuts may have been more appropriate.

Kemutambah parlayed a super-productive two-year basketball career at Thurston (he attended Romulus his freshman year before transferring to University of Detroit-Jesuit the following season) into a next-level opportunity at Lourdes, an NAIA school in Sylvania, Ohio.

Fueled by an always-revving engine and top-notch jumping abilities, Kemutambah averaged 15 points and 10 rebounds per game during his senior year for the Eagles.

"Otis is an athletic wing who can defend multiple positions and is a good rebounder," said Lourdes head coach Andre Smith, whose team went 22-10 during the 2013-14 campaign. "He had a good senior season and displayed he can also score. Otis will compete every night on every play. We



Redford Thurston graduate Otis Kemutambah Jr. (seated at left) is pictured with Lourdes University head coach Andre Smith (standing) and his dad Otis Sr. as he signed a letter of intent to play basketball for the Gray Wolves beginning in the fall. LOURDES UNIVERSITY

"Otis is an athletic wing who can defend multiple positions and is a good rebounder. ... We look forward to him joining the program and contributing."

ANDRE SMITH, Lourdes head coach

look forward to him joining the program and contributing."

Prior to his official visit to Lourdes in mid-April, Kemutambah was being courted by several college hoops programs, including Wayne State, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Adrian and Albion. How-

ever, the trip to the Gray Wolves' campus sealed the deal for the personable young man.

"Lourdes offered the major I wanted to pursue (occupational therapy) and I connected right away with the coach," Kemutambah said. "I met my future teammates and they

were all cool and it's a winning program. I liked everything about it."

Kemutambah is excited about his chance to play on the wing as a small forward for the Gray Wolves after two seasons of posting up down low for the Eagles.

"I played around the rim a

lot at Thurston because we didn't have a lot of height, but I think I have the skills to play the three spot," he said.

"I have a pretty good mid-range jump shot right now. I can shoot the three, but that's what I'm going to be working on the most to improve this summer."

Following his stellar senior season at Thurston, Kemutambah was flooded with impressive accolades, including first team selections to the all-Observer team and the Western Wayne Athletic Conference Blue Division squad.

"Coach Smith didn't actually come out and tell me I'd be playing a lot as a freshman, but if I work hard and keep improving, I feel like I can contribute right away," Kemutambah said.

The former Eagle plans to spend the remainder of the summer working out at Lourdes, along with his future teammates.

"I'll be in the weight room four days a week and on Saturday and Sunday I'll play in their open gyms," he said. "I'm excited about the chance to play college basketball."

Thurston compiled a 35-11 record and two Class A district championships during Kemutambah's two-year stint at the school.

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Redford's VanEck notches 180-yard ace at Glenhurst

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

A few seconds after Redford Township's Bill VanEck struck his tee shot on the 180-yard second hole July 11 at Glenhurst Golf Course, he lost sight of the ball.

"I hit it pretty well and I said to my partner, 'Shouldn't I see it rolling across the back of the green by now?'" VanEck said. "He said, 'You'd see it rolling across the back of the green if it hadn't gone in the hole.'"

Using a No. 2 rescue club, VanEck registered his second career hole-in-one while playing with partner Rick Burk in the Friday night St. Valentine's

League. Bill Woodington and Mike Terry also witnessed the memorable shot.

The 60-year-old VanEck's first ace came nearly six years ago on the No. 9 hole at Glenhurst.

"When I got my first hole-in-one, they were rebuilding some greens at Glenhurst, so the ninth hole was only about 62 yards from the tee," he said. "When I saw it go in I was screaming and hollering. I didn't actually see this last one go in the hole, so I didn't get nearly as excited. But once I saw the ball in the hole, it kind of hit me and it was very exciting."

VanEck said his most recent ace landed about 40 yards

short of the green before rolling the rest of the way and finding a home in the cup.

"The tee is actually level with the green, but there is a valley that separates the tee from the green," he said. "When I checked out the distance on my GPS, it said it was 180 yards away. That's how far I usually hit my rescue club, so I pulled it out of my bag and swung away."

"It's the longest par-3 on the course. I'm usually happy if I just hit the green because the wind is usually blowing pretty good and blowing the ball across the fairway."

VanEck notified Titleist — the brand of ball he plays — after each of his aces.

"The first time they sent me a sleeve of balls, a plaque to put my hole-in-one ball in, a T-shirt and a towel," he said. "This time they sent me a nice pewter hole-in-one tag that I can hang on my bag."

VanEck, who has been playing golf for 35 years, fired a 46 for his nine-hole round.

Another Glenhurst ace

On July 13, 71-year-old Farmington Hills resident Thomas Capel aced the 146-yard 17th hole at Glenhurst Golf Course. Capel used his driver to record his second career hole-in-one.

A veteran of 40 years on the links, Capel carded an 81.



Redford's Bill VanEck poses next to the pin on the No. 2 hole at Glenhurst Golf Course, the site of his second career hole-in-one earlier this month.

