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15-percent voter turnout expected for election

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

About 15 percent of Westland and Wayne voters are expected to head to the polls Tuesday to vote on the state roads proposal, along with local ballot questions in Wayne.

Proposal 1 would raise the state sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent while removing the sales tax from fuel. The fuel tax would be increased with those funds going to roads, unlike the sales tax. The

complicated proposal includes additional funding for schools and local government.

"This election is an anomaly. It (turnout) all depends on the feeling of voters," Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof said. "It's just a guess, but I would say 15 percent turnout, maybe 20 percent."

In Westland, 4,570 absentee ballots have been requested and about 83 percent of those had been returned by Friday.

"I expect over 90 percent (of absentee ballots) will be back,"

Schoof said. "I hope voters will study the issue, do their due diligence and vote. People have been coming in — they're a little upset at how the state did it and all that is tied to it (Proposal 1)."

Wayne City Clerk Matthew Miller is also expecting about a 15-percent voter turnout in his city.

"It's an unusual election. I think it will go in line with primary election turnout in an off-year election," Miller said.

There have been approxi-

mately 800 absentee ballot requests for this election, Miller said. Wayne voters will also consider charter amendments to establish and fund a P.A. 345 police and fire pension fund.

"I think the statewide proposal will bring out more people than the city questions," Miller said. "There was advertising and more spending on Proposal 1."

Taking a stand

Unlike the Wayne-Westland board of education, which has

publicly supported Proposal 1, the Westland and Wayne city councils have taken no position on the state ballot question.

"I shared all the information with the council. There was no indication that the council wanted to take up a resolution," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "I personally will be voting for it. The money that it brings into the city — that's the reason I will support it."

Locally, Proposal 1 would

See ELECTION, Page A2



Students at the Tinkham Alternative High School in Westland have been making bowls since September for Thursday's Empty Bowls benefit.

WWCSD

Wayne voters consider city ballot questions

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Unlike the many mailings and television commercials on the state roads question, Proposal 1, there hasn't been much done to promote or oppose charter amendments before Wayne voters Tuesday.

Wayne voters will be asked to amend the city charter to establish a P.A. 345 police-fire retirement program and up to 3 mills in funding for five years.

That millage would generate just over \$1 million and is aimed at helping take pressure off the city's strapped general fund.

It's the second time the city has sought an alternative to paying for the police-fire retirement costs from the general fund.

"We have sent out pieces to all absentee voters — about 800 voters," said Mitch Tokarski, president of the Wayne-Westland firefighters union. "We'll do two or three more. I had four or five people in the community ask me about it with positive response. I received one nasty letter back."

The proposed budget submitted to council includes closing the Wayne Community Center and not filling two vacant police officer positions but would still have a \$1.6 million shortfall. The proposal is to offset that shortfall with one-time funding from the Other Postemployment Employee Benefit Trust.

Getting past the upcoming fiscal year, Wayne would have shortfall deficit for the following year due to a structural deficit — not having enough revenue to cover expenses.

While Wayne is hoping to receive federal SAFER grant funding to add firefighters, the city currently has only 12 firefighters.

"Someone is on overtime daily. The problem is that with two firefighters on the engine and two on Rescue, anytime someone has a day off, it creates overtime," Tokarski said. "That's been a significant piece for the council. We're

See BALLOT, Page A2

Tinkham students do encore of Empty Bowls luncheon

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Students in ceramic classes at the Tinkham Alternative High School are inviting the community to attend their second annual Empty Bowls luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 7.

Held at the William D. Ford Career technical Center in Westland, guests will be asked for a suggested donation of \$5 for the meal that will include soups and salad prepared by Chef Tony Paquette and his students.

Proceeds will benefit the Wayne-Westland Family Resource Center.

"The kids that were involved last year are super excited about it this year," art teacher Anne Chambers said. "The new kids aren't as excited, but until you do this, you don't fully understand."

Twenty-two students in Chambers' ceramics 1 and 2 classes have been making bowls since September, thanks to the UAW at the Michigan Assembly Plant donating a kiln, supplies and 300 pounds of clay.

'Fantastic'

Union officials Bill Johnson and Dwayne Walker had been at last year's event to present a \$1,000 check to support Empty Bowls. That's when Johnson announced the union also would be providing a kiln after hearing how the students' handmade bowls had to be glazed and fired at a kiln at Wayne Memorial high school.

"It was fantastic," Chambers said of the donation. "It was really nice because the bowls could be done differently. The bowl quality this year is unique; there are

more styles and more design work."

Last year students made 150 bowls for the event. Every person who attended received a bowl at the luncheon and, even when it was over, people were still coming to make a donation and get a bowl. This year the number will be closer to 190 bowls.

She estimates there were three-four left last year that were used as samples for the students this year.

"It was a gift that kept on giving," she said.

Soup and salad

On the menu will be a salad option and soups. Popular last year, chicken tortilla soup will be back as one of the selections along with a vegetable soup, said social

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ELECTION

Continued from Page A1

provide a 66-percent increase in road funding for Westland and Wayne by the 2018 fiscal year. That would take Westland from \$4.7 million current to \$7.9 million, Wayne from \$996,360 to \$1.6 million.

Constitutional State Shared Revenue would also increase 12 percent annually. That's up to \$7.4

million from \$6.6 million for Westland and \$1.5 million for Wayne, up from \$1.39 million.

A recent forum on the state roads proposal found little public support for Proposal 1 — something reported in recent statewide surveys.

"I think it will still be an uphill battle. The people I talk with are upset with the state," Wild said.

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BALLOT

Continued from Page A1

trying to fix that in negotiations."

Predicting a 15-percent voter turnout, Wayne City Clerk Matthew Miller said he expects Proposal 1 to

draw more voters than the two P.A. 345 questions.

"There was more advertising and that could spur on voters," Miller said. "I hope people come out to vote."

Wayne voters recently received new voter identification cards to

reflect changes in precincts and polling places required by implementation of ward voting, approved by voters last year.

Precincts 1 and 2 are now voting at Hoover Elementary School; precincts 4 and 5 cast ballots at Taft-Galloway Elementary school; and

precincts 3 and 6 are now at the Wayne Activities and Banquet Center.

"We have new maps and signs. All of the locations are past polling places," Miller said.

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BOWLS

Continued from Page A1

studies teacher Diane Fournier who helped with the event.

Students will be on hand to help to man the bowls booth and tables. In addition to lunch, there also will be a raffle of baskets donated by local businesses. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the luncheon.

The students also designed the flier for the program and even visited the Wayne Rotary Club to promote the event.

"The goal is to have them involved in everything we're doing," Fournier said.

Proceeds will go to the Resource Center, which helps students and their families living in the Wayne-Westland district.

"It's really great to see them giving back," added Chambers.

"They're so passionate about it. They want to



WWCSD

The UAW at the Michigan Assembly Plant donated a kiln, supplies and clay to the Tinkham Alternative High School allowing for teacher Anne Chambers to offer ceramics 1 and 2 classes to students.

give back to help other students."

People interested in attending need only show up at the Career Technical Center at

36455 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Seating will be in the center's Commons.

For more information or to make a donation,

contact Fournier at fournierd@wwcsd.net.

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Secretary of State rides to Schoolcraft College to spread motorcycle safety awareness

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Friday was the perfect day for Cheryl Hawkins to hop on her motorcycle and ride to work.

The dean of liberal arts and sciences at Schoolcraft College joined Secretary of State Ruth Johnson and about 40 other motorcyclists for a ride Friday morning from the Motor City Harley Davidson dealership on Grand River in Farmington Hills to the college's main campus in Livonia.

Hawkins said touring Michigan on a motorcycle is a great pastime of hers, as long as it's done safely.

"There's no better way to see the state than riding," she said. "But with that comes the responsibility. Safety is first."

The ride was the kick-off for Motorcycle Awareness Safety Month, a time when more riders are out on the roads.

Johnson said nearly 500,000 people have the motorcycle endorsement



Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson arrives at the Schoolcraft College campus.

on their driver's license, indicating they have taken safety classes and can operate a motorcycle safely.

"Michigan has required a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license since 1969," said Johnson, an avid

motorcyclist. "It means you know the rules, you have the skills to be a licensed rider, which is so important."

She said 84 percent of motorcycles in 2004 in the state were operated by those with an endorsement. It's those other

riders without one, Johnson said, that can cause problems on the roads.

"It was the other group of drivers, the 16 percent who don't have their endorsement, who were involved in 60 percent of all motorcycle crashes," she said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dr. Cheryl Hawkins, dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Schoolcraft College, speaking at the event, is a motorcycle rider.

"That's truly a big red flag."

The first 9,000 people who take the basic rider course will be offered a "high visibility" vest, a neon-yellow vest designed to make riders more visible. Those vests are being supplied through the help of a federal grant through the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.

Her agency has recently begun launching a new online component to motorcycle safety training classes to complete basic information online. The program is expected to be available to motorcyclists across the state.

Vince Consiglio, coordinator for the Metro Detroit Motorcycle Safety Consortium and president of ABATE of Michigan, said seeing the number of motorcyclists dying in accidents go down last year was a positive step.

Statistics show 107 people died in 2014, down from 128 in 2013.

"Last year was the second-lowest fatality rate (the last 10 years)," said Consiglio, a Milford resident. "We're happy that it's going down."

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Sewer work closes northbound Levan at Five Mile

Crews installing a new 10-inch sanitary sewer have forced the closing of northbound Levan Road, near Five Mile.

The new sanitary sewer is being installed underneath the existing northbound lanes of Levan, causing the road to be closed from Five Mile to just north of Jamison. The closure, which started Thursday, April 29, is expected to last two to three weeks.

Motorists are advised to use the posted detour,

which is Schoolcraft Road heading west, then north on Newburgh Road and finally east on Five Mile Road. Levan Road is restricted to one lane southbound from Five Mile until south of Jamison.

The work is designed to extend the sewer to three businesses near the intersection: Masri Orthodontics, Levan Road Veterinary Hospital and the former Livonia Dermatology building. Anyone traveling to those

businesses can reach them by taking the posted detour, turning southbound on Levan and making the left turn.

Levan is also scheduled for more extensive work, including concrete base repair and an asphalt overlay, likely beginning in June. That project is expected to run through late September.

For more information, contact the city's Engineering Department at 734-466-2570.

