



City has share of unsafe intersections

Westland has two of Wayne County's 10 worst, report shows

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton has three of the top 10 worst intersections in Wayne County, a new report shows, and all of them are along the Ford Road shopping corridor.

Westland and Garden City have two intersections each on the list, compiled by a Farming-

ton Hills-based law firm, Michigan Auto Law, using Michigan State Police data.

Hardly surprising, the accident-prone Ford-Haggerty intersection tops the list with 95 car accidents reported in 2013, followed by second-ranked Ann Arbor Road-Sheldon in Plymouth with 62 crashes.

Todd Berg, attorney for Michigan Auto Law, said the firm compiled the list and posted it on a blog to warn drivers to use caution in certain areas.

"We want to give information to the driving public so

they can stay safe and avoid accidents themselves," Berg said, also citing increased risks from distracted motorists who all too often are talking on the phone and performing other tasks while driving.

"And they're in a hurry," he added.

Ford Road appears in seven of the 10 worst intersections. After the Ford-Haggerty and Ann Arbor Road-Sheldon intersections, the remaining top 10 include:

» Ford and Lilley in Canton,

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Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said the fact the Ford-Haggerty intersection is Wayne County's most dangerous comes as no surprise, considering other studies have consistently ranked it as the worst for accidents.



The Westland Farmers Market offers spaces inside and outside for vendors. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Farmers Market Pavilion open for business

Tattan Park upgrades also include parking, restrooms, concession stand

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Improvements to Tattan Park, including the new Farmers Market Pavilion, were officially unveiled Thursday.

"There is a whole new vibe now when you come off Ford Road. It's a great day in the City of Westland," said Westland Mayor William Wild just before the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new pavilion, parking, restrooms, a concession stand and other enhancements to the park came from plans and \$3.5 million in funding from the Downtown Development Authority.

"When we broke ground on the new City Hall, I said it was just the beginning of a lot of good days for Westland," said Wild, who recognized his city staff, DDA members, engineers OHM and contractor J.S. Vig for their efforts on the project.

Westland Economic Development Director Lori Fodale thanked DDA member Margaret Harlow for her long service and personal guidance. That prompted Harlow to recall being in the community long enough that her children attended school with both Fodale and Wild.

"I remember when the (adjoining Central City Park) was closed. This is a great day. And something bigger



Melissa Geimer of Lula Bre's Sweet Treats has a prime spot in the pavilion.

and better is coming up," she said. "I'm sure everyone will enjoy it. And I'm sure the residents are glad the parking is moved."

Contaminated soil in the eastern section of Central City Park has been remediated with soccer fields and a walking path open for use. The new restrooms and concession stands will serve both parks, while plans call for the pavilion to be available for concerts and other functions. Part of the project was construction of off-street parking to

replace on-street parking along Carlson.

"It's too soon to tell," said Glen Brittingham, when asked about how the new pavilion will affect sales at the Farmers Market. He has been selling Jar Head Salsa and chips at the market for three years — part of the proceeds benefit veterans.

"Time will tell won't it, but this should draw more customers," said Jim Burda of Burda's Berries in

See MARKET, Page A2

New pastor for Salvation Army in Wayne-Westland loves to serve

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Envoy James Hulett has spent 31 years as a soldier in the Salvation Army — most of his adult life.

Asked what he has liked about his career in the Salvation Army, Hulett said, "That's an easy question.

Doing God's work. Saved to Serve. I enjoy the opportunities to serve and give. When given a lot, you want to give a lot."

Preferring to be called Jim, Hulett became the new administrator and pastor for the Wayne-Westland Corps in June. He is familiar with the area having spent the last six years in Ypsilanti and before that 21 years at the Dearborn Heights Corps.

"Dearborn Heights was the sponsoring corps for Wayne-Westland. I taught the boys program when it opened," Hulett said. "This is the 25th anniversary, although I'm not sure if it is when the pro-



Hulett

See HULETT, Page A2

Jury trial continues in fatal accident

A jury trial is continuing for a Westland woman charged with killing a motorist after allegedly deciding to smash her estranged girlfriend's car following an argument.

Ponya Lee, 28, is charged with second-degree murder, reckless driving causing death and malicious destruction of property in the Feb. 17 crash at the intersection of Wayne and Warren roads that killed Ypsilanti nurse Patricia Nwaneri, 55.

The contents of a Westland apartment Lee shared with Cynthia Dozier had reportedly been destroyed before Lee allegedly drove off in Dozier's 2014 Chevrolet Impala at a high rate of speed. Dozier testified that Lee called her before the crash to say she was going to wreck the car.

The charge alleges that Lee deliberately ran a red light at Warren and Wayne roads, striking the car driven by Nwaneri.

A native of Nigeria, Nwaneri was the mother of four children. One of the children, Nkemjika Nwaneri, took the stand and testified about seeing his mother in the hospital shortly after she died.

Lee has been jailed since the day of the accident, having been arrested for a related incident at Dozier's apartment later the same day. The trial is before Wayne County Circuit Judge Megan Maher Brennan.



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Jade Smith hired as Milan city administrator

Westland Deputy Mayor Jade Smith has accepted the job of Milan city administrator, effective Sept. 15.

"I am very excited and enthusiastic about becoming the city of Milan's next city administrator," Smith said in a press release. "The city's strong history and core values need to be celebrated and used as a

catalyst to make Milan a destination for future businesses and residents."

"There is so much opportunity and I can't wait to work with the mayor, city council, the city's staff and all community stakeholders as we plan and implement the next chap-



Smith

ter in Milan's history," he said.

Milan Mayor Michael Armitage announced the hire Wednesday.

"Mr. Smith has impressive city management experience and I think he will be a great fit here in Milan," said Armitage in a press release. "We are trying to

get a lot accomplished, and he has the skills to hit the ground running."

A Milan resident, Smith was selected from five candidates to fill the position that has been vacant since early 2013.

As deputy mayor for Westland, Smith serves as the chief of staff, supervising 15 department heads, a \$56 million bud-

get and approximately 300 city employees.

Smith also has experience in the private sector, working as vice president/branch manager of Comerica Bank and assistant vice-president/branch manager of LaSalle Bank Midwest.

Smith also was a finalist in the Garden City manager search last year.

MARKET

Continued from Page A1

Three Rivers. "I do five to seven markets a week."

More enthusiastic about the new pavilion and restrooms was market master Mary Vellardita of the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

"We love the new pavilion. People and vendors are enjoying it so much," Vellardita said. "Our challenge is how to grow the market. We need some more concrete — we had to turn down some vendors."

Westland officially has a farmers and artisan market. Painter Marilyn Meredith falls into latter category. On Thursday, Meredith had paintings for sale and was working on another piece during the market.

"This is my first time at the market. I've had a lot of positive comments," said Meredith, whose paint was drying in the windy conditions. "Mary (Vellardita) talked to me about coming. I have a regular day job. I took a vacation day to do this."

Along with displaying her art work, Meredith was also distributing information about the Three Cities Art Club — she's president.

Up next will be the opening of the new City Hall on Warren Road in a renovated former Circuit City store.

"We are still shooting for September. (IT Director) Dan Bourdeau has already been in there a couple of weeks," Wild said.

"They have installed 13 miles of cable, so we will be ready to bring things online."

The Westland Farmers



Dignitaries gather for the ceremonial ribbon-cutting at Tattan Park in Westland. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and Artisan Market will now be open from 3-7 p.m. Thursdays year round.

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INTERSECTIONS

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Dearborn Heights, 57 accidents.

» Ford and Middlebelt in Garden City, 50 accidents.

» Telegraph and West Road in Brownstown Township, 50 crashes.

» Ford and Wayne Road in Westland, 50 accidents.

» Canton Center and Ford in Canton, 47 accidents.

» Cherry Hill and Wayne Road in Westland, 47 crashes.

» Ford and Merriman in Garden City, 45 accidents.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said the latest findings come as no surprise, considering other studies have consistently ranked the Ford-Haggerty intersection as the worst for accidents. He has long fought for a solution. "We're not going to quit trying," LaJoy said.

Canton officials are hopeful two projects slated for next year will help.

Those include a \$5 million paving project on Lotz Road between Ford and Cherry Hill and a \$1.8 million effort to improve lanes and make other modifications on Ford from Haggerty to Lotz. "To me, that's kind of a start," LaJoy said.

Longer term, LaJoy said the Michigan Department of Transportation has indicated it plans to transform Ford Road into a boulevard and eliminate left turns at major intersections between the Ford/I-275 area and Canton Center. Officials still are trying to secure federal dollars for the project.

Berg, meanwhile, said the amount of retail shopping and the growing population in Canton have added to the number of crashes along Ford Road. He said readers have sounded off on the traffic woes on the Facebook page for Michigan Auto Law, which represents people injured in accidents.

For more on the firm's worst-intersection blog, go to <http://www.michiganautolaw.com/>.

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HULETT

Continued from Page A1

gram started or the building itself."

His predecessors, Capt. Derek and Joanna Rose, were relocated to the Chicago area after six years in Wayne-Westland.

Unlike the Roses, Hulett's wife Janneth isn't employed by the Salvation Army. She is a paraeducator working with special-education students in the Northville School District.

"She is a soldier and very active in the Salvation Army," said Hulett, 57. "It's very unusual not to have

your spouse as a member of Salvation Army."

When Hulett was asked to be an envoy, his wife kept her career in education.

"They honored my wife. She enjoys her career. She is very involved but not employed by the Salvation Army," Hulett said. The couple has four grown children.

Rank of envoy

A graduate of Asbury College in Kentucky, a Wesleyan school, Hulett has the rank of envoy since he didn't attend the Salvation Army training college.

"You come out as a lieutenant, go to captain and then get promotions," Hu-

lett said. "I didn't go to the training college, so I'm like a non-commissioner officer."

It was while he was attending college that Hulett took his first job with the Salvation Army, working as a lodge director in Florida.

"I fell in love with the opportunities for service, I got involved from there," he said.

"I always wanted to be a farmer but I felt called to the ministry. My father was a pastor in the Methodist church."

Initially, Hulett focused on youth ministry but said it became harder to relate to the youngsters as he got older.

Handling finances

The biggest challenge for any Salvation Army administrator is figuring out the corps finances, Hulett said. The Red Kettle drive is a major fundraiser and Hulett said he enjoyed participating in the July collection at Wayne and Warren roads.

Hulett grew up in North Dakota but his parents were originally from Michigan as is his wife. He's spent most of his career in metro Detroit due in part to his rank.

Unlike the Salvation Army officers who are assigned their posts, the non-commissioned officers like Hulett have a choice in their assignments.

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County holds budget hearing in Livonia

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy went before the county commission's Ways and Means Committee with a request she's made in previous years: her office needs more money to function.

"We do not have the resources to do our jobs properly," she said.

Worthy, along with other county department heads, spoke Thursday during a committee meeting on the proposed 2014-15 county budget at Livonia City Hall. The committee meeting, chaired by Livonia Republican Laura Cox, served as a public hearing and featured several departments presenting their proposed budgets to the committee.

The prosecuting attorney's office, headed by Worthy, has requested a budget of more than \$46.5 million for the next fiscal year, while the Wayne County executive's office has recommended \$38.6 million, a difference of more than \$7.8 million, according to county documents. Worthy's budget calls for including funds for a staff of 301 full-time employees, while the executive's office calls for a staff of 246 next year.

Worthy, who said her department is down nearly 107 employees, said many leave her office and head to jobs in other parts of the state that pay better and offer a lighter caseload.

"The feeling is that the county is never going to be adequately funded," Worthy said of employees who leave for elsewhere.

Commissioner Shannon Price, who represents Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton, referenced the lawsuit filed last year by Worthy against Wayne



The Wayne County Commission's Ways and Means Committee meets Thursday in Livonia City Hall. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Commissioner Laura Cox, R-Livonia.



Commissioner Shannon Price, R-Canton.

County during the meeting and said the figures requested in the lawsuit and the actual amount spent did not match.

"You made a lot of public appearances on local news, talking about how you couldn't cover the courts, you couldn't do warrants, you couldn't cover your cases because we cut your budget, yet you spent \$3 million more than you even sued us

for," he said. "Forgive me if I come in a little skeptical on everything that you say, because every time I turn on the TV, I hear a different story."

Worthy said there have been a multitude of funds that have been pulled out from various sources, including the state, which has led to a decrease in funding to her department, which oversees thousands of cases each year.

Circuit court budget

Also discussed Thursday morning was the budget for Wayne County Circuit Court, a body that is scheduled to lose four judges under a state restructuring plan signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder earlier this year.

Chief Judge Robert Colombo told the committee he hopes that other employees who work in the courtroom with those judges, including sheriff deputies and court clerks, do not have their positions eliminated as well.

"We have a problem that we do not have enough sheriffs or enough clerks," he said. "I don't think we should lose those positions."

The court has requested a budget of more than \$141.6 million for next year, which is less than the executive's office recommendation of \$142

million.

Colombo said it is possible the court may need more resources in the future, as law enforcement efforts in



Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland.

Detroit are ramped up. That increase in enforcement could send more cases through the court system.

"We expect to see an increase in filing criminal complaints," he said.

The next committee budget hearing will take place at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Guardian Building, 500 Griswold, in Detroit.

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'CHRISTMAS IN JULY'

Grant lets Wayne High teacher expand classroom library

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

For Kevin English, Christmas has come a bit early in a literary sense.

An English teacher at Wayne Memorial High School, English is preparing for the new school year by filling the space in his classrooms with books he was able to get through a grant from the Book Love Foundation. English was one of 10 high school and middle school English teachers from seven states to receive a 500-book grant.

"It's Christmas in July," said English, who more than doubled his classroom library with the grant. "This doubles the books I have in my classroom library."

English has Principal Kevin Webber searching the basement for book shelves. He's also looking at yard sales and has asked family members if they have any he can have. The more books he's able to fit in the classroom, the better the chance he'll get students to read more.

The foundation chooses 400 of the books, paying special attention to include a wide range of genres and reading levels that are of high interest to student readers. The remaining 100 books are chosen by the grant recipient from a vetted list of middle school and high school titles.

Large selection

English's selection ranges from national book award winners, sports and non-fiction to realistic fiction. There are also classics, good for students who are college-bound, thrillers and funny books and even a Shakespeare Star Wars in which the text is written completely in iambic



Kevin English is getting ready for the school year by putting 500 new books way in his classroom. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

pentameter.

"If they can sit five feet from the books and pick one up, all the better," he said. "And it's a good trade-off, if I have to get rid of my desk to fit them in. Research shows that classroom libraries have an impact on kids."

Graphic novels, which are like lengthy comic books, are popular with young people and English has made sure to include them in his library.

"They absolutely love them," he said, pointing out that Shakespeare's classic, *Romeo and Juliet*, has been done as a graphic novel. "If all the kids are reading the same book in a classroom, for 80 percent, it's not the right book for them. That there's a choice as to what to read means everyone's needs are being met one way or another."

The Book Love Foundation was founded by New Hampshire English teacher and literacy coach Penny Kittle, whose passion for supporting new teachers came from her work at Eastern Michigan University in the 1990s.

"Each of our grant winners has already demonstrated a commitment to developing students' independent reading lives," Kittle said. "Most of our grant winners teach in high

poverty areas and all of our grant winners have spent their own money to purchase books to build their libraries; one even traded her children's old clothes to get books for her classroom library."

Changing a perception

English teaches ninth- and 10th-graders and has found that students come in with a disposition that reading can't be fun. His goal is to change that perception.

"One of their complaints is that the books they're reading are always too sad," he said. "I see myself as a literary doctent. I help them enjoy books and see that there are scenes they can enjoy. The Common Core standards have upped the ante and to raise students up, we have to get them the text they will read."