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Garden City cheerleader earns coveted honor at MSU camp

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Garden City cheerleader Ashley Bowden has done everything she can to earn a once-in-a-lifetime trip to London, England.

Now the personable senior from Westland needs a helping hand from the community to make the across-the-ocean excursion happen.

Earlier this month, while competing with her teammates at a three-day camp on the campus of Michigan State University, Bowden was selected to join the Universal Cheerleading Association's All-American Team that will have the opportunity to experience a week-long tour of London beginning Dec. 26.

Only 12 percent of the eligible cheerleaders are chosen for the tour, so Bowden's achievement is definitely something to cheer about.

"Getting selected for the tour is something I've been dreaming about and working toward since I was a freshman," Bowden said. "They only select a couple of girls from each of the camps, so I've very honored to have been picked."

However, each of the cheerleaders selected must raise \$3,425 to pay for the trip, which is where members of the Observerland community can pitch in.

Bowden has set up an account at www.fundme.com, a website that helps people raise funds for worthwhile causes. Bowden has until Oct. 22 to raise the necessary funds.

To make a financial pledge, visit the website and type in "Ashley Bowden" in the search bar at the top of the page. You will then be



Garden City senior cheerleader Ashley Bowden recently earned a trip to London, England, after performing at a Universal Cheerleading Association camp at Michigan State University.

directed to the page she has established.

Of all the sights Bowden anxiously anticipates visiting in London, Buckingham Palace tops her list.

ewright@hometownlife.com

SPORTS TRYOUTS

14U Livonia Longhorns

The 2015 14U Livonia Longhorns travel baseball team will be holding tryouts from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 9-10 at Bicentennial Field No. 8 in Livonia.

The team plays 20-24 games in the KVBSA, plus three or four tournaments. For more information, contact head coach Joe Bush at 734-306-4189.

10U Livonia City Thunder

The Livonia City Thunder travel baseball organization has announced the addition of a 10U team beginning with the 2015 season.

The head coach of the 10U team will be Phil Henriksen.

Tryouts will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, and 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3.

All tryouts will be at Bicentennial field No. 5 in Livonia. Players are asked to arrive 15-30

minutes early for registration.

The season will be composed of entry into the KVBSA (15-18 games) and into six to eight competitive weekend tournaments.

For more information, contact Henriksen at s8henriksen@yahoo.com.

11U Livonia Stars travel baseball

Head coach Matt Fournier will be holding tryouts for the 11U Livonia Stars travel baseball team 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, and Sunday, Aug. 10, at the Livonia Franklin High School baseball field.

This will be a travel team that will be playing games in the KVBSA and three or four tournaments.

Players can not turn 12 before May 1, 2015, in order to be eligible.

For more information, contact Fournier at mattfournier22@sbcglobal.net or at 734-968-0499.

GRIDIRON

Continued from Page B1

"Wow, that would be fun!" Karpiuk said, when asked to recall how the plan for the game was hatched. "I still play hockey and you can play baseball, basketball and softball at my age, but it's really hard to find a full-contact football game."

A short time after Karpiuk contacted Alumni Football USA founder and president Bob Cazet, the wheels were put in motion for the Aug. 9 clash.

"They secure the field, take care of all the liability issues, supply the uniforms and equipment and get the referees," Karpiuk said. "All we have to do is show up and be ready to play."

Prime-time preparation

Judging by the former Eagles' practice schedule, they'll be more than ready. The team has been holding twice-a-week, two- to three-hour padless practice sessions since early May at Thurston.

The alumni teams are not allowed to wear pads until the official equipment is distributed just a few hours before the game.

"We used to pass out the equipment a week before the game, but we found that most

of the injuries were happening during the practices in the days leading up to the game," Cazet said. "All the players get their equipment a few hours before the game, so they have enough time to get used to hitting again."

"There are still injuries, but they're usually repeat injuries. For instance, if you hurt your ankle sliding into second base during a slow-pitch softball game, your ankle may get sore during the football game. But first-time injuries are rare."

Never a dull moment

Cazet said the alumni games his company stages are packed with entertaining plays.

"Some of these guys may be 20 pounds heavier than they were in high school, so they may have lost a step, but they still like to hit," he said. "Once they get the pads on, something comes over them. It's like they're back in high school again."

One game in Michigan last summer provided fans with an unforgettable moment.

"One of the teams had a 61-year-old center and a 61-year-old quarterback," Cazet said. "ESPN was there to do a piece on it. The two guys went out there together for one drive. They started at their own 20 and drove the ball down the field to the opponents' half-yard line — it was like a



Redford Thurston alumni football player Josh Bobbish hauls in a pass in front of Clinton Boyd on the Thurston football field.

ED WRIGHT

"We'll keep the offense as simple as we can," he said, smiling. "I'm sure we'll try a couple trick plays, but nothing too fancy."

Greater cause

While the game will serve as an opportunity for the players to relive their high school glory days, it will also raise much-needed funds for the participating high schools' athletic departments.