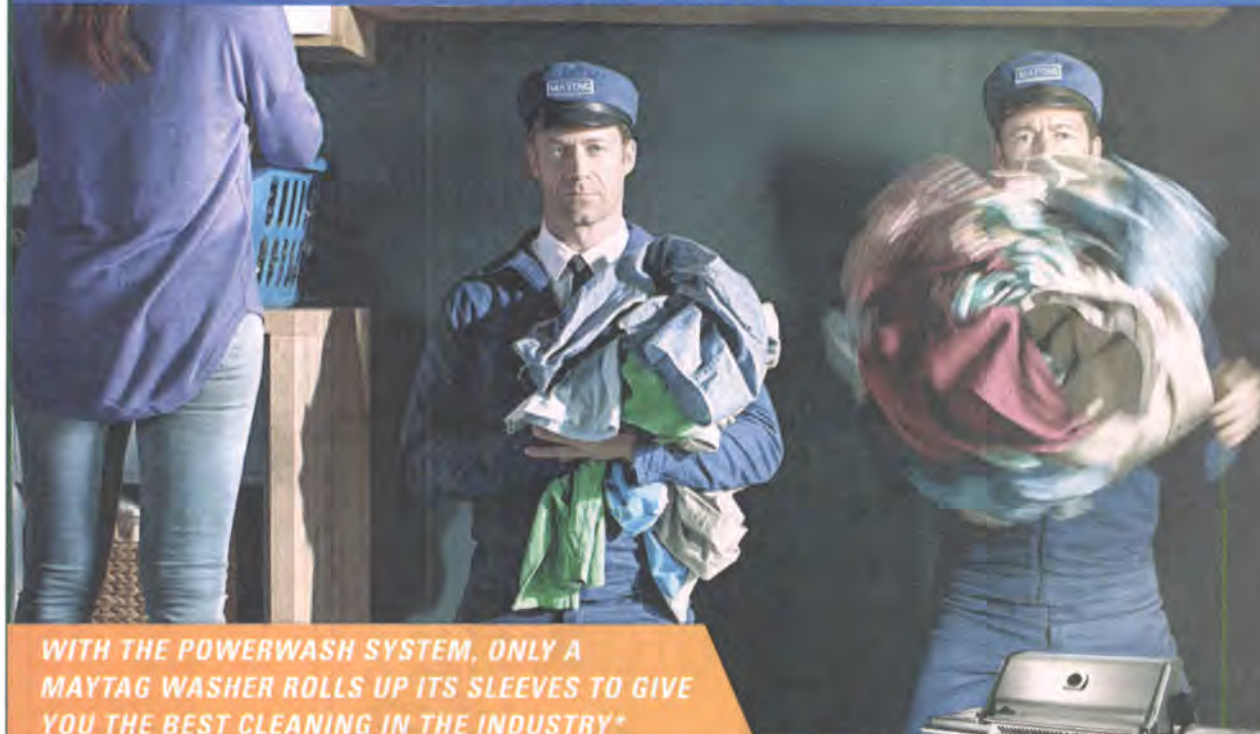


The closure on Levan from Five Mile to just north of Jamison, which started Thursday, is expected to last two to three weeks.

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FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE™

Garden City teachers win Meemic Foundation grant

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Fourth-grade teacher Michelle Rowland knows how to stretch \$300 for a classroom makeover.

She recently was awarded a \$300 check from the Meemic Foundation in Michigan to spend anyway that she wanted in her classroom at the Douglas Elementary 3-4 Campus.

Since 1992, the Meemic Foundation for the Future of Education has been supporting education excellence through funding programs and other partnership initiatives.

Created by Meemic Insurance Company and founded as a nonprofit organization, the Meemic Foundation is dedicated to advancing the future of education by offering financial assistance to public, private, parochial and charter schools and colleges and universities.

"There were 90 applicants," Rowland said. "There were three of us."

In her essay, Rowland said that she wanted to expand her classroom library because it is very important for each student to have books for independent reading at their specific reading levels.

"My classroom lacks specific genres," Rowland said.

'Strong readers'



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Fourth-grade teacher Michelle Rowland smiles amidst her class of 30 at the Douglas 3-4 Campus.

In her essay, Rowland said, "If I were to be selected, I could further engage students to become strong independent readers."

She bought new books, three new bookshelves from IKEA and 36 book bags to put their leveled reading books in their desks.

"Some of them were Adventure that I was trying to gather, non-fiction like informational texts and biographies. I was just trying to find some that the kids just gravitate to," Rowland said. "They love the *I Survive* series. They love it. These are classroom library books for independent



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Teacher Michelle Rowland and her class will get a spiffed-up classroom thanks to the Meemic Foundation Grant award she received. The class members are James Alford, Hannah Belcher, Liliauna Burden, Kayla Campbell, Harry Dembowski, Kollin DeQuin, Cameron Dietzel, Kurtis Fenner, Colin Fraley, Nevaeh Graham, Conner Hilton, Ragin Johnson, Matthew Jones, Hailey Kemp, Kewan Lewis, Jordyn McDaniel, Robert Mendez, Kaden Merchant, Amaya Montes, Adrian Muntean, Abrielle Ogdie, Sabrina Pechanec, Caleb Pettit, Evan Portner, Donivon Schendel, Maria Vera-Barba, Alaina Vlaz, Christopher Wainright, Zach White and Jacob Whitehouse.

reading."

Rowland has worked for the Garden City Public School District for 16 years and at Douglas for the last six years.

"Everyone doesn't read at a fourth-grade level, and you are working to get them up to grade level," she said. "Some

are reading above grade level and you want to keep challenging them. Students should be reading 80-85 percent of their day at their level."

Canton Township residents, she and her husband, Derek, a Ford Motor Company assembler in Livonia, have two chil-

dren, who attend Garden City Schools: Kaelyn, a ninth-grader at Garden City High School; and Madisyn, a fifth-grader who is in the HAP program at the Farmington 5-6 Campus.

Other winners

Rowland said that teachers Paula Westerbur at Cambridge High School and Susan Smitt at Garden City Middle School also received the same Meemic award.

Smitt, a seventh-grade teacher consultant also plans to use the money to purchase independent reading books for her special education teachers. "The books will be different genres," Smitt said. "They like books like *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and *The Hunger Games*."

She also plans to get some suggestions from the English teacher and survey the students.

Westerbur plans to use the money to purchase graphic calculators and a document camera. The camera, called an Elmo, will allow the students' work to be projected to generate discussion from their classmates.

"I was extremely happy to receive it," said Westerbur, a full-time math teacher for three years. "Resources have been cut."

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Garden City student earns honorable mention on Spanish exam

Joana Varela-Luna of Garden City High School has attained national recognition for her excellent performance on the 2015 National Spanish Examinations.

"Attaining a medal or honorable mention for any student on the National Spanish Examinations is very prestigious," said Kevin Cessna-Buscemi, national director of the exams, "because the exams are the largest of their kind in the United

States with over 157,000 students participating in 2015."

Varela-Luna, placed in the 54 percentile, receiving an honorable mention on the exam that was taken in March. She took the bilingual version of the exam, an exam written for students who also use Spanish on a regular basis in the home, making her placement on the exam an even higher accomplishment than that of a general education student who simply

studies Spanish in school.

"I am so excited and proud that Joana placed," she added. "This puts Garden City on the map."

The National Spanish Examinations are administered each year in grades 6 through 12 and are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

"This is the second year students have taken the National Spanish Exam," said Vicki

Echegoyen, Varela-Luna and sponsor in the Socieda Honraria Hispanica or Spanish National Honor Society. "It is open to all students, but I only have my Honor Society students take the test because it is so difficult. It takes extra dedication and these students come after school to study."

"My next goal is to have students qualify in the 75 percentile and above. Above 79 percentile they can receive

monetary awards and national recognition in the AATSP newsletter," she added.

Echegoyen hopes to host a couple of meetings over the summer and schedule regular study sessions after school during the school year, focusing on learning topics not taught in the current curriculum that are found on the exam. She also is considering realigning the curriculum more to the national exam.



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Burger Center students take walk to promote autism awareness

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Students from the Burger Transition Center believe that the public should know more about autism awareness.

On Wednesday, April 29, 120 students, 65 staff and their families held a special walk from the center, located in the Henry Ruff Building at Maplewood and Henry Ruff, to the parking lots of Garden City High School and the Douglas Elementary 3-4 Campus on Maplewood.

"This is in honor of Autism Awareness Month and raising awareness in our community," said Lauren Cezon, a special education provider. "This event is sponsored by our Positive Behavior Intervention Support Committee. We want to celebrate our students, our community and our special differences that make us so unique."

The transition center is part of a county program provided by the Garden City Public Schools. Students come from throughout Wayne County for the program, with younger students attending classes at the Burger-Baylor Center in Inkster, while older students are at Henry Ruff.

Autism is a spectrum disorder. The students, who are across the continuum, are educated until age 26. The post-secondary center helps students develop job and vocational skills.

The Garden City police and fire departments were on hand to guide the students.

"This is nice," Fire Capt. Scott Marinkovich said. "I have never done this before, first time."

"The fire department provided the school with



The marchers react as drivers honk their car horns in support during the Autism Awareness Walk in Garden City.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Burger student Dylan Nesbitt marches down Maplewood in support of autism awareness.

some shirts to give away," Garden City Fire Chief Catherine Harman said. "The shirts are autism awareness shirts with a statement that Garden City firefighters support autism."

Outreach effort

The school is making a decided outreach effort.

"We are connecting more to the community," associate administrator Joe Valdivia said.

Quinn Ebner, 21, a Plymouth resident, is vice president of the student council, a first-year program.

"It's good exercise," Ebner said. "This is for

Autism Awareness Month."

Valdivia said that the Positive Behavior Support Committee does a monthly activity.

"We want our community to know that our students can be productive, helpful adults," he said.

Cezon added that it is important for the Garden City community to know these students are here. "We want to celebrate all of our individuality and uniqueness," she said.

Students made posters and wore their spirit wear. Some posters included a puzzle piece to represent the puzzling

disorder of autism, which can isolate them. They often do not "fit in" to the norm.

But these students are working to become the norm. Students have organized and coordinated a food and pantry

bank from noon to 2 p.m. the last Friday of each month that is open to the public.

The school will also have its first student-driven yearbook this year. Ebner suggested this idea when he ran for student council.

"We want to see the students and the teachers," Ebner said.

Work continues at the center.

"We work on communication and social skills throughout the building,"

Valdivia said. "We want the kids to become more self-advocating. We work a lot with helping our kids develop appropriate behavioral skills and interactions."

The students are learning to advocate for themselves and to not always be followers. Students also want after-school events typical of what is offered at other schools.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SueSBuck

Friends hold used book sale at Civic Center Library

The Friends of The Civic Center Library is sponsoring a three-day Used Book Sale May 15-17.

Books range in price from 25 cents to \$1; CDs and videos are priced as

marked.

On Sunday, the last day of the sale, a bag of books can be purchased for \$5.

