SUMMER VEGETABLES COME TO LIFE WITH HERBS, SPICES FOOD, B10



Westland acquires foreclosed properties

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Westland has acquired 16 tax-foreclosed properties, including a dozen blighted properties to be demolished in Norwayne.

The properties were not purchased after two auctions, which allowed the city to pick up the properties without having to pay the back taxes.

The process started last year when Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell and Deputy Director Rick Gowan visited each Westland property on the tax foreclosure list. There were 93 properties on the list.

"We made a recommendation to the mayor's office on which parcels would be good to acquire," Campbell said. Acquired for demolition were 2612

Cascade, 33810 Casco Court, 31502 Al-

pena, 31808 Shiawasssee, 31836 Bay, 32321 Kalamazoo, 33385 Belding, 32459 Muskegon, 33622 Calumet, 2018 Edgerton, 2120 Elbridge and a vacant lot on Muskegon.

Additionally, three parcels at 32404 Leelanau and a duplex at 32409-32458 Muskegon were acquired for rehabilitation

The remaining property at 35531 Booth was acquired for rehabilitation by Habitat for Humanity.

Same concept

"Our Neighborhood Stabilization Program money is virtually all spent," Campbell said. "We still call it NSP. It is the same concept but not the same fund-

ing." The council has also approved acquisition of a quadplex at 32511-13-15-17 Lydia for \$5,000. That property, which

will be demolished, had gone through Fannie Mae foreclosure.

"The demolitions will be done this year. We require the rehabilitations to be completed in 90 days," Campbell said. "Except for Habitat since they are working with volunteers."

A vacant property at 31512 Allegan Court, where a home had already been demolished, was sold for \$500 to the neighboring homeowner.

'We had acquired the property in 2010. The adjoining property owner had taken care of the property since the demolition," Campbell said. "He didn't have the funds to acquire the property. Now he does.'

Ten additional properties had been listed to be acquired by the city for rehabilitation and resale by Home Renewal Systems. Those properties were not picked up due to Home Renewal

Systems focusing instead on new construction, specifically construction of the new Clyde Farms subdivision.

Sports, B1

Out for auction

Instead, those 10 properties will be available at auction to the general public. More private buyers are acquiring the tax-foreclosed properties, Campbell said.

There were 118 Westland properties on the tax foreclosure list last year, Campbell said, but after two auctions only six remained unsold.

Along with removal of blighted buildings, Campbell said the upcoming move of the Dorsey Center into the closed Jefferson-Barns school will further efforts to make Norwayne a community of choice.

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Storm erodes soil under approach to Henry Ruff bridge

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Westland and Wayne experienced flooded streets and basements after Monday's storms. But what might turn out to be the biggest impact of the storm is at the Henry Ruff bridge north of Michigan Avenue. High water has washed away soil under the southern approach to the bridge.

"The water was so high the banks were starting to wash away. A hole opened up. The hole is on the Inkster side of

the street, but we put a steel plate over it," Westland Mayor William Wild said.

Working with Inkster officials, Wild said the city was waiting for the water to recede to determine the extent of damage to the base under the bridge approach. The bridge, which is still open for traffic, is concrete.

"We may need to strengthen the bank," Wild said. "The bridge is solid. It is old and we have made some investment in

See STORM, Page A2

Megan Cser, 13, works on the Norwayne Historic District logo. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WINDOW DRESSING

Vacant storefront becomes canvas for Norwayne murals

By Sue Mason Staff Write

It's been a long time since there was anything to look at in the windows of the old Grogan's Shoes and Bootery in Norwayne.

But that's changed, thanks to the Norwayne Community Citizens Council, Wayne-Westland art teacher Paul Chisholm and his art students and the Youth Group from Ss.

Simon and Jude Parish.

Over the course of two days, Chisholm and the youth painted two murals on the boardedup windows and reproduced the Norwayne Historic District logo on the door. Chisholm outlined the pictures onto the wood using an old overhead projector.

The photos come from those posted on the You Know You Are From Norwayne (Westland) Michigan Facebook page started by Hank Johnson, president of the Citizens Council. One dates back to 1940s and is a photograph of the children of Garden City dentist

See MURALS, Page A2



The wall in the Norwayne community is transformed by the kids and adults working on the mural.



Tom Baryo of Westland stands on the deck in Goudy Park Tuesday morning near the rain-swollen Rouge River. SUE MASON

Judge recuses self, HalloWayne case to move to different court

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

A preliminary examination for a Wayne man charged with stealing from the HalloWayne event was delayed Tuesday so it could be assigned to a different court.

The reassignment will be made after Wayne 29th District Court Judge Laura Mack recused herself from the probable cause hearing on six felony charges against Christopher Sanders.

Politically active in Wayne, Sanders was an unsuccessful council candidate in 2011 and had applied for a recent council vacancy but withdrew due to the pending criminal charges.

Free on \$1,000 personal bond, Sanders, 45, is charged with larceny by conversion, embezzlement as an agent or trustee and embezzlement from a non-profit charitable organization, all five-year felonies, along with forgery, uttering and publishing or writing bad checks and identity theft. The charges specify the amount of money in question is more than \$1,000 but less than \$20,000.

A not guilty plea was en-

See RECUSED, Page A2



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Court: Judge correct to throw out felony charges against former McCotter staffers

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled a decision by a Wayne County circuit judge to throw out felony charges against two former staffers for then-U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter was correct.

The court ruled Wednesday the decision to dismiss two charges of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner filed against Livonia resident Paul Seewald and Farmington Hills resident Don Yowchuang was the correct decision by circuit Judge Margie Braxton.

The case, which stemmed from the petition fraud scandal two years ago that left McCotter off the ballot and led him to resign his position in Congress, had been appealed by the state attorney general to the court of appeals in 2013.

The three-judge panel ruled 2-1 that the charge was improperly levied on the pair, saying the act they were accused of signing nominating petition forms when they

themselves did not circulate the forms - was illegal in nature and did not fit the charge of conspiring to do a legal act in an

illegal manner. "The prosecution attempts to circumvent this rather obvious fact through citation of defendants' admission that their ultimate goal was to place McCotter's name on the primary ballot, which the prosecution says, in and of itself, is a 'legal act.' This expands the scope of the conspiracy beyond all reason," the majority ruling reads. "It

also ignores the fact that had McCotter actually been placed on the ballot, it would not have been a 'legal act' at all, because it would have been made possible by defendant's defrauding of the Secretary of State.'

Secretary of State officials determined the petitions had some photocopies of signatures on them and disqualified enough signatures that left McCotter off the ballot in 2012 to represent the U.S. House 11th District, which includes portions of western

Wayne and western Oakland counties. McCotter resigned, prompting state officials to call a special election to fill his seat for less than two months, an election won by Democrat David Curson of Belleville.

Current U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio, R-Milford, went on to win the full two-year term in the general election. He was defeated Tuesday in the Republican primary by Birmingham Republican Dave Trott.

Seewald and Yowchuang pleaded no contest to

several counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator in 2012. They were sentenced to community service and placed on probation.

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The two were originally bound over on the felony charges out of Livonia's 16th District Court after a preliminary examination that saw McCotter, who had resigned from Congress, testify. Several staffers working for the Livonia Republican were charged as a result. McCotter was not charged.

MURALS

Continued from Page A1

Dr. Francis "Doc" Schmitt riding on a tricycle. Dr. Schmitt moved to Norwayne after getting out of the Navy. The other is of a young child studying.

"It was a neighborhood store that often rather than buy a new pair of shoes people would come here to get them repaired," Johnson said. "But for more than six years it's been vacant with disgusting plastic windows."

Two years in making

The idea for doing the murals surfaced two years ago, but it wasn't until money became available this year that it really started taking shape. According to Community Development Director Joanne Campbell, checking with the building's owner on possibly using the front of Grogan's for the murals got the ball rolling.

The vacant storefront is on the north side of a



Christina Wurm works from a photo to paint spokes on the tricycle wheel. PHOTOS BY BILL **BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER**

small strip mall at Dorsey and Venoy. The mail's owner had renovated the front of the mall last year, but had done nothing on the north side. When Campbell asked if they could use Grogan's for the murals, he said yes.

'Every little thing we do makes a difference in this community," Campbell said.

Harder Home Improvement put up the boards, and the citizens council provided the

paint. All that was left was to find an artist. That happened when Campbell met Christine Wurm who mentioned her son Buster's favorite art teacher.

"They asked if I was willing to help, and I said I was willing to do it," said Chisholm who teaches art Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary in Wayne and Walker-Winter Elementary in Canton. He also does art workshops out of his Westland home during

the summer.

"It was a cool opportunity to work with kids and to do something positive for the area," he said. "The things I've heard from people so far have all been positive.'

Chisholm spent two evenings to complete the tracings. Since the one photograph was black and white, the murals were done in shades of blue, black and gray to mimic the older photograph.

His summer art students worked on it last Thursday with the Ss. Simon and Jude Youth Group finishing up on Friday.

Elaine Latarski was among people who stopped and picked up a paint brush to help the



Artist Paul Chisholm works with Taylor Andrews and Emily Cser, both 10 years old.

be for them." Sisters Rachel and Emily Cser are among Chisholm's students who worked on the project. Rachel found the painting wasn't really "that hard."Emily shared her sentiments.

"I'm filling in the holes and my arm hurts

the murals are portable. If, in the future, the building is rented, they can be taken down and moved elsewhere in the community. He also was impressed by the people who had stopped by to talk about the effort. Most were encouraged to grab a brush and do a





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- Oct.22: Pelvic Prolapse Cantoro Italian Market II
- Nov. 20: Pelvic Prolapse Meadowbrook Country Club

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vouth

"I'd like to be a part of history," she said, smoothing out the edges on the tricycle mural. "This is really neat. I like to see the kids out here taking pride in what they're doing. The more we can do to inspire them, the better it will

STORM

Continued from Page A1

it."

Otherwise, Westland made it through the approximately 5-inch rainfall pretty well, Wild said.

'Missed worst of it'

"I did a tour around the city. For the most part, we missed the worst of it," Wild said on Tuesday. "We had about three dozen homes with water in the basements, including mine for the first time."

In Wayne, some streets were flooded and about 40 homeowners reported water in their basements, Wayne Assistant Department of Public Works Director Dan Hamann said.

"It (water) was pretty

RECUSED

Continued from Page A1

tered by Sanders before Mack at his arraignment. The HalloWayne

event held in October 2013 was met with complaints to council over unpaid cash prizes in a pumpkin carving contest. Subsequently, a complaint was filed with Wayne Police, who submitted a warrant request resulting in the criminal charges after their investigation.

Sponsored by Destination Wayne, operated by

because I have to raise it so high," she said. She was using a chair to reach small areas that need to be painted. "If I wasn't doing this, I'd be hanging out with my friends and painting. Art is one of my favorite subjects.'

According to Johnson,

deep on some side streets. The storm overwhelmed the system," Hamann said. "The interceptor was at full capacity."

By about 11 p.m. water had drained from the streets, he said.

Wayne has an equalization basin that holds excess storm water during rain events when the Wayne County interceptor is at or over capacity. "It did what it was

supposed to do. It is three-quarters full. About 2 million gallons were held back," Hamann said. "We didn't have to jet anything. There were no obstructions."

As required by state law, Hamann said his staff was distributing information packets, including information on filing claims over flooding, to affected homeowners.

Sanders, and the Wayne Chamber of Commerce, the HalloWayne event initially was denied permission to be held in 2013. The city council later granted approval after receiving additional information.

The 2012 HalloWayne event spurred controversy and a lawsuit filed by Sanders against Councilman Skip Monit. Seeking \$25,000 in damages, Sanders sued Monit for comments saying children were inappropriately touched by Sanders at the event. The lawsuit, still pending in Wayne County Circuit Court,

little painting.

"They engaged in conversation and have taken ownership of this," he said. "I hope that stays so it won't be vandalized."

smason@hometownlife.com Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

Water-logged truck

A Wayne-Westland fire engine housed at Station 3 on Annapolis took on water returning from a run on Monday evening and had to be towed.

"The engine was in the turn lane on in the Van Born and Wayne Road area when a semi (tractor trailer) hit the water and caused a wave," Deputy Fire Chief Patrick Harder said. "We are waiting for it to dry out. This has happened a couple of times before."

Otherwise, the storm didn't cause many problems, Harder said, adding there were a number of false alarms due to electrical equipment getting wet.

lrogers@hometownlife.com 313-222-5428 Twitter: @LRogersObserver

charges Monit's comments were tantamount to falsely labeling Sanders a pedophile.

In early 2011, Sanders had pleaded guilty in **Riverview 26th District** Court to a misdemeanor charge of providing alcohol to minors. He received one year of probation with a number of conditions, including no contact with youths involved in the incident and no unsupervised contact with minors.

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Christmas comes in July for contest winners

There's nothing better than receiving Christmas gifts in July, something O&E Media readers were eager to take part in last month.

More than 320 entered our Christmas in July contest, which asked readers to search the special section included in the July 24 edition for the hidden holiday icons scattered throughout the pages. Those with the correct number — and there were 87 who nailed it — were entered into a drawing for special prizes

The top prize winners were Bernice Del of Livonia, who won a pair of tickets to the Tony Bennett concert scheduled for Aug. 15 at Freedom Hill amphitheater in Sterling Heights; David Maaske of Livonia, who won a Cutco Paring & **Trimmer Knife Set from** Cutco Kitchen in Novi; and Linda Ross of South Lyon, who won a \$50 Meijer gift card.

A little bit about the contest:

» Of the 321 entries, 239 were mailed in, 75 came in via Facebook and seven were emailed.

» There were 14 icons hidden in the special section, starting with the cover and including the following pages: 4 (with two icons), 7, 8, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 26, 28, 34 and 37.

» Besides the 87 who correctly found all 14 hidden icons, seven entries had more than the winning number!

» The hardest icons to find? The cover, as well as pages 4 (in the entry form), 12 and 28

There were other winners of fabulous prizes

Those winning a \$25 Schakolad® Chocolate Factory gift card were

P. 4.



Cynthia Gregoski of Westland; Vivian Sokloski of Northville; Yvonne Laz of Plymouth; Katheryn Maguire of Novi; Lori Schneider of Farmington Hills; and Nancy Rhatigan of Livonia.

Those winning a MassageLuXe of Novi Spa Certificate Package for a one-hour massage or LuXe Facial plus 15minute HydroLuXe were Louise Dodt of Milford; Kathy Baumgarten of Northville; and Catherine McQuade of Canton.

Those winning an **Emagine Theatre movie** pass and a Buddy's Pizza coupon were Pamela Sheffer of Farmington Hills; Maggie Ray of Garden City; Sarah Hirsch of West Bloomfield; Lynn White Bricker of Canton; Roberta Blackmer of Redford; Lori Wackerman of Highland; Mark Tominac of Westland; Carol Crozier of South Lyon; Diane Rodemeyer of Livonia; and Catherine Basel of Westland.

Congratulations to all the prize winners and a special thanks to all who took the time to enter our contest. We hope you enjoyed a bit of Christmas in July ... and don't worry, the real thing will be here soon enough.

Western Wayne region focus of business conference

A unique gathering of chief-elected officials and business leaders from across 18 Western Wayne County communities will gather again this fall for an evening of networking and insights into the region.

The second annual Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet – presented by Bank of America and the law firm of Fausone Bohn --will be held Thursday, Sept. 25, at the Ford Motor Company Conference and Event Center in Dearborn. The inaugural event last year drew 350 people.

"This event not only provides valuable information, it is also serves as a catalyst for relationship building between business and political leaders," said Tracey Schultz-Kobylarz, Redford Township's supervisor and chair for the Conference of Western Wayne Board. "As a result of events like this, we are able to work together, blend geographical lines and put our best collective proposals forward for the betterment of the region."

The Conference of Western Wayne, an advocacy organization serving the elected leaders of the region's 18 cities and townships, is partnering with several local chambers of commerce to coordinate this program designed to build stronger municipal-business relationships in a region that represents 700,000 residents and more than 54 percent of Wayne County's tax base. The emcee will be

Mary Kramer, publisher of Crain's Detroit Business, and the keynote speaker will be renowned local economist David Sowerby, portfolio manager for Loomis, Sayles and Company in Bloomfield Hills. Sowerby will speak about economic and business trends for Western Wayne County and metro Detroit.

"It is an example for regionalizing and showcasing our attributes, talents and efforts for the good of the state, Western Wayne County, and of course the local communities we each serve," Kobylarz added.

The program is scheduled to feature the appearance of chiefelected officials from the following municipalities: Cities of Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne and Westland; Townships of Canton, Huron, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Sumpter, and Van Buren.

"The business community enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many leaders and learn more about the region during our event last year," said Dan West, president of Livonia Chamber of Commerce and a lead banquet planner. "This event had a successful first year thanks to the cooperation from our elected leaders, CWW staff, many generous companies, and fellow chamber professionals."

To reserve a seat, contact the Livonia, Westland, Plymouth or Dearborn chamber of commerce, or the Conference of Western Wayne office at 734-953-8834.

NASCAR's No. 17 to rev up in Redford

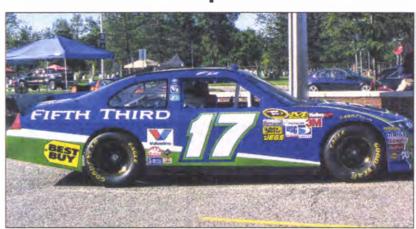
NASCAR's No. 17 car is making a pit stop in Redford.

The Ford Fusion will be at the Fifth Third Bank Redford branch, which is located at 9019 Telegraph, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fri-

day, Aug. 15. "Metro Detroit is home to thousands of NASCAR fans and we are pleased to present our car to the many NASCAR fans in Redford who do not often get to hear the roar of an authentic race car," said David Girodat, president and CEO of Fifth Third Bank Eastern Michigan.

The festivities are part of the Redford branch's first anniversary celebration.