The schools will receive \$5 of every \$10 ticket sold prior to Aug. 9. For more information on how to purchase tickets, visit the team's Facebook page by conducting a search for "Redford Thurston Alumni Football Game."

Tickets can also be purchased at the gate the night of the game, but all of the money will go directly to Alumni Football USA.

Each player was required to pay \$100 and sign an injury waiver before participating, but that is a small price to pay for being able to step onto a football field and play for real just one more time, Karpiuk emphasized.

"I'm sure my adrenaline by going 100 miles an hour the day of the game," he said. "What former high school football player wouldn't want a chance to play another game?"

17-play drive — but they fumbled the snap and the other team recovered. Even though they didn't end up scoring, it was a pretty amazing thing to watch."

Travis Farkas last played in a game on the Thurston football field in fall 2001, but the still-fit 2002 grad was flinging dead-on spirals to teammates during an hour-long practice Thursday night.

"I'm excited about playing in a real game again; all of the

guys out here are," Farkas said. "We all signed up for positions we wanted to play, but we all have secondary positions we can fill in at. Most of the guys will get to play the positions they played in high school, but not always. I'll be playing some quarterback, even though I never played quarterback in high school."

The Eagles printed up a playbook for the big game, but Farkas admitted it's not overly thick.

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MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Crusaders land local prep standouts

Madonna University men's soccer coach Mark Zathay announced four new recruits for his squad in preparation for the 2014 season.

Zathay has signed Strahinja Ljubevic, Ryan Schifano, Hayden Steinmen and Jeff Wielczopolski to letters of intent to continue their academic and athletic careers at MU this fall.

"I am excited about our recruiting class thus far," Zathay said. "I feel like last year I kind of got in late and passed the open window and we did what we could with the resources we had and the timing and I thought it worked out pretty well."

"I am excited about this year. I felt like I had more time to put a group together and we have more impact players coming in."

A forward, Ljubevic (Farmington Hills/Walled Lake Central) comes to Madonna after a record-setting career at Walled Lake Central. Ljubevic finished third in the Vikings' record book for goals in a single season and second in the single-season points list.

A two-time all-district and all-Kensington Lakes Activities Association selection, Ljubevic earned all-state honors as a senior last fall while leading Central to its second straight district title.

"Strahinja is going to be an impact kid for us," Zathay said. "He's a dangerous attacking player who comes from a good pedigree. He possesses a tremendous vision and skill and we are going to rely on him early."

Schifano (Livonia Stevenson) is one of two Livonia products Zathay signed. A forward, Schifano played under former MU assistant

coach Ken Shingledecker in his final two seasons as a Spartan while earning all-district, all-region, all-area and all-state honors as a senior.

He led Stevenson to three straight Livonia city championships while serving as a team captain.

"Ryan is a neat kid and I used to coach him on the club side," Zathay said. "A local product out of Stevenson, he's good on the ball, but will have to adjust to the speed of the college game. I know he will do that. He's a great kid from a great family and we are happy to have him."

Steinman is the second Livonian. A defender, Steinman earned a pair of all-KLAA and all-district selections as a junior and senior before capping his career at Livonia Franklin with all-region and all-state honors last fall under former Crusader and current Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos.

"Hayden is another local player out of Franklin with great physical assets," Zathay said. "He's a warrior in the back line with a great work rate and passion. He's going to be a good player for us, for sure."

Rounding out the quartet is Wielczopolski, a Canadian goalkeeper. Wielczopolski (Windsor, Ontario/Holy Name Catholic) led his team to a Windsor Essex County Secondary School Athletic Association championship in 2013, posting a shutout in the finals and earning the Knights a spot in the provincial championship.

The 2014 season kicks off for the Crusaders with an exhibition match Aug. 12 at Jackson Community College.

Golf outing benefits WMU scholarship fund in memory of young Plymouth woman

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Molly and Mark Burgett still celebrate the birthday of their late daughter, Alexandra.

They open gifts at Christmas that bear her name as the giver.

And for the past two years the Plymouth couple has continued to share their daughter's love of tailgating by celebrating homecoming at Western Michigan University, where Alex was awarded a posthumous degree in 2012.

But the Burgetts have always wanted to do more, to give back in Alex's name. This year, two years after the WMU senior was killed in an auto accident, they plan to raise scholarship funds through a golf outing.

The event is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, at Washtenaw Country Club, 2955 Packard Road, Ypsilanti. It includes a shotgun start, dinner, music by the Dale Hicks Band and a silent auction.

Tickets are \$140 for golf and dinner, \$80 for golf only and \$60 for dinner only. Hole sponsorships are \$100 and business sponsorships are \$250.

"We wanted to try to do something last year, but we weren't ready. It was too soon," said Molly Burgett. "The process of doing it is so all-consuming of your emotional strength. Even now sometimes I want to just quit, but it's becoming easier. We've gone to grief counseling and we have made a lot of friends who lost their children. It's a closely knit group."

Athletic, busy

Alex, a 2007 Salem High School graduate, was the second of three daughters. She played tennis and was the volleyball statistician while in high school and enjoyed recreational soccer.