All proceeds go back into the libraries. Sale hours are 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, May 17.

The library is at 32777 Five Mile Road.

For more information, call 734-466-2495.

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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.

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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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Livonia Arts Commission awards two \$1,000 scholarships

The Livonia City Arts Commission recognized the 2015 Fine Arts Scholarship recipients, Amanda Zawisa and Ivan Motonya-Vasquez, at Monday's Livonia City Council meeting.

Zawisa and Motonya-Vasquez were selected from among several applicants to receive \$1,000 each for studying arts in college.

Zawisa will be a 2015 Churchill High School graduate, and is a current Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) dance major. She is the first president of the Churchill chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts, and an



Submitted
Amanda Zawisa, pictured with Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, won a \$1,000 scholarship from the Livonia City Arts Commission to study dance at Wayne State University.

appointed member of the Thespian Board. Zawisa will pursue a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance



Submitted
Ivan Motonya-Vasquez is working toward his bachelor of fine arts degree in illustration at the College of Creative Studies.

at Wayne State University.

Zawisa's passion for dancing started at age 3. She began competing by age 8, and has earned

high honors, specialized awards and titles. Even though her love is ballet, she also enjoys pointe, jazz, tap, contemporary and hip-hop. Zawisa has also been a member of the Livonia Ballet Co. for 13 years. Despite her involvement in multiple organizations, she finds time to be a substitute dance instructor at Miss Jeans Dance Arts and is a dance skills gymnastic coach for the Livonia YMCA. Her dream is to open up her own dance studio and become a Rockette.

Motonya-Vasquez is a 2013 Stevenson High School graduate who is working toward his bach-

elor of fine arts degree in illustration at the College of Creative Studies, where he has earned praise for his commitment and dedication toward consistently exceeding expectations and exemplifying a high level of artistic integrity.

Along with attending school and tutoring children at the Livonia Kuman Learning Center, Motonya-Vasquez also works as an illustrator for an up and coming comic series. Motonya-Vasquez still finds time to share his gift with the community as he helps teach arts, crafts and face painting. Motonya-Vasquez's dream is to

work for Pixar so he can create stories for families to enjoy.

The Arts Commission is dedicated to furthering the fine arts and arts education through the awarding of these scholarships. Scholarships are offered yearly to Livonia residents studying the arts in college.

The Arts Commission is appointed by Mayor Jack Kirksey as follows: Chairperson Brian Dugan, Donna Eno, Haitham Fakhouri, Grace Karczewski, Dan Pawlak, Carrie Spurling, Dan Spurling, Karen Voran, Jerry Valentine, Pam Valentine, Kira Leeper and Robert Khzouz.

Knezek sponsors legislation to protect veterans with service dogs

State legislators have unveiled a bipartisan, bicameral package of legislation that would protect Michigan veterans who use service dogs to better manage the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. Current state law does not protect veterans who use service dogs.

"In the aftermath of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, it's important to remember that not all wounds are visible," said Sen. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights. "We've all heard the stories of veterans being asked to leave businesses because it didn't appear that they suffered from any physical condition. While I don't believe there was

any hostile intent, this opened the door to conversations about the need for education and protection under the law."

Knezek and Sen. Margaret O'Brien, R-Portage, will each sponsor a bill in the Senate. Reps. Tom Barrett, R-Potterville, and David Rutledge, D-Superior Township, will each sponsor a bill in the House of Representatives.

"The therapy these dogs provide a veteran is incredible," Barrett said. "Transitioning home from Iraq and Afghanistan isn't always an easy process. We need to understand that, respect it, and do everything we can do to help welcome our veterans home. The bond between a veteran with post-traumatic stress

disorder or traumatic brain injury and their service dog gives them both a new lease on life. They're more than just a dog. They're family."

Knezek and Barrett are the only Iraq War veterans serving in the state Legislature. They were joined in announcing the bills by Army veteran Tom Jones, who uses a service dog in his everyday life.

"I'm thankful for my right hand man, Baxter," said Mr. Jones. "He has led me to open many new doors. He is a part of my family and he has changed my life. I was a hermit for a long time but he has brought me out of that. I reached the point where I knew I couldn't do it by myself. I didn't know a dog could

change that. But he did."

"Most of us have family members or friends who have served our country," said O'Brien, chairwoman of the Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security committee. "I am committed to promoting policies and services that provide a helping hand to our brave men and women. This is a bipartisan, bicameral effort to ensure that Michigan veterans are better protected."

Three of the bills would expand current statute on service dogs to include protections for veterans with PTSD or TBI, as well as others with psychological disorders that can use services dogs under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The fourth bill would create a voluntary application process with the state's Department of Civil Rights to obtain state-issued identification, dog tags and a vest for service dogs. Additional language in the bills seeks to bring state statute in line with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



SOM
Democratic Sen. David Knezek, Dearborn Heights, smiles as Iraq war veteran Tom Jones gets a lick from his service dog Baxter. Jones, who served in the Army, was deployed to Iraq twice and uses his service dog in his everyday life.

"We should be working hard each and every day to ensure that Michigan veterans make a smooth transition home from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," Rutledge said. "Far too many come home and fall through the cracks. Those who

are fortunate enough to get help with a service dog shouldn't have to worry about going out in the public and being turned away from a store or restaurant. This legislation is common sense and protects those who protected us."

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Executive director of Growth Works favors helping kids learn to be strong, resilient

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Dale Yagiela, executive director of Plymouth-based Growth Works, has been working with young people since the agency's founding as Plymouth Youth Inc. in 1971.

In reviewing a recent study at the University of Michigan, Novi resident Yagiela questioned some of the findings.

"He's talking about aggressive behavior in children. I'm more inclined to look at what kind of bonding attachment went on at an early age," Yagiela said. "The amount of trauma in a kid's early life has a lot to do with it."

Predicting which kids will continue to get into trouble with the law or have psychiatric or drug problems can be challenging if specific childhood behaviors and traits are evaluated separately, according to the U-M study.

To determine which types of behaviors and traits overlap — which could improve the odds of predicting behavioral outcomes — researchers evaluated children's antisocial behavior based on the age they started the conduct, whether they lacked empathy and had shallow emotions and the amount of aggression vs. rule-breaking symptoms.

The study followed low-income urban males from infancy to age 20 and found that children who were antisocial before age 10 were likely to have aggressive symptoms, although not necessarily less empathy.

Starting antisocial behavior early in life, as well as the presence of serious aggression in the



Novi resident Dale Yagiela, executive director of Plymouth-based Growth Works, has been with the agency since its 1971 origins. He agreed some young people are written off too soon as delinquent and troubled.

JULIE BROWN

teen years, predicted early adulthood arrests and psychiatric disorders, such as antisocial personality disorder, depression and drug addiction. A lack of empathy only predicted adolescent arrests and later drug addiction, according to the study.

"We found that any antisocial behavior in adolescence (results in) poorer outcomes in early adulthood, but that early starting antisocial behavior and those with more aggressive symptoms had the worst outcomes," Luke Hyde, U-M assistant professor of psychology and the study's lead author, said in a statement. "In fact, the presence of even one serious aggressive symp-

tom was one of the most predictive of poor outcomes at age 20."

Hyde is also a faculty associate at the U-M Institute for Social Research.

Parenting key

Yagiela noted in treating delinquent youth at Growth Works (its name changed in 1976), often, "Parents never sat and read a book with them."

Young children need to know they're protected and have consistent behavior, Yagiela said. Otherwise, "they will in all likelihood become aggressive. It's a form of aggression for survival," Yagiela said. "We need to know more about why kids become aggressive in the first place. Aggres-

sive kids probably become aggressive adults."

"What they're saying is the die is cast early," Yagiela said of the U-M study. "Without any intervention, it's likely so," that such young adults will end up in prison or with other difficulties such as drug addiction.

Yagiela cited work by Western Michigan University's Jim Henry, who evaluates parents in homes where children have been removed by authorities. Henry has found children and teens need "emotional attunement," such as teaching emotions like sadness or being hurt.

"Connection is being interested in your child and putting the time in," Yagiela said, noting parents are often busy now with work. Children and teens also need structure, to understand rules and consequences, he said.

Some children and teens end up in a role reversal, he said, "parenting" their parent. "Eventually, they just give up," he said of such young people. "They're kind of on their own" to survive.

Learning to be resilient is less likely, Yagiela said, for young people who grow up with tension and stress in the family and neighborhood. "They'll have an aroused state, be hyper-vigilant," including in school, he said.

Yagiela noted today's trend of zero tolerance rules with firm interventions. There's often a family "none of your business" attitude when it comes to agencies like Children's Protective Services, he added.

Overall juvenile crime is actually down, he said, but draws more attention. Adolescence is also defined as longer now, Yagiela noted, with brain development lasting to age 25 or so.

Social media use, he said, means that now, "Nothing is secret. Everything is common knowledge." Younger people without full brain development may react impulsively.

"Well, they weren't thinking. What they were doing was reacting," Yagiela said. "Their ability to think through the consequences isn't there."

Concerned about marijuana attitudes

Yagiela is opposed to legalization of marijuana, noting its harm on young people's brain development. "What you're doing is relaxing the social more around it," he said. Social policy makes marijuana easier for young people to acquire, just as they can for alcohol, he said.

Agreeing on not legalizing marijuana is Paul Motz, director of Westland Youth Assistance. "Years of seeing kids struggling, lower academic performance, strained relationships" prompt his view, said Motz, with WYA 19 years and in helping work for 25 years.

"They're going to be more likely to use it" earlier, said Motz, a Westland resident. "It's not the same type of marijuana now either. It's much more potent. People are even having psychotic episodes. I've seen the effects, what it does to kids and families."

Motz added he sees young people age 17-22 going to adult court on offenses and he questions when they began drug experimentation.

Yagiela favors such measures as WMU's Henry's studies or sending a registered nurse to a young new mother's home to help her. Such resources often head off problems later, he said.

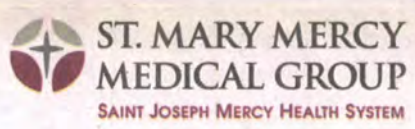
"They are written off too soon," he agreed of some young people. Yagiela and Growth Works colleagues have seen former clients with criminal justice or drug issues later go on to finish medical school or pursue other challenging careers.

"Once you've done these things, what are the implications for the kid as he moves forward?" Yagiela said of writing off kids too soon. The 17 communities served by Growth Works now often have young people who are undisciplined, have had minimal structure and a generally poor home life, he said.

Yagiela also cited school district suspension and expulsion policies, an issue as districts accept outside students who may be perceived as less part of that community.

