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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2014 • hometownlife.com

Committee formed to study fire authority

Wayne, Westland and Inkster are all included

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A committee of council members from Wayne, Westland and Inkster is being formed to study a possible fire authority for the three communities.

"It's a preliminary group to get information together and figure out the direction where it is heading," said Wayne Councilman Skip Monit, who was appointed last week to serve as Wayne's representative.

The Wayne and Westland

fire departments have had merged operations since 2012, including sharing the services of Chief Michael Reddy and a single employee union.

In the interim, Reddy has been assessing whether the goal of enhanced service and decreased expense could be accomplished by establishing an authority, created under state law and requiring voter approval.

"We started with Wayne. A council person from each city will be on the committee so they can review with me what the authority looks like," Reddy said. "The committee can sit with me and a financial planner, then they can educate their

fellow council members."

Westland and Inkster haven't appointed their representatives yet. Monit said that he expects the committee to meet relatively soon after the other appointments are in place.

"I'm glad we are doing this. Our council in Wayne has many questions that have not been answered," Monit said. "This is encouraging and hopefully will answer the questions we have about an authority."

The committee will also meet with attorneys as members look at what it will take to establish a fire authority, Reddy said.

"We're at the infant stage.



FILE PHOTO

Council members from Wayne, Westland and Inkster will begin meeting to explore the possibility of creating a fire authority.

We will start sifting through it and see if there is a savings," Reddy said.

In Inkster, Reddy served as chief briefly. Earlier this summer, John Adams retired from

the Westland Fire Department and became the Inkster chief.

irogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver



LEANNE ROGERS

Carolyn Marnon (left) and Lois VanStipdonk were manning a table for the Main Street program at the Wayne Farmers Market. They were selling frames to make scarecrows for the upcoming contest.

Firefighters in training end up with real emergency

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A training session with a life flight helicopter Wednesday afternoon turned into an actual emergency response by Wayne-Westland firefighters.

The University of Michigan Hospital Survival Flight was at Westland's Tattan Park for a training session. At about 3 p.m., firefighters were heading to the administration building on Wayne Road.

"They were going for hands-on training. A unit saw a pedestrian get hit by a vehicle," Wayne-Westland Assistant Fire Chief/EMS Coordinator Michael Stradner said. "He had massive injuries to his legs."

The accident happened at Wayne Road and Florence. The man, an 80-year-old Westland resident, wasn't crossing Wayne Road at an intersection or crosswalk, Stradner said.

"Our guys treated him at the scene. He was flown to the trauma center," Stradner said. "It was a unique situation. We usually go to Oakwood (Hospital) main or St. Mary's (Hospital), which are trauma centers for a 'copter. He could not have gotten better care."

In this case, Stradner said the helicopter was only a mile away from the scene of the accident. That nearly eliminated the usual 15 minutes on ground transportation to get the patient to the hospital for

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Scary, pretty or funny: Time to start scarecrows

Annual downtown Wayne contest attracts student groups, individuals

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Brooke Wess and her two daughters have made scarecrows each year Wayne has had a contest downtown, but the themes are starting to change.

"They are getting to an age where they want it scary. (Daughter) Temperance wants to make it super-scary. It started out with princesses," said Wess, whose daughter is 7. Her other daughter

Verity is 4.

Stopping by the Wayne Farmers Market to buy frames to build scarecrows, Wess said she and her daughters would make one, while a second frame was for her daughter's second-grade class at nearby St. Mary Catholic School.

"We've done it each year and with the Girl Scouts at school. This is the first

See SCARECROWS, Page A2



LEANNE ROGERS

Brooke Wess stopped by the Wayne Farmers Market to pick up frames to make scarecrows.

Mulholland resigns post as Wayne personnel director

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

The resignation of Personnel Director Mathew Mulholland was accepted Tuesday by the Wayne City Council.

Mulholland, 48, has been personnel director for three years, having been appointed after serving four years as a Wayne councilman.

"It's just time. I'm leaving with a deep appreciation of my time with the city," Mulholland said. "I learned a ton from all those I worked with. The city's best asset is the employees. I'll definitely miss that the most.



Mulholland

and recreation director earlier in the summer, along with Finance Director James Ghedotte. Ramzi El-Gharib also retired as Department of Public Works director, but is now overseeing both Wayne and Westland public works on a contractual basis.

While commenting that he

It's been an honor working with them."

Mulholland's resignation follows that of Nathan Adams, who left his position as parks

will be exploring opportunities in the municipal and private sectors, Mulholland acknowledged the city's financial issues and relating uncertainty were factors in his decision.

"Under a different scenario, I planned to stay here the rest of my life," said Mulholland, a lifetime Wayne resident whose grandfather opened the Mulholland Dry Goods store in the city in 1919.

Before being appointed personnel director, Mulholland spent 10 years in the U.S. Army, worked on the corporate side of franchising and owned a Toarina's Pizza franchise.

"I can't say enough about what Matt has done for the city - him and his entire family," Councilman Albert Damitio said. "I'm sad that he will not be working for the city."

Commenting that he wasn't sure if he was adding congratulations or condolences, Councilman James Hawley said he was concerned that Mulholland would not be the last employee to leave. The council needs to resolve the budget deficit and other budget issues, he said, so the staff is more confident about their jobs.

Of full-time Wayne department heads besides City Man-

ager Joseph Merucci, only Clerk/Planning Director Matthew Miller and Police Chief Jason Wright remain. Fire Chief Michael Reddy heads the combined Wayne-Westland Fire Department. Library Director Paulette Medvecky retired, but is retiring to work part time sharing co-director responsibilities.

The council is looking at options for resolving the deficit in the current fiscal year - about \$500,000 - and the projected deficit for the next fiscal year.

irogers@hometownlife.com



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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC

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- Losing your balance more often
- Stumble into things
- Unbearable foot pain
- Feels like pins and needles
- Restless legs
- No longer can feel hot or cold sensations
- Spontaneous pinching, sharpness, or electric shocks



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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC

What are patients saying?

"I was diagnosed with postchemotherapy neuropathy in 2008. I tried several types of medications, but was allergic to all of them. After treatment I feel much better and I can even dance with my wife."

— Jerry W.

"I had peripheral neuropathy for 3 years and suffered from numbness in both feet and lower legs. I tried several types of medications, which didn't work. After treatment on the ReBuilder® the feeling in my feet has returned to normal and I can now feel the temperature of the water on my feet when I exercise in the pool."

— Pam O.



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New school year opens new chapter for Japanese school

Zoe Patterson and Tsubasa Okada are classmates in fourth grade, but they're also teachers.

They work alongside one another, teaching and learning from each other.

"He helps me with Japanese and I help him with English, because we are both still learning," Zoe said.

And that's the way it's done at the Niji-Iro Japanese Immersion Elementary School, now part of the Livonia Public Schools district.

Each classroom is balanced between Japanese and English speaking students, making collaboration a natural part of the learning process.

"They're able to feel more confident when they help each other," Principal Karen Young said. "And it's an overall confidence boost for struggling learners. We are also differentiating instruction, so we are able to meet each child where they're at."

The dual immersion model means students enter the program as kindergartners, with little or no prior training in the language they will learn, whether it is Japanese or English. They learn from two classroom teachers – in English for half of the school day and Japanese during the other half. There is additional support offered to students who may need it in their new language. Students who wish to attend Niji-Iro but are not entering kindergarten must take a proficiency test to be enrolled.

A rainbow

Just like its name, Niji-Iro, which means "rainbow colors," the K-4 school's 130 students are from a variety of backgrounds and cultures. The school community picked the new name for the school.

Second-grader Madeline Lenk said she voted for the school's new name when Young asked the students, parents and staff to weigh in – and here's why.

"I picked the name because it has the word 'rainbow' in it," she said. "An individual is so cool, but together, we're awesome, just like a rainbow."

They took the rainbow theme a step further and created a color sign for each tenet of the school's guiding principles: Respect others; Big heart; You are a Team; Great effort; Be responsible; Always positive; and Valiant Spirit. The signs are posted throughout the school and, of course, on a large rainbow mural in the hall.

A new excitement

The school year at Niji-Iro began Aug. 11 – the first day of a new chapter in the school's history.

"The kids are having a blast," Young said. "There is an excitement in the halls."

The school operated in the past as the Hinoki International School, a charter school authorized by Livonia Public Schools for four years. The program is only one of a few in the entire country. The Livonia school board revoked its contract July 28 with Hinoki International School after citing concerns about its chances for long-term success because of management and governance issues.

The majority of the Hinoki teachers were brought on board at Niji-Iro. The program continues to operate at the former Taylor Elementary near Levan and Seven Mile in Livonia and the majority of the Hinoki families are now enrolled at the new school.

Being part of a large school district has its advantages, said Young, who spent 11 years



Kensuke Suzuki concentrates on his work in first grade.



Teacher Ishida Sensei gives clues to students who are reading Japanese words on flash cards.

teaching and leading charter schools.

"Coming from a charter school background and knowing the struggles, I know that having that global support from the school district is so important," she said, noting that charter school parents often have a year-by-year uncertainty that their school will be open the following year.

There is now an expanded computer lab; improved playground and parking lot areas; added security features; district and Wayne RESA computer database access and support;

a school secretary; an experienced administrator; professional development, better pay and benefits for staff and added curriculum materials and opportunities for students, including increased time for literacy and math instruction, she said.

"Having a public school district allow such a unique program to continue is such a great opportunity and I'm grateful to be a part of it," Young said.

The school is currently K-4, but fifth grade will be added next year, then sixth grade the

following year.

For Zoe and Tsubasa, they wish the school had more students and more grades.

"I would love for kids from all over the world to come here and learn Japanese and English," Zoe said. "I would love for lots of people to come here."

Tsubasa wants to extend his future education at Niji-Iro.

"I want to go here until I'm like 20," he said, smiling.

For more information about Niji-Iro Japanese Immersion Elementary School, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org and click on the Schools tab.

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Two men arrested after break-ins in Farmington Hills, Livonia last week

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

An alert Farmington Hills police officer on patrol arrested two men early Aug. 31 right after they allegedly broke into a business on Middlebelt. They are also suspected in a Livonia break-in.

"Heads up for him," said Cmdr. Matt Koehn of the Farmington Hills Detective Bureau.

Ronald Dickey, 52, of Walled Lake and Leonard Huff, 61, of Detroit were arraigned Sept. 1 by 47th District Magistrate Carl Christoph on one charge each of breaking and entering a building with intent, a 10-year-felony. Christoph set a bond of \$25,000 or 10 percent for Huff and \$50,000 or 10 percent for Dickey, Koehn said.

The men were charged in connection with a break-in at Uncle Ed's Oil Change on Middlebelt in Farmington Hills.

The officer was patrolling in the Middlebelt/Nine Mile area just before 1:30 a.m., when he



Dickey Huff

received from Livonia police the description of a white work van suspected in a break-in of an oil change business at Eight Mile and Orchard Lake.

"The BOL (be-on-the-lookout) gave a car description and said they (Livonia police) saw a white male suspect in the van," Koehn said.

The Hills officer, meanwhile, noticed a white van matching the description and stopped the driver at a red light at 10 Mile and Middlebelt. When he approached the van, he saw that another man was also in the vehicle. The officer saw recent cuts on both man's arms and hands, Koehn said.

"He noticed the driver fit the description out of Livonia," he added.

The Hills officer found property in the

van that was reported to have been taken from the Livonia oil change business. Meanwhile, Farmington Hills police headquarters had received an alarm of a break-in at Uncle Ed's Oil Change on Middlebelt, not far from where the two men were stopped.

When the break-in at Uncle Ed's was investigated, police found blood at a window that had been broken to gain entry, Koehn said.

Livonia police Sgt. Steve Petsch said the two men arrested are indeed suspects in the burglary, which took place Aug. 30 at a heating and cooling business in the 30000 block of Eight Mile.

He said a warrant request was submitted Friday to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office asking to authorize possible charges against the men.

Staff Writer David Veselenak contributed to this report.

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com
248-396-6620

Livonia YMCA opens new community theater

Amateur adult and teen actors are needed for the Livonia Family YMCA's new community theater.

The YMCA Community Players will present *A Christmas Carol* Dec. 12-13 at Livonia Stevenson High School.

Auditions will be held 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesday,

Sept. 16, at Frost Middle School, 14041 Stark Road, across from the Livonia YMCA.

Children ages 8-15 are welcome to participate as well if a responsible adult is also participating, so families are encouraged to audition together.

Everyone who audi-

tions gets a role. Audition material will be sent via email upon audition registration or email jmotowski@ymca-detroit.org.

Cost is \$75 per person or a discounted price of \$100 for a family of two or \$125 for a family of three or more.

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INDOMITABLE SPIRIT

Local family battling emotions, cost of muscular disease

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Erinne Williams and Kevin Yopek of Canton have the usual sibling relationship.

She learned her love of hockey from him and he taught her how to play video games. Now, according to Erinne, she "kicks his butt" at them.

There's a sibling rivalry tinged with a touch of competitiveness surrounded by a love of family that's normal in most relationships.

But their relationship is not a normal one, because very little about Erinne Williams is normal. While Kevin can play his hockey on skates in full pads zooming across the ice, Erinne's version of hockey – and she's a huge fan – is on wheels.

That's because Erinne, struck young by a strain of muscular dystrophy called spinal muscular atrophy, has been confined to a wheelchair much of her life. The disease, which her family likens to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis but in children, has altered the lives of Erinne and her family in ways no family should bear.

Blending in

"I want to be a regular teenager, but I just can't," Erinne said, her voice hushed and raspy from a tracheostomy

tube through which she has to breathe much of the time. "I feel a little like an outsider. I try to blend in as much as possible."

Blending in, particularly at school, is tough enough. It's a little more difficult when you travel with your own nurse and service dog (Latte, provided by Canine Assistants). It's a battle Erinne, now a senior at Plymouth High School, has been fighting most of her life.

When she was born in 1997, Erinne "seemed perfectly healthy," according to her mom Suzanne and that was the expectation. Considered an older mother at 36, Suzanne Williams had genetic testing done and everything came back normal. But when Erinne was about 7 months old, she hadn't yet mastered gross motor milestones, like pulling up to standing and cruising along furniture, and she started losing the ones she had mastered – crawling normally and sitting up.

Wrong solution

A worried mother, Suzanne started having her daughter tested, but the tests didn't tell her much. Some doctors told her she was "expecting too much" and measuring her too closely against her siblings, Claire and Kevin, who had both learned to walk at a young age.



Erinne and service dog Latte, are out the door.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Three doctors came back with the same diagnosis: A tumor on the spine. But Suzanne wasn't buying it.

"It didn't sit well with me, so we kept pursuing it," Suzanne said of the tumor diagnosis. "There were clues to me that something was wrong. It just didn't feel right."

She took Erinne to see

Dr. Michael Nigro, the doctor who runs the MDA program at Children's Hospital. His diagnosis – spinal muscular atrophy – came almost immediately.

"I was numb," Suzanne said. "I had no idea what SMA was and what her prognosis was."