"She was a huge football fan (at WMU) and she loved to tailgate and get together with friends. She was always busy," Burgett said.

Alex was enrolled in the College of Health and Human Services, pursuing a degree in



Alex (left), Lauren, Molly, Mark, and Madeline Burgett of Plymouth

interdisciplinary health sciences.

"She worked with a non-profit company in Kalamazoo and went into group homes and worked with children that had shaken baby syndrome and cared for people with special needs," her mother said. "She had two internships she had signed up for. One was with Muscular Dystrophy in Grand Rapids and the other was with Residential Opportunity Inc."

She never got a chance to start her internship. Another motorist crossed the center line and hit her car head on in May 2012, Burgett said. The car spun and was hit by another vehicle.

"Everyone was fine except Alex," Burgett said. Her daughter was 22 when she died a week after the accident.

Helping others

The family donated several of Alex's organs for transplant. A 14-year-old girl received her heart.

"We've met the young girl who has her heart. In fact, she and her family are coming to the golf outing."

Money raised at the event will go to the Alex Burgett Scholarship Fund to help students in financial need at WMU.

"The reason we're doing this is we want to carry on her legacy and keep her memory alive and because Western was so great with us," Burgett said, explaining that the university held a separate ceremony for Alex's posthumous graduation. "They had a ceremony just for us."

For more information about the golf outing, call 734-454-5739. Or email markburgett@yahoo.com.



Alex Burgett graduated posthumously from Western Michigan University. Her family plans a golf outing to raise money for a scholarship in her memory.

Learn about lint: Plugged dryer vent line needs repair

I received an email from Kit who informed me that the heating element in the electric dryer needed replacing and I was asked if the dryer sheet which covered the interior vent could have caused this problem. My reply was right to the point with a resounding YES. Those sheets which are sold by the millions can certainly be a leading cause for electric elements in clothes dryers to overheat and burden a consumer with a costly repair. They are used to prevent static cling and give your clothes a fragrance associated with laundry fresh. They should be removed after every use or simply not used at all.

Inside the dryer drum there is a grate on the outer wall which allows the air to move through to the vent line exhaust. If the sheet covers that grate, the air will have a difficult time getting out of the



Joe
Gagnon
APPLIANCE
DOCTOR

drum and the heating element will short cycle continuously and the element will overheat causing it to break. In simple engineering lingo it means that all components in a clothes dryer take a severe beating when air doesn't move through a dryer the way it was designed.

That lack of proper air movement is certain to take years off the life span of a clothes dryer. Take a homeowner's complaint of the dryer taking too long to dry a load of clothes. I can tell you that 95 percent of these calls are attributed to a dryer vent line that is plugged up with lint or the vent line itself is kinked. I

urge every person reading this to investigate the vent line and make sure it is absolutely clean. Get a leaf blower, disconnect the vent line and blow the line to the outside. This should be done every six months and I guarantee you will save money on each load that you dry and your dryer will last a long time.

Glasses that shine

I continue to get inquiries from consumers about the dishwasher leaving glasses with a white film that won't come off. It's worth repeating some of what I've written before.

Just a few years ago, the detergent manufacturers removed the phosphates from their products. This was another one of those moves to save the environment and one where consumers didn't have a clue it was happening. There is

a product out there that will take care of this problem and I know that it is available at the Meijer stores. It is called Lemi Shine and works very well.

I know some people add TSP to their container of detergent and that works just as well, but may be against the law. What law, I don't know, but I discovered this problem by living the experience myself. My darling Valorie told me that our new dishwasher was not doing the job. I pulled some glasses from the cupboard and they were covered with this white film. I took those glasses and boiled them in a large pot of water and there is no way I could get that film removed.

I researched the subject and found out that Gordon Foods was selling a detergent that still contained phosphates. I purchased several big boxes until they ran out of stock and then switched to the Lemi

Shine. I would never admit to ever using a half cup of TSP because that is against the law. To that point, it should be unlawful for a detergent manufacturer to make this switch without properly informing the public that buys their products. I know that many Americans purchased a new dishwasher because of this problem and they didn't even need a new one. Those people spend millions of dollars on advertising to get you to buy their product but they don't have the heart to properly educate you on a simple change to their formula. Shame on them. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

Citizens with special needs benefit from Gentle Teaching method

In my work, over the past 30 years with individuals who have mental and physical challenges of developmental disabilities, I have met some of the happiest people that I have known.

Developmental disabilities may include Down syndrome, autism, birth injuries causing mental impairments, to name a few.

In part, in response to the closing of Michigan's state institutions, communities now include "special needs citizens" in supervised group homes, family homes, and supportive independent living facilities. In Oakland County, such folks reside under the care of the Oakland-Macomb Regional Center. The facility services more than 5,000 indi-



Len
McCulloch
OUR MENTAL HEALTH

viduals who need physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational and socialization therapy, family support, and medical/psychiatric management.