The U-M study's other researchers included S. Alexandra Burt of Michigan State University, M. Brent Donnellan of Texas A&M University and Daniel Shaw and Erika Forbes of the University of Pittsburgh. The findings appear in the Journal of Abnormal Psychology.

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SEMCOG challenges drivers to try a greener commute in May

The world's oldest person was the guest of honor when The Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging 1-C (TSA), held its 35th annual meeting and luncheon last week at Wayne Tree Manor in Wayne.

Jeralean Talley of Inkster, who is 115 years old, is a client with TSA, which has worked closely with her and her family so that she is able to remain in her home. Talley is an embodiment of TSA's mission to empower people with needs, to live with dignity in the community they choose, by providing available services. The Senior Alliance's Board Chairman Frank Vaslo led a standing ovation by the more than 300 attendees in recognition of Talley.

Each year, The Senior Alliance presents awards to those in the community who have helped to fulfill the mission of the agency. TSA's Legislative Award was presented to former Congressman John D. Dingell who received his award from Board Vice-Chair Dr. Tom Jankowski. Board member Kathleen McIntyre presented the Corporate Award to the LaJoy Group and the Edward H. McNamara Award to Robert and Carolyn Quillico.

The keynote speakers were U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, D-Dearborn, and Barbara Medvec, the senior vice-president and chief

nursing officer for Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. Dingell spoke about the need for better long-term medical care, pulling from her own experience when her husband was ill last year.

Medvec addressed the great partnership that Oakwood shares with The Senior Alliance especially in regards to the Care Transitions program.

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments has launched its 2015 Commuter Challenge 2015 for the entire month of May.

The "challenge" is for single passenger drivers to try a new mode of travel to work. There are incentives for trying something new include lightening the load of personal driving expenses such as gas, flat tires and fender benders and achieving a decreased carbon footprint with a "greener" commute.

"The 11th annual Commuter Challenge in southeast Michigan is designed to promote the use of different kinds of transportation, such as carpooling and van-pooling, public transportation, walking and biking, and making use of flextime and telecommute options. All of these choices will reduce roadway congestion, air pollution, and save commuters money," SEMCOG Executive Director Kathleen Lomako said.

Friday, May 1, was Casual Commute Day and southeast Michigan was competing against Lansing and Grand Rapids for the most commuter participation. Commuters who signed up were eligible for prizes.

Bike to School Day is Wednesday, May 6, and the annual Detroit Bike to Work Day on May 15 includes organized rides coming from the north, east and west to meet in downtown Detroit.

When commuters log their alternate commute days on the Commuter Challenge website, they will receive one point for each day. The more points received, the more chances to win prizes, including a Kindle, Detroit Tigers tickets, a Marriott hotel stay, Visa and Amazon gift cards, dinner at Andiamo, and more.

Benefits of not driving alone to work are many:

- » Avoid high gas prices. Leaving your car in the driveway can save most commuters at least \$3,000 annually. Calculate your savings with the MiRideshare Commute Cost Calculator.

- » Help the environment. Air quality improves with fewer vehicles on the road.

- » Reduce your stress. Enjoy your commute by reading, napping, checking email or socializing.

- » Find time to exercise. Incorporate cycling or walking into your commute for the additional fitness benefit.

Former U-M presidents talks alumni during scholarship dinner

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Former University of Michigan president Mary Sue Coleman shared her parting words with now-president Mark Schlissel with a group of alumni in Livonia Wednesday night.

"I said, 'this is the most wonderful place in the world,'" said Coleman, who led the university from 2002-2014. "It's not this little specialized place. It's the big place."

Coleman was the featured speaker at the U-M Club of Greater Northville's annual scholarship event, which took place Wednesday at Livonia's Laurel Manor. The club, which covers a wide swath of western Wayne and western Oakland counties, celebrated its 25th anniversary during the evening, which featured raffles and a silent auction.

Coleman talked about several of the items she feels were important during her tenure at U-M, including working with students on campus as well as what she sees from incoming freshman from her retired perspective.

"It's a really exciting time to be a college student. We look to the students to provide solutions and new ideas," she said. "The incoming class is brimming with talent."

She spoke of some of the economic development opportunities U-M decided to jump on, including the increased partnerships with Michi-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Former University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman speaks with alumni Gerry Svoboda and Susan Webb, right, during her April 29 visit to Livonia's Laurel Manor for the Alumni Association of Northville Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. Both Svoboda and Webb are Novi residents.

gan State University and Wayne State University to improve research and the purchase of the former Pfizer facilities when the company decided to move out of Ann Arbor in 2008.

That decision has resulted in work at that site moving along quicker than expected, she said.

"We're about five years ahead of schedule," she said. "It turned out to be a once-in-a-generation opportunity for us."

She said she's been appreciative of the work done by alumni across the country, and hopes future alumni will continue supporting students, something she told some of the students at the hall who were graduating.

"Always know Michigan alumni will support you," she said. "You do the same for the next generation of students."

Ron Braun, president

of the alumni chapter and a Farmington Hills resident, said the chapter has roughly 5,000 members but there are 23,000 eligible alumni living in the chapter's geographic area, which spans from Canton to Milford and Salem Township to Farmington Hills.

He said he was happy to secure Coleman as a speaker to the 50 or so alumni who attended Wednesday's dinner.

"She accomplished incredible things during her time," he said.

Ed Rennell, a founding member of the alumni chapter, said it's always a pleasure to hear Coleman give talks.

"I always enjoy her speeches," the Farmington Hills resident said. "I like the way she highlighted the major decisions she made."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

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Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day BRUNCH
SUNDAY, MAY 10th
11:00 am and 1:30 pm (Limited Seatings)

BREAKFAST BUFFET
Eggs Benedict, Scrambled eggs, Blueberry Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Hash Browns, and Assorted Breakfast Breads

SALAD BUFFET
Mixed Green Salad, Spring Pasta Salad, and Seasonal Fresh Fruit

ENTREE STATION
Prime Rib, Pork Loin with Cinnamon Apples, Chicken Piccata, Macaroni and Cheese, Redskin Potatoes, and Mixed Vegetables

DESSERT BUFFET
Assorted Cakes, Cookies, and Baked Goods
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Habitat for Humanity closes Plymouth office; moves to Canton

The Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County office on Starkweather in Plymouth has closed, with the affiliate relocating for now to Canton. "It was a lot of issues," said Alice Dent, HHWWC executive director. "Legally, I can't say things that might go in the paper."

Mail is being forwarded from the office on Starkweather in Plymouth's Old Village, she said. The phone number remains 734-459-7744 and the fax 734-459-7750.

"This is not an office where people can come. We don't have our own space. We're just not settled right now," Dent said of the Canton location. "We may even come back to Plymouth."

The Habitat affiliate

didn't serve lower-income residents of Plymouth with homes in which they invest "sweat equity," she said, rather serving those from surrounding communities. In January, the Habitat affiliate left Plymouth, with the space now rented to a business.

"We were not even that visible," Dent said of Plymouth's Old Village. "There were people that were shocked we were in Plymouth."

"We talked to our (business) neighbors. They wished us well," she added.

The Canton site isn't being disclosed now as it can't accommodate clients for interviews seeking homes or deliveries for Habitat's ReStore.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Rotary, Westland offer May 21 Resource Fair

The Westland Rotary and city of Westland will present a Family Resource Fair 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 21, at the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center (formerly Jefferson-Barns Elementary School), 32150 Dorsey.

"The goal this year at Westland Rotary is to better one life per member of our club," Westland Rotary President Lou Toarmina said. "We recognized the gap between community resources that help find jobs, health care, mental health, education, substance abuse rehab and so many more; and the people that need the resources. The fair is a chance to bring together the need and the service.

Our club is very excited."

The free event will offer a chance to learn about community resources and will feature food and entertainment. It is designed for families in the Wayne-Westland community.

A number of social service organizations will be represented, including Westland Youth Assistance, Wayne Youth Assistance, the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, Wayne-Westland Community Schools Family Resource Center, Wayne Metro Community Action Agency, City of Westland, Oakwood Health Centers, Starfish Family Services, Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures, local libraries, police and fire and others.

Schoolcraft College graduate wins prestigious transfer scholarship

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Efua Crentsil went speechless walking into the office Wednesday morning at the Grote Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Thinking she was there for a meeting, she instead left knowing she'd receive the next two years of college at a four-year university paid for.

Crentsil, who lives in South Lyon, was recently awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship, a national award given to students who apply. She's one of approximately 85 people across the country to win the award and is the fifth in four years named at Schoolcraft College. Several college officials, her former high school principal and her host mother were there to surprise her with the news Wednesday.

"Thank you to all the people who have made a difference in my life," she said. "I am so happy."

The 21-year-old, who came to Michigan as a part of a study exchange program, was born and raised in Ghana. She finished high school at South Lyon East and enrolled at Schoolcraft College, graduating in 2014. She's since worked at the school as a liaison between students and administration on curriculum and other issues.

She plans to attend Penn State University in the fall, and wants to become a nurse practitioner. After she receives her education, Crentsil wants to head back to her native Ghana and help those in need.

Crentsil came to Michigan out of pure chance, she said. Since



EFUA CRENTSIL RECEIVED A JACK KENT COOKE UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP IN A SURPRISE CEREMONY AT SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE. AT LEFT IS HER HOST MOM, LAURA MANICCIA.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

then, she said she's met a lot of people who have meant a lot to her, and she was happy to stay around for several years, even through some rough Michigan weather.

"I decided to stay regardless of the snow," she said.

'Whole world opens up'

Conway Jeffress, president of Schoolcraft College, informed Crentsil of the news. He said it's been a rare few years with so many students being awarded the scholarship, which cov-

ers up to \$40,000 a year for undergraduate transfer students.

He said he's happy so many students at Schoolcraft have been selected in recent years.

"Once you win this, the whole world opens up to you," Jeffress said. "It's a great feeling."

Crentsil graduated with a 3.89 GPA last summer and had a host of honors, including membership in the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society, the Bloomsbury Honor Society and was a nominee for the Interscholastic Bachelors Program in 2014. She also was a member of the cross-country team.

Laura Maniccia, Crentsil's host mother and a South Lyon resident, said it's been an amazing experience living with her over the last four years. The scholarship award, she said, is recognition for all the work Crentsil consistently puts in at work and at school.

"She's one of the hardest workers I've seen in my professional career," she said.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

Mother's Day

BRUNCH

Entrees served 12-4, Breakfast Bar served 12-2
Salad Bar, Amazing Sweets Table

<p>Entrees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carved Roast Beef • Roast Turkey • Breaded Pork Cutlet • Baked Fish • Chicken Piccata • Penne Pasta w/marinara • Whipped Potatoes w/gravy • Baked Sweet Yams • Mixed Vegetables 	<p>Breakfast Bar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrambled eggs • Sausage links • Bacon • Pancakes • Hash Browns • Assorted Danish • Orange and Cranberry Juice
---	--

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"Today, I just saw my great-grandson walk."