Turns out the prognosis wasn't good. Doctors

HELPING ERINNE

The cost in both human and financial terms of caring for a daughter with spinal muscular atrophy is high for Suzanne Williams, a single mother taking care of her 17-year-old daughter.

Some examples of donations that would help include a full house, self-starting generator to help recharge the battery backup for the host of machines that dominate her daily life; hotel gift cards, because the home frequently loses power and the family is forced to retreat to a hotel; contractor time and home repairs, grass and snow removal and wheelchair ramp maintenance; help with utility costs; gas cards; and gift cards to places such as CVS, Target, Meijer, Costco, Vitamin Shoppe, etc.

Where to help:
» <http://www.gofundme.com/ErinneRoseWilliams>
» An account has been set up at Chase Bank; to donate, simply designate funds to account number 2747823769.
» Erinne's story can be found at www.our-sma-angels.com/ErinneRose/story.html.

didn't figure Erinne would make it to her eighth birthday and Suzanne was encouraged to just take her home and "love her for however long I would have her."

So much for doctors and their predictions. Erinne celebrated her 17th birthday in May, though it certainly hasn't been an easy road. She's had pneumonia 21 times, 14 surgeries and 25 hospitalizations. She spent summer 2001 on life support due to unforeseen post-op complications and was not expected to survive. She was hospitalized for 101 days and spent 85 of those on a ventilator.

"She was just 4 years old. I was told that I needed to accept reality and that my daughter

was never going to come back as the child she once was," Suzanne wrote in her blog. "I was told to let her go. But I couldn't – I knew it wasn't her time."

Ozzie fan

And it wasn't. Erinne picked up Kevin's love of hockey and is a huge Detroit Red Wings fan who asks her mother frequently to drive past the Plymouth home of retired goalkeeper Chris Osgood, her "favorite person in the entire world." (According to Suzanne, "Ozzie" was Erinne's first word after "mama" and "da-da.")

She's a defenseman, one of just four girls in her 50-player wheelchair hockey league (she was also the only girl chosen for an elite team). She now beats Kevin in video games to the point where "he hits the reset button" when he begins to lose, according to Erinne (it's a charge at which Kevin only smiles). She's fully integrated at school, where Plymouth High School staff and students accept her as a friend.

But she'll never drive – "I really want my driver's license, but it's not going to happen," Erinne said – and there are days when she can't breathe on her own or feed herself. There are also days when she can and Suzanne loves those days.

"The days she can feed herself breakfast are good days, because there are days she can't," Suzanne said. "The days she can sit in her chair are a blessing, because there are days she can't even get out of bed."

Good and bad

Those are the days that are particularly hard on Suzanne, although none of the days is easy anymore. A former director of a child care center for Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn with a degree in elementary education and early childhood development, Suzanne had to give up her job to take on the 24-hour-a-day care of her daughter (though she gets a nurse for 16 hours).

The physical strain of lifting and caring for her daughter has taken a toll on Suzanne's body. She has three bulging discs in her back and suffers from spinal stenosis. While physically she's a candidate for surgery, Suzanne won't have it, because it would force her to change the way she takes care of her daughter.

But it has forced her to stop working and money is becoming a big issue. Erinne and Suzanne both get Social Security disability money and Erinne gets "a little bit of child support," but income is at a premium these days.

"We are bare-bones," Suzanne said. "There's no room for extras."

"Extras" don't even figure into the equation. Taking care of Erinne is not only a physical struggle, it's a financial struggle, as well. Insurance doesn't cover much of her care; for instance, the feeding tubes she

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Local man builds four-seater airplane from 1947 prototype

By Jim Totten
Gannett Michigan

Marvin Dunlap's quest started with acquiring a one-of-kind aircraft piece.

In 1990, he bought the shell of an experimental, four-seat Ercoupe airplane that never made it off the factory floor.

It had no wings, no tail, no instrument panel and not even a door to get inside the shell. Just a shiny, gray metal fuselage.

The prototype was left unfinished in 1947, when the private aircraft business went belly-up and Engineering and Research Corp. — the maker of Ercoupe — sold off all of its assets. Dunlap said the four-seat prototype originally went to a couple of attorneys and later bounced around to numerous owners over 40 years before landing in Michigan and into Dunlap's hands. He said Ercoupe had made two-seaters, but this would have been the first four-seater.

"It was never finished, never flown, never tested," Dunlap said.

Through pure determination and skill, Dunlap will change all that.

The 79-year-old Green Oak Township man has spent the last 22 years building the plane that was never finished. Using old blueprints, he created most of the parts and has been assembling the plane in his hangar at Brighton Field airport in Brighton Township.

The retired electrical mechanical engineer plans to finish restoring the Ercoupe and get it up in the air this year. Despite spending long hours reviewing designs, testing the wings and getting parts made, Dunlap said his desire to finish the plane never waned.

"The fact that I knew the designer and I knew this was the only one, I want to see it finished," Dunlap said. "I want to see it fly."

Assembling from scratch

Dunlap said his first step was researching the plane's design and getting any old blueprints.

He met with the plane's original designer, aeronautical engineer Fred Weick, in the early 1990s to get the design plans. He tracked Weick down in Florida, where the former university professor and airplane designer had retired. He said Weick was in his 90s, but very sharp.

"What makes you think you're qualified to finish the plane?" Dunlap recalled Weick asking him.

After a three-day visit, he said Weick provided him with 250 pages of engineering data. He said Weick also visited him in Michigan.

Dunlap promised Weick to do several things to ensure the plane was safe, including getting help with the redesign of the wing and load-testing the wing.

Dunlap said Weick was a legendary airplane designer who wrote the book on propeller design. He also knows that Weick, who died a few years after their meeting in the early 1990s, would be thrilled to see the prototype take flight.

"When he visited, (he said) that was one of his biggest disappointments, not completing the airplane," Dunlap said.

A full-time job

Dunlap spent the first eight years researching the plane's design before even starting to build it. He created the dies used to cast certain parts,



Marvin Dunlap of Green Oak Township opens the door he cut into his prototype 1947 four-seat Ercoupe, which never made it off the factory floor. Dunlap used old blueprints and designs to assemble the plane.



Marvin Dunlap used renderings and old blueprints to assemble a four-seat Ercoupe. He's been working on this project since 1990, when he purchased a prototype shell.

customized standard Ercoupe wings to handle the extra load, made the horizontal tail and installed the instrument panel.

"This is a full-time

much work."

However, the couple's passion for flying has probably helped this project along. The couple, who own a two-seat Ercoupe, love flying across the country; they purchased their plane almost 40 years ago. They also are members of the Ercoupe Owners club, which meets at airports across the United States.

Marvin Dunlap said Ercoupe planes were designed to be incredibly safe. He said it's impossible to cause the plane to stall and spin into a nose-dive, which happens to other planes that climb too fast.

He said their plane flies at a top speed of 100 mph.

"It's easy to fly, very forgiving," Marvin Dunlap said.

The glide ratio is 10:1, meaning it will glide 10,000 feet for every 1,000 feet it drops or climbs. The couple love being able to travel across the country.

"I can go and see things," Ruth Dunlap said.

Marvin Dunlap said he likes "the freedom" of flying.

"The freedom to just get up and go," he added.

Dunlap figured he has another month before he's completed his four-seat Ercoupe and takes it on a test run.

He can't wait to "show off" and let his aircraft buddies know: "I did it."



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Updating your estate plan makes good financial sense

Q: Dear Rick: My husband passed away a couple months ago and I'm just starting to get things organized. He was in his late 60s and was still working. At his death, he had an IRA and a 401(k) through work. I had no problem transferring his IRA to me. My problem is with the 401(k) plan. According to the company which my husband worked for over 30 years, he did not name a beneficiary. Even though I am in the will as the beneficiary, the company tells me that I have to go through probate in order for them to give me the 401(k) money. Is this correct? In addition, my husband owned a rental property and there was a quit-claim deed. The house is now in my name. The tenant would like to buy the house and I would like to sell it. When I sell the property, what is my tax liability? My son told me that I would have to pay tax on the entire proceeds from the sale because the house was fully depreciated.

A: I am sorry to hear about the loss of your husband. I hope as time goes on your pain will be replaced with loving memories of your husband.

Unfortunately, I agree with the company's assessment. The company is concerned that the 401(k) goes to the proper individual. Even though you are the spouse and you were named in the will, that doesn't mean you are



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

entitled to the proceeds. That is why the company wants you to do a probate, so it can be assured that you are the beneficiary. It certainly would be easier if the company paid the proceeds to you. However, the company would be potentially opening itself for liability.

We've all seen it where upon death, families fight. A perfect example is the Casey Kasem situation, where the second wife and the children are locked in a bitter dispute.

With regard to the tax situation, here is some good news. Because you inherited the property, you're entitled to a stepped-up basis. That means your cost basis - the number you would use to show purchase price - is the fair market value of the property on the date of death.

For example, if your husband paid \$150,000 for the property and upon his death it's worth \$200,000, if you sold it for \$200,000 your gain would be zero. Therefore, from a tax standpoint, there is no reason not to sell the property.

I've always been a believer that being a landlord is a difficult job and not meant for everyone. That is why I agree that it is a good decision to sell the property.

Unfortunately, people not naming beneficiaries or naming the wrong beneficiaries is

quite common. There have been many situations where someone passes away and an ex-spouse is named as a beneficiary or even where someone's parents were named and they've been gone for decades.

We name beneficiaries when we open an account or sign up for a new life insurance policy and rarely do we examine it later. I believe that we need to routinely review our beneficiary designations, every year or so. Family situations change and beneficiary designations may also have to change.

Whether it's an IRA, life insurance policy, brokerage account or salary deferral program, it pays to spend a few minutes to confirm that the right person is named as a beneficiary. A few minutes of your time can potentially save your beneficiaries time and aggravation and potentially a substantial amount of money.

There is never a right time for death to occur. Therefore, it is important that an estate plan is up to date at all times. An estate plan is more than just wills and trusts and other legal documents. It is also making sure that you've named the proper beneficiaries.

Good luck.

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

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Schoolcraft PTAC hosts annual Meet the Buyers

The Procurement Technical Assistance Center of Schoolcraft College will host its sixth annual Meet the Buyers event Oct. 7 at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center in Livonia. The attendance fee is \$45 per person. "The PTAC of Schoolcraft College's Meet the Buyers event is one of the key procurement matchmaking and government contracting events in the state," said Jenni Riehle, the vendor outreach coordinator for

the state of Michigan. "The number of procurement personnel from regional, state and federal agencies is very comprehensive, resulting in excellent networking opportunities and vendor-agency discussions for those who attend." The event, which sells out every year, promotes networking, discussions on purchasing and the ability to initiate conversations about how small businesses can fulfill agency buying needs. Attendees will

rotate among different agency tables, learning how the organization buys, what they are buying and other valuable procurement information. Large prime contractors are also in attendance for the event. "The Meet the Buyers event is an excellent opportunity for informational exchange between government agencies and small business concerns helping the government to provide maximum practicable opportunities in its acquisitions

to small businesses and ensure that a fair proportion of contracts for supplies and services are placed with small business," said Jack Mylan, director of business operations for Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Government buyers in attendance often include representatives from the Department of Defense, General Services Administration, Veterans Affairs, NASA, state of Michigan, Wayne County Airport, SEMCOG and many others.

Regional and community business resource partners will also be in attendance. Organizations and firms such as the Small Business Administration, Michigan Small Business Development Center, Automation Alley, Michigan Defense Center and more are often available for discussion on how to start, grow and expand businesses. Questions and comments may be directed to the PTAC of Schoolcraft College team by phone at

734-462-4438 or by email at inforeq@schoolcraft.edu. The Procurement Technical Assistance Center of Schoolcraft College is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense, state of Michigan and Schoolcraft College. PTACs provide free government contracting assistance to businesses in selling products and services to federal, state and local government agencies.

U-M to manage operations at county Medical Examiner's Office

The Wayne County Commission has approved a three-year \$16.7 million professional and operational contract with the University of Michigan, designed to enhance operations at the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office. The agreement, effective Oct. 1, is the latest development in a plan toward improving services at the office, one of the busiest facilities of its kind in the nation, with upward

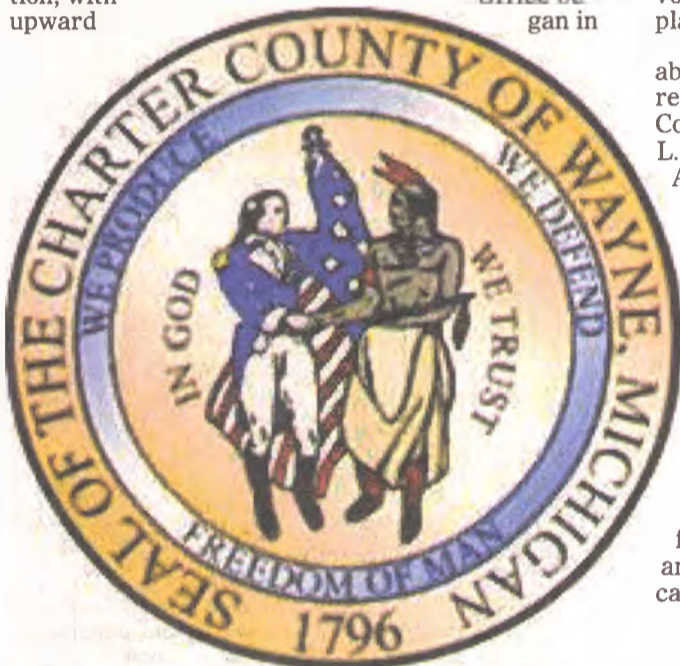
of 2,500 forensic examinations performed annually. Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano said that the new agreement will further expand and enhance forensic improvements and academic programs there, at a tremendous benefit to Wayne County. "Our collaborative partnership with the University of Michigan Health System and the Medical Examiner's Office began in

October 2011 and has resulted in cost savings, increased productivity and new educational opportunities for pathologists," Ficano said. "The new operating arrangement with U-M will now enable the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office to become a premier learning and forensic facility, with access to advanced laboratory facilities and resources." U-M officials also voiced approval of the plan. "We are very excited about expanding our relationship with Wayne County," said Dr. Jeffrey L. Myers, the director of Anatomic Pathology and MLabs at the U-M Department of Pathology. "This partnership allows us to better serve the citizens and families of the county, while building a national center of excellence in forensic pathology to which we can recruit and retain world class faculty and staff, build and sustain leading educational programs and

create opportunities for research and innovation." Wayne County will continue to appoint the chief medical examiner and county staff will be

offered the opportunity to become employees of the University of Michigan Health System. Operations will remain at the existing Wayne County Medical

Examiner's facility at 1300 E. Warren Ave. in Detroit. More information about the arrangement will be provided when the contract takes effect.



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Oakwood, Botsford, Beaumont launch new health care organization

Hospitals in Wayne, Farmington Hills and Royal Oak that once competed for patients are now part of the new eight-hospital health organization that was launched Tuesday.

