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See page A5 for details

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2015 • hometownlife.com

# Wayne's ward voting rules finally approved

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

It took a third try after two tie votes, but the Wayne Council has adopted procedures for the new ward voting system. The procedures call for primary voting on council candidates to be restricted to voters from their individual wards. The point of contention had been the provision to open the voting citywide during the general election.

"This is the best solution for the city. This wasn't our proposal. We are trying to do the best we can with what was given us," Councilman John Rhaesa said. "We have spent a huge amount of time on this. The only people who are complaining are the people coming to the meeting. Other people feel it is a good compromise." The recommendations for implementing the ward voting came from a committee that included Rhaesa, Councilman

Skip Monit, local pastor Buddy Shuh, Margaret Harlow and Ron Roberts, who circulated initiatory petitions to put the charter amendment on the ballot. Roberts and Chris Sanders, who financed the campaign to get the charter amended, have argued that the intent of the amendment was clearly stated as the mayor being the only at-large elected position in city government. The issue that arose when

the language was submitted as required to the Michigan Attorney General is over at-large residency versus at-large voting. The petition did not specify which at-large was being addressed. City Attorney Keith Madden, who repeatedly urged Roberts to get legal advice regarding his petition effort, said the petitioner, not the city, has the responsibility for resolving legal issues. "I'm not required to make

the language perfectly correct. The city failed to get the language correct," Roberts said. "This is the language you sent to Lansing. It didn't address (article) 6.1 in the city charter (on at-large elections). I included what was necessary." Sanders called on the council to place an amendment before voters to make sure the charter reflects what was on the petition.

See VOTING, Page A2

# UAW 900 garden to provide food for local veterans

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

As spring arrives, the UAW-Ford Local 900 Hall in Wayne is seeing some added activity — a garden aimed at providing fresh produce for veterans and their families. "It's not too big and it's not too small," said volunteer Vickie Miller, who works across the street at the Ford Michigan Assembly Plant. "It's more symbolic than for the food. It's something the veterans and employees can be proud of and enjoy." Miller and other volunteers are working to plant strawberries, garlic, oregano, beans, peas, tomatoes and eggplant in the 20-foot by 30-foot Veterans Garden. The gardens were all set up by manual labor. Miller notes there was no mechanical tilling. "The bed looks like the UAW logo, it's a circle (divided) into 10 pizza slices," Miller said. "Each bed has compost. That's where the plants will grow." Local 900 donated needed recycled materials — such as wood chips, cardboard for transplants and composting material — for use in the garden. "We are always proud to discover our members positively improving their neighborhoods," said Jimmy Settles,



See GARDEN, Page A2 Ford Motor Company employees Vickie Miller and Ramone Davis work in the new Veterans Garden in Wayne.

SUBMITTED

# Wayne police, residents meet for a chat

Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag, joined by officers Skylar Verhelle and David Hamlet, held a coffee hour at the Wayne McDonald's restaurant to meet with residents. "It went really well. It was a mixture of both people who came to see me and I talked to a lot of customers who were there," Maciag said. People had a variety of questions for the officers, Maciag said. "There was a lot of good dialogue on what is going on at the police department," he said. "I thought it was really positive." To further expand communication with the community, Maciag has started public meetings on the last Thursday of each month. The first meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at the Wayne Activities and



Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag visited with residents at the Wayne McDonald's restaurant during Coffee with the Chief.

SUBMITTED

Banquet Center on Sims at Wayne Road. "It will be pretty informal. We want to get information out to citizens on crime trends and

open it up for comments or questions they might have," Maciag said.

By LeAnne Rogers

# Police-fire dodge ball challenge benefits Relay for Life

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

There is always a certain rivalry between police and firefighters. Now, members of the Westland police and fire departments will face off in a Dodge Ball Challenge for charity. A benefit for Mayor William Wild's Wild Walkers American Cancer Society Relay for Life team, the dodge ball event is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at AirTime Trampoline and Game Park, 36901 Warren Road, in Westland. "I'm playing. It should be fun. It's absolutely for a good cause," said Wayne-Westland Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Kelly Eggers. "I'm hoping to get real dodge balls like we had in school — not the foam ones."

Westland Police Jeff Jendrusik will be playing on the police department team. Wild Walkers team captains Devin Adams, city controller, and Aubrey Berman, administrative assistant in the mayor's office, organized the Dodge Ball Challenge. "We went to the grand opening (of AirTime) and had so much fun. This was completely Aubrey's idea," Adams said. "It's a good idea. There used to be a police-fire hockey game and it got crowd of residents. This will be a cooler event." The cost for the event is \$5 to watch or \$10 to jump. All proceeds will benefit Relay for Life.

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INDEX

Community Life.....	B5	Homes.....	C4	Services.....	C4
Crossword Puzzle.....	C2	Jobs.....	C1	Sports.....	B1
Education.....	A4	Obituaries.....	B6	Wheels.....	C3
Health.....	B7				

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## VOTING

Continued from Page A1

There were arguments by residents and council made about the city's obligations under the Home Rule Act.

"I would respectfully disagree with all the attorneys in the room," said Madden, who was in fact the only attorney present. "I wish the Home Rule Act was as black and white as what was said. It's great you're reading the act, but it's not as clear as you're making it sound."

What is clear, Madden said, is that under state election law the

council has to pass a resolution clarifying the issue.

At two prior council meetings, adoption of the ward voting policy failed on 3-3 votes because one member was absent. On Tuesday, Councilman David James was absent, but the policy was approved on a 4-2 opposition from Councilwoman Susan Rowe and Anthony Miller.

An amendment to allow voting only within the wards was offered by Rowe but received no support.

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## GARDEN

Continued from Page A1

UAW-Ford vice-president. "This type of impact embodies UAW-Ford's mission to improve the quality of life for our members, workplace and the communities in which we live and work."

Locally, Veterans Haven needs fresh produce for their clients, Miller said, but individual veterans can also make requests for what is harvested from the garden.

"We will have free samplings so people can see how fresh food tastes. We prepare different recipes," Miller said. "Our main goal is that we hope other local people will want to take on a garden."

### Eating Gardens

A 23-year Ford employee, Miller founded the nonprofit community gardening group Eating Gardens in 2009. Her interest in sustainability and locally grown food spurred her to actively garden on two acres of a 20-acre parcel she inherited.

"The farm is a main source of food for veterans and people in need," Miller said. "I want to

develop it into a food hub."

Always having had a small home garden, Miller said she has a passion for growing fresh vegetables, eating locally grown food and supporting local farmers.

"Food is not as fresh when it comes across the country as it is from your backyard," Miller said. "You don't need a lot of space; you can grow things on patios. I want to bring awareness that you can grow your own good food."

Miller and Eating Gardens volunteers have been out to the Wayne Farmers Market spreading her message about growing food locally. Eating Gardens also has worked with schools to set up gardens, an effort that also receives UAW support.

"It brings people together. You share what you grew with neighbors or coworkers. There is a human connection," she said. "(Volunteers) Helping us allows us to help others."

For more information on Eating Gardens, visit [eatinggardens.org](http://eatinggardens.org).

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# Crowded field for clerk, council requires Westland primary

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

It will be a busy election season in Westland. Four candidates are running for city clerk and 13 have filed to run for city council.

That means voters will have a primary election Aug. 4 to narrow the field to two clerk candidates and eight in the council race.

In the clerk's race, incumbent Eileen DeHart Schoof, the city's first elected clerk, is retiring. Seeking to replace Schoof for a four-year term are Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, a former councilman and state representative, along with Christopher Cox, Jody Rice-White and Zivka Wojtowicz. LeBlanc ran unopposed for his two elections as county commissioner.

The council race includes four incumbents, a former council member, a former school board member, previous unsuccessful candidates and newcomers.

Seeking reelection are incumbents James Godbout, Adam Hammons, Bill Johnson and Dewey Reeves.

Former mayor and councilman Charles Pickering and former councilman Dennis Le-

Maitre have both filed in the council race. So has former Wayne-Westland Board of Education member Debra Fowles, who resigned her seat on the Westland Civil Service Board to run.

Other candidates include: Steve Boron, a past Libertarian and Republican candidate for state representative; William Campbell, who ran unsuccessfully for council two years ago; and council watcher and Westland Disabilities Concerns member Judy McKinney.

Also running for council are Christopher Coldren, Kevin Miller and Peter Herzberg, who

is the cousin of Councilman Kevin Coleman.

At the August primary, voters will narrow the field for clerk to two candidates. In the council race, the top eight finishers — two per open seat — will move to the November ballot. The top three vote getters in November will earn four-year council terms with the fourth candidate being elected for two years.

Candidates had until 4 p.m. Friday to withdraw from the races.

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# No primary needed in Wayne city races

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Wayne voters won't have a primary election this summer as the ward voting system is implemented.

No more than the minimum two candidates filed to run for mayor or to fill three ward council seats and one at-large two-year term by the 4 p.m. Tuesday filing deadline.

Filing to run for a two-year term for mayor are Councilwoman Susan Rowe, who has two years left on her current council term, and Bob Boertje. A council member for 10 years, Rowe ran for mayor in 2011 against long-time mayor Al Haidous. Elected to the Wayne

County Commission in 2014, Haidous resigned as mayor with a year left on his term. Mayor pro tem James Hawley was appointed to replace Haidous. Hawley had announced last week that he would not be running for mayor.

Under the charter amendment approved by voters in 2014, council members are now to be elected from six wards. The candidates must live in the ward and, if elected, maintain residence in the ward.

With four-year council terms, half of the council would be up for election every municipal election. This time, wards 1, 2 and 3 have council members with expiring terms.

» In ward 1, Christopher Sanders was the only candidate to file.

» Ward 2 has only incumbent John Rhaesa, who is completing his first term. He has filed to run for the council seat.

» Incumbent Skip Monit, who is finishing a four-year term on council after 12 years on the Wayne-Westland school board, will run against Tom Porter.

Voters will also fill the two years remaining on the term of James Henley, who resigned. David James, who was appointed to fill the seat until the election, did not file to run for the partial at-large term.

Anthony Miller, who was appointed earlier

this year to fill Hawley's council seat, has filed to run for the partial two-year term. He will face Lucietta Miles.

Under provisions of the city charter, Hawley is able to return to his council seat, if he didn't run for mayor or wasn't elected. Should he resign the balance of his council term, which Hawley indicated was likely, council would then appoint someone to fill the vacancy until the next regular election.

Candidates had until 4 p.m. Friday to withdraw from races.

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# GreenFest draws a crowd at Detroit Zoo

ROYAL OAK — A week-end of events April 18-19 set aside to celebrate Earth Day and to educate the community about environmental stewardship drew families from throughout the metro area and Canada.

The GreenFest activities were spread throughout the Detroit Zoo, located at Woodward and 10 Mile Road in Royal Oak. Activities included cell phone recycling, earth-friendly crafts, an endangered species scavenger hunt, a 30-foot rock wall for climbing, yoga classes, local conservation groups and entertainment.

Zoo staff also held informative talks, science experiments and a green games gallery was sponsored by Vibe Credit Union.

GreenFest was an initiative of the Detroit Zoo Society Greenprint, a plan to improve daily practices and facilities, develop new policies and programs and improve green literacy in the community. In recognition of these continu-



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Mya Fernazes, 5, from Canton plays a drum.



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Cousins Emma Noe from Allen Park and Kristi Keilman from Livonia, both 4 years old, enjoyed the Detroit Zoo GreenFest.



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Families from all over Metro Detroit and Canada attended events at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak.

## WESTLAND OBSERVER

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## W-W's Albrecht receives Lexington Education Leadership Award Fellowship

A Wayne-Westland school official is going back to school as a member of the Lexington Institute's first ever Lexington Education Leadership Award Fellowship.

Assistant Superintendent John Albrecht is among 10 superintendents selected for a six-month program designed to expose them to personalized learning. The superintendents — who come from school districts in New Jersey, Minnesota, California, Iowa, Nebraska and Texas — will work together and with technical assistance providers to develop a strong vision and plan for implementing personalized learning in their districts.

The superintendents were chosen for the strength of their vision, the existence of key conditions for success and their passion to implement



Albrecht

WWCSD

personalized learning, according to the Lexington Institute, a nonprofit public policy think tank that focuses on education reform.

Through the fellowship more than 100,000 students and

10,000 teachers and leaders will experience learning intended to meet their needs.

"We are honored to work with such a distinguished group of leaders," said Don Soifer, executive director of the Lexington Institute. "It is wonderful to have the opportunity to support them as they transform their districts."

The LELA fellowship is an immersive experience to support each district's vision for personalized learning as well as resources to create a strategic framework for implementation. It kicks off May 7-8 in San Jose, Calif., with a specialized track at the Education Elements' National PL Summit. There will be school visits, access to district leaders in the field discussing their work, as well as key personalized learning thought leaders sharing

their perspectives.

The LELA Leaders will also receive technical assistance and strategic resources and support to develop a custom PL Framework and access to the online LELA Community of Practice forum. The fellowship will culminate with a celebration dinner and awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

LELA fellows will be paired up with experienced personalized learning mentors giving their time to support new superintendents to strategize and implement a successful roll-out.

Albrecht attended John Carroll University, the University of Toledo, Detroit College of Business and Eastern Michigan University where he received his bachelor of science degree in mathematics-secondary education and history. He

also received his master of arts degree in the art of teaching from Marygrove College.

He taught as a middle school and high school mathematics teacher in the Detroit Public Schools before joining Wayne-Westland in 1999 as a mathematics teacher at John Glenn High School. In 2002, he became an assistant principal at Glenn and moved to the principal post at Wayne Memorial in 2005. He became the executive director of student and legal affairs in 2008 and served in that capacity until School Superintendent Michele Harmala named him an assistant superintendent last August.

He is responsible for the supervision and development of instructional services, special education services and technology services.

## Westland, school district celebrate Earth Day

The City of Westland celebrated Earth Day on Wednesday at Elliot Elementary School.

At the annual event, Mayor William Wild planted trees with the "Tree Club" students from Elliot Elementary. Midwest Sanitation, the city's waste hauler, and the school district donated the two trees.

Wild also presented Mission: Green Eco-Award to three recipients for their work and dedication toward making

Westland a greener place to live, work and play.

An award was presented to the students of Elliot Elementary for their participation in the Earth Day events. Another was presented to Midwest Sanitation for the donation of the tree.

The last award was presented to Jamie Brotncher whose extraordinary recycling deeds at the local Starbucks were brought to the attention of the city.



WLND  
 Westland Mayor William Wild (center) joined Elliott Elementary School students, city officials and staff to celebrate Earth Day by planting two trees.

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All Day \$5 OFF Ride Tickets at [www.LivoniaAMRotary.org](http://www.LivoniaAMRotary.org)

[www.wadeshows.com](http://www.wadeshows.com)



# Life in Go! O&E spring expo is Monday

Workshops, exhibits, demonstration and free stuff are all part of the *Observer & Eccentric* 12th annual spring expo, Life in Go, set for 1-6 p.m. Monday in the VistaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

This annual tradition for active adults features a variety of demonstrations and workshops, local business exhibitors, prizes, free admission, free parking and free refreshments. Learn to live healthy, make wise financial decisions and enhance life to make it the best ever.

The first 100 attend-

ees will receive a Buddy's coupon for a free four-square pizza. In addition, there will also be drawings throughout the afternoon for other prizes.

The hourly gift drawings are sponsored in part by St. Mary Mercy Hospital. Refreshments are sponsored in part by Twisted Rooster. The 2015 spring expo tote bags are made possible in part by sponsors Crystal Creek Assisted Living, Centurion Services, Inc., and Twisted Rooster.

This year, 10 dynamic demonstrations and

workshops feature Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management, Dr. Sol Cogan of HealthQuest and HealthQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers of America and Colleen McDonald of Senior Helpers.

Bloom, *Observer & Eccentric* guest columnist and frequent metro Detroit radio and television guest, will discuss "How to Determine What You Will Need to Retire and Stay Retired." Cogan, CEO of HealthQuest and HealthQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers of America and the official team chiropractor of

the Detroit Lions, will speak on "New Technology in Pain Relief." McDonald, director of community relations for Senior Helpers and certified dementia trainer, will present "The Senior Gems: Alzheimer's and Dementia Care."

A special spring expo section was inserted into the April 23 edition of *Observer* and features articles, interests and resources for today's active adults. The special publication will feature participating local business exhibitors and detail all demonstrations and workshops.

Other speakers include:

» Health, Wealth and a Confident Retirement by Steven R. Swaggerty, Ameriprise Financial Klaska, Swaggerty & Associates.

» Understanding Memory Loss by Gerald E. Turlo, M.D., St. Mary Mercy.

» Emergency Preparedness by Arnold Wicker, Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Improving Communication With Aging Parents by Jean Borin, Home Instead Senior

Care.

» Social and Emotional Benefits of Art by Grace Karczewski, Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Healthy Smile for a Lifetime by Dr. Bruce Smoler, Smoler Institute of Implant Dentistry.

» Tai Chi by Michigan Tai Chi Association, sponsored by Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Buyer Beware by Felix Cruz of Cruz Hearing Aid Service. What hearing loss is and how to get it corrected.

## Livonia senior, 87, wins statewide volunteer award

By Karen Smith  
Staff Writer

Florence "Mae" Yeomans, a volunteer at the Civic Park Senior Center in Livonia, has received one of two statewide awards for senior citizens from the Michigan Recreation & Park Association (MRPA).