The No. 17 Ford Fusion will be accompanied by a racing simulator, prize wheel with giveaways, special promotions and opportunities to take photos with the race car and a life size cut-out of its driver, Ricky Stenhouse Jr., who is a two-time NASCAR Nationwide Series champion and the



NASCAR's No. 17 Ford Fusion will be on display in Redford from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday at the Fifth Third Bank at 9019 Telegraph Road.

NASCAR Sprint Cup 2013 Rookie of The Year.

Fifth Third Bancorp is in the middle of a multi-year marketing partnership with Roush Fenway Racing and was the primary sponsor of the No. 17 Fifth Third Ford Fusion at the Quaker State 400 at

the Kentucky Motor Speedway in Sparta, Ky., on June 28.

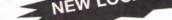
Fifth Third Bank will also be the car's lead sponsor at the Federated Auto Parts 400 at Richmond International Raceway in Richmond, Va., on Sept. 6.

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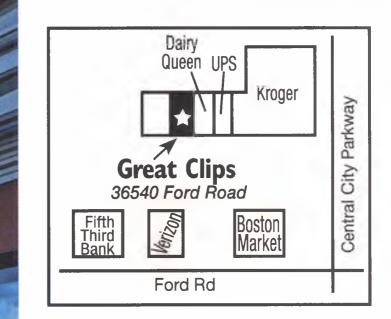


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A4 (WG) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 DUBLIC SAFETY

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Man receives prison sentence in I-96 death

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

The man who pleaded guilty to hitting two men on I-96 last fall will spend the next several years in prison.

James Johnson, 24, of Redford was sentenced to serve at least five years in prison Tuesday by Wayne County circuit judge Timothy Kenny. Johnson pleaded guilty last month to driving while license suspended causing death and driving while license suspended causing injury. The sentence, which is attached to the charge of driving with a suspended license causing death, carries a 15-year maximum prison term.

Kenny sentenced Johnson to two to five years in prison under the charge of causing serious injury. Those sentences are scheduled to run concurrently, according to online court records.

Johnson was scheduled for a jury trial July 28, but pleaded guilty that morning and his case moved on to sentencing.

Johnson was charged earlier this year after prosecutors opted to file charges related to the incident, which took place in the early morning hours of Nov. 18 along eastbound I-96 near Middlebelt in Livonia.

WAYNE COP CALLS

Police said Johnson, who was driving on the road that morning, veered on the freeway and struck two men who had gotten out of their vehicle to inspect it after having problems with the vehicle.

Daniel Davis, a 22-year-old Wayne resident, was declared dead shortly after the incident. Another man, a 22-year-old Westland resident, was injured. Johnson was not arraigned

until March as prosecutors weighed evidence on whether to file charges in the case.

Johnson received credit for 15 days served in the Wayne County Jail, and was ordered to pay more than \$700 in fees, according to online court records.

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GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

WESTLAND COP CALLS

On Aug. 10, a Canton man told police that someone had stolen the copper piping from a home he owns in the 2400 block of Ackley. He said six smoke detectors were

Copper pipe stolen

also missing. The man said he had been at the home four days earlier and returned to check when a neighbor told him someone had broken into the house. A screen was removed from a window and found bent on the ground.

Larceny from a vehicle

The registration and proof of insurance were reported stolen overnight Aug. 7 from a vehicle parked in the 400 block of South John Hix. The owner said the 2007 Chevrolet Cobalt had been left unlocked.

Larceny

On Aug. 9, a resident in the 29000 block of Eton told police someone had stolen the air conditioning unit from her home. She said she last saw the unit July 30. The officer noted the wires had been cut and the unit removed.

Vandalism

A resident in the 36000 block of Avondale

told police Aug. 7 that her husband had backed their 1997 Mercury car out of the driveway and parked it on the street about 8 a.m. When she returned from walking the dog about 11 a.m., she said her daughter-in-law pointed out the rear driver's side window had been smashed out.

Hit and run

A Farmington Hills woman told police she was at Red Lobster, 5774 N. Wayne Road, Aug. 8 when someone struck her 2011 Hyundai Sonata. The front bumper and hood were reported damaged.

» On Aug. 9, a Marion Township woman told police she had parked in an open field at Wallace and Wayne Road while she went into Westland Lawn and Garden. When she came back, she said she noticed someone had hit her maroon 2013 Chevrolet Camaro, transferring white paint onto her bumper.

» A resident in the 600 block of South Norma told police Aug. 10 that someone had struck his 2003 Ford pickup truck while it was parked on the street. The officer noted minor damage to the driver's side front fender and mirror.

By LeAnne Rogers

Break-in

Copper plumbing, a washing machine and electric stove valued at \$2,650 were reported stolen Aug. 4 from a home in the 4000 block of Hayes. The owner told police he had arrived to inspect the house and found the rear door knob broken off. He said he discovered the missing appliances and water on the basement floor from the pipes being stolen.

Vandalism

Police were called to American Auto Sales, 33225 Michigan Ave., Aug. 9 after graffiti was spray painted on several cars in the lot.

Items missing

Police were called to a vacant home in the 5000 block of Hubbard Aug. 10 when the owner reported a refrigerator and small sections of copper pipe, valued at \$750, had been stolen.

The owner said a realtor lock box on the door had been damaged and was missing along with the house key.

A witness told police that two men had been at the home twice. When asked what they were doing, the witness said the men told her they were looking at the house

to buy it. They were reported to have been inside for about 30 minutes

before leaving. Larceny

A Wayne man told police Aug. 11 one of his employees at Dennis Mobile Homes, 34131 Michigan Ave., gave him a camper trailer in lieu of money owed. The camper, valued at \$3,500, was reportedly missing in May.

However, the man couldn't file a police report at that time since he did not have title to the trailer, which was registered in the name of a third party. He filed the report after getting the title to the vehicle.

» A resident of an apartment in the 35000 block of Sims told police Aug. 5 that someone had stolen \$200 in cash and a digital camcorder valued at \$400 from her apartment.

The items had been taken over several days, the resident said, despite her locking the doors when she leaves and having the only key. She said a surveillance system was installed in the apartment a few months ago but she has been unable to access stored videos on her computer. By LeAnne Rogers

Retail fraud

Three people allegedly worked together about 5 p.m. Aug. 5 to steal seven cans of Febreze and three bottles of Tide detergent from a dollar store at 5746 Middlebelt in Garden City, according to a police report.

A woman caught the assistant manager's eye when she reportedly headed for the front door with a bulging purse. She had nothing in her hands and didn't stop at the cash register. The manager said that she had a hard time seeing what was inside the woman's purse because there was a large scarf covering it. As she followed the

woman out the door, a man considered to be another suspect, placed his cart between himself and the first suspect. The manager reportedly saw the two put items into a dark-colored van. The manager backed away from the vehicle when a Rottweiler inside started barking at her, she said. The vehicle drove off westbound on Ford toward Westland.

The manager recognized the driver waiting in the teal-colored vehicle as someone who is a customer. She described the driver as being 60-70 years old, with blonde/

gray hair and a spiked haircut. The woman with the purse was described as a white and heavyset woman. There was no description given for the male suspect.

Break-in

A resident in the 32000 block of Donnelly reported Aug. 5 that when he spent the night elsewhere, he returned to find that his home was broken into and several items stolen.

It appeared that someone had used a pry device to break into the home. The resident said that no one knew that he wouldn't be home that night. Among the items stolen were a laptop and tablet. He found two TVs on the floor.

Fraud

An 83-year-old woman came to the Garden City police station Aug. 8 with her husband to report that somebody fraudulently used their JC Penney credit card to rack up a \$2,230 charge in the Bronx, N.Y.

The woman said that she hasn't traveled there. She added that she hasn't used that credit card for a long time and never charged anything with that high dollar amount.

By Sue Buck





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Steinway Under the Stars to celebrate Songbook

The Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair will present Steinway Under The Stars, a celebration of the Great American Songbook, on Saturday, Aug. 30, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi.

The Great American Songbook spans many decades and includes some of the nation's most beloved songs and arrangements. This special Steinway Under the Stars features accomplished local musicians and vocalists, including:

Cliff Monear: A product of the Berklee College of Music, his jazz group, The Cliff Monear Trio, is one of the busiest performing rhythm sections in the Midwest. In addition to a very full private and public performance schedule as well as teaching commitments at Wayne State University, Monear is the exclusive Steinway & Sons representative for the Michigan jazz community.

Mark Randisi: When Andrea Bocelli first heard Mark Randisi sing, he believed he was listening to a Frank Sinatra recording. That's a common response, but Ran-disi is modest: "I'm flattered when people say I sound like Sinatra. I developed a love for the music and I respect those who created it.



Cliff Monear is just one of the featured performers at the new Steinway Under the Stars event at the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair this year. DAN SIEBOLD

However, I am being myself." Raised in an Italian family in Detroit, Randisi was surrounded by a passion for music. His father was a trumpet player and his grandfather an opera singer. After working in a family-owned painting business, Randisi (as Casey Kasem would say) "put down his paint brush and picked up a microphone."

Nicole New: The 28year-old Detroiter is a passionate and provocative singer, alluring crowds with her sensitivity and soulfulness as one of Detroit's premier bandleaders. Her eclectic style of singing, drawing from her early influences of performing jazz, pop, opera and musical theater has transformed into a sound all her own. The Nicole New Group is making a lasting impression at performance venues all over Michigan and beyond. Wowing fans with her rich tone and rhythmic phrasing, venues such as The Jazz Cafe at Music Hall, Cliff Bell's, London

Chop House and Steinway Jazz Cafe have become a regular stop for this energetic performer.

The signature Michigan State Fair Choir will open the show, with an energetic tribute to the grand state of Michigan and a lively introduction to Steinway Under the Stars at 8 p.m. Aug. 30.

Tickets, which include fair admission, are \$15; tables of eight may be purchased for \$100. Tickets are available at www.MichiganState FairLLC.com or at the Steinway Piano Gallery, 2700 E. Maple Road, in Commerce (www.steinway detroit.com).

Barefoot shows 'Southern Hospitality'

Barefoot Productions is cooking up a mess of "Southern-fried laughs" as it prepares for Southern Hospitality, a play officials are calling a "zany comedy" written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten.

This trio wrote last summer's sold out hit The Hallelujah Girls. Southern Hospitality will again be directed by Mike Cuba.

Southern Hospitality is a comedy about the small Texas town of Fayro, a town on its last legs. The two major businesses have closed and folks are leaving while the leaving is good. The four Futrelle sisters are not going to give up without a fight, though, and hatch a scheme to entice a salsa factory to relocate in Fayro

To do this, they invent "Fayro Days," complete with a petting zoo, a beauty contest and a huge Civil War re-enactment. Complicating matters is the plight of the young interim pastor who is likely to lose his



Lanna Collins (from left), Gary Turnquist, Barbara Bloom, Julie Evans Herbert and Griffin Burke star in Barefoot Productions' presentation of "Southern Hospitality."

home, car and pulpit unless there is a miracle. A reluctant groom, a midlife crisis and a rich, devious old aunt add to the confusion.

The cast includes Christine Steves (Woodhaven), Barbara Bloom (Novi), Amanda Photenhauer (Ann Arbor), Marion Busa (Canton), Lanna Collins (Garden City), Griffin Burke (Belleville), Gary Turnquist (Canton), Joe Arcel (Northville), Tom Hissong (Canton), Beth Duey (Northville), Terry Viviani (Westland), Betty Berryman (Canton), Julie Evans Herbert (Garden City) and Steve Cook (Canton).

The show runs two weeks only, at 8 p.m. Aug. 15-16 and 22-23 and at 2 p.m. Aug. 17 and 24. Barefoot Productions Theatre is located at 240 N. Main in Plymouth. All seats are \$15 and can be reserved by calling the box office at 734-560-1493 or online at www.justgobarefoot.com.

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Sunday, September 7, 2014 9 a.m.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital grounds 36475 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154



Mobile Registration

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Register Now!

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- Easy team registration
- B-tag chip timing
- Awards to overall and age group winners

For more information or to register visit stmarymercy.org/EmbraceLife5K

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Let your Geek flag fly Saturday at the library

For the past year, the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland has been taking part in Geek the Library, a community-based public awareness campaign.

The campaign has highlighted what people in the community are passionate about and how libraries can support them. The library is concluding its year-long campaign with a Geek the Library Finale Celebration from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16. The Finale Celebra-

tion will include a carnival atmosphere provided by Harrold's Hoppers as well as games and food.

At 2:30 p.m. the library will announce special awards for Geek of the Year in the following categories: person, family and business. At the

same time, the library will also announce the winners of their Geek Poster Hall of Fame contest — a public vote for the top 10 Geek the Library posters created for Westland's Geek the Library campaign.

Geek the Library features local education material that introduces "geek" as a verb and encourages the public to talk about what they "geek." The public awareness campaign illustrates the fact that everyone is passionate about something -- everyone "geeks" something - and that the library supports them all.

As the economic downturn slowly recov-ers, millions of Americans are turning to local libraries for educational opportunities, jobsearching resources and entertainment.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland has been dedicated to supporting Westland and neighboring communities, but it also needed a 10-year millage passage in 2012 to maintain hours and current levels of resources and programming.

While most people have visited their public library and understand its important role in their community, many do not know that local funding for libraries is heavily influenced by community members, said librarian Andy Schuck, Geek the Library campaign manager.

"This campaign has been a boon for us and the local community,' Library Director Sheila Collins said. "We have been able to get the word out about essential library services to people who may be unaware of what we do. And we were able to do it in an eyecatching and memorable

way." The library has created 33 eye-catching Geek the Library posters to celebrate the wide array of "geeks" in the community. Geek the Library posters have featured many local celebrities and public figures, including Westland Mayor William Wild, WDIV reporter and former Miss Michigan Ashley Baracy, Biggest Loser contestant Buddy Shuh, Mo Elfakir of Biggby Coffee and pizza king Lou Toarmina, as well as local patrons.

Look for a "We geek



Among the Geeks of the Month are Chris Swanson (left), principal at Edison Elementary, Jenna Mullins, principal at Wildwood Elementary and Jennifer Curry, principal at P.D. Graham Elementary, all in the Wayne-Westland School District. The principals geek the library.

you!" billboard from library staff to community members that will appear soon on Ford near Venoy.

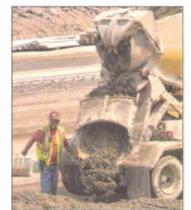
Community members can also vote for their

favorite poster at the library. The top 10 votegetters will have their posters framed. Visit the library to have a look or go to flickr.com/photos/ westlandlib/.



Miles of concrete are laid by machines like this. Mixed concrete is dumped in the path of the machine, which spreads and finishes the mix. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MDOT: I-96 still on track to open in October





Goci sentenced for making false statements to feds

A former Wayne-Westland school board trustee has been sentenced to one year of probation and fined \$1,000 as part of a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney filed in U.S. District Court in April.

John Goci, who received his sentence Thursday, had agreed to plead guilty to mak-

ing false statements to federal agents about a \$30,000 a loan obtained from Tomo Duhanaj, the owner of Bray's Hamburgers in Westland who is reportedly

an undocumented alien from Kosovo.

He also was assessed a special fine of \$100 related to the charge.

Goci

The Westland resident was arrested in August 2012 following a federal investigation into a loan sharking operation allegedly run by Duhanaj. The federal government maintained that Duhanaj loaned thousands of dollars to residents in the Albanian community between January 2007 and August 2012. The loans

ber 2013. He is currently serving 41 months in prison. He will be deported to Kosovo at the end of his sentence.

Goci's arrest came on the eve of the primary election in which he was a candidate for the Democratic nomination in the 13th Congressional District. His arrest stemmed from his telling federal agents that the interest rate on his loan was 15 percent. However, an FBI forensic accountant analyzed paperwork found in Duhanaj's car when he was arrested, and found that Goci's payments reflected interest at more than 45 percent

A 2012 indictment also included details of conversations between Goci and Duhanaj, who was the subject of FBI wiretapping. According to the indictment, Duhanaj told Goci to stick with the 15-percent interest rate story.

Goci resigned from the served on the Wayne-Westland school board May 9, saying that the decision was for his health and his family. He had been elected to the board in May 2009 to fill a board vacancy and was elected to

A constant stream of trucks dumps concrete that will become finished road surface, in a matter of minutes.

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

The homestretch of the I-96 reconstruction project is near.

More than four months into the 7-mile closure through Redford and Livonia, crews continue to work on schedule and still expect to have the freeway open no later than mid-October.

Jeff Horne, an engineer with the Michigan Department of Transportation, said the project continues to move along smoothly, with more than 44 miles of lanes complete out of approximately 58 lane-miles between Telegraph and Newburgh. He said the project is about 66 percent complete.

He said there was no official date to when MDOT would be able to announce the freeway opening day, but it would do so sometime in the fall.

"We are still on schedule," he said. "We're looking at mid-October."

The city of Livonia posted on its Facebook page that the freeway is scheduled to reopen sometime between Oct. 10-15. Horne said the freeway could reopen during that time, but no official dates have been determined.

"We're not giving out specific dates," he said. The project, which has a

\$148 million budget, has left I-96 shut down since early April. Most of the bridgework is complete, with 22 of the 37 bridges having seen "substantial" repairs made, he said. Three major bridges are slated for future repairs, including the two U-turn bridges for Farmington and Berwick, which will be full closures.

Most bridgework is expected to complete in late August or early September, Horne said

Most of the project's ramps have also been completed:

The road surface and side walls of the Beech Daly bridge are demolished, then rebuilt.



Some hand-finishing is required before the concrete sets.

Horne said 24 of 28 ramps have been worked on so far. He said construction has gone from outside lanes to inside lanes for other workers, such as landscapers, to work along the side of the freeway.

"Typically, when we built this project, we build from the outside. Now, we're building from the inside," he said. "You can see a lot of dirt in the center, because the two outside lanes are complete."