Telescope Implant for Macular Degeneration Now Available in Michigan

Imagine the heartbreak

for someone who gradually loses the ability to see her grandchildren, husband, and the people who mean the most to her. Now imagine her joy when she can see them again. Thanks to a groundbreaking new treatment program called CentraSight®, this dream can now be a reality for patients around the country with End-Stage age related macular degeneration (AMD), the leading cause of blindness in older Americans.

More than 15 million Americans are affected by some form of macular degeneration, a progressive disease that can lead to severe vision loss in its most advanced form, End-Stage AMD. The number is expected to double with the rapid aging of the U.S. population.

Macular Degeneration attacks the macula of the eye, where one's sharpest central vision occurs. Although it does not

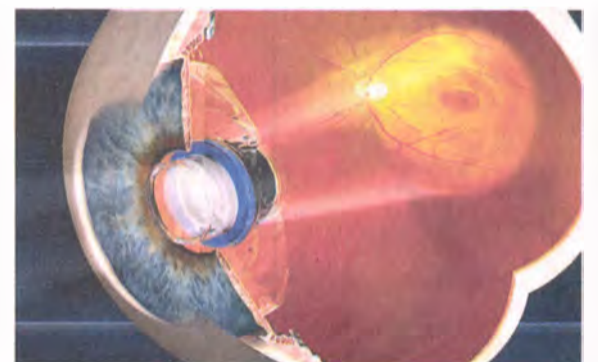


cause complete blindness, patients with End-Stage AMD have a central blind spot, or missing area, in their vision. This vision loss makes it difficult or impossible to see faces, read, and perform everyday activities such as watching TV, preparing meals, and self-care.

For many people, the first sign of AMD is something they notice themselves. Straight lines like doorways or telephone wires may appear wavy or disconnected. When they look at someone, their face may be blurred while the rest is in focus. Lines of print may be blurred in the center or the lines may be crooked.

CentraSight is the first treatment program to use a tiny telescope that is implanted inside the eye to treat End-Stage AMD. Smaller than a pea, the telescope implant uses micro-optical technology to magnify objects that would normally be seen in one's "straight ahead" vision. This image is projected onto the healthy retina in the back of the eye not affected by the disease.

The telescope implant improves patients' vision so they can see the things that are important to them, increase their independence, and manage everyday activities again. They can feel more



confident in social settings because they can recognize faces and see the facial expressions of family and friends.

If you have been diagnosed with AMD, the telescope implant used in the CentraSight treatment program could improve your vision — and reconnect you to the things in life that you love to see and do.

To learn more about the implantable telescope or to schedule an evaluation appointment, interested patients should contact the offices of

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You can also visit our website at www.LowVisionOfMichigan.com
Offices located in Livonia, Michigan

'Star Wars' artist bringing his story, work to Canton

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Star Wars changed Chris Trevas' life. Sure, he spent childhood afternoons playing an intergalactic hero using his toy laser gun or action figures. He learned that a plastic Chewbacca turns green after spending a winter lost in the Michigan snow.

For the last 20 years, though, his career as an artist grew from working on a *Star Wars* role-playing game to becoming the primary artist for *Star Wars Kids* magazine and illustrator for *Star Wars* children's books for Golden Books and Random House Publishing.

Trevas is bringing his story and some of his work to the Canton Public Library at 7 p. m. Monday, May 4, a visit that coincides with the *Star Wars* unofficial holiday, May the 4th Be With You.

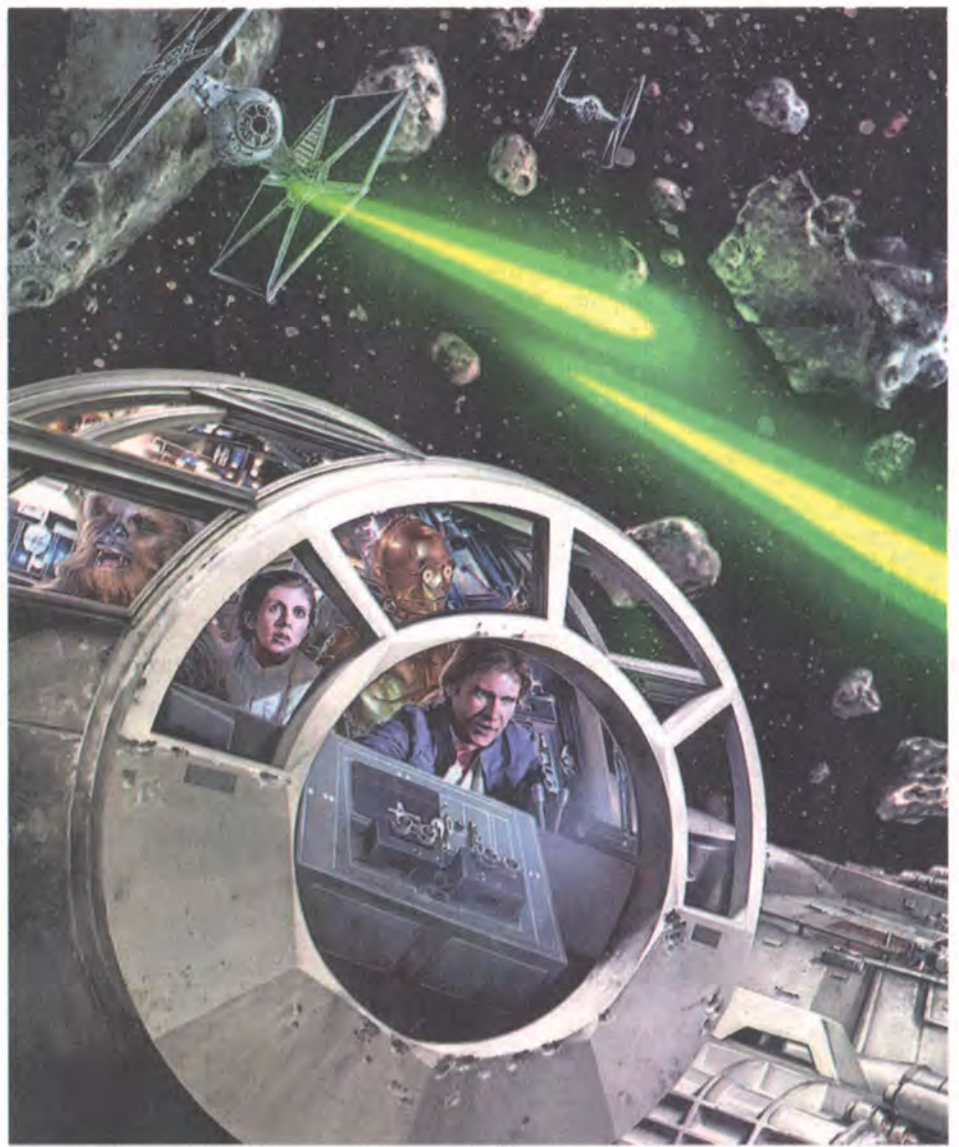


CHRIS TREVAS

Michigan artist Chris Trevas has worked on "Star Wars" art for 20 years.

The event is free and open to the public. Trevas, a graduate of the College of Creative Studies in Detroit, said 95 percent of his work now involves *Star Wars*.

"As a franchise, *Star Wars* kind of reinvents itself with every generation," said Trevas, a Beverly Hills, Mich., resident. Through movies, car-



CHRIS TREVAS

This is a "Star Wars" art print Chris Trevas did titled "Never Tell Me The Odds."

toons, magazines and children's books, the legacy has survived the generations since the first *Star Wars* movie debuted in 1977.

"It's an amazing thing that it has lasted so long," Trevas said, adding later, "It's pretty amazing how far it reaches."

Trevas has worked with nearly all of the big *Star Wars* licensees on numerous projects, using his artistic skills to keep his childhood dream going. He has the dialogue from some of the movies mostly committed to memory.

Trevas said he is likely

to bring some of his books, fine art prints, toy packaging and other art work to the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, where he will talk about *Star Wars* and his role in keeping its legacy alive.

"It's kind of a big deal," said Laurie Golden, the library's community relations department head.


Golden said some library visitors are likely to arrive in *Star Wars* costumes to celebrate the unofficial holiday of a movie series and other artistic endeavors that permeated popular cul-

ture and created fans across generations. She said the all-ages event is expected to feature *Star Wars*-themed activities, poster giveaways and photo opportunities with a six-foot cutout of Chewbacca.

Golden expects a good turnout as Trevas joins the library's *Star Wars* celebration.

"It's the uniting movie of a generation," Golden said. "This event should be super-cool. It should be a really fun day."

dclm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919



**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD
NOTIFICATION OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
STABILIZING NEIGHBORHOODS ACTION PLAN
(SNAP II)
DEVELOPER ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION/
RESALE (2015-2016)**

The Charter Township of Redford is seeking Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from qualified developers to provide professional services to acquire, rehabilitate and sell residential tax foreclosed properties in targeted residential neighborhoods. Services shall be performed for the Redford Township Stabilizing Neighborhoods Action Plan (SNAP II) Program.

Documents shall be available as of May 7, 2015 at the Redford Township Community Development Office located at 12121 Hemingway, Redford Township Clerk's Office at 15145 Beech Daly Road between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or online at www.redfordtwp.com. Sealed applications must be submitted to the Redford Township Clerk's Office, 15145 Beech Daly Road, Redford, MI 48239 on or before May 28, 2015 at 3:00 pm, after which submissions will be publicly opened.

Written questions regarding the substance of the RFQ or scope of services must be submitted via e-mail to the Redford Township contact listed below no later than May 15, 2015. For additional information regarding the request for proposals, please contact Michael Dennis, Community Development Director, at 313-387-2785 or at mdennis@redfordtwp.com.

This municipality is an equal opportunity employer; businesses owned by women or minorities are strongly encouraged to bid. The Contractor shall comply with all the provisions of the Charter Township of Redford.

The Charter Township of Redford reserves the right to reject any and all applications, to waive defects in submitted applications, to enter negotiations with any applicant, to re-solicit and request new applications and to conduct an application evaluation review meeting with any and all applicants. The Township will not be responsible for any costs or fees associated with the preparation of a response to this request for qualifications. No application may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days following the due date.