It's a sentiment shared by Kittle.

"Research has repeatedly shown that students who read independently and extensively improve their vocabulary and ability to understand complex texts and are better prepared for the rigors of post-secondary education," she said.

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State asked to forbid LPS from authorizing future charter schools

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

The father of two former students at Hinoki International School has asked state Superintendent Mike Flanagan to prevent Livonia Public Schools from authorizing any more charter schools, saying it acted unethically in its treatment of Hinoki.

"The district failed in its duty to serve and protect the school it authorized, despite receiving state funds explicitly for that purpose," Andrew Gillman wrote in the letter sent Friday. "To the contrary, LPS actively worked to destabilize Hinoki ... It has been dismissive of both the regulatory structure in the form of the charter school board, and the wishes and concerns of parents and guardians."

The Livonia school board on July 28 voted to revoke its contract with Hinoki International School, saying the charter school it authorized since 2010 defaulted on the contract by not having a facility and not enrolling students for fall 2014.

LPS is now offering its own K-6 Japanese Immersion Magnet Program in the same building Hinoki operated. LPS planned to admit as many as 75 schools of choice students in kindergarten through fourth grade. The program began this week.

LPS response

LPS Superintendent Randy Liepa said Friday that the state has high expectations for charter authorizers to assure the schools they authorize are well-run.

"We took this responsibility seriously and took the actions we did to assure just that," he said. "We are confident the school will now be successful and were not confident that it would occur under its previous

structure and leadership."

Gillman, husband of Hinoki board president Anne M. Hooghart, said in the letter that Liepa originally presented to the Hinoki school board a proposal to convert the charter-school program to a public-school program at LPS, but the Hinoki board rejected it after polling its stakeholders who wanted an additional year to consider the proposal.

"Liepa disregarded the decision of the legally appointed charter school board, and immediately proceeded to create a replacement school," he wrote. "Liepa and LPS claim to be protecting the interests of the children, or the viability of the program, when in fact they are the biggest threat to both," he said.

The LPS board declined to renew Hinoki's building lease. By law, Hinoki must be located within the borders of the district of its charter authorizer. That gave Hinoki only one month to find another building, in a limited geographic area, Gillman said.

"No immediate building meant Hinoki could not commit to enrollment. No enrollment meant no school operation, thereby triggering a contract violation actionable at the discretion of LPS," he said. Legally, LPS could have allowed Hinoki to remain dormant until the expiration of its charter in 2015, but LPS was not interested in waiting, Gillman said.

Gillman said the Hinoki board had negotiated an alternative building, had a staffing and management plan, a feasible budget, and all the furniture and equipment to restart elsewhere. However, the building was out of the LPS district, and a new charter authorizer was sought but none of the potential authorizers were ready to proceed in time for the 2014-15 school year.

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Sept. 2 • 4:30-7:30

Cruisin' on a Sunday afternoon

Car aficionados ready to take over Hines Drive for fourth annual ride

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

If you're a cruiser, Hines Park will be the place to be next Sunday as classic, hot rod and custom cars take over the parkway for the fourth annual Cruisin' Hines.

Last year, more than 50,000 car lovers turned out to motor along Hines Drive from Outer Drive in Dearborn to Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Thousands more line the road to watch in what has become Wayne County's version of the Woodward Dream Cruise.

"The numbers are pretty high for the first three years, making this a phenomenal event," said organizer Don Nicholson of Westland. "This cruise is about the car culture and the cars are representative of their owners. I've been approached by bands that say we need to have a concert. I did that in the past and found that the cars are the entertainment at the cruise."

Food and auto-related vendors and spectators will line the 7½-mile cruise, which will officially open at 9 a.m. and run through 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, although cruisers, especially "Cruisin' Eddie," will be in line by at least 3:30 a.m. to be the first to drive the parkway.

New entrance

In a switch from previous years, cars will enter Hines Drive off of Ford Road in Dearborn. The approach provides a more than one-mile staging area that, hopefully, will resolve problems with traffic flow that have been issue in past years, Nicholson said.

Cars will be allowed to leave the park at Telegraph, Merriman and Ann Arbor Trail, but will have to go to Ford Road to re-enter.

"Our biggest goal is to get more efficiency in getting the cars on to Hines Drive," he said. "With the approach off Ford Road, cruisers have the ability to come straight in with no turns. If cruisers try to enter at Outer Drive, they'll be sent to Ford Road."

Wayne County Sheriff deputies will be at the intersection for the cruise.

Outer Drive traffic will be open going north and south, but will not be allowed to turn on to Hines Drive.

Nicholson did an informal survey about where cruisers would like to enter the park - at Ford Road or Ann Arbor Trail. Ninety percent said Ann Arbor Trail. That wouldn't solve the problem with congestion and traffic backing up on to other thoroughfares.

"The only way to fix the problem is by changing the entrance to Ford Road," he said.

Nicholson is asking cruisers to not enter the park early, but to wait until vendors are in their spots. Cars enthusiasts could end up setting up camp in a spot reserved for a vendor; having to move one to make room for the other can delay the opening of the park, he said.

Yet to be determined is where WOMC-FM (104.3) will set up. The radio station will broadcast live on 4G for the event.

"The sooner we get the vendors set up, the sooner we can get the cars in," Nicholson said, adding the popular spot for car watching is between Merriman and Ann Arbor Trail.

'Good people'

Nicholson has worked closely with Wayne County Parks in staging the Hines Drive cruise. It had been tried in the past, but with little success. He describes the relationship as like a marriage made in heaven.

"They've been supportive of this from the start," he said. "They're good people to work with."

And while Nicholson will be the first in the park Sunday morning, he won't be the last to leave. He's generally out of there by about 9 p.m.

"When I do my last drive through, there still a few hundred cruisers in the park," he said.

For more information about Cruisin' Hines, visit the website at cruisinhines.com or its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CruisinHines.

smason@hometownlife.com | 734-674-2332 | Twitter: @SusanMarieMason



Cruisers parked their cars and sat back to watch what Don Nicholson describes as a "moving car show" along Hines Drive. FILE PHOTO

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HITTING THEIR STRIDE



Anna Fleeman of Novi (left) is walking with her friend Denise Francisco, a breast cancer survivor from Monroe.



And they're off ... headed up Grand River after leaving the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Walkers take to the road in fight against breast cancer

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Jake Hermann of Livonia has lost his aunt and his grandmother to cancer, so he wanted to help when it came time for the 60-mile Susan G. Komen Michigan 3-Day walk this year.

He knew his sister and his dad were already walking, so Hermann figured he could spread the wealth and find another way to help.

the cause, trying to help raise as much money as possible," Hermann said as he hoisted backpacks and suitcases into the truck. "My dad and my sister are walking and I wanted to help as many walkers as possible. They're the ones who raise the money."

Some 1,200 walkers — up a little from last year's total — stretched amid temperatures in the mid-50s as the walk got off to a cool start.

Walkers will have averaged 20 miles a day by the time they're through Sunday, when the event winds up at Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn. The Michigan walk is one of seven events Komen is sponsoring this year and remains one of its more popular ones.

It's the 11th year Michigan has hosted the walk.

"It's a walk for women

See WALKERS, Page A13



Crew members Alice Vargas of Canton (left) and Jake Hermann of Livonia load the luggage as walkers check in.

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Survey asks for perspectives on driving behaviors

Last year, there were more than 128,000 traffic crashes in the Detroit area in which 363 people lost their lives and more than 35,000 were injured. August is the last month of the busy summer travel season when most crashes occur.

While it is easy to say that "accidents happen," the reality is that many of these crashes occurred and many of these lives were lost due to inappropriate driving behaviors.

In an effort to impact quality of life in southeast Michigan by keeping roads and highways safer, SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, and its partner organization, the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition, have launched a survey to gather driver perceptions on dangerous activities behind the wheel.

Citizens are being asked to take a quick survey to provide their perspective on dangerous driving behaviors

and help guide future traffic safety education and outreach efforts to make roads safer.

The survey focuses on the three main categories of driver behavior that lead to traffic crashes: impaired driving, aggressive driving and distracted driving.

» Impaired driving makes up a small percentage of total traffic crashes that occur within the region, but it is the leading cause of fatalities. Driving drunk, buzzed or drowsy is extremely dangerous and many times results in vehicles running off the road, often with serious consequences. It also can result in crossing lanes or running through stop lights, putting the lives of other drivers and passengers at significant risk.

» The drivers who cause anxiety for everyone else on the road are the aggressive ones. Examples are the motorcyclist who weaves in and out of lanes. Motor-



With 128,000 traffic crashes in the Detroit area last year, SEMCOG is doing a survey to gather driver perceptions on dangerous activities. FILE PHOTO

cycle crashes are again a very small proportion of total crashes, but represented 13 percent of total fatalities last year. Another example of aggressive behavior behind the wheel is the tailgater who is following so closely behind a vehicle that the driver's face can be seen in the rear-view mirror. And there also is the driver who ignores the speed limit as he or she passes every other car on the road.

» Distracted driving is probably the most difficult driver behavior to quantify in relation to traffic crashes, because it takes so many forms, very few of which are readily apparent. What most observers agree is that the age of electronics has significantly increased the incidences of distracted driving.

Everyone has experienced the car that unexpectedly slows down on the freeway as the

driver talks on his or her cellphone. Or the texting driver who takes his eyes off the road for a brief moment, but in that time has traveled several hundred feet without paying attention.

Being distracted for just a few seconds – whether reaching for a cup of coffee or adjusting the radio – can have serious, even fatal, consequences.

"Too many lives are lost and injuries sus-

tained needlessly on southeast Michigan roads due to things we can change," said Kathleen Lomako, SEMCOG executive director and MAC president.

"We want drivers to be more aware of the behaviors that put them and others at risk as they travel."

She added that the survey is powered by Cobalt Community Research, a Michigan-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit research coalition with a mission to provide research and educational tools that help schools, local governments and other nonprofit member organizations thrive as changes emerge in the economic, demographic and social landscape.

SEMCOG is the only organization in southeast Michigan that brings together all governments to solve regional challenges and enhance the quality of life for the seven-county region's 4.7 million people.

School earns money by recycling drink pouches

Hoover Elementary students earn money and prizes for their school by collecting and recycling the drink pouches they use at home and in the lunchroom. Students at the Livonia school have just reached the second level of TerraCycle and Capri Sun's Drink Pouch Brigade milestone contest by collecting more than 18,000 drink pouches. The students have earned nearly \$1,000 for their school by collecting the drink pouches.

The Drink Pouch Brigade is a free recycling program that rewards people for collecting and

sending their waste to TerraCycle to be recycled or upcycled. The Milestone Program began in September 2013 when Capri Sun added prizes for collecting certain amounts. Now, in addition to the money they earn for each piece of waste collected, participants can win prizes made from recycled drink pouches, such as park benches, recycling bins, a playground, and other fun rewards.

"The Milestone Program is meant to inspire individuals and organizations to collect more waste while receiving

prizes for their achievements," said Tom Szaky, CEO of TerraCycle. "It is rewarding to see the students and administration get so involved in making this work. It's an incredible achievement to have kept so many pouches out of the waste stream."

Thousands of other schools across the United States participate in the Drink Pouch Brigade. To learn more about the program or to sign up, visit terracycle.com. The program is free to any interested organization or individual, and all shipping costs are paid.

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Actor's death spotlights substance use disorder

The tragic loss of actor and comedian Robin Williams has brought increased attention to an illness that far too many people suffer from — substance use disorder. Williams battled addiction to drugs and alcohol for decades. He was quoted in an ABC News interview as saying that “drinking presents another side of yourself that even you don’t know.”

Some people turn to drugs and alcohol to combat depression. For others, the drugs and alcohol lead to depression. Any addiction can

trigger a multitude of negative feelings, such as guilt, sadness, shame, hopelessness, helplessness, powerlessness, anger, anxiety and fear. These emotional experiences are very similar to those found in episodes of depression that occur without addiction.

“The tragic loss of Robin Williams is a powerful reminder that even the most gifted are not immune from the power of the diseases of mental illness and substance abuse; and that success and money is not the key to happiness,” said Tom Watkins, president and

CEO of the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority. “Substance abuse and mental health issues impact every zip code, race, gender and socioeconomic status. Sadly, none of us are immune. I know all too well, having lost two siblings who struggled with mental illness and substance abuse and tragically took their own lives.”

Getting help

Roughly 16 million adults in the U.S. suffered from major depression in the past year and 12 percent of adults

were addicted to alcohol, with 2-3 percent addicted to illicit drugs, such as heroin and cocaine. Yet less than 50 percent of these people received any treatment at all. Of those who received some treatment, less than 50 percent of those got adequate treatment.

According to Dr. Carmen McIntyre, chief medical officer at DWMHA, “Emotional disorders and addictions are very treatable. However, many people don’t realize that they need help and many others are ashamed to seek help.”

“The loss of Robin Williams, like Philip Seymour Hoffman earlier this year, help highlight the seriousness of these disorders and give us increased opportunities to educate our community about the severity of the illness and services available to them,” he said. “In Wayne County, for the first time, DWMHA has integrated our services to deliver substance abuse treatment, relapse prevention as well as services for depression and other mental illnesses all within the same system. Just one

call, to our 24 Hour Crisis and Referral Hotline — 800-241-4949 — gets you connected to a system designed to match services to fit your needs.”

The Detroit-Wayne Mental Health Authority serves more than 76,000 consumers. The authority provides services for people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, serious emotional disturbance and substance use disorders. For more information, call 313-833-2500 or visit the DWMHA website at www.dwmha.com.

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Learn about policing at citizens academy

The Redford Township Police Department will be conducting a fall 2014 Citizens Police Academy.

The seven-week program will begin Sept. 22, and will meet from 7-9 p.m. for seven consecutive Mondays.

The purpose of the academy is to allow participants to become familiar with the police department through classroom instruction and participation.

There will be demonstrations in firearms,

Taser, K9, crime scene investigation and narcotics. Participants will see how a criminal case is handled from the originating call through adjudication.

The academy is open to the public, however preference will be given to Redford Township residents and business owners, and employees of businesses in the township.

Classes will be held at the Redford Township Police Department, and class size is limited.

There is no cost to attend. Applications may be obtained at the Redford Township Police Department.

Eligible applicants will be subject to a background investigation prior to consideration for the academy. Attendees are required to sign a Release All Claims Waiver.

Applications must be received by Sept. 5. For further information or questions contact Sgt. Duane Gregg at 313-387-2541.

Police seek information on missing Wayne man

Wayne Police are asking the public's help in locating a local resident missing since Aug. 1.

David White, 46, was last seen on at his job in Livonia. According to police, it is believed White may have returned home after leaving work, but he hasn't been seen or heard from since.

Anyone who has seen White or has information on his whereabouts is asked to call Wayne Police at 734-721-1414.



Wayne Police are looking for information about David White, a Wayne resident who hasn't been seen since Aug. 1.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar runs in the *Observer* as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Please include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Mail, fax or email information to: *Observer*, Community Calendar, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Fax: 313-223-4650. Email address is: ksmith@hometownlife.com.

LIVONIA FARMERS MARKETS

Time/date: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday through Oct. 11.

Location: Wilson Barn, 29350 W. Chicago St., Livonia.

Details: Local vendors, local produce and crafts.

Contact: www.wilsonbarn.us.

WESTLAND FARMERS MARKET

Time/Date: 3-7 p.m. Thursdays.

Location: Central City Park Pavilion, 1901 Carlson, between Ford Road and Marquette Avenue.