With the outside lanes being completed sooner, crews responsible for aesthetics

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along the freeway will be able to begin placing landscaping along the freeway. Horne said the plan is to complete the landscaping work before mid-October so that lane closures can be minimal afterward.

'Crews can go on the outside and do all the landscaping work," he said. "The landscaping will be done most likely before the freeway opens.'

dveselenak@hometownlife.com 734-678-6728

reportedly had exorbitant annual interest rates "usually exceeding 46 percent and sometimes exceeding 100 percent."

Duhanaj pleaded guilty to charges of making extortionate extensions of credit and money laundering on Decemhis first four-year term in 2010.

Former school board member Cindy Schofield was appointed to fill the vacancy until the November school election when a new trustee will be elected.

By Sue Mason

Adults can receive help with literacy at library

ow literacy is a problem that increases the prevalence and economic impact of socioeconomic problems like poor health and poverty. There are more than 30 million adults in the United States today who aren't able to read and write well enough to fill out job applications, understand information from a doctor or read

nutrition labels at the grocery store. Low literacy is a problem that is often passed from generation to generation -

half of children born to illiterate parents grow up to be illiterate adults.

If you're reading this article, it might not be challenging for you to perform routine tasks like reading a map, helping children with school work, writing checks or reading a medication label. However, these tasks can feel insurmountable for adults who have low literacy skills.

Many of the adults who need help don't look for it or don't know where to find it. Libraries are a natural center for literacy and often the first place people go when they are looking for help. If you know someone who needs help reading, come to the library and ask about our free Adult Literacy Program.

The literacy program at the Westland Public Library was started in 2011 and focuses on teaching basic literacy skills in a one-on-one setting to members of the Westland community and surrounding areas. The

library holds yearly training facilitated by Washtenaw Literacy every spring for anyone interested in becoming a literacy tutor and we meet with adults in need of help as they contact us throughout the year.

The Adult Literacy program asks for a year-long commitment from both tutors and adults in need of help, also called learners. The tutorlearner pairs meet at the library for two hours per week for a year and have access to a special literacy collection full of reading materials, workbooks and other tools.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a literacy tutor or learner at the library, contact us at 734-326-6123 or literacy@westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Events

Child Development Workshop: Helping Toddlers Navigate Through Conflicts, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 14 — Starfish Family Services' Early Learning Communities presents a monthly Child Development Workshop. Attend five workshops and your child is eligible to receive free books from the Imagination Library. Free childcare provided for children of participants. Register at westlandlibrary.org.kids/ events or go to www.greatstartconnect.org. Walk-ins accepted, if space allows.

Information Central was compiled by Tara Scott. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call 734-326-6123 or visit westlandlibrary.org.

hometownlife.com

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O & E Media | Thursday, August 14, 2014 (WGRL) A7



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UNDER THE BIG TOP



Eliana Munoz, 7, Zackary Jost, 4, and Bonnie Jost, 7, go for a ride on a camel. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chad Custer and 2-year-old daughter Claire head for the big top.

CIRCUS ATMOSPHERE THRILLS CROW

Amy Eschtruth of Livonia had a couple of nieces visiting from out of town and was looking for something family friendly to do with them.

When she told them the Kelly Miller Circus was in Plymouth, that was good enough for them

Eschtruth, her daughter, nieces and several friends were among the hundreds who saw the two circus performances Tuesday at Central Mid-dle School. For most of the kids, it was their first time seeing a circus

"They were really excited," Eschtruth said of her nieces. "All the different tricks (circus performers) can do with all the animals ... They get everybody involved."

The Plymouth Lions Club brings Kelly Miller



Get your cotton candy before the show begins.

— the one-ring circus that has been entertaining audiences for nearly eight decades — back to Plymouth every couple of years. The show features acrobats and elephants, tigers and flame-

eaters and the highflying trapeze artists. Plymouth Lion Fred Field, who co-chaired the event this year, said while the circus makes the Lions "a little bit" of money as a fundraiser,

the reason they bring the circus back is more community minded.

"It's more a public service than a fundraiser for us," Field said. "It's giving the Plymouth community a chance to go to a circus. How many kids get to go to the circus right in their own hometown?"

Six-year-old Camryn Vlcko knew exactly who she wanted to see under the Big Top.

"The trapeze," said Camryn, there with her mom, Pam. "They do really cool flips."

Pam Vlcko, a Salem Township resident, said she wanted Camryn to experience what she loved as a child herself.

"It's (Camryn's) first experience with a cir-cus," Pam Vlcko said. "I grew up going to the circus. I love it."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com Twitter: @bkadrich



Tom Williams and granddaughters Natalie Johns, 3, and Kendall Johns, 18 months, wait for the show to begin.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND FIFTEEN DAY WRITTEN **COMMENT PERIOD IN CONNECTION WITH** THE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (FISCAL YEAR 2013)

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Livonia has prepared a preliminary draft of the



CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 16 8/4/14

Presiding: President Godbout

Present: Bryant, Coleman, Hammons, Johnson, Kehrer, Reeves

162: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 7/21/14.
- Appr. Adidas Tent Sale in WSC parking lot 8/21-24.
- Appr. Norwayne Garden Block Part 9/13.

- Appr. Independent Carpet One "Turn the Town Teal" Campaign 9/1-30. - Traffic Control Order 2014-03: Removal of "No Left Turn" Sign at Dorsey & Venoy.

 Appr. bid for water meter replacement to ETNA Supply; amt. \$9,886,075.
 Appr. bid for sidewalk replacement to Bidigare Contractors and Domenic Gaglio Construction.

- Appr. bid for water & sewer service connection & underground maintenance work to Bidigare Contractors, Liquiforce, & Sole Construction.

- Appr. 3 yr. bid ext. for asphalt repair to Bidigare Contractors & K & B Asphalt Repair.

Appr. purchase of 6 new patrol cars for PD from North Bros. Ford.

Appr. outfitting of 6 new patrol cars for PD to ABS Storage.

- Intro Ord. 9-W-9 to amend the City Code concerning the collection of solid waste, recyclables, & yard waste.

- Appr. authorization to acquire 16 tax foreclosed properties from Wayne Co.

Adopted NSP acquisition resolution for 1 property (32511-13-15-17 Lydia).

Adopted NSP disposition resolution for 1 property (31512 Allegan Ct).
Adopted Prep. Resolution to amend Fee Schedule to include special pick-up fees for garbage collection.

- Adopted Prep. Resolution authorizing Publication of Notice & Reimbursement from Bond Proceeds for water & sewer system.

Adopted Prep. Resolution to accept Wayne Co. Hazard Mitigation Plan.
163: Appr. consideration of payment option 2 (CIP funds) for rubbish containers.
164: Set 8/18/14 as public hearing date to consider approval of application from Eugene Abdal to participate in Commercial Redevelopment Program.

165: Conf. re-appt. of S. Brantley to BRA for 3 yr. term to exp. 8/7/17. 166: Conf. re-appt.of E. Keast to LDFA for 4 yr. term to exp. 8/4/18.

167: Conf re-appt. of d. Rappaport to Planning comm. for 3 yr. term to exp. 8/5/17. 168: Conf. re-appt. of K. Sharp to Planning comm. for 3 yr. term to exp. 8/20/17. 169: Appr. checklist: \$ 5,911,731.53.

Mtg. adj. at 7:31p.m.

Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout **Council President** Eileen DeHart-Schoof, CMC City Clerk

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Published: August 14,2014

Publish Date: August 14, 2014

consolidated Plan Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the 2013-2014 fiscal year (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014) as part of the requirements for receiving funds under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The CAPER consists of an explanation of resources made available to the City during the performance period, how those resources were utilized, other actions taken and an assessment of annual performance as compared to goals and strategies outline in the 2011-2016 Consolidated Plan.

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, August 25, 2014 AT 6 P.M. in the Community Development Office at 10800 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150. Written comments will also be accepted for a period of fifteen (15) days, but not after September 10, 2014. Written comments regarding the CAPER may be directed to Tracey Emmanuel, Community Development Supervisor, Livonia Housing Commission, 10800 Farmington Road, Livonia MI 48150. Livonia, MI 48150

Draft copies of the CAPER are available for review by interested citizens between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Community Development Office of the Livonia Housing Commission (10800 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150). Copies are also available at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48154.

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or about September 27, 2014.

Publish August 14, 2013

OFFICE OF THE WAYNE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

Notice Is Hereby Given that on August 29, 2014, the Wayne County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Apportionments from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Wayne County Department of Public Services Roads Division, Central Maintenance Yard, located at 29900 Goddard Road, Romulus, Michigan, for the benefits of land within the Drainage Districts for the following:

Allen Drain Drainage District	
Black Creek Drain Drainage District	
Douglas & Kelly Drain Drainage District	
Freeman Drain (Romulus) Drainage District	
Freeman Drain (Dearborn Heights/Taylor) Drainage District	
Ganong Branch of McConologue Drain Drainage District	
Godfrey Drain Drainage District	
Gordionier Drain Drainage District	
Leverance Drain Drainage District	
McConologue Drain Drainage District	
McGee Drain Drainage District	
Reeck Drain Drainage District	
Snow Drain Drainage District	
Trouton Drain Drainage District	
Tyre Drain Drainage District	

Any property owner within the listed Drainage Districts, Road Commission representative, representative from the Michigan Department of Transportation, Township, City, Village or County wishing to be heard or wishing to inspect the computation of costs with respect to the special assessments may appear during the day and time specified.

The computation of costs for each of the Drains will also be available for review. The Drain Commissioner will have available to review the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within each of the Drainage Districts. Drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If the collection period is greater than one year, the land owner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's Office at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

You Are Further Notified that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Drain Commissioner as to the apportionment of benefits for a Drain may appeal to the Wayne County Probate Court within ten (10) days of the decisions.

Kenneth M. Kucel, P.E. Wayne County Drain Commissioner Telephone (313) 224-3620 LO-0000208452 3x8.5

James M. Inglis, Housing Director

Jack Kirksey, Mayor

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Woodward Dream Cruise rumbles into its 20th year

CITY OF BERKLEY "CRUISEFEST" FRIDAY

6-9 p.m. — Kids' Inflatable Zone (12 Mile Road/Tyler). 6:30-7:30 p.m. — Berkley's Classic Car Parade (12 Mile between Coolidge and Greenfield). 7:30-9 p.m. — Tri-Community Coalition Street Dance (12 Mile/Griffith). 7:30-11 p.m. — Live music, "The Magic Bus," Main Stage (12 Mile/Robina). All evening — Phillips Block Party featuring games, prizes, food and movies (12 Mile/

Phillips). All evening — DTE Energy Booth featuring games, prizes and fun (12 Mile/Griffith). All evening — Food court (12 Mile Road/Robina). All evening — Official Woodward Dream Cruise merchandise (12 Mile at Robina and 12 Mile at Woodward).

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SATURDAY

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Chevrolet @ the Woodward Triangle (Old Woodward, north of Lincoln).

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — WOMC live broadcast (Old Woodward near Lincoln). 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. — Birmingham Cruise Classic Car Show (Old Woodward between Merrill and Lincoln). 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. — WXYZ-TV live broadcast (near the 555 Building).

CITY OF BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP SATURDAY

Classic Car Show at Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield Hills



The view from Duggan's Irish Pub is one of the best on Woodward Avenue. NATHAN MUELLER

(36600 Woodward). Bill Wells Car Club Classic at Comerica Bank (36440 Woodward).

CITY OF FERNDALE

THURSDAY 3-9:30 p.m. — Food Court, Kids' Play Zone, Ford Built Tough, Official Woodward Dream Cruise merchandise booth (West Nine Mile). Rock'n Live Entertainment Stage: City Beat at 5 p.m.; Shout!, a Beatles tribute band, at 7 p.m. FRIDAY Noon to 9:30 p.m. — Food Court, Kids' Play Zone, Ford Built Tough, Official Woodward Dream Cruise merchandise booth (West Nine Mile). Rock'n Live Entertainment Stage: Beside The Point at 1:30 p.m.; OIM Appear at 3 p.m; Groove Band at 5 p.m; and Ages Apart at 7:30 p.m. 1-8 p.m. — 14th Ferndale **Emergency Vehicle Show (East** Nine Mile). 5 p.m. — Official ribboncutting ceremony (East Nine

Mile).

5:30 p.m. — Lights & Sirens Cruise (East Nine Mile to 11 Mile and back) SATURDAY 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. — Food court, Kids' Play Zone, Ford Built Tough, Official Woodward Dream Cruise merchandise booth (West Nine Mile). Rock'n Live Entertainment Stage: Motor Honey at noon; Lookin' Back at 2:30 p.m.; Crewsade at 5 p.m.; and Magic Bus at 7:30 p.m. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. --- 16th Mustang Alley and Ford Motor Company Showcase (East Nine Mile)

CITY OF ROYAL OAK

"Cruise In Shoes" 5K Run/ Walk, presented by First Merit Bank (Shrine Catholic High School). Chevrolet at Normandy Park. Northwood Shopping Center: Classic Car Show. Memorial Park: Jackson's Food Court and GM Performance.

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer

SOUTH OAKLAND — Royal Oak Mayor Jim Ellison remembers spending nine months planning for the first Woodward Dream Cruise and hoping people would show up.

But all his worry was for naught — 250,000 car lovers gathered on the historic highway to show off their cars and reminisce.

It's now 20 years later and the cruise remains one of the most popular summer events in metro Detroit, with more than 1 million people gathering along the 16-mile stretch of road.

Ellison admits he thought the event would lose its luster after about 10 years but, if anything, it's actually shining brighter than ever.

"It's a really unique event, and I don't know if it could be pulled off anywhere other than here," he said. "I don't think there is the culture other places; we are the Motor City. Everyone up and down here, if their dad didn't work for the auto company or grandfather didn't, then they had an uncle or cousin or someone involved in this industry.

"We are giving car enthusiasts from all over the country a venue to come and share their

LO-0000207743 4x

"It's a really unique event, and I don't know if it could be pulled off anywhere other than here." JIM ELLISON, Royal Oak mayor

passion and love for automobiles."

Greg Rassel, president of the Woodward Dream Cruise, said he likens the event to a block party or family reunion because so many faces return every year and meet in the same places.

He said the cruise has been able to maintain its popularity because of the passion of those involved.

"People have vehicles that are worthy of a museum that are still functional and they want to get out and share that vehicle with other people," he said. "This is not a static display, this is a moving, functioning display where you actually get to touch and feel these days for a day."

Berkley CruiseFest

Berkley Mayor Phil O'Dwyer believes there is no better place to get up close and personal with the hot rods than at the Berkley CruiseFest the night before.

More than 30,000 people pack downtown Berkley on 12 Mile Road from Woodward to Greenfield to watch and listen to nearly 400 cars parade down the street.

"This celebrates the automobile in a way that is elegant and extravagant," he said.

And O'Dwyer is always on the lookout for his favorite car — a late-60's Ford Torino.

"I love that car," he said. "It had muscle, was sleek and had style. I wish I had it today."

nmueller@hometownlife.com 586-826-7209 Twitter: @SOKEccentric

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2014-22 August 5, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was not held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at 8:00p.m. as it had previously been cancelled due to the Primary Election.

> Matthew K. Miller City Clerk



CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On August 19, 2014 the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

	YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
	2000	FORD	EXPLORER	BLUE	1FMZU73E9YZB49182
1	2008	FORD	ESCAPE	BLACK	1FMCU03ZX8KB66632
	1997	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	GREEN	1G2WP12KXVF251451
	1997	FORD	ESCORT	GREEN	1FALP10PXVW274179
	2007	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	SILVER	1G1ZT58N87F110368
	2004	NISSAN	SENTRA	BLACK	3N1CB51D24L481435
	1997	FORD	TAURUS	RED	1FALP52U1VA284185
	1994	SUZUKI	KATANA	BLACK	JS1GN72AXR2102495
	2001	MITSUBISHI	SPIDER	RED	4A3AE85H81E167324
	1998	FORD	TAURUS	SILVER	1FAFP58S2WG199339
	1996	CHRYSLER	SEBRING	WHITE	3C3EL45X3TT233327
	1998	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	GOLD	1G2NE12T3WC731683
	1996	FORD	EXPLORER	GREEN	1FMDU34X2TUA48848
	1998	DODGE	DURANGO	GREEN	1B4HS28Z0WF191157
	1997	FORD	EXPLORER	BLACK	1FMDU35P7VUD40299
	2001	PONTIAC	MONTANA	RED	1GMDX03E61D247808
	2000	CADILLAC	SLS	WHITE	1G6KS54Y7YU157631
1	2010	MITSUBISHI	GALANT	SILVER	4A32B2FF1AE004280
1	2003	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	SILVER	1G6KE57Y83U135245
1	2002	CHEVROLET	MONTE CARLO	WHITE	2G1WW12E029314157
	1998	JEEP	CHEROKEE	WHITE	1J4GZ58S5WC106288

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles

may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction. Publish: August 14, 2014



in Your Neighborhood

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HITTING ALL THE NOTES

Musician shines in U.S. Army Field Band

By Brad Kadrich Staff Write

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Blossom saw an opportunity to pursue his life's dream 10 years ago - and he took it.

Ten years later, he couldn't be happier with his decision.

Blossom, a 1997 graduate of Canton High School who joined the Army in 2004, is a saxophonist with the U.S. Army Field Band, a position that gives him the career he's wanted since even before he joined the Plymouth-**Canton Marching Band** back in high school.

"I fell in love with music and (that feeling) really picked up in high school being in the marching band," said Blossom, a Canton native now stationed at Fort Meade, Md. "(Marching band) was just awesome. It was a really great experience for me and I really picked up the bug.

City of Wayne, as follows:

I couldn't really see myself doing anything else, to be honest."

Blossom, the son of David and Rebecca Blossom of Canton, was the drum major when he was in the P-CEP Marching Band. He graduated in 1997, two years before the band won the national championship. Blossom's sister Monica was in that championship contingent.