Yeomans was presented with the "Margaret Whitehead Senior Citizen of the Year" award for service on April 14 during a ceremony in Lansing. She received a four-day stay at the Grand Hotel for the MRPA "Grand Experience" program in October.

The award is named after Margaret Whitehead who established the first senior center in

Michigan and co-founded the Annual Senior Get-Together at Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel. Now known as the MRPA Grand Experience, the trip provides a unique travel program for more than 1,200 participants annually. The Senior of the Year Award was created in tribute to Whitehead's involvement and commitment to senior services.

Yeomans, 87, was nominated for the award by Karl W. Peters, program supervisor at the Civic Park Senior Center.

"Mae is an integral part of our volunteer staff here at the Civic Park Senior Center," Peters wrote in his letter of nomination. "We are not kidding when we say this place could not run

without her!"

Yeomans' main job is at the front desk, where Peters said she is in charge. "She is our first line of defense answering our phones, making daily bus transportation appointments, lunch reservations, day trip reservations, information and referral, directing people to classroom locations, welcoming new participants, checking off participants for classes and movies and transferring calls to staff, transportation, city hall, etc. Mae knows everything."

Yeomans works Thursday and Friday mornings but often stays into the afternoon to assist and also comes in any other day of the week she is needed.

She was nicknamed "Little Mae Peep" for escorting groups of more than 200 participants to the Detroit Tigers "Senior Days" baseball games each summer.

Yeomans also is treasurer of the City of Livonia Commission on Aging, treasurer of the "Go-Getter's" Saturday Social Group with more than 100 members, and a member of the Senior Celebration Committee sponsored by state Rep. Laura Cox.

In addition, she served on the S.C.A.N. (Senior Citizens Achievement Needs) Committee to purchase new senior center buses and works at city of Livonia elections, among other volunteer activities.

Yeomans said she was

thrilled and excited to receive the award, which she considers a great honor.

"I just never expected it," she said. "I come in here all the time because I love coming in here and seeing everybody. It just feels like family."

Yeomans has been volunteering at the senior center for at least 15 years. She has three children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The other "Margaret Whitehead Senior Citizen of the Year" award, which recognized leadership, went to Barth Bucciarelli of Dearborn Heights.



SUBMITTED

The Civic Park Senior Center in Livonia couldn't manage without Mae Yeomans, says the program supervisor.

ksmith@hometownlife.com  
248-309-7524  
Twitter: @KarenS87

### Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestras to hold auditions May 9

The Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestras are holding auditions by appointment on Saturday, May 9, at Madonna University in Livonia.

All six ensembles — which are composed of brass, woodwind, strings and percussion — are looking for new members of all ability levels throughout metro Detroit.

Rehearsals are each Saturday morning at Madonna starting in mid-September and running through mid-May. Performances in December and May are at the William F. Weber Performing Arts Center at Thurston High School in Redford.

Contact Peg Podnar to schedule an appointment at [pegmpod@gmail.com](mailto:pegmpod@gmail.com) or 313-387-0134. For more information, go to [www.lysom.org](http://www.lysom.org).

## Plan for the future

A retirement symposium you can't afford to miss.

Life in retirement can be truly fulfilling, but not without proper planning. The BLS Group is hosting an exciting retirement symposium featuring a panel of retirement and financial planning specialists who will share their latest research and recommendations to help you confidently plan for the next chapter of your life.

Learn more about the critical issues retirees are focused on today, including:

**Estate planning for seniors** – What an effective estate plan looks like and why it's important for you and your family.

**Fraud and older adults** – Exploitation of seniors is on the rise. Learn about steps you can take to help keep you and your family safe based off findings from Wayne State University's Institute of Gerontology.

**Wealth Management** – Liquidity, longevity and legacy.

**Quality of life during retirement** – Findings from the MIT AgeLab.

These events are free of charge and are offered as a two-part series. We suggest choosing one event on May 6 and one event on May 13 to cover the full range of important topics we will be addressing.

**Part I**  
**Wednesday, May 6**  
1:30 – 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

**Part II**  
**Wednesday, May 13**  
1:30 – 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

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The Magic Mirror, played by Colin Tracy, speaks while the audience members in the talk show react.

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## Franklin Players present 'The Ever After'

Franklin Players will present Nathan Hartswick's *The Ever After*, a one-act performance centered on a cheesy talk show host who invites traditional fairy tale characters who have been estranged for 20 years to reconcile on live television.

From Snow White and the Evil Queen to Cinderella and her middle-aged Ugly Stepsisters, this TV show parody asks the question: "Can't we all just get along?" The talk show is punctuated by questions from obnoxious studio audience members and infomercials for fairy-tale related products.

Even Jiminy Cricket, now an occupational

therapist and author of *My Life as Your Conscience*, makes a guest appearance to lend his professional opinion. Also featured are a trash-talking clairvoyant mirror, an unfortunate prince who is turning slowly back into a frog and many other wacky, fractured fairy tale bits.

Directed by Colleen Meyer and Steven Rice, *The Ever After* will be presented at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 1-2, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$5 at the door; general seating.

The production's student director is Bryan Gerathy, and the student stage manager is Rachel Corp.



Snow White, played by Elizabeth Cadotte, rehearses a scene with talk show host Helen Degenerate, played by Robyn Wilson.

SUBMITTED



Jiminy Cricket, played by Alex Meyer, Snow White, played by Elizabeth Cadotte and Cinderella, played by Olivia Lapage.

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## Delay retirement: Work longer, save more

**Q: Dear Rick:** I've done some research and I think I'm a candidate for a reverse mortgage. I've had a few conversations with different companies, but I want your opinion. I am 63 and I lost my job at the end of last year. I have a severance package that goes for another few months. I'm deciding whether I should just retire or look for another job. I am confident that I can get another job. My house is paid off; I have about \$350,000 between my IRA and 401(k). I figure that if I took Social Security now and did the reverse mortgage, that money along with my retirement money should be sufficient. I'm figuring a 4-percent withdrawal rate on my money. Should I retire or not?

**A:** I want to congratulate you on doing some research about reverse mortgages before you even thought of contacting a company. Job well done.

In reviewing your situation, I think it would be a mistake to retire. I base this on a number of issues. The first is the 4-percent withdrawal rate.

Back in the '80s, it



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

became the norm that when financial advisors were analyzing whether someone could retire or not, they looked at 4 percent as the withdrawal rate. In other words, if someone had \$100,000 for retirement, the safe way of withdrawal was \$4,000 a year. Many still apply that rule today. Unfortunately, I do not believe it works.

Think back to the 1980s, retirement was totally different than it is today. If nothing more, people are living longer, so the same withdrawal rate used then is not necessarily appropriate for today.

Another issue is rising costs. Back in the '80s, we had inflation. However, today there are different types of increased cost of living. In the '80s people didn't have to worry about cell phones, cable TV and the Internet. Those three items add substantial amounts to family expenses.

In addition, in the not-so-distant future there will be other types of changes that will no

doubt cost more.

You should continue to work to give yourself a much greater cushion in retirement. If nothing more, by working for a few more years, you're going to increase your Social Security benefit.

By delaying a reverse mortgage, you will actually be able to withdraw greater amounts out of the house than if you did it now.

Finally, by delaying retirement you will have the opportunity to continue to add to your retirement account and that portfolio will grow considerably. Getting a job for a number of years is a win-win in your situation.

When it comes to determining whether you can afford to retire, make sure you have a cushion. Someone who retires today may live another 30 years.

Therefore, if you have the opportunity to delay retirement and give yourself that needed cushion, take it.

Good luck.

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

## Montessori students march for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation



SUBMITTED

Approximately 120 children ages 3-6 participated in a Mini March for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation on April 19 on the grounds of the Livonia facility. Through fundraising efforts, the children raised approximately \$1,800.

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## Livonia Town Hall announces next season's speakers

Livonia Hall Lecture Series will begin its 52nd season this fall with the Lennon Sisters, the legendary vocal group known as "America's Sweethearts of Song," on Oct. 14.

The other speakers for the 2015-15 season are Robert Wittman, an

FBI Special Agent, on Nov. 18; Jan McInnis an established comedy writer and comedienne, on Jan. 20; and Robert John Scanlon, the Assistant Chief Florist at the White House, on March 16.

Season tickets, which include lecture and

lunch, are \$150 for regular seating and \$180 for priority seating.

They may be purchased by calling 734-420-0383.

Programs start at 10:30 a.m. and are held at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman Road, Livonia.

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# TEARS looks for teams to walk for babies

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Shari Bucher remembers walking into Children's Hospital with four Chais in her hand. She was taking them to Buddy and Shelby Shuh. But as she approached the room where the Shuh's daughter Bella was, Buddy Shuh walked out and told her that the infant had died.

"It was the most awkward moment," Bucher said. "If you haven't experienced such a loss, it can be awkward."

That experience has led the Livonia resident to become involved in the Michigan Chapter of the TEARS Foundation, which held a kick-off Tuesday for its third annual Rock and Walk fundraiser in September.

She admits she didn't know much about the chapter the first year but now knows "you can be involved and not have lost of a baby."

"You can come and partake, celebrate the babies and show you care," she said.

Buddy Shuh told his story of Bella in a book and on national TV as a contestant on *The Biggest Loser*. The latter interview attracted the attention of Sarah Slack, the founder of TEARS who approached Shuh to become president of the Michigan Chapter.

A national nonprofit, TEARS helps pay the funeral expenses for families who have lost a child between 20 weeks gestation and one year of age. The Rock and Walk helps raise money for Michigan families who have experienced such a loss.

"There are 800 infants lost in Wayne County each year; it's higher because of Children's Hospital," Shuh told the large crowd. "The Michigan chapter only helps



Shelby Shuh and Buddy Shuh talk about the loss of their daughter Bella.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Sisters Laurie Lazorka of Plymouth Cheryll LeBlanc of Westland and Debbie Chidester of Garden City will walk in honor of an older sister, Sandra Leigh Ferguson, who was stillborn.

SUE MASON

## ROCK AND WALK

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

**Location:** Plymouth Christian Academy, 43065 Joy, Canton.

**Details:** Early-bird registration is \$5 for those who register before Aug. 4. After that, registration will be \$10. Children age 12 and under are free. T-shirt order deadline is Aug. 11. Shirts will be available for pick up at the walk. A limited supply of non-personalized shirts will be available for purchase at the event.

**Contact:** For more information or to become involved with the Michigan Chapter of The TEARS Foundation, contact Buddy and Shelby Shuh at 734-765-7430 or MichiganWalk@thetearsfoundation.org.

people in Michigan."

## Friends and families

The event, which will be held from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Plymouth Christian Academy, 43065 Joy, Canton. The event will include opening and closing ceremonies and a balloon launch.

Parents will be able to cut out butterflies and write the names of their child on it. The butterflies will be placed on sticks and will create a path for people to walk. Rocking chairs will be placed inside the but-

terflies for parents to have quiet moment. The first lap will be a lap of hope for families, Shuh said. There also is a bouncer for children, food to eat and a silent auction.

"It's more of a memorial walk," Shuh said. "Families have found it incredibly healing. One day a year we get celebrate and say their name."

The first Rock and Walk raised \$4,000. Last year's event raised \$25,000. Shuh would like to double that and raise \$50,000. Families can

organize teams, and Shuh hopes each team member will raise \$200. However, fundraising isn't required. Families can just come and walk.

"We only want people who want to fundraise to fundraise," Shuh said. "If you want to come and walk, that's fine."

Shuh did the kick-off early for people to do fundraising and threw out examples. Last year, a team did a fundraiser at a bowling alley. They hoped to get \$200, but raised \$900, he said. He is planning a "big garage sale" for May 29-30 and asked for donations.

"I get nothing, TEARS gets everything," he said, adding that anyone who raises \$350 will get a TEARS hoodie.

Last year's walk had 14 teams, and by the time of this year's kick-off, there already were four-five teams signed up for this year.

Shuh also is looking for sponsorships. He'd really like to have 10 presenting sponsors donate \$1,000 each. In exchange, their name and logo will appear in the

Rock and Walk T-shirts. There's also gold (\$500), Silver (\$200) and bronze (\$100) sponsorships.

## Signing up

For families who don't want to form a team, Shuh invited them to join Team Belle. Sisters Laurie Lazorka of Plymouth Cheryl LeBlanc of Westland and Debbie Chidester of Garden City have been involved in Shuh's Buddy Up program. They signed up to be part of Team Bella, but will be walking in honor of an older sister, Sandra Leigh Ferguson, who was stillborn.

"We just lost our mom and dad a few years ago, this is an opportunity to celebrate family," LeBlanc said.

"Buddy has been very open about Bella," Chidester said. "He showed us a clip about why he gained weight. It was very, very emotional."

"He's very passionate about what he does and we thought it would be nice to do," Lazorka said.

Jodie Smith of Canton lost her son Justin in 1990. He was two months old when it was discovered he had been born with a heart defect. He

had heart surgery at age 3 months and did very well, but things changed and it was up and down for four weeks while he was at Children's Hospital.

She clearly remembers the time — 9:28 — and date — March 12 — that he died. The family marks the day as a celebration.

"TEARS has been absolutely amazing," she said. "Rock and Walk is a way to celebrate our babies. It's amazing to see family, friends and other people celebrate."

Shuh asked Smith to read the names during the opening ceremony. She thought it would be easy, but "every name I read, I cried. Saying the name is so important."

Shelby Shuh gets choked up when talking about Bella.

"Never in a million years did I dream I would have a baby and she would die," she said. "She would be 10 years old in September. TEARS is a way we can celebrate Bella. For us, TEARS is huge."

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# High school's annual USO dance honors Vietnam veterans

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

When Michele Anderson and her students staged their first USO dance for World War II veterans two years ago, there were more than 600 guests. Some 700 veterans showed up last year for a Korean USO dance.

A third dance will be held Wednesday, April 29, at John Glenn High School. It will honor Vietnam veterans and Anderson is anticipating an even larger number to attend.

"This started out as a one-year project and has morphed into something people look forward to," Anderson said. "I know the kids are excited. They come up to me and want to help."

The Wayne-Westland Vietnam USO Dance will start at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of the high school, 36105 Marquette, west of



Anderson

Wayne Road, Westland. The free event is open to the public - no reservations needed.

WJR-AM (760) radio personality Ryan Wooley will be the master of ceremonies. The evening will include recognition of Korean War veterans, including 25 veterans Anderson's sociology

students have interviewed as part of an ongoing oral history project. The high school music department, under the direction of Scott Cramer, will perform music of the 1960s and early 1970s.

Chef Tony Paquette and his culinary students from the William D. Ford Career Technical Center will provide food.

### 56 interviews

Anderson began the project two years ago with a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council. To date, students have interviewed 56 veterans, videotaping their recollections of the war in which they served. The interviews are being cataloged. They will be sent to the Library of Congress to be part of the nation's permanent cultural record.

"We have more veterans to interview; the word is getting out and

they're contacting me," she said.

The veterans have come from Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Canton, Highland Park, Whitmore Lake, West Bloomfield and Pinckney. A lot of them hooked up with Anderson and her students through their involvement in the VFW. Others are through their grandchild, while some are through word of mouth.

Sixty students have been involved in the interviews, working in three-person teams. The interviews take 60-90 minutes.

Anderson sees the dance as a welcome home for the veterans.

"There were no parades for them," she said. "They got off a plane and went back into their former lives," she said.

"Many told us they avoided mentioning they served because they didn't know what the

reaction would be."

Students also are making remembrance boards. They're researching veterans from Wayne County or family members. The board will be displayed in the hallway leading to the cafeteria as part of the welcome.

Also on display will be the Michigan Vietnam Traveling Memorial. It is patterned after the national Vietnam Memorial, but lists only the names of Michigan men and women who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

Anderson had hoped to have the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall at the dance, but was unable to get it.

"We even had Sen. (Carl) Levin writing letters," Anderson said. "It went to California instead."

### Grants help

Anderson has been able to pay for the event

with a \$500 grant from the Wayne-Westland Foundation and a \$2,000 Voya Financial Unsung Heroes Grant for Innovative Teaching Program that she and Cramer secured.

She believes her USO project is the only one of its kind in the country. It has brought her local, state and national recognition, including being named the 2014 National History Teacher of the Year award from HISTORRY® and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

Nothing is definite about next year's event, although Anderson hinted that it may be a reprise.

"We still have many Vietnam veterans we want to interview," she said.

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## American Legion Post 251 in Westland holding open house

The American Legion Post 251 in Westland is holding an open house Saturday, May 9, to expand their membership to better serve the veterans and their families in the area.

The open house is for all veterans and their families. It will be held at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Light refreshments will be served.

There will be an accredited state service officer on hand to help with VA benefits questions and/or claims. If a veteran's current VA claim has not been re-

viewed recently, this is a good time to do so because benefits change from time to time.

Any wartime veteran - regardless of location of service or gender - and their families are welcome to attend. There is no charge for this service. Bring your DD Form 214 or other proof of service with you.

Statewide, American Legion membership is nearly 80,000 with a national membership of nearly 2.5 million veterans from all wars.

The American Legion was chartered in Paris, France, in 1919.

The American Legion

eligibility dates are:

» Persian Gulf - Aug. 2, 1990, to present date.