Gentle Teaching

Gentle Teaching is a method of relating to other people aspired to by a Dr. John McGee for more than 30 years. The Oakland-Macomb Center is staffed with professionals trained in this method.

The principals of Gentle Teaching focus on four essential areas. These principals are

safety, being cared about, being able to be caring, and being engaged in the world.

Caregivers of the developmentally disabled not only need to ensure that those they serve are safe but also that they feel cared about. This can lead to the development of feelings of caring for others and to active engagement with their immediate surroundings and their world at large. These four components of Gentle Teaching are paramount in establishing trust, socialization, behavioral management, and building of self-esteem in people who are lacking the personal resources to supply themselves with these basic elements of survival.

Tricia Tate, a social worker with the Oakland-Macomb

Regional Center, said "Our approach to providing services is rooted in the philosophy of Gentle Teaching which promotes human interdependence, community and companionship."

She told me "This is a positive, simple practice that reminds us to treat others how we ourselves want to be treated. It is an approach that emphasizes the importance of people being connected with one another. By helping to create an environment of caring and safety, we can then build on that and help bring more meaning and positive relationships into the lives we serve."

Special methods, special people

How wonderful it is that members of our community are able to be regarded as deserving of treatment which embraces the practices of Gentle Teaching.

If you have family members who have the special needs of those with developmental disabilities consider calling the Macomb-Oakland Regional Center and ask for the Gentle Teaching Institute. The number is 248-276-8000.

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, brain injury, traumatic stress, addiction, and social work. He can be reached at 248-474-2763, Ext.22.

Start early for good oral health habits

You may wonder whether it's important to take care of your child's first teeth, which will fall out in early childhood. However, healthy adult teeth start with healthy teeth during childhood. That's why starting infants off with good oral care can help protect their teeth for decades to come.

A baby's 20 primary teeth are already present in the jaw at birth. Baby teeth that begin coming through the gums around six months help set the stage for future smiles by keeping space in the jaw for adult teeth. The American Dental Association recommends that parents take children to a dentist no later than their first birthday and then at intervals recommended by their dentist.

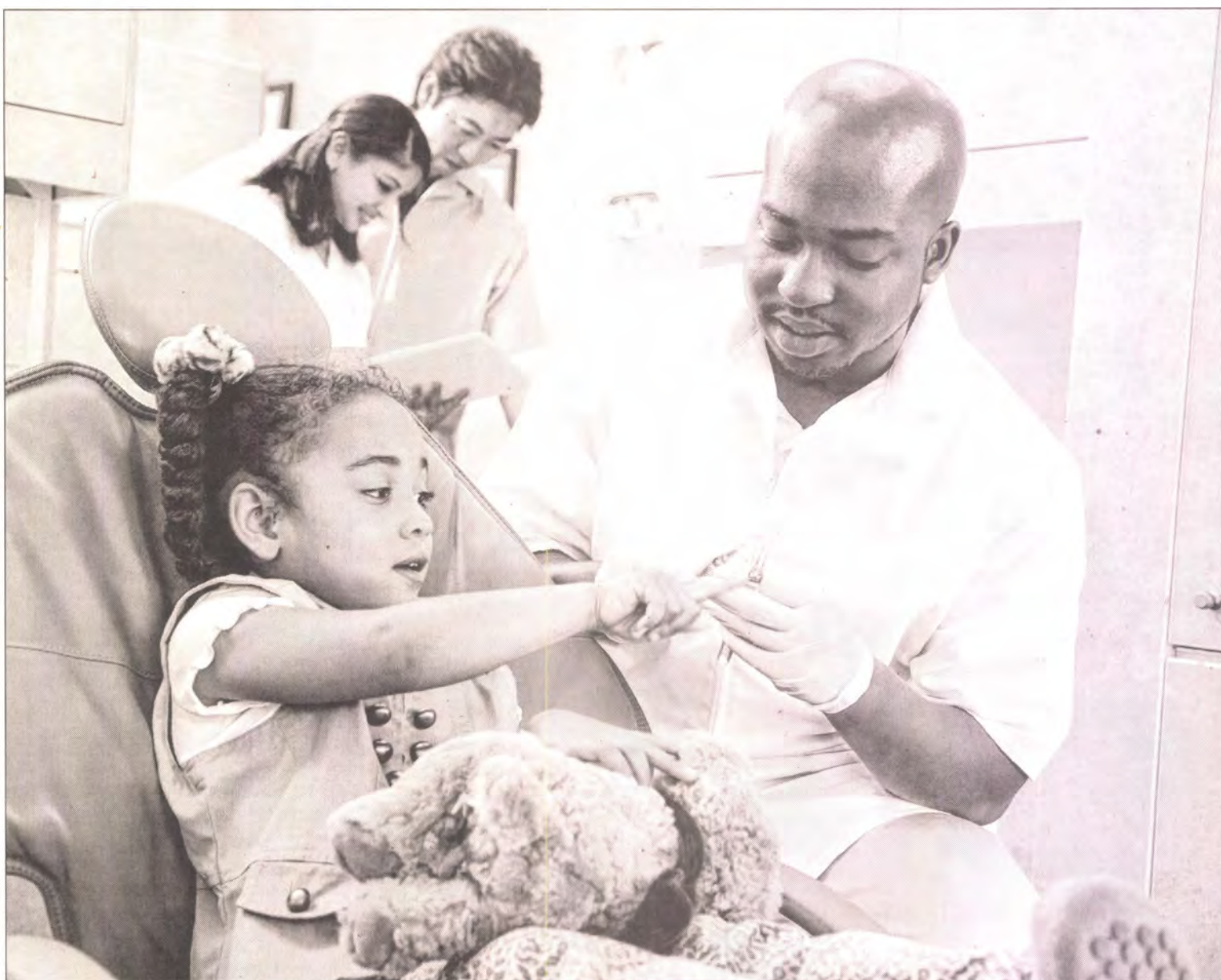
To help ensure you are well prepared to provide your little one a lifetime of good dental health, the experts at Ameritas offer this information about the leading oral health concerns for youngsters:

» **Cavities.** Early childhood caries (cavities) is the No. 1 chronic disease affecting young children. It is five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever. Tooth pain keeps many children home from school or distracts them from learning.

Consumption of sugary foods, soda, juice or energy drinks increases the risk for tooth decay and gum disease, so minimizing these items is an important aspect of dental health. It's also important to always brush teeth twice daily for two minutes and floss once a day.

Another option to protect children's teeth is sealants, which act as barriers to cavity-prone areas. They are applied to the chewing surfaces of the molars after the teeth erupt and are completely above the gum. Both primary and permanent teeth can benefit from sealants.

» **Sports injuries.** Mouth



Good oral health habits start in early childhood. GETTY IMAGES/FICKR RF

guards can help protect children from a dental emergency. They should be worn whenever children participate in sports and recreational activities. Mouth guards cushion blows that can otherwise cause broken teeth, injuries to the lips and face, and even jaw fractures. Mouth guards are available at many retail stores or may be custom-made by a dentist.

» **Jaw and bite problems.**

Malocclusion, or bad bite, is a condition in which the teeth are crowded, crooked, out of alignment or the jaws don't meet properly. This may become particularly noticeable between ages 6-12, when a child's permanent teeth are developing.

If not treated early, a bad bite can make it difficult to keep teeth and gums clean where teeth are crooked or crowded, increasing the risk

for cavities and gum disease. Bad bites can also affect proper jaw development, making protruding teeth at risk for chips and fractures. It can also affect eating and speaking, and make some teeth more likely to wear abnormally or faster than those that are properly aligned.

Teaching children good oral hygiene habits early is a simple way to create a lifetime of happy, healthy smiles. Remem-

ber, modeling your own good oral hygiene habits not only reinforces your advice, it improves your own dental health.

For more information on children's dental health, visit the dental section at www.ameritasinsight.com, where you also can find out how recent health care reforms affect dental insurance.

Courtesy of Family Features

Summer Tips for Your High School Athletes From A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Szczecienski
Sports Medicine

As summer begins to wind down, many high school student athletes are busy preparing for the upcoming competition of a new school year. Likewise, "Dr. Stan" Szczecienski, Clinical Director of GCH's Center for Sports Medicine, believes parents should be actively involved as they collectively enter one of the most important chapters in their children's lives. Here, Dr. Stan offers a few valuable tips to ensure a safer and more productive season for your young athlete.

The first thing I tell every parent is to show an interest in your teen's activities, attend games and actively participate. It may seem rather obvious, but while many teens are trying to separate themselves from their parents, it is still important the child knows you care. Everyone can benefit from positive reinforcement, even when they say they don't want or need it.

Get to know the coaches, other players and parents. I've often heard that the quality of a person's life is determined by the quality of their relationships. This has proven to be true over and over, especially in team sports. Knowing who the coach is, as well as who the other parents, is the first step to building a mutually supportive community.

Encourage sleep and emphasize good nutrition. Many student athletes do not get enough sleep on daily basis, which can have a negative impact on recovery and performance. Athletes should be getting at least seven hours of sleep a night, but eight is better. Supportive parents should acknowledge their teen's need for sleep, encouraging the performance-enhancing benefits of getting a good night's rest. Teenagers are also often addicted to sugar in some shape or form. As with sleep, parents can challenge everyone (including themselves) to keep a personal food journal for one week, while monitoring body weight, mood and energy levels and recording it at the end of the day. Recording the effect of Apple Jacks vs. a vegetable omelet can help motivate an athlete to take action. Also, make sure your athlete is drinking plenty of water or sports drinks for hydration.

Get a physical and functional movement screening for your student athlete. Most athletic programs require a pre-participation physical examination prior to the start of a season. If a teenager has had a history of previous injury or physical inactivity, one of the best investments parents can make is to schedule a functional movement screening with a certified fitness professional. This type of physical examination will evaluate blood pressure, height, and weight, administer a functional movement screening to examine dynamic balance, stability, and range of motion, to identify where an athlete may be developing compensatory movement patterns.