"That's something she always has on me," Blossom said with a laugh.

Music lover

Blossom has always been a musician. In addition to the sax, he's also played the clarinet and the bass clarinet. He was in the band at the University of Michigan, where he was busy obtaining his master's degree. He played bassoon, as did his future wife Anne (they were married in 2008).

While he was finishing up at U-M, Blossom discovered the U.S. Army was auditioning players for the U.S. Army Field Band. He was "looking for a way to have a job,' had a lot of student debt and the service "was just a good fit for me." While they're emi-

nently proud of him, Blossom's decision surprised his parents.

"I was taken back a bit," David Blossom said. "I asked him, 'Are you sure you know what you're getting into?' He was willing to do that to get where he wanted to go. He's always been consumed with music. He's taken it to the next level."

sical representative for

08-14-0261 Motion by James, seconded by Rhaesa and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt Ordinance 2014-07, an ordinance to amend the codified ordinances of the

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE NO. 2014-07

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE THE CITY OF WAYNE ORDAINS:

Section 1. THAT THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE BE AMENDED BY CHANGES TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF WAYNE BY THE REZONING OF PROPERTIES COMMONLY KNOWN AS 37458 AND 37440 MICHIGAN AVENUE FROM B-4 BUSINESS INTENSIVE TO B-3 BUSINESS EXTENSIVE. THE PARCEL ID NUMBERS ARE: #55-009-01-0190-001 (est. 0.4 ac) AND #55-009-01-0190-002 (est. 0.3 ac).

That this Ordinance shall be published as required by law. Section 2.

That this Ordinance shall become effective ten days after enactment and upon Section 3. publication thereof.

> Matthew Miller City Clerk

Adopted: August 4, 2014 Published: August 14, 2014 Effective: August 14, 2014

WAREHOUSE MOVING SALE



U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Blossom, a graduate of Canton High School, is a saxophonist for the U.S. Army Field Band.

Lots of travel

The U.S. Army Field Band is the touring muthe Army, traveling thousands of miles each year presenting a variety of music throughout the nation and abroad. Since being formed in March 1946, the field band has appeared in all 50 states and more than 30 countries on four continents.

Blossom said the band travels more than 100 days a year and he estimates it plays some 120-140 concerts a year. As an outreach program, the band plays formal public concerts, school assemblies, educational outreach programs, festivals and radio and television appearances.

All the travel can get tiresome, he said, but technology is making it easier. Programs like Facetime and Skype make it easier to stay in touch with Anne and their 18-month-old son Desmond.

Great place

"You kind of find the balance," Blossom said. "It's hard to be away from home for so long, but that bridge has kind of been built with technology. Stuff like that makes it easier to be on the road than it used to be.

musical career, including time spent at Interlochen ("It's a really intense music camp and I just loved it," he said). He can see himself staying in the band - and the Army - for a long time.

"I really love being in the field band," Blossom said. "It's the right fit for me. It's such a great place to be.

"I get to play with world-class musicians every day. It's such a good job. You just can't really beat it.'

bkadrich@hometownlife.com Twitter: @bkadrich

He's done a lot in his

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2014-21 August 4, 2014

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Monday, August 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Rd. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Presentation of check from the Ford Fund to Wayne Public Library via Friends of the Library. A PUBLIC HEARING was held for the establishment of a Commercial Redevelopment District. APPROVED: minutes reg. mtg. of July 15; Budget amendment of \$20,000 to Library; a Commercial Redevelopment District for 35310 Mich. Ave. W.; Mat. Recovery Licenses for Scrapbusters, Broome and Annapolis Auto Parts; SDD transfer for Food Basket 5703 S. Wayne; rezoning of 37440 & 37458 Mich. Ave. from B-4 to B-3; appoint Deborah Wass to Planning Commission until 7/2015; appoint James Henley to Personnel Board until 8/2017; Fire Mutual Aid resolution and agreement; bids for cold patch and dust control; reject bid for debris hauling; payment to Ancona Controls for Police Dept.; Juan Bradford as Interim Parks and Rec. Dir; CDBG participation; purchase 22 properties from Wayne County Tax Foreclosure; sell 21 properties to JSR Funding; consent calendar. TABLED: Taxi License for Taxi Town; Received and filed Communications and Reports. Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Published: August 14,2014

Matthew K. Miller City Clerk Lowentries 141



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A11 (WG) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

BUSINESS

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

Parents: Time to talk money with your college student

t's mid-August and college students will soon return to campus. But before they leave, parents need to have an important conversation about personal finance. Whether your child is

a fresh-

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topic.

The

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personal finance is an impor-



MONEY MATTERS

who graduate with significant debt is startling. I'm not talking just about tuition, fees and books. I'm referring to all the other stuff that college students have a tendency to put on their charge cards - clothes and entertainment expenses, to name a few.

College kids need clothes and they also deserve to kick back and let loose every so often. However, they have to be aware of the problems overspending can cause. They also need to know how debt could impact their ability to find a job.

Employers are in-creasingly looking at a job candidate's financial picture in deciding whether to hire. I'm not sure if someone will make a better employee if they are good at handling their money. However, I do know that many employers consider fiscal responsibility a key factor in the hiring process

Whether or not you are assisting your child with college expenses, it is important that your college student understands the importance of living within a budget.

So-Cal specializes in frozen yogurt, more

By Sue Buck Staff Writer

So-Cal, a unique restaurant, is drawing in customers at 6773 Mid-dlebelt in Garden City.

Manager Zak Hakim and his brother and owner Frank Hakim recently opened the establishment — a former dough-nut shop — across the street from Garden City High School.

The store is called So-Cal, the common abbreviation for Southern California.

"The frozen yogurt thing started in Southern California," Zak Hakim said. "The whole frozen yogurt concept, the way we have it set up, started in southern California."

Customers can choose from 10 different flavors of frozen yogurt and more than 40 toppings, including fresh fruit, nuts and candy. The cost is 45 cents an ounce, and the containers are weighed at the counter register.

Besides frozen yogurt, the restaurant offers burgers, wraps, subs and appetizers. Right now, they offer canned beverages and bottled water, but the brothers plan to offer coffee.

Zak Hakim took on the challenge of renovating the 1,600-squarefoot building, which has a patio. He is proud of what the building has become.

Takes on challenge

"It was a run-down doughnut shop," he said. 'It was an eyesore. It's a family-owned business, and I was the only one who could spare the time to run it. Being a builder, I wanted to take on the job to renovate it. We renovated the entire building, floor to ceiling." The interior offers a

two-sided fireplace,



Zak Hakim is manager of So-Cal, a new restaurant on Middlebelt, north of Maplewood, in Garden City. PHOTOS BY BILL **BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHEF**



Try the patio when the weather is good.

three, 70-inch flat screen TVs and free Wi-Fi. The shop is dine in or carry out and has six employees

More is planned. "Every Sunday, we would like to have a Family Sunday, when we will have a Bounce House," Hakim said. They can bring their kids to jump around for

free."

Birthday specials will also offer the Bounce House. Gary Kozdron, a Gar-

den City resident, comes to So-Cal daily. "I like pretty much everything," Kozdron said. "The yogurt is the best. The hamburgers



Jessica Westra tries the fudge brownie flavor frozen vogurt.

den City resident, also is a frequent customer. "I like chicken, fish, everything," he said.

Hakim, a Garden City resident, grew up in Dearborn Heights.

So-Cal is open from 11 a.m. 11 p.m. Sunday

through Thursday and 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 734-338-2691.

sbuck@hometownlife.com 313-222-2249 Twitter: @SueSbuck

Co-op Services Credit Union hosts sixth annual Backpack Drive

are pretty good, too." Ron Arakelian, a Gar-

Livonia-based Co-op distributed through of our credit union mem Volunteers of America and its Operation Backpack initiative. The Backpack Drive kicked off with a "School Spirit" dress-down day for staff members, who wore jeans and T-shirts from their favorite schools in exchange for individual donations of one backpack or five school supplies. "Many of the bins were already full with staff donations by the end of the first day," said Jeremy Cybulski, youth and community development coordinator for Co-op Services Credit Union. "Every year we marvel at the generosity

College students should know what expenses they are responsible for and what money they have to work with. They need to live within their means.

I recognize that some kids will go to college and their parents will give them an unlimited budget. That sounds generous on behalf of the parents, however, I'm not sure that is the appropriate. After all, if you can't learn to live within your means when you're young, you'll never be able to do it.

Credit cards are another part of the conversation. College students are inundated with charge card applications, which include all sorts of free giveaways. Teach your student that not all charge cards are the same and to be smart about using them. We are all familiar with credit scores; nothing will ruin your credit scores more than being late on charge card payments.

It is also important to explain to your college student how interest works on a charge card. Remind them there is no grace period when carrying a balance. In other words, you start paying interest from the date of purchase.

Tell them how expensive interest is. Charge cards that are marketed to college students have interest rates of 20 percent-plus.

Before your child goes to college, you're likely to have several conversations - one of them should be about money management. Good luck.

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

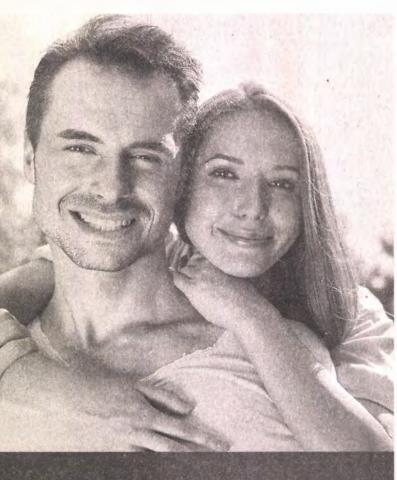


Margaret Shupe, Co-op Services' assistant branch manager in Livonia, and Member Service Representative Katelyn Fava, at right, model new backpacks donated by staff during the credit union's Backpack Drive.

Services Credit Union launched its sixth annual Backpack Drive, which will run through Friday, Aug. 22. Partnering with Volunteers of America, Co-op Services is collecting new backpacks, folders, notebooks, pens, scissors, pencils and other supplies for needy students throughout Michigan.

Donation boxes are located at the credit union's 11 metro Detroit branch offices, including Rivers Edge Financial, a division of Co-op Services with offices in Allen Park, Taylor and Woodhaven.

The donations will be



Welcome to an entire network of one-on-one care.

bers, staff and partnering communities. It's a testimony to how important these supplies are to helping kids succeed.'

Cybulski added that Volunteers of America is a great partner by helping to provide posters, online support and distribution of supplies to needy students throughout Michigan. Along with donations

of new backpacks and new school supplies, monetary donations are also welcome.

For more information about Co-op Services, visit www.cscu.org or call 800-321-8570.

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A12 (WG) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEW



Candidates should focus on issues, not personalities, in general election

The primary election is over and it's time for the winners to turn their attention to the Nov. 4 general election.

We hope they do so with more of a focus on issues and less on political bashing and gamesmanship.

Obfuscation is a mainstay of political campaigns and the primary season saw its share of such tactics. There was the use of Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan's picture on a Wayne County executive campaign piece from Westland Mayor William Wild, a move that didn't bring the de-

There is plenty to debate in the general election ... There are roads to be fixed, schools to be funded properly, jobs to be created. sired result but which political observers thought was a step too far.

While the piece indicated (in rather fine print) that it wasn't suggesting an endorsement by Duggan, it seemed out of place considering the new Detroit mayor had actually endorsed Wild's biggest competitor, former Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans.

There were the two lawsuits – both dismissed in Wayne Coun-

ty Circuit Court – claiming Evans didn't qualify to be on the ballot in the first place after changing his residency the same day he filed for the election. The first was filed by former Canton Township Supevisor Tom Yack, who told the Observer he was supporting Republican Fred Bolden, but also posted positive comments about Wild's qualifications. The second was filed by Democrat Phil Cavanagh, a futile filing that also came late in the game.

There was also the claim - this one part-truth, part-obfuscation – that state Sen. Pat Colbeck voted in favor of the senior pension tax legislation. While the claim – made in the literature of Colbeck's rival in the state Senate 7th District Republican primary Matthew Edwards - didn point it out, Colbeck's favorable vote actually came in allowing the legislation out of committee. When it came up for a vote in the Senate, Colbeck voted against it. Edwards' literature made no mention of that. And there was the bashing that went on in the Republican primary for the U.S. House 11th District, where Dave Trott tried to spend incumbent Kerry Bentivolio into oblivion, focusing more on Bentivolio's shortcomings than on any plans or programs he himself would introduce. There is plenty to debate in the general election, a lot of issues in Michigan to discuss. There are roads to be fixed, schools to be funded properly, jobs to be created. Those are far too important to allow the campaign to devolve into a negative round of character-bashing We believe voters want to talk about the issues, not the personalities. With the general election looming, we urge primary winners to focus on their own campaigns, on introducing their own solutions to the state's ills and on their own vision for Michigan's future.

OUR VIEW

Keep the music coming: Support Jazz Festival

Schoolcraft College was the place to be for jazz fans recently as the college hosted the 20th Michigan Jazz Festival.

OPINION

The event took place on the college's main campus lawn and VisTaTech Center in Livonia. From Dixieland to Latin, from veterans like the Johnny Trudell Big Band to student musicians, there was something for everyone.

Schoolcraft College has hosted the Jazz Festival since 1999 and in 2012 became a contributing partner. The college is key to the festival's success and its leadership is to be lauded for that ongoing role. Individual donations are also essential to keeping the annual Jazz Festival going strong.

The festival's mission is to promote the local jazz scene and to attract/educate a new genera-

Johnny Trudell performs during the Michigan Jazz Festival at Schoolcraft College. CURTIS DROGMILLER

tion of fans. Donations by check or money order payable to Michigan Jazz Festival are welcome at the Schoolcraft College Music Department, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI 48152.

Smaller donations add up and

all help to keep the sounds coming at this community tradition, which is eagerly anticipated by many each July.

Let's keep the sounds coming for future generations of jazz lovers!

LETTERS

Memory loss?

I am not surprised that the property tax increase proposal on the Tuesday, Aug. 5, ballot was defeated. Proposed by the Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency (RESA), it was supported by many local school districts who would have benefited from a substantial increase in revenues.

A small number of suburban school districts opposed the proposal because they would have realized a net loss of revenues. That and the fear of any property tax increase in an uncertain economy would have been enough for the proposal's defeat.

The opponents of the tax plan didn't want their property tax revenues transferred to other districts in a broad example of "sharing the wealth" or "narrowing the financial inequality" of K-12 districts.

I'm curious about the opponents' arguments. The RESA proposal is based on the state policy of providing property tax revenues throughout the county on a per pupil basis. That has been state policy for 20 years following the passage of Proposal A, a state constitutional amendment designed to reduce excessive school property tax rates (the primary goal) and to equalize the per pupil expenditures throughout the state (the secondary goal). Before Proposal A was adopted, the state's policy was a hybrid approach based on the relative property tax base behind each student in a district. Districts with a high per pupil property tax base would get less or nothing. The problem at the time was that districts with a broad commercial and industrial tax base would benefit from that economic policy. Some districts had up to \$10,000 per pupil to increase teachers' salaries and fringe benefits, buy computers, replace textbooks more frequently, as well as reduce the pupil-teacher ration in classrooms Neighboring districts, with little or no industrial or commercial tax base, would have about half of the revenues, some as low as \$3,500 per pupil. While that was the policy for nearly 30 years, many state policy makers felt that was unfair. After several years of debate, the legislature agreed to change the system, resulting in Proposal A reaching the ballot and being approved. But what really happened, is that all of the state's property tax revenues were collected locally, shipped to Lansing and then redistributed on (mostly) a per pupil basis so everyone would be treated equally. Federal prosecutors and regulators would call this money laundering. What the voters didn't anticipate was the governor and legislature in recent years cutting the per pupil allotment and then more recently restoring part of it. What happened on election day last week was that the highproperty tax districts didn't want to go along anymore with the share the wealth policy. Maybe there needs to be another look at the 20-year-old money laundering scheme to see if there is a better way to finance public schools. **Leonard Poger** Westland

SEND US YOUR VIEWS

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats: Web: www.hometownlife.com Fax: 313-223-3318 Email: smason@hometown-

life.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Now what?

The countywide millage that Garden City Schools was sure would pass has failed. Garden City residents overwhelmingly said no to more taxes for little return.

The school district had already factored the money into this coming year's budget. Now they are short and scrambling to revise the budget. I'm surprised that the new COO would go out on a limb and present a budget with non-secured assets. The only board member to take ful students.

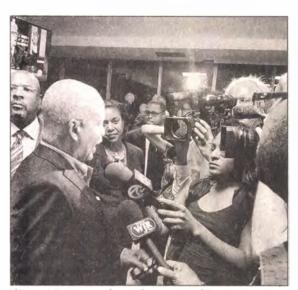
Hubert Wyelie Garden City

Too many lies

I want to apologize to the kids of Wayne County, especially the Garden City children, for not voting to approve the millage for school funding. I know the school board will blame the voters but they, along with all the politicians, must look in the mirror. They have lied to us so many times in the past about how they would spend the money, we just don't believe them anymore.

Why should we give you \$250 more per year? So you can give \$10 to the kids, \$20 to the teachers, \$30 to the buildings and keep \$190 for yourselves. What happened to all the money you saved by outsourcing the food services? What about the savings accrued by going to campuses instead of localized elementary schools? Now you're closing Burger? Why not sell the school administration building and move to an office in the downsized schools?

Do something innovative that actually saves money and redirect those savings to the kids, the teachers and the schools. Maybe, just maybe, if you do this before your next campaign, voters will approve more spending. P.S. I know we have beaten the Lottery horse to death, but that is the premier example of voters being lied to. Again, why should we trust any politician?



Warren Evans speaks to the press at his election night party in Detroit. He won the Democratic nomination for Wayne County executive in the Aug. 5 primary, besting a field of candidates that included Westland Mayor Bill Wild. KURT KUBAN



Sue Mason, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor **Grace Perry,** Director of Advertising a stand on the flawed budget won't be back.