Details: Shoppers will find fresh produce and plants, baked breads and desserts, honey, jams and jellies, cake pops, sausage and jerky, soaps, candles, jewelry, sun catchers and more. The market also features weekly entertainment.

Contact: For more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at 734-326-7222.

WAYNE FARMERS MARKET

Time/Date: 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays.

Location: Goudy Park behind Wayne City Hall on Wayne Road, north of Michigan Avenue.

Details: More than 25 vendors provide Michigan-made and Michigan-grown products and live music.

Contact: Christine at 734-786-8401 or market@growing-hope.net.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/date: 10 a.m. to noon and 5-7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18.

Location: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Preschool, 9600 Leverne, Redford.

Details: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Preschool, a Christian preschool for children turning 3 or 4 by Sept. 1, is holding an open house. Meet the director and teacher, register for preschool and/or day care. Children are welcome and their parents so they are. The preschool is open

year-round. Call to arrange an appointment if unable to attend the open house.

Contact: rwiggin@hosannatabor.org; 313-937-2424.

SERVSAFE TRAINING

Time/date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 4 and Sept. 25.

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia.

Details: Michigan State University Extension is offering "Serv-Safe Training." The 16-hour certification class was developed by the National Restaurant Association. Participants must attend both classes. The fee of \$145 includes review and test. The book is not included. To order the book online, go to www.bookstore.msue.msu.edu. The review will cover the updated changes to the 2009 FDA Food Code plus: purchasing and receiving from approved services; storage; preventing food borne illnesses; preventing food hygiene; and HACCP. To register for the class, go to www.event.anr.msu.edu and search by date for the event you wish to attend.

Contact: 810-667-0341.

WRITING CONDOLENCE NOTES

Time/date: 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10.

Location: Livonia Civic Center Library, Rooms A & B, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Details: Join Deborah Chappa, a staff member of Livonia's Manns-Ferguson Funeral Home, for a workshop titled "Writing Condolence Notes: It's Not a Dying Art." Learn why to write a condolence note, how to create a keepsake, shortfalls of social media sympathy, types of loss and their unique sympathy issues, tips and tools. Materials will be provided. Seating is limited, and registration is required. Call the Livonia Civic Center Library's adult reference desk at 734-466-2490 to sign up.

FALL FESTIVAL

Time/date: 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Oct. 4.

Location: St. John's Episcopal, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland.

Details: St. John's Episcopal will hold its annual Fall Festival. There will be three bands, a beer tent, car show, children's activities and food and drinks to purchase. Crafters are needed for the craft show.

Contact: For more information, call St. John's at 734-721-5023 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11.

Location: St. Theodore Parish Social Halls, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Details: St. Theodore Confraternity of Christian Women is looking for crafters for its Fall Craft Show. There are 70 tables available for \$25 each.

Contact: Call Mary at 734-425-4421 (vm #10) for a table rental contact.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Time/date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18.

Location: St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Details: Hosted by the Women's Guild, this Holiday Bazaar will feature crafter tables with new handmade craft items. Homemade baked goods, raffles and lunch during the day. Some tables available for rental.

Contact: 734-464-0476.

FALL ARTS, CRAFT SHOW

Time/date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18.

Location: Community Room and Gym, St. Damian Parish, 30055 Joy, west of Middlebelt, Westland.

Details: St. Damian is looking for crafters for its annual arts and crafts show. Tables are \$25 each or \$40 for two tables. There are 70 tables available for this event.

Contact: Call the parish center office at 734-421-6130 weekdays or download an application at www.stdamian.com under "events," then "craft show."

TUITION-FREE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Time/date: Monday through Thursday, morning or afternoon sessions.

Location: 26141 Schoolcraft, Redford.

Details: The South Redford School District is offering a tuition-free preschool program, with the exception of a one-time only material fee of \$75, to all children who reside in South Redford for the 2014-15 school year. Children must be 4 by Sept. 1, 2014. The children attend three-hour classes, Monday through Thursday, morning or afternoon sessions. The preschoolers participate in activities that are designed to encourage the development of readiness skills necessary for a successful kindergarten experience. Parents interested in more information may contact the Preschool Program teachers at 313-535-4000, ext. 1036.

PRESCHOOL SIGN-UPS

Location: Westland Free Methodist Preschool, 1421 S. Venoy Road, Westland.

Details: The preschool is enrolling for classes that begin in September. Enroll now and save half off the enrollment fee — a \$25 value. The Christian preschool offers classes for 3-4-year-old children, a theme-based curriculum taught by certified teachers and all the basic preschool academic skills as well as a low child-teacher ratio, indoor gym and outdoor playground.

Contact: For more information or to schedule a tour or enroll, call 734-728-3559 or email wfmpreschool@yahoo.com.

CLOTHING SALE

Time/date: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 22-23.

Location: Full Gospel Temple, 34033 Palmer, between Wildwood and Venoy, Westland.

Details: Lighthouse Home Missions is holding a Back to School Clothing Sale. Clothing for children will be available with the purchase of FGT bags for \$2. Buy a bag for \$2 and fill it to the top with clothes. Buy as many bags as you like for \$2 each. LHM also will hold a yard sale from 9

a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29, through Saturday, Sept. 6, which will include a hot dog sale from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

HEATHER'S LEGACY

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.

Location: Designer Duds and Infant Treasures Children's Boutique, 815 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Details: Vendors are being sought for Heather's Legacy craft and vendor show to benefit the children of Heather Lilley. Show space costs \$25 and vendors will need to bring their own table and/or tent and provide an item that will be raffled off.

Contact: To secure a space, vendors can send their payment via Paypal (as a gift) to taylorskkt@gmail.com

MOM 2 MOM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27 (early bird at 8:30 a.m.).

Location: Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt Road.

Details: The price is \$25 for an eight-foot table, including space for a standard size clothes rack or small shelf. The seller keeps all the profits from everything sold at their table. A large item area

will also be available for items that do not fit on or under your table (high chairs, strollers, exersaucers, swings, etc.). There will also be a pre-sale for those who reserve a table. There will be over 75 tables. A concession stand will be open throughout the sale as well as a bake sale. Admission to the sale is \$1 (early bird is \$2).

Contact: For more information or to reserve a table, email Sheryll for a table agreement at Gcmom2momsale@hotmail.com, visit www.mom2momlist.com under 2014 Sales or call 734-277-0791 and leave a message.

ONGOING AMERICAN LEGION POST 32 CAR SHOWS

Time/dates: 5-8 p.m. Thursdays through Sept. 4 (except July 3).

Location: American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Details: Besides burgers, brats and hot dogs served outside on the grill for a small fee, a sit-down home-cooked meal will be offered inside the post for \$8 per person. There is also a bake sale

See CALENDAR, Page A13



MARYCREST HEIGHTS

Songs of Old Hollywood

Thursday, August 28th at 2 p.m.

Go back in time with musician Daniel Bryson as he plays memorable tunes in his "Grand Old Style." Enjoy appetizers from the era and be sure to stay for a tour of our independent senior living community.

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Livonia, Michigan 48154



hometown life woman

Arts & Crafts Show

October 25, 2014
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Quality Inn & Suites
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30375 Plymouth Rd.
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Wanted
Artisan Jewelry,
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It's not always wise to delay required minimum distributions

Q: Dear Rick: I am 70½. I was retired for about four years and a couple of years ago, I decided to go back to work. I have a question about required minimum distributions. I really don't need the money and I would prefer to let it stay in my IRA. Can I do that? I was told that if you're working, there is some exception to the required distribution rules. If I do have to take a distribution, I know that for my first year I can either do it this year or next year. Is there any downside to waiting until next year?

A: Unfortunately, when it comes to required minimum distributions from IRAs the only exception is if you have a Roth IRA.

Roth IRAs are not subject to required minimum distributions and can continue to grow tax-free for as long as you choose. The exception that you refer to deals with 401(k) plans. If you are working for a company that you own less than 5 percent of, you can delay your required minimum distribution from that 401(k) plan until you retire from that job. You would still have to withdraw



**Rick
Bloom**

MONEY
MATTERS

from your IRAs, but not from your 401(k) plan.

Like most tax laws, the rules regarding required minimum distributions are confusing. Most people think that the year they turn 70½ is when distributions begin. However, that is not the case. In the year you turn 70½, you have an option to delay the first required minimum distribution until April 1 of the following year.

In your situation, since you turn 70½ this year, you technically do not have to make your first required minimum distribution until April 1, 2015.

Delaying distributions may not be the best case. If you delay your first year distribution and take your first required minimum distribution by April 1, you still must take another distribution before the end of 2015.

The first distribution (by April 1) is technically your 2014 distribution. A 2015 distribution is also required. Having two distributions in the same year may throw you into

a higher tax bracket and could result in greater taxation of your Social Security benefits, as well as potentially higher premiums for Medicare.

Those are reasons why – in most cases – I encourage people to take their required minimum distribution in the year they turn 70½.

Although you are not eligible to convert your required minimum distribution into a Roth IRA, you can convert anything above and beyond that number. You may want to consider doing a Roth conversion. It will allow you to have some money that is not subject to required minimum distributions and, at the same time, is not growing tax-deferred, but is growing tax-free.

Many seniors over age 70½ somehow believe that they are not eligible to take advantage of Roth conversions. They are eligible and it can be an effective strategy.

Good luck

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



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CRYSTAL CREEK
Assisted Living



DAR awards grant for Rouge Education Project

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will be donating \$8,420 to Friends of the Rouge in support of their Rouge Education Project for the 2014-2015 school year. Funding for the project was made possible through the sponsorship of the Colonel Joshua Howard Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, located in Dearborn.

Friends of the Rouge was established in 1986 with a mission to promote the restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement and other collaborative efforts, for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants and animals of the watershed.

The Rouge Education

Project (REP) is the organization's second longest-running program. Funding from the DAR will be used to help participating schools purchase scientific testing equipment and to train teachers and volunteers to conduct biological, chemical and physical assessments of the river.

"We are honored to be the recipient of this generous donation from the DAR in support of the REP," said Aimee LaLonde-Norman, executive director of Friends of the Rouge. "We realize that our grant is just one of the many they have made throughout the year to support education and we are grateful that they have chosen to support school-based water quality monitoring in the Rouge watershed." Established in 1987

and reaching thousands of students annually in the Detroit area, the mission of the REP is to promote awareness and stewardship of the Rouge River watershed through school-based water quality monitoring, investigation and problem solving.

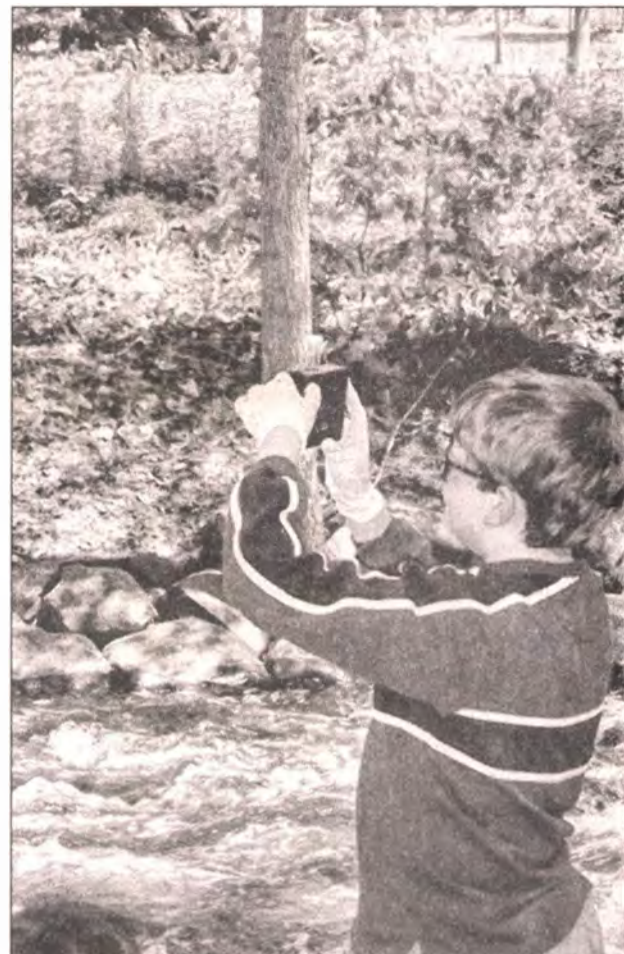
In addition to hands-on, field-based water quality monitoring, students in the project are encouraged take action to improve the health of the river based on their findings. The REP helps them to become more aware of common, but preventable, pollution sources affecting the Rouge and to consider the role they play with respect to their local connection to the Great Lakes.

The DAR grants program was started in 2010. Funding is awarded to

support projects in local communities that promote the organization's mission areas of historic preservation, education and patriotism.

The DAR receives hundreds of grant applications each year. Interested groups must be sponsored by a local DAR chapter, submit a copy of their public charity 501(c)(3) IRS documentation and include a narrative describing the need and urgency of the project as well as planned activities and benefits to the community which will result from the grant.

For more information about the Rouge Education Project or Friends of the Rouge, contact Rouge Education Project Program Manager Erin Casady at 313-792-9626 or visit www.therouge.org.



Each year, thousands of students from around the watershed to take part in the Rouge Education Project. FILE PHOTO

Police to step up drunken driving, seat belt enforcement

Law enforcement agencies in southeast Michigan are encouraging motorists to buckle up and find a sober ride home as part of the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over enforcement effort that started Friday and goes through Sept 1. The crackdown includes the Labor Day holiday period, a popular

Michigan travel time. "Following a harsh winter, this summer has been a time of fun, travel and celebration for many Michigan families," said Michael L. Prince, director of the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, in a release. "As we get closer to the start of school, extra officers will be out keep-

ing us safe by strictly enforcing the state's seat belt and drunk driving laws."

OHSP is coordinating the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over enforcement effort by administering federal traffic safety funds to 150 agencies covering 40 counties. The participating counties in southeast Michi-

gan are Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne.

During last year's Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over effort, 267 motorists were arrested for drunken driving and 4,119 seat belt and child restraint citations were issued.

Nine people died in

Michigan crashes during the 2013 Labor Day holiday weekend. Three of those deaths involved alcohol and one vehicle occupant was not buckled up, according to the Michigan Department of State Police Criminal Justice Information Center.

In Michigan, it is illegal to drive with a blood

alcohol content (BAC) of 0.08 or higher.

Michigan law requires all drivers and passengers 15 and younger in any seating position to be buckled up. Children must be in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4 feet 9 inches tall. Seat belt citations are \$65.

EMU students from Westland, Livonia win in marketing contest

Students from Livonia and Westland were on two teams from Eastern Michigan University that recently won second and third place and an honorable mention in a prestigious marketing contest against other college teams from around the world.

The students, including Jamie Boyer of Westland and Mary Beth Ronayne-Matherly of Livonia, are in EMU's master's degree program in Integrated Marketing Communications. They won the awards in the graduate category of the Collegiate ECHO Direct/Interactive Marketing Challenge.

Students are challenged to combine their knowledge, research and creativity as they work in teams on a marketing assignment from a corporate leader, their client. Faculty advisers use the challenge as a teaching

tool.

This year's challenge was to create an integrated marketing campaign using all direct and interactive communication channels, including Domino's-owned and earned media channels, social media, email, website and print, with a goal of increasing the number of orders driven through Domino's mobile app.

The Marketing Edge "Collegiate ECHO Challenge" is divided into graduate and undergraduate divisions, and more than 200 teams from colleges across the world participated this year. EMU competed in the graduate division, with its students taking IMC 608, Direct Marketing, which is part of the Integrated Marketing Communications Master of Science program at Eastern.