Botsford Health Care, Beaumont Health System and Oakwood Healthcare have completed their affiliation agreement to combine operations as the new Beaumont Health. The merger involves eight hospitals – Beaumont Hospitals in Royal Oak, Troy and Grosse Pointe; Oakwood Hospitals in Dearborn, Southshore, Taylor and Wayne; and Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills – with 3,337 beds, 153 outpatient sites, 5,000

physicians, more than 33,000 employees and about 3,500 volunteers.

With the announcement also came assurance to the more than 33,000 employees at the eight hospitals that layoffs or hospital closures are not on the list as they work to integrate Beaumont Health System, Oakwood Healthcare and Botsford Health Care.

“No layoffs are planned at the present time and we are going to make every effort to avoid layoffs by making sure we look ahead of the curve in demand versus supply of labor,” said Gene Michalski, CEO of the Royal Oak-based Beaumont Health System

and interim chief executive of the new organization. “(There are also) no plans to close any of the hospitals for the foreseeable future.”

Brian Connolly, president and CEO of Dearborn-based Oakwood Healthcare, said already it has been able to refinance debt because of the merger and has identified more than \$100 million worth of savings.

“We are very confident there will be significant cost savings coming out of this organization,” he said.

The three entities have been working since March to combine their organizations into a new comprehensive, collaborative health system



Oakwood Wayne Hospital in Wayne is now part of the new eight-hospital Beaumont Health organization. FILE PHOTO



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that will put a strong emphasis on patient care. Federal and state regulatory officials reviewed and approved the affiliation and granted tax-exempt status as a new \$3.8 billion not-for-profit health care organization.

“This is a great day for the people of southeastern Michigan. Beaumont Health will continue the traditions of our legacy organizations as a nonprofit, locally governed organization,” said John Lewis, chairman of the new Beaumont Health Board. “With our combined strengths of patient satisfaction, medical excellence and community focus, we look forward to serving the health needs of patients and families for years to come, with quality and compassion guiding all that we do.”

Lewis is chairing the new 14-member Beaumont Health Board that’s a blend of representatives from the three organizations.

With the close of the transaction creating Beaumont Health, integration teams involving leaders from the three organizations will step up their efforts, shifting their focus from formation of a new organization to transformation that builds on the individual strengths of the three legacy organizations.

A Clinical Leadership Council and seven Clinical Transformation Teams made up of physicians, nurses and other patient care professionals are leading efforts to identify and share best care practices.

Officials still have a

lot of work to do before the end of the year, including:

» Appointing the Beaumont Health executive team.

» Finding a location for the executive offices, which will temporarily be located at the PNC building.

» Determining a plan for integrating the eight hospital names with the new Beaumont Health name.

» Developing a new corporate organizational structure to align all the individual entities that make up the new organization.

“We want to create the best health care system, not only in southeast Michigan, but nationally,” said Paul LaCasse, president and CEO of Farmington Hills’ Botsford Health Care.

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Bosch breaks ground on expansion of Plymouth Township facility

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder joined Robert Bosch President Mike Mansuetti and other company executives Monday in a ceremonial groundbreaking to publicly announce a 220,500-square-foot expansion of Bosch's Technical Center in Plymouth Township.

Snyder trumpeted the expansion plan as a means of showing "Michigan truly is a great place to do business."

"Michigan's business climate has improved dramatically, making our state a prime location for global companies like Bosch to expand and invest," Snyder said. "It is also exciting that Bosch is an advocate for preparing tomorrow's workforce through hands-on tech training. Together, Bosch and Michigan are tapping into our talent potential and building a bright future."

Double the size

The expansion, which is expected to be completed in November 2015, will nearly double the size of the existing technical center, which opened in 2007.

When complete, the total site, which is located on 75 acres on Haggerty, will have more than 445,000 square feet and capacity for 1,400 people. The expansion will further enable the growth of several key technologies, including automotive electronics, start/stop motors, electrical drives and a variety of safety and driver assistance systems that will further advance automated driving.

In addition, the new site will provide Bosch with the needed labora-



Gov. Rick Snyder (left) and Robert Bosch President Mike Mansuetti throw the ceremonial first shovels of dirt on the project.

tory and office space to co-locate certain associates in southeast Michigan, some of whom currently work in different leased facilities, thereby fostering more innovation and greater collaboration.

Mansuetti told the group of government officials, community leaders and Bosch associates assembled at the ceremony the plan makes for "exciting times."

"For a company whose heritage - and future - is based on innovation, breaking ground to begin the expansion of this technical

center at a time when this market offers so much potential to grow is truly exciting," Mansuetti said. "Our founder, Robert Bosch, believed that education and sustainability were both essential for the success, not only of his business, but of society. We are here today, continuing that philosophy and living our company imperative of 'invented for life.'"

Growing footprint

Currently, the Plymouth Technical Center houses 850 people. In Michigan, Bosch has approximately 3,200 associates in 15 cities, including Farmington Hills (which is the headquarters for Robert Bosch LLC), Plymouth Township, Ann Arbor, Bridgeport, Buchanan, Canton, Flat Rock, Kalamazoo, Kentwood, Orion, Novi, Rochester Hills, St. Joseph and Warren.

With this expansion and the co-location of certain groups, Bosch expects to add up to 200 new jobs in Michigan in the next three years, Mansuetti said.

During the groundbreaking ceremony, Mansuetti thanked community and government leaders and said Plymouth Township "offers the kind of environment" for attracting and re-training business.

"It has long been our hope to expand the technical center here," he said. "As we built the business case for further expansion, the township allowed Bosch to construct a temporary building on site for about 160 associates, thereby enabling Bosch to keep these jobs in Plymouth Township."



Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder (left) joined Robert Bosch President Mike Mansuetti in a ceremonial groundbreaking to announce a 220,500-square-foot expansion of Bosch's Technical Center in Plymouth Township.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on a request to rezone the property located at 30247 and 30259 Ford Road from C-2 Community Business District to C-3 General Business District.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: Sunday, September 7, 2014

**CITY OF LIVONIA
PUBLIC NOTICE**

**AGENDA
Zoning Board of Appeals**

September 23, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall - Gallery (5th Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466-2259

APPEAL CASE 2014-09-49: LIVCOM, LLC, 9986 Manchester Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122, on behalf of Lessee Aspen Dental, 13417 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48150, seeking to erect two wall signs (one on the east elevation and one on the south elevation) on an end unit of a multi-tenant commercial building, on property located on the west side of Middlebelt (13417), between Schoolcraft and Industrial, resulting in excess number of wall signs and wall sign area.

APPEAL CASE 2014-09-50: LIVCOM, LLC, 9986 Manchester Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122, on behalf of Lessee JCD South 96, LLC, 19369 Fairlane Ct., Livonia, MI 48152, seeking to erect two wall signs (one on the east elevation and one on the north elevation) on an end unit of a multi-tenant commercial building, on property located on the west side of Middlebelt (13453), between Schoolcraft and Industrial, resulting in excess number of wall signs and wall sign area.

Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 - all comments must include name, address and signature.

Publish: Sunday, September 7, 2014
Livonia Observer

**CITY OF LIVONIA
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 502 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2006, as amended, and Articles XIX and XXIII of Ordinance #543, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, as amended, the City Planning Commission of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, in the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the following items:

Petition 2014-08-01-06 submitted by Kucyk, Soave and Fernandes, P.L.L.C. pursuant to Section 23.01 of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, requesting to rezone properties at 38801 and 38901 Plymouth Road, located on the south side of Plymouth Road between Newburgh Road and Eckles Road in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 30, from R-U-F (Rural Urban Farm - minimum 1/2 acre) to R-1 (One Family Residential - 60' x 120' lots).

Petition 2014-08-02-11 submitted by Brian and Lisa Rich requesting waiver use approval pursuant to Section 11.03(t) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, to operate a second-hand store and resale shop (The Children's Outlet) at 31092 Five Mile Road within the Merri-Five Retail Plaza, located on the north side of Five Mile Road between Merriman Road and Henry Ruff Road in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 14.

The above-mentioned petitions will be on file in the City Planning Commission office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan during the period of five (5) days immediately preceding the said hearing and may be examined by any and all persons during the normal working hours Monday through Friday.

**R. Lee Morrow, Chairman
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION**

PUBLISH: September 7, 2014

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Afghan translator builds new life in Michigan

By Laura Colvin
Staff Writer

When he stepped off the plane in the United States this past April with just a backpack, small rolling suitcase and no money, Mohammed Elham – everyone calls him Elham – wasn't sure he was really in the U.S.

"I was like, 'Am I dreaming right now?'" he said. "It was the coolest time in my life. I felt like I had a heavy weight lifted from my shoulders."

Indeed. Here in the States – here in Milford, where he lives with Scott Hippakka and his family – Elham feels safe from the constant threats on his life in his native Afghanistan.

After just a few short months in the U.S., Elham is working at Palate in downtown Milford. He already has a car and he's hoping to fulfill a dream of becoming a nurse so, one day, he can go home to Afghanistan and help the many poor families who are living without even basic medical care.

For Elham, it's the American dream.

Army translator

It all began in 2007, when a friend in Afghanistan suggested Elham, with his knowledge of the English language, apply for a translator's job with the U.S. Army.

At first he wasn't sure – he had no experience being around military forces – but decided to give it a try.

After he was hired, he found the job was a challenge for many reasons. As a linguist, his task wasn't just translating word-for-word between the Americans and the Afghans. It was important, he explained, to make sure both parties understood the intent behind the words and to make sure the Americans understood the cultural nuances of the Afghan people.

"You got to place yourself as a bridge," he said. Being thrust into mil-

itary life wasn't easy either. In fact, it was downright frightening.

"A huge convoy came to pick me up," Elham said, remembering his first encounter with the U.S. military. "A couple military guys came in and called my name. I was scared. I didn't know about all the weapons. It was my first time meeting Americans. I was super-panicked. When I sit in the Humvee, I'm like, 'Oh, my gosh, look at all these guns.'"

Along the way, Elham met Hippakka, a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel who was a task force commander with teams dispersed though northern and western portions of Afghanistan.

Elham began going along on various missions with the U.S. forces – translating and lending a hand as the U.S. teams he was working with helped to deliver medical assistance to remote villages, develop schools, water sources, community infrastructure and also worked to support the Afghan Border Police.

Early on, Elham found himself in a particularly frightening situation as the team he was working with received word that an Afghan National Army unit had been ambushed by a group of Taliban or other insurgents.

"(The insurgents) killed them all," Elham said. "I saw the bodies on the ground; it was the first time I saw people who were killed in a very terrible condition. I was so, so scared. I couldn't translate. They were telling me 'Can you ask the guy what happened?' Mentally, I wasn't there. It was the first time and I was so scared. After that incident, I got used to it. I got hard. I got strong."

But that doesn't mean it got easy. Elham said he did a lot of thinking about the fighting in his country and had a difficult time understanding why it was happening. The Afghans he knew and



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mohammed Elham said he is living the American Dream working in Milford.

grew up with, after all, were good people. Many, many good people.

"Then you get contact – someone is shooting at you – you are under fire, by the same people from that village," he said. "I am confused."

Threats made

After his first year on the job, Elham became a senior linguist and over the next seven years, while he was translating for the U.S. forces, his face became recognizable – he'd been shown on local television channels – and things began to get especially dangerous for him.

On numerous occasions, he was told by intelligence officers that threats had been made against his life – common for Afghan translators.

"He was my senior linguist and he was the senior linguist for a lot of different people," Hippakka said. "Because of that, he was out and about. Early on in the war in Iraq, a lot of the translators would wear masks so their face

couldn't be seen. In Afghanistan, most linguists didn't wear a face mask."

It's culturally disrespectful for an Afghan man to cover his face, Elham said, and other Afghans won't talk with a man who does. Covering one's face indicates a lack of trust.

Even as things got more dangerous, Elham kept his fears to himself.

"Anything that was happening or I was seeing, I wouldn't talk to my family," he said. "I was telling my mom I'm working in the office, I'm not even going outside. Don't worry about me, I'm safe. I'm OK. It's not good to lie, but I didn't want my mom to (worry)."

But his family – Elham has five brothers, four sisters and a fiancée – knew something was going on.

Once, when he came home to visit his fiancée, he stayed one night at his mother's home.

"She did not sleep the entire night because she was so, so worried about me," he said. "She was

thinking that maybe that night someone would come and kill us. There was a chance, too."

As the threats increased, Elham knew it wasn't safe for him to stay any longer in Afghanistan. His life, as well as that of his family and his fiancée, was in imminent danger and because of his work for the U.S. military, he was eligible to come to the United States. He had, in fact, submitted his application more than a year prior.

So he sold his family's car, packed two small bags and took a huge step toward freedom and safety.

A new life

Elham arrived April 1 in the United States. He knew he had a home waiting in Milford.

"In January 2013, before I left Afghanistan, I told Elham when you come to the U.S., just let me know what I can do," Hippakka said. "If you need a place to live, you can come live with me. The choice was his."

Another Afghan linguist who'd also worked with Hippakka's team arrived in Michigan several months earlier, while another is currently working toward the same end.

For Elham – who is currently working to bring his fiancée to Michigan, as well – it's a dream come true.

He has his struggles, certainly, like finding his way through all kinds of red tape in order to get federal assistance with schooling. Hippakka, he said, has been a huge and consistent help in teaching him about things like credit cards – there are none in Afghanistan – interest, credit ratings and paying bills online, as well as car insurance – none of that in Afghanistan, either – and rules of the road.

Getting a little help while he gets on his own two feet has been a bit of a challenge, as well.

Recently, for example,

he went to the Department of Human Services to find out about getting some medical coverage and was told he could not get full coverage because he was not a refugee.

"I told her, 'I am not a citizen (either),' he said. 'If I am not a U.S. citizen and not a refugee, then who am I? Explain it to me.' I was so confused."

For the first couple months, it was so hard because all the rules and regulations came at once on top of my shoulders. I was trying to stand on my own two feet."

The slow pace of things has been difficult. Elham said he wants to get on track to make a difference. Still, even while the pace of things is slower than he'd like, Elham is happy at his job at Palate and determined to move forward.

"The people are so, so friendly. I love to work with them," he said.

At his new home in Milford, where he's staying until he can afford his own place, Elham lives with Hippakka and his family: wife Susan and children Abby, 14, and Alex, 11.

"I told my mom, 'Don't worry, I have a second family, they are well taking care of me,'" he said. "My mom asks, 'What are you doing, what are you eating, how are your living conditions?' I tell her, Scott's family, they are so awesome to me. They are so good to me."

Elham's favorite thing about living in America is his security. And the people. And the nation itself.

"When you come from a country such as Afghanistan, you would understand how blessed you are here in the U.S.," he said. "I am so blessed that I came to this great nation and I will (eventually) become a U.S. citizen. My family is proud of me because I am in the best country in the world."

lcolvin@hometownlife.com
248-390-7396

SPIRIT

Continued from Page A6

uses cost about \$200 a month. That's just one example of an out-of-pocket expense.