Now in Sunday's O&E paper. the first thing (Patrick) McNally says in a statement is "this will affect the classroom." Is not the classroom the last thing one would want to affect? He also said all employee groups will need to take concessions. Is the board going to start? Are the over-employed, overpaid administrators going to pitch in? What McNally could have said would be we will have to find the means to carry on without affecting the classroom. We will have to exam all outside vendors and pursue cost-cutting measures. When was the last time our food service was bid? What about transportation, and on and on

Continuing to come to the taxpayers for more money is not the solution. People have had enough of the handout.

The problem of money is Lansing. The fix is in Lansing. The school districts and teacher unions with all their high-priced lobbyists in the entire state need to work together along with others to produce a workable formula for school finance that the legislature will have to put into law.

(Michelle) Cline keeps bringing up that the money is needed for boiler replacement and technology. This drum has been beating for over 15 years. There is projected to be over \$2.2 million in the sinking fund this school year, more than enough money to replace boilers. Yes, all the projects are important but what is the priority? Seems to me having a warm building in the winter is a strong first. Windows and flooring would be nice but should not be as high on the list.

This again shows that nonbusiness minded people are running parts of the district. One has to take care of the bones of the buildings first then make it pretty, not the other way around.

As test results show, the taxpayers are getting little bang for their buck. The citizens of Garden City care about the schools and want to see successSkip Wehrle Garden City

Protect our rights

If the media reports about the National Security Agency's warrant-less spying program are true, our Constitution and our Republic are in serious danger.

The Fourth Amendment to the Constitution is non-negotiable. It protects Americans from being searched by the government without a warrant, and for good reason. Before independence, American colonists were subject to "general warrants" by the British government. The king's agents could search anyone whenever they felt like it, without suspicion of any wrongdoing.

The current NSA spying program is exactly the same. Government bureaucrats can spy on your phone calls, chats, internet searches and emails. That's un-American.

State Rep. Tom McMillin (R-45) has a solution. His bill — HB 5420 — would protect the Fourth Amendment rights of Michiganders by banning Michigan state agencies from complying with the NSA's warrantless spying program.

Rep. McMillin's bill is a common sense way to protect our inalienable rights. But HB 5420 is stuck in the House Judiciary Committee.

Our representatives should pass this bill and uphold their oath to the Constitution.

Government bureaucrats have no right to spy on me or any other American without a warrant. I encourage all my fellow Michiganders to pressure their representatives to pass HB 5420. Our Constitution hangs in the balance

Matthew Webb Westland hometownlife.com

0 & E Media | Thursday, August 14, 2014 (WGRL) A13



Education matters at Redford Union Schools

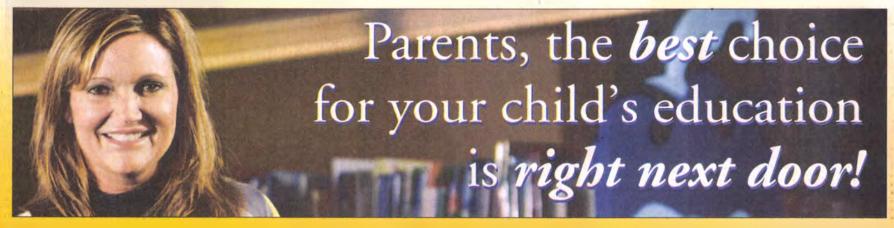
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INSIDE: CLASSIFIED, B6-7 • ENTERTAINMENT, B9 • FOOD, B10

SECTION B (WGRL) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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ED WRIGHT, EDITOR EWRIGHT@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

FPS gridders overcome first-day rains

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

It was a wet and soggy first day of football practice Monday for the three Farmington schools, although the heavy rains didn't affect their plans too much.

The greatest impact was felt at Farmington High. Dur-ing two-a-day sessions, the Falcons have their first practice in mid-afternoon and a

second in the evening, which is when a major downpour hit the metro area.

"It cut our first practice in half and probably our second practice, too," coach John Bechtel said. "We certainly didn't get done everything we wanted.

"We made the best of it. We spent time in the classroom and did some work in the gym. If it wasn't lightning and pouring rain, we were out there

trying to get better. "We were able to get done some offensive technique, and we worked on the running game a bit. It started to rain when we wanted to throw. We were certainly cut short."

Harrison and North Farmington practiced in the morning and afternoon and managed to avoid the heaviest rains.

"We just went through the rain," Harrison coach John

Herrington said. "We used rubber footballs and did what we normally would. It was fine. It didn't really bother us.

"It was raining all day but didn't start to pour until 4:30 or 5 o'clock when we were just about done. If it rains again tomorrow, it might bother us."

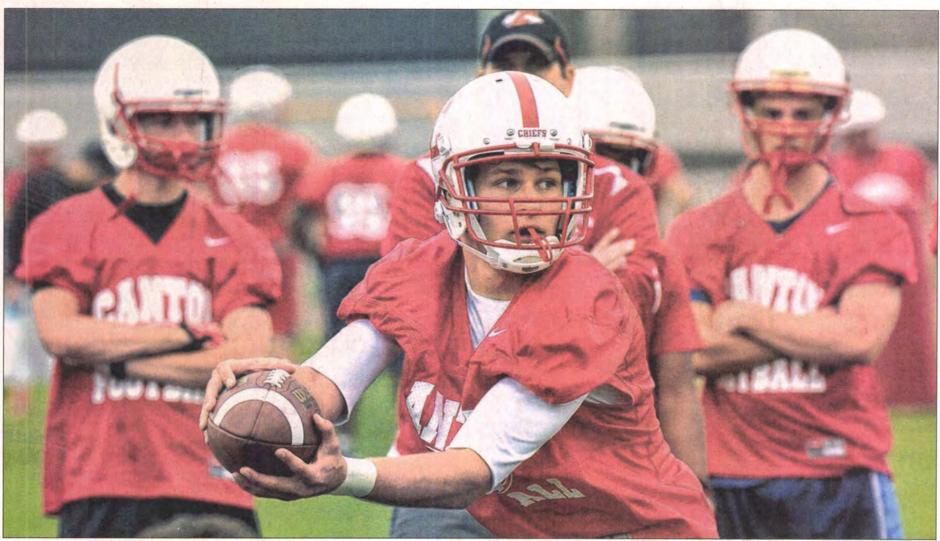
There are new rules this year governing the amount of full-speed contact and length of practice time, as set for by the Michigan High School

Athletic Association. Teams are not allowed to have full contact drills until the fifth day. Players were limited to helmets Monday and Tuesday; shoulder pads were Wednesday and full pads Friday.

During two-a-day practices, only one session can involve full contact, and teams can practice a total of five hours

See GRIDDERS, Page B4

OPENING WEEK OF PREP FOOTBALL PRACTICE



Canton senior quarterback Greg Williams (No. 7) looks down field for an open receiver during Tuesday morning's practice.

TEAMS GREET GRID GUIDELINES

Coaches, players gear up for new MHSAA practice playbook

The Canton **Chiefs and all** other high school teams in the state are facing new state practice guidelines to help ward off concussions. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



By Tim Smith Staff Writer

For high school football players such as Canton's Robert Guajardo, there's nothing more fun than the physical contact of the sport.

But the Chiefs senior wide receiver will have fewer opportunities to go all-out in the hitting department during 2014 football practices due to

new Michigan High School Athletic Association guidelines designed primarily to stem the tide of concussions. "Yeah, that's the fun," said

Guajardo, wearing a helmet, practice jersey and shorts during Tuesday morning's workout on the varsity turf field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. "But when we get the pads on though it will take care of itself.

"Everybody's going through the same thing, we'll be all right."

According to new MHSAA guidelines, which took effect with this week's opening of fall football practice sessions across the state, teams must wait until Friday to begin fullpad workouts (one day later than previously).

See FOOTBALL, Page B4

Teams off to wet start

Weather alters first-day slates of RU, Wayne Memorial

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

The football term "flooding the zone" took on a double meaning Monday during the opening day of high school gridiron practices throughout Observerland.

First-day practice agendas meticulously planned during the weeks leading up to Monday — were shuffled like a deck of cards when early morning showers morphed into torrential mid-afternoon downpours

The "Noah"-like weather proved to be somewhat disheartening for all the area's coaches, particularly veteran mentors Miles Tomasaitis (Redford Union) and Tim Finnerty (Wayne Memorial), first-year leaders of their respective programs who are installing new schemes.

"It was kind of a tough first day because we were forced to practice in the gym due to the weather, so we were limited in what we could do," Finnerty said.

"But we got a lot done. We were able to walk through assignments with the defense and we worked on kickoff coverage."

A football coach for over three decades, Finnerty has overseen some dynamic offenses, including units engineered at Brighton High School by his late son, Cullen, and Drew Henson.

"I know it's still early, but from what I've seen I can say that this is one of the best groups of receivers I've ever coached," he said.

Finnerty has also been impressed by 6-foot-5 junior quarterback Joe Bob Walker, a transfer from California.

See PRACTICE, Page B2



Garden City quarterback Kyler Hubbs fakes a hand-off to running back Cody Johnson during Tuesday's afternoon practice session.





PRACTICE

Continued from Page B1

Miles is back

Tomasaitis, who returns to coach the Panthers for the first time since 2009, said Monday's opening day was far from a total washout in spite of the less-thanideal conditions.

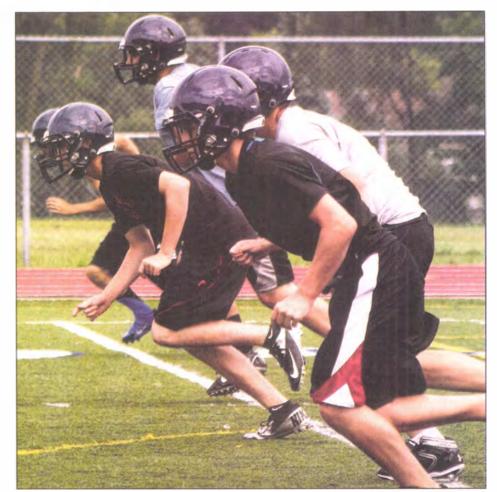
"We did more class room work with X's and O's than we planned on, and we were able to do some limited teaching mostly with stances and starts — in the gym," he said.

Tomasaitis had to step away from the headcoaching position at RU following the 2009 season due to work commitments, but he's excited to be back on the sidelines, calling the shots.

"I think I'm where I belong," he said. "We have some work to do to reinstall the pride and discipline we've lost. The work we're putting in now may not equate to a better won-lost record right away, but we'll be more fundamentally sound.'

Feedback on rules

Monday's practices were the first held under new guidelines implemented by the Michigan High School Athletic Association that delay the first full-contact practice until Friday one day later than usual - due to concerns about



Members of the Livonia Stevenson freshmen football team run sprints during Tuesday's practice. ED WRIGHT

how it goes," Livonia

Franklin head coach

"We've cut down on the

amount of hitting we do

in practice once the sea-

don't see a big change. As

son starts anyway, so I

Chris Kelbert said.

heat stroke and concussions.

Teams were allowed to practice in helmets through Wednesday before adding shoulder pads on Thursday. Once the season

starts, teams will be limited to two days of fully-padded practices. "Right now, I'm now

far as delaying full-contact to Friday this week, we have our intrasquad scrimmage Saturday, so that makes it tough. But sure how I like (the new rules); we'll have to see it is what it is.'

Livonia Churchill head coach Bill DeFillippo said the rule changes won't alter the way he conducts practices.

"For us, it's really not a big deal," he said. "We want to keep the kids safe and injury free, so very rarely did we hit more than two days a week last year."

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Ocelots hit ground running at Falcon 5K

Schoolcraft College's men's cross country team got an early jump on the 2014 season with Saturday's Falcon 5K race at Dearborn Divine Child.

A sunny 75-degree day greeted the runners, getting into the swing after one week of official practice, and several returnees equaled or surpassed their showings at the 2013 race.

Last year's top runner, Ethan Levack, finished the race in 18 minutes, 43 seconds, one second faster than the previous year. Meanwhile, 2013 teammate Caton Hacker finished in 19:19 — improving

upon his 19:53 time from 2013

Freshman Liam Cardenas rounded out the team finishing in in 20:37. Levack, Hacker and Cardenas were Falcon 5K award winners.

Also running in the preseason race was Scott Howse. This will be his seventh season

with the team though he is no longer eligible to compete officially as a team member.

In 2010, Howse was the first-ever special needs community college student to become an Academic All-American. His time in this race was 19:26.



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TOLEDO

LOCAL SPORTS

Marlins get early start in swim pool

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Defending state champion Mercy High School got an early jump on the competition and the 2014 girls swim season Wednesday morning.

When the clock struck midnight, the Marlins hit the water at the earliest possible moment on the first official day of practice

The event was meant to build team unity and an esprit de corps among the 60 athletes more than a third of whom are freshmen.

"They're young and impres-sionable and you want their first impression of an organization to be a lasting one,

coach Shannon Dunworth said. "We didn't invent this idea. College basketball teams have been doing it forever. It's a way to jump-start the season. We'll have some fun with that."

The event began in the late evening Tuesday with captains Maddy Loniewski, Roxanne Griffore, Jensen Pecora and Kathleen McGee reviewing team rules, etiquette and cheers. Afterward, the girls watched a movie.

Around 11:30 p.m. team members entered a highly decorated natatorium and were introduced individually with the lights off and a spotlight on each girl.

Parents and others are not allowed to attend practices

normally, but Dunworth made an exception for this special occasion.

It was the only time Mercy will have its entire team in the five-lane pool at the same time. Otherwise, the team and practice time are divided into thirds.

"Tonight is more about us and the start of the season," Dunworth said. "As the season goes on, we'll divide into training groups.

'I don't like to cut anybody; I don't want to cut seniors. It's a long day, but we want to make sure (each athlete has an equal opportunity). It's a nice facility to train in. You don't get lost in there.'

The midnight practice last-

ed about an hour. Dunworth said the serious training would start later Wednesday.

"If there's one disadvantage (private schools have) it's the freshmen come in and are strangers to each other in many instances," he said.

"For the most part, they're kinda on their own; they're a little apprehensive, a little bit shy about things.

The first task is to break the ice with the kids, let them all know we're pulling in the same direction and start to build that team unity.

We'll have 10 or 11 kids per lane. There won't be a great deal of Mercy training. That will start tomorrow.'

The Marlins went home

after the midnight opener and returned Wednesday morning for a three-day trip to the Spire Institute, a training facility in Geneva, Ohio.

Mercy, which won the Division 1 championship and its eighth state title last year, has some quality swimmers in its freshman class and has high hopes for the 2014 season.

'We always lose great kids, and we always have kids with a great deal of ability and desire come in," Dunworth said.

"The freshmen have big shoes to fill. We've just dealt the cards, so we have a long way to go. It's going to be a while yet."

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Members of the Thurston reunion football team pose for a post-game photo after upending Harper Woods 21-0 Saturday night. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT

ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING

Soreness aside, Thurston alumni football players have a ball in reunion game

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

On several occasions since he last stepped off the **Redford Thurston High** School football field in the fall of 1993, Glen Lockhart allowed himself to imagine what it would be like to take a trip on a time machine and pad up one more time, for



Whalers' 'friendly' game to benefit Bieniewicz fund

In soccer, the term "friendly" refers to a game between two teams that is an exhibition game. A "friendly" is a match that generally has no impact in

the standings. "Friendly" is not usually used in the same sentence with the Plymouth Whalers and Windsor Spitfires.

The two bitter Ontario Hockey League rivals have battled through 206 regular-season games since 1990 and several memorable playoff series. Need proof? Check the video

the last time Plymouth and Windsor met on March 15, 2014, at Compuware Arena.

That's going to change on Saturday, Aug. 30, at Compuware Arena. The Whalers and Spitfires hook up in a 2 p.m. "friendly" in a benefit for John Bieniewicz, the Livonia soccer referee who passed away while working a game.

Called "Play it Forward for Bieniewicz," 100 percent of the proceeds in the game benefit the John Bieniewicz Foundation and C.O.P.S. MI (Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors) Chapter.

Tickets are \$10 in advance (general admission) and \$12 at the door and can be purchased at www.plymouthwhalers.com. Tickets are also available at the Livonia Police Department (734-466-2470).

Admission to the game includes a meet-and-greet session with the Whalers after the

game

The game provides the back-



Plymouth's Matt Mistele drives against Windsor in a game last season. RENA LAVERTY

there than bad," Bieniewicz said

"It's impossible for me to thank everyone for everything that they are doing. I can't express my gratitude enough."

Livonia Chief of Police Curtis Caid deals with his share of serious, real-world issues every day. He's happy to lend support to the game and the cause of helping people.

"This game is a great oppor-tunity for the City of Livonia, our citizens and everyone else to get involved with a worth-while cause," Caid said. "It gives the community an

opportunity to see great hockey while helping a local family overcome a tragedy. "There are some parallels in

hockey, soccer and police work. All three will work together for one day to assist the Bieniewicz family

one more high school game.

On Saturday night, Lockhart joined 24 other former Eagles for the ride of a lifetime — a full-contact, memory-making showdown against a team of ex-gridders from Harper Woods High School.

The game was spearheaded by 1995 Thurston graduate Jerry Karpiuk, who joined forces with Alumni Football USA to orchestrate the contest, which was played using high school rules and Michigan High School Athletic Association officials.

Playing before an enthusiastic crowd that filled at least half of the home bleachers, the Eagles prevailed, 21-0, which made Lockhart's return to the glory days even more amazing.

"It was kind of magical being out there tonight," the 39-year-old Lockhart said, moments after posing for a triumphant team photo. "I've always had that feeling of, 'I'd love to get out there one more time,' but, honestly, I never thought it would happen

-

"When I first heard they were putting this together, I thought it was a joke - I really did. I thought we'd come out here and get humiliated. But once we started practicing, we started coming together and making plays, and everybody gave 110 percent tonight.