Have a Baseline Concussion Test performed by a qualified medical professional before the season begins. The testing allows for a normal or pre-injury test comparison in the event an athlete receives an injury during the season. This testing becomes especially important for athletes who participate in contact sports such as football, soccer, and rugby, because of the potential for receiving blows to the head.

Read more about the importance of Baseline Testing online, in the 2014 Summer Issue of GCH's Health Generations magazine at GCH.org. If you would like to schedule an appointment with Dr. Stan at the GCH Center for Sports Medicine, call 734.261.3778.

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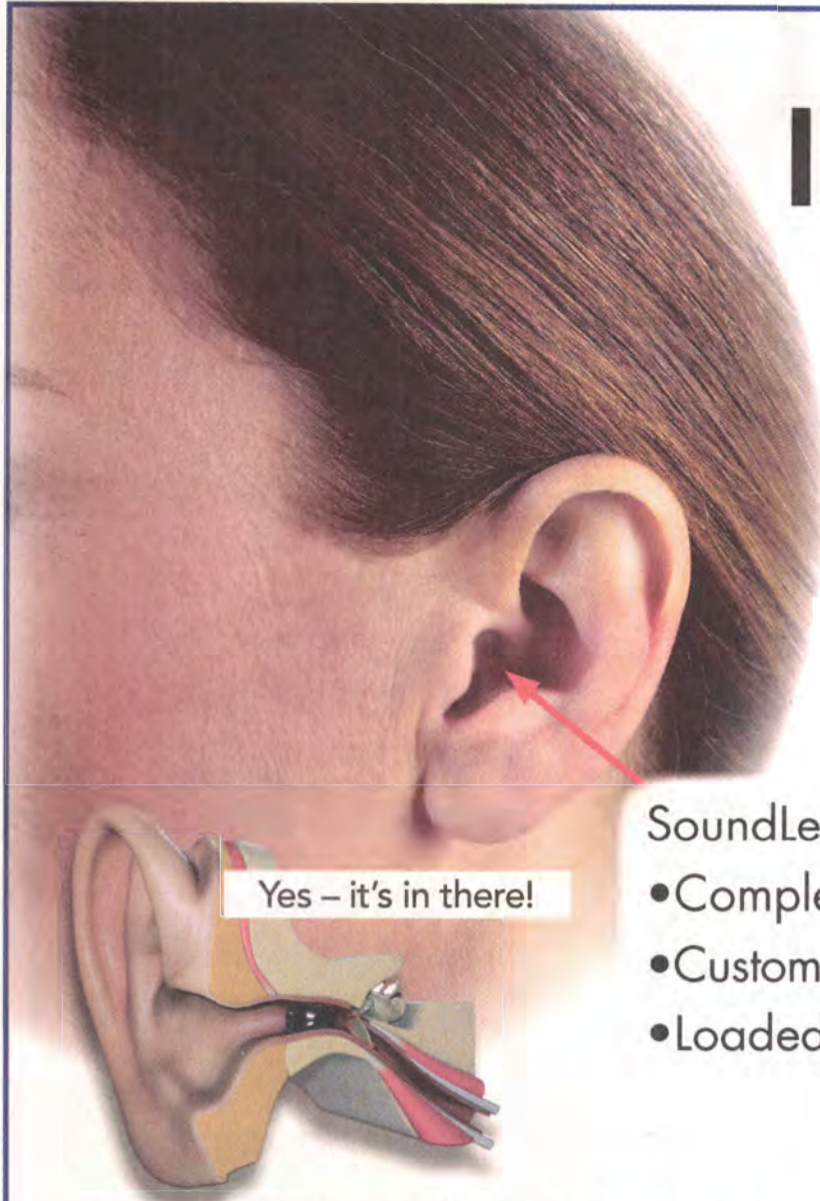
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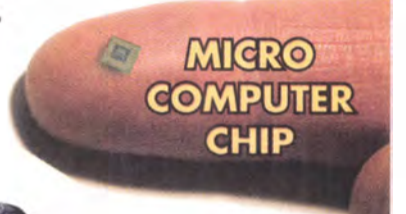
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Dr. Rowe received her bachelor degrees in linguistics from the University of Michigan in 1990, and Michigan State University in audiology and speech science in 1995. In 1999 she completed her master's degree in speech and audiology from Michigan State University. She began her career as a medically based clinical audiologist in 1999, all while completing her doctorate in audiology from The University of Florida.

Dr. Rowe has 15 years of prior clinical experience. She's eager to attend to the needs of her patients and become a greater part of the community she grew up with by offering a complete variety of audiologic needs.

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JOBS

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By Justin Thompson,
CareerBuilder Writer

"Looking for a job is a full-time job." It's a phrase we've all heard, and for the most part, it's true. Searching for a job that you like, going on interviews, waiting for the call back, it's some of the most emotionally draining and time-consuming work you'll have to do.