» Panama - Dec. 20, 1989, to Jan. 31, 1990.

» Grenada and Lebanon - Aug. 24, 1982, to July 31, 1984.

» Vietnam War - Feb. 28, 1961, to May 7, 1975.

» Korean War - June 25, 1950, to Jan. 31, 1955.

» World War II - Dec. 7, 1941, to Dec. 31, 1946.

For more information, contact Bill Acton, post commander at 734-326-2607, 734-776-5491 or williamacton@aol.com, or Al Ford, chairman, post development, at 989-426-7188 or alford1933@ejourney.com.

## Livonia Symphony to hold final concert of season May 4

The Livonia Symphony Orchestra will close its 2014-15 season at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, with a concert dedicated to the memory of long-time symphony board member Olga Solovey, who died last year.

The concert, *Past Memories*, will feature pianist Ania Sorokhitei performing the Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, op. 58 by Beethoven. Other selections will include the *Melody* by Skoryk, *Symphony*

*No. 2 in C minor, op. 17* by Tchaikovsky and a grand finale of *The Great Gate of Kiev* by Musorgsky.

The concert will take place at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia.

Mrs. Solovey served as the liaison to the Ukrainian community.



SUBMITTED  
Sorokhitei

The concert is being sponsored by the family and friends of Olga Solovey, the Sutar-Sutaruk-Meyer Foundation and the Livonia Arts Commission.

Tickets are \$20. Student tickets are \$10. Group tickets of 10 or more are available for \$15 each by calling 313-538-2536.

Tickets are available at the Livonia Civic Center Library and at the door or online at [www.livonia-symphony.org](http://www.livonia-symphony.org)

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# Local student among those honored at Madonna University symposium

Six schools of study recognized

Songwriters and educators took the stage alongside forensic scientists and nurses April 14 as students across Madonna University's wide variety of academic programs were recognized for their achievements at university's first Symposium for Research, Scholarship and Creativity.

A total of 29 undergraduate and graduate students from across Madonna's six schools of study – including arts and humanities, business, education, nursing and health, science and math and social sciences – were honored for their contributions to their field.

"I'm so proud of the research presented by the students," said Dr. Phillip Olla, business professor and director of Madonna's Center for Research. "The results

from their research projects were insightful, valuable and very practical in nature. The winners of the Symposium awards must really be commended because it is extremely competitive with many of worthy projects involved."

Among students winning awards were education student Candice Abro of Canton; arts and humanities students Matt McIntosh and Allen Janowics, both of Bloomfield Hills; social sciences student Kelsey Taylor of Farmington Hills; arts and humanities students Anna Dreslinksi and Josh Yuhasz of Milford; social sciences student Morgan Dalrymple of Novi; arts and humanities student Carrick Secorski of Redford; arts and humanities student Darryn Montgomery and education student Alicia Armstrong, both of Westland.

Students receiving awards from Livonia include arts and human-



Morgan Dalrymple of Novi joins Dr. Karen Ross, Dean of the College of Social Sciences; Kelsey Taylor of Farmington Hills; Kayla Vogel of Hastings, and Dr. Phillip Olla, business professor and Director of the Center for Research. The students are recipients of Research and Scholarship Awards from the College of Social Sciences.

ities students Dean Olivia, Kyle McGrath, Paul Levinsky and Matthew Bleggi; education student Laura Rea; science and math student Catherine

Crombez and Juliann Knochel, who won the Graduate Dean's Scholarship Award. Other students winning awards were arts

and humanities students Kenneth Hobbs of Detroit; Morgan Lorkowski of Grosse Pointe Park; Nancy Boyd of Highland and Trevor Hamilton of

Wixom; Brighton resident and school of business student Katherine Alessio; education students Kristen Drabek of Newport and Hannah Faber of Grand Rapids; nursing and health students Jennifer Burgdorf of Taylor and Jaclyn Standing of Shelby Township; science and math student Lisa Hursin of Dearborn and social sciences student Kayla Vogel of Hastings.

According to Olla, Madonna University has become a beacon for community-focused research.

"The symposium was an excellent opportunity to showcase the efforts and community collaborations of both students and faculty at Madonna. The future of research, scholarship and creativity at Madonna is bright and we are embarking in exciting new territories in forensic sciences, health informatics, film production and entrepreneurship" Olla said.

## Detroit Institute of Arts is bringing art to Hines Park



A selection of art has been placed in Hines Park as part of the DIA's Inside/Out program.

Wayne County Parks is partnering with the Detroit Institute of Arts for the first time for the popular Inside/Out program, which brings high-quality reproductions of masterpieces from the DIA's collection to outdoor venues throughout the area. The Inside/Out program is sponsored by the Knight Foundation.

Eight reproductions – which include Vincent van Gogh's *Self Portrait* and *Seascape: Sunset* by Martin Johnson Heade – are placed throughout Hines Park from Nankin Mills Park in Westland to

Wilcox Lake in Plymouth. "We welcome the partnership with the Detroit Institute of Arts' Inside/Out program," Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans said. "The arts are a meaningful way of enriching the lives of county residents, and we are pleased to showcase these reproductions in Hines Park."

The locations of the reproductions are:  
 » Wilcox Lake, Hines Drive between Northville Road and Wilcox Road  
 » Gunsolly Mill Park, 13749 Hines Drive

» Plymouth Riverside Park, Hines Drive, west of Haggerty Road  
 » I-275 Metro Trail and Bike Path, Hines Drive between Newburgh and Haggerty  
 » Sumac Pointe, Hines Drive, west of Newburgh  
 » Stark Road Bridge, the corner of Stark and Hines Drive  
 » Nankin Lake, the Corner of Joy and Hines Drive  
 » Nankin Mills Park, Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail  
 "We are delighted at the continued success

and popularity of Inside/Out," DIA director Graham W. J. Beal said. "Thanks to the Knight Foundation's sponsorship, we are able to refresh the program and expand partnerships with metro Detroit community organizations." The reproductions will be available for viewing from now to July and are conveniently clustered within walking or bike-riding distance. For more information, call Wayne County Parks at 734-261-1990 or visit [www.parks.wayne-county.com](http://www.parks.wayne-county.com).

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# Taste Fest to feature eight venues

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

The fine art of dashing around town to sample food is coming back to Garden City with a new name and a new organizer.

The Garden City Business Alliance and Garden City Downtown Development Authority will roll out the first ever Garden City Taste Fest, a dinner on wheels, on Tuesday, May 19.

Participants will sample food at seven venues: Albert's on the Alley, Al Sultan Restaurant, Golden Feather, Garden City Cafe, Sports Venue Bar and Grill, Toast Family Dining, Plato's Place and Merriman Road Baptist Church, which will serve as the starting point for the evening.

"We know what good food we have around town, and we want to share it with people outside the community," Cheryl Partin said. "We see so many things going on in other communities; and when they do, people do come from outside. We want to do that. We want to attract people here."

A limited number of tickets will be available for the Taste Fest. They are actually T-shirts that list the restaurants and the gold, silver and platinum sponsors who have signed on to help the event. They cost \$20

each. Registration forms are available at [www.gardencitytastefest.com](http://www.gardencitytastefest.com) or [www.gctastefest.com](http://www.gctastefest.com).

The registration and payment must be received by the DDA by May 1. Participants will be able to pick up their T-shirts between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. May 15, 18, and 19 at the DDA office at 29213 Ford, just east of Middlebelt, or at Merriman Road Baptist Church.

The Taste Fest begins at 6 p.m. at the church located on Merriman just south of Ford, where participants will pick up an itinerary, enjoy a snack and entertainment, and then head off to the first restaurant on their list.

Diners will be able to drive to their destinations or ride school buses. Platinum sponsor Garden City Public Schools is providing the buses and drivers for the event.

There also will be ballot boxes at the different restaurants so diners can vote for their favorite establishment.

Garden City did have a Dine and Dash restaurant rally organized by the Garden City Chamber of Commerce. The last one was held in 2011 and the chamber suspended operations the next year.

The GCBA was started in August 2014 by Kerry Partin, host of



A limited number of tickets will be available for the Garden City Business Alliance and the Downtown Development Authority are serving hosted Taste Fest on May 19.

Garden City Community Chat, and Kelly Perkins of Guardian Martial Arts to create a support network for businesses.

It meets on the second Friday of the month at the Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriman, Garden City. The farmhouse, the home of the Garden City Historical Museum, will

receive a donation from the event's proceeds, according to Partin.

To help get the word out about the event, organizers also are using smart technology.

"We'll have table tents with QR codes at the seven restaurants," Partin said. "People can scan the codes with their

phones and register for the event. They did it in Canton and got most of their participants from there."

"This is a big deal. We hope to make this an annual event and to grow it larger each year," said Kerry Partin, GCBA president. "We want to start doing more with the

Garden Club and the DDA for families."

For more information about Taste Fest, call the Garden City DDA office at 734-261-2830 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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# Madonna group donates 40 care packages to kids at First Step

By Karen Smith  
Staff Writer

Forty children at a domestic-abuse shelter in Wayne will each receive a care package May 2 lovingly assembled by a group of Madonna University students and alumni who hope to change the course of the children's lives for the better.

Each care package – a colorful pillowcase sewed and donated by Nancy Lewis of Canton – is filled with a few new books, chalk, coloring book, crayons, notebook, pencil, ball and other games and activities children love. In addition, each contains a personalized card with encouraging words.

The care packages are part of Project DREAM, the response by Madonna



Madonna University KDP chapter members proudly display the books and other care package items that will be donated to children at First Step (from left): Abby Hull, secretary; Maggie Wunderlich, president; Susan LaFrance, treasurer; Helen Oziem, vice president; Diana Wilcox, counselor; and Rachel Datte, historian.

University's chapter of the education honor society, Kappa Delta Pi, to a KDP challenge to promote literacy in the community.

The group is also donating more than 1,000

books to Gompers Elementary School in Detroit. The care packages will go to children at First Step.

"It is our hope that the books in the care packages to First Step and the

book drive donations to Gompers Elementary will promote literacy that will inevitably change lives," said Maggie Wunderlich of Canton, president of the KDP chapter at Madonna.

Helen Oziem, the chapter's vice president, said members hope to create a lifelong love for reading in the children. "We want to engage young children in reading and create a love for reading that they will carry with them always," she said.

The Project DREAM care packages will be given to the children during a "Milk and Cookies Read-in" event in which KDP members will read to the children and help them make a craft.

The Project DREAM care packages were made financially possible through a KDP fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings in Livonia, as well as grants totaling \$1,000 received through Associates in Action from the Kohl's department store

on Ford Road in Canton.

Kohl's assistant manager, Ta'Janae Ford, was instrumental in helping KDP obtain the grants, Wunderlich said. "In addition to the monetary donation, five Kohl's employees graciously volunteered three hours of their time to help us create the personalized cards and put together the care packages," she said.

Wunderlich said the program began with a dream back in December after the group brainstormed ideas. "Now it's coming true," she said. "All of it was possible because of a collaboration between KDP members and others in the community who strive to make an impact on children."

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# Schoolcraft receives \$500 Meemic grant for book club

Schoolcraft College received a \$500 grant to support a new book club from the Meemic Foundation, a nonprofit organization created by the Meemic Insurance Co. Representatives were on hand to present the check and congratulate the recipients.

Joseph Miller, grant recipient, plans to use the funds to buy sets of graphic novels for a graphic novel book club program. The creation of this new book club and

its collection would allow the college to showcase award-winning, classic and acclaimed graphic novels at the library and subsequently host a monthly discussion during fall and winter semesters.

"Exceptional educators are always looking for new and creative ways to inspire their students and we want to make sure that financial concerns don't stand in the way of those ideas," said Pamela Harlin, ad-

ministrators for the Meemic Foundation. "The goal of Meemic Foundation grants is to provide the resources necessary for teachers to create a dynamic learning environment for students that not only educates the children but inspires them as well."



Grant recipient Joseph Miller (left) with Linda Wozniak of Shepard Insurance Agency.

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Location: Civic Center  
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Garden City, Michigan 48135

Date: April 29, 2015  
Wednesday

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Allyson M. Bettis  
City Clerk  
734-793-1620

Publish: April 26, 2015

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What are the circumstances that make a doctor decide to refer a patient to a specialist?

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- needing another doctor's experience in treatment
- recognizing the patient's problem requires a specialist

An example of wanting confirmation is a patient with a painful foot. The physician believes the problem is not arthritis, but results from a damaged nerve. Referral to a neurologist to confirm the neuritis is in order.

An instance of needing another doctor's expertise comes up often in my field. I see patients with wrist pain that is not the result of arthritis, gout or fracture, but reflect strain on the ligaments holding the small bones of the wrist together. The patient will not benefit from pills or an injection. The patient needs a brace, cast or splint that will rest the wrist.

I have little experience in prescribing such therapy. However, hand doctors have a great deal of expertise in using splints and braces for injured wrists. A referral to a hand doctor is in the patient's best interest.

Sending a patient whose painful hands result from uncontrolled diabetes to an endocrinologist is an example of referral to a specialist. The endocrinologist can bring the diabetes under control and educate the patient on how to control his blood sugar more rapidly and completely than I, a rheumatologist, could do.

A patient may feel pushed about and upset having to go from doctor to doctor, but the intent is to expedite care, not prolong it.

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# Credit Union continues support of LPS Education Foundation

The LPS Education Foundation's Competitive Edge college savings program would not exist without support from Livonia Public Schools employees, PTAs, PTSAs, citizens and corporate donors such as DFCU Financial.

DFCU Financial has continued its long-term support of the LPS Education Foundation with a \$10,000 donation as part of its 10-year, \$100,000 commitment to the Foundation, a nonprofit organization that benefits Livonia Public Schools students, staff and families. The donation marks the eighth year of this commitment. LPS Education Foundation President Diane Policelli couldn't be more grateful.

"Their support has made a significant impact on our premiere program, the Competitive Edge College Savings Plan, which now

funds college savings accounts for more than 1,400 LPS students," Policelli said.

The unique Competitive Edge program offers a 529 educational trust account for families of kindergarten students who enroll in the program. The LPS Education Foundation contributes \$100 on behalf of each student. Additional annual contributions are made by the Foundation as the budgets allow.

DFCU Financial supports the notion of giving families a "competitive edge" in college savings planning and promoting financial well-being at a young age.

"Financial literacy is important to our organization, so anything we can do to support that, as students are still learning, makes sense," said Peggy Richard, director of public relations for DFCU.

She notes that the

contribution to the LPS Education Foundation is part of the DFCU's \$500,000 commitment, over a 10-year period, to educational foundations all around Michigan.

"We really put our money where our mouth is," Richard said. "Many foundations are using the funds for math programs and literacy, so it ties perfectly. It makes sense for a financial institution to support education and help children to have successful futures."

DFCU Financial is a founding partner of the LPS Education Foundation.

"We are so grateful for their ongoing support that has been such a tremendous benefit to our students, families and our community," Policelli said.

To learn more about the LPS Education Foundation or its Competitive Edge program, visit [lpsfoundation.org](http://lpsfoundation.org).



LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Smiling students in Michelle Adams' kindergarten class at Buchanan Elementary were joined by, from left, Mark Shobe, DFCU president and CEO; Michelle Adams, Buchanan Elementary kindergarten teacher; Theresa Aquino, DFCU vice president, Livonia branch manager; Patricia Kornlyo, DFCU senior member relations representative and LPS Education Foundation Board of Directors member; Diane Policelli, LPS Education Foundation president; Laura Carino, principal, Buchanan Elementary; and Dr. Randy Liepa, Livonia Public Schools superintendent.

## Winners announced in Three Cities art exhibit

A charcoal drawing by a Southfield artist won the Wild about Art Award at the recent Three Cities Art Club open Call for Artist exhibit at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.

Westland Councilman Dewey Reeves was on hand at the Art and Appetizer reception the Wild About Art Award to Susan Perrish of Southfield whose work *Grace*. The charcoal drawing was done from an old photo and was selected by Mayor William Wild who continued his tradition of donating a \$100 prize for the artist who created his favorite.

Edee Joppich of Farmington Hills was the

juror who chose the art on display from the entries submitted. She also chose the top three with two honorable mentions in two categories: drawings/paintings and photography.

The winners in the drawing/painting category were:

- » David Lamb of Canton, first place, for his oil painting *N2245H*.
- » Sue Mallick of Livonia, second place for her mixed media painting *Thin Red Line*.
- » Robert Perrish of Southfield, third place, for his acrylic painting *Loves to Draw*.
- » Marilyn Meredith of Canton, honorable mention, for her mixed media

*Seashell on the Seashore*.

» Kay Masini of Plymouth, honorable mention, for her acrylic *Together*.

The winners in photography were:

- » Aileen Mozug of Livonia, first place, for her photo *Bicycle Shadow*.
- » John Widman of Southfield, second place, for his photo *Trees and Tresses*.
- » Dena Warren of Dearborn, third place, for her photo *Water Power*.
- » David Laurence of Livonia, honorable mention, for his photo *Freighter Buffalo*.
- » Allen Brooks of Livonia, honorable mention, for his photo *Simple*

*Life*.

The top three in each category won a cash prize and the honorable mention winners received gift certificates donated by D & M Art Studio of Canton.