In addition to Boyer and Ronayne-Matherly, members of the second-

place team were Kenyatta Bynoe of Southfield, Melissa Cohen of Harrisburg, Pa., and Molly Davis of Omaha, Neb. The third-place team included Carey Chesney of Ann Arbor, Naomi Allen of Ypsilanti, Jamie LaRose of Fort Mill, S.C., and Mary Beth Ronayne-Matherly of Livonia. Sauber served as the faculty adviser.

The team of Fredrica Crowe of West Bloomfield, Jason Dolder of Gainesville, Fla., Johnny Mason of Flint and Patrio Uribasterra of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., earned honorable mention for their media plan.

Marketing Edge, the educational arm of the Direct Marketing Association, offers the contest annually. The DMA is a leading global trade association of businesses and nonprofit marketers headquartered in New York City.

Co-Chairs
Diane & Randy Orley and Liz & Brian Guz
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at **248.305.3739** or **mgaisser@dptv.org**
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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To all residents and interested parties:
Legal notices are available for review at our website.

The minutes (including approved ordinances) from regular and special Council meetings are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/minutes

Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/bids

You may also access this information at Garden City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.

Publish: July 20, 2014

NOTICE TO ALL CITY OF LIVONIA PROPERTY OWNERS

Summer tax bills were issued on July 1st and are due and payable without interest until September 15, 2014. On September 16, 2014 and the first of every month thereafter, interest of 1% will be added to any unpaid summer tax bill. Residents meeting the following qualifications have until September 15th in which to file the necessary paperwork with the City Treasurer's Office to defer payment of their summer tax bill. Tax deferrals are granted to the principal residence homeowner who is totally and permanently disabled, blind, paraplegic, quadriplegic, eligible serviceperson, eligible veteran, or eligible widow or widower, or 62 years of age or older, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was 62 years of age or older at the time of death, and whose total household income in the prior tax year did not exceed \$40,000. The application to defer summer taxes is available at the City's website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us or at the Treasurer's Office.

Publish: August 17, 2014

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August 21-24, 2014

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Thurs-Sat 10a-7p, Sun 10a-6p

adidas

Wayne Metro to receive grants for home buyer programs

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Wayne Metro) has been selected as one of eight recipients to receive more than \$115,000 in grants through The PrivateBank and its Affordable Housing Grant Program.

Wayne Metro's portion of the grant was \$15,000.

The PrivateBank selected organizations in Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis to receive funding. Grants were made to HUD-certified counseling agencies that work to make affordable housing accessible in their communities. Organizations were nominated by members of the bank's Community Lending team and selected based on their ability to support affordable housing programs in their communities. Wayne Metro

is the sole Detroit agency selected.

"Home ownership is important to creating stable and thriving neighborhoods in our cities," said Brant Ahrens, president, Personal Client Services at The PrivateBank. "Through these grants, we hope to help these agencies prepare our neighbors for the responsibility and the opportunity that comes with owning their own homes. The PrivateBank is committed to partnering with agencies such as these working to make our neighborhoods strong, vibrant places to live."

Wayne Metro, which maintains more than 20 service sites throughout Wayne County, including one in Westland, will utilize the funding to provide home buyer education through its



On hand for the grant presentation were Lakshmi Sundaram (from left), Deborah Wellman and Daniel Pehrson from The PrivateBank, Mia Cupp and Katy Kibbey from Wayne Metro, Teresa Bent from The PrivateBank and Dannielle Bills and Genevieve Pajulio from Wayne Metro.

Financial Opportunity Initiative at the Wayne Metro Detroit Division office, 7310 Woodward, Detroit.

"The Private Bank, a commercial and personal bank with two offices in Metro Detroit, is committed to helping promote stability in our

communities and to helping our neighbors realize the dream of home ownership," said Mia Cupp, Wayne Metro's director of development and communications. "The Wayne Metro Homebuyers educational sessions ensure prospective homeowners are pre-

pared for the responsibilities of home ownership and are empowered to make smart decisions throughout the home-buying process."

Wayne Metro's Detroit home buyer education classes are presented in partnership with The PrivateBank, the

Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), Chase Bank and Wayne County Community College. To find out more about upcoming classes, visit www.waynemetro.org or call 313-388-9799.

Make a date with Adventure.

GO EXPLORE SAULT STE MARIE, CANADA

Your fall color adventure begins with a one-day Canadian Wilderness rail excursion, then experience all that Sault Ste. Marie has to offer, including the new Heritage Discovery Centre, Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre, Art Gallery of Algoma, and Parks Canada Canal.

Packages start at just \$178.
Fall Tours Sept. 13 - Oct. 13, 2014.

AGAWA CANYON TOUR TRAIN

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Book your Packages at agawatrain.com or call 1-800-242-9287 for your package guide.

Make a date with Adventure.

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Relay for Life partners for viewing party

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Two years ago, Hillary Kind of Canton, who'd been fighting cancer for nearly a third of her 26 years, went on a prime time special produced by Stand Up To Cancer to tell the story of her battle against cancer.

Not long after the show, Kind lost that battle.

Now, Stand Up To Cancer, the charitable initiative supporting groundbreaking research aimed at getting new treatments to patients quickly, has a new partner: the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

To help finish the fight against cancer and support SU2C, volunteer organizers of the American Cancer Society's Detroit area Relay For



The Kind family - dad Jeff, mom Joanne, sister Chloe and brother Rory, along with Hillary - at a Stand Up To Cancer event.

Life events are hosting viewing parties for SU2C's prime time special at two locations, including one Friday, Sept. 5 in Plymouth.

During the special, Abigail Stonerook will remember Kind, a good friend who fought the fight for a long time and for whom Stonerook carries on the fight now.

"We all watched and

cried as Hillary told the story of her life and cancer journey in those five minutes," Stonerook, the ACS staff partner for both the Plymouth and Canton Relay for Life events, said of Kind, who was diagnosed her senior year at Canton High School. "In her 26 years of life, Hillary lived and loved more and with more enthusiasm than most people do in an entire lifetime."

This year, local cancer survivors and advocates for Stand Up To Cancer will gather for 7 p.m. viewing parties for the Sept. 5 prime time special at two locations:

- » 3 and Up Board Game Lounge, 630 S. Main Street, Plymouth
- » Suburban Cadillac of Troy, 1820 Maplelawn Drive, Troy

The special and the viewing parties are a chance to raise funds for the SU2C-ACS Lung Cancer Dream Team. A \$25

registration fee includes a commemorative T-shirt, luminaria and refreshments, as well as the chance to bid on exclusive silent auction items, win door prizes and more.

The metro Detroit viewing parties are among more than 200 across the country vying for the opportunity to be featured during the live telecast. Money raised from the SU2C Viewing Parties will support the SU2C Lung Cancer Dream Team that is funded in part by the American Cancer Society.

The hour-long telecast will highlight the work of Stand Up To Cancer's Dream Teams of cancer researchers and acknowledge SU2C's corporate supporters and nonprofit collaborators, including the American Cancer Society. The televised event will also feature celebrity ambassadors and exciting musical performances.

The American Cancer Society announced in January a historic collaboration with Stand Up To Cancer, an alliance that marries the Society's comprehensive cancer-fighting mission with SU2C's high-impact research funding model in order to accelerate cutting-edge research on some of the most deadly cancers, all for the benefit of patients.

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.
RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

WAIT LISTED

The phrase "wait listed" is a term college administrators use to inform prospective students that the institution, while not ready to accept them, is willing to consider their applications at a later time. For the present, the prospective students should stand in line and bide their time.

In the world of arthritis care, wait listing also occurs. If a patient recently had fluid taken from a knee, with an injection following, the patient may hear that he or she must accept a delay of at least three months before another aspiration or injection can take place. However, such medical wait listing thinking does not hold up under scrutiny.

People who defend the delay say that repeated injections cause joint infection. But infection from a joint injection occurs if the person doing the procedure breaks sterile technique; the number of injections doesn't create a risk.

Another argument against repeated joint injections is that the steroid injected will destroy the bone. It is true that steroids such as prednisone can cause bone fractures. But the way these fractures occur is through the effect of steroids by mouth, not from steroid injected around the bone.

The final point made by those opposing repeated injections is that the injection needle damages cartilage. But there is no record of an orthopedic surgeon at the time of knee operation identifying such an injury. The needle point is small, and the needle angle at the time of injection is too oblique to strike a cutting blow to knee cartilage.

Up to date teaching recognizes that wait listing for patients in need of joint aspiration and injection is an outmoded concept. If injection and aspiration gives benefit, it needs to be done.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of Garden City Public Schools hold its regular meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month, in the Administrative Service Center Board Room, 1333 Radcliff, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Publish: August 17, 2014

Make Time For Active Play!

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NASA Study... "10 min. of bouncing provides same level results as 33 minutes of running"

The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop
www.SwingandBounce.com 3947 W. 12 Mile, Berkley 248-543-3115 Mon-Sat 10-5:30, Thu 10-8:30

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned in the Township of Redford by the Redford Township Police Department and are to be sold, as is, at open auction on the 23rd day of Aug 2014, at North Redford Towing, 25215 Glendale, Redford, MI 48239. Vehicles can be viewed on the auction date. Registered owners will be allowed to pick up their vehicles prior to auction starting. Check WWW.NRTOWING.COM for the current list.

1983	YAMAHA	MC	JYA22R008DA100821	EXPLORER	ARREST	1305650
2002	FORD	SW	1FMZU62E42UB27705	CAVALIER	ARREST	1402750
2003	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1JC52F637293479	883	ARREST	1403294
2000	HARLEYDAVIS	MC	1HD4CAM38YK148754	FX5	ARREST	1403683
2003	FORD	4D	3FAFP37333R185520	ALERO	ARREST	1404049
2001	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3NL52T91C188163	RAM	ACCIDENT	1404085
1997	DODGE	PU	1B7HC16Y1VS166357	WINDSTAR	ACCIDENT	1404483
2001	FORD	SW	2FMZA53411BA77357	TOWN&COU	ACCIDENT	1404637
2003	CHRYSLER	SW	2C4GP44373R150610	PROTEGE	ACCIDENT	1404676
1999	MAZDA	4D	JM1BJ2225X0193644	VOYAGER	ABANDONED	1404692
1999	PLYMOUTH	SW	1P4GP44G6XB822627	TOWN&COU	ARREST	1404847
1996	CHRYSLER	SW	1C4GP55L9TB312756	ROADMASTE	ACCIDENT	1404858
1994	BUICK	4D	1G4BT52PXRR410364	TAURUS	ARREST	1404905
2003	FORD	4D	1FAPF55U63G181153	FOCUS	ARREST	1404923
2002	FORD	4D	1FAPF363X2W107815	GRANDPRIX	ARREST	1404952
2001	PONTIAC	4D	1G2WP52K11F148811	JIMMY	ABANDONED	1404953
1993	GMC	SW	1GKDT13W6P2512525	FOCUS	ARREST	1405003
2000	FORD	4D	1FAFP3432YW268672	SAFARI	HAZARD	1405012
1996	GMC	SW	1GKDM19WXTB518410	TAURUS	HAZARD	1405090
2000	FORD	4D	1FAFP56S6YG231618	AZTEC	HAZARD	1405199
2001	PONTIAC	SW	3G7DA03E81S547631	MONTECAR	HAZARD	1405272
2003	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WX12KX39245188	TRAILBLAZ	ACCIDENT	1405283
2006	CHEVROLET	SW	1GND813S262238306	ACCORD	ACCIDENT	1405445
1997	HONDA	2D	1HGCD7203VA015344	CIVIC	ACCIDENT	TITLE
2008	KTM	MC	VBKRF440X8M107873	CAVALIER	ARREST	TITLE
1989	HONDA	2D	2HGED6340KH510604			TITLE
1998	CHEVROLET	2D	1G1JF12T1W73219991			TITLE

Notice of Public Auction
August 22, 2014
At or After 10:00 am
1-800-Mini Storage of Redford
15440 Telegraph, Redford MI 48239

1005	Grace Barnes	3206	April Tubbs Streeter
1419	Carla Bobbitt	3208	April Tubbs Streeter
1606	Naomi Taylor	3211	Crystal Crumm
2016	John Harrison	3217	Raymond Henry
2017	Eleanor Smith	3309	Veronica Jackson
2307	Paul Dennis	3522	Steven Taylor
2616	Christine Anderson	3526	Gerald Hall
2701	Milton Jennings	3625	Marcie Roszko
2704	William Cross Jr	3712	Ellie Currie
2801	Beatrice Weems	3713	Angela Lockett
2817	Michael Aaron	3721	Andre Akram
2833	Ciara Montgomery	3817	Yatava Morrison
2903	Michelle Young	3826	Gladys Huddleston
3025	April Tubbs Streeter	4338	Michael Tucker

Goods are to be sold to satisfy landlord lien. All goods will be sold to highest bidder for cash. 1-800-Mini Storage reserves the right to reject any bids and reserves the right to bid on unsold units. Contents include but are not limited to furniture, appliances, household goods, clothing, boxes & more.

Publish Date: August 10, 2014 & August 17, 2014

WALKERS

Continued from Page A6

and men who want to be a part of something bigger — they want to end breast cancer forever,” said Dr. Sherie Phillips, national spokesperson for the Susan G. Komen 3-Day. “This weekend is no exception.”

There are seven walks around the country, down from 14 a year ago. Phillips says the fact there are fewer walks doesn't diminish what participants hope to accomplish.

“The evolution of the (3-Day) doesn't change the fact Komen is committed to the cause of ending breast cancer forever,” she said. “We have 1,200 people here ready to walk ... the New Balances are laced, we're going to urge people to take action to end breast cancer with each and every step.”

Fans and supporters will be waiting for the walkers all along the path, as they do every year. Not only do they line the neighborhood streets along the route, there are also cheering stations in Farmington Hills, Northville, Plymouth and Livonia.

Like many walkers, Jill Engel of Canton is walking in honor of a family member stricken with breast cancer. Her mother, she said, has had breast cancer twice.

At one point, Engel said, her mother was given 18 months to live. She is now a 10-plus-year survivor whose fight convinced her daughter to take up the cause.

“My mom knew she'd



Lisa Cornejo of Novi (left) checks walkers route cards as they head out for the first day of the walk.

“Nearly 3 million breast cancer survivors live in the U.S. today.”

DR. SHERIE PHILLIPS, national spokesperson for the Susan G. Komen 3-Day

be OK no matter what happens and I wanted faith like that,” Engel said. “I'm walking because my mother gave me the gift of faith.”

Anna Fleeman of Novi walked with her friend Denise Francisco, a breast cancer survivor from Monroe.

“I walk with her so nobody else has to go through what she's gone through,” Fleeman said. “Hopefully, soon we won't have to fight it anymore.”

The walk culminates

with the closing ceremony around 4:30 p.m. Sunday at Ford World Headquarters. But even when the walk ends, Phillips points out, the battle doesn't.

“Nearly 3 million breast cancer survivors live in the U.S. today — the largest group of cancer survivors in the nation,” Phillips said. “But we know our work is not done until we find the cure.”

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Music, firefighter games on tap for Woehlke-Palooza

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A full schedule of live music and firefighter games will highlight the second annual Woehlke-Palooza, Friday and Saturday, Aug. 22-23, in downtown Wayne.

The event, sponsored by the Wayne-Westland Firefighters Local 1279 and the U.S. 12 American Bar and Grill, honors Wayne-Westland firefighter Brian Woehlke, killed in the line of duty in 2013, along with other fallen firefighters and police who died in the past year.

“Over the two days last year, we probably had 1,500 to 2,000 people. We hope to have that many each night,” said Carl Peters, a Wayne-Westland firefighter who is organizing the firefighter games. “I think people realized it was a bigger event than they thought, so they will come back and bring their friends.”