"I'm sore, I'm bleeding all over and I know I'll wake up tomorrow and fall out of bed, but I wouldn't trade this for anything.'

It didn't take long for players from both teams to chisel off the rust that had built up after years of not playing a fully-padded game.

Although some of the participants' waistlines had expanded (slightly) and their hairlines had receded (gradually) since they last pulled the pads off, it was apparent once the opening kickoff sailed through the muggy August air that their zest for the sport hadn't waned an inch

"Once we pulled the pads

A trio of Eagles, including Clint Boyd Jr., delivered a helmet-separating tackle on a Harper Woods running back during Saturday's game.

on and started hitting, it was like we were out here yesterday (playing high school football)," Karpiuk said. "A lot of us had waited a long time for this, so you better believe we weren't just going to go through the motions.

Camari James, a 2012 grad who was one of the youngest Thurston players on the field, delivered a crunching, Louis Delmas-like tackle on a Pioneer ballcarrier midway through the fourth quarter. James played most of the game at wide receiver and hauled in a 50-yard touchdown pass from Travis Farkas to open the night's scoring.

"That felt great," said James, who tallied just three plays on defense. "I wanted to play corner tonight, so when I saw an opportunity to jump in there on defense, I did. You have to make the

most of your opportunities." If a "Rudy" award had been presented in the game's wake, the recipient would have no doubt been 1999 grad Eugene Antonelli, who picked off a Harper Woods pass while playing a limited time at free safety during the fourth quarter.

Antonelli nearly missed Saturday's game after cracking three ribs during a team practice three weeks earlier.

"I wasn't even sure if I was going to be able to play tonight, so getting that interception felt absolutely fantastic," Antonelli said, smiling, as his young daughter smiled broadly at his side. "I've put on about 60 pounds since the last time I played here, so I had to do some conditioning the past couple months to get in shape.

"The interception was my only play at free safety. When It was coming toward me, I just thought, 'You have to catch it, you have to catch it ...' That should get me on the highlight tape they

make."

Class of '09 standout De'Andre Alexander was Thurston's running-game workhorse as he ripped off a couple of big-yardage gains.

"The game was everything I expected it to be,' said Alexander, unleashing a huge grin. "Once we got those first-quarter jitters out of the way, it was like, 'Here we go!""

The size of the crowd impressed all of the Thurston alumni players, particularly Lockhart.

"I was dumbfounded by how many people showed up," he said. "At first there were only about 60 people up there, but everybody started getting on their cell phones. Before you knew it, the stands were almost filled. We had a great support system."

Among the captivated fans was Rachel Karpiuk, the wife of Jerry.

What did she think when she first heard about her husband's plan to revive his football career?

"When he first told me, I thought, boys will be boys, she said, laughing. "He still plays hockey and softball, so I really wasn't worried about him getting hurt. Plus, if he's going to do something, he's going to do it."

The game served as a fundraiser for the Thurston Athletic Department. Roughly \$1,300 was raised through ticket sales while the concession stand profits exceeded \$600

"Overall, it went really well," Karpiuk said. "We all want to do it next year, too.'

"Next year?" Alexander interjected. "Let's play again next week.

And the Eagles all laughed before heading to the locker room for some post-game conversation and a couple of Advil.

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drop for the hockey and soccer community to rally around a good cause.

Bieniewicz died after reportedly being assaulted while working a soccer game June 29 at Mies Park in Livonia. Bassel Saad is charged with seconddegree murder in his death. The trial is ongoing.

The local community has taken a proactive approach toward the John Bieniewicz Foundation, with various fundraisers held over the summer and more events on the way, including the Whalers-Spitfires game Aug. 30.

"The support from everyone is amazing," said Kristen Bieniewicz, John's wife. "When I saw that the Whalers were looking to do a game, I wondered, 'How would hockey even get involved?' But then I found out it was through the Livonia Police Department, and they had been involved a game before (in 2013).'

There is a hockey connection with the Bieniewicz family. Son Josh, 9, plays for the 2005 Farmington Fire.

With everything that has been going on, it's proven to me that there's still more good out

Fans on both sides of the border can lend their support by attending the game.

On Aug. 31, 2013, Plymouth and Windsor opened the preseason at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia, playing to a 5-5 draw before a sellout crowd of 1,000 fans.

One hundred percent of the proceeds of that game (estimated at more than \$35,000) went to the Livonia Fallen Heroes Memorial at the Larry Nehasil

Park in Livonia. ALUMNI GAME SATURDAY: The Whalers plan to make their 25th season in the Ontario Hockey League a year worth remembering. The Whalers start the new season with an event

that will prompt more smiles then goals by hosting its fourth Alumni Game at 4 p.m. Saturday at Compu-ware Arena.

Billed "Whalers Alumni Give a Miracle on Ice," proceeds of the game (in the form of a \$10 donation) will go to the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Beaumont Children's Mospital. Tickets for the game can be purchased at www.ply-

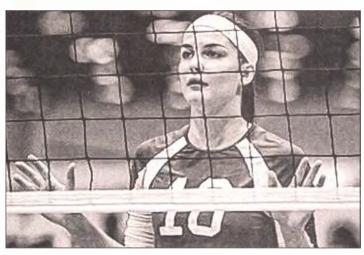
mouthwhalers.com or at the Compuware Arena box office. Call the box office at 734-453-8400. Adding to the event is radio station WDVD-FM

(96.3) and morning host Blaine Fowler, who are long-time supporters of the Plymouth Whalers and events at Compuware Arena.

Community Choice Credit Union is also lending support to the event. Players from all eras of the Whalers' 25-year history are expected to play, including former Detroit Red Wings player David Legwand, Alex Aleardi, Robbie Czarnik, Jamie Devane, John Vigilante, Damian Surma, Chris Terry, Mitchell Heard and Matt Hackett, among many others.

For the \$10 donation, Whalers alumni will participate in meet-and-greet autograph session with fans from 2-3:30 p.m before the puck drops. Fans can have two items signed

Academic All-American



Canton resident Lauren Wylie, a junior-to-be at Salem High School, was recently named to the 2014 AAU Volleyball Academic All-American Team. The team was selected based on the players' sustained excellence both in the classroom and on the volleyball court. Wylie, who is the daughter of Bradford and Pamela Wylie of Canton, plays for the 16U National Hurricanes volleyball team.

MHSAA numbers reflect drop in enrollments

Participation in high school sports in which postseason tournaments are sponsored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association decreased slightly for the third straight school year in 2013-14, following a continuing trend of declining member school enrollments.

However, nine MHSAA sports saw increases in participation from 2012-13, and four sports set records for the second straight school year.

A total of 288,230 participants took part in the 28 tournament sports offered by the MHSAA during the past year a 1.9-percent decrease from the 2012-13 figure of 293,810.

Enrollments at member schools also decreased 0.7 percent from 2012-13 and have fallen 10 percent since the 2006-07 school year.

But MHSAA participation has fallen only 7.9 percent dur-ing that time. This year's dip was slightly larger than the

1.2-percent decrease from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

Boys participation fell 1.7 percent from 2012-13 to 2013-14, and girls participation fell 2.2 percent. The overall MHSAA totals count students once for each sport in which they participate, meaning students who are multiple-sport athletes are counted more than once.

For the second straight year, boys and girls lacrosse (5,089 and 2,540, respectively) and boys and girls cross country (8,882 and 8,703) set participation records.

Both lacrosse totals have increased annually during their 10 years as MHSAA tournament sports. The girls saw an increase of 1.6 percent from 2012-13.

Participation in boys and girls cross country increased for the fifth straight seasons the girls by 3.9 percent.

Three girls sports rebounded from recent declines. Girls

Baechler said good coach

swimming and diving (6,604) broke a two-year downturn with its highest total since 2010-11.

Girls golf (3,427) increased by 2.8 percent and girls soccer (13,619) increased one percent after also falling from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

Girls track and field (17,259) posted its second straight increase and highest participation total since 2009-10.

However, troubling trends continued in two of the most popular girls sports. Girls basketball participation fell for the eighth straight season to 16,329 participants, the sport's fewest since records first were kept in 1991-92.

The girls basketball total has decreased 14.7 percent since a U.S. District Court decision led to the switching of girls basketball season from fall to winter beginning in 2007-08.

Comparatively, girls enrollment at MHSAA schools during that time has fallen 10.4 percent.

The sport that swapped seasons with girls basketball and moved to fall, volleyball, saw a 6.5-percent drop in participation to 18,607 athletes, its fewest since 1993-94 and a decrease of 13.6 percent since its final season as a winter sport.

Also of note in this year's survey:

» Total, nine sports saw increases in participation in 2013-14 (three boys, six girls), while 19 had decreases (11 boys, eight girls).

» Football participation, 11 and 8-player teams combined, dropped for the sixth straight season, but this time by only two percent to 40,673 athletes. The drop from 2011-12 to 2012-13 was 3.7.

» Wrestling saw a decrease for the fifth straight year, but also by a smaller percentage than the year before - 2.2 percent versus a 4.8-percent drop from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

» Baseball participation increased for the second straight year, up 0.7 percent to 18,227 participants. But softball saw the third-largest dip in 2013-14, 7.2 percent to 13,443 participants.

» Gymnastics (600) saw a decrease for the second straight year, this time by 11 percent - the largest percentage decrease of any sport. Boys skiing (745) saw the secondlargest drop, 9.7 percent. The participation figures are

gathered annually from MHSAA member schools to submit to the National Federation of State High School Associations for compiling of its national participation survey.

Results of Michigan surveys from the 2000-01 school year to present may be viewed on the MHSAA website (mhsaa.com) by clicking on Schools, Administrators, Sports Participation Listing.

FOOTBALL

Continued from Page B1

The later start date for contact drills was unveiled to help eliminate heat stroke and possible death during the potentially broiling August heat, noted MHSAA executive director Jack Roberts.

Then, beginning Friday up to the Aug. 28 season openers (Canton will visit West Holland; Salem hosts Plymouth), teams are permitted only one "collision" practice in a day instead of two.

That pertains to "scrimmages, drills and simulations where action is live, gamespeed, player-vs.-player" according to the guidelines.

After the season begins, squads must limit full-contact sessions to two per week (Monday through Sunday) and make sure total practice time does not exceed three hours for a single practice or five hours for days with double sessions.

Changing landscape

Both Canton head coach Tim Baechler and Plymouth counterpart Mike Sawchuk on Tuesday said they understand what triggered the changes and prepared all summer so that their teams would not miss a beat.

"I think it's good what they're trying to do with the



Tuesday morning "helmets only" practice is Canton senior tailback Chuck Turfe (No. 28). BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

actually go through and teach the heads-up tackling. But that's kind of the way society is going now. I think you can find some positives in it."

Sawchuk added that one concern all coaches will have is whether the MHSAA stipulations will result in tentative blocking and tackling — which in turn could lead to injuries.

"The thing that scares me is are you going to lose aggressiveness when you're preparing for your game because you haven't gone full speed as many times as you need to,' he said.

Border Classic game

The second annual 2015 Border Classic All-Star Football Game will be played June 13, 2015, at Wayne State University's Tom Adams Field.

The inaugural game, matching 40 of the top graduating high school seniors from Michigan and Ohio, was played last June at the University of Findlay in Ohio. Michigan won the game, 27-14.

The game is a cooperative event between the football coaches associations in each state. A time has not been set for the 2015 kickoff.

Team Michigan coaches will be named later this summer and the Michigan roster will be announced after the NCAA signing date in February.

For more information, visit www.mhsfca.com

Baseball showcase

Henry Ford Community College will be hosting a showcase for high school and junior-college baseball players on Saturday, Aug. 23, at Papp Park, which is located at 9350 Westlake Road in Taylor.

Registration and stretching will run from 8:15-8:45 a.m.

The showcase will provide local players with exposure to the Henry Ford coaching staff

SPORTS ROUNDUP

and professional scouts.

The registration fee is \$100. To register online, visit www.henryfordcamps.com.

For more information, contact coach Brown at 313-657-3200 or sjbrown@hfcc.edu.

GC tennis tryouts

Tryouts for the 2014 Garden City High School boys tennis team will take place from 9-11 a.m. Monday through Wednesday (rain or shine) at the school's tennis courts. For more information, contact head coach Ron Pummill at 734-765-5479.

Field hockey sign-up

Registration for the Farmington United high school field hockey team is underway through the Costick Center (activity 110541) in Farmington Hills.

No field hockey experience is necessary. The practice time will be 4:30-6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Farmington United is a combined team of eighththrough 12th-grade players in Farmington Public Schools.

varsity level in Division 2 of the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association.

For more information, contact farmingtonunitedfield-

sity team.

hockey@gmail.com.

Softball players needed

The 18-and-over Michigan Diamonds women's fast-pitch softball team needs two players — a pitcher and a utility player.

The team is composed of college players and will com-pete in four tournaments during the 2015 summer season.

For more information, contact Jeff Combs at jtcombs@netscape.com or 810-417-1192.

'Meet the Team' night

Livonia Churchill High School's annual "Meet the Team" night will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, in the James P. Carli Auditorium.

All athletes who plan on participating in at least one sport and at least one of their parents are asked to attend.

For more information, contact the athletic office at 734-744-2650, ext. 46117.

YMCA offerings

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs and leagues this fall. The focus will be on fun, exercise and social interaction. For more information, contact the YMCA at 734-386-0700.

The team competes at the

hometownlife.com

concussion buzz going around," Baechler said. "It is going to limit the amount of contact you have. Basically instead of being able to hit twice in your two-a-days you'll only be hitting one of those. It's less hitting, which is the idea of the rule.

"But we just make do and make sure we take good advantage of that one hitting practice."

Baechler noted that once hitting is allowed, coaches must monitor how long and how hard players crack their shoulder pads.

"We're still on the field for five hours, but it's just the amount of hitting," he con-tinued. "The blocking and tackling has to be walkedthrough speed and it's got to be more mental about how to get there, where to go, things like that, instead of full live.

"It's a small thing, I really don't think it's going to hurt anybody in their preparation if they do it right."

The Chiefs were going through morning drills on the P-CEP turf field Tuesday because Monday's heavy downpour turned the team's usual practice gridiron into mud and standing water.

Senior quarterback Greg Williams took snaps and threw the pigskin to receivers such as Guajardo and Chuck Turfe, who ran unimpeded routes against defenders who largely just held padded shields for any incidental contact.

Safety first

Plymouth's Sawchuk admitted that he isn't a "fan" of the stipulations and stressed he and his coaching staff have always put a premium on the safety of players.

"You got to abide whatever rule they give you and you got to adjust your schedule and be creative, and make sure you don't break the rules," Sawchuk said. "I'm not a fan of it. I'm all about being safe, and about all the concussions, I get it. But I think it punishes coaches who do the right thing at practice and don't line their kids up 15 yards away and run them at each other.

"And it punishes us who

ing and top-notch helmets can help minimize head injuries, to a degree.

"But it's not a perfect science," Baechler stressed. "A kid moves late (by) one second you're trying to tackle him and boom, your head gets involved in a tackle. You're going to block somebody and they move at the last second.

'Your head was perfect and then it's not perfect because of the movement. It's just not a perfect science, there'll never be a cure for it.'

Give it time

The Wildcats' athletic trainer, Joe Durocher, said the reasons for the changes are commendable. He just doesn't know how quickly teams will adjust or how the rules will be enforced.

"Decreased hitting in practice, I like the idea," Durocher said "Is it optimal for performance aspects of football? Maybe, maybe not, we'll see. It hasn't been tried. So we don't know how it's going to work.

"I don't think any of the rules are really over the top, they're all really good ideas. The non-targeting rule, staying away from the head, they're even mandating that you properly teach tackling even better than before. It will be in the application (of the rules) where we will really see."

Durocher noted that coaches are "trying to figure out how do we do that (enforcement), how do we get the kids to not look like they're targeting. When is a player in the wrong position and not paying attention and runs a defenseless player."

He added it might take a full season for coaches, players and trainers to get a grip on how effective the changes were in reducing concussions.

"Next year will be a good time to evaluate how it's all gone with full year of information," Durocher said, "let alone trial and error for practices.'

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

GRIDDERS

Continued from Page B1

per day. When school starts, practices are limited to 2 ½ hours.

Bechtel thinks the rules are fine and don't present a problem for the Falcons.

"It's not that you can't have contact; you can't have full-go contact," Bechtel said. "It doesn't mean vou can't do vour drill work.

"It doesn't really affect us yet, because we're just in helmets and not having full contact anyway

"We just modified our play in two-a-days. We do most of our technique work in the first practice and team work in the second.

"It used to be (one session each for) offense and defense. We'll be more full-go in the second practice when we get going."

N. FARMINGTON RAIDERS

Unlike past years, teams didn't have to worry Monday about the August heat with temps in the 70s. Instead, the issue was the rain.

"The nice thing was it wasn't too hot," coach Todd Schultz said. "Everyone got wet. It didn't become a distraction. We just concentrated on

what we needed to work on.

'We were fortunate; we were dry all morning. We left the field when it started pouring. The heavy stuff came later.

The Raiders practiced in a steady rain in the afternoon, but they got done what they wanted to do.

"Today was offense day, so we did a mix of run and pass," Schultz said. "With the weather and condition of the football, we worked a little more on run than we did pass."

The new contact rules are intended to reduce the risk of concussion, and the four days without pads is meant to give players more time to get acclimated to hot weather.

"Of course, this week that's not something we have to worry too much about," Schultz said. "Heat is not an issue now, but we always preach hydration. (Players) could just look up to the sky for a constant water break today.

He added the five-hour rule includes time spent stretching and doing warmups, which cuts into time for other things.

The Raiders used to do contact drills in groups when working with the offensive line, for example. Now that work is done during team time, according to Schultz.

"It's good that we're working with kids and not exposing them to unnecessary contact," he said. "Conversely, we need to teach these guys how to block and tackle properly while playing full speed.