Most of those who viewed the art also entered the Popular Vote Drawing by voting for their three favorite works of art. Their vote entered them in a drawing for an original drawing done in pastels and colored pencil donated by Canton artist Ronald J. Warunek.

Some people put more than three as their favorites because it was just too hard to narrow it down.

"The paintings and photography are all wonderful," Teresa Chase of Westland said. "Each piece speaks to your personal experience ... a wonderful exhibit."

"I'm so glad to have you at the library, I al-



WLND

Susan Perrish of Southfield's charcoal drawing "Grace" won the Wild About Art Award at the recent Three Cities Art Show at the Westland library.

ways enjoy your artist's display and variety," Diane Mehl said.

The winner of the Popular Vote drawing was Don Graham of Westland. Perrish's charcoal drawing received the most votes in the Popular Vote competition. She received a set of Mission Watercolors donated by Martin F. Weber Co.

In addition to exhibition art, many guests took home items from the TCAC "Gift Shop." Hand-

carved classic antique cars by award winning artist David Lamb were among the variety of bargain items.

Support for the show was provided by the City of Westland, Westland Rotary Club, Westland Chamber of Commerce, library staff and those of Westland Mall have been instrumental in bringing both the spring Library Exhibition and the fall Festival of the Arts at the Westland Mall.

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

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:**

A public accuracy test of the election software and tabulation equipment will be held at 3:00 P.M., on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan.

The accuracy test will be conducted for the **STATE SPECIAL ELECTION** to be held on **TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015**, in the City of Livonia.

SUSAN A. HOFF, CITY CLERK

Publish: Sunday, April 26, 2015

LO-000229358 3X2

### CITY OF LIVONIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL FOR CITY OF LIVONIA FIVE (5) YEAR SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia, Michigan, as owner until 2:00 p.m. on May 29, 2015 at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154, at which time said proposals will be opened and publicly read.

The City of Livonia seeks proposals for the following:

**SOLID WASTE PROGRAM**

Instructions to bidders and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info)

Proposals must be submitted on the forms found on the MITN website. All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the name of the proposal, the name of the bidder, and be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154. All addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities in bids.

Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Kevin L. Maillard, P.E.  
Director of Public Works  
Jack E. Kirksey  
Mayor, City of Livonia

Publish: April 26, 2015

LO-000240353 3x4.5

### CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

**AGENDA**  
**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
**May 12, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Livonia City Hall - Gallery (5th Floor)**  
**33000 Civic Center Drive**  
**Livonia, MI**  
**(734) 466-2259**

**APPEAL CASE 2015-05-17:** Thomas Trudgeon, east side of Merriman, (14478) between Lyndon and Perth, seeking to install a six foot tall vinyl privacy fence upon a corner lot, resulting in excess fence height, also, fence extends into the side yard, which is not allowed.

**APPEAL CASE 2015-05-18:** Sharon Engel, south side of Norfolk, (31789) between Parker and Osmus, seeking to construct an addition to an attached garage, resulting in deficient west side yard and combined side yard setbacks.

**APPEAL CASE 2015-05-20:** John Gauci, east side of Milburn, (20500) between Eight Mile and Fargo, seeking to construct a detached garage while maintaining an attached garage, resulting in excess number of garages and garage area.

**APPEAL CASE 2015-05-22:** Mike and Michelle Campbell, west side of Southampton, (16143) between Oakdale and Southampton Court, seeking to replace a detached carport with a detached garage, located in the front yard, which is not allowed.

**APPEAL CASE 2015-05-23:** Livcom, LLC, 9986 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63122, on behalf of Lessee Party City, west side of Middlebelt, (13477) between Schoolcraft and Industrial, seeking to erect a wall sign, resulting in excess wall sign area.

**APPEAL CASE 2015-05-24:** Martin Plaza Group, 1715 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI 48135, on behalf of Lessee Nails by Janan, east side of Middlebelt, (19580) between St. Martins and Vassar, seeking to erect a new tenant identification wall sign, resulting in excess 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: April 26, 2015

LO-000240352 3x4.5

### CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, Westland, MI 48186, on **May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

JEFFERSON BARNS COMMUNITY CENTER - HVAC IMPROVEMENTS

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

This project is a federally funded; Davis Bacon Prevailing wages will apply.

Devin J. Adams  
City Controller

Publish: April 23rd, 2015

LO-000240170 3x2

### CITY OF GARDEN CITY Notice of Election

To the Qualified Electors of the City of Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan:

Notice is hereby given that the Special Election will be held in the City of Garden City on, **Tuesday, May 5, 2015**

From 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the regular polling places. The following proposal will be voted upon:

**PROPOSAL 15-1**

A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6% to 7% to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposed by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

The places of voting for the Special Election to be held on May 5, 2015 will be as follows:

Precinct	Yes	No
Precinct 1	Farmington School 33411 Marquette	
Precinct 2	Memorial School 30001 Marquette	
Precinct 3	Lathers School 28351 Marquette	
Precinct 4	Lathers School 28351 Marquette	
Precinct 5	Memorial School 30001 Marquette	
Precinct 6	Farmington School 33411 Marquette	
Precinct 7	Maplewood Center 31735 Maplewood	
Precinct 8	Henry Ruff School 30300 Maplewood	
Precinct 9	Civic Center 6000 Middlebelt	
Precinct 10	Douglas School 6400 Hartel	

All polling places are handicapper accessible. If you anticipate difficulties at your normal polling place please phone the City Clerk's office to arrange an alternate location. Absentee Ballots for this Election are available at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, through 4:00 P.M., Monday, May 4, 2015, to anyone who meets one of the following requirements: Electors age 60 or older; Electors who expect to be absent from Garden City the entire time the polls are open on Election Day; Electors who are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another; Electors who cannot attend the polls due to tenets of their religion; or Electors who are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial. Furthermore, any voter who requires assistance to vote by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write may be given assistance by a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union.

In addition to our regular hours, the City Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the sole purpose of absentee voting.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN

Publish: April 26, 2015

LO-000239535 3x4



# Awareness Week helps Ladywood students learn to avoid making destructive decisions

Ladywood High School's Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Club and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Club worked throughout Awareness Week on April 13-17 to promote healthy lifestyle choices and prevent substance abuse.

The Livonia school celebrated Red and Yellow Ribbon Week by participating in a different activity each day. Monday opened up with a dress-down day in Detroit Tigers apparel and colors. This was in honor of the Tigers' successful "Strike Out Bullying" program.

On Tuesday, Joshua

Clark and Angel Harris presented at a school assembly on behalf of the Mothers Against Drunk Driving campaign. Clark spoke about his near-death experience after being hit by a drunk driver.

Junior Rachel Hendrickson was touched by the presentation. "Both Josh and Angel's words of wisdom helped educate everyone on how to make more responsible choices, because each decision you make could change another person's life forever," Hendrickson said.

The rest of the week included an ice cream social, the distribution of

red and yellow ribbons, "Ghost Day" and dress-down days for \$1 donations. All donations received from the week were given to *Blessings in a Backpack*, a program that helps feed hungry children in Michigan.

Awareness Week activities were organized by Ladywood's counseling staff of Caryn McCarthy-Epps, Susan LeVasseur and Charlotte Fulkerson, and Mathematics Teacher Amber Kirvan. McCarthy-Epps summed up the committee's goals: "Promoting healthy lifestyle choices and preventing substance abuse: Isn't that what really matters?"



SUBMITTED

Monday opened up with a dress-down day in Detroit Tigers apparel and colors in honor of the Tigers' "Strike Out Bullying" program.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar runs in the *Observer* as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email address is: [ksmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:ksmith@hometownlife.com).

### LIFE IN GO SPRING EXPO

**Time/date:** 1-6 p.m. Monday, April 27.

**Location:** VisTaTech Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia.

**Details:** The *Observer* & *Eccentric's* 12th annual spring expo for active adults, Life in Go, features a variety of demonstrations and workshops, local business exhibitors, prizes and refreshments. Learn to live healthy, make wise financial decisions and enhance life to make it the best ever. Admission, parking and refreshment are all free. The first 100 attendees will receive a Buddy's pizza coupon for a free four-square pizza. In addition, there will also be drawings throughout the afternoon for other prizes.

### BLOOD DRIVE

**Time/date:** 1-7 p.m. Monday, April 27.

**Location:** Monaghan Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington

Road, Livonia.

**Details:** All blood donors who attempt to donate will have the opportunity to win a \$100 Meijer gift card. Gourmet desserts will be served.

**Contact:** 313-670-8861; [www.miblood.org](http://www.miblood.org).

### MICHIGAN TREASURE HUNTERS OPEN HOUSE

**Time/date:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28.

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

**Details:** The Michigan Treasure Hunters will hold its annual open house. There will be a detector raffle, along with coin raffles, and refreshments. Members will display their finds and demonstrate the art of using and learning the detectors and equipment.

**Contact:** [marcisbranton195@gmail.com](mailto:marcisbranton195@gmail.com).

### THERAPY CHOIRS OF MICHIGAN SINGING SHOW

**Time/date:** 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 29.

**Location:** Woodhaven Retirement Community, 29667 Wentworth St., Livonia.

**Details:** The nonprofit Therapy

Choirs of Michigan comprised of people with special needs will present a Singing Show. The public is invited. Free admission.

**Contact:** Len McCulloch, 248-933-4112.

### RUMMAGE SALE

**Time/date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30; 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 1; and 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 2.

**Location:** Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

**Details:** Thursday is the preview sale. Admission is \$2 to shop a day early. Saturday, prices will be half off, and a bag (provided) of merchandise is \$3. The rummage sale benefits charitable organizations.

### COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

**Time/date:** April 30-May 10.

**Location:** Sears parking lot, corner of Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads, Livonia.

**Details:** The Livonia A.M. Rotary will hold its annual community carnival to raise money for its many programs supporting the community. Enjoy rides, games and old-fashioned carnival food. Log onto [www.livoniaAMrotary.org](http://www.livoniaAMrotary.org) before midnight April 29 to save

on ride armbands.

### PETER RABBIT'S ADVENTURE

**Time/date:** 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2.

**Location:** Greenmead Historical Park, Eight Mile and Newburgh roads, Livonia.

**Details:** Storyteller Nancy Klein will bring the story of Peter Rabbit to life for children ages 3-7. In addition to the reading, children will set off on an adventure through the village, following the footpath of the mischievous rabbit. The journey will end at the Meeting House, and each child will enjoy a sack lunch with beverage. Children will also receive a Peter Rabbit gift to take home. Space is limited; all tickets sold in advance. Cost is \$7 per child.

**Contact:** 248-477-7375.

### WORLD LABYRINTH DAY

**Time/date:** Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 2.

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

**Details:** The community is invited to "Walk As One" in observance of World Labyrinth Day. The church's beautiful

paved, 11-circuit medieval labyrinth is open to the public. Staff will be on hand to facilitate group walks, provide information and answer questions about labyrinths and their use in meditation and prayer. Weather permitting, a canvas, three-circuit labyrinth will be available for younger children.

**Contact:** Lunice Clay, 734-748-3493.

### INSIDE '50S PICNIC DANCE

**Time/date:** 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, May 9.

**Location:** St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford.

**Details:** Doo Wop Dan & The Fonz present an Inside '50s Picnic Dance including Showcasemen and the Mello's. Cost is \$20. Coney dogs, burgers, salads, baked beans, dessert, beer, BYOB and mix. Includes 50-50 drawings. Benefits the Knights of Columbus St Paul Council 2632, which is based at St. Robert Bellarmine.

**Contact:** Doo Wop Dan, 734-260-4368; Fonz, 734-744-4233.

### 3D PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB MEETING

**Time/date:** 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13.

**Location:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Learn how to make your own 3D pictures. Meetings include a 3D program, refreshment break, and a competition among members. Stereo cameras, 3D movies and educational videos are available for members to rent. The program for the meeting will be a presentation on how to produce your own Phantograms, those fascinating 3D images that seem to stand up above the surface of the photo. An "open" club competition will conclude the evening's events. The meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome.

**Contact:** [www.Detroit3D.org](http://www.Detroit3D.org), or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

### SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

**Time/date:** 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 19.

**Location:** New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, Redford.

**Details:** All you can eat cold and hot salads, plus rolls and beverage. Cost is \$7, \$5 for teachers and educators who can go to the front of the line if on their lunch hour. Boutique and bake sale, too.

**Contact:** 313-255-6330.

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All information contained herein was accurate at the time of publication. In order to maintain the high degree of quality and incorporate management with greater flexibility and economy, we reserve the right to make changes in price, specifications, materials, or to change or discontinue models without notice or obligation. Floor plan dimensions are approximate. © Alexander Bogaerts & Associates 2003.



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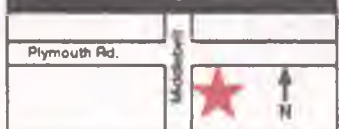
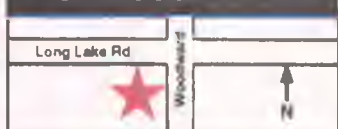
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# SPORTS

SECTION B (WGRL)

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2015  
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA  
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ED WRIGHT, EDITOR, EWRIGHT@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM, 734-578-2767

## LIVONIA CITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

# Stevenson scrambles to victory

Spartans take three of four events to edge Chargers and Patriots

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Following a week of brutal weather, the sky was a cloudless Livonia Stevenson blue Friday afternoon – a lot like the top of the standings at the Livonia Boys' Golf City Tournament at Fox Creek Golf Course.

The host Spartans earned first-place points in three of

the four formats – scramble, alternate shot, best ball and medal – to compile 10 points, two more than runner-up Churchill. Franklin placed third with six.

Teams were awarded three points for winning a format, two for second and one for third.

Stevenson's duo of Hyder

See GOLF, Page B2



Members of the Livonia Stevenson golf team posed with the Livonia City Tournament trophy following Friday afternoon's mixed-format tournament.

## MU spikers add recruit

Madonna University women's volleyball coach Jerry Abraham recently added a seventh piece to his 2015 recruiting class by signing Macomb Community College transfer Karie Kelly, who as a freshman earned All-Michigan Community Collegiate Athletic Association and All-NJCAA Region 12 honors.

The Romeo grad, a 6-foot outside hitter, joins former high school teammates Lauren Korth and Deanna Krumholz, both whom were members of the Bulldogs 2014 MHSAA Class A championship team, along with fellow junior college standouts Miranda Fuerst (Oakland CC) and Nicole Oestrike (Flint Mott CC).

Rounding out Abraham's class are freshman signees Nicole Chestnut (Auckland, New Zealand) and Taylor Surmeyer (Farmington High).

## Burns gains 'Fame'

Northville native and Livonia Ladywood graduate Alexandra Burns will be inducted June 8 into the Detroit Catholic League Hall of Fame.

The senior attack player on the Aquinas College women's lacrosse squad leads the 8-10 Saints this season with 58 goals and 14 assists.

During her career so far at Aquinas, Burns has racked up 230 goals, 101 assists and 331 points, while earning National Women's Lacrosse League All-American and All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference honors three times (2013, 2014 and 2015).

She was also the WHAC Offensive Player of the Year in 2015 and earned NWLL Offensive Player of the Year in 2013. She was also named all-tournament in 2013 and 2014.

Burns owns two school records, one WHAC record and one NWLL record.

## MU soccer signs quartet

Madonna University men's soccer coach Mark Zathe recently announced the signing of five players for the 2015 season including Garden City's Nico Gonzalez (Allen Park Cabrini, Mark Lupenec (Macomb Dakota), Stuart Russ (Auburn Hills Avondale), Felipe Lupion (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and Godfrey Mung'asia (Nairobi, Kenya).

## FunStart Tennis

The Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will be offering FunStart Tennis introductory classes for kids between the ages of 6 and 10 at Bicentennial Park beginning June 15.

Each of the six lessons in Session I, which will be held June 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 and July 1, will run 55 minutes. A second session will be offered July 6-22.

The fee for one six-lesson session is \$78 for Livonia residents and \$88 for non-residents.

The classes are structured to teach participants the sport's fundamentals and gets them on the court right away. Tennis concepts, terminology and skills are incorporated with games like Zoo, Four Corner Relay, Silly Tennis and Rallyball.

For more information, call 734-466-2410.

## LIVONIA CITY TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS



A trio of hurdlers battle stride-for-stride for all-important points during the girls 100-meter lows race Friday afternoon at Franklin.

ED WRIGHT



All three teams were in the hunt early on in the 3,200-meter relay, which was ultimately won by Churchill.

ED WRIGHT

## CHARGED UP!

Churchill claims boys and girls crowns

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

If the Livonia Churchill boys and girls track and field teams' point totals were kept in a cash register Friday afternoon, the sounds of chaching would have been echoing throughout the Livonia Franklin athletic stadium.

Both Churchill squads tallied double-digit points in each of the six categories –

sprints, distance, hurdles, relays, throwing and jumping – to win the annual Livonia City Meet by comfortable margins.

The Charger boys tallied 100.5 points to oust defending champion Livonia Stevenson (81), Franklin (44.5) and Clarenceville (12).

Fueled by 39 points from its distance contingent, the Lady Chargers piled up 126 points to double-up runner-up Franklin (62) and run away from Stevenson (33) and the

See CITY MEET, Page B2

## HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

# Garden City squeezes out seventh-inning win

Dramatic late run – the difference against Stevenson

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

You can call it a squeeze-off, a bunt-off, a slide-off or a walk-off – just don't forget to call Garden City's 2-1 victory Friday night over visiting Livonia Stevenson exciting.