Most of the machinery that dominates Erinne's existence is powered by electricity, so Suzanne's utility costs are high. The conversion van necessary to accommodate her wheelchair guzzles gas. Her medications are costly.

Helping out

Beverly Wheeler is a friend who's trying to help with all of that. Wheeler, a Canton resi-

dent who met Suzanne six months ago through her daughter Sydney (Sydney and Erinne are friends), noticed there was no curtain in the doorway leading to the hallway from the living room to Erinne's bedroom.

So Wheeler made one. Since then, Wheeler has been a fixture in the Williams home, helping Suzanne help Erinne. She has seen the toll it has taken on Suzanne.

"I kept seeing more and more need and I have the background to help," said Wheeler, a retired paramedic. "I think Suzanne needs my help more than Erinne does. Erinne gets help

from elsewhere; Suzanne's help comes from me."

Wheeler's daughter doesn't have the limitations Erinne faces and can do more things. Wheeler said she sometimes feels a little guilty telling Suzanne about Sydney's exploits, knowing Erinne won't ever do those same things.

"Sometimes I feel I shouldn't tell Suzanne what Sydney is doing, because her child can't," Wheeler said. "It makes me feel bad to share with my closest friend the things I can do, because her kid can't."

Suzanne, of course, pooh-poohs Wheeler's concerns, because self-pity has never entered into the equation.

"One thing I've never done is ask God, 'Why me?'" Suzanne said. "Erinne is a gift. I know she's not going to be here forever, so every day is a gift. She has affected my



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Suzanne Williams prepares to drive Erinne and Latte to school, where Erinne will meet her teachers.

life more than any other person in my life."

No pity party

Likewise, though she might be the one person entitled to ask the question, Erinne doesn't spend much time wondering, "Why me?" She wants to be a veterinarian and her dream car would be a Camaro, if she were ever going to drive one. Those things might not happen, so Erinne

focuses on the things she can control. Like video games.

"That's the one thing where I'm on a level playing field," Erinne said. "SMA has given me a lot of perspective on the things in life that are taken for granted."

It's the kind of attitude her brother admires. Kevin, now 23, said he loves how his sister takes every day and makes it

the "best it can possibly be."

"We all have our moments, but at the end of the day, you can't do anything about it," he said. "What I admire most about her and my mom is they ... literally have an indomitable spirit."

Suzanne knows she's going to lose Erinne and faces the fact head-on. She's done the unthinkable things parents with terminally ill children have to do, like planning for the end. But that doesn't mean she's not having trouble facing it.

"In my mind, I've planned her funeral, but I just can't imagine going through that," Suzanne said. "I'm just trying to be there for her every day. I can't imagine what my life is going to be like without her."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185, on September 17th, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

Thermal Imagers

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

Devin J. Adams
City Controller
C.O. 0000212305

Publish: August 7, 2014

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PATIENTS BE PATIENT

Physicians are notorious for falling behind their schedules and keeping patients waiting hours for their appointments. That situation is about to worsen.

I refer to the present effort of many physician groups to finally move into Electronic Medical Records (EMR). Going "paperless" is a difficult enterprise even for physicians versed in using home and hospital computers because the amount of information that the physician must input is large. Furthermore, the way the computer requires data entry is not in keeping with the approach physicians traditionally take in interviewing and examining a patient.

When physicians first move from written to electronic records, the scheduling of patients also shifts. If a medical practice before EMR had each doctor seeing 4 patients an hour, the initial scheduling with EMR is 2 patients/hour. If the physician can keep that pace it means the practice, at best, will see half the number of patients/day that it saw when using traditional charting. Usually an office keeps this temporary schedule for a week; to do so longer means a loss of income too great to sustain and delay of patient care too long to accept.

Usually the office returns to the previous 4 patient/hour schedule. But the old efficiency is never regained as added documentation requirements plus unexpected breakdowns in the electronic equipment cause disruptions that can last minutes to hours.

Nationally, the purpose of the change to electronic medical records is to build a system of transmitting information that physicians and hospital can tap into as needed. The country is just at the start of this initiative. All patients see at this time is delay, but eventually patients and physicians will benefit from timely relay of information and an end to duplication and fragmentation of care.

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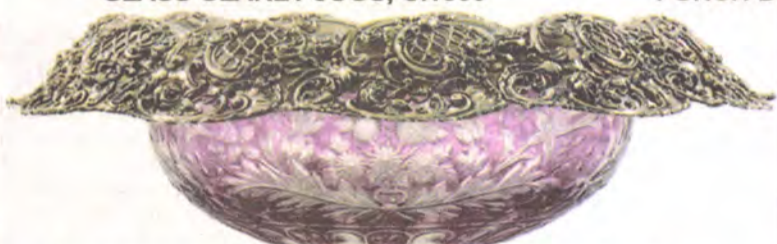
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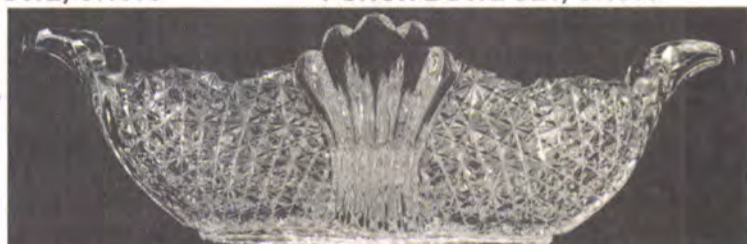
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COLOGNE, C.1900



CRANBERRY & VASELINE
CUT GLASS TUMBLE UP SET, C. 1900



STEVENS & WILLIAMS INTAGLIO
CUT GLASS PLATE, C. 1910



AMERICAN 'RUSSIAN'
GLASS BASKET, C. 1880



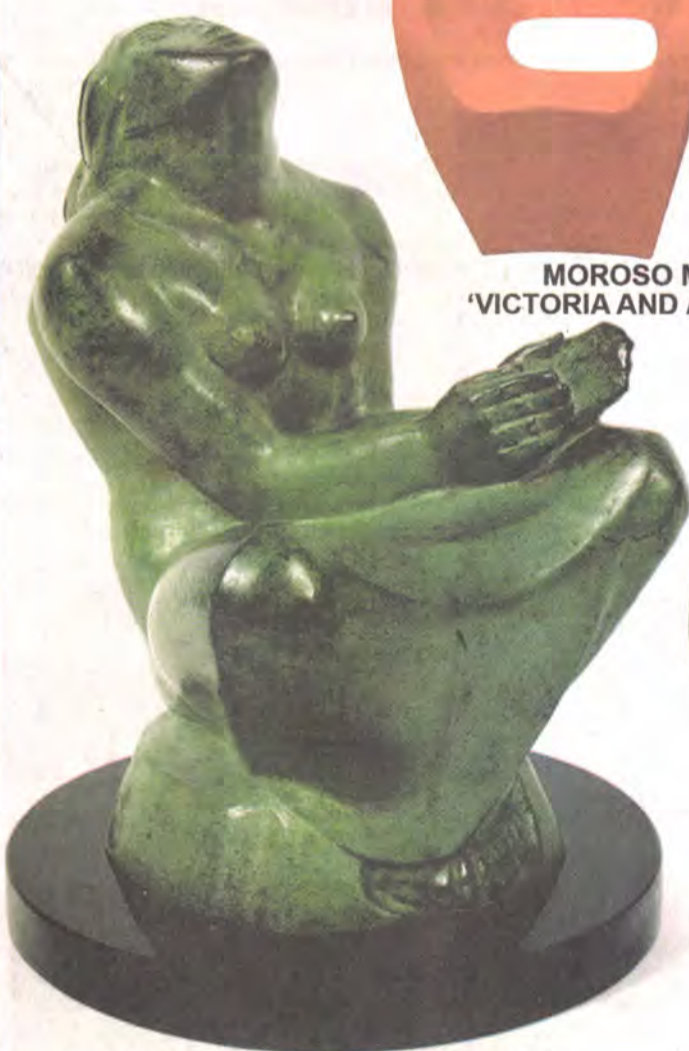
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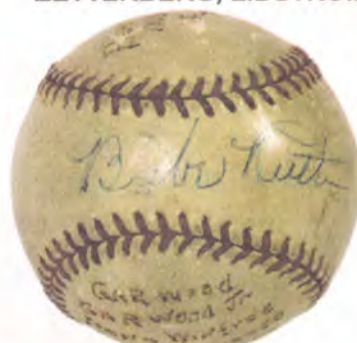
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PREP SOCCER WRAP

Spartans goalkeeper Miller dazzles in win over Northville

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Air-tight defense, a big break and a standout debut from its goalkeeper led Livonia Stevenson's boys soccer team to a 2-0 victory over Northville Thursday night in a typical hotly-contested KLAAs Central Division showdown.

The triumph was pivotal for

the Spartans, who suffered a setback to division foe Novi earlier in the week. Stevenson is now 4-1 overall and 1-1 in the Central.

"It was a quality bounce-back win for us on the road," said Stevenson head coach Ken Shingledacker. "Our back line and midfield really played well tonight. Turner [Miller] stepped in and did a nice job in goal."

The loss dropped the Mustangs to 2-2-2 overall and 1-1 in the division.

Northville outshot Stevenson 8-7, but Turner rose to the occasion with five saves. Alec Melucci registered five stops for the hosts.

The winners' first goal game in the game's 35th minute when Spartan Brandon Eklund's free kick was headed in by a North-

ville player.

Four minutes later Stevenson put a stranglehold on the momentum when Austin Rynicki volleyed in a restart from Dom Rea.

Stevenson returns to action Tuesday with a 7 p.m. home game against South Lyon.

Clarenceville earned its sec-

See SOCCER, Page B4

Hole-in-one contest

The Detroit News/GAM hole-in-one contest will be held Monday, Sept. 8 on Whispering Willows Golf Course's hole No. 7.

The event will run from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants must have a previous hole-in-one to participate. Each contestant will receive two shots.

There will also be a raffle to raise money for the Folds of Honor.

Prep golf

Plymouth's state-ranked girls golf team upended host Livonia Churchill, 174-233, Thursday afternoon at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

Medalist Sydney Murphy of Plymouth carded a 39. Kristin McLean led the Chargers with a 54. Also scoring for Churchill were Megan Crocker (59), Alyssa Mazar (60) and Marin McGowan (60).

The Wildcats' contributors included Alaina Strzalka (44), Katie Chipman (45) and Ariana Strzalka (46).

LIVONIA GIRLS CITY CROSS COUNTRY MEET



Runners from all three Livonia public schools got off to a quick start Wednesday afternoon during the annual city meet.

ED WRIGHT

PATRIOTS' DAY

Trio's superb performances fuel Franklin's first title in 'a long time'

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The final 100-yard uphill stretch of the Cass Benton Park 5-kilometer cross country course was lined late Wednesday afternoon with screaming supporters, each imploring the front-running participants of the Livonia Girls City Meet to run like every stride would determine the meet's champion.

As it turned out, every stride did matter.

On an afternoon coated with heavy heat and infrequent breezes, Livonia Franklin captured its first city championship in decades – but it wasn't easy.

A string of three consecutive Patriots – Natalie Douglas, Amanda Pokryfky and Ellary Marano – sprinted across the finish line behind winner Kathleen George of Churchill to lift Franklin to a one-point triumph (29-30) over the Chargers, who were powered by five top-10 placers.

Defending champion Livonia Stevenson placed third with 66 points.

"I'm not exactly sure when Franklin last won this meet, but I know it's been a long time," Patriots head coach Dave Bjorklund revealed, emphasizing

See CITY MEET, Page B4



Livonia Franklin's Natalie Douglas (center) and Livonia Churchill's Kathleen George (right) surged to the front immediately during Wednesday's city meet.

ED WRIGHT

PREP VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Pinpoint serves power Redford Union to wins

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Redford Union's volleyball team has aced its first two tests of the season – literally and figuratively.

Sparked by a flurry of hard-to-return serves, the Panthers have yet to lose a game in their first two matches of the 2014 season.

On Thursday, RU steamrolled visiting Harper Woods, 25-12, 25-17, 25-12. Service specialist Arielle Gaines-Rozier set the tone early by dealing three consecutive aces during the Pan-

thers' 5-0 start in game one. Later in the opening stanza, Gaines-Rozier reeled off four straight aces.

RU opened the season on Tuesday by defusing host Hazel Park, 25-21, 25-18, 25-12.

"We're serving great, the girls are communicating well; it's really been a combination of things," said RU head coach Rob Reese, when asked about his team's sparkling start. "Shae Smith has done a great job setting, too. We definitely need to work on our spiking, but we had

See VOLLEYBALL, Page B4



ED WRIGHT
Redford Union's Logyn Kraft keeps a point alive during Thursday's match against Harper Woods.

MU spikers triumph

The Madonna University women's volleyball team opened defense of their Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title Wednesday night with a 25-19, 25-13, 20-25, 25-18 win over visiting University of Northwestern Ohio.

The Crusaders, now 7-2 overall and 1-0 in the WHAC, were led by senior Casey Gates, a transfer from UNO. The 5-foot-9 outside hitter from Jackson Center, Ohio finished with a team-high 14 kills and 13 digs.

Katie Breault, Samantha Geile and Emily Johnson each added eight kills, while junior setter Spencer Stokes collected 37 assist-to-kills for the victorious Crusaders.

Northwestern Ohio (3-6, 0-1) got 12 kills and 12 digs from Chanel Cantere, while setters Rachel Wilson and Hailey Rosinski combined for 36 assists with 21 and 15, respectively.

The Crusaders, ranked No. 4 in the NAIA preseason poll, return to action Friday at home in the Julie Martin Memorial Classic. MU will take on Western Ontario at 4 p.m. followed by Lewis & Clark State (Id.) at 8 p.m.

On Saturday, Madonna will face Purdue-North Central at 11 a.m. followed by a match against St. Xavier (Ill.) at 3 p.m.



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'RED OUT' FUNDRAISER

Franklin's 'Moms Club' assists cancer-stricken kids

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Since the beginning of time, moms have been known for going the extra mile to help their children.

What makes the gesture the Livonia Franklin football program's "Moms Club" executed Friday night extra special considering they were working overtime to help children that weren't their own.

The idea of Franklin varsity football coach Jennifer Kelbert, Friday night's "Red Out" fundraiser involved the orchestration of several fundraisers that will gen-

erate funds for cancer-stricken children in the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital's Oncology Unit.

Several Mott patients were scheduled to attend Friday's game, but the threat - and eventual arrival - of severe weather forced them to miss the event.

Among the fundraising projects that greeted spectators once they walked through the stadium's front gates prior to the Patriots' game against Milford were basket raffles, T-shirt sales and other assorted items, the sale of which proceeds will go directly to Mott patients.

Kelbert said the

wheels started to go in motion on the project about five weeks ago. Thanks to the full-fledged support of the Franklin football players' moms, the fundraiser's momentum quickly picked up steam.