It's an outdoor event that will be held at the U.S. 12 American Bar and Grill, 34824 Michigan Ave., just east of Wayne Road. Rain or shine, Woehlke-Palooza begins at 5 p.m. each day.

On Friday, the entertainment will be headlined by Detroit legends Brownsville Station, along with ThrillBilys, Bristol Street and Two Timin' Band. ThrillBilys have composed a song dedicated to Woehlke that they will perform Friday night during their set.

“Friday is more of fun night. There will be corn hole and beer pong,” Peters said.

Saturday will be headlined by Sponge, with Pistol Day Parade, Kaleido and the Mike Leslie Band, all of whom are currently out on national tours. Also performing will be Social Bandits.

The firefighter games, with eight teams participating, will begin at 6 p.m. and can be watched while guests listen to the music.

“There will be a water ball competition and a firefighter combat challenge where two-man teams go through timed relays,” Peters said. “It's a pretty hardcore competition. They definitely get to show off their skills.”

Last year, the event raised about \$7,500 which went to the family of Woehlke, killed fighting the fire that destroyed the Electric Stick/Marvaso's Italian Grille. Still under investigation, the fire has been ruled arson and Woehlke's death a homicide. Woehlke is the first

Westland firefighter killed in the line of duty.

“The event was created in honor of Brian and, with his recent death, the money went to his family,” Peters said. “This year, the money will go to our charity fund earmarked to relieve stress for the families of fallen police and firefighters.”

With the anticipated larger turnout, Peters said he hopes the event will raise \$10,000 this year.

At this year's event, there will also be a special ceremony to remember late Westland Police Officer Skender Gocaj, who died in a 2003 car accident while off-duty. His brothers, John Goci and Scott Gocaj, own the U.S. 12.

Tickets, priced \$20, are available in advance at all Wayne-Westland fire stations, U.S. 12 Bar and Grill and www.netpix.com. Tickets will also be available at the door the day of the show.

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page A9

put on by the American Legion Riders of Post 32. All proceeds go to helping veterans. Music, 50-50 drawings, prizes awarded to the best cars. Motorcycle riders invited as well.

Contact: 734-427-5630.

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November.

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

Contact: Pat Ibbotson at 734-331-9291 or pibbotso@aol.com

LIVONIA CAMERA CLUB

Time/date: 8-9:30 p.m. the first two Thursdays September through May.

Location: McKinley School, 9100 Ilcrest, Livonia.

Details: A group of photographic enthusiasts dedicated to promotion of photography through displays, competitions, critiques and education.

Contact: Dennis Gelarden, president, 734-591-2589; livonia-cameraclub.com.

LIVING ON

Time/Date: 2-2:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month.

Location: Conference Room 2 of the second level, Oakwood Hospital-Wayne, 33155 Ann Arbor Road, Wayne (use West entrance).

Details: Hospice of Michigan's Living On grief support groups offer information on the basic needs of mourning. The group allows for safe and supportive discussions on personal experiences with grief.

Contact: For more information, contact Margie Martin, Grief Support services manager, at 734-769-5821 or visit hom.org.

STATE OF MICHIGAN 46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FAMILY DIVISION COUNTY OF CRAWFORD PUBLICATION OF HEARING

Case No. 13-4147-NA
Petition No. 01

IN THE MATTER OF: JAMES LUCAS, Date of birth: 08/21/2008; SAMUEL HEINZE, Date of birth: 07/09/2012.

A hearing regarding adjudication for the above named minor children will be conducted by the court on November 5, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in Crawford County Family Court, Grayling, Michigan before Hon. Monte J. Burmeister. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Kevin Lucas personally appear before the court at the time and place state above.

This hearing may result in the court taking jurisdiction over the above named minor children and could result in the permanent termination of your parental rights to the above named minor children.

ish: 08/17/14 LO-000020891 144

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Franklin to host 'Red Out' fundraiser

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Livonia Franklin football team and the program's Mom's Club will be hosting a "Red Out" during the Patriots' home game at 7 p.m. Sept. 5 against Milford.

Money generated from the

fundraiser will be donated to the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital oncology unit.

"Our reason for doing this is to raise awareness of childhood cancer," Mom's Club spokesperson Debbie Mead said. "We have invited kids from Mott's who are battling cancer. Our boys will be play-

ing for these kids."

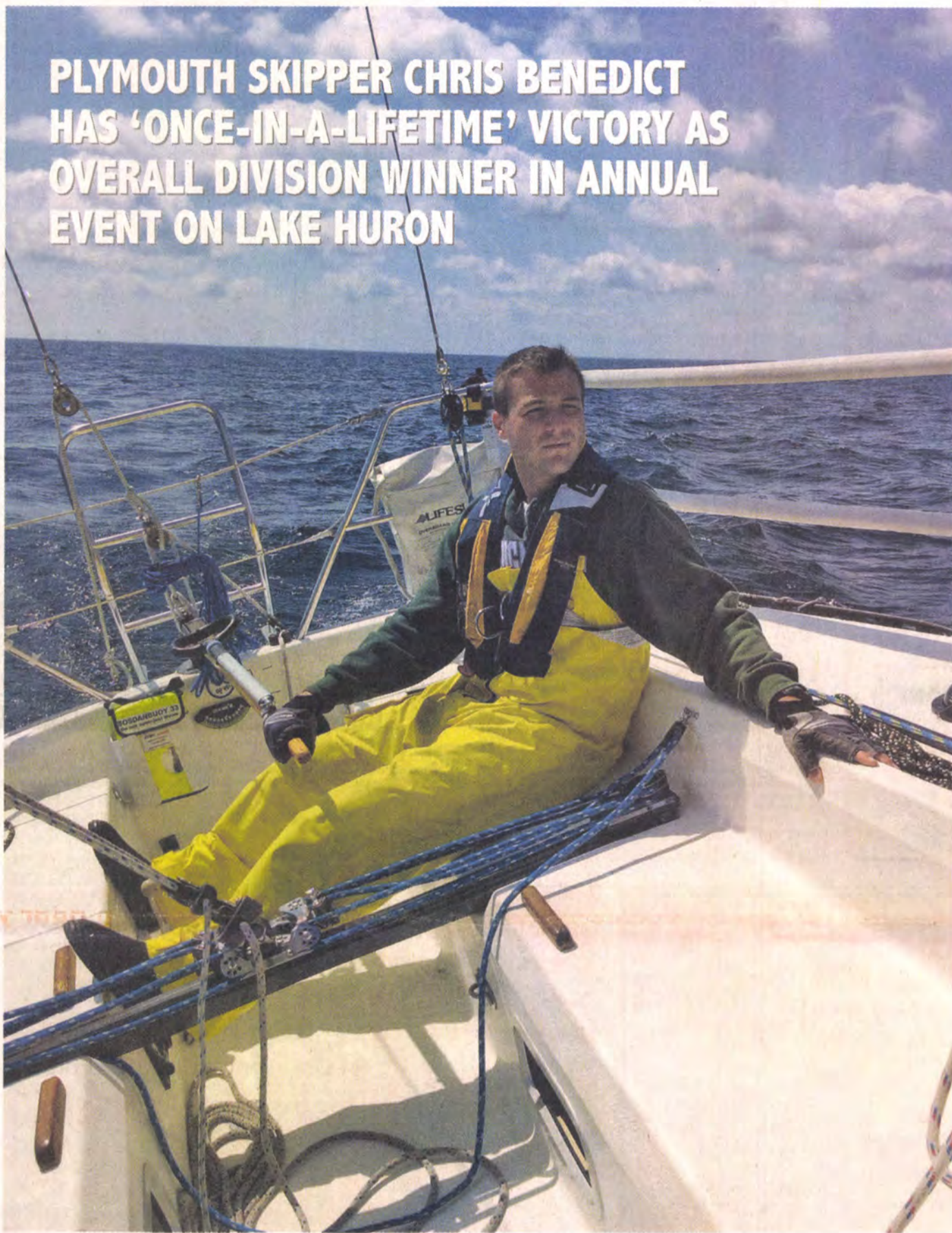
Among the fundraising projects planned for the night include the selling of T-shirts and glow bracelets, with all proceeds going to Mott.

Also, Build-A-Bear will be on-site selling bears and bunnies, while Dave & Buster's will set up a tent near the stadi-

um. Baskets will be raffled off as well.

The admission for the game is \$5.

The Mom's Club is also hosting a fundraiser for Motts 5-7 p.m. Sept. 2 at Leo's Coney Island, located at Schoolcraft and Middlebelt roads.



PLYMOUTH SKIPPER CHRIS BENEDICT HAS 'ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME' VICTORY AS OVERALL DIVISION WINNER IN ANNUAL EVENT ON LAKE HURON

Shape crew member Cameron Benedict enjoys an afternoon of sailing as he steers the rudder.

Sailor achieves high point in Mackinac sailboat race

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Chris Benedict of Plymouth has had more success than most sailors ever will in the annual Bell's Beer Bayview Mackinac Race.

With 11 first-place finishes and numerous seconds and thirds in 28 consecutive starts, Benedict and the eight-man crew aboard Shape are one of the dominant teams.

But this year was an exceptionally good one, a once-in-a-lifetime achievement, according to Benedict, who co-owns the 35-foot Santana sailboat with longtime friend Win Cooper III.

They sailed to victory again in their class (Level 126), but they also won their division for the first time, beating 127 other boats in Division II Shore Course Racing.

Shape won the overall championship on corrected time by 33-plus minutes over Farmington Hills sailor Paul Lee's boat Genesis.

"It's quite a big deal; it's not common," Benedict said. "We've been in the top 10 a few times. That seems close and you think, 'As well as we did, will we ever get there?' This year it seemed to all come together. All the stars aligned."

The 48-year-old Benedict, an engi-

neer who now works in sales, attributes his and the boat's success to consistency among the crew.

"Three others have been on board every time we've won," he said.

"We're a very disciplined crew. We sail four hours and sleep four hours around the clock. That sleeping discipline is critical.

"A lot of people miss that. With the excitement of the race and the boats all around you, sometimes it's hard to go to sleep. It's absolutely critical or you're in trouble."

See RACE, Page B2

Treating U-M athletes a rush for local doctor

Miller thrives as a physician for Wolverines' football and women's hoops teams

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The adrenaline rush Canton resident Amy Miller experiences in the moments leading up to University of Michigan home football games is difficult to contain.

How could you not develop a few goosebumps when you're standing in the tunnel of the Big House, shoulder to shoulder with the Wolverines players, waiting to sprint out onto the field, jump up and touch the "Go Blue - M Club Supports You" banner with the band playing *The Victors* and 109,901 people screaming their lungs out?

"I absolutely get pumped up for that," Miller said. "I touch the banner, just like the players. There's nothing else quite like it. But when things settle down and I walk over to the sidelines, I get focused because I know I have a job to do."

Miller's official title is Dr. Amy Miller and her job is pretty extraordinary - she serves as a primary-care physician for the U-M athletic department.

In addition to treating non-athletes at her family practice office near the Briarwood Mall, Miller helps heal members of the U-M football and women's basketball teams.

In a way, she is like a highly-educated mechanic who specializes in tuning up high-end vehicles, all of which are detailed in maize and blue paint.

"Being a primary care physician, I have to be ready to deal with everything - from broken bones to sore throats," she said. "I treat them from head to toe. I enjoy working with this age group because they're active and they work so hard to remain fit. And they're good people, too."

"Being a student-athlete these days can be stressful. There's really no off-season for college athletes. So I try to do everything I can to keep them safe, healthy and happy."

While healing others takes up a huge chunk of most days, Miller also thrives in another professional role: educating U-M students who aspire to someday follow in her footsteps.

"I love the teaching part of my job," she said. "I work with student trainers and students

See DOCTOR, Page B4



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RACE

Continued from Page B1

Slow to start

With their record, Benedict, Cooper and the crew are not accustomed to being behind, but they were early in this year's race, which started at midday Saturday, July 12.

Shape easily defeated the competition in its 12-boat class, finishing at 2:24 a.m. Monday with an elapsed time of 37 hours, 53 minutes and 47 seconds. After figuring handicap, its corrected time was 36:26:20.

"We had a bad start," Benedict said. "It's good to get off the starting line in good air. If it doesn't happen, it's not critical because you're 250 miles away from the finish."

You have a lot of time to make it up. In short order, we were right back in the thick of the fleet.

"We had a strategy going in. There are a couple boats we feel are very strong sailors in our class. We wanted to stay close and cover."

"If we get out in front, they're going to want to stay close. If they're going to win, they have to sail through us. A third of the way up the course, we found ourselves in front of everybody."

Shape and its crew also had some good luck and were in the right spot at the right time, according to Benedict.

They dominated the Level 126 Class, finishing 1½ hours ahead of the next boat due to a good move near the end of the race.

While other boats



The sailboat Shape gets underway in the annual Port Huron to Mackinac race on Lake Huron.



Members of the Shape crew (from left) Everett Benedict, Chris Benedict, Dale McNabb (rear), Steven Bradley, Rick Birdsall, Winfield Cooper Sr., Winfield Cooper Jr., Ed Ely and Cameron Benedict celebrate their success.

stayed close to shore, Shape sailed farther into the lake and heavy air, making it a sprint to the finish line.

"For the last 20 miles, we were never in light air the rest of the way," Benedict said. "It allowed us to go from a two-mile lead to about an eight-mile lead."

Early call to race

Technology is becoming a bigger part of the Mackinac race, too. In recent years, the Bay-view Yacht Club has equipped each boat with a satellite transponder that tracks its location throughout the race.

"It indicates how fast the boats are traveling, how far they are from the finish line," Benedict said. "We were just off The Thumb, a quarter-mile into the race, and the race tracker was already projecting us the likely division winner, which is really stressful. "We have 150 miles to go! The weather can change dozens of times to your advantage or disadvantage. I don't know if I like that or not, but it is fun."

After midnight the first night, Benedict and his team sailed into a rain

squall with quite a bit of wind.

"It was raining so hard you couldn't see 100 yards," he said. "(The driver has) no clue other than a compass, which can be mesmerizing to watch at night."

"The guys on deck handled it well and had the boat moving well, flying up the course. At a time when you can get unfocused and lackadaisical, they had the boat ripping up the course."

When the boat sailed north of Alpena the second day, the wind changed and the water became rough.

"We were rested and in good shape," Benedict said. "When the big waves came, we hammered away and kept the boat going. At that point, we were up to a couple-miles lead on our class competitors."

Crew likes adversity

Sailing in bad weather is something Benedict and his crew almost relish. They thrive in the harsh sailing environment.

Benedict recalled in the 2013 race they experienced the same kind of conditions the first night near Harbor Beach.

"It was the most miserable wave set we ever sailed in," he said. "They weren't big waves, but they were close together and beat the heck out of the boat. It was hard to sleep; it felt like we were in a washing machine."

"We seem to have success in miserable weather like that and keep on going. We haven't had a person seasick on our boat ever and those are the conditions you're going to be sick in."

"We got back into the waves near Alpena (this year) and that's when we started to increase the lead. The worse the weather is, the more we like it."

"Let the tornado blow and the waves come through. The more garbage you throw at us, we seem to do well and survive in that."

Benedict added a lot of people become fatigued and give up when faced with those circumstances. That's why it's important to stay fed and hydrated.

"If you don't do that, you'll be done before you know it," he said. "Most people don't like to eat in those conditions. Here we are packing in as much food as we can."

"We do like miserable weather. Anybody can sail when it's easy to sail. We feel fine with the bad weather."

Son a sailor, too

Benedict's oldest son, 21-year-old Cameron,

sailed in his 10th Mackinac race and has a winning percentage nearly as good as his dad's.