In the first game of a non-conference doubleheader that never lacked for drama, sharp pitching or jaw-dropping defensive plays – especially Stevenson shortstop

Kassidy Lipinski's 360-degree turn on a fifth-inning double play – the Cougars prevailed when Kelsie Powell's one-out squeeze bunt scored pinch runner Lauren Risner from third with the game-winner.

The final play at the plate resembled a one-on-one game of Twister as Risner reached over Spartan catcher Claire Sandau, who did her best to block the plate.

While Sandau secured the ball in her mitt momentarily, the umpire ruled she lost her grip on the sphere just as Risner slid home.

Risner was running for

See SOFTBALL, Page B2



Garden City pinch-runner Lauren Risner scores the game-winning run after the umpire ruled Stevenson catcher Claire Sandau momentarily lost control of the ball during the bottom of the seventh inning.

ED WRIGHT

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HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

# Pats' earn eye-opening draws vs. 'Park' foes



Franklin goal-keeper Kathryn MacRae, pictured during a game earlier this season, made two phenomenal saves to preserve Tuesday's 0-0 draw.

## Garden City blanks Harrison, Thurston

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Scoring against Livonia Franklin's girls soccer team this week was about as difficult as getting a sun tan. The Patriots' defense blanked Canton on Tuesday and Plymouth on Thursday while settling for 0-0 draws. As ties go, Tuesday's 0-0 deadlock with Canton would be listed under the "monumental" category for the Patriots. Following at least eight years of setbacks against the Chiefs, Franklin rose to the occasion in the KLAA South

Division clash played in frigid conditions. "The girls played their hearts out," said Franklin head coach Dean Kowalski, whose team is now 2-5-1. "It was a total team effort to get the draw. "The back line of Morgan Justice, Riley Burnette, Sara Cable and Bailey Elliott were outstanding and our keeper, Kathryn MacRae, was stellar in net, getting her first shutout of the season." The state-ranked Chiefs picked up the pressure in the closing minutes, but the Patriots held firm thanks to a cou-

ple ESPN Sportscenter saves by MacRae, who re-directed a free kick from roughly 25 yards out over the cross-bar before making an amazing fingertip stop on a point-blank Canton effort in the waning moments. Kowalski also praised the efforts of Isabella Yardley, Riley Hawley and Madison Keen, who "were tough and showed grit, and helped us grind out a result." Although the Patriots didn't crack the scoring column, Rachel Dudek played tough up top, keeping the Chiefs' defense honest, Kowalski concluded.

**GC back to .500**  
The Cougars shut out Redford Thurston, 8-0, on Wednesday before stifling Farmington Hills Harrison, 1-0, on Friday. Lindsay Yankasky scored the game's lone goal on Friday while Hope Pickens earned the win, making a game-saving stop in the second half to divert a Harrison break-away opportunity. The pair of victories evened the Cougars' ledger at 4-4-1. Goal-scorers for GC against the Eagles were Alyssa Hurley, Chelsea Booker, Gabby Castillo, Alex Sherlock (two), Brooke Collins, Skyler Clendenning and Yankasky.

ewright@hometownlife.com

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

# 'WIN' CHILL

## Sophomore's first goal, lock-down defense lifts Churchill over Canton

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

A needle-threading crossing pass into the teeth of a bone-chilling cross wind ignited a potential season-making victory Thursday night for Livonia Churchill's girls soccer team.



Churchill defender Sylvia Cervantes makes a strong run during Thursday's victory over Canton.

Playing in weather conditions better suited for pond hockey on a grassy pitch none of the current Chargers could ever remember winning on, sophomore forward Alexis Staff used her shin to one-time a sweet feed from Sara Taylor into the highest corner of the right side of the net for the only goal in the visitors' 1-0 triumph over host Canton.



Churchill sophomore Alexis Staff (second from right) is congratulated by teammates after scoring the only goal in Thursday's 1-0 victory over Canton.

The Chargers' execution leading up to the assist was something out of a how-to-play-soccer textbook, including Lauren Wynns' pass to Taylor, who was streaking down the right sideline.

"Lauren, Sara and I connected really well on that play," said Staff. "Once I saw Lauren pass the ball to Sara, I knew I had to make a run in the box. It was my first varsity goal, and this was a big rivalry game, so it felt pretty good when I saw it go in."

"As it was playing out, I said this will be the goal of the year if she scores," recounted Churchill head coach Reid Friedrichs, whose team improved to 6-2-2 overall and 3-1-1 in the KLAA South Division. "It was the most beautiful combination. There were two give-and-gos to set it up, we played it wide, crossed it and Lexie did an amazing job because the ball was behind her a little bit and she had to twist back in the air to get it."

"A couple of my players said they've never won on this field, so this was a great win. That was the best team defense I've seen us play. We defended pretty much the entire first 20 minutes because Canton was kicking our butt, but we kept fighting hard. I made a lot of substitutions the first 20 minutes, which I think made a difference because we had more energy at the end."

The Chiefs' most dangerous threat of the night unfolded in the eighth minute when sophomore forward Hannah Lapko broke free about 25 yards out, but a three-way collision just inside the 18-yard box between Lapko, Churchill goal-keeper Brittney Hayes and Charger

defender Sylvia Cervantes defused the opportunity. Canton senior captain Chloe Donlin earned a solid look at the net when she stepped in front of a Churchill clearing pass 20 yards out, but her well-struck shot was right at Hayes, who secured the sizzling sphere with both hands.

Cervantes, Hannah Damico and Liz Rubenson spearheaded the Chargers' defensive effort that ultimately left the Chiefs goal-less for the second consecutive game.

After Staff's goal with 9:20 left in the first half, Churchill kept the heat on - figuratively, at least, given the wind chill hovered around the 25-degree mark most of the night.

With senior Erin Emmanuel running the show in the middle and Wynns making a series of strong runs down the flanks, Churchill won the possession battle over the final 40 minutes, but it didn't create a ton of scoring chances against Canton keeper Jordan Anheuser.

With 22 minutes to play, Wynns fed a cutting Taylor, but the strong-legged sophomore couldn't quite strike the ball

cleanly enough from 16 yards out to make life more than semi-difficult for Anheuser, who easily corralled the rolling shot.

### Spartans roll

On Tuesday at South Lyon, Livonia Stevenson stymied the Lions 5-0 in a game that was scoreless at the half. The result left Stevenson with a 3-3-3 overall mark and 1-2-1 record in the KLAA Central Division.

Audrey Kopitz got the ball rolling for the winners with the contest's first two goals in the second half. Paige Ackman, Sari Rakowicz and Alia Baserbie also scored, while Ackman and Baserbie added assists.

Hannah Reamer and Jess Schoenfeldt shared time between the pipes to earn the shutout.

### Warriors victorious

Lutheran Westland upped its record to 2-0-1 overall and 1-0-1 in the MIAC Tuesday by upending host Lutheran South, 8-0.

Junior Lydia Cardenas lit the scoring fuse for the winners thanks to an assist from junior Mara McMahon, who racked up a pair of helpers in addition to two goals.

Samantha Brenner added two goals and an assist while Cardenas tacked on the final goal of the first stanza.

Junior Kayleigh Goodfellow made her presence felt in the second half by registering a goal and an assist, while freshman Rachel Urso recorded a net-finder.

Goodfellow and Cardenas combined for the shutout.

"We had a few players missing due to illness, so we had to make changes to our lineup," noted LW head coach Sara Schafer. "Our defense was solid with junior Bethany Hoehne, junior Taylor Jones, sophomore Becca Gembariski and senior Sadie Schultz."

## CITY MEET

Continued from Page B1

### Trojans (7).

"Ultimately, we did not get enough first places and Churchill's depth was too much for us," Franklin girls head coach Dave Bjorklund said. "In many events, we were only scoring one or two places and they were consistently scoring three places."

"I am proud of a lot of our girls. Aubrey Mavin figured in four first places. Our 400-meter and 1,600-meter relays did a great job. Julie Wonch had her best day at the high jump in her career (5 feet, 2 inches). We also had a lots of PRs out there today, just not enough to win a city championship."

Both meets were held Friday at Franklin after the boys competition - originally scheduled to be hosted by Stevenson - was postponed a day due to Thursday's blustery weather.

The conditions were ideal Friday, producing several gold-standards performances. Partial results below - visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) for a complete list of city meet results.

### LIVONIA CITY TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

**BOYS FINAL STANDINGS:** 1. Churchill, 100.5 points; 2. Stevenson, 81; 3. Franklin, 44.5; 4. Clarenceville, 12.

**Shot put:** 1. Nick Hitchcock (S), 48 feet, 1 inch; 2. Jonathan Hogan (CL), 45-2.75; 3. Michael Grabda (CH), 43-5; 4. Austin Simpson (CH), 43-0; 5. Bobby

Madley (F), 40-4.5.  
**Discus:** 1. Hitchcock (S), 147-4; 2. Simpson (CH), 135-3; 3. Daniel Domzalaki (F), 125-9; 4. Grabda (CH), 120-1; 5. Hogan (CL), 117-0.  
**Pole vault:** 1. Caleb Guthard (CH), 13-3; 2. (tie) Kyle Reppenhagen (CH) and Drew Niemiec (F), 10-6; 4. Ethan Nordstrom (F), 10-0; 5. Logan Delonis (S), 9-6.  
**Long jump:** 1. Shakur Lockett (CH), 21-8; 2. Malik Lowery (S), 19-5; 3. Christian Sullivan (S), 19-2; 4. Mike Licata (S), 18-11.5; 5. Lee Yetts (CH), 18-11.  
**High jump:** 1. Noah Campbell (S), 5-10; 2. Lowery (S), 5-8; 3. Evan Buchanan (S), 5-6; 4. Taji Chappell (CH), 5-6; 5. Charles Keith (F), 5-6.  
**3,200-meter relay:** 1. Churchill (Jon Alessandrini, Brendan Meakin, Dash Dobar, Matt Cohan), 8:24.47; 2. Stevenson (Andrew Bambach, Alex Oquist, Jack Balint, Lukas Green), 8:29.04.  
**110 high hurdles:** 1. Tim Dulin (CH), 16:26; 2. Buchanan (S), 16:62; 3. Ryan Bragiel (CH), 16:93; 4. Ian Hogg (F), 17:41; 5. Nate Sudek (S), 17:42.  
**100 dash:** 1. Carrington Smith (CH), 11:71; 2. Brandon Smiley (F), 11:77; 3. LaDarius Sharpe (S), 11:82; 4. Nathan Rodgers (F), 11:88; 5. Paul Romain (CH), 11:94.  
**800 relay:** 1. Churchill (Dulin, Romain, Yetts, Smith), 1:32.47; 2. Franklin (Jeremy Sheppard, Smiley, Matt Winick, Rodgers), 1:34.51; 3. Stevenson (Tyler Hudson, Licata, Mike Muffler, Sharpe), 1:36.36; 4. Clarenceville (James Hill, Nic Ballard, Jonathan Harris, Elijah Bean), 1:38.45.  
**1,600 run:** 1. Tony Floyd (F), 4:41.22; 2. Cohan (CH), 4:44.34; 3. Balint (S), 4:44.93; 4. Erik Grisa (S), 4:46.39; 5. Tyler Opdycke (CH), 4:48.06.  
**400 relay:** 1. Churchill (Lockett, Dulin, Smith), 44.54; 2. Stevenson (Sullivan, Muffler, Sharpe, Lowery), 3. Franklin (Sheppard, Rodgers, Winick, NyQuavion Calhoun), 45.69.  
**400 dash:** 1. Jonathan Harris (CL), 51.79; 2. Smiley (F), 53.89; 3. Jeremy Webb (S), 54.3; 4. Michael Jaffar (S), 54.89; 5. Licata (S), 55.09.  
**300 int. hurdles:** 1. Dulin (CH), 42.31; 2. Bragiel (CH), 42.62; 3. Hogg (F), 44.83; 4. Taji Chappell (CH), 45.12; 5. Zach Robins (S), 45.18.  
**800 run:** 1. Cohan (CH), 2:05.25; 2. Dobar (CH), 2:05.36; 3. Bambach (S), 2:08.03; 4. Oquist (S), 2:10.25; 5. Meakin (CH), 2:12.81.  
**200 dash:** 1. Smith (CH), 23.25; 2. Muffler (S), 23.57; 3. Smiley (F), 23.84; 4. Yetts (CH), 24.11; 5. Harris (CL), 24.19.  
**3,200 run:** 1. Floyd (F), 10:09.38; 2. Grisa (S), 10:26.54; 3. Nathan Ward (S), 10:29.34; 4. Alessandrini (CH), 10:31.22; 5. Josh Mussen (CH), 10:36.06.  
**1,600 relay:** 1. Stevenson (Bambach, Oquist, Webb, Jaffar), 3:40.83; 2. Churchill (Bragiel, Cohan, Noah Rimatzki, Alessandrini), 3:44.29; 3. Clarenceville (Cam Fyffe, Harris, Elijah Bean, Kyle Nolan), 3:44.32; 4. Franklin (Smiley, Winick, Hogg, Jones), 3:47.73.  
**GIRLS FINAL STANDINGS:** 1. Churchill, 126; 2. Franklin, 62; 3. Stevenson, 33; 4. Clarenceville, 7.  
**Shot put:** 1. Gabrielle Carter (CH), 38-4; 2. Sofia Modes (F), 33-4; 3. Stanesha Chambers (CL), 32-8; 4. Elisabeth Schenk (CH), 32-5; 5. Alexis Browning (F), 31-5.

## GOLF

Continued from Page B1

Mansour and Dom Rea carded a 35 to win the nine-hole scramble. The Patriots' Matt Wiebelhaus and Zach Nelson placed second with a 39, four shots better than Churchill's Mikey Palumbo and Matt Matley.

The Spartans' pairing of Noah Pappalardo and Connor McQueen won the alternate-shot competition handily with a 44, six strokes lower than Churchill's runner-up duo of Brandon Dix and John Doyle.

The Chargers' lone first-place points came from Aaron Walton and Chase Fallu, who combined to fire a 43. Franklin's Will Heitel and Jeremy Haist were second at 44.

The medal-play portion of the event came down to the last hole before Stevenson's Kevin Collins and Alex Hunt prevailed by a stroke, 83-84, over Churchill's Sam Spayd and Griffin Ahmet. Franklin's Jacob Kenward and Owen Green shot a 106.

### Chargers edged

On Thursday, Churchill suffered a 160-179 setback to Plymouth in a match played at Whispering Willows.

Spayd shared medalist honors with Plymouth's James Baldwin after they both carded 38.

Also figuring in the scoring for Churchill were Aaron Walton, Rob Gulick and Matt Matley, all of whom fired 47. Griffin Ahmet shot a 48 and John Doyle a 49 for the Chargers.

Joe Fontana (40), Justin Kapke (41) and Matt Decker (41) all played well for the Wildcats.

### Franklin triumphant

Livonia Franklin defied brutally cold weather conditions Thursday to defeat host Westland John Glenn, 194-215, in a KLAA South Division match played at Fellows Creek Golf Course.

Will Hettel earned medalist honors by shooting a 46. Also scoring for Franklin were Jacob Kenward and Jeremy Haist, both of whom shot 49; and Matt Wiebelhaus, who came in with a 50. Zach Nelson (51) and Trevor Van Vliet (58) also earned varsity points for the Patriots.

Dave Hickson was low man for the Rockets with a 47. Chase Anderson (49), Chase Storm (55) and Brandon Head (64) also scored for the hosts.

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GIRLS SOCCER

# Riga's school-record five goals pace Blazers' win

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood's Samantha Riga gave new meaning to the position "striker" Thursday as the senior forward exploded for a school-record five goals in the Blazers' 8-1 Catholic League girls soccer victory at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

With one of the team's leading scorers, Conner Huggins, off on a school retreat, Riga was able to pick up the scoring void and find the back of the net four times during the opening half as the Blazers built a 5-1 lead.

Riga, a senior forward headed to Grand Valley State,

scored at the 5-minute mark (from Elise Pollock); 15th minute (from Amy Babon); 27th minute (from Pollock); and 39th minute (from Babon). Clare Kelley also added a goal for the Blazers in the 39th minute from Bri Rogers, while Gabriel Richard's Analee Kosaiah scored in the 10th minute to make it 1-1.



Riga

"We were able to find a nice offensive rhythm tonight, Sam Riga was fantastic," said Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team improved to 6-3

overall and 3-2 in Division 1 of the Catholic League.

The Blazers, who enjoyed a 24-5 shot advantage, added three more second-half goals including Taylor Bullard, 45th minute (from Riga); Riga, 49th minute (from Babon); and Babon, 53rd minute (from Bullard).

Goalie Holly Cusick made two saves for the Blazers, who are ranked No. 4 in latest Division 2 statewide coaches poll.

Beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, Ladywood will host an invitational tournament that features Livonia Stevenson, Chelsea, Dearborn, Dearborn Divine Child and Trenton.

## SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

freshman pinch hitter Natalie Billings, who delivered a clutch lead-off single while facing an 0-2 pitch from freshman Sarah Mesack, who - much like her freshman counterpart from GC April Rudolph - was dynamite all day.