"You can't replicate that while going against a dummy or half speed. It's good we're limiting contact, but we also want to practice game situations that we'll be faced with."

Schultz added he was happy with the first day. Thirty-nine players turned out for the var-

"The kids were upbeat; they're excited," he said. "You've done a summer of conditioning and weight lifting. Everyone is happy to see we're actually running plays and getting back to the game."

HARRISON HAWKS

Herrington

Herrington begins his 45th season as the only head coach the Hawks have ever had. He has won 13 state titles.

With the retirement of former Brother Rice coach Al Fracassa, he is the dean of prep football coaches in Michigan.

"I don't really think about that," Herrington,

who has coached for 53 years, said. "I'm just fortunate I have the help, the good staff, that I can continue coaching and doing what I enjoy.

He doesn't think the new contact rules will affect his team too much, adding players only have to wait one more day before donning shoulder pads.

"We can get just as much done," he said. "Most coaches don't hit live all the time like they did in the old days.

"With shoulder pads and helmets on, you can pretty much teach tackling without having to take people to the ground.

"I am a little concerned about the green-andgold game (Saturday). It will only be one day in pads and then we have a scrimmage, but it will be all right."

When school starts, teams can only have two days of contact per week. That will be Tuesday and Wednesday at Harrison, but the Hawks are in the routine of limiting contact to those days.

Herrington said the extra day of acclimation is not needed since players report for the start of practice in good shape nowadays.

He added there is sometimes an overreaction to the fear of concussions, too.

"It all started with the NFL and suits, and what starts there filters down to us," he said.

FARMINGTON FALCONS

Bechtel

Bechtel echoed Herrington's comments about not doing live, full-go contact every day once the season starts.

"You just can't because kids get hurt," he said. "You won't have anybody left. I don't think the new rub will have much effect on what we



Bechtel likes his team, which he said has a lot of starters back and

good speed. The Falcons had 46 varsity players Monday.

"We're just excited to get going," he said. "We're happy to get away from 7-on-7 and pretend football.

"Now we're going to start playing, and we'll see Friday what kind of team we're going to be."



B5 (WGRL) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-842-8046 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



This American craftsman house is an appealing design. The National Association of Realtors is putting an emphasis on ownership through a new advertising and public relations effort. GETTY IMAGES | ISTOCKPHOTO

Advertising/PR campaign puts focus on value of **Realtors for home buyers**

As a new generation of home buyers enters into recovering real estate markets across the country, the National Association of Realtors announced July 14 the launch of a major national advertising campaign in conjunction with realtor.com, as well as a comprehensive public relations effort, "Real Insight," which together will showcase the value of the local knowledge and accurate data available to consumers through Realtors and realtor.com.

NAR's latest campaign, "Real People," is part of a \$35 million an-nual advertising effort that targets home buyers and sellers, ages 25-54; the ads are currently broadcasting across TV, digital, radio and mobile channels. Realtor.com is concurrent-ly running a multimillion dollar advertising campaign, "Accuracy Matters," emphasizing that realtor-.com provides accurate, up-to-date and comprehensive real estate listings and content available online.

Together Realtors and realtorcom deliver the real insights and know-how to make home happen for home buyers and sellers all across the country," said Steve Brown, NAR

president and co-owner of Irongate, Inc., Realtors in Dayton, Ohio. "This effort is critically important for our industry as we unite under a common goal of providing the most ac-curate market data available online along with the deep local knowledge and Realtor expertise that buyers and sellers need to make their real estate dreams a reality.

"Accuracy is critically important for serious buyers and sellers, but the Accuracy Matters awareness campaign is about more than just listings data – it's about sound pro-fessional advice as well, from Realtors with unparalleled local insights," said Steve Berkowitz, chief executive officer for Move, Inc., the operator of realtor.com. "This com-mitment leverages both campaigns to help consumers understand the combined advantage of using realtor.com while working with a Realtor."

In addition to the national advertising campaign, NAR will be hosting a series of live and online nesses to real estate service providers and industry leaders – with upto-the-minute understanding of to-

day's real estate market trends. "Some have suggested that new technologies should make buying a home more like buying an airline ticket or a stock certificate, but they're missing the point. You don't live your life in a stock share, raise your kids in seat 7B, or build your future online," said Brown. "Real estate transactions are the most significant personal and financial engagement most Americans ever make. In today's competitive and complex environment, Realtors combine technology with the reallife insight and market knowledge that buyers and sellers need to succeed."

To learn more about the campaign; visit realtor.org/consumeradvertising-campaign.

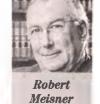
The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association, representing one million members

Independent legal counsel vital to condo operations

Q: I am on the board of a condo and have found out that our management company has used the same attorney in every one of its projects that it recommended to us. When I asked the management company why that was the case, the management company said it was just coinci-dental and that they do "good work." Is that a problem for our association?

A: Congratulations. You have stumbled across a frequent phenomenon in Michigan condominium governance where the management company is figuratively in bed with the law firm

that they continuously recommend because, among other things, that law firm will agree not to pursue the management company for any malfeasance and/or has otherwise represented the management company or done "favors for it." This unholy alliance



is something that should be avoided and any management com-pany that continues to send the business of the association to one law firm is waiting, literally, for the cookie to crumble when that affiliation is exposed and any impropriety is established. You are best off retaining a new management company and a new law firm.

Q: I am buying a new condominium from a national developer, and received a Disclosure Statement that said there were no lawsuits pending against the Developer of this project. The name of the project is different from the name of the national devel-

oper. Should I be looking for more? A: You certainly should. The Condo-minium Act only requires the Developer of that particular project to disclose any litigation with that particular project. You should inquire as to whether the parent of your Developer, i.e., the has been sued at any other condomini-um projects locally and, perhaps, nationally if the same style unit is being sold elsewhere. Many times we find that Developers are sued and, as part of a settlement, demand confidentiality clauses so no one knows what the terms of the settlement are except the parties, and no prospective purchaser will real-ly find out the details. I have seen many situations where Developers have covered up their defects which they knew about in other projects from ones they are currently developing and/or selling at the time. Get a good condominium lawyer who knows the history of Developers in this area.

"Conversations with Real Insight" in coming months that provide attendees - from consumers and busiinvolved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estat closings recorded the week of March 31 April 4, 2014, at the Oakland County Reof Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

\$195

\$167

\$175

\$385

\$352

\$79

\$250

\$162

\$236

BEVERLY HILLS
18051 Dunblaine Ave
32255 Eastlady Dr
17869 Kinross Ave
BIRMINGHAM
1275 Davis Ave
1725 E 14 Mile Rd Unit D
1650 E Melton Rd
1141 Golf View Blvd
2011 Hazel St
963 Puritan Ave
1252 Smith Ave
327 Southfield Rd Unit 14
600 W Frank St
1912 Washington Blvd
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
434 Fox Hills Dr N # A-3
2441 Hickory Glen Dr
40760 Woodward Ave Unit 45
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
2037 Bootmaker Ln
1939 Cedar Hill Dr
4304 Covered Bridge Rd
5210 Echo Rd
560 Fox Pointe Ct
1686 Hoit Tower Dr
2830 Lamplighter Ln
2170 Lancaster Rd
1420 Manderford Rd
6780 Oakhills Dr
4364 Pine Tree Trl

estate rch 31 to	7336 Saint Auburn Dr COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	\$311,000	3886 W Commerce Rd NORTHVILLE
	8784 Alsup Ave	\$335,000	21520 Chubb Rd
nty Register cities,	5641 Antlers Ct	\$75,000	974 Coldspring Dr
lues,	753 Bingham Ct	\$310,000	22248 Innsbrook Dr
	2276 Calibouge	\$75,000	NOVI
	5139 Carinas Way Ct	\$351,000	22694 Bertram Dr
	3259 Mandrake St	\$180,000	25036 Buckminster Dr
\$265,000	2437 Solace Dr	\$65,000	45866 Cider Mill Rd
\$550,000	1887 Sparling	\$237,000	25501 Hillsdale Dr
\$255,000	FARMINGTON	\$237,000	44879 Lindbergh
	31616 Folkstone Dr	\$121,000	51182 Mayfair Ter
\$370,000	22886 Frederick Ave	\$128,000	41703 Mitchell Rd
\$70,000	33791 Hamlin Ct	\$200,000	24524 Olde Orchard St
\$173,000	22779 Lilac St	\$135,000	22814 Talford St
\$381,000	34155 Schulte Dr	\$218,000	22909 Woolsey
\$565,000	33346 Shiawassee Rd	\$267,000	SOUTH LYON
\$775,000	FARMINGTON HILLS		518 N Reese St
\$550,000	23875 Glencreek Dr	\$115,000	17708 Addison St
\$134,000	30768 Huntsman Dr E	\$223,000	SOUTHFIELD
\$1,287,000	28811 Kendallwood Dr	\$234,000	17270 Alta Vista Dr
\$230,000	29439 Laurel Dr	\$119,000	29330 Bermuda Ln
	25585 Lyncastle St	\$205,000	19870 Butternut Ln
\$279,000	23106 Montclair St	\$80,000	29466 Candlewood Ln
\$420,000	29496 Moran St	\$206,000	15872 Harden Cir
\$167,000	21940 River Pines Dr	\$197,000	15801 Providence Dr # 01e
	28416 Shiloh Ct	\$245,000	29656 Rock Creek Dr
\$285,000	29433 Sylvan Ln	\$165,000	21700 Virginia St
\$425,000	31935 W 14 Mile Rd # 227	\$133,000	29161 Wellington Rd E # 42
\$285,000	29232 Wellington St	\$190,000	WHITE LAKE
\$410,000	FRANKLIN		8085 Bennington Blvd
\$572,000	26570 Drummond Ct	\$2,100,000	742 E Oxhill Dr
\$345,000	26285 W 14 Mile Rd	\$265,000	863 Golden Dr
\$418,000	LATHRUP VILLAGE		10953 Hillway St
\$235,000	27230 Bloomfield Dr	\$165,000	8200 Nathan Oscar Dr
\$330,000	MILFORD		10300 Northridge Ct
\$375,000	3265 Granda Vista Dr	\$258,000	469 Rosario Ln
\$395,000	1750 S Hickory Ridge Trl	\$272,000	1233 Round Lake Rd

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 21-25, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, a sales prices.

CANTON

2467 Amber Dr 43555 Fleetwood Ct 41484 Glade Rd 46703 Inverness Rd 6544 Kings Mill Dr 42471 Lilley Pointe Dr 42306 Oakland Dr 42246 Saratoga Cir 44180 Sheridan St

cus	Jor of Roadinghi De
and	31568 Marquette St
	29483 Meadow Ln
	918 Middlebelt Rd
	LIVONIA
	14404 Fairway St
,000	9870 Harrison St
,000	32836 Hees St
,000	29408 Lori St
,000	17113 Louise St
,000	37772 Mallory Dr
,000	11260 Oxbow St
,000	18579 Sunset St
,000	27901 Whitcomb St
,000	NORTHVILLE
	601 Ashlev Ct

GARDEN CITY

596 Brandt St

33701 Kathrvn St

	16865 Horseshoe Dr
\$65,000	15938 Morningside
\$84,000	PLYMOUTH
\$130,000	44436 Charnwood Dr
\$82,000	11696 Morgan Ave
\$28,000	REDFORD
	24255 Puritan
\$155,000	WAYNE
\$130,000	3048 Rivers Edge Dr
\$105,000	3630 Swanson St
\$85,000	32572 Woodbrook Dr
\$211,000	WESTLAND
\$284,000	32651 Birchwood St
\$135,000	36620 Deerhurst S
\$90,000	36815 Dover Dr
\$229,000	7645 Louise Ct
	171 S Carlson St

\$457,000

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

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

\$238,000

\$219,000

\$651,000

\$310,000

\$355,000

\$288,000

\$283,000

\$645,000

\$365,000 \$312,000

\$180,000

\$110,000

\$78,000

\$73,000

\$148,000

\$74,000

\$161,000

\$148,000

\$162,000

\$96,000

\$87,000

\$93,000 \$85,000

\$168,000

\$72,000

\$300,000

\$160,000

\$233,000

\$125,000

\$169,000

\$245,000

\$258,000

\$115,000

\$550,000

\$158,000

\$360,000

\$160,000

\$34,000

\$95,000

\$25,000

\$130,000

\$70,000

\$115,000

\$150,000

\$80,000

\$115,000

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayde Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosure Tour.com.

B6 (*) 0 & E Media | Thursday, August 14, 2014



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Classified Advertising: 1-800-579-7355

O & E Media | Thursday, August 14, 2014 (*) B7



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	Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken do 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through row, column and box. Each number can appear only of column and box. You can figure out the order in which appear by using the numeric clues already provided in more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the										
	BIG TOP WORD SEARCH										

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Westland parish, priest celebrate 25 years together

Ss. Simon and Jude parishioners in Westland recently recognized the Rev. Gerry Bechard for his 25 years of service as pastor of their church.

More than 250 individuals attended a Mass and party. Special guests included Bechard's family, local ministers and state Sen. Glenn Anderson, who presented resolutions from both the state of Michigan and Wayne County commending the pastor's work in the community. The Ss. Simon and Jude church family reaches out to the surrounding community with its Red Wagon literacy program, Christmas

AUGUST

Saturday, Aug. 16

anyone in need

toursavior.org

CONCERT

Aug. 16

mission

man, Livonia

BACKPACK GIVEAWAY

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon,

Location: Christ Our Savior

Lutheran Church, 14175 Far-

Details: Backpacks with basic

school supplies will be given to

Contact: 734-522-6830; chris-

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Saturday,

Lutheran Church, 28000 New

Market Road, Farmington Hills

Details: Annual outdoor Chris-

tian rock concert, "Christ is Our

lawn and will include the Dennis

Coffey Band and Mike Scruggs.

Food will be available for pur-

chase. This is a free concert for

fit Family of God, an inner city

MOVIE ON THE LAWN

Time/Date: 8:30 p.m. Aug. 30

Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merri-

Details: Bring a lawn chair or

blanket to watch God's not

Dead. Movie starts at sunset.

indoors in inclement weather

free. Movie will be shown

Contact: Steve Morgan at

Admission, popcorn and icies are

Location: Faith Community

Contact: 248-553-3380

the entire family that will bene-

Rock," will take place on the

Location: Prince of Peace

mington Road, Livonia

gifts and food, by helping with the Norwayne Community Garden and by providing yearround assistance through the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

food, memory-sharing and a photo display.

much the parishioners love, admire and respect Fr. Gerry (their hero)," Kathy Hansen, director of publicity for the church, wrote in an email to the Observer, "and how much he loves his church family and the work they do together."

website at www.stssimonandjude.com.

The celebration included

"It is very evident how

Visit Ss. Simon and Jude's

RELIGION CALENDAR

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Michuta leads a study of Acts of

the Apostles. Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200,

Ward Presbyterian

Six Mile, Northville Township

Contact: 734-459-3333 SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19 Location: St. Paul's, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills Details: Daycare, preschool, Young Fives programs, and grades K-8 Contact: 248-767-4806

ONGOING **CLASSES/STUDY**

313-377-0832

through Aug. 24

Canton

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday,

Location: Cherry Hill Village

Schoolhouse, corner of Ridge

and Cherry Hill Roads, Canton

Details: Bring your own lawn

chair for this service with mem-

weather, service will be held at

bers of St. Michael Lutheran

Church. In case of inclement

the church, 7000 N. Sheldon,

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberger at

734-464-9491

Our Lady of Loretto Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township Details: Scripture study

Passages

Tlow to reach us 1-800-579-7355 * fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Priday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday. Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Catholic author Gary

or www.livoniastmichael.org

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays Location: Room A101, 40000 W.

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: 248-374-5920

FAMILY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

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

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May Location: 14175 Farmington

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

Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope. Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767 **PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE**

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through back. Details: Music, singing, prayer Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-

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

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated. Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org **First Presbyterian Church** Time/Date: 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays. Location: 200 E. Main St.,

Northville Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

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

Steve's Family Restaurant Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is

an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others Contact: 313-534-0399

Details: Fireside Adult Day

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

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. dail

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven **Retirement Community. Funding** available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act. Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford: Room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling.

Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244 » Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August Location: 28301 Middlebelt. between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group Contact: 248-433-1011

» Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with

questions at 734-981-2519 » Fireside Church of God

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Location: 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Overeaters Anonymous meets

Contact: Mary at 734-634-7154 or Jennifer at 734-812-6077 for additional information

» St. Thomas a' Becket Church

Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly encourages members of the organization to lose weight and keep it off for good.

Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322 for additional information

» Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: Overeaters Anonymous Contact: 248-559-7722; www.oa.org for additional

information » Ward Evangelical Presby-

terian Church Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (op-

tional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/ desserts)

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecovery-.com and www.wardchurch.org/ celebrate

THRIFT STORE

St. James Presbyterian Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Contact: 313-534-7730 for additional information Way of Life Christian Church Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. third

hometownlife.com

Parishioners applaud the

Rev. Gerry

Bechard.



BLEYLE, CINDY

Born April 19, 1965 has left this earth July 28, 2014. Preceded in death by her parents: Sheldon W Bleyle and Lily M. (Weeks) Bleyle. Survived by all she touched with her "UNCONDI-TIONAL LOVE & SPIRIT". Graveside Service will be August 16, 2014 lp.m. at the New Bay Port Cemetery M-147 (Pigeon Rd) and M-25 (N Rd) and (N Unionville Rd). in Huron County, MI. All welcome to attend

May you find comfort in family & friends

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER Nardin Park United Method-

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

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

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday Location: 40000 Six Mile, North-

ville Township Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation.

Contact: 248-374-5920 **SONG CIRCLE**

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

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

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

Ministry offers an activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email to adm@firesidechog.org

» St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

Contact: 734-421-8451

» St. John Neumann

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesdays

Saturday from October through May

Location: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

Details: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.