"I had a friend from high school whose son was diagnosed with a brain tumor," recalled Kelbert, when asked what motivated her to kick-start the "Red Out." "He passed away March 9. I want to help raise as much money as I can so that other families don't have to suffer the pain my friend's family experienced."

Spearheading the program along with Kelbert is Moms Club member Debbie Mead.

Along with the fundraising portion of the special night, Patriot fans were encouraged to wear red for Friday's game - and many obliged as the home stands were saturated with a sea of red apparel.

Members of the football team pitched in by wearing red pants and red jerseys.

"Next year, and in all future years, I'd like to start organizing this a lot sooner than we did this year," said Kelbert. "I'd also like to get the football players more involved. We could have them go to the homes of childhood cancer patients and help out with yard work and things like that. I think it would benefit the players and the families."

Livonia restaurant Dave & Buster's had a tent set up with assorted games, as did Build-A-Bear.

Few, if any, fans who circulated into the stadium bypassed the fundraising tables without making some kind of donation.

"We didn't really have a goal set as to how much



Members of the Livonia Franklin football program's Moms Club raised money for C.S. Mott Children's Hospital's



The majority of the fans at Friday's Livonia Franklin home game against Milford wore red clothing in honor of the Moms' Club's "Red Out" fundraiser.



Livonia Franklin's Nathan Rodgers intercepted a first-quarter Milford pass and raced 89 yards for a pick-six to knot the Patriots' game with Milford at 7-7.

we wanted to raise this first year," Kelbert said. "We want to raise as much as we can. Next year, since we will start planning a lot sooner, our goals will be a lot higher."

Game delayed

The early going of Friday night's game be-

tween Franklin and Milford was entertaining, to say the least.

Bolstered by a 70-yard return on the opening kick-off by Alexander Puente, Milford grabbed a 7-0 lead on its first possession when Tyler Carrier scored on a 28-yard run with just 18 seconds

into the game.

Sparked by strong running from Nate Binkiewicz and Nathan Rodgers, the Patriots countered with a long drive inside the Mavericks' 10-yard line on its first drive, but Milford sacked quarterback Denzel Adams on a fourth-and-1 play to erase the threat.

Milford then powered the ball to the Franklin 28, but quarterback Joshua Johnston's pass over the middle was picked off at the 11 by Rodgers and returned 89 yards for a touchdown. Ryan Prohaska's extra point knotted the game at 7-7 with 4:51 left in the first quarter.

The game was halted around 8 p.m. due to severe storms and lightning.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

- PREP FOOTBALL**
Friday, Sept. 12
John Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Novi at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Redford Union at Robichaud, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Annapolis, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luth. North, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Dearborn, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Parkway, 7 p.m.
- BOYS SOCCER**
Monday, Sept. 8
Redford Union at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Crestwood, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 9**
Franklin at Canton, 7 p.m.
HVL at Franklin Road, 4:30 p.m.
Wayne at Churchill, 7 p.m.
South Lyon at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 10**
Crestwood at RU, 5:30 p.m.
Dearborn at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Edsel Ford at Clarenceville, 6 p.m.
Thurston at Fordson, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 11**
Wayne at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Parkway at HVL, 4:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Canton at Churchill, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Sept. 12**
Belleville at Wayne, 4 p.m.
- HVL at Calvary, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 13
Stevenson vs. U-D Jesuit, noon
- PREP VOLLEYBALL**
Tuesday, Sept. 9
HVL at Luth. NW, 6:30 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Parkway, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 11**
Wayne at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
S.L. East at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Edsel Ford at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Oakland, 6:30 p.m.
Dearborn at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Annapolis, 7 p.m.
Inter-City at HVL, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 13**
Ladywood Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Wyandotte Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Clawson Tournament, 8:30 a.m.
- GIRLS SWIMMING**
Tuesday, Sept. 9
Hazel Park at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 11**
Canton at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
Redford Union at Garden City, 5:30 p.m.
Ladywood at John Glenn, 6 p.m.
Thurston at Fordson, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Northville, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 13**
W.L. Northern Invite, 9 a.m.
- BOYS TENNIS**
Tuesday, Sept. 9
Plymouth at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Wayne at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Salem vs. Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 10**
Robichaud at RU, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Farmington, 4 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 11**
Wayne at Canton, 4 p.m.
Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Stevenson vs. South Lyon, 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 13**
Howell Invitational, 8 a.m.
- GIRLS GOLF**
Tuesday, Sept. 9
Wayne at Franklin, 3 p.m.
Novi at Stevenson, 3 p.m.
Marian at Ladywood, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Canton, 3 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 11**
John Glenn at Plymouth, 3:30 p.m.
Canton at Franklin, 3 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 3 p.m.
Cranbrook at Ladywood, 4 p.m.
- Friday, Sept. 12**
Churchill at John Glenn, 3 p.m.
- PREP CROSS COUNTRY**
Tuesday, Sept. 9
Wayne at Franklin, 4:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Churchill, 4:30 p.m.
S.L. East at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Ladywood at CHSL Quad, 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, Sept. 12**
Belleville at Wayne, 4:30 p.m.
Spartan Invite, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 13**
New Boston Invite, TBA

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- 7th Grade 3-4pm
- 8th Grade 4-5pm

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PREP VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

New coach set to steer Patriots toward success

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When Desiree Betts resigned her head volleyball coaching position at Livonia Franklin earlier this summer following the birth of her first child, it was only natural that Ashly Butkowski fill the void.

A former standout player at Franklin before graduating in 2009, Butkowski served as a freshman and junior-varsity coach for the Patriots prior to landing the varsity position in June.

"I'm really excited about this opportunity," Butkowski said. "I've coached most of these girls already, so I'm familiar with what they can do and they know how I coach."

"We have a lot of seniors on this team, so we have the potential to be good. We have senior leadership pretty much everywhere on the court. They're not only strong players, but they know what they're doing on the court. They know where to be and they communicate well."

Butkowski said she is im-

plementing a series of new hitting drills that will help diversify the Patriots' offense. Engineering the Patriots' new scheme will be senior setter Kennedy Mang (5-foot-7).

"Kennedy is a great all-around player," said Butkowski. "She's the kind of player who is always motivating the team and she never gives up on a point. She's committed to winning and she loves the sport."

The Patriots' premier defensive player is senior libero Kelly Newton (5-8), who frustrates opposing hitters with her all-out style of play.

"Kelly reads the ball well and she can cover anything that comes over the net," said Butkowski. "She's always encouraging her teammates and is a good leader."

Senior Sarah Cramton, a 5-9 outside hitter who can play pretty much anywhere on the court, is the kind of dependable player a first-year coach covets.

"Sarah is very committed to helping the team be success-



ED WRIGHT

Pictured (from left) are Livonia Franklin volleyball players Julie Williamson, Alaina DeFrain, Ashley Mardeuse, Rachel Beers, Sarah Cramton, Jessica McNally, Kelly Newton, Erin McNally, Hannah Nordstrom, Mikayla Sinkiewicz, Kennedy Mang, Samantha Grzech and head coach Ashly Butkowski.

ful," said Butkowski. "Off the court, she's very reliable; one of those players who never misses a practice. On it, she's a very good defensive player and right outside hitter who is a good passer and can get aced when she's serving."

Senior setter Mikayla Sien-

kiewicz is "an energy player," Butkowski said.

"She's smart, she can get the ball up no matter what the pass is like, and she knows how to lead," the Patriots' coach raved.

Twin seniors Jessica and Erin McNally will play pivotal

roles along the front row for the Patriots, Butkowski said.

The team's top newcomer is freshman Hanna Nordstrom, a 5-7 outside hitter.

ewright@hometownlife.com



ED WRIGHT

Pictured (from left) are Lutheran Westland football captains Jacob Davenport, Thomas Krueger, Caleb Richter and Austin Olson. All four are seniors.

PREP FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Warriors are deep, experienced

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Lutheran Westland's football team will only go as far as their seniors carry them this season.

Given the quality of the Warriors' senior nucleus, that could be a long way.

"We have 10 seniors, so it's a knowledgeable group," said Warriors head coach Paul Guse. "Most of our kids haven't played before they get to us, so having 10 seniors this year, we feel comfortable being able to make in-game adjustments. It's a smart group."

Guse said his team's offense has the potential to be explosive.

"All of our backs are back from last year," he said. "Jacob Davenport and Austin Olson are our two key backs - they're our heart and soul. The big question mark we had coming into the season was quarterback, but sophomore Luke Smith has stepped in and done a nice job."

"We have good athletes along the front line and we have depth, which is something we don't normally have."

The Warriors lost their opener last week against Burton Atherton, an athletic contingent that had just a little too much speed for the Warriors to contain.

"We played well enough to win," said Guse. "We came back and made it close. We know we have to play better. We realize the mistakes we made and with all the seniors we have, they know what needs to be fixed."

Davenport is the Warriors' version of a transformer. He can play anywhere on the field - and often does - excelling at running back, quarterback and linebacker.

"I like the versatility this team has," said Davenport. "I can play pretty much anywhere; really, any of our backs can play anywhere and do a great job."

"We have a lot of experience with our seniors. We can do more things offen-

sively than we could last year. There are a lot of positives."

Guse fondly referred to Davenport as "a machine out there."

"He's our best hitter, a great running back and he caught six passes last week and threw seven passes. Not a lot of players anywhere can say that. We have a series of plays for him at quarterback, so he can do it all. We just have to keep him healthy."

Senior Austin Olson will also carry the ball a lot this fall, Guse emphasized.

"On a lot of our other teams here, Austin would be our feature back, but with Jacob here, too, we split them up. He's a hard runner and he can catch the ball, too."

The Warriors' top lineman is senior guard Tom Krueger, who is strong, smart and agile.

"He's our strongest player and most knowledgeable lineman," Guse said. "Even though he's not the center, he'll make most of our line calls."

Lutheran Westland's fourth captain is fullback Caleb Richter, a 135-pound tornado.

"Caleb is like a Tanzanian devil out there," Guse said, smiling. "He's usually one of the smallest players on the field, but he's so active. We didn't play him much at fullback last year because of his size, but he's such a great edge blocker that he'll play there a lot this year."

Other key seniors are linebacker/center Nick Garber, two-way tackle Travis Fry and split end Cleveland Tarp.

"Everybody plays both ways for us," Guse noted. "I think we started three kids on defense last week that didn't play offense. We're cognizant of not overloading the kids, but of our 30 kids, 15 are technically junior-varsity players, so we only go about 18 or 19 deep. That's the way it is here and that's the way it will always be. The kids know they're going to play a lot and they're fired up about that."



SUBMITTED

St. Edith soccer coordinator and tournament director Bassel Atala presents the first-place trophy to junior varsity boys Shrine coach Kevin Ciarlone as the Shrine players rejoice.

St. Edith soccer tourney draws 26 teams

The 2014 St. Edith Soccer Classic held at Livonia Ladywood High School proved to be an overwhelming success as 26 teams competed in four divisions: junior varsity boys, junior varsity girls, varsity boys and varsity girls.

Among the 26 teams competing were eight Catholic Youth Organization squads.

Shrine defeated St. Mike's in the JV boys final, 3-1, while All Saints defeated Our Lady of Good Counsel, 4-1, in the varsity boys bracket final.

In the JV girls division, Our Lady of Sorrows upended Dearborn Divine Child, 4-1, in the title match, while Shrine blanked Our Lady of Sorrows, 6-0, in the varsity girls championship showdown.

"The St. Edith Tournament Committee would like to thank all the participants, the sponsors and the families for making this tournament a huge success, and we look forward to seeing you again next year," stated tournament director Bassel Atala.

The division champions received trophies and T-shirts.

By Ed Wright

PREP VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Extra work paying off for Redford Union spikers

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When Redford Union volleyball coach Rob Reese decided to double up his team's pre-season workouts last month, he wasn't sure how the Panthers would respond.

"We went from practicing two hours a day to four," said Reese. "At first, I thought the girls might not like it because they have a lot of other things going on, but they ended up loving it; and I can tell we're better because of the additional work we've put in."

The Panthers will be led this season by a pair of stellar captains - sophomore Shae Smith and senior Renee Reed, both of whom can lead by example and

with their voices.

"We're both vocal leaders," said Reed, who is the team's top front-row force. "Being selected captain meant a lot to me. This is a hard-working team and we all get along, which is key to being successful."

Although RU's roster isn't stockpiled with high-elevating hitters, it is loaded with hustling, instinctive players who will do whatever it takes to win a point.

"We have a lot of good diggers," Smith said. "So as long as the ball doesn't hit the floor, we're good."

Reese had high praise for his pair of captains.

"They're both great kids who the other players look up

to and listen to," said Reese.

"Renee is a great server and a good outside hitter; she'll definitely be playing all around for us. Shae was our MVP last year and will be one of our setters this year. She talks the entire game, encouraging her teammates. She does a nice job of running the show out there."

The Panthers' primary middle hitters will be senior Sasha Sartin (5-foot-11) and freshman Haley Hebner (5-9).

"Sasha is a good middle hitter and an excellent server," Reese raved. "Even though she's a freshman, Haylie has proven that she belongs on varsity."

Splitting time at libero will be senior Logyn Kraft (5-3) and freshman Ashley Kato.

"Logyn knows the game so well; she's very dependable," said Reese. "I wouldn't even think about having a freshman on varsity unless I thought she could excel, and Ashley definitely can excel at this level."

Sophomore Sadie Miles will play all around, but her best position is right-side hitter, Reese said. Reed and Kiara Sharps will patrol the left side of the net.

Junior Keyonia Cuff (5-8) will offer depth along the front row while senior Arielle Gaines-Rozier has established herself as one of the team's best servers despite having sat out the past two seasons.

An ankle injury will keep senior Lisa Hairstone sidelined for an extended period, but



ED WRIGHT

Sophomore Shae Smith (left) and senior Renee Reed will serve as co-captains for the Redford Union volleyball team this fall.

Reese was impressed by how she attended all of the team's conditioning workouts.

ewright@hometownlife.com

CROSS COUNTRY ROUNDUP

Zebra harriers out-stride Garden City

Boys win handily while girls chalk up narrow triumph

Wayne Memorial's boys cross country team opened its dual-meet season on Thursday with a decisive 17-46 victory over visiting Garden City. The Zebras swept the top three places with seniors Malik Jordan (18:40.1), Devin Gibson (18:40.5) and Michael Gibson (18:43.3) finishing 1-

2-3. Also scoring for Wayne were sophomore Jamie Caranza (fifth place in 20:10.6), freshman John Gaton (sixth place in 23:15), freshman George Ferguson (seventh place in 23:54) and junior Tye Moore, who placed eighth in 24:10. "The heat and humidity were really tough for all the runners since we haven't had an opportunity to run in these conditions very often this summer," noted Wayne head coach Tom Gibson.