After Mikala Smolar was retired by Stevenson third baseman Cori Wilson, Cougar junior shortstop Kaylen Glenfield launched a double that one-hopped the left-center field fence, putting runners on second and third with one out.

Powell then dropped a

slick bunt down the third base line to score Risner...but just barely.

Stevenson led 1-0 until the bottom of the fourth when the Cougars loaded the bases with no outs on a single by Hannah Vera-Burgos, a Spartan error and a hit-by-pitch. After Mesack struck out the next Cougar, Vera-Burgos scored on a come-backer.

Both teams put runners in scoring position on a number of occasions, but both young pitchers buckled down when they had to.

There were only three strike outs registered from the second inning on - two by Mesack and one by Rudolph - so solid defense was a premium.

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ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

# Area's top players rule the court in hoops

**FIRST TEAM**

**Mike Edwards, sr., John Glenn:** The 6-foot-10 post player emerged as an all-around force, taking advantage of an increased role by averaging 22 points, 10.3 rebounds and 2.5 blocks.

Edwards, who earned first team all-state honors, was pursued by several top-tier Division I college hoops programs before signing with the University of Georgia. Running the court like a 5-10 guard, he often piled up multiple dunks before halftime. "Mike is a very hard worker and productive player," coach Rod Watts said. "Statistically, Mike is five times the player he was last season."

**Jeron Rogers, sr., N. Farmington:** The 6-foot-7 center was a four-year starter and is a three-time member of the all-area team.

Rogers is much more than a post-up center. He is a perimeter player who can shoot the three. For a big man, he can handle the ball and drive to the basket, too.

Because he plays so well facing the basket, Rogers was recruited for his outside game and signed with Cleveland State University.

He averaged 17 points, eight rebounds, two assists and two steals. He had seven double doubles and single-game highs of 28 points and 14 rebounds.

In his prep career, Rogers accumulated 1,282 points, which is second in school history only to the 1,661 scored by Kyle Vinales.

"Jeron had a great senior year, especially when people keyed in to stop him and defenses schemed to try to keep the ball out of his hands," coach Todd Negoshian said. "He did a great job of staying within the game and not forcing a lot."

"He has really put a lot of time into the game, sacrificing a lot of things to become the all-around player he is. I think his competitiveness and desire to win makes him as good as he is."

"We're in a society where we congratulate and give everybody a trophy. People who have the competitive desire that you can't teach stand out and are a little more advanced than other kids."

**Greg Williams, sr., Canton:** The 6-3 point guard and captain's final prep season was brilliant from start to finish,

with Williams often putting the Chiefs on his back and carrying them to success.

Canton's march to the KLAAs South Division title had plenty to do with Williams, named to the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan's Class A all-state team and an all-conference selection.

Williams, also Canton's football quarterback, is being heavily recruited to play college basketball. He averaged 20 points, four rebounds, 3.5 assists and two steals per game.

"Greg is the ultimate competitor and an outstanding leader," coach Jimmy Reddy said about the four-year varsity player. "His play at both ends of the floor allowed us to be successful this season. His ability to score inside and out made him a tough cover for anybody."

"Greg has a very high basketball IQ and is always looking to make the right play."

Williams was key to the program notching 64 victories, two division titles, along with a Kensington Conference and district title during his career.

"He has been a great ambassador for our program for the last four years and he will be sorely missed," Reddy said.

**Anthony Qasawa, sr., N. Farmington:** He was instru-



mental in the Raiders having their best season in at least three decades. He was a perfect complement to teammate Jeron Rogers in what he was able to do on the court.

At 6-foot-5, he can post-up and rebound, or he can handle the ball and shoot the three. The latter is his forte, however. Qasawa also averaged 17 points per game, as well as six rebounds, three assists and one steal.

In the OAA Red Division opener at Southfield, the Raiders trailed at halftime, 29-21. Qasawa scored 21 of his 23 points, including five treys, in the second half and rallied his team to a 57-49 victory.

A three-year varsity player, he had single-game highs of 25 points and 11 rebounds. Qasawa, who made 37 triples, set school records for free-throw percentage of 85 percent for a single season and 82 percent for a career.

"Anthony had an absolute great senior year," Negoshian said. "It's great to see kids who work that hard over four years have as successful a year as he did. He put in the time and made it a top priority to become a better player each year."

"I think the best thing he does is shoot it. He gets to the glass very well and does the little things that go unnoticed. He's going to play somewhere in college; he just hasn't decided yet."

**Josh Reynolds, sr., Plymouth:** When the third-year varsity player gets hot, he can't be stopped, which opponents discovered during Plymouth's stellar run to a Class A district championship.

Reynolds averaged 13.3 points, 5.7 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 3.0 steals per game and earned all-KLAA honors for his efforts.

Coach Mike Soukup lauded Reynolds for the improvement he has made during his career and sees a bright future in college basketball.

"Along with improving his skills as a player, he also has grown as a leader and a person," Soukup said. "We have been so blessed to have him in our program and look forward to watching and supporting him at the collegiate level as he continues his personal journey."

**John Rexroth, sr., Harrison:** The 6-foot-10 center moved into the starting lineup

midway through his freshman season and stayed there for the next three-plus years, finishing his career with 743 points, 627 rebounds and 124 blocked shots.

Rexroth averaged 16 points and 11.2 rebounds the past season, resulting in numerous double-doubles despite being double- and triple-teamed.

He exceeded 20 points in seven games and 10 rebounds in 15. He also averaged three assists, 2.5 blocks and nearly two steals.

His points per game might have been higher, but Harrison had inexperienced guards who didn't always know how to get the ball to their big center, according to coach Jason Pickett.

Rexroth, who also is a pitcher and first baseman on the baseball team, received a basketball scholarship to Grand Valley State University.

He was voted the Most Outstanding Player and Best Offensive Player on his team. He has a 3.9 GPA and scored 30 on the ACT.

"John improved his numbers every year and not just points but rebounds, blocks and assists," Pickett said. "I felt super privileged to have coached him for four years and watched him grow in the ways he did."

"All the accolades he re-

ceived and the respect he got from other teams in the way they guarded him was a testament to how hard he worked as a player.

"I could not have coached a better young man. He never missed a practice, never wanted to sub out, always ran hard in the drills. It was gratifying to coach him as a young man and not just a basketball player."

"I look forward to watching him in his progression and next stage of life at Grand Valley. I know he's going to work hard on his game."

**SECOND TEAM**

**Jermell Johnson, sr., Clarenceville:** The 6-foot-3 forward was a three-year varsity player. He concluded his career with a standout senior season in which he averaged 25 points per game, eight rebounds and two blocks.

"Jermell had a phenomenal senior year as he led the team in scoring, rebounding and blocks," coach Tony Paciero said. "He brought energy and toughness to our team night in and night out."

"What impresses me most about Jermell is his desire to improve his game, staying after practice, coming in on breaks and off days to work on whatever he could."

"His love for the game and desire to be better will make him a great addition to any college program."

**Jakob Lenders, sr., Salem:** The Rocks enjoyed another very successful season, earning the KLAA Central Division title, and the play and leadership of team MVP Lenders was a top reason.

Lenders, also named to the all-KLAA first team, tallied 11.6 points, 6.0 rebounds, 1.8 assists per game.

He also was accurate from the field (57 percent) and free-throw line (74 percent) as he spearheaded Salem's offense.

"He is a very crafty and versatile player with good shooting range for his size and has a great ability to score around the basket," coach Bob Brodie said. "He led us in scoring, shooting percentage and free-throw percentage this season."

"He was a pleasure to coach and had great knowledge of the game."

**Rickey Hudgens, sr., Thurston:** Although Hudgens' statistics weren't gaudy, the 19-win Eagles wouldn't have been able to fly to such great heights during the past season without their No. 1 glue guy.

Hudgens made a serious impact on both ends of the court, racking up 11.9 points, 2.8 assists and more than three rebounds per game, while adding two steals per contest. He shot 42 percent from the field and was a marksman from long range.

"Rickey had a great season for us," coach Brian Bates said. "He was very unselfish and a team player. There were games that he needed to concentrate on defending the other team's best player for us to be successful and there were other games that we needed him to score for us to be successful."

"Eight times he scored over 15 points and in two of those games he made six 3-pointers in each game. He would take on either role and never say a word. Perhaps one of his biggest attributes is that he was a great leader for us this season. One of the best leaders we have had in years. He was always helping the younger players to understand and get better."

**Logan Ryan, jr., Canton:** With the upcoming graduation of Greg Williams, the leadership baton is headed Ryan's way and the 6-7 forward appears

more than able to handle that challenge.

Ryan was in the middle of things all season for Canton, displaying dead-eye shooting accuracy and willingness to get into scrums in the paint at both ends of the court.

The all-KLAA selection had a number of big games and moments, averaging 14 points, 7.0 rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game.

"Logan is a very skilled big man that can play inside and out," Reddy said. "His ability to stretch the defense by stepping out and knocking down threes really makes him unique."

"He did an outstanding job for us defensively by protecting the rim by either blocking or altering shots."

**Randall Aikins, sr., Plymouth:** Whenever the Wildcats needed a big-time basket or rebound during close games,

the third-year varsity player came through.

Aikins made the winning shot in a game against Canton,

a victory that seemed to turn around Plymouth's fortunes as it went on to win a Class A district title.

"Randall was one of the best point guards in our area this year," Soukup said. "His ability to break down a defense and get to the basket is amazing to watch."

Named to the all-conference team, Aikins averaged 13.1 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.9 steals per contest.

"His improved shooting touch has made him that much harder to guard this season," Soukup said. "His improvement as a positive leader for our team and the younger players has been amazing to watch. We have been blessed that he has been a member of our program."

**Justin Banks, sr., Farmington:** The 6-foot-5 Banks was a three-year starter at center and played a major role in the Falcons winning the OAA Gold Division championship this year.

Banks was a tenacious rebounder at both ends of the floor and was good at scoring second-chance points on put-backs.

He had nine double-doubles and averaged just under 10 points and 10 rebounds per game. For a big man, he can get up and down the floor quickly.

Banks also was a three-year starter in football. A two-way tackle and all-area selection in that sport, Banks will play football at Northwood University.

"Justin has been a pillar of our program the last three years," coach Terrance Porter said. "He led by example. He's not really a vocal leader, but you knew exactly what you were going to get from Justin with his leadership in practice and games and his work ethic."

"He was just a joy to coach, a great kid. Obviously, he was a big part of us winning the Gold Division with his ability to score around the basket, defend and rebound."

"Our defense didn't end until we got the rebound. Many times he was the one to rebound the basketball, and he allowed us to get second and third opportunities at the offensive end."

**Noah Campbell, sr., Stevenson:** Campbell was a nightmare to guard this past season, as his 16.8-point average reveals. Armed with a silky-smooth jump shot and equally impressive ability to drive and finish in traffic, Campbell was the Spartans' go-to guy most of the season on offense.

"Noah is a humble guy who is very unselfish and cares about his team and teammates," coach Kareem Smartt said.

**2015 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST TEAM**

Mike Edwards, sr. F, John Glenn  
Jeron Rogers, sr. C, N. Farmington  
Greg Williams, sr. G, Canton  
Anthony Qasawa, sr. F, N. Farmington  
Josh Reynolds, sr. G, Plymouth  
John Rexroth, sr. C, Harrison

**SECOND TEAM**  
Jermell Johnson, sr. F, Clarenceville  
Jakob Lenders, sr. F, Salem  
Rickey Hudgens, sr. G, Thurston  
Logan Ryan, jr. F, Canton  
Randall Aikins, sr. G, Plymouth  
Justin Banks, sr. C, Farmington  
Noah Campbell, sr. G, Stevenson

**THIRD TEAM**  
Jon Hovermale, jr. G, Church Hill  
Isiah Crofford, sr. C, Thurston  
Jon Swift, sr. G, Salem  
Brent Davis, sr. F, Plymouth  
Jacob Joubert, jr. G, N. Farmington

**FOURTH TEAM**  
Travis Trigg, sr. F, Garden City  
Alex Darden, jr. F, N. Farmington  
Jerrime Koger, sr. G, Redford Union  
Mychal Bradley, sr. G, John Glenn  
Jordan Graham, soph. G, Farmington  
Deji Adebiji, sr. F, Plymouth

**FIFTH TEAM**  
Jalen Cochran, jr. G, Canton  
Obi Okoli, jr. G, Canton  
Kevin Woodmore, sr. G, Wayne  
Dayton Davis, jr. G, Church Hill  
James Hill, sr. F, Clarenceville  
Justin Whitted, sr. F, Harrison

**COACHES OF THE YEAR**  
Brian Bates, Thurston  
Todd Negoshian, North Farmington  
**HONORABLE MENTIONS**  
Harrison: Daniel Williams, Russell Campbell; N. Farmington: Josh Hogans, Mher Tcholakian, Sasoun Tcholakian; Farmington: Ryan Coucke, Austin Thompson; Church Hill: Jalen Davis, Franklin: Johnny Cantrell, Joe Chinavare, Stevenson: Jacob Dollar, Jalen Webber, John Glenn: Tyrrik Hunter; Wayne: Trevon Woods; Lutheran Westland: Luke Smith, Zach Burk; Huron Valley Lutheran: Austin Bell, Jordan Runstadler; Garden City: Travis Kidd, Joe Pummill; Thurston: Brandon Marshall, Deaunte Jackson; Redford Union: Keyon Thomas; Salem: Allante Wheeler, Jake Strope; Plymouth: Armani Tate, Frank Brown, Pete Carravallah; Canton: Jack Zemanski, Nick Wendel, Noah Brown; Ply. Christian: Luke Yakuber, Evan Home, Matt Malcolm.

**COACHES OF THE YEAR**

**Brian Bates, Thurston:**

Bates led the Eagles to one of their best seasons in recent memory as they won 19 games and captured their fourth consecutive Class A district championship. They gave eventual Class A state semifinalist University of Detroit-Jesuit all it could handle in a regional semifinal game before ultimately succumbing to the taller Cubs.

"This was a very special team to me," said Bates, a middle-school teacher in Redford. "They were willing to work every day and get better. They were never satisfied and wanted to improve. This team was very close to each other and everyone on the team was willing to do whatever they had to be successful."

"There were not any individuals on this team, just a bunch of team players. Because of this, I really looked forward to going to practices. It was one of those teams that I will always remember fondly. This team will always have a special place in my heart."

**Todd Negoshian, N. Farmington:** The 35-year-old Negoshian, who replaced his father, longtime North boys

coach Tom Negoshian, completed his fourth season in charge of the program.

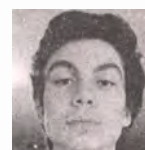
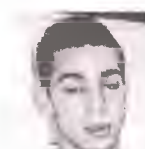
And what a year it was for the Raiders, who finished 20-4 and won more games than any North team in more than 30 years and were Class A regional finalists.

The team's only losses were to OAA Red Division champion Clarkston (twice), Class B state champion Wyoming Godwin Heights and Class A state semifinalist U-D Jesuit.

He led the Raiders to a second-place finish in the rugged OAA Red, a district championship and one of the best seasons in school history.

"It's very humbling to receive the award," he said. "I've always believed the recognition you receive as a coach is a testament to the people you surround yourself with. I think we have a great coaching staff and a great group of kids."

"It was one of the lowest-maintenance group of kids I've been around. When they play as hard as they do and respect the game the way they do, it's great to be around a group of kids like that."





THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL Monday, April 27 Franklin at Novi, 4 p.m. Thurston at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m. Churchill at Salem, 4 p.m. Redford Union at Ann Arbor, 4 p.m. Wayne at S.L. East, 4 p.m. John Glenn at South Lyon, 4 p.m. Dearborn at Garden City, 4 p.m. Canton at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 28 Thurston at Harper Woods, 4:30 p.m. Oak Christian at Luth. West., 4:30 p.m. Baptist Park at HVL, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 29 Canton at Franklin (2), 4 p.m. Robichaud at Thurston, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Plymouth (2), 4 p.m. Garden City at Belleville (2), 4 p.m. Wayne at Churchill (2), 4 p.m. Novi at Stevenson (2), 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Redford Union, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30 South Lyon at Garden City, 4 p.m. HVL at Baptist Park, 4:30 p.m. Luth. Westland at Oak Christian, 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 1 Wayne at Ypsi Livonia (2), 4 p.m. Fordson at Churchill, 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2 Franklin, John Glenn at Big 16 Tourney, TBA Lakeland at Churchill (2), 11 a.m. Stevenson at Lathrup Tourney, 9 a.m. Renaissance at Thurston (2), 11 a.m. Garden City at New Boston, 11 a.m. PREP SOFTBALL Monday, April 27 Churchill at Salem, 4 p.m. John Glenn at South Lyon, 4 p.m. Wayne at S.L. East, 4 p.m. Dearborn at Garden City, 4 p.m. Canton at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Thurston at Clarenceville, 4 p.m. Franklin at Novi, 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 28 Ladywood at Regina (2), 4 p.m. HVL at Southfield Christian, 4:30 p.m. Luth. Westland at Greenhills, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 29 Garden City at Belleville, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Plymouth (2), 4 p.m. Wayne at Churchill (2), 4 p.m. Robichaud at Thurston, 4 p.m. Canton at Franklin (DH), 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Redford Union, 4:30 p.m. Novi at Stevenson (2), 4 p.m. Thursday, April 30 Churchill at W.L. Central (2), 4 p.m. Luth. Westland at Oak Christian, 4:30 p.m. Inter-City at HVL, 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 1 Mercy at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Panthers' Diaz dazzling in victory over Eagles

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

The "deuce" proved to be the dagger for Redford Union senior pitcher Vinnie Diaz during Thursday's 11-1 victory over cross-town rival Redford Thurston. Diaz struck out six while limiting the Eagles to four hits during the five-inning game played in subfreezing wind chills.