"He's had good fortune in his 10 years," Benedict said. "He's finished twice in class; he's finished second and three times finished in first place. He sort of knows the winning side of it."

"I've done it 28 years and had a great winning record, but not as good as his. He doesn't know what the doldrums are like."

"He's quite the avid sailor. He handles the foredeck on the opposite shift and also does a little driving of the boat. He has a steady hand and a good feel for the boat in the wind."

Other members of the crew are Winfield Cooper Sr., who ran a sailing school in Port Huron and taught Benedict how to sail when he was 9, Steve Bradley, Ed Ely, Dale McNabb and Rick Birdsall, who has done all 28 races with Benedict.

"I know fellow yacht club members who've raced 50 of them and never won," Benedict said. "There's no guarantee you're ever going to win. It's requires a lot of preparation and focus to win."

"It's the highlight of the summer. It's a little painful if you don't succeed, waiting another year to try it again. We feel fortunate that we've done well."

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Livonia's Warner reaches GAM women's semis

But that's where her title quest ends:
Elsholz tops McPherson for crown

A 23-year-old nanny who caddies part time and three senior-to-be college golfers made up the semifinalists in the 98th Michigan Women's Amateur Championship.

Shannon Warner of Livonia, who caddies more than she plays these days, Michigan State golfer Lindsey McPherson of Flushing, University of Toledo golfer Jennifer Elsholz of Grand Rapids and University of Wisconsin golfer Kimberly Dinh of Midland reached semifinal matches Friday morning to determine the two finalists for the afternoon championship match.

But Warner then lost to McPherson in one semifinal (McPherson earned a 3 and 1 victory), while eventual champion Elsholz turned back McPherson in the championship match.

Each of the four survived two rounds of matches Thursday at the University of Michigan course.

"I was feeling old today," said Warner, who played college golf at Eastern Michigan, caddies at Barton Hills Country Club and works as a nanny. "I wrenched something in my neck on 17 in the first match and it is still bugging me now. It became survival out there."

Warner survived in the quarterfinal match by making a rally from 3-down on the front nine to win 1-up over Jacqueline Setas, a Michigan State golfer from East Lansing. She wasn't especially pleased with her play, but is excited about being in the final four.

"Neither of us played to the best of our abilities, really overall it was kind of mediocre golf and somebody was going to win," Warner



Livonia's Shannon Warner in action during her quarterfinal win Thursday.

said. "Right now I don't feel very good about it because I didn't play very well, but tomorrow is a different day and golf is different every day."

Earlier Thursday, in the round of 16, McPherson defeated Plymouth alum Kelsey Murphy.

Elsholz, who earlier this summer won the GAM Women's Championship at Spring Lake, was confident about her title chances after Thursday's showing.

"I played good today, hit a lot of good shots and my long-distance putting was great," Elsholz said after beating University of Tennessee golfer Hanna Pietila of Brighton 4 and 3 in their quarterfinal match.

"I stayed patient, made a big putt, like 35 feet at No. 9 to stay just one down and then hit some good shots when Hannah made some mistakes," she said. "Patience is the key for me. Like against Hannah, she hit it 50 yards past me all day, but I just figured no big deal, waited for my holes to come and they did."

Dinh, the runner-up in the Michigan PGA Women's Open earlier this year at Crystal Mountain, made four birdies in 15 holes in turning back Allyson Geer of Brighton, the 15-year-old who was medalist in stroke play at the start of the week.

UDM golf team is nation's third-best academically

The University of Detroit Mercy women's golf team took home a lot of hardware for its play on the links, but the Horizon League champion Titans were also winners in the classroom as UDM had the third highest cumulative grade-point average in the nation this past season.

On Thursday, the Women's Golf Coaches Association announced its All-Scholar Team GPA Award and the top 25 team GPAs in the country, with Detroit posting a 3.838 GPA, just behind UTEP's 3.840 and New Mexico's 3.839.

"It is a well-deserved honor for the team," said head coach Terri Anthony-Ryan, longtime PGA teaching professional at Beech Woods Golf Course in Southfield. "They had the pressure on them all year long to repeat as champions and they did, all while taking care of business in the classroom as true student-athletes."

"From the strength room, to the classroom and out on the course, they were champions and that is why we had the success we have had because of their work ethic and their pursuit to be the best."

All eight of the Titans on this year's roster had GPAs over 3.4, with seven of the student-athletes over 3.5 and two perfect 4.0s. Among team members is 2013 Plymouth High School graduate Sarah Thompson.

It is the second straight season that Detroit has earned the WGCA All-Scholar Team GPA accolade, as it ranked 20th last year with a 3.617.

"I couldn't be more

proud of the women's golf team and everything they have accomplished, on and off the course," said Amy Gasahl, director of athletic academics.

"When you consider what they did ... winning the Horizon League championship is amazing and then to combine that with the extraordinary work in the classroom from all eight of the golfers is what UDM athletics is all about."

Detroit was one of two schools from the Horizon League in the top 25, with Youngstown State at 22nd. UDM was also one of two schools from the state of Michigan, as Eastern Michigan was 11th.

The team award exemplifies the hard work Detroit has instilled in its program as the Titans won the Horizon for the second straight season and made its third NCAA regional appearance in the last five years.

Earlier this season, the squad won the 2014 Team Excellence Award at the Annual Academic & Athletic Awards Dinner, which recognizes the varsity team with the highest overall grade-point average for the past academic year.

The National Golf Coaches Association honors the women's collegiate golf programs with the highest team GPA with the NGCA All-Scholar Team GPA Award.

This award is based on the average GPA for all members of the women's team for a specific year. The All-Scholar Team GPA Award is distributed to the top 25 teams at all levels — Division I, II, III, NAIA and JUCO.

NUTRITION

U-M doctor urges athletes to avoid energy supplements

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When it comes to consuming keenly-marketed energy supplements, young athletes should think before they drink.

That is the well-researched advice of Dr. Amy Miller, who serves as a team physician for the University of Michigan football and women's basketball squads.

While energy drinks — and even more potent pick-me-ups like fast-emerging caffeine powder — promise to provide a beneficial boost to athletes' performances, the short- and long-term effects of the products could be harmful, Miller warned.

"My biggest concern regarding energy supplements are the short-term and long-term effects on the heart," said Miller, a Canton

resident who has treated U-M athletes since 2000. "They raise the pulse rate and blood pressure. When you add the extra stress created by exercise, it's concerning."

"As far as the long-term effects on the heart muscle, there really hasn't been enough data collected to understand what the supplements can do over a long period of time. A lot of these products are marketed as nutritional supplements, but they don't really provide much nutrition."

Another damaging side effect of caffeine, Miller noted, is dehydration, which can lead to catastrophic scenarios, especially on brutally hot summer days.

The recent death of Ohio high school wrestler Logan Stiner has put the dangers of caffeine powder under the national microscope.

An autopsy revealed that Stiner had more than 70 micrograms of caffeine per milliliter of blood in his system

when he died May 27 at his home in LaGrange, Ohio. That is 23 times more caffeine than is found in a typical cup of coffee, according to the coroner who conducted Stiner's autopsy.

Since Stiner's death, the FDA issued a statement that it is investigating the affects of caffeine powder.

According to Webmd.com, a person can purchase 100,000 milligrams of caffeine powder online — the equivalent of more than 1,000 cans of Red Bull energy drink — for just \$10.

"One of the biggest problems with most energy supplements is that they're not regulated by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration), so you can't be sure what the ingredients are," Miller said. "Unfortunately, the FDA just doesn't have enough manpower to research the thousands of products that are out there."

"It costs a lot of money to test the products and make sure they're safe, so most of the

companies that sell them don't put the supplements through rigid testing."

Miller suggested that even eating a cookie or drinking a can of caffeinated soda prior to a game or workout can negatively affect an athlete's performance.

"The body metabolizes sugar quickly, so an athlete may feel a short burst of energy right away, but it drops quickly," she said.

The best pregame meal for a young athlete consists of foods rich in complex carbohydrates and proteins, Miller said.

"We're also finding that getting enough sleep is helpful for athletes," Miller added. "For instance, when world-class figure skaters get up at five in the morning for practice, they don't perform as well as when they've had a good night's sleep. Getting enough sleep is becoming a priority now for big-time athletes."

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Plymouth Whalers on lookout for local billet families to step up

By Pete Krupsky
Correspondent

Dan and Sue Stechschulte started to attend Plymouth Whalers games as fans several years ago.

Although they don't score goals, make saves or head to the penalty box, the Stechschultes have become part of one of the most important aspects of the Whalers.

They house Plymouth Whalers players.

The players' ages range 15-20 and they stay with families in the arena. The Stechschultes are starting their second season with 16-year-old Liam Dunda, from Grimsby, Ontario, and 17-year-old Cullen Mercer, from Exeter, Ontario.

It can be difficult to open a home for players, some of whom go to school locally on a land-exchange program. Although the Whalers understand the task isn't for everyone, the team is always on the lookout for perspective parents.

After the Stechschultes housed Garrett Meurs and Mitchell Heard for three and four years, respectively, they decided to take on Dunda and Mercer as first-year players last season.

"Liam and Cullen are both wonderful young men," Dan Stechschulte said. "They are both very funny, energetic and definitely not shy. They fit into our family right from the beginning and we think of them as family."

"We have a 16-year-old daughter who thinks of them as her own



Plymouth Whalers billets Dan and Sue Stechschulte and their daughter are shown with players Liam Dunda (second from left) and Cullen Mercer (second from right) during the 2013-14 season.

brothers," he added. "They get along like brothers/sister by doing homework, teasing, playing sports in the back yard, going to school together, hanging out at Menchies or just hanging out at the house and/or with other friends or Whalers."

On the go

Whalers players have a regimented schedule between school, practices six or seven days a week, a 68-game regular season, travel and appearances.

There isn't a lot of down time.

The busy lifestyle of a player in the Ontario Hockey League is an indication that most are highly motivated, learn to manage their time well and maintain their bodies through proper nutrition.

Good billet homes with happy players accelerate the process.

"First of all, parents probably have to like hockey to begin to get involved at this level," said Whalers assistant general manager Joe Stefan, who oversees the team's billet situation.

"We're looking for families to be able to give our players everything they need to succeed."

"We like the parents to keep an eye out for the player, to make sure they are acting properly in the home and within the family. A good billet family is essential for the success of a player."

As the Stechschultes described, when players and billets click with good chemistry, they become an important member of an extended family. The bond can last for years after the player leaves the Whalers.

"We have some billets that have been with us for years and years," Stefan said. "They enjoy the players and often establish and maintain relationships with the players who are now in the National Hockey League or succeed on other business."

Tom and Margaret Predhomme of Plymouth housed goaltender Justin Peters in 2006. When Justin's brother Alex was drafted by Plymouth in 2012, he moved in with the Predhommes. The bond re-

mains strong between the two families.

"Yes, we get along very well with both families and their lives have intertwined with ours and vice versa," Stechschulte said. "We love when the parents, siblings, grandparents and friends come into town for the games."

Just like family

Stechschulte was asked if he would recommend housing a Whaler player to other families.

"Think about your own kids and what it would be like to send your 16-year-old to go live someplace else and to grow up ... in a new house, new state and, most times, a new country," he said. "Think about how you would want your son or daughter treated and then you'll know how to treat any Whaler you decide to take into your house. "You treat them like family and they feel more at home."

Families interested in becoming billet parents can go to www.plymouthwhalers.com and fill out a Billet Application Form. That gets the process started.

Since all Plymouth high school-aged players attend the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, the Whalers prefer families who live in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi.

Once families start the process, Stefan will contact them.

Pete Krupsky is communications director and broadcaster for the Plymouth Whalers.

Dramatic finish caps Cardinals' title effort



The 13U Livonia Cardinals captured the championship at the Bavarian Blast Tournament, held Aug. 1-3 in Frankenmuth. The Cardinals defeated the Saginaw Jets, 4-3, in the title game thanks to a dramatic walk-off hit in the bottom of the sixth inning. Team members are (front row, from left) Mitchell Rhoad, Michael Schema, Jimmy Knorp, Andrew Heinz and Joe Sharkey; (second row, from left) Justin Roe, Steven Hunt, Eric Polzin, Jonah Beach, Nick Saylor and coach Barney Knorp; and (back row, from left) coach Jim Wilk, Arton Riza, coach Ray Riza, Evan Bradford and Alex Grzanowski.

MEN'S SOCCER PREVIEW

Ocelots jelling as team awaits regular season

New-look Schoolcraft kickers display playmaking flair

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

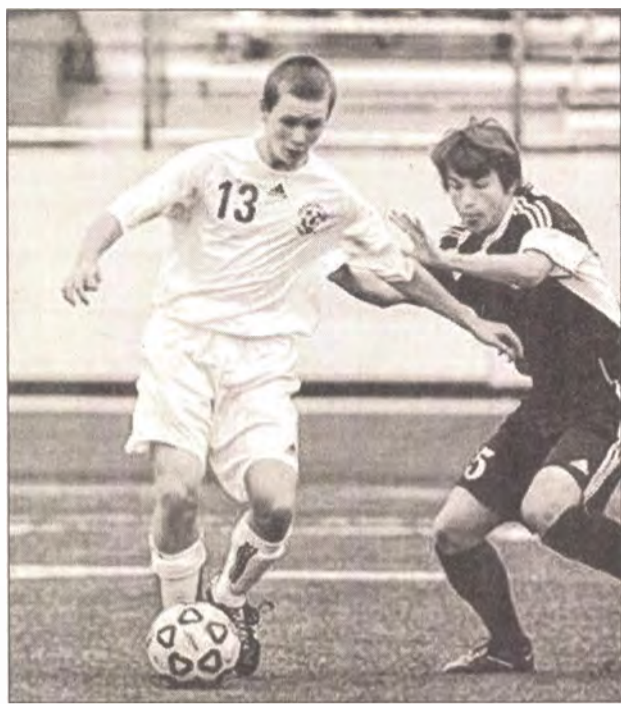
During a flurry in the second half of Wednesday's scrimmage, Schoolcraft's men's soccer team clustered a series of offensive salvos against Lawrence Technological University.

The host Ocelots scored three second-half goals to post a 3-0 victory and none brought a bigger smile to the face of veteran head coach Rick Larson (ninth season) than the goal netted by Lapeer East product Evan Schlaud.

Making a nifty run down the left side of the pitch before sliding a feed across the goal box was freshman forward Billy Werthman (Livonia Stevenson).

Canton alum Nate Bergeson, a forward and one of several returnees from the 2013 team, missed on a diving header in front of the Blue Devils goalkeeper, but Schlaud was perched to the right of the goal and he made no mistake with his emphatic shot.

"We can come at you



One of Schoolcraft College's returnees is Brandon Schulz (No. 13), shown from his senior year at Farmington. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

from the left side, we can come at you from the right side, from the counterattack," Larson said about Schoolcraft's balanced offense. "We can combine through the middle. People like Nate are willing to head balls into the net. We get good hard runs.

"That third goal we scored was absolutely a team goal."

At the other end of

the pitch, recent Livonia Churchill graduate Colton Robison was protecting the lead in goal with an acrobatic, diving stop. He was the third goalkeeper of the day, following Andres Hernandez and Peter Arton (Northville).

"Colton had a fantastic career at Livonia Churchill and Peter Arton went to Northville High," Larson said.

"(Arton) spent some time in the goal and spent a lot of time on the field (at forward), but he's a very good goalkeeper."

Meshing as unit

Buoyed by Wednesday's strong team showing, Larson so far is enthusiastic about how the squad is meshing.

Returnees Bergeson, Schlaud, forward Brandon Schulz (Farmington) and midfielder Abu Al-gabri (Dearborn Edsel Ford) lead the charge as the Ocelots prepare for the season opener at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, against visiting South Suburban College.