Cody Hardrick was the fastest Cougar, finishing fourth with a time of 19:28.38. Also scoring for GC were Jacob Callender (ninth place in 24:23.91), David Gausden (10th place in 24:41.03), Justin Sadowski (11th place in 24:50.09) and Justin Outlaw (14th place in 25:31.25). **Milestone victory for Wayne girls**
The Zebras girls team won its first dual meet in the past seven years by nipping visiting Garden City, 27-28,

Thursday afternoon. Junior Kelsie Wysong paced the memorable day for the winners by posting a second-place finish in 24:34.91. Sophomore Nikita Bhanu was fourth with a personal-best course time of 26:45.97. Garden City's Korey Szymaniak won the race with a time of 23:09.38. Also factoring in on the triumphant effort were sophomore Melaina Climer (28:03.62), freshman Jessica Leigh (28:52.69) and senior Victoria Boyd (29:10.59), who

finished in sixth through eighth places, respectively. Junior Gabby Niemiec (31:30.52) and senior Kendelle Hood (32:04.88) also competed for the Zebras. Also scoring for the Cougars were Gabby Castillo (third in 26:27.53), Erica Turnbull (fifth in 27:33.12), Hayley Plummer (ninth in 29:20.91) and Savannah Childress (10th in 30:01.34).
ewright@hometownlife.com

LIVONIA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY MEET

Jones, Spartans rule the trails

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin's dynamic one-two punch of Keenan Jones and Tony Floyd wasn't enough to stagger Livonia Stevenson during Wednesday afternoon's Livonia Boys City Cross Country Meet at Cass Benton Park in Northville. Jones, a senior, successfully defended his individual title at the early-season heavyweight meet, finishing nine seconds ahead of runner-up and teammate Floyd, but the Erik Grisled Spartans flooded the top-10 with four runners to compile 36 points - six fewer than the Patriots. Paced by fourth-place finisher Jonathan Alessandrini, Churchill placed third with 48 points. Stevenson won the meet for the first time since 2010.



Livonia Franklin's Keenan Jones (second from left, bottom) and teammate Tony Floyd (pictured at Jones' right) finished one-two in Wednesday's Livonia City Meet, which was won by Livonia Stevenson.

"I looked at all the numbers after the Mustang Invitational last week, and I thought we had a good chance," said Stevenson head coach Chris Inch. "I knew it would be tight because all three teams get up for this meet. Everybody ran hard today. I was very pleased." Jones seized the lead during the first couple hundred yards and held off his hard-charging teammate down the stretch. "This feels awesome," said Jones. "Honestly, though, it was a little harder than last year. I had to re-focus a little bit around the two-mile mark." Jones said he had a pretty good idea of how wide his cushion was over his closest pursuers. "You're not supposed to look back during a race, but I was glancing a little bit on the turns," he said, smiling. "Tony was always right there with me. He has a lot of talent and I hope he wins this next year. He deserves it." Grisa, a senior, defied the mid-80s heat with a personal-best time at Cass Benton of



Livonia Stevenson's Erik Grisa placed third overall while leading the Spartans to their first city title in five years.

most of the summer because of a stress fracture, but he ran a tough race," said Inch. The champions were also bolstered by stellar efforts from fifth-place Luke Green (17:27.4) and eight-place Andrew Bambach (17:46.8). Franklin's third runner was Matt Lepper, who crossed the line in ninth place in 18:14.5. Joining Alessandrini in the top 10 for the Chargers were Jonathan Hovermale (sixth place in 17:38.3) and Matt Cohan (eighth place in 18:08.9). "I liked how competitive we were today," said Churchill coach John McGreevy. "We ran a lot better than we did here at the Mustang Invitational last week." **LIVONIA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY MEET Wednesday at Cass Benton Park**
FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Stevenson, 36 points; 2. Franklin, 42; 3. Churchill, 48.
STEVENSON: 3. Erik Grisa, 17 minutes, 1.2 seconds; 5. Luke Green, 17:27.4; 7. Andrew Bambach, 17:46.8; 10. Alex Mikonczyk, 18:19.2; 11. Nathan Ward, 18:20.5.
FRANKLIN: 1. Keenan Jones, 16:46.6; 2. Tony Floyd, 16:55.8; 9. Matt Lepper, 18:14.5; 14. Nathan McCall, 18:35.1; 16. Jacob Forgacs, 18:50.2.
CHURCHILL: 4. Jonathan Alessandrini, 17:11.3; 6. Jonathan Hovermale, 17:38.3; 8. Matt Cohan, 18:08.9; 13. Josh Mussen, 18:29.9; 17. John Sas, 18:53.9.

CITY MEET

Continued from Page B1

long. "I knew it was going to be a close meet - it always is - and I knew we had a chance, but Churchill looked really good. I knew we needed four or five girls in the top 10, and we got four, which was just enough." George and Douglas hooked up in a classic battle for first, almost always lurking in the other's swift-moving shadow over the first half of the 3.1-mile race. George pulled away slightly over the final half mile, winning with a time of 20 minutes, 41.9 seconds - exactly nine seconds faster than Douglas. "It was a tough loss today, but Franklin deserves a lot of credit," said Churchill head coach Sue Tatro. "They were definitely the hungrier team. I was extremely proud of Kathleen. She took command of the race from the start to finish. Today was definitely a great learning experience for us." As it turned out, Douglas had just a little more help from her friends, specifically Pokryfky and Marano, who placed third and fourth, re-

spectively. Chargers Addison Mussen, Chirstina Murphy and Hailey Pampreen-Lohman finished fifth, sixth and eighth, respectively, sandwiched around Stevenson's top runner, seventh-place Emily Chapski. Franklin's Natalie Martinez and Churchill's Alexis Lombardo placed ninth and 10th. "Once all of our scoring girls finished, I was 99 percent sure we had won, but you never know until it's official," said Bjorklund. "Once it became official, the girls got real excited. The city meet is a big deal for the athletes at all three schools. I'm extremely proud of them." The first five finishers for each team figured in the final scoring. **2014 LIVONIA GIRLS CITY MEET Wednesday at Cass Benton**
FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Franklin, 29; 2. Churchill, 30; 3. Stevenson, 66.
FRANKLIN: 2. Natalie Douglas, 20 minutes, 50.9 seconds; 3. Amanda Pokryfky, 21:23.2; 4. Ellary Marano, 21:28.1; 9. Natalie Martinez, 22:18.8; 11. Camryn Zurawski, 22:42.3.
CHURCHILL: 1. Kathleen George, 20:41.9; 5. Addison Mussen, 21:56.5; 6. Christina Murphy, 22:11.1; 8. Hailey Pampreen-Lohman, 22:18.4; 10. Alexis Lombardo, 22:25.5.
STEVENSON: 7. Emily Chapski, 22:15.7; 13. Julia Cercone, 22:55.1; 14. Grace Lamerson, 23:11.0; 15. Kennedy Thurlow, 23:15.7; 17. Emily Lauzon, 23:31.6.



Franklin runners celebrate their first city meet championship in a long time.

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from Page B1

some really good net play [Thursday night] from Renee Reed and Sasha Sartin." Like in any early-season high school volleyball match, Thursday's RU-Harper Woods showdown was plagued at times by serve-serve errors and off-target passes, but the Panthers quickly established themselves as the more well-oiled machine. After Harper Woods crept to within 8-5 in the first game,

the Panthers went on a 9-1 run thanks to a dominating effort at the service line by Kiara Sharps. The momentum-changing streak included a pair of emphatic kills by Reed. Reese admitted that his team will be severely tested at this weekend's University of Michigan-Dearborn tournament. "We're going to run into some teams who can really put the ball down, but that's what we need to measure where we're at," he said. ewright@hometownlife.com

PREP TENNIS ROUNDUP

Charger netters sweep Wayne, John Glenn

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill's boys tennis team rolled to a pair of KLAAs South Division victories earlier this week. On Wednesday, the Chargers blanked visiting Wayne, 9-0. One day later Churchill swept its match at John Glenn. Leading the victory parade was senior No. 1 singles player Jonathan Martin, who defeated Wayne's Tyler Harnos, 6-3, 6-4; and John Glenn's Cotz Diaz, 6-0, 6-0. Churchill's No. 2 player Sean Mulka is also off to a sizzling start, upending the Zebras' Conner Weber, 6-1, 6-0; and John Glenn's Reilly Diaz, 6-1, 6-1. Sophomore Tim Ohtake lost just two total games in his victories over Wayne's Brenden Bente and John Glenn's Kyle Nikula, while No. 4 singles player Johnny Zhou, a freshman, played beyond his years, winning 6-0, 6-1 over Waynes Jay Best, and 6-1, 6-0 against Rocket Caleb Woodard. Both Wayne and John Glenn defaulted their No. 3, 4 and 5 doubles matches against the Chargers, whose No. 1 doubles team of Raymond Peters and Matt Smith ousted Wayne's Drake Carpenter and Collin Hudson, while Cooper King and Mit Patel swept John Glenn's Steve Gray and Phil Sheridan at No. 1 doubles. Mickey Ohtake and Shantam Ravan won their No. 2 doubles match against John Glenn's Rock Williams and



Livonia Churchill's No. 4 singles player Johnny Zhou returns a shot during a match earlier this season.

Rahmier Borgart, 6-2, 6-0. **Patriots runners-up in Monroe**
Led by silver-medal efforts from three singles players and a pair of doubles teams, Livonia Franklin's boys tennis team placed second at last weekend's Monroe Invitational. Plymouth won the top prize with 24 points followed by Franklin, Riverview and Mon-

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

ond victory in boys soccer Wednesday, defeating the visitors from Detroit Cass Tech, 3-1. **Chargers oust Franklin**
Livonia Churchill earned a significant KLAAs South Division victory Thursday night when it outscored cross-town rival Livonia Franklin, 4-1. Churchill's first goal was scored by junior forward Riles Dobar. The Chargers benefited from a Patriots' own goal, which was credited to Churchill junior forward Mario Shkembi. Junior forward Erlin Guri tallied the final two net-minders for the victors. The host Patriots' lone goal came from P.J. McGeeary. "It was a sloppy game, in my opinion," said Franklin head coach Vic Rodopulus. "With 10 minutes left in the

first half we started getting way off our game. We started playing kick ball and not looking for the easy passes." **Trojans notch win**
Jayson Fitzpatrick scored the first goal of the game on an incredible hustle play for the Trojans, according to coach Trevor Johnson. The Technicians made the tally 1-1 through halftime. Cam Fyffe had the game-winning goal, carrying the ball 50 yards through traffic to score, and Gerardo Arzate added another goal with a shot from 30 yards out. Dante Marzolo and Kam MacIver each had assists, and keeper Noah Elagamy played great for the Trojans (2-3) with nine saves, Johnson said. Luis Borjac had the lone goal for Cass Tech. Clarendonville's home game with Riverdale Academy has been rescheduled for 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11. ewright@hometownlife.com

'Safe at Home' work boosts independence

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When "Tasha," a 43-year-old woman, returns from a hospital stay to her home in Farmington Hills, she'll be able to maneuver her walker more easily through the doorway.

She'll find a new ramp, installed courtesy of Evangelical Homes of Michigan, where porch steps used to be.

The disabled woman and her wheelchair-bound mother who lives with her, received help recently through Evangelical Homes of Michigan's Safe at Home Charitable Fund program, which repairs and modifies homes without charge for hundreds of physically handicapped and elderly persons annually.

"We do about \$2,500-\$3,500 a month in services. Sometimes we're just putting in a Lifeline (Medical Alert) service in a house," said Berge Avesian, Safe at Home director. "But the truth is, a lot of times you walk into a person's home and there's a leaky faucet or a broken fixture. It's a little problem, but if left alone it can become a big problem. We've replaced water heaters for people."

Evangelical Homes of Michigan is a faith-based, nonprofit organization with offices in Farmington that runs assisted and independent senior housing communities in Detroit, Saline and Sterling Heights. It also offers dementia care, health care services including skilled nursing and rehabilitation, hospice care, and an extensive program to help seniors remain independent at home.

Safe at Home Charitable Fund helps seniors and those with physical disabilities remain independent at home. The program is aimed at individuals who can't afford to pay for home repairs and modifications.

More than a ramp

"Tasha," who declined to use her full name, called Avesian after hearing about Safe at Home, hoping the program would pay for a ramp at her house.



Evangelical Homes President and CEO Denise Rabadoux (left) chats with two of 100+ Women Who Care Motown Chapter's founders, Karen Rashid Balow of Beverly Hills, and Nancy Sullivan of Northville.



A wheelchair-bound mother and her daughter, who uses a walker, will have an easier time getting around their Farmington Hills home, after Safe at Home replaced steps with a ramp.



Tom Reuter, an employee of Evangelical Homes of Michigan, installs a grab bar in a bathroom, making the home safer for its residents.

"He came out and looked at everything I needed. They not only did the ramp, but other things, including replacing my dryer, which has just conked out," she said. "They are very good, warm and receptive,

outstanding people. He also bought my (eye) glasses for me. They had been sitting there (at a store) because I couldn't pay for them."

Mary Griffin, executive and marketing assistant, said the Safe at Home Charitable Fund is a part of Evangelical Homes

of Michigan's philanthropic division and is funded by donations and through fundraising appeals.

100+Women Who Care Motown Chapter, a group that exists to help charitable causes, recently gave the program \$15,000.

Unique philanthropists

Denise Rabadoux, president and CEO of Evangelical Homes of Michigan, is a member of the chapter and suggested Safe at Home Charitable Fund as a potential funding recipient. Chapter members sign a commitment form when they join, agreeing to pay \$100 at each quarterly meeting toward a charitable cause that the group selects by vote. Any member of the chapter may suggest a charity. All suggestions are placed into a hat and three are drawn. The "winners" then have five minutes to advocate for their suggestion.

"There's five minutes for questions and answers and after the presentations everyone votes," said Nancy Sullivan of Northville, one of the chapter founders along with Molly Williams and Karen Rashid Balow, both of Beverly Hills. "We tally up the votes and say who the winner is. At that point everyone writes a check for \$100 directly to the charity."

Women who are absent have five days to make good on their pledge.

Past funding recipients have included Matrix Theatre, St. Patrick Senior Center, Lighthouse PATH, Sweet Dreamzzz, Mercy Education Project, Humble Design, and Common Ground.

"We've served seniors, the homeless, the fine arts. Lighthouse PATH is about abused women. Mercy Education is tutoring and Sweet Dreamzzz teaches kids the importance of sleep. And now Evangelical Homes of Michigan," Sullivan said. "My mother had a hip replacement recently. She's 85, so it (Safe at Home) was something close to my heart."

Balow said the Safe at Home concept resonated with many of the women.

"Letting people stay in their homes is really important," Balow said. "People's hearts go out to older adults."

For more about Safe at Home and Evangelical Homes of Michigan, call 866-979-9109 or visit ehmchoices.org. For more about 100+Women Who Care Motown Chapter, visit 100pluswomenmotown.com.

Change is the only constant in life during pregnancy

It's crunch time. About six weeks left before baby's due date, and everything is coming into place. I have her nursery all put together and have really started the "nesting phase" of organizing all the rooms in the house. I'm anticipating meeting my little girl and getting both excited and nervous about what is to come.