Contact: 734-637-7618 WORSHIP

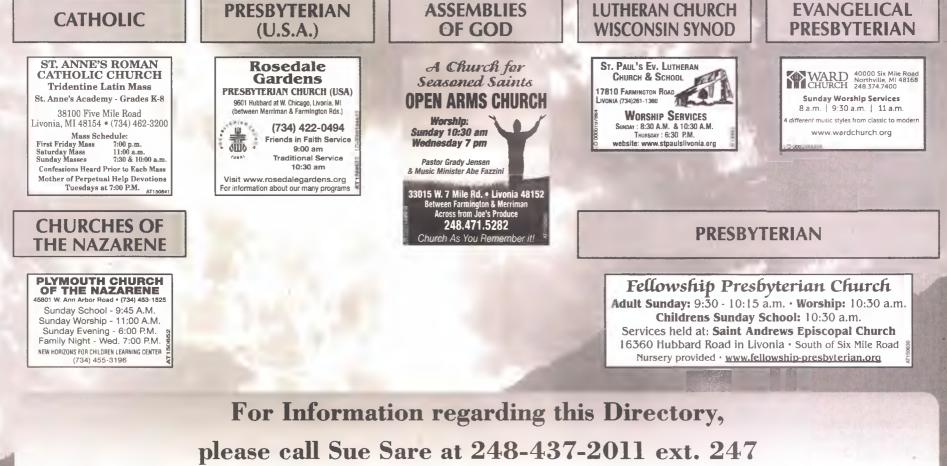
» Adat Shalom Synagogue

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays

Location: 29901 Middlebelt, **Farmington Hills**

Contact: 248-851-5100

Your Invitation to Worship



or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

B9 (WGRL) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 CONTROL OF CONTROL

New comedy pokes fun at Hollywood, its clichés

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

A local sports medicine doctor and a dating coach have joined forces to bring a comedy about the ups and downs of Tinseltown to a Detroit-area improv stage.

What would such unlikely collaborators know about the struggles an actor faces trying to make it big in Hollywood?

Plenty. When he's not tend-ing to patients at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Plymouth resident Steve Karageanes, D.O., is likely to be found on a movie set, directing and producing his latest film. And although she loves her day job as a dating coach, Alara Ceri, a former Farmington Hills resident, is a working actress and a budding writer, with movie roles and a YouTube series to her name. Together, they'll present Hollywood Positive, with Ceri in the lead role and Karageanes directing, at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 14-16, and Thursday and Friday, Aug. 21-22, at Go! Comedy Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale. Tickets are \$15 and available at gocomedy.net. Other cast members are Julia Schroeder, Mag-gie O'Reilly, Charlie Newhart, Genevieve Jona, Vince Sabatini, Brian Papandrea and Dan Brittain.

Karageanes met Ceri, a North Farmington High School graduate who has a degree in theater from Michigan State University, while casting one of his films. She didn't get the part, but a few months later, he recruited her for a role in Needlestick, a full-length feature now in post-production.

Ceri subsequently shared a story idea that became the foundation for Karageanes' screenplay Make It Big, winner of the Action on Film 2012 writer award. He received \$100,000 to help produce the film, which will go into production — with Ceri in one of its roles — later this year.

He offered to give her play Hollywood Positive a sketch

Detroit area, after he saw it performed in North Hollywood last summer. Ceri, who moved to Hollywood a few months after graduating from MSU in 2009, said the play "is pretty much my first two years out there."

Dining room digs

"I found a place (to live) on Craigslist, this lady's dining room. She was subletting it. I was living in someone's dining room for a year and a half," she said. "I did the whole serverwaiter thing. I had three wait-ing jobs. I'd go on horrible auditions and meet wannabe agents."

She quickly learned to separate the frauds from the pro-fessionals and allowed failure to motivate rather than stop her.

"I think the first big thing that actually made me think, 'I can do this,' is I had a small part in a (rapper) 50 Cent movie," she said, adding that there's nothing else she'd rather do than act.

"I love being a dating coach, I love kids and other stuff, but it's not what inspires me from day to day," she said.

Writing about Hollywood

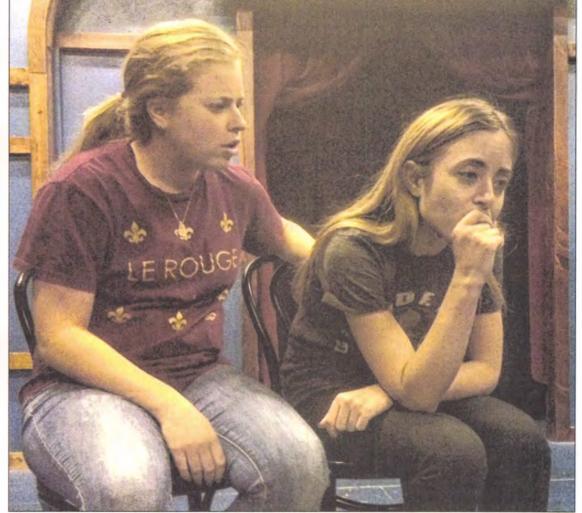
Ceri came up with the idea for Hollywood Positive three years before she wrote the stage script in April 2013.

"I wrote the first 10 pages for three years," she said. "I wrote different pages. I had complete writer's block.'

A spiritual retreat in Bali inspired her to follow through. She came home from the trip ready to "conquer the world" and penned an outline consisting of every Hollywood cliche that she had experienced during five years on the West Coast. She staged the play at a local theater three months after writing it. It ran for a month.

Karageanes re-wrote portions of the script and allowed the cast to improvise during rehearsals for the show in Ferndale.

"It's bare bones in a way. There are not a lot of costume



Julia Schroeder (left) and Alara Ceri rehearse a scene from the comedy "Hollywood Positive," based on Ceri's experiences as an actress in Hollywood.

changes. There's not a lot of set dressing. I thought it was a great place to get down to character, relationships and the humor of it," said Karageanes, who studied improvisation from 2004-07 at Second City's training center in Novi.

Ceri hopes to take the play to New York and said that "workshopping" it helps to improve the work.

In the meantime, she hopes the Hollywood Positive audience will get "a little dose of what Hollywood really is like."

"For artists, I want them to know they are not alone," she said. "If they ever feel defeated and that the world is on their shoulders, to know they aren



Alara Ceri (left) uses "object work" to simulate an item in her hand. The sketch-style version of her play "Hollywood Positive" uses few costumes and props, allowing characters and their relationships to shine. Other

the only ones."

actors are Brian Papandrea, Genevieve Jona and Maggie O'Reilley.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS **DETROIT ZOO**

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day, with closing time at 8 p.m. Wednesdays in August Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.

Wild Summer Nights: Concerts run 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, through Aug. 27, in the Main Picnic Grove and are free with zoo admission, which is reduced to \$6 after 6 p.m. on concert nights. Performers are Candy Band, which plays rock music for children, Aug. 20; and Joe Reilly and the Community Gardeners, also with music for children, Aug. 27

Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 25-Oct. 10 Location: The Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: "Artpack Services Employee Exhibit'

Contact: 248-473-1859

JANICE CHARACH GALLERY

Time/Date: Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Sept. 11

Location: Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: "Daily Gratitudes: Art, Sport and Cupcakes," features the work of Jessica Kovan. Also on exhibit are works by glass artists and Teresa Petersen, who creates art from thrift store and hardware shop finds

Contact: 248-432-5448 **NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE**

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Aug. 23 Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville Details: "DongFeng" solo show by WanChuan Kesler Contact: 248-344-0497



The Boa Constrictors will perform Aug. 17 at the Elks Blues Summer Festival in Plymouth.

AUDITIONS BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Aug. 18-19 Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth

Details: There are roles for five women and two men in the Victorian thriller, The Lights Are Warm and Coloured. Prepare a dramatic monologue no longer than two minutes and be prepared to read from the script. Craig Hane will direct the show, which will run Oct. 17-26

Contact: 734-276-9075 **MOTOR CITY YOUTH** THEATRE

Time/Date: By appointment, 7-9 p.m. Aug. 28

Location: 27555 Grantland, Livonia

Details: Placement auditions for the theater's "Acting for the Serious Student" course, which will run Friday evenings Sept. 5-Oct. 17. The class is for ages 8-18 and costs \$100 for non-members and \$80 for members. Audition consists of a 30-second monologue or two 15-second monologues that will demonstrate skills in memorization. text interpretation, character and stage presence.

Contact: Nancy Florkowski, 586-894-8628; nancy@mcyt.org

COMEDY **JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB**

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 15-16 Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Mike Stanley; tickets are \$12 show only, \$22 with dinner on Thursday; \$16 show only, \$29 with dinner,

Friday Contact: joeyscomedyclub.net; 734-261-0555

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 15-16

Location: Fourth and Troy Streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: Lance Weiss and Brendan Fitzgibbons perform; tickets \$15

Coming up: Steve Hofstetter hosts a live taping of 16 comedians for Fox's Laughs, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17. Tickets are \$10. Michigan native J.Chris Newberg performs Contact: 248-542-9900; info@ComedvCastle.com

DANCE **MOTOR CITY TAP FEST**

Time/Date: Through Aug. 16 Location: Old Main Building on the Wayne State University campus in Detroit

Details: Four days of tap classes and tap jam sessions. Teachers include Cloe Arnold, of So You Think You Can Dance, and Michigan native, Eric Gutman, who performed on Broadway. The Motor City Soles show caps the festival, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 16, at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. It will include performances by faculty and leading tap dancers

Contact: 917-687-4811 for the festival and 313-576-5111 for Motor City Soles

FILM **PENN THEATRE**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 15-16; and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth Details: The Fault In Our Stars, admission \$3

Summer Cinema Series: All shows at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m Thursday.; seats \$3. The Nutty Professor, Aug. 14; Abbott & Costello in Buck Privates, Aug. 21; Ferris Bueller's Day Off, Aug. 28 Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-

theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Aug. 22 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 23 Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit Details: Dirty Dancing, \$5 Contact: 313-898-1481

FUNDRAISER FASH BASH 2014

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14 Location: Detroit Institute of Art (DIA), 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Details: Includes an outdoor cocktail party, the Neiman Marcus "Art of Fashion" runway show in the DIA's Great Hall, followed by the Audi After Party. Tickets are \$500 for front row seating at the fashion show and a \$100 gift card with purchase of two tickets; \$250 includes priority reserved seating in the second row of the fashion show; \$175 per ticket includes priority reserved seating in the third row for the fashion show; and \$85 provides access to the Audi After Party on the steps of the DIA. Proceeds benefit the museum's operating endowment Contact: 313-833-5646

HISTORY **KELSEY MUSEUM**

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Sept. 7

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: The exhibit, "Ancient/Modern: The Design of Everyday Things," examines how inhabitants of the ancient Mediterranean and Near East both resembled and differed from contemporary Americans

Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth Details: Wheels of Summer, an exhibit of toys with wheels, runs through Nov. 2. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC

ELKS BLUES SUMMER FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 12:30-8 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 17

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Carl Henry, The BOA Constrictors, Greg Nagy Band, RJ's Kansas City Six, Thornetta Davis, and an All Star Jam perform. Bring a lawn chair. No outside food or drink allowed. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12

Contact: 734-453-1780

JAZZ@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Tommy Good Quartet per-forms Aug. 26. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia Details: Open Mic, Aug. 19. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted. Contact: 734-464-6302

B10 (WGRL) THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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



ROASTED **BROCCOLI &** TOMATOES

Servings: 4

1 tablespoon olive oli 1 teaspoon garlic powder

¼ teaspoon coarse ground black pepper

12 ounces broccoli florets

1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes

1 tablespoon white wine vinegar

2 teaspoons honey ½ teaspoon basil leaves ¼ teaspoon oregano leaves

Preheat oven to 425°F. Mix oil, garlic powder and pepper in large bowl. Add broccoli and tomatoes; toss to coat well. Spread in single layer on foil-lined 15by 10- by 1-inch baking pan. Roast in oven 13-15 minutes or until broccoli is lightly browned. Meanwhile, mix vinegar, honey, basil and oregano in small bowl. Drizzle over roasted vegetables after removing from oven; toss to coat well. Serve immediately.

SPICES, HERBS BRING OUT THE BEST OF SUMMER VEGGIES

le all want to eat more vegetables and in the summer. When farmers markets and grocery stores are filled with fresh, colorful produce, it's easier than ever. From juicy red tomatoes and yellow sweet corn to vibrant green broccoli, seasonal produce can be even more enjoyable with the addition of spices and herbs.

"I'm always thinking about ways to make vegetables taste great and be more healthful and exciting other than just adding butter and salt," registered dietitian Wendy Bazilian said. "Adding spices and herbs is easy to do and they only cost pennies per serving. Plus, they're already in your kitchen."

To add flavor to everyday vegetable favorites like zucchini and carrots, Bazilian recommends an easy rule of thumb: start with ¼ teaspoon of spices and herbs, such as basil and oregano, per cup of veggies, along with a splash of citrus juice or olive oil. "You can also dial up the flavor, depending on the cooking method," she said. "Roasting vegetables like broccoli and tomatoes creates a caramelized flavor that pairs deliciously with garlic, basil, oregano, honey and white vinegar. Grilling vegetables gives a smoky, charred flavor. Or let the natural flavor of green beans shine by steaming them with rosemary and thyme." Try these simple flavor tips to season your favorite vegetables and visit www.McCormick.com for more ideas you can use all year long.



MIXED VEGETABLE GRILL

Servings: 6

1 tablespoon light brown sugar 1½ teaspoons basil leaves

- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder

HERBED GREEN BEANS Servings: 4

- Courtesy of Family Features

% teaspoon ground black p 2 tablespoons olive oil

6 cups assorted cut-up vegetables, such as asparagus, bell peppers, zucchini, yellow squash, red onion and small sweet potato

Mix brown sugar, basil, salt, garlic powder, and pepper in small bowl. In large bowl, drizzle oil over vegetables;

toss to coat well. Add seasoning mixture; toss to coat well

Place vegetables in grill basket or rack, or thread onto skewers.

Grill over medium heat 10-12 minutes or until vegetables are tender, turning occasionally.

Kitchen tip: If using sweet potatoes, pierce them with fork and microwave two to three minutes on high or until tender.

- 1 pound trimmed green beans 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar 2 teaspoons olive oil 1/2 teaspoon finely crushed rosemary leaves 1/2 teaspoon thyme leaves 1/4 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper

Place beans in medium saucepan. Add enough water to cover beans. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer four to six minutes or until tender-crisp. Drain. Return beans to saucepan.

Toss with vinegar, oil, rosemary, thyme, sea salt and pepper. Cook and stir over medium heat one to two minutes or until heated through

Take a bite out of shark pie

Some foods pair perfectly with wine and others with Discovery Channel "Shark Week" programming. Check out Mitchell's Fish Market's dessert menu for the perfect treat - Shark Fin Pie - to cap off dinner before settling down to a shark documentary. Or make your own Shark Fin Pie at home without missing a minute of Zombie Sharks or Sharkpocalypse. Mitchell's with locations in Livonia and Birmingham, offers a recipe for Shark Fin Pie.

SHARK FIN PIE

Yield: 8 servings Shelf life: 7 days, frozen

1¼ cups Oreo crumbs, ground fine in a food processor

¼ cup butter, melted

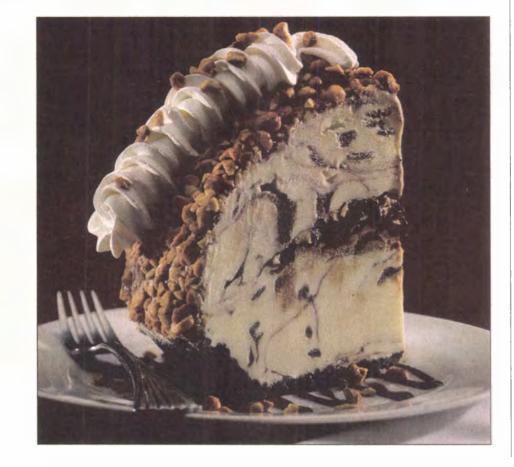
- 1% gallon vanilla fudge ice cream, divided in half
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup chocolate fudge sauce of choice 2 cups honey roasted peanuts, ground

Combine cookie crumbs and butter in a bowl. Evenly press into 10-inch pie tin. Bake for 6-8 minutes in a preheated 300°F oven. Remove from oven and cool pie shell at room temperature. Once cooled, freeze shell for 30 minutes. Allow ice cream to sit out for 10-15 minutes to soften. Fill shell with ½ of the ice cream. Spread the ice cream evenly in pie crust all the way to the rim. Place pie into the freezer.

Remove pie from the freezer. Using a spatula, spread peanut butter over the top of the ice cream mound. Next, spread fudge sauce over peanut butter. Evenly sprinkle the fudge with 1/2 cup of peanuts. Place pie back into the freezer to set.

Soften the remainder of the ice cream and place top and mound the ice cream into a dome shape. Top the ice cream with the remaining 1 ½ cups of honey roasted peanuts. Refreeze for at least 30 minutes.

Cut pie into eight equal pieces and enjoy!



CITY BITES

Restaurant crawl

Plymouth — — The 15th annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl, presented by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, will feature five eateries, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18. Hermann's Olde Towne Grille, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Station 885 and AQUA will participate. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Buy them at the Chamber of Commerce office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, in downtown Plymouth or call 734-453-1540.

Crayfish party

Canton — — Ikea will offer a Crayfish Party with seating 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15. The Swedish tradition dates back to the 1800s, when the lakes in Sweden were full of crayfish and fishing season was limited to August and September. Swedish crayfish parties are traditionally held in August, with friends and families congregating in paper hats and colorful crayfishthemed bibs. Tickets for the feast at Ikea, located on Ford Road at Haggerty, are \$12.99 for adults and \$4.99 for children, 12 and under. Buy tickets at the store. For group purchases, email IKEA2.IF026@IKEA.com.