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, MMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD

Publish: May 3, 2015

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Money Matters: Losses on annuities are not tax deductible

Q: Dear Rick: In May 2005 I bought an annuity. I had some cash from an inheritance and I invested \$75,000. I've never taken anything out of the annuity and today it's worth about \$62,000. Recently a representative from the company which sold me the annuity said the only way I could deduct my loss from the annuity is to transfer into a new one. He told me that it was known as a 1035 transaction. A friend of mine said that it is not true. I can't deduct my loss. Who is right? I also have a separate IRA and was told since I only have one IRA and the only money I have ever put into it was non-deductible IRA money, that I could convert that to a Roth and pay no taxes.

A: Unfortunately, your annuity salesperson is wrong on both accounts.

When it comes to your annuity, losses on annuities are not tax deductible. Whether you cashed out the annuity or transferred it into another annuity, the loss is not deductible.

I think the annuity salesperson was selling you a bill of goods just to



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

get you to buy another annuity. Whether he knew what he was telling you is wrong or he was just incompetent, it's a sure sign that he is not someone you should be dealing with.

A 1035 exchange allows you to move money from one annuity to another without tax consequences. It's generally used where there's a gain so that you can delay paying taxes on that gain.

In your situation, a 1035 exchange may make sense because if you move the money into a new annuity you would have a transfer basis. Your basis is \$75,000.

Therefore, if you transferred the \$62,000 and the annuity actually grew, the first \$13,000 would virtually be tax free because that would just bring you back to your original basis.

In that regard, the only type of annuity in this situation that I recommend is one that had very low cost and no back end penalties. Com-

panies like Vanguard, Fidelity and Charles Schwab all offer no-load annuities without back end penalties.

Once the annuity got back up to the \$75,000 you could then cash it out and pay no taxes.

As to the Roth conversion, once again, your annuity salesperson was wrong. When you have a non-deductible IRA, you have a basis which is your original contribution. That amount is not taxed to you. However, all the earnings the money earned are taxed.

For example, let's say that you made \$2,000 a year in non-tax deductible contributions for five years. Your basis in that IRA would then be \$10,000 (\$2,000 x 5 years). If the IRA is worth \$15,000 and you convert it, you would have to pay taxes on the \$5,000 (\$15,000 - \$10,000).

Tax laws are complex and constantly changing. Beware about taking tax advice from anyone who's trying to sell you a product.

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

Wish you were here



Submitted
The Michigan Treasure Hunters, along with the Chatham-Kent Metal Detecting Club of Canada, were in Erieau, Ontario, on a cold blustery April 25. It was the Livonia-based metal detecting group's seventh annual Can-Am Hunt. From left, holding up the Observer, are Dennis Redigan of Redford Mark Branton and Jerry Wickens, both of Livonia.



Planning Commission NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Redford has scheduled a public hearing for Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Redford Township Hall Board Room, 15145 Beech Daly Road, to consider the following:

Amended Zoning Map No. 3-15. A request for reconsideration of Amended Zoning Map No. 02-15; Request to instead rezone Parcel 79-021-01-0128-000 to PS, Professional Service District Using the Conditional Rezoning Process.

Lots 128 thru 134 inclusive, also lots 135 through 139 except the North 7 Ft. thereof, also the North 1/2 adjacent vacated alley; B.E. Taylor's Brightmoor-Woodworth subdivision.

Property more commonly known as 26025 and 26215 Five Mile Road (parcel #79 021 01 0128 000)

THE LAW REQUIRES THAT OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN 300 FEET OF THIS PROPERTY BE NOTIFIED OF THIS REQUEST IN WRITING. THIS IS YOUR NOTIFICATION.

It is further required that a copy of the Application may be examined at the Redford Twp. Public Services Building, 12200 Beech Daly Rd., from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Phone (313) 387-2641.

Interested persons unable to attend the public hearing are invited to send their written comments to the attentions of the Planning Commission at 12200 Beech Daly Road, Redford, MI 48239. All written comments must be received by the close of business on Thursday, May 7, 2015 to be considered.

David Allen, Chairperson
Planning Commission
Charter Township of Redford

The Charter Township of Redford, Township (P.C., ZBA, Board of Trustees, etc.) will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing, upon seven (7) days notice to the (PC, ZBA, Board of Trustees, etc.). Further, individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk by writing to 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI 48239, or by calling (313) 387-2750.

CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeal will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2823-N. Murphy- 31132 Merritt Dr.

Req. for a side yd. fence location variance and a 1' 6" side yd. fence hgt. variance from Art. X of the City Code to install a 6' high privacy fence in the east & west side yds. of the home; whereas Sec. 22-304(a) states that only rear yds. may be enclosed with a fence and Sec. 22-303(c) states that side yd. fences that are allowed cannot exceed 4'6" in hgt.

Petition #2824-L. Taylor-38444 Palmer

Req. for a non-conforming structure variance from Ord. 248 to construct a 12' x 17' covered screen porch addition to the rear of the non-conforming home; whereas Sec. 5:2.3 states that a non-conforming structure cannot be enlarged.

Publish May 3, 2015

LO-000241153 3x3

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Business Expo

Wednesday, May 6, 2015
Laurel Park Place Mall & Detroit Marriott Livonia

Presented by

Business Breakfast Roundtable The Business Breakfast Roundtable will take place from 8 - 9:30 a.m. at the Detroit Marriott Livonia at a cost of \$15 per Chamber Member.

The panel will include: Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, Westland Mayor Bill Wild, *Detroit Free Press* Business Columnist Tom Walsh and *Detroit News* Columnist/Editor Nolan Nolan.

Livonia Expo Hall Free admission to Expo Hall that features more than 90 exhibitors, new cars, and giveaways from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout Laurel Park Place Mall. The Expo Hall and participating businesses can be found on the Livonia Chamber of Commerce's website, www.Livonia.org

Networking Frenzy The Networking Frenzy is a unique business networking opportunity available exclusively for chamber members from 2-3:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person and the program is limited to 50 members, one attendee per company. Registration required.

Tastefully Livonia Enjoy samples from 10 local restaurants and network during the popular nightcap portion of the Expo program from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Detroit Marriott Livonia. Admission is \$20 per person.

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Titanic tales fascinate more than 100 years later

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

As she showed an actual piece of coal from the Titanic, all eyes were on speaker Judith Coebly of Brighton.

Retired educator Coebly brought her Titanic "Century of Tears" presentation to the Plymouth-Canton branch, American Association of University Women, for the Saturday, April 25, spring luncheon at Rose's restaurant in Canton.

"I think it's the human stories that get you," said Coebly, who spent over 38 years as a teacher, counselor and administrator with the Dearborn Public Schools. She noted the recent discovery of a Titanic violin, as well as a deck chair going for \$150,000 to a collector.

"I'm sure there were a lot of romances. That social class distinction was pretty strong," she said when asked about the possibility of the "Rose and Jack" romance of the most recent movie being real.

Social class in April 1912 on the Titanic mostly determined your



JULIE BROWN/MICHIGAN.COM
Speaker Judith Coebly, left, of Brighton visits with Mickey Edell of Canton, branch president, at the spring luncheon of the Plymouth-Canton branch of the American Association of University Women.

chances of survival. "The law is you go by class," Coebly said.

Those in third class, or steerage, nearly all died. "The people at that time accepted what class they were in. They listened to what they were supposed to do. We're starting to see some change, but we're a long way away," said Coebly, noting lower-income people vote less often.

"There was a child floating face up, looked

to be about 2 years old."

The undertakers and sailors had given others burials at sea, but determined to bury the young boy in Nova Scotia, and bought his headstone. Around 1999, five graves were exhumed and three teeth were tested for DNA.

The boy thought to be buried there wasn't, Coebly said. A 1912 policeman had saved the toddler's shoes; his grandson had them and

the shoes turned out to have been made in England.

That ruled out another child, and eventually Sidney Leslie Goodwin was identified as the toddler and a marker added to his headstone. His remaining family came to Nova Scotia for a ceremony.

That English family was coming to the U.S. for an uncle's business. "Southampton was in a depression," said Coebly.

The family had bought second class tickets, which likely would have saved them, but a clerk's error put them in third class. They weren't bunked together.

The toddler's modern family said, "Oh, no. We want to leave it to all the unknown children" who died on the Titanic, the original headstone of 1912.

A survivor had seen that family swept away

from the ship. "He played with some of the oldest ones," Coebly said of children of the Goodwin family.

Coebly also does other educational presentations. She and her husband in 2012 took the 100-year cruise across the Atlantic to mark the centennial of the Titanic's sinking.

"When the descendants are there, they love to talk," she said. "But the stories pass. They go on and on."

That ship in 2012 stopped at 2:20 a.m. April 15 - 100 years after the last sign of the Titanic.

"Some people use different names, especially if you had your mistress and you were very wealthy," she said of the original passengers. "We think about 1,503" died.

The Carpathia was the rescue ship that came

along in April 1912, but too late for so many. Coebly showed a photo she took of a restored White Star Line office; the company is now out of business.

Of the musicians who died, she said, "Their families were charged for their uniforms." That led to bad press in that era.

The Halifax, Nova Scotia, sailors and undertakers ran out of caskets and ice for the bodies, she said.

Coebly urged AAUW members and guests to Google "mistakes in the Titanic movie" to see what comes up.

Mickey Edell of Canton, AAUW branch president, said, "I thought she was fascinating and excellent. I learned some things about the Titanic I was not aware of. She was enthusiastic."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

American Legion Post 251 holds open house

The American Legion Post 251 in Westland is holding an open house from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 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 reviewed 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 eligibility includes the

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, and 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.

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8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Health Screenings

- "Ask the Doctor"
- "Ask the Nurse Practitioner"
- Balance Screening
- Skin cancer screening
- Memory screening
- Nutrition screening
- Wellness Center tour

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Speakers

10 - 10:45 a.m.
Preparing Now, Preventing Injury
Learn to prepare your home to prevent injury
Speakers: **Maurice Cox, RN, CCE-MT-P/IC, Injury Prevention Specialist;** and **Michelle Moccia, DNP, ANP-BC, CCRN, Program Director, Senior ER**

11 - 11:45 a.m.
Being Legally and Financially Prepared
Learn to prepare your legal and financial affairs
Speaker: **Alisa Kwang, Attorney, Law Offices of Alisa Kwang, PLLC**

12 - 12:30 p.m.
Eating for a Healthy Colon
Food demonstration. Box lunch provided.
Speaker: **Allison Spitzley, CDM**

12:45 - 1:30 p.m.
Preparing a Healthy Mind
Learn to prepare your mind for aging
Speaker: **Mary Jane Favot, MSN, GNP-BC, Gerontology Nurse Practitioner**

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Health Exhibitors

- Joint health
- Stroke education
- Heart health
- Colon health
- Exercise programs for seniors
- Physical rehabilitation
- Home health care
- Estate planning

Pre-registration is preferred. For more information or to register, call 734-655-2929, or visit stmarymercy.org/healthyagingconference.