I think one of the biggest changes I have begun to see is the closeness of people in my life. Some family members and friends have gone out of their way to help me prepare for this life-changing event, while others have simply vanished or almost vanished from my life. I have found that I'm not the one to invite to the drinking festivities with all the unmarried couples or single friends, yet I'm also not quite on the list for the play dates and kids'



Sarah Davies
THEN THERE WERE TWO

birthday parties. I'm kind of in a "middle-phase" where it's just me. Perhaps spending all this time alone is preparation for this miracle to come into my life. After all, it will just be the two of us at home together and at least for a little while, my daughter won't be much for conversation. I think I will continue to discover a lot about myself during those first few months, just as I have during the last few. I am eagerly anticipating the joys of learning things just as much as I am of teaching them. I cannot wait to hold this little baby in my arms, and try my hardest to

protect her from the negativity and scariness the world sometimes offers.

Important considerations

There is a point in pregnancy when you realize that everything you have done up to this point in your life is both incredibly valuable, and invaluable. It is fantastic that you have learned so many things that you can pass on to your child, yet the dreams that you have thought about accomplishing really don't matter anymore. Now, the important thing is providing a safe and nurturing home for your child to grow up in, a place where she can be loved fully and given opportunities to become successful and happy. You think about missing all the parties with your friends last-

ing late until the night, but you are easily distracted when you are reminded that you have much better parties to look forward to and you won't even have to stay up late to attend them. Things change in your life, but they still remain great.

Everything changes

If you're like me, when you are pregnant, one of the things you learn is that the only thing that stays the same is change. Your whole life changes when you are busy building your baby. Your house will change. You may not physically move, but the house itself will change as you prepare a room for baby and make the necessary changes to have space for all her stuff. Your friends might change. You may become closer with friends who have children already or are expecting,

while your closeness with others may gradually fade. Your body will change. Your belly will get bigger, and your brain a little smaller and things you never thought could grow will grow. But your heart will grow too, and that makes it all worth it.

Change will happen. Sometimes you will expect it, sometimes you won't. But life will bring you change every day. You cannot plan who you will be your whole life but you can follow your heart and adjust as need be. Sometimes, we will find, the things we cannot change end up changing us for the better.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of her journey toward single motherhood. Contact her at sarahmariadavies@gmail.com.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

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

Butterflies

Brenda Dzedzic, author and co-founder of Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association, will talk about winter garden maintenance and overwintering of butterflies, 7 p.m. Sept. 17, at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Nonmembers pay \$3. Annual memberships are \$15. www.sembabutterfly.org.

English Gardens

» Learn what it takes to keep your lawn healthy over the winter at a free presentation, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13.

» Get information on designing, planting and maintaining flowers and plants in outdoor containers at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20. Free.

» Learn the basics of designing a bulb garden at a free presentation 10 a.m. Saturday,

Sept. 27.

» Get tips on dividing perennials and pruning plants to ready them for winter, 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 4. Free.

Classes are held at all English Gardens 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.

Heritage Park

The park is located on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Pre-register for programs online at recreg.fhgov.com.

» Take a full moon hike 7:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 10 and 7-8 p.m. Nov. 7. The Friday night hikes are for families and children, 5 and up. Cost is \$3 per person payable online or at the door. Meet at the nature center in the park.



Learn what you need to do to help your lawn survive the winter at a free presentation, Saturday, Sept. 13, at English Gardens stores.

» Hayrides run 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12-Oct. 24 and Saturday, Nov. 1. Rides are approximately 30 minutes. The fee is \$5 per person. Pre-regis-

ter online. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the event. Includes the hay wagon ride, marshmallow roasting over a campfire and apple

cider.

» Practice yoga 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sept. 10-Oct. 8 outdoors, in front of the Heritage Park Visitor Center. Designed for adults of all skill levels. Cost is \$45 for five classes paid online or \$10 per class paid at the class. Bring your own mat and blanket.

» Junior Naturalist Club, for ages 5-11, meets 10-11:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month from September through June at the nature center. The fee is \$10 per class in advance and \$12 per class, paid at the door. Register online. The topic is Trees 101 on Sept. 13 and Wilderness Skills on Oct. 11.

Meet critters

See some of the animals, such as turtles and snakes, that make the Kensington Metropolitan Nature Center their home, 2 p.m. every Sunday. The program is free. To register or for more information, call 810-227-8917

Get involved in a fundraiser for a health cause



ARCHIVE PHOTO
Bernadine Vida of Redford undergoes chemotherapy. A benefit on Sept. 20 will raise money to help her pay expenses while being treated for breast cancer.

Put on your walking shoes, sharpen your pool cues or get ready to laugh. Advocates for health causes plan a variety of fundraisers over the next few weeks, starting with St. Mary Mercy Hospital's annual Embrace Life 5K. The run/walk starts at 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, at the hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan in Livonia.

The race begins on St. Mary Mercy Hospital grounds and racers are routed through nearby residential streets. The event is a celebration of life for cancer survivors, for those who have cancer and an opportunity for family and friends to honor or remember a loved one. Prizes are awarded to the top three finishers in each age group, as well as top overall finishers.

Race day registration runs from 7-8:30 a.m. Cost is \$30. Proceeds support cancer services at the hospital.

Here's a sampling of other fundraisers:

» A benefit for Bernadine Vida of Redford Township, who is battling breast cancer, will start at 1 p.m. Sept.

20, at Snookers Pool & Pub, 27630 Schoolcraft, Livonia. The event will include a live band, food, raffle, and silent auction. Proceeds will help Vida, who works as a costumer for television, theater and films, pay expenses while taking chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Vida, who travels considerably for her freelance costuming assignments, is unable to work while undergoing treatment. For more information about the fundraiser, call 313-443-0151. Or email bernavida@ameritech.net. Visit her Go Fund Me campaign at gofundme.com/Saving-Bernadine.

» Yoga Shelter will lead a Yoga Mala class, 6-9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 22, at Detroit's Eastern Market Shed 3, to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Cost is \$25 if registered in advance online and \$30 at the door. Doors will open at 5 p.m. The class will consist of 108 Sun Salutations. Visit yogashelter.com or call 248-538-0200.

» Comedian Paul Reiser performs at Kadima's 30th annual Benefit, 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 1, at Max M. Fisher Music Center, in Detroit. An Evening with Paul Reiser costs \$100 for adults and \$50 for ages 18-40. The event includes a pre-glow reception with light hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Kadima is a Jewish mental health agency whose mission is to provide psychological services, residential options, supported employment and social activities on a nonsectarian basis. For more information or to register, go to www.kadima-center.org or call Paula Schonberg at 248-559-8235, Ext. 118.

» The second annual Wine, Women & Shoes event, 5:30 p.m. Oct. 9, at The Inn at St. John in Plymouth Township will benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation's Dream, Hope, Discover Campaign. The event will include a fashion show, shopping, auction and wine. Ticket prices start at \$150. For more information, call or email Kate Kesner at 313-745-8814 or kate.kesner@chmfoundation.org. To buy tickets, visit <http://www.winewomenandshoes.com/chmf>.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Upcoming

American Red Cross

Upcoming blood drives:
Southfield — 6:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile.
Call 800-RED CROSS to make an appointment.

Blood pressure

Oakwood Healthcare offers free blood pressure screening 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Dearborn Farmers Market, 22100 Michigan Ave. on the corners of Garrison and Mason. For more information, visit Oakwood.org.

Healthy eating

Upcoming nutrition workshops and cooking demonstrations from Botsford Hospital and Busch's Fresh Foods Market:

» Dietitian Denise Cykiert will give tips on

how to keep grilled recipes healthy and nutritious. 6-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Busch's Market, 33300 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. Busch's chef Rebecca Wauldron will demonstrate grilled dishes. \$15 admission includes a \$5-off-of-\$50 coupon, recipes, samples and more. Register by calling the store or visiting the Guest Service Counter; 248-539-4581.

» Dietitian Denise Cykiert focuses on deserts, 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, at Busch's Fresh Foods Market, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$5 and includes a \$5 Busch's coupon, recipes, and samples. Register by calling or visiting the Guest Service Counter in the store; 248-427-7400.

» Dietitian Denise Cykiert teaches quick and easy recipes for the slow cooker, 6-7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 2, at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 33300 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. Cost is \$5 and includes a \$5-Busch's coupon, recipes, and healthy eating tips. Register by calling or visiting the Guest Service Counter at the store; 248-539-4581.

» Busch's chef Rebecca Wauldron will show how to make the most of seasonal produce and dietitian Denise Cykiert will give tips on keeping recipes nutritious, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at Busch's, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia; 734-779-6100.

Hearing support

Hearing Loss Association of America will hold an "open mic" for sharing and learning 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Contact Tony at 734-664-3297, afcrack@com-cast.net.

cast.net.

Prostate cancer

Farmington Hills-based 21st Century Oncology of Michigan offers a free seminar about prostate cancer, 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, at Bloomfield Open Hunt Club, 405 E. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. "State-Of-The-Art Update In Prostate Cancer" will focus on the latest advances in prostate cancer detection and care. To reserve a space at the lecture, call Samantha Dedoes at 248-464-3246 or email samantha.schmoyer-dedoes@21co.com by Monday, Sept. 8.

Walk with a Doc

Savitha Balaraman, an oncologist at Botsford Hospital, will talk about meditation and will lead a walk, noon to 1 p.m. Sept. 18, at Heritage Park Nature Center,

located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Register for this free program by calling Botsford at 877-477-3621.

Women's health

Paul Makela, M.D., medical director of gynecological robotic surgery at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, will present information about bladder dysfunction and overactive bladder 6-7 p.m. Sept. 24 at Meadowbrook Country Club, 40941 W. Eight Mile, Northville. Register by Sept. 19 at 734-655-1980.

Ongoing

Anorexics and Bulimics Anonymous

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with

eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, bingeing and purging, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. An AB-ANON meeting group is available for families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-9776.

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. Visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

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6 job search tips

helping you regain your momentum

By Robert Half

When your job search drags on for weeks and you feel no closer to landing a job than when you first started, it's easy to get discouraged. But even if you aren't getting the callbacks you were hoping for, now is not the time to call it quits. To stay motivated and focused during this frustrating time, use these six job-search strategies to regain and maintain your momentum.

1. Treat the search like a job

Unemployment often leads to an aimless feeling. The lack of a routine is a major reason your motivation may be waning, as it's a constant reminder of your situation. The key is to treat your search like a real job. Wake up at a reasonable hour and get dressed. Create a schedule with set times for phone calls, emails, social networking and job board searches. Make to-do lists and check off each item as you com-

plete it. After you've completed your to-do list for the day, "clock out" and take part in any leisure activities you enjoy.

In other words, conduct yourself as if a boss were looking over your shoulder. Stay focused on your daily tasks and avoid playing a quick game of Solitaire or Candy Crush when you're supposed to be working. Little indulgences may seem like some of the few perks of unemployment, but they can lead to listlessness and a dip in job-search momentum.

2. Put yourself out there

As important as it is for you to be connected online, you also need to make sure you're occasionally leaving the house. Not only will this help you get out of a rut, but it can also help make you more marketable. Sign up for a class or go to job fairs, workshops, conferences and seminars, where you can meet people and brush up on your skills. Join

professional associations and attend their meetings, where you can learn about trends in your field. Volunteer your time and skills with a worthwhile organization, where you can work on your soft skills like written and verbal communications. All of these things will deepen your network and help you find the right job.

3. Be proactive

Don't wait for opportunity to knock. Instead, take the initiative and knock on opportunity's door. In other words, even if the companies you're interested in don't list any current job openings, contact them anyway and express your desire to work there. This extra effort demonstrates enthusiasm and initiative, and hiring managers may take notice.

4. Track your progress

When you start to feel like you're going nowhere, take some time to create a method to track the efforts you've made. Write up a list of realistic short- and long-term goals with regard to your job search, and work toward them every day. For example, decide how many applications you'd like to send out this week, or this month. Set a goal for the number of networking events you're going to attend, and for the number of new people you're going to talk to about your search. Then keep track as you move toward the goal. That way, you'll have a tangible way to prove to yourself that you've made progress, something that can help keep you motivated as you continue to look for a job.

5. Consider other work options

A full-time job with a check direct-deposited to your account is not the only type of work out there. You can also expand your search to include part-time and contract work or set yourself up as a consultant or freelancer. Maybe you can barter your skills in exchange for goods and services.

Signing up with a staffing agency for temporary or project-based gigs can also be a productive approach. It can bring in extra income while you're looking for full-time work. Even better, some part-time or temporary gigs can turn into full-time jobs or long-term contracts. Even if they don't, though, they'll still allow you to make valuable contacts that will help you in your job search.

6. Relax, recharge, revive

Allowing a job search to take over your life is a sure way to burn out. Give yourself permission to take a break from the



search at night and on weekends. When you make a point to relax and recharge for a few hours at the end of the work day, you'll be able to start fresh the next day. A change of scenery and new experiences may give you a new perspective on your search and even your career.

The key to finding employment is to keep at it. Don't let a lull discourage you to the point of giving up. By following these job-search tips and persevering, you'll greatly increase your chances of finding full-time work that is satisfying and rewarding.

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MAINTENANCE WORKER

Water & Sewer Dept.

The City of Farmington is accepting applications for a Maintenance Worker in the Water and Sewer Department until 4:30 p.m., September 15, 2014 at the Public Works Office located at 33720 W. Nine Mile Road. Applicants should have three to five years of experience relating to construction, maintenance, or repair involving underground utilities, experience operating heavy equipment involving underground utilities, along with valid Michigan driver's license and CDL-B certification with air brakes. Starting pay at \$21.52/hr plus benefits.

City of Farmington employment applications are available at:
Farmington City Hall
23600 Liberty Street
and the Public Works Office.

Mechanic/Truck & Equipment

Farmington Hills
Greenlawn Landscaping Maintenance Co., of Farmington Hills is accepting applications for a full-time mechanic.

Job requirements:

- Small Engine Repair
- Commercial Lawn Equipment Repair
- Snowplow Equipment Maintenance & Repair
- Preventative Maintenance of Truck & Equipment Fleet

Individual must be reliable, neat and drug free. Minimum of (5) years experience. Welding skills is a plus. Must have references.

Year-round employment with compensation package based on experience and skill.

Email: humanresources@greenlawngroup.com

VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS

Must have own transportation. The ability to run 2 miles a night. Clean and professional appearance. Part or Full-Time \$8/hr. Call: 248-682-1800 patrickdoty@me.com

POLICE OFFICER

The Charter Township of Northville

Northville Township is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer.

Qualifications are:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen.
- Must be 21 years of age.
- Must possess a valid driver's license and have no criminal record.
- Applicant must possess a High School diploma and Associates degree from an accredited college or university.
- Must have successfully completed & possess proof of M.C.O.L.E.S. certification or equivalency.
- Applicants will be req'd to pass a written and oral exam, personal background check, physical and psychological exam.
- \$51,521 starting pay.