ED WRIGHT

Redford Union senior Vinnie Diaz limited Thurston to four hits in Thursday's 11-1 victory.

"Vinnie was a little high with his fastball early in the game, so I told him to start leading with his curveball," said RU head coach Bob Miller, whose team improved to 6-2 overall and 1-0 in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference's Red Division. "His curveball set up his fastball, which led to more success." Diaz was a two-way demolition crew for the Panthers as he also contributed two hits and four RBI at the dish. While Diaz shined in the bitter cold, he was among a group of Panthers who made the vic-

tory possible, Miller added. "It was a solid team effort," said Miller, who added that Thursday's game was the second coldest he's ever coached in. The temperature didn't affect the Panthers in the bottom of the first when they struck for a three-run outburst ignited by Tyler Collard's single. Diaz connected with a two-run single later in the frame and Steven Davis also played a run with a single. The 10-run mercy was

activated in the bottom of the fifth when RU scored five times, the final two coming on a two-run hit off the bat of Tommie Lewis. Also driving in runs in the fifth were Diaz (two) and Brendan McGurk. Cougars edge Eagles Thurston dropped an exciting 11-6 extra-inning decision to Dearborn Heights Ann Arbor on Wednesday. Starting pitcher Bobby Snell was stellar on the mound for Thurston. After yielding three unearned runs in the first inning, Snell held Ann Arbor to just one hit over the ensuing five frames. His final line read: six innings, 10 strikeouts, three walks, four hits and one earned run. The Eagles scored twice in the bottom of the first to slice their deficit to 3-2. After Snell roped a lead-off double and Austin Slomba walked, they executed a double steal, setting the stage for Snell to score on an Austin Benoit sacrifice fly and Slomba to come home on a passed ball. Thurston scored twice in the third to take the lead when Snell, Slomba and Joe Cornejo walked and Chalfontae Phillips drilled a two-out single to score two. After the Cougars knotted the game at 4-4 in the fourth, Thurston regained its advantage when Slomba walked and eventually scored on an error. Ann Arbor drew even with a run in the seventh before erupting for six in the eighth. Spartans topple Lions Livonia Stevenson improved to 8-3 overall and 4-1 in the KLAAC Central Division Thursday when it edged visiting South Lyon, 5-2, in the completion of a game that was suspended after three innings on April 15. Jack Ferguson earned the victory after tossing four innings of one-hit relief. He struck out seven and didn't issue a walk. Trailing 2-1 in the bottom of the fourth, the Spartans scored twice to take the lead for good. They added insurance runs in the fifth and sixth. Leading the hitting attack were Chris Tanderis, C.J. Breen, C.J. Weiss and Danny Morris, all of whom laced two hits.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Trojans earn first baseball victories

Clarenceville scores 34 runs in two games

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Clarenceville High School's baseball fortunes took a dramatic turn for the better last week with consecutive victories.

A team that had struggled from the start of the season was the one dishing out defeat to Dearborn Fordson, 11-8, and Dearborn Heights Robichaud in a three-inning mercy, 23-0.

The Trojans had been winless and suddenly were on a roll, finding success in their first Western Wayne Athletic Conference games.

Clarenceville trailed 7-2 with one out in the sixth inning Thursday against Fordson, but it scored nine runs and rallied to win the league opener.

"As far as comebacks are concerned, this has been the best one," coach Craig Cotter, who took charge of the program last year, said. "Our guys battled and never gave in. We really have been hitting the ball hard the last three games."

Adam Sade started the game and pitched four strong innings, but he could not get an out in the fifth and didn't figure in the decision.

"When Adam pitches, he usually keeps the game close to give us a chance," Cotter said, adding Sade got tired in the fifth.

Ryan Menifee

pitched the final three innings to get the win, giving up one run and striking out four in first appearance of the season on the mound.

The Trojans had their best hitting game of the year, collecting 13 hits. They also walked 11 times.

"We have been doing a great job over the last couple games of making our opponents throw strikes," Cotter said. "We continue to cut down on strikeouts and put the ball in play."

Menifee also led the Trojans at the plate, going 3-for-4. Bobby Jaber, Ronnie Topolewski, Matt Drain and Nick Bisaro had two hits apiece.

In the Wednesday win over Robichaud, Drain threw a no-hitter in the abbreviated game, striking out seven. He also fielded a pop-out and was responsible for eight of the nine outs.

"I could not be happier for Matt; he's a great kid," Cotter said.

The Trojans had 10 hits and received 14 walks. Jayson Harris went 2-for-3 and raised his batting average to .458. He also took another walk to put his on-base percentage at .618.

Topolewski and Menifee led the hit parade with three apiece. One of Topolewski's hits was a double.

"We were patient at the plate; that is what was important," Cotter said. "The walks took some plate discipline, something we have struggled with lately."

domeara@hometownlife.com

CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held in the auditorium at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan on MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015, at 7:00 P.M. on the NECESSITY FOR A PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LED STREET LIGHTING CONVERSION PROJECT IN THE SHERWOOD FOREST ESTATES SUBDIVISION, SW 1/4 of Section 9, located north of Six Mile Road and east of Wayne Road, in the City of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan, pursuant to Chapter 08 of Title 3 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, entitled "Special Assessment Procedure Ordinance."

You are further notified that the City Engineer has filed with the City Clerk plans and specifications for the proposed improvement, together with a statement showing a description of the proposed district, the estimated cost of the improvement, ownership of parcels within such district, the assessed valuation of such parcels, his recommendation as to assessment for such improvement and other information required by Section 3.08.060 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, which statement is available for your examination in the office of the City Clerk.

SUSAN A. HOFF, CITY CLERK

Publish: Sunday, April 26, 2015

ewright@hometownlife.com

Guide to Employment To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

Grid of job advertisements including: ASSEMBLY, CLEANING, HOUSEKEEPER, INTERIOR DESIGN ASSISTANT, JANITORIAL, DRIVERS, OFFICE FURNITURE INSTALLERS, REAL ESTATE SALES OPPORTUNITY, WAREHOUSE HELP, DENTAL HYGIENIST, MEDICAL ASSISTANT, PT TECHS, RN, LPN or MA, RN OPERATING ROOM, CNA/RN/LPN, RN or LPN NURSES, RN or LPN TELEPHONE TRIAGE, RN TELEPHONE TRIAGE, FOOD - Beverage, COOKS & BUSSERS.



# Muralist paints history of west side Polonia at St. Colette Church

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Looking at Dennis Orłowski's latest, unfinished mural is like browsing an old family photo album.

Images of neighborhood homes, churches, and popular gathering spots are intertwined with familiar faces and events, including a May crowning and Corpus Christi procession. Scenes, colored in acrylic paint, depict a lifetime of activity, from baptism to marriage, working years to a funeral, all set within Detroit's old west side Polish community.

The Hamtramck artist has been working on a wall in the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society's heritage room at St. Colette parish in Livonia since February. The mural is in process, but will be on display for a sneak peek during the church's May crowning on Sunday, May 3. The event will start with Mass at 12:30 p.m., followed by the rosary in five languages at 1:30 p.m. Participants will proceed outdoors where a statue of Mary will be crowned and prayers will be said. Afterwards a "Meet the Muralist" reception and ice cream social will be held in the church social hall, 17600 Newburgh, north of Six Mile. Orłowski will be on hand to talk about his work and show the mural.

"We want our room and our heritage to be visible to the general public," said Laurie Gomulka-Palazzolo, a Farmington resident who serves as vice president and executive director of the Society. "Because that is why we exist, to educate people about who we are and where we came from. We want to keep our heritage alive."

The society formed 10 years ago to research, preserve and educate the public about Polish American history and culture in Detroit's west side neighborhoods. Its membership is approximately 285 and St. Colette pastor, the Rev. Gary Michalik, serves as its president. The organization's archives include oral interviews, documents, photographs, films, and artifacts — everything from vintage capes once worn by members of the Polish Women's Alliance to century-old religious vestments to hand-decorated Easter eggs.

"Once the mural is complete we'll order glass displays and then we'll have a better idea how we're going to display everything," Gomulka-Palazzolo said, adding that the collection includes more than \$10,000 worth of items. "We'll have a rotating display. If we're doing something on Easter or first holy communion, we'll be able to set out archives for that particular subject."

## Adding a mural

She said the Society's board decided a mural would help "enliven" the room and visually tell the story of Detroit's west side Polonia.

"He (Orłowski) was the obvious choice because he is local and he is absolutely wonderful at what he does. No one has more knowledge and puts more into his subject than he does. He doesn't just paint for



Artist Dennis Orłowski paints a wedding scene using a photo of Walter Frank Pacosz and Sophia Anna Suchocka.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Laurie Gomulka-Palazzolo is vice president and executive director of the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society. The organization commissioned Hamtramck artist Dennis Orłowski to paint a mural in its heritage room at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia.



The work is arduous and detailed. There is a pencil sketch, then a painted version to explore colors to be used in the mural at St. Colette in Livonia.

the monetary aspect of painting. He paints for the message."

Orłowski, 61, has created more than 100 murals in southeastern Michigan. He tells stories in paint, a skill he began to learn by watching a church artist when he was 14 years old.

"He had painted opera curtains in World War I and he was really good. He was in his 70s. He knew his stuff. I'd watch him," Orłowski said.

After high school, Orłowski received a scholarship to study at the Art Students' League in New York, did some art work while in the U.S. Army stationed in Germany, and returned home to attend the Center for Creative Studies. He spent a year in Mexico learning to paint frescoes under a former assistant to Diego Rivera, and earned a master's degree in painting from Wayne State University. He taught art in Detroit Public Schools for more than 30 years.

Purpose and function in art are important to him.

"I want to spend my energy on something good. If they're selling cars out there and they say, we'll give you a million dollars to paint this mural, that doesn't do it for me," he said. "You want a reason to do your best. Laurie is supplying a reason to do my best ... the processions, these buildings, I know that area."

## The process

Gomulka-Palazzolo and her board considered dozens of locations that Orłowski might include in the mural. They gave him a list with the most important sites highlighted and took him on a tour of west side neighborhoods.

"I printed out pictures and let him decide which were the most aesthetically pleasing, which ones would work best in his layout."

Society members and friends were given the opportunity to loved their own image or to love one's image in the piece for \$100.

"I thought the processions would be a great way to em-



Detailed drawings of the scene become a guide to painting the mural.

phasize who we are, to marry our heritage, culture and our faith and also give him a way to include the faces of people," she said.

Orłowski started the society mural by sketching a few different compositions for the piece and then creating a small detailed black and white sketch of his final choice. He created a small sketch in color and then made larger, detailed drawings that he later transferred to prepared wooden

board. After transferring the images onto the wood, he began painting.

"This is what Dennis is good at. He has incorporated that movement, that flow ... he brings a static, flat surface to life. He really is guided by the hand of God," Gomulka-Palazzolo said.

Orłowski agrees that art is spiritual.

"You're talking the language of God, in a sense," he said.

# Appliance Doctor serves as expert witness in court

A year ago, I received a phone call from an attorney in Chicago, Ill., who asked if I would be willing to act as an expert witness in a lawsuit against a huge appliance retailer. The case involves a multimillion-dollar home burning down because a clothes dryer caught fire. As I write this column, I am leaving the next day to appear in court on a Monday morning. By the time this writing appears in your newspaper the case most likely will have been resolved, so that in a couple of weeks I will continue and tell you how it was finalized.

As for appearing as an expert witness, I have done this many times in the past in cases from here to California and mostly having to do with house fires caused by clothes dryers. From what I've been told I'm the only guy in America with the expertise to testify in court



Joe  
Gagnon  
APPLIANCE  
DOCTOR

on dryer fires and so let me tell you a little about this case.

The clothes dryer is 13 years old and the vent line has never been cleaned. The homeowner complains to the store where it was purchased that it is taking too long to dry a load of clothes. The store sends two men to check it out and these men are not service technicians, they are delivery men. They enter the laundry room and find it has lint all over the floor and walls. They disconnect the dryer vent line and pull out several handfuls of lint and tell the homeowner that the vent line is plugged and she needs to get someone to clean it. The next day, the maid

throws a load of clothes in the dryer and the dryer catches fire. This fire causes extensive damage to this multimillion-dollar home and people are injured. This is a short synopsis of what happened.

## No venting

Now the issue deals with the supposed technicians who were sent to the home to take care of the problem. Were these individuals trained on dryer repair and if so why didn't they clean the vent line? Apparently these guys couldn't find the exit on the outside of the house where the dryer exhaust to the outside. The reason was simple. There wasn't one. For 13 years, this dryer exhaust line led into the attic. You can imagine what it must have looked like in that small space and think of how much humidity was deposited there. The wood beams in

there must have looked like driftwood on a lake shore.

As for my testimony, the issue will be whether these two delivery guys were qualified to fix the problem and why didn't they? They never even told the homeowner to stop using the dryer or even shut off the power source to the product. Nothing was noted on the service invoice to indicate this was a serious, dangerous condition. Just like all consumers who need service in their homes, we expect a problem to be handled by experts who know what they're doing and this obviously was not the case.

I remember writing years ago about the lady who turned her dryer on and it caught fire within minutes. The flame burned all the hair on her head and she spent weeks in a hospital. A dryer fire happens fast and many thousands suffer this tragedy every year. I can

tell you for a fact that Michigan residents are much more aware of dryer fires than residents of other states. In many states, more than 70 percent of the population doesn't have a clue about the correct venting requirements and the importance of cleaning a vent line twice a year. If only they knew that you do not have to spend big bucks to have your vent line cleaned. Simply get a leaf blower, disconnect the vent line at the back of the dryer and stick the leaf blower in the vent line. Do this twice a year and I can almost guarantee you, your dryer will not catch fire. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to [appldr@twmi.rr.com](mailto:appldr@twmi.rr.com).



# Animal rescues take on fashion runway, food drive

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue of Livonia will walk their rescued dogs on the fashion runway at the Michigan International Women's Show, which runs 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 30, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 2, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi.

The GAAR component of the annual show is called Pawject Runway and features rescue dogs in canine fashions on the runway, with their rescuer or foster parent, while their stories are told, at 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Look for three puppies that were rescued over the winter to walk the



runway and a returning favorite, Oz, will be on hand Sunday. Oz, who is deaf, was beaten as a puppy and then contracted parvo, but survived and was adopted through GAAR. His "mom" will show how she communicates with him.

GAAR was founded in the late 1990s, has rescued abandoned and abused cats and dogs

### HELP FEED HUNGRY PETS IN THE COMMUNITY

**PET FOOD DRIVE: APRIL 15 28**  
Kroger and MHS are partnering to help loving pet owners experiencing economic hardship.

**DONATIONS NEEDED:**  
Dog/cat dry food  
Dog/cat canned food

Look for these signs on bins at local Kroger stores through April 28 to benefit the Michigan Humane Society.

from high-kill shelters and from the streets of Detroit. The group takes on hard-luck cases that often require extensive medical treatment or socialization. Volunteers

seek out strays, venturing into abandoned buildings in the inner-city with food.

Admission to the show is \$10 at the door for adults and \$5 for ages

6-12. Children under 6 enter free with a paying adult. Parking is \$5 per car.

For more about GAAR, visit it on Facebook or at gaarmichigan.org.

#### Adoption event

Mutts and Mutts Animal Rescue of Redford will be on the schedule twice during the upcoming Eat a Dawg, Save a Dog adoption series, May 2-Aug. 29, at Atomic Dawg Hot Dog Emporium, 2705 Coolidge Highway, Berkley.

Look for Mutts and Mutts Animal Rescue, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2 and Aug. 15. The adoption series will include several different adoption groups noon to 4 p.m. on selected Sat-

urdays throughout the spring and summer. Visit atomicdawg.com.

#### Food drive

Just a few days are left in the Kroger pet food drive to benefit the Michigan Humane Society, (MHS).

Forty-one Kroger stores are participating in the spring food drive through Tuesday, April 28. Customers can donate dry and canned dog and cat food in the bins stationed at the store exits. MHS will distribute the pet food for free to qualifying low-income pet owners who otherwise might have to give up their companions. For more, visit michiganhumane.org.

Compiled by Sharon Dargay

## Catechism Bowl



Students at St. Genevieve School in Livonia took second place in a recent Catechism Bowl competition between teams from the Northwest Vicariate. They are Nicholas Maccani, left, Sara Stawarz, Hannah Rawlings, Mackenzie Shick, and Julia Zurenko.

### Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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



#### KIRK, KENNETH ALLEN

Died April 19, 2015. Kenny was born on January 24, 1943 to Elda and Olin Kirk. Survived by wife Barbara and children Heidi Kirk Tillman, Michael Kirk and Metchelle Bootsma. Brother Jon Kirk, sisters Elin Cherry, Andrea Casteel, Margaret Kirk and Mary Raphael. Also surviving are six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Love of the Lord and all these children were the most important things in his life. Services by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, 30895 Huron River Rd., Flat Rock, MI. Visitation Sunday, April 26 1-8 p.m. Memorial Service Monday, April 27 11 a.m. Reception following at Grace Church, 7215 Pelham Rd., Taylor. Memorial contributions to Grace Church.