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Scrooge & Barley opens spigot for home brewers

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Patti Maki knew just what she was looking for when she walked into the newly opened Scrooge & Barley last week looking for ingredients for her home brewing operation.

Maki started making her own mead two and a half years ago and is a member of a growing local brewers club South Lyon Area Brewers, which meets at Witch's Hat Brewery in South Lyon. She's among the estimated 1.2 million home brewers in the United States who collectively produce 2 million barrels of beer annually.

"I enjoy making something that's all mine," she said.

Scrooge & Barley, the newest in the lineup of South Lyon businesses, is the brainchild of two Army vets, David Ben-



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Matthew Carroll and David Bennett have everything a home brewer needs at their new business, Scrooge & Barley, in South Lyon.

The shop's grand opening is May 1, but welcomed shoppers last week to get a feel for what customers wanted. Next to South Lyon Village Bakery, the shelves are packed with large pots and all the ingredients to make your own beer, hard cider, wine and mead, which is concocted from honey and water. Kits are available for every level — from beginners to advanced — and the costs start at \$35.

Carroll and Bennett expect a big following. "The craft brew industry is blowing up," said Carroll, a Brighton resi-

dent.

The DIY (do it yourself) trend has been growing in popularity for 10-15 years, Bennett said, "and it has hit beer and wine. They're not hard to make. It's a matter of getting the right equipment to do it."

The budding entrepreneurs met more than 10 years ago. Both served overseas in the Army — Carroll served in Iraq, and Bennett, a Canton resident, served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The business will be a family affair with their wives, Brandy Bennett and Nora Carroll, helping

in various capacities.

"I think it's neat that these guys are vets and they've both given so much of themselves for their country and now they can give it back to their own local communities," Brandy Bennett said.

Added her husband: "We want to absolutely support the local community and be a part of it."

Scrooge and Barley is located at 226 S. Lafayette in South Lyon. Reach it at 248-278-0282.

dandreassi@hometownlife.com
734-432-5974
Twitter: @HeraldReporter

SMART launches the new RideSMARTBus mobile app

SMART has introduced its new RideSMARTBus mobile app, putting important information at the rider's fingertips. Designed for iPhone and Android, the app features routes, schedules, service alerts and Bus Tracker, SMART's realtime arrival information system.

"SMART is always looking for ways to improve service for our riders and the communities we serve," General Manager John C. Hertel said. "By using technology we help our riders get the information they need when they need it and help to reduce the wait time at their stop. We believe the app helps our riders and we hope it encourages others who may not have used SMART in the past, to give us a try."

Bus Tracker, launched in the fall of 2014, is also a key feature on the app. Bus Tracker stores the rider's last trip and let's them watch the bus as it

travels along the route toward their stop. It also counts down the time to arrival, letting the rider know exactly where the bus is located.

The SMART bus app can be synced with a rider's personal MySMART profile, giving them instant access to their favorite routes and stops. Notifications of any service changes will be sent automatically for favorite routes, so rider's can be assured they have all the information they need before they set out on their trip. The app also offers the ability to look for other ways to ride SMART, with quick access to the Trip Planner feature for the best route to take.

The RideSMARTBus MOBILE APP can be downloaded from the App or Google play store or by visiting smartbus.org.

Among the RideSMARTBus App features are:

» Routes — Use this

tool to get a listing of SMART routes and published times.

» Tracker — This feature provides realtime bus arrival at a bus stop.

» Favorites — By becoming a MySMART member, quickly access favorite bus routes and stops used most often.

» Nearest Stops — See the SMART stop nearest an address, a street intersection, or a landmark, such as the Royal Oak Transit Center).

» Trip Planner — What's the best trip on SMART? Enter the trip details to get detailed information about the best route options.

» Alerts (if activated under preferences) — When service changes or issues occur, it is nice to have a message waiting. When logged into MySMART, when a favorite route is detoured or bad weather hits, the RideSMARTBus app will send a notification.

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SPORTS

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HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Chargers nudge Garden City, 1-0

ED WRIGHT
Garden City's Chelsea Booker battles for possession during Wednesday's game against Crestwood.



Freshman's goal gives Crestwood critical WWAC victory

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The sport decided by its participants' feet turned into a game determined by inches Wednesday night at Garden City.

In a pivotal Western Wayne Athletic Conference girls soccer showdown featuring the host Cougars and visiting Dearborn Heights Crestwood, Charger freshman forward Sylvia Rios punched a goal into the net with 16:40 left in the game to lift her

team to a 1-0 victory over Garden City.

Just over a minute before Rios struck, GC sophomore forward Brooke Collins came within a few inches of catching up to a dead-on throw-in at the goal's doorstep from Skyler Clendenning.

"It was a beautiful throw-in and we had two players there, but they hesitated a little bit on their run so they weren't able to get to it," said GC head coach Jeff Szyplula. "If they get to it, it's a slam-dunk goal."

"If we score there, Crestwood is the team that would have had to press the rest of the way, not us. But, hey, that's high school

See SOCCER, Page B2

Blazers win Division title

Junior Jillian Jacobs poured in four goals Wednesday afternoon as the Livonia Ladywood girls lacrosse squad downed visiting Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, 9-6, to clinch first place in Division 2 of the Catholic League.

Other goal scorers for the Blazers, who led 6-2 at halftime, included Nicole Reece (2), Jaclyn Mullen, Shannon Mulcahy and Sydney Pilot.

Junior goalie Aliya Grandison made nine saves as Ladywood improved to 6-3 overall and 6-0 in Division 2 of the Catholic League.

Isabella Case notched a hat trick for the Fighting Irish (4-4, 4-2).

"We were able to put two good halves together and played well from start to finish," Ladywood coach Kris Sanders said.

SMASHING SUCCESS

Former Franklin tennis star nets 100-plus wins at Davenport

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

It doesn't matter if she's playing singles, doubles or hitting a ball against a wall, Angelica Woods is passionate about the sport of tennis.

And she has been since the age of 10, when her dad Walter introduced her to the activity that would enhance her life and lead to a hall-mark court career at Livonia Franklin and Davenport University.



Woods

"I love everything about the game," said Woods, a four-year star with the Patriots before moving on to Davenport, where she has racked up a truck-load of accolades, won more than 100 matches and earned all-WHAC academic honors. "I love the competitiveness it offers. Tennis has taught me to work hard, to never give up."

Woods' opponents have also learned a valuable lesson along the way: She refuses to lose.

As a four-year No. 1 singles player at Franklin, Woods compiled a sterling 71-14 record and earned two Division 1 all-state selections.

"I'd say the best part of my game is my consistency," Woods said. "I love hitting my forehand, but my strongest point is

that I give it everything I have. I try to make my opponent work for whatever they get."

Although never a No. 1 singles player at Davenport — she's played everything except No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles for the Panthers — Woods has excelled at the Grand Rapids-based university, winning 73 singles matches in four years and more than 30 doubles contests.

Earlier this season, Woods won the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference's Player of the Week award and was a key component in the Panthers' run to the WHAC championship round.

"We have a strong team with a lot of depth," Woods said. "We alternate positions quite a bit, depending on who we're playing. It makes it interesting, playing singles and doubles."

Woods, whose twin brother Christian plays for Davenport's men's tennis team, hit the court running in college, chiseling out a stellar 18-7 singles mark as a freshman along with going 9-9 in doubles action.

Playing mostly No. 5 singles her sophomore season, Woods collected 19 victories. She went 21-10 in singles play as a junior while helping the Panthers win a USTA/ITA Midwest Regional



Livonia Franklin graduate Angelica Woods has enjoyed a productive tennis career at Davenport University.

championship.

Tennis has been the catalyst for several memorable travel experiences for the personable Woods, who competed in a number of out-of-state events as a youngster and visited Orlando

for spring-break tournaments at Davenport.

While she never plans to quit playing tennis, it will take a backseat in the coming months as she pursues a career in health-services management.

COLLEGE SIGNING

Redford Union's Reed to hoop it up at UM-Dearborn

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Judging by her 4.7 grade-point average and her double-digit scoring and rebounding averages, Redford Union senior Renee Reed's future is bound to be doubly bright at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

On Thursday, with her parents, past and future coach and RU athletic director Miles Tomasaitis looking on, one of the Pan-

thers' premier student-athletes officially signed on to play for the Wolverines' women's basketball program beginning in the fall.

Prior to her break-out season on the basketball court this past winter, Reed was set to continue her academic career at the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus, but the chance to continue to perform in the paint at



TOM BEAUDOIN

Pictured with Renee Reed as she signs her letter of intent to play basketball for University of Michigan-Dearborn are (front row from left) UM-D coach Dymetrius Ware, Reed, Hilda Reed, (back row from left) Miles Tomasaitis, Scott Purdy and Donald Reed.

See REED, Page B2

Free swimming, diving clinic

The Livonia Stevenson swimming programs will host a free "Funday Clinic" on Saturday, June 6 from 9 a.m. to noon at the school's pool.

Stevenson-bound boys and girls who are currently in sixth through eighth grades are eligible to participate in the clinic, which will be conducted by Stevenson's swimming-and-diving coaching staff and current athletes.

Among the activities offered will be instruction on swimming and diving techniques and skills.

Participants will receive a free T-shirt and free ticket to attend one home Stevenson swim meet.

In addition to being a future Stevenson student, participants must be able to swim and be accompanied by an adult. Adults must remain on the premises during the clinic.

To register, e-mail Stevenson athletic director Lory Hyman at lhyman@livonia-publicschools.org and include in the e-mail: participant's name, current grade and school, parent/guardian's name and phone number.

Registration deadline is Tuesday, May 26.

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REED

Continued from Page B1

the next level convinced her that a career at UM-D was too good to pass up.

"I loved my team this year; I loved playing basketball," said Reed, who earned seven varsity letters (three in basketball and two each in volleyball and softball) during her high school career. "I'm happy that I have been given a chance to continue to play."

Reed more than answered a fun challenge presented by first-year RU head basketball Scott Purdy early in the season.

"Toward the beginning of the season, I would joke around with Renee and tell her she was soft," Purdy said. "She told me that inspired her to play with more intensity. She is an outstanding player and an even better person. She's a role model for all current and future athletes who

attend RU."

It was a rare occasion when Reed didn't either record double-digit points or rebounds during a game this season - and commonplace for her to chalk up a double-double.

Along with sophomore point guard Shae Smith, Reed led the Panthers to their first district championship game in several years.

"I think the highlight for me this year was 'Senior Night,' not just because we won, but because our crowd was loud and amazing," she said.