One of the most important things one can do while hunting for a new job is to set a schedule and stick with it. For those who are employed in a job that they hate, it can be frustrating to go home and then spend more time trying to find a new job. All you do is go to work and then go home to do more work. But those without a job can find it even more frustrating, because of the endless time spent waiting, and the diminishing bank balance.

So we asked job seekers for their tips on how they've dealt with the job search and what they've done to provide structure to their day. Here's what they had to say:

The early bird:

Don't waste your days sleeping. Get up early and set "office hours." By acting as if you're going to work, you're actually getting into a mindset that will put you on task.

Set the scene:

Be sure to remove yourself from all distractions when doing your job search. It's one thing to go to a coffee shop to do your research, but when you start to write your cover letters and resumes, you need to concentrate on the task at hand. Don't be afraid to write in the morning and then revise in the afternoon, give yourself some time to edit and craft the messages you're sending to potential employers.

Get specific:

The "scattershot" method of applying for anything and everything usually leaves no one feeling good. Be specific about what kind of job you are looking for,



A day in the life of an avid job seeker

what areas you want to focus on, what skills you have and what skills you want to develop in a new job. Learn about companies in your area that have these jobs, see what opportunities they may have, and connect with recruiters or experts in the field through resources such as LinkedIn.

Follow up:

For many job seekers, the concern is the resume black hole. Because employers receive so many applications for each job opening, it helps to set follow-up calendar reminders so you know when to reach out to a company you've applied to if you haven't heard back. That way, you'll know where they are in the process or if the position was filled.

Set output goals:

How many resumes do you want to send out per week? Make a number and stick to it, but be realistic. Don't say 250, because you will only make yourself

miserable. Focus on a manageable goal.

Practice your pitch:

It's always important to sell your skills and your desired career opportunity in under a minute. Instead of focusing on day-to-day abilities, think big picture and sell your value.

Research:

If you spend more time doing homework on companies you want to work for, you'll spend less time applying for jobs in which you may not have a real interest. Remember that a job description only tells you so much. Your job could be perfect, but the company's values could be in direct opposition to your personal values. Get to know the company via social media and through its corporate website.

Sabotage:

If you're employed and want out of your current situation,

don't look for jobs while at your job. That's asking for trouble, and a pink slip is likely to follow. You'll have to make time outside of your job to dedicate to your job search. If you're unemployed, don't sell yourself short in a cover letter by telling your entire story, because employers don't care. Again, sell your value upfront, and the details can be filled in during the interview process if needed. Also, if you're unemployed and searching for a job, make sure that your family respects your time to do so.

Use every tool:

Use all the assets at your disposal; job boards, social media, recruiters, aggregators, etc. Diversifying your search method will help produce diverse results. Think beyond your traditional job-search methods and challenge yourself to find new ways to connect with employers or other job seekers.

Keep your humor:

Looking for a job is tiresome and can be truly depressing, but don't let it get the best of you. Remember that you are defined by more than your job or career, and while you want to be a productive member of society, your job isn't the only way to do so. Get out and see family and friends, try to stay active by exercising and eating healthfully, and keep your frustration and negativity to a minimum, especially in social media. By having a positive attitude, you're more easily able to broach the sensitive topic with others who are employed and could help you in your job search.

Justin Thompson is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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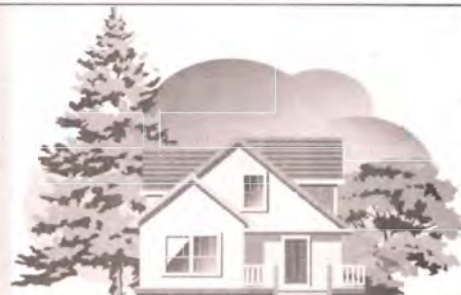
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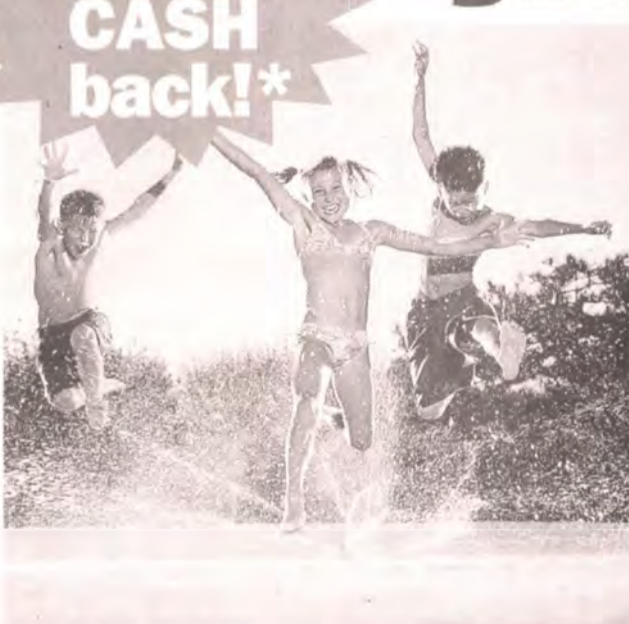
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