#### SCHAAF ARTHUR LYMAN

Age 96, of Royal Oak, passed away peacefully April 20, 2015 at his home. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and spent his career at Ford Motor Company in the Purchasing Department. Arthur married Frances Borgo on June 20, 1946. He quickly learned to appreciate his wife's passion for dance and was committed to the success of the Borgo Sisters Dance Studio. Lymie and Fransee spent many a happy summer traveling the world and having great adventures, while Lyman captured his love of nature through his photos. Lyman was an avid tennis player and a lifetime member of Red Run Golf Club. He enjoyed learning about architecture and doing woodworking. He also had a special place in his heart for animals, especially dogs and horses. Arthur was the beloved husband of the late Frances. Dear uncle of Leanne SchAAF-Jagtiani. Great uncle of Jayden, Jacalyn, Daniel (Rebecca) and Cara (Rob Darbyshire) Jagtiani. He is also survived by many loving friends and neighbors. Services were held. Memorials to the Leader Dogs for the Blind are appreciated. Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

#### SUNDBERG, JEAN L.

Age 92. April 17, 2015. Beloved wife of the late Glen. Loving mother of Lisa Green and Jan (Dave) Dewar. Cherished grandmother of three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A private family service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery and interment with her husband. Family suggests donations to the Michigan Humane Society, Honorariums and Memorials, 30300 Telegraph Road, Ste. 220, Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4507. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave, (1 blk W. of Farmington Rd.), downtown Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com



#### SWISHER, RICHARD MYLES "DICK"

June 6, 1921 - April 16, 2015. The oldest of twelve children, Dick grew up in Detroit and raised his family in Redford Township. Dearly loved by family and friends, he is survived by brothers Earle and John, and sisters Delores, Janet, and Shirley, daughters Beverly Johnson and Marie Steffes, as well as step-daughter Janet Sockolosky, and Joyce Swisher, wife of deceased son David. He is also survived by grandchildren Debi, JoAnne, Kelly, Sara, Clay, Scott, Jennifer, Karen, Steven, and Kevin, and thirteen great-grandchildren. After serving in the U.S. Army in World War II in North Africa and as an M.P. in California, Dick married Evelyn Elaine Burns, who died in 1974. In 1976 he married Rose Jean Seibert, who died in 2009. He retired from Mobil Oil and lived in Florida, where he was head groundskeeper at the training complex for the Toronto Blue Jays. He returned to Michigan and worked for Plymouth Township, and then Canton Township Parks and Recreation. Until a few months before his death, he was the Canton Leisure Services photographer. He was a member of the Free Masons and the Methodist Church. For the past fifteen years, he was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, where a memorial will be held in June. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, or Arbor Hospice. Arrangements by Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home. To share memories, please visit vermeulenfh.com.



## JVS Women to Work program smooths path to employment

There's such a tremendous need for the JVS Women to Work program that next month it is expanding to a second JVS location in Detroit. For the past seven years, the Trade Secrets Dinner has raised money to support this program which helps women re-enter the work force after a difficult life transition such as divorce or the disability or unemployment of a spouse or partner.

"Our Women to Work Program helps women at a crossroad to regain confidence and re-tool their lives," Paul Blatt, JVS executive vice president and COO, told the sell-out crowd of 400 women at Knollwood Country Club last month.

Stefanie Steinberg knows that firsthand, following a sudden divorce which she described as the worst time of her life.

"Never give up," Steinberg, this year's Women to Work honoree, told the audience. "These are the three words that I live by every day."

JVS's Women to Work program, which is offered at no charge to participants, helped Steinberg get back on her feet by providing job-related help such as resume writing, interviewing skills and job search techniques that ultimately led to her finding satisfying employment with two non-profits.



#### Starting a business

Keynote speaker Melanie Bergeron told a similar story. Her mother, Mary Ellen Sheets, had to rebuild her own and her children's lives following a horrific divorce 30 years ago. At their kitchen table in Lansing, Sheets crafted a strategy that began with a broken-down '67 Ford pickup truck and her first employees—her 15- and 17-year-old sons. Two Men and a Truck was born.

That first year, the company netted \$1,000 which it gave away to 10 different charities.

"Because we didn't know how to do taxes," joked Bergeron who was the first franchise owner of Two Men and a Truck.

She lived in Atlanta, Ga., running that franchise while being a successful pharmaceutical rep. In 1992, she moved back to Michigan to help run the company which, by then, parked its trucks in a bowling alley parking lot in Novi. By the next year, Two Men and a Truck had 30 franchises and grossed more than \$6 million. Today, it has 400 locations worldwide with a fleet of 2,500 trucks.

"We exceed our customer's expectations," said Bergeron. "We treat



Fred Frank of Allen Park and Karen Gutman of Farmington Hills, JVS director of business and career services, enjoy the seventh annual Trade Secrets dinner at Knollwood Country Club in West Bloomfield. The event raised more than \$160,000 which will go toward the JVS Women to Work Program.

everyone with dignity, respect and patience and we believe in giving back to the community."

To date, Bergeron says that Two Men and a Truck has donated \$20 million to charity, including 10 cents of every move to the American Cancer Society (\$500,000).

The seventh annual Trade Secrets Dinner raised more than \$160,000. It will go to-

ward the JVS Women to Work Program which is expanding to Detroit this month. www.jvsdet.org/women. Save the date, June 11 at the Henry in Dearborn for JVS's Strictly Business networking and awards luncheon.

Contact Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or leave a message at 248-642-9465.

## GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR



Get gardening advice at free presentations at English Gardens and Plymouth Nursery.

#### Miller Woods tour

Take a free guided tour, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, through the nature preserve, located on Powell Road, just east of Ridge, in Plymouth Township. Tours are approximately an hour long and the last tour leaves at 3:30 p.m. Strollers and dogs are not allowed in Miller Woods; millerwoods.com.

#### Livonia Garden Club

Lynda Bancroft will share tips on flower arranging and will create several arrangements, 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. A drawing will be held to give away her creations. For more information, visit livoniagardenclub.org.

#### Plant sale

The Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County will sell tomato plants, pepper plants and flowers 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at MSU Extension/RESA, 5454 Venoy, Wayne. Proceeds fund local grants and scholarships. www.mgwwc.org

#### Plant sharing

9-11 a.m. Saturday, May 9, Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. Free

#### Plymouth Nursery

» Learn how to grow fruit trees, 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2. Mark Boland of Eastern Shores Nursery will present the free session.

» Kids can plant a flower for mom for free, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 9-10

» Jerry Amoroso of Week's Roses will give a free presentation about roses, 1 p.m. May 9.

» Learn to create container gardens at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, and 7 p.m. Thursday, May 28. Bring your own container or buy one at the store. Call to reserve a spot.

The nursery is located at 9900 Ann Arbor Road, west of Plymouth; 734-453-5500.

#### English Gardens

Blaine Fowler from WDVD 96.3's Blaine & Allison Morning Show will be at the Royal Oak store, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2.

Classes are held at all stores unless noted. 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.



## May designated as awareness month for mental health

May will soon be here and with it comes National Mental Health Awareness Month and Child Mental Health Awareness Week. Both are great reminders to share knowledge and enhance awareness of mental health.

All too often, in the aftermath of a mental illness-related catastrophe, such as a massive school shooting, people raise the question, "When are we going to start talking about mental health?" One of the purposes of this column is to answer the question. The answer is, "We are, but..." There always is a but. Perhaps, we are not talking about it enough. Or, we're not talking about it in a manner that is shared enough. In the aftermath of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings of Dec. 14, 2012 in Newtown, Conn., President Barack Obama asked "When are we going to talk about mental health issues in our society?" Well, let's look



Len McCulloch  
OUR MENTAL HEALTH

back.

### In the past

On Feb. 5, 1963, President John F. Kennedy sent to the U.S. Congress a series of proposals to fight mental illness. He said, "These afflictions have been long neglected, occur more frequently, affect more people and can require more prolonged treatments and can cause more individual and family suffering than any other conditions in American life." In his speech to Congress, Kennedy noted that we must seek out the causes and strengthen the underlying resources of knowledge. Sharing knowledge enhances awareness.

Shortly after Kennedy's speech, Oakland County be-

came the first county in Michigan to establish a community mental health board to implement mental health programs. Next month will mark the 51st year of services in the county. Through undertakings in mental health venues, we can see a strengthening of education and rehabilitation services which makes our society leaps and bounds ahead of where we were 50 years ago. Oakland County Community Mental Health Services, as well as many like-minded mental health authorities across our nation promote mental health for all. Yet, the question is still asked "When are we going to start talking about mental health?"

### What is mental health?

Sigmund Freud, Karl Menninger, and others have defined mental health for us. And, I would agree with them. However, a lesser-known physician named Michael Condra at Queen's University in Ontar-

io, Canada, sums up what mental health is in a way which can be rather meaningful to the general public. Condra said "With mental health we can engage in productive activities and enjoy fulfilling relationships. With mental health we have the ability to adapt to changes and cope with adversity when it happens. With mental health we can use flexibility to solve problems. Mental health does not equal blissful happiness, but with mental health we can find contentment and deal with stress." I would add that with mental health we can experience empathy, and enjoyment.

For 35 years, I have had on my desk a small quote by an anonymous person who said: "Please consider the feeling of others, especially those who would never let you know how they feel." It's a helpful reminder for me.

Yes, we are talking more about mental health and mental illness. But, perhaps not

long enough or loud enough. Hopefully, National Mental Health Awareness Month can lead to a decrease in stigma, an increase in implementations of treatments for mental illness, and an increase in knowledge for our readers to know where to seek help. The resources are there.

This column is a resource. There are more than 200 Our Mental Health columns — nearly 15 years worth — about numerous issues pertinent to mental health/mental illness archived at the Farmington Hills Library. Its website is [www.farmlib.com](http://www.farmlib.com). These are written in language that the general public can understand.

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, addictions, traumatic stress, brain injury, and social work. He can be reached for consultation at 248-474-2963, Ext. 222.

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### Aging parents

When Aging Parents Need Your Help, a panel discussion, will run 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, in the South Auditorium at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Attendees will get a chance to ask questions and get advice from Audra Frye, community placement specialist, Alisa Kwang, attorney, Paula Swain, financial consultant, Jessica Weathers of the Senior Wellness Center at St. Mary Mercy, and Bruce Webb, senior real estate specialist. Free, but registration is required at 734-738-6300.

### Art, memory loss

Individuals with mild memory loss can tour highlights from the University of Michigan Museum of with docents, 1-2 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at the Museum, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. The free, informal tour, designed for people who live at home and their companions, will be interactive, using music as well as discussion to prompt thoughts. Register by emailing [umma-program-registration@umich.edu](mailto:umma-program-registration@umich.edu) or call 734-647-0522.

### Balance series

St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, will offer a

free eight-week workshop for seniors, 60 and up, on managing falls and increasing activity, 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 6-June 24, in the hospital Wellness Center, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Participants will learn to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing activity, make changes to reduce fall risk at home and exercise to increase strength and balance. Registration is required. Call 734-655-1310.

### Breastfeeding class

Botsford Hospital's Breastfeeding Clinic offers a three-hour course to help expectant parents get breastfeeding off to a good start, 6:30-

9:30 p.m. Monday, May 11, at the hospital, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Participants will get an opportunity to examine products and supplies. Cost is \$35. Register for Breastfeeding Basics by calling 248-888-2500 or visit [botsford.org](http://botsford.org).

### Childbirth class

Learn about the stages of labor, managing pain, relaxation and breathing methods, the partner's role in labor and delivery, medications and anesthesia, C-section deliveries and more in a four-seeek class that meets 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning May 6, at Botsford Hospital, 28050 Grand River, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$75. Register by calling 248-888-2500; [botsford.org](http://botsford.org).

### Clothing sale

Post-operative bariatric patients will sell their gently used, plus-sized clothing, in sizes 14-32 for women and 40-60 up to 5XL for men, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in the South Lobby at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. For more information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at 877-Why-Weight.

### Diabetes prevention

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan kicks off its My Choice ... My Health diabetes prevention program in Canton with an information session, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center, 1600 S. Canton Center Road. The 16-week program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 21, at the center. A trained lifestyle coach helps partici-

pants learn about behavior changes, including eating properly and increasing physical activity, at weekly meetings. To qualify for the program, participants must be overweight and at a high risk for developing diabetes, or overweight and diagnosed with prediabetes. Register at [www.nkfm.org/dpp](http://www.nkfm.org/dpp) or call 800-482-1455.

Learn about meal planning, medication management, blood sugar control and physical activity at a free diabetes management class, 5-7 p.m. April 29, at Oakwood Physical Therapy & Wellness Center, 17101 Rotunda Drive, Dearborn. Register at 800-543-9355; [Oakwood.org](http://Oakwood.org).

### Low vision support

Meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. Ellen Stross at 734-453-0750, Ext. 232.

### CITY OF LIVONIA ELECTION NOTICE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A

### STATE SPECIAL ELECTION

Will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at which time, a State Sales Tax Proposal will be voted upon in the City of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan:

**A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ELIMINATE SALES AND USE TAXES ON GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL, ALLOW AN INCREASE IN THE SALES TAX RATE, DEDICATE REVENUE FOR SCHOOL AID, AND REVISE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL AID USES**

THE VOTING PLACES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Precinct	Location	Address
1A	Clarenceville JHS	20210 Middlebelt Road
1B	Clarenceville JHS	20210 Middlebelt Road
2A	Clarenceville HS	20155 Middlebelt Road
3A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
3B	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
4A	Webster School	32401 Pembroke Street
7A	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
8A	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
8B	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
9A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
10A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
11A	Coolidge School	30500 Curtis Avenue
12A	Coolidge School	30500 Curtis Avenue
13A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
14A	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
15A	Buchanan School	16400 Hubbard Road
16A	Cass School	34633 Munger Avenue
16B	Buchanan School	16400 Hubbard Road
17A	Hoover School	15900 Levan Road
17B	Hoover School	15900 Levan Road
18A	Holmes School	16200 Newburgh
19A	Randolph School	14470 Norman Avenue
19B	Randolph School	14470 Norman Avenue
20A	Frost School	14041 Stark Road
21A	Frost School	14041 Stark Road
22A	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
22B	Kennedy School	14201 Hubbard Road
23A	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
23B	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
24A	Roosevelt School	30200 Lyndon Avenue
24B	Riley School	15555 Henry Ruff Road
25A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
31A	Rosedale School	36651 Ann Arbor Trail
31B	Rosedale School	36651 Ann Arbor Trail
32A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
33A	Garfield School	10218 Arthur Avenue
34A	Grant School	9300 Hubbard Road
34B	Grant School	9300 Hubbard Road
34C	Grant School	9300 Hubbard Road
35A	Emerson School	29100 West Chicago Ave
35B	McKinley Center	9101 Hillcrest Avenue
35C	McKinley Center	9101 Hillcrest Avenue
36A	Emerson Center	29100 West Chicago Ave
36B	Cleveland School	28030 Cathedral Avenue

### RELATIVE TO THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF POLLS

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

### VOTER INSTRUCTIONS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

To comply with the voting accessibility requirements, the voting instructions will be provided on a CD. Any voters who request the voting instructions in an "alternative format" in advance of the election will be supplied with a copy of the CD. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in an "alternative format" should be made by contacting the clerk in advance of the election no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Election. In an instance where a voter contacts his or her local clerk in advance of the election to request that the voter instructions be available in an "alternative format" in the polls, the clerk will arrange to have a cassette player available in the polling place.

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR CITY OF LIVONIA RESIDENTS

Voter's may obtain an absentee ballot by submitting an application to the Livonia City Clerk's office. Applications may be printed from the City of Livonia website ([www.ci.livonia.mi.us](http://www.ci.livonia.mi.us)). you can call the Clerks office at 734-466-2121 and leave your name and address to have an application sent to you, or you can pick up an application at the City Clerk's office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI, 48154. The last day we can mail an absentee ballot is Saturday, May 2, 2015. Voted Absentee Ballots must be returned to the Livonia City Clerk's office by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

SUSAN A. HOFF  
LIVONIA CITY CLERK

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- Pre-Game on field recognition
- Detroit Tigers personalized framed certificate of appreciation

**SUNDAY GAME DATES**

- May 24
- June 14
- July 5
- September 6
- September 20
- September 27

Email your essay to: [cbjordan@michigan.com](mailto:cbjordan@michigan.com) Subject line: **"PAWS FOR APPLAUSE"**

Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.



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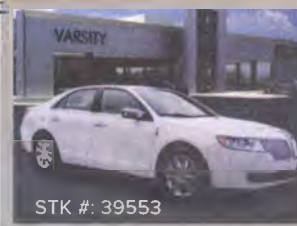
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STK #: 39648

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STK #: 39660

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• Heated Seats  
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STK #: 39908

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STK #: 40065

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**Event Hours:**

Monday 4/27/15 8:30am-9pm • Tuesday 4/28/15 8:30am-6pm  
Wednesday 4/29/15 8:30am-6pm

\*Based on Q2/2015 Total Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. \*As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details. †Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 4/30/15.