The coach then ticked off the names of promising newcomers such as Werthman, freshman midfielder/forward Victor Contreras, freshman midfielders Jon Quintana and Nick Berlich, sophomore forward Alex Podolski and freshman defender Adam Antosh.

"Adam Antosh is an absolutely fabulous defender from Troy Athens," Larson said. "He's just a solid, consistent person that takes a lot of pride in his job. And he's a real team player, so we're really excited about him.

"We're just trying to

figure out pairings and match-ups and who plays best together in those certain situations. I think we have a real nice foundation."

Larson, whose Ocelots will be looking to improve on last season's 12-6 mark (ending with a 2-1 loss to Cincinnati State in the NJCAA Region XII semifinals), is thrilled about more than just the level of talent displayed by his team during the preseason.

"We got really, really coachable guys that believe in what we're doing and we're really excited about that this year," Larson said.

Ready to go

One of the players who fits that description is Bergeson, who was a key contributor for the 2011 state champion Canton Chiefs.

"I can play any position, forward, outside-mid, center-mid, whatever they need," Bergeson said.

He is ready to get the regular season going and is confident things will have a better ending than last year.

"We should have beat them (Cinci State), but things happen," Bergeson said. "We're ready to go this year and win

nationals."

Another KLAA alum, Robison, already is discovering that he's moved up a notch on the soccer scale.

He described the junior college game as "faster and quicker" than the KLAA.

"I mean, everybody here's good players, there's no in-between," Robison said. "I did fine, everything went well."

Meanwhile, opposing teams will soon discover something else: Schoolcraft very well could be a team that will dominate the opposition at times in the MCCA.

One player who thinks so is Novi alum Anton Karamuco, a midfielder in his first season on the squad.

"We're going to have a great season," Karamuco said. "I have a really good feeling about this team and I think we're going to go really far."

Other players with local ties include freshman midfielder Richard Blevins (Garden City), freshman forwards Bobby Mason (Westland John Glenn) and Joe Trombly (Farmington).

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

LJAL competitive tryouts

LJAL baseball competitive tryouts will be held Aug. 20 from 6-8 p.m. at Rotary Park, which is located at 32184 Six Mile Rd. in Livonia.

Teams from 9U through 14U will be formed.

Players must be Livonia residents or attend Livonia Public Schools to be eligible.

For more information, visit ljal.com.

Haeger Baseball Camp

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger and his brother Charlie, a former major league pitcher, will be hosting a skills camp Aug. 26-28 (9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day) at the Madonna baseball facility.

Designed for kids ages 9-17, the camp will focus on all aspects of the sport, including proper mechanics, optimal mental approach and positioning.

Participants will be taught fundamental drills to improve individual skills, coupled with learning how to play the game through detailed instruction in simulated games.

Three "Campers of

the Day" awards will be presented each day. Additionally, offensive and defensive "Camp MVP" awards will be issued at the conclusion of the camp.

The cost of the camp is \$150.

For more information, visit haegerbaseballtraining.com.

The Haegers will also be hosting a winter break pitching and hitting camp. Dates for this camp will be released soon.

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.

Chargers earn division title



The Livonia-based 16U Michigan Chargers recently clinched the title in the WWCL Fastpitch Softball Travel League's Silver/North Division. Team members are (front row, from left) Rachel Blonde, Ashley Bond and Alyssa Facione; (second row, from left) Ashley Mireles, Kennedy Carrier and Ronnie Severin; and (third row, from left) coaches Eric Carrier and Jason Facione. Also on the team are Melissa Glidden, Sarah Jacek, Angie Lewan, Ashley McGeorge and coach Chuck McGeorge.

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 Saturday, Aug. 23, at Papp Park, 9350 Westlake Road, in Taylor.

Registration and

stretching will run 8:15-8:45 a.m.

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

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 eighth- through 12th-grade players in Farmington Public Schools.

The team competes at the varsity level in Division 2 of the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association.

For more information, contact farmingtonunitedfieldhockey@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 compete 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.

GC tennis tryouts

Tryouts for the 2014 Garden City High School boys tennis team will take place 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.

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.

DOCTOR

Continued from Page B1

who want to get into sports medicine. My mom was a teacher, so it's in my blood."

Probably the most difficult part of her job, Miller admitted, is dealing with devastating injuries.

"I try to develop a good rapport with the athletes, so when one of them gets hurt, it's heartbreaking," she said. "For instance, last year I had to tell a player before a game that he didn't pass his concussion test, so he couldn't play, and he was supposed to start that game."

"It's tough, but you do what you have to do to keep the athletes safe and healthy."

With all due respect to Devin Gardner, Denard Robinson and Madison Ristovski, Miller's three favorite athletes are still too young to enroll at U-M. Heading her top three list would be son Tyler, 13, and daughters Alex, 11, and Sydney, 8.



Dr. Amy Miller (right), a resident of Canton, is a team physician for the University of Michigan's football and women's basketball programs. ED WRIGHT

Tyler is an accomplished basketball player; Alex, was recently selected to participate in the Olympic Development Program for soccer; while Sydney enjoys soccer and volleyball.

"If I had my choice, I'd much rather be on the sidelines watching my kids play than at a football game," Miller said, smiling. "That's my favorite place to be — watching them doing what they love to do, with no cellphone and no pager going off."

Born and raised in the Mount Clemens area, Miller earned a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology at U-M while working as a student athletic trainer.

She earned a medical degree from Wayne State University before serving a residency in family practice at Bon Secours Hospital in Grosse Pointe. She completed a Sports Medicine Fellowship at U-M in 1999.

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Fury wins Rush Classic title



The Farmington Fury '03 Red from the Farmington Soccer Club won the under-12 White Division championship in the Rush Classic Tournament Aug. 10 in Northville. Team members are (front row, from left) Max Marquette, Jake Michalski, Connor Jaisle, Danny Hanus, John Lentz and Cameron Ignasiak and (back row, from left) assistant coach Mike Bride, Martin Marks, Eli Bride, Jacob Kujawa, Joey Bass, Danny Bass, Ty Blair and head coach Jeff Blair. The Fury posted 3-0-1 record in the tournament with 19 goals scored and only four against. In its last past 10 games, the Fury are undefeated with an 8-0-2 record.

Redford costume designer looks forward to work after cancer treatment

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Bernadine Vida, photographer, and costumer for movies, theater, television and dance, recently started a new venture: overcoming breast cancer.

The life-long Redford resident has approached her surgical recovery and chemotherapy as she would many of her creative projects. She has plans in the works to design her own head caps and like any good project manager, she is attentive to her budget. In its first week, her GoFundMe campaign has raised \$1,350 of the \$5,000 she requested to help with medical expenses. She also sought support from The Pink Fund and Pink Ribbon Riders to help with household expenses until she can get back on her feet and working full time.

"When I first learned I had it, it was a shock," said Vida, who noticed a lump in her left breast while working as the costume designer on a cruise ship near Australia. She followed up with her doctor when she returned home in March and then took on a guest artist residency at the Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids where she coordinated a student fashion show in conjunction with the Grand Rapids Film Festival. While she was in Grand Rapids, her doctor called, asking her to return home to hear test results and a diagnosis.

Treatment called for a mastectomy, chemotherapy and a few weeks of radiation, followed by breast reconstruction.

"My son and I walked around for a few days like zombies and cried. Then something kicked in after a couple of days of getting over the initial shock ... it washes through the system and all of a sudden something in me clicks," said Vida, explaining her generally upbeat attitude. "I don't know what is going to happen next year or the next five months, but I don't want to sit around being horrified and waste opportunities and time. I want to do more teaching, more lecturing. I want to travel more and do more of my photography."

After finishing costumes for the 2012 film, *The Citizen*, Vida began traveling the world, designing and making costumes for performers on cruise ships. She also photographed the countries she visited. Her photography is available at her Foreignography website, www.bernavida.addr.com and at her Etsy shop, <https://www.etsy.com/people/bernavida>, which also offers pillows, sleep masks, skirts and other items for sale.

"I want my breast reconstructed before the end of the year. Come spring, I want to be ready to go out and work."

Help with finances

Although she managed to fit in one more cruise ship costume assignment before her surgery, most of her design work — which requires travel — has been put on hold



Bernadine Vida strikes a pose at the Port of Sydney, Australia, on one of her many working cruises.



Victoria the Golden Eagle perches next to Redford resident Bernadine Vida on one of her many trips overseas. She has designed and created costumes for performers on cruise ships the past two years.

while she focuses on her health. Numb or painful fingers and weak hand muscles are among the possible side effects of chemotherapy, which could make sewing difficult. During her recovery, Vida managed to create an Elizabethan costume for a music video without feeling any pain.

"What most people don't realize with an illness like this is that for the first three months I couldn't have worked if I wanted to. For the first month I was at the doctor every day. Then every other day, then every three days. It was unbelievable," said Vida, who is self-employed as a freelance designer. "It's not like I have a nine-to-five job with a big corporation and can take a leave of absence."

Vida had signed up for medical insurance under the Affordable Care Act, which she said "saved" her financially.

"If I didn't have it I wouldn't have anything," she noted. "They okayed the re-

construction service and everything."

Although medical insurance pays for most treatments, co-pays, out-of-pocket expenses and deductibles, along with household costs, can strain finances, especially when no regular paycheck — other than a Social Security payment — arrives each week. That's the reason Vida looked into other funding sources, such as The Pink Fund and Pink Ribbon Riders, and started the GoFundMe campaign. She discovered Cleaning for a Reason, a nationwide company that offers house cleaning services to breast cancer patients and researched hospital services in the area.

"I can see how incredibly daunting it can be for some people. To me, this is another project. But I worry about someone who doesn't have the tenacity to do this," she said. "The most important thing is don't hesitate. Get on Google and say 'help with cancer treatment in Michigan.' The



Bernadine Vida is undergoing chemotherapy after a mastectomy of her left breast.

American Cancer Society is a good place to start."

Vida chose GoFundMe over other Internet crowd funding sites because it includes a section exclusively for medical-related fundraising. The campaign also created a supportive environment, with friends, acquaintances and well-wishers reaching out for updates on her progress.

Reconnecting with friends

Vida's career has spanned decades and has included work on such films as *8 Mile*, *Transformers*, and *Beverly Hills Cop*, as well as television work with *The Wannabes*, *Jimmy Kimmel LIVE!* and other programs. She also has designed costumes for numerous dance, music and theater performances, staged costume

exhibits at museums, and won many awards, including the Artist of the Year award in 2006 from the Wayne County Council of Arts, Humanity and Culture.

Vida said she has received many responses from individuals she met throughout her career.

"It's enlightening to know people are thinking about you in this way. It is heartwarming."

Visit Vida's GoFundMe page at www.gofundme.com/Saving-Bernadine.

Her son, Vincent, has accompanied her to all of her appointments and procedures. He's organizing a fundraiser with help from his pool league for late September at Snookers Pool & Pub. Check for more information to follow on her website.

Single motherhood can be lonely, but builds strength

There is something so surreal about becoming a mother. As your body changes, and you feel your little baby growing and moving inside of you, there is this odd feeling you get; knowing that everything you have ever known to be in your life is about to change. As the weeks count down, and the time nears for meeting your precious child, everything starts to change so rapidly.

I used to be a "me, me, me" kind of person. No matter what was happening, I wanted to find a way to make it about me. I did a pretty good job of it too. Ask anyone who has known me over the past 32 years, and certainly they will agree. But lately, I've really changed my way of thinking. Everything now, is about my daughter.

I spend a lot of time thinking of the "what-ifs" and worry that there will be times when



Sarah
Davies

GUEST
COLUMN

my daughter and I don't get along, and days when I am not sure I am making the right choices. I get overwhelmed sometimes when I realize how hard it might be to raise her in a family that doesn't consist of a father and mother in the same home. I was raised with a very close-knit family, my folks are still together, and I always dreamed that my family would be just the same. But the more I worry, the more I am reminded that life is not about creating a perfect painting to hang on the wall. Instead, life is actually about making the very best out of any situation you have been given. And so it shall be for me

and my daughter.

We may not have the best of things, but we have all the things we will need. We may struggle from time to time, but I have faith that the love that even I alone will give to my child will be enough to bring us through even the darkest of days. After all, love is the most important piece to any kind of relationship. I will teach my daughter to love; love those you like and even those you don't, even though at times it will be very challenging to live by my own words.

Focusing on her

There are days where I am stressed, overwhelmed, and exhausted and the day is not even half way over. I question sometimes, at just past lunch, how I will ever make it through to the end of the day. But then I remember that it is not about me anymore. It

doesn't matter if I am stressed or frustrated, or feeling lonely and scared. What matters to me now is her, my little girl. So I push through the lousy days, and anxiously await those days when I will be able to hold her, and kiss her, and love her. I cannot wait to hold my baby girl in my arms and tell her how much I have been longing for her all my life.

I feel saddened sometimes that I do not have that significant other to go through all these pregnancy ups and downs with, someone to tell me I am beautiful on the days I feel ugly and bloated. I question how I will ever find someone so special, knowing that I am going through the most fantastic part of my life on my own. I hear stories of women I know going through pregnancy with husbands and boyfriends who treat them well, making dinner and cleaning and taking

them out when they are feeling down, and then I tuck myself into bed and fall asleep watching TV alone. I slightly envy those women and their relationships, and part of me wishes that I, too, would have had that kind of closeness going through the most challenging and incredible time of my life. But then I remember how strong this is making me, and that there must be a reason for me to go through this in this way.

I believe if nothing else, it is to show myself and my daughter what strength really is. Strength, I have learned, is not merely made up of muscles and stamina. It is made up of faith, love, courage, and a simple belief in yourself.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of becoming a single mother. Contact her at sarahmari Davies@gmail.com

Animal rescues run online fundraiser, vaccination clinic

As a "mom" to dogs, one which is prone to chasing anything — birds, squirrels, you-name-it — that ventures into our backyard, I have given up the dream of bringing a cat into the family.

Instead, I get my kitty fix by volunteering at New Beginnings Animal Rescue (NBAR) in Royal Oak, where most of the felines are free to play with their pals, climb scratching posts, or relax in a sunny window until they are adopted.

A handful, however, live in cages until they find a forever home. NBAR president Lisa Hill, who founded the organization with vice president Jennifer Fritz of Garden City, and a handful of other volunteers, hopes to upgrade their digs through an Indiegogo crowd funding campaign that aims to raise \$15,000 in a month. The money would buy "cat condos" that would replace the cages in NBAR's individual housing room. The room is home to six cats that need separate quarters because of age or temperament.

"We have six dog crates where we house six cats. It's currently working all right, but the problem with them is that cats are vertical instead



Sharon Dargay

of horizontal, so there is a lot of wasted space because they can't go up," Hill explains in her Indiegogo funding appeal. Cats like to climb, but can't in their cages. The cat condos are taller than they are wide or deep, offering more play space.

"There are shelves for the cats to hop on and lounge," she says describing the condo units. "There's a space for the litter box so it's not taking up any of their playing room ... what's also great about these units is that they are vertical. We'll be able to almost double the cats we can fit in that room."

As of Friday, Aug. 15, the organization raised \$1,375, with 26 days to go. Donation levels of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$300, \$750 and \$3,500 come with various perks. Contributors can claim a tote bag, for example, at the \$50 level. For a \$300 donation, they can name one of NBAR's cats. And for a \$3,500 donation, they'll get a plaque on the cat



PET PROJECTS

room door.

Check out NBAR's fundraising campaign at Indiegogo.com/projects/comfy-condos-for-classy-cats. Visit NBAR 4-7 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, at 2502 Rochester Road.