Applications are available and returned completed to:
Charter Township of Northville
Human Resources Dept.
44405 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 48168
by Friday, October 3, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.
An application form is also available on the Northville Township website at www.twp.northville.mi.us
Resumes without applications will not be accepted.
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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

ASSISTANT MANAGER

Lincolnshire Village of Canton is currently looking for an assistant manager to assist with the daily operations of a 147 apartment community. Candidate must be well versed in LHTC guidelines and programs. The applicant will have a successful track record with resident retention, collections and leasing.

Submit resume & salary requirements via facsimile to: (989) 953-4830

KMG Prestige is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ASSEMBLY

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.

Email resumes to: talw@dadco.net

Boring Mill Operator & CNC Operator - 3 Axis

Experienced only. Benefits & Overtime! Start Immediately. Livonia. Call: (734) 425-3920 or email: wetztool@yahoo.com

Outdoor Maintenance/Handyman

Must be reliable, part-time work at multiple funeral homes. Email resume to: david@griffinfuneralhome.com

CITY OF LIVONIA

Heating Inspector (Mechanical)
Police Officer
Police Service Aide

For complete information visit our website at www.ci.livonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr. Livonia, MI 48154
E.O.E. M/F/H

DIRECT CARE: * New wage \$8.50/hr.

trained; must be 18 & have a valid MI driver's license; CLS/MORC trained preferred. Full time and part time; many shifts; support adults living in their own homes; make a difference! 734-728-4201

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• Bonus Programs
• Health/Life/Disability Retirement
• Full Time Support Staff

PAT RYAN, REALTOR
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PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER/CLERK

The Charter Township of Northville

Northville Township is accepting applications for full-time Dispatcher/Clerk. Essential functions include receiving complaints from the public concerning crimes, medical emergencies and fires. Dispatching police, fire, and EMS. Starting wage of \$18 hr with benefits. Qualifications include:
• U.S. Citizen or resident alien with the right to work in U.S.
• 18 years of age
• High School diploma or equivalent
• Computer skills
• 2-3 years dispatch exp.

Candidates must successfully complete a testing process, background investigation, psychological, and physical. Applications are available and returned completed to Charter Township of Northville Human Resource Dept. 44405 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 by Friday, October 3, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Applications are available at our website at www.tp.northville.mi.us Resumes will not be accepted without a completed application. Equal Employment Opportunity

Help Wanted - General

Sprinkler Fitter

Applicants must have at least 4 yrs. exp. Ability to solve problems & to deal with supervisors and customers in a professional, courteous manner. Strong mechanical aptitude. Must own hand tools. Valid driver's license. Must have reliable transportation. Detroit fitters card a plus. Familiarity with all aspects of NFPA 25 inspections, testing and maintenance is a plus. Only qualified persons need apply. Resume & work history/ experience to: resume_hr_department@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - General

Sales Agent (Supervisor), Nissan Travel Service (USA), Inc., Livonia, Michigan. Supervise the planning and selling of transportation and accommodations, including the determination of destination, modes of transportation, travel dates, and costs required, for travel agency customers. Coordinate special projects and work to promote and market all aspects of travel services, primarily to a Japanese corporate clientele. Translate and convey critical travel information to clients. Supervise and train staff. Minimum requirements include: Bachelor's degree in English and American Studies, Business Administration or International Studies plus the ability to speak, read and write fluently in English and Japanese.

Please send resume (NO CALLS) to: c.keys@nissitravel.com

Help Wanted - General

Sign Maker & Vinyl Graphics Production/Installation

Farmington Hills Experience with large digital format and vinyl graphics is required. A current clean driver's license is a requirement. Applicants must be willing to have random drug screening. Full Time 40+ hours. Wage based on experience. Benefits: Medical, Dental, Vision, 401K and paid vacation.

Email: sales@graphikconcepts.com Fax: (248) 473-9294

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Help Wanted - Office Clerical

SUPPORT STAFF

Livonia, MI. Established firm seeking highly motivated individual. Must be able to work independently. Experience required in Microsoft Office. Strong communication skills, professional demeanor, ability to work in fast paced environment, must be a team player. Full benefit package including 401K, health and dental.

Email resume to: oeresume@hometownlife.com Reference Box # 6011

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Exp'd dental assistant with expanded duties desired for practice in Plymouth. Approx 27hrs a week.
Call 734-453-2200

Dental Assistant
FULL-TIME
in Livonia/Dearborn offices. Pay to commensurate with experience. Experience only need apply. Call: (313) 565-3131

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Exp'd for Huntington Woods dental office. Approx. 35 hrs/wk. Must be exp'd. with Dentrix software and all phases of dental insurance/billing & dental office procedures, ability to present and explain treatment plans. Exp. compensation for night person. If you are up beat, friendly & organized, meeting these qualifications. Please send resume to: dentalofficefe@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Medical

CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT
Part-Time position Mon., Wed. & Fri. 2:45-7:30pm and Saturday 8:45am-1:30pm. Must have exp. communication skills, basic general office knowledge, energetic & able to multi-task. Westland.
Call: 734-522-5501

O&E Media Classifieds
Call 24 hr toll free 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted - Medical

CHIROPRACTIC RECEPTIONIST/ASSISTANT
For chiropractic center in Northville. PT afternoons. 4 days/week & 1 morning per week w/additional morning hrs possibly added later. Approx 18 hrs/wk to start. No weekend hrs. Basic computer skills helpful. People skills important. Friendly, relax, low stress environment. Hly compensation commensurate with exp/skills. Darlene 248-348-3500 or at: bacdocmiller1@yahoo.com

Histotechnologist

Mohs surgeon seeks Histotechnologist with frozen section experience to process fresh tissue with Mohs frozen section techniques in his expanding, private practice. Background in histology, crystal preparation and maintenance, and histochemical staining is essential. Full or part-time, excellent pay and benefits. Ann Arbor area. Email or Fax Resume to: a2derm@aol.com (734) 996-8767

Medical Assistant

Full-Time. Fast paced Primary Care office in downtown Northville. Open 7am-7pm. Must be able to work shifts. Occasional Sat's. 8-1pm. Need to have experience with injections, blood draws, vitals, spirometry and EKG. Resume: vsd03@gmail.com

NURSE & CERT. MEDICAL ASST.

Requirements: 1-2 yrs. Cardiology exp. Others need not apply. Strong interpersonal skills, patient/service oriented, team player with ability to multi-task. Full-time, competitive salary, excellent benefit pkg & 401k plan. Please send resume to: Jobs@heartdtrs.com

RESIDENT CARE ASSOCIATES

Exp'd. Immediate Opening at Beautiful Assisted Living Facility in Westland. Benefits available. Please fax resume to: (248) 350-9083

Help Wanted - Medical

RN, LPN or MA with DERMATOLOGY EXPERIENCE preferred, for a growing dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/ Plymouth area. Full-Time, excellent pay & benefits. Email or Fax resume: a2derm@aol.com 734-996-8767

Food - Beverage

COOKS
EXPERIENCED Immediate Openings for Beautiful Assisted Living Community in Westland. Benefits available. Please fax resume to: (248) 350-9083

RESTAURANT DELI MANAGER
Experienced only STEVE'S DELI Bloomfield Hills Ask for Bob: 248-932-0800 stevedell@comcast.net

SERVERS
EXPERIENCED Immediate Openings for Beautiful Assisted Living Community in Westland. Benefits available. Please fax resume to: (248) 350-9083

Help Wanted - Domestic

IRONING HELP WANTED
Thursday's, Bloomfield Twp Men shirts & tablecloths Non-Smoker. References required. 248-594-9771

RENTALS

apartments.com
HomeFinder

Apartments For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS.
FREE HEAT! 1 bdrms from \$525. 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478-7489

GARDEN CITY: Lg 2 bdrms, appl's, heat/water free. \$600/mo. + security deposit. 734-464-3847. 734-513-4965

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REDFORD: 3 bdrm brick ranch, full bsmt., all appl's. fenced yard, \$850/mo. (313) 820-9711

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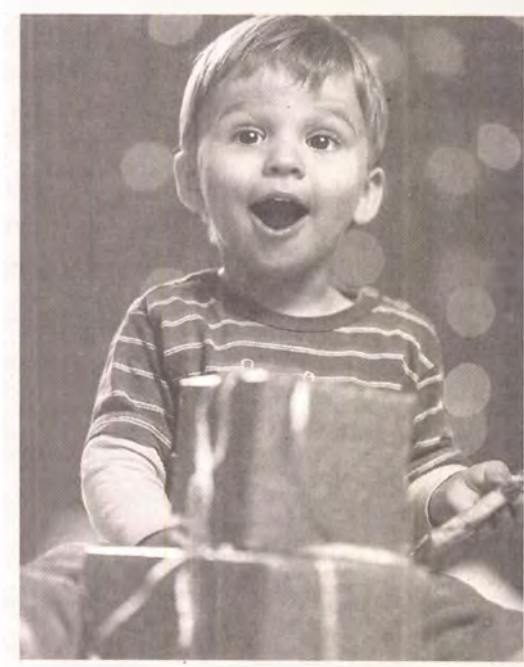
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Pre-owned and brand new model homes on display with hundreds of options to custom order YOUR new home!

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Call Patrick in Plymouth at 734.414.9760

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www.ajrhomesales.com

*WAC. Now through September 30, 2014 on select AJR owned inventory. Cannot be combined with any other incentive.

APARTMENT & REAL ESTATE GUIDE

Find the perfect place to call home in the Observer & Eccentric Media classified advertising section. We have apartment and real estate listings every week in the following communities:

Berkley • Birmingham • Canton
Clawson • Farmington • Garden City
Huntington Woods • Livonia • Milford
Northville • Novi • Pleasant Ridge
Plymouth • Redford • Royal Oak
Southfield • South Lyon • Westland

To place a listing in the Observer & Eccentric Media's Apartment & Real Estate Guide call:
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Card of Thanks

PRAYER: Pray 9 Hail Marys for 9 days...

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FOUND-TITLEIST GOLF BAG Claim at The Birmingham Police Department.

BUY & SELL
hometownlife.com

Monthly Fees

FIREWOOD FREE: Several trees available... 248-388-1705

Rummage Sales & Flea Markets

Redford - New Beginnings United Methodist Church annual Rummage Sale...

Estates Sales

LIVONIA-19830 Merriman Ct. Tools, furniture, ATVs...

Garage/Moving Sales

ANTIQUE ESTATE AUCTION Fri Sept 12th, 5 & 6pm...

BLOOMFIELD HILLS HUGE SALE! 390 Waddington St., Bloomfield Village...

Canton: Moving Sale:

CANTON MULTI-SUBS Oakvale & Stonegate N. of Palmer...

CANTON

Quality antiques, household items. Sept. 11 & 12, 9a-5p...

CANTON - WETHERSFIELD

LIVONIA-18115 Middlebelt Rd. Sunday & Monday, Sept 14 & 15...

LIVONIA- Huge Four Family Sale!

LIVONIA-Moving Sale! Household items, furniture, collectible clothing...

Milford: Hoarder - Pickers

Huge Sale 100+ boxes. Antiques, collectables, sports, tools...

Garage/Moving Sales Livonia: SW Livonia - 37698 Northfield...

Livonia: Vintage furniture 1960's orange love seat & two chairs and danish modern type end tables...

NORTHVILLE: MOVING SALE Sept. 11-13, 9-4PM 42298 Sunnydale...

PLYMOUTH: P.E.O. Charity Garage Sale! Sept. 10-11, 9-4pm 1332 Sheridan...

SOUTH LYON 2 families on same street. Vintage items, home decor/furniture...

South Lyon UPGRADE ESTATE SALE! Antiques - Vintage - Reproductions...

Clothing

New Wedding Dress. Never been worn. Size 12. Price tag still attached...

Household Goods

Antiques: Golden Oak 42 inch table, one press back, master chair...

Cherry Armoires (2); One light wood. One dark wood...

Entertainment Center 8 piece light oak wood. Lighted Beautiful. Mint Condition...

Apparatus

FOR SALE: 1930's Estate Fresh Air Gas Oven/Stove...

REFRIGERATORS \$150 & up! Range, washer/dryer \$125 & up!

Bicycles

PLYMOUTH - TREK all terrain lady's 21 speed bike...

Misc. For Sale GLEN EDEN -COMPANION NICHE FOR CREMATION...

Wanted to Buy CASH PAID OR CONSIGNMENT For Vintage, Antique and Other Valuable Items...

PETS

8 week Lab mix puppy named Sweet Pea...

AKC Golden Retriever pups, 10 weeks old...

Great American Dogs Back to school week starts September 8th...

SHIH TZU PUP, AKC, Shots, Vet checked...

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- ACROSS 1 PC "brain" 8 Watch chains 12 Sister of Helios 13 Notion 14 Wedding-cake part 15 DA's degree 16 Critical warnings (2 wds.) 18 Warty critters 20 "Norma —" 21 News article 22 Shore up 28 Continuous movement 31 Zig opposite 33 Ms. Teasdale 34 Vegas lead-in 35 "Sheila" singer Tommy — 36 Acquired 37 Iowa college town 39 Comic-strip prince 40 Cellar, briefly 41 Rock bottom 43 — cost you? 45 Six-shooter 47 Filmmaker — Coen 51 Take turns (2 wds.) 56 Inspect 57 Candy stripper 58 Court order 59 Give — break 60 Swerve 61 Football stands 62 Calif. hours DOWN 1 Ancient Briton 2 Game with mallets 3 Beef-rating org. 4 "Who's on —?" 5 Lyric poem 6 Bunk or futon 7 German industrial region 8 Directs 9 Oxygen source 10 Teacher's favorite 11 Almost-grads 17 Test facility 19 Reformer Dorothea — 22 Poet — Pound 23 Kiwi language 25 Contented murmurs 26 Stuff 27 Part of SEATO 28 Caramel custard 29 Prayer-wheel turner 30 Secondhand 32 Cultured fellow 38 Check endorser 40 Lunch counter order 42 Toupee, slangily 44 Some boxing jabs 46 Pond dweller 48 Rope fiber 49 Pro votes 50 Shipshape 51 Cleveland NBA player 52 Make haste 53 Summer quaff 54 Pay dirt 55 Hamlet's oath

SUDOKU grid with some numbers pre-filled: 9 3 8 2, 8, 2, 6, 7 6 1 4 3 5, 5 8 6 3 1, 4 5 1, 1 7 8, 4 5 7 9 6, 3 9 6 2

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ACADEMIC WORD SEARCH WORDS: ACADEMIC, INCLUSION, ACHIEVEMENT, INTEGRATED, ADVANCEMENT, MANIPULATIVES, ASSESSMENT, PEERS, BENCHMARKS, PERFORMANCE, BILINGUAL, PHONICS, CAMPUS, PLACEMENT, PORTFOLIO, CERTIFIED, PUPIL, CHARTER, PROFESSOR, CREDENTIALS, CURRICULUM, RUBRIC, EDUCATION, DISTRICTS, ENRICHMENT, SCHOOL, STAFF, GIFTED, STANDARDS, GRADES, TENURE, GROWTH, TEST, IMMERSION, TESTING