Vaccination clinic

Tail Wagger's 1990 offers low-cost vaccinations by appointment for both cats and dogs at its Livonia Wellness Center, 28402 Five Mile.

Cost for Parvo/Distemper, Rabies and Bordetella vaccination package is \$30, or buy them individually for \$12 each.

The organization also of-



A cat in one of the free-roam rooms at New Beginnings Animal Rescue peers out a window into the lobby. The organization is raising funds through an Indiegogo campaign to buy new "cat condos" for some of the felines that live in cages at the Rescue's shelter.

fers Lepto vaccinations for \$15 and microchips for \$30. Heartworm testing also is available by appointment at the Center.

Make an appointment by calling the Livonia Wellness

Clinic at 734-855-4077.

Tail Wagger's also offers vaccinations on a walk-in basis 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17 at Premier Pet Supply, 31215 Southfield Road in Beverly Hills.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

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

Butterflies

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association presents "Movie Night," 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Learn about SEMBA co-founder Brenda Dziedzic's butterfly adventures in the State of Michoacan, Mexico. Parking on Hines Dr. or Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 fee for non-members. 734-223-5510, or visit www.semba-butterfly.org.

English Gardens

The store launches its Pink Day fundraising event Sunday, Aug. 17. It will sell \$1 raffle tickets for a chance to win a \$1,000 shopping spree and six \$250 shopping sprees. Drawings will be held on Pink Day, Thursday, Oct. 9. Ticket sales proceeds will be donated to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit.

Learn about plants for screening at a free presentation, 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 23, at all stores.

Perennial Gardening 101 shows how to bring color and texture to the garden. The free presentation is at 10 a.m., Sat-

urday, Aug. 30, at all stores.

Get the basics on landscape design in a free presentation, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at all stores.

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

Friends of the Rouge

Train to become a leader for the fall bug hunt, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 Haggerty. www.therouge.org.



English Gardens employees wear pink every Sunday beginning Aug. 17 to promote a fundraiser for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Guide to Employment

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

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<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable</p> <p>Data Entry/Customer Svc</p> <p>For distributor in Wixom. Excellent phone skills and experience req. P/T - FT. Good pay, health, 401k. Email resume: Norway50@aol.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ASSEMBLY</p> <p>DADCO, Inc., the global leader in nitrogen gas spring technology, is growing! We are looking for dependable, bright individuals with a strong work ethic to train for full and part-time, day-shift positions. Job responsibilities include part quality inspection, sub and complete product assembly build, final product inspection and order packing. Qualified candidates will be quick learners with a high school diploma, technical aptitude, and strong attention to detail. Come and work with our talented team in our state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. We will offer you training, competitive wages, and a generous benefit package including 401(k), EOE.</p> <p>Email resumes to: law@dadco.net</p> <p>DADCO</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>AUTO PARTS SORTING & INSPECTING</p> <p>Established Co. in Brighton is seeking quick learners. No exp. necessary. Paid training provided. Must have own transportation. Please call Mon-Fri. btwn 9-3pm. 810-229-6053</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ARAMARK</p> <p>Correctional Services We're Hiring!</p> <p>Food Service Associates</p> <p>For: Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility</p> <p>We offer a competitive starting hourly pay rate and paid holidays, as well as health insurance plans & vacation time (for full time employees).</p> <p>We are offering a \$200 Sign-on Bonus</p> <p>Qualified candidates must have 4 years of food service experience.</p> <p>Apply online at www.workmarks.com</p> <p>ARAMARK is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer M/F/D/V</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>COUNTER CLERKS</p> <p>Full or Part-Time Or Students. All locations</p> <p>Mai Kai Cleaners</p> <p>Call Robin or Steve: 313-537-8050</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>Engineering Manager</p> <p>O&K Technology America Inc. seeks Engineering Manager to oversee all engineering, quality, and new business activities. Req'd Bachelor's in Engineering & minimum 5 yrs. experience as Engineering Manager. Send resume to job location at: 30700 Telegraph Rd., Suite 2656, Bingham Farms, MI 48025</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN</p> <p>Exp'd, full-time for apartment community in Dearborn Hts. Knowledge in all aspects of maintenance including HVAC certified a plus. Must have basic electrical and plumbing skills, ability to trouble shoot shared on-call pager, general pool maintenance & snow removal. Looking for a team player with excellent customer service. Competitive salary & benefits incl. Resume: Cambridge@yorkcommunities.com Call: 313-274-4765</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>SALES REPRESENTATIVES</p> <p>(Broomfield)</p> <p>JOB FAIR</p> <p>Monday, August 18, 2014 9am - 1pm</p> <p>14525 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154</p> <p>Full Time Positions</p> <p>Comprehensive benefit package available</p> <p>Paid training program provided</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>Medical Assistant Certified</p> <p>Needed for busy Gastro Office in Farmington Hills would also prefer some Front Desk experience. Fax resume: 248-471-8904</p>
<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>Administrative Assistant</p> <p>Immediate Opening Receptionist/admin. assistant to support our accounting & sales departments. Organization, communication, clerical, light bookkeeping skills needed. Full-time, great benefits. Email your resume and wage history to: cghr@compnetgraphics.com</p>	<p>APPOINTMENT SETTER</p> <p>Make your own Schedule! Work from Home PT or FT. Schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart, call Mon-Fri. 9-5 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com</p>	<p>Buddy's Pizza Opening in Novi!</p> <p>(Fountain Walk Shopping Center)</p> <p>We are now accepting applications for: ALL POSITIONS</p> <p>Please Apply At: Farmington Hills location: 31646 Northwestern Hwy Livonia location: 33605 Plymouth Rd</p> <p>Please indicate "NOVI" employment on your application or apply online anytime at our website: www.buddyspizza.com</p>	<p>Drivers</p> <p>Gully Transportation CDL A - 1 Year Experience. Turn and Regional Positions Available! Great Benefits & Bonuses! Call Don! 800-566-8960</p>	<p>Holland</p> <p>Drivers! Holland is hiring in Romulus! The Driver Recruiter will be at the terminal on August 26, & 27 from Noon to 5pm. 27411 Wick Road, Romulus, MI taking applications for FT local & Regional drivers. 21 yrs old, having a CDL/A w/ hazmat & tanker w/ 1 yr or 50k miles experience.</p> <p>Apply online at: www.hollandregional.com/careers</p> <p>EEO/AAE Minorities/ Females/Persons with Disabilities/ Protected Veterans</p>	<p>HVAC SERVICE TECH</p> <p>with 5+ years exp in commercial/ industrial equip. Full time afternoon shift, on-site repair, maintain and PM work. Ideal candidate will have knowledge in Elec and HVAC troubleshooting, pumps, VFDs etc. Ref. handling certification required.</p> <p>Boiler/ refrigeration operators license a plus</p> <p>This is a permanent, position with competitive compensation and benefits.</p> <p>Please forward resume to: jobs11@bctenair.com or by fax 248-348-1387</p>	<p>NVH Engineer</p> <p>wanted in Troy, Michigan to validate noise, vibration and harshness on driveline components through all phases of product development. Send resume to Joe Shenbaum, Human Resources Generalist, Magna Powertrain of America Inc., 1870 Technology Drive, Troy, MI 48063</p>	<p>OFFICE FURNITURE INSTALLATION</p> <p>business in Wixom is looking to fill FULL-TIME INSTALLER and DRIVER positions.</p> <p>We are looking for RESPONSIBLE, DEPENDABLE, & PRESENTABLE individuals. On the job training will be provided, experience not needed but preferred. You must be able to travel for out of town projects and be able to work weekends and evenings if needed. You must have reliable transportation with a valid driver's license</p> <p>Email resume: Courtney6@synergyinstallation.com or in person:</p> <p>SYNERGY</p> <p>29988 Anthony Dr. Wixom MI 48393</p>	<p>RESTAURANT DELI MANAGER</p> <p>Experienced only STEVE'S DELI Bloomfield Hills Ask for Bob: 248-932-0800 stevesdeli@comcast.net</p>

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National Cancer Institute awards Beaumont research grant

Cancer patients throughout Michigan will have access to federally-funded cancer research studies thanks to a five-year grant recently awarded to the Beaumont Cancer Institute.

Beaumont Health System is one of 34 community sites participating in the National Cancer Institute's Community Oncology Research Program, also known as NCORP.

"We're honored to be named one of the recipients of the National Cancer Institute's grant," explains Dr. John Robertson, principal investigator for NCORP. "This new program got underway Aug. 1 and its overall goal is to bring can-

cer clinical trials, as well as cancer care delivery research to individuals in their own communities to improve patient outcomes and reductions in cancer disparities. We've got years of experience doing just that in Southeast Michigan."

NCORP replaces two previous National Cancer Institute community-based clinical research programs: the NCI Community Clinical Oncology Program, also referred to as CCOP, and the NCI Community Cancer Centers Program.

Beaumont's Cancer Institute was a long-time participant in CCOP until the program was discontinued on May 31. The new program, with its

\$93 million a year in funding, builds on the strengths of the previous programs and aims to better address the most pressing issues affecting the conduct and delivery of care in the communities across the nation.

Beaumont will receive \$757,511 per year for five years. The NCI-funded cancer research programs will take place at Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak and Beaumont Hospital Troy.

The new program is a national network of investigators, cancer care providers, academic institutions and other organizations conducting cancer research. NCORP community-based research examines

strategies to:

- » Reduce cancer risk and incidence
- » Improve cancer care outcomes
- » Expand access to cancer care
- » Increase quality and value of care
- » Reduce cancer disparities

According to Dr. Wort McCaskill-Stevens, director of NCORP, the creation of NCORP allows the National Cancer Institute to take advantage of recent advances in the understanding of cancer and bring this new knowledge into clinical trials conducted in the community, where most patients receive their care.

St. Mary Mercy offers diabetes self-management program

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia will present a free six-week workshop for adults with diabetes called Diabetes PATH (Personal Approach Toward Health) on Tuesdays beginning Sept. 2.

Sessions will run from 2-4:30 p.m. at St. Mary Mercy's Classroom 11, on the hospital campus at Five Mile and Newburgh. The workshop will teach participants to handle the challenges of diabetes, manage symptoms and communicate more effectively with physicians and family members.

Diabetes is a chronic, widespread condition characterized by high blood sugar in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, the hormone needed to transport glucose from the blood into the cells of the body for energy. According to the American Diabetes Association, more than 29 million individuals in the United States have diabetes, including an estimated 8 million who remain undiagnosed.

Diabetes - PATH provides individuals with diabetes a comfortable environment to share their experiences, learn how to improve their health and manage symptoms. Participants will develop weekly action plans, talk about their experiences and help others solve problems encountered during their self-management program. Family members, friends and caregivers may also attend.

Registration is required. Call community outreach at 734-655-8950 or register online under "classes and events" at stmarymercy.org.

Violence, guns among top child health concerns

Childhood obesity remains the top health concern for children in 2014, but when asked about national concerns, adults put school violence and gun-related injuries in the top 10, according to a new University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health.

In the poll's annual top 10 list, a nationwide sample of adults were asked to identify the biggest health concerns for kids in their communities, as well as kids nationwide. Overall, childhood obesity is rated at the top of both lists: 29 percent of adults said obesity is a big problem for children in their local communities and 55 percent said it is big problem across the country.

The top 10 rankings for 2014 locally are childhood obesity, 29 percent, smoking and tobacco use, 26 percent, drug abuse, 26 percent, bullying, 23 percent, stress, 22 percent, alcohol abuse, 19 per-

cent, Internet safety, 18 percent, child abuse and neglect, 18 percent, teen pregnancy, 16 percent, not enough physical activity options, 15 percent.

Across the nation, the rankings are childhood obesity, 55 percent, bullying, 52 percent, drug abuse, 49 percent, smoking and tobacco use, 47 percent, school violence, 44 percent, child abuse and neglect, 42 percent, alcohol abuse, 41 percent, Internet safety, 40 percent, gun-related injuries, 39 percent and teen pregnancy, 37 percent.

Violence, gun injuries

"Obesity remains a top child health problem overall, which has been a persistent concern in our annual top 10 polls along with others like bullying, smoking and drug abuse," says Matthew M. Davis, M.D., director of the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health.

"But this year's top 10 lists

differ in key ways. School violence and gun-related injuries are on the list of big child health problems from a national perspective, but not a local community perspective."

Recent shootings and other instances of violence in schools may have prompted concern among adults from a national perspective, says Davis, who also is professor of pediatrics, internal medicine, public policy and health management and policy at the U-M Medical School, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and School of Public Health.

The poll shows a strong link between many of the top 10 child health concerns to health behaviors of children and their families, says Davis, also a member of the U-M Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation. These concerns indicate that the public understands the powerful role of behavior in health in terms of short-term impact and long-term consequences. Childhood

obesity is a good example.

"Recent data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that rates of obesity in early childhood are decreasing in some states," says Davis.

"But we know obesity among children remains substantially higher than it was in generations past. So this poll reminds us that much of the public recognizes the need to keep working hard on this problem."

Davis says he hopes the results of this poll help health professionals, community leaders and elected representatives prioritize the threats to children's health in their own communities.

"We need to work hard together on these issues of greatest concern to the public, and take note of the particular national concern about school violence and gun-related injuries so we can address how to improve and safeguard our children's health."

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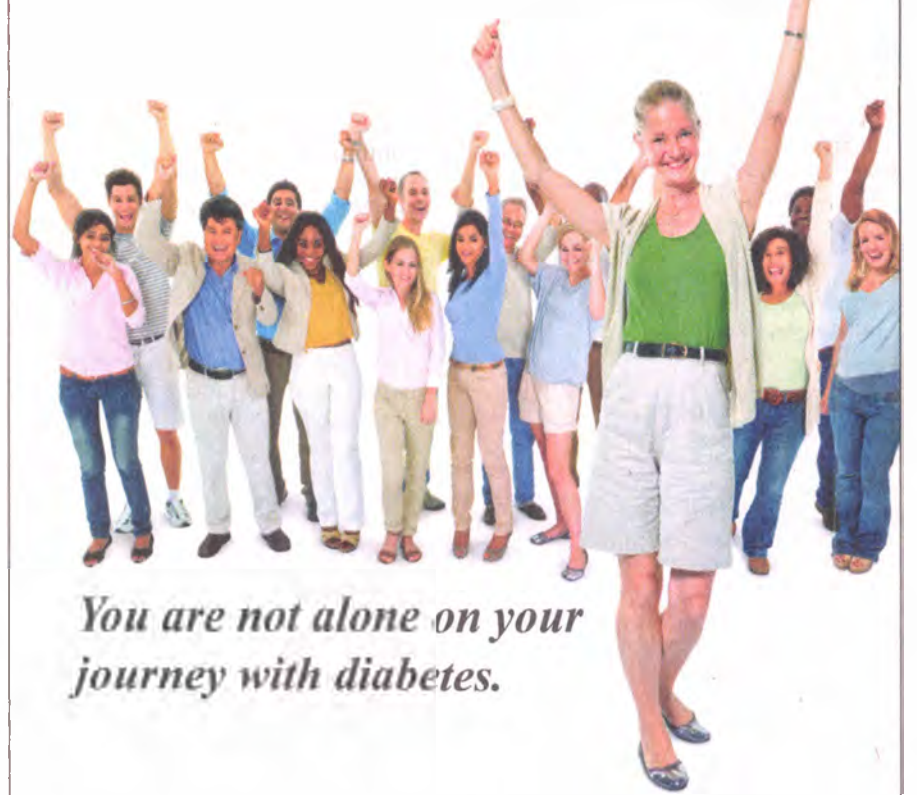
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