Reed, who will red-shirt her first year at her new school, said she likes everything about the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where she will pursue a degree in business. Reed ultimately wants to develop a career in human resources management.

In her spare time, Reed enjoys volunteering at her church and for local charities, including Relay for Life.

ED WRIGHT
Garden City's Brooke Collins came within a few feet of catching up to a throw-in during the second half of Wednesday's game.



SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

soccer."

The loss dropped the Cougars to 5-5-1 overall and 2-1 in the WWAC. The Chargers are 2-0-1 in the league, with their tie coming against Dearborn Fordson.

"We have to win out now and hope [the Chargers] lose one," admitted Szypula. "It came down to the fact that they took advantage of their opportunity and we didn't."

GC was the more dangerous team during the first half, especially approximately 20 minutes in when Alex Sherlock's dinged the cross-bar with a shot.

Crestwood threatened to break the scoring ice in the game's 50th minute. GC goal-

keeper Hope Pickens made an all-out diving save near the 18-yard mark, but the rebound rolled to a wide-open Charger, who missed the vacant net high.

Four minutes later GC's Lindsay Yankasky roped a crossing pass through the box, but her teammates weren't quite able to get on the other end of it. Alyssa Hurley tracked the ball down just inside the opposite sideline, but her shot didn't quite have enough juice to get past Crestwood's keeper.

Sherlock played well throughout the contest and came within a couple feet of tying the game with three minutes left, but her free kick from 40 yards out hit the football goal-post cross-bar that is situated just above the soccer goal cross-bar.

ewright@hometownlife.com

HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

Spartans go low in loss to Novi

Patriots tumble against first-place Chiefs

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Novi's Brian Fegert fired a nine-hole score of 36 Wednesday to lead Novi to a 161-168 victory over Livonia Stevenson in a KLAAs Central Division meet.

The Spartans turned in several solid rounds in the loss, including Hyder Mansour's four-over 40. Also scoring for Stevenson were Connor McCarthy (42), Noah Pappalardo (42) and Connor McQueen (44).

Ben Zammit (48) and Alex Hunt (49) also teed it up for the Spartans' varsity contingent.

In addition to Fegert, Miley Ulle (40), Connor Howell (42), Billy Ulle (43) and



CHRIS GUDDECK
Hyder Mansour, pictured during a match earlier this spring, led Stevenson with a nine-hole score of 40 Wednesday afternoon.

Erik Gelecy (43) played well for the Wildcats.

Chiefs stymie Patriots
State-ranked Canton's golf team upended Livonia Frank-

lin, 157-176, Wednesday afternoon at Idyl Wyld Golf Course in a battle of previously unbeaten KLAAs South Division teams.

The result left the Chiefs with a 3-0 division mark while Franklin slipped to 2-1.

Chris Dooley paced the winners with a 37. Also scoring for Canton were Noah Lindbauer (39), Hunter Schlamp (40) and Brian Oldani (41). Josh Johnson (42) and Suhas Totluri played well but didn't score for Canton.

Will Hettel continued his strong play for the Patriots by carding a 41. Matt Wiebelhaus (43), Jacob Kenward (45) and Zach Nelson (47) also scored for Franklin. Jeremy Haist fired a 47 for the hosts while Trevor Van Vliet shot a 54.

ewright@hometownlife.com

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL

Monday, May 4
Stevenson at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Northville at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Novi at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Annapolis at Clarenceville, 4 p.m.
South Lyon at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Northville at Franklin, 4 p.m.
RU at Robichaud, 4 p.m.
Salem at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Romulus at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Thurston at Fordson, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 5
Huron Valley at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Southgate at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 6
Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.
Fordson at Clarenceville, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at S.L. East, 4 p.m.
RU at Thurston, 4 p.m.
Edsel Ford at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Thursday, May 7
Stevenson at Salem (conclusion of suspended game), 4 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 8
Clarenceville at Wayne, 4:30 p.m.
Churchill at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 9
Livonia City Championship, 10 a.m.
John Glenn Tournament, 9 a.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

Monday, May 4
Salem at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Northville at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
South Lyon at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Annapolis at Clarenceville, 4 p.m.
Novi at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Thurston at Fordson, 4 p.m.
Romulus at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 5
Franklin Rd. at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Liggett at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 6
Fordson at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.
Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at S.L. East, 4 p.m.
HVL at Country Day, 4:30 p.m.

Edsel Ford at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.
RU at Thurston, 4 p.m.
Thursday, May 5
HVL at Parkway, 4:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 8
Clarenceville at Wayne, 4:30 p.m.
Churchill at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 9
Ladywood at Canton Classic, 9 a.m.
Garden City at Chelsea Tourney, 10 a.m.
Franklin at Bedford Invite, 9 a.m.
HVL at Vandercook Lake Tourney, TBA
John Glenn Breast Cancer Awareness Tourney, 8:30 a.m.
Churchill at Blue Chip Invite, 11 a.m.
Riverview Gab. Richard at Clarenceville, 11 a.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

Monday, May 4
Fordson at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.
RU at Dearborn, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Belleville, 5:30 p.m.
Garden City at Edsel Ford, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, May 5
Mercy at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
Wayne at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Canton at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 6
Romulus at Clarenceville, 6 p.m.
Fordson at Garden City, 6 p.m.
RU at Thurston, 6 p.m.
Thursday, May 7
Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Churchill, 7 p.m.
S. Lyon at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 8
Garden City at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 9
Ladywood at Regina, noon
W.L. Central at John Glenn, 1 p.m.

BOYS GOLF

Monday, May 4
Franklin at Walled Lake Invite, 3 p.m.
Thurston at RU, 2:45 p.m.

Garden City at Belleville, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5

S.L. East at Stevenson, 3 p.m.

John Glenn at Canton, 3 p.m.

Franklin at Plymouth, 3 p.m.

Wayne at Churchill, 3 p.m.

RU at Clarenceville, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Dearborn at Garden City, 3:15 p.m.

Stevenson at Wayne Co. Invite, 8 a.m.

RU at Crestwood, 3:30 p.m.

Romulus at Thurston, 2:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 7

Churchill at Franklin, 3 p.m.

Northville at Stevenson, 3 p.m.

John Glenn at Wayne, 3 p.m.

Friday, May 8

Clarenceville at Mustang Invite, 4 p.m.

Crestwood at Thurston, 2:45 p.m.

Saturday, May 9

Franklin, Churchill at Northville Invite, 8:30 a.m.

TRACK & FIELD

Tuesday, May 5

Garden City at Dearborn, 3:30 p.m.

S.L. East at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.

Churchill at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.

Wayne at Plymouth, 4 p.m.

Robichaud at Thurston, 3:30 p.m.

Canton at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Regina at Ladywood, 4 p.m.

Friday, May 8

KLAAs Conference Meet at Churchill, TBA

Saturday, May 9

Lutheran Westland Invite, 9 a.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

Monday, May 4

Robichaud at Garden City, 4 p.m.

Ferdale at John Glenn, 4:30 p.m.

RU at Annapolis, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5

KLAAs cross-overs, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Annapolis at Garden City, 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 9

KLAAs Conference Invite, 4 p.m.

PREP LACROSSE

Thursday, May 7

Catholic League semifinal, TBA

Saturday, May 9

Catholic League final, noon

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June 14
July 5
September 6
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TRACK AND FIELD

Rockets boys blaze to victory over rival Wayne Memorial

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

A series of photo-finish sprint races highlighted Tuesday's track and field dual meet featuring KLA South Division rivals Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial, which the Rockets won 86-50.

The 100-meter dash was especially compelling, as Rocket David Graham lived up to his school's nickname by blazing to a less-than-a-stride victory over Wayne junior Montel Hood.

Graham, a freshman, was clocked in 10.91 seconds, just a shade ahead of Hood's 10.94. John Glenn's Jawon Thompson finished a close third in 11.04.

The 200 was equally thrilling, as John Glenn teammates Austin Hickerson and Graham raced to the wire before Hickerson won with a time of 22.25, less than a quarter-second faster than the ninth-grader's 22.44 clocking.

Zebra Jah'mir Alonzo (24.33)

out-leaned his teammate Khailei Houston (24.53) for third-place points.

The Rockets also went 1-2 in the 400, as Hickerson won with a time of 52.66 to edge Kenyatta Mason (52.69). Wayne's DuJon Brown-Deacon was third in 52.80.

Wayne was super-productive in the distance events as it swept the 800 through the 3,200. Hood won the 800 in 49.74, followed by Malik Jordan (2:06.79) and Devin Gibson (2:06.95).

Jordan captured the 1,600 with a time of 4:41.72, just under five seconds faster than runner-up Devin Gibson. Michael Gibson was third in 4:53.34, while John Glenn's top finisher, Ben Biber, was fourth in 4:59.

Wayne's Jamie Carranza won the 3,200 in 11:02.59, edging Michael Gibson (11:03.19) and Uriel Figueroa (11:04.08).

John Glenn's Freddie Thompson continued to dom-

inate the hurdles events for the winners, taking the 110 highs in 15.35 and 300 intermediates in 39.01. Luke Staples (18.48) and James Demsky (19.23) earned second- and third-place points in the shorter hurdles race for the Rockets.

Rockets senior Deshawn Baker-Williams was a force in both throwing events, as he captured the shot put with a heave of 48 feet before taking the discus with a 133-11.5 effort. Baker-Williams' teammate Renardo Brown was the runner-up in both events.

Wayne's Danny Dellah turned in the best long jump of the day, soaring 18-7, while John Glenn's Stephen Woodhouse won the high jump with a leap of 5-8.

John Glenn went 1-2 in the pole vault thanks to strong showings from Jason Morhan (10 feet) and Thompson, who cleared the bar at 7-6.

ewright@hometownlife.com



ED WRIGHT

Westland John Glenn won three of the four relay events during Tuesday's victory over Wayne Memorial.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Livonia Franklin shines in twinbill sweep of Canton

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin's softball team chalked a pair of impressive victories Wednesday over visiting Canton, 5-0 and 6-4, to improve to 7-6 overall and 6-4 in the KLA South Division.

Backed by a top-notch defensive effort, Franklin starting pitcher Alaina DeFrain was dominant in Game 1, yielding just two hits and five walks while striking out a pair of Chiefs.

Franklin scored twice in the first and second innings before adding an insurance run in the third.

Brooke Garbarino (three singles, two RBIs) and Becky Giacobbi (three singles, two runs) were on fire at the plate for the winners. Jessica Banks, Megan Chapman, Sarah Cramton and Ashley Kent chipped in with singles.

DeFrain earned the mound victory in relief in the nightcap, scattering seven hits after taking over for starter Chapman in the fourth.

Franklin scored four runs in the first inning and two more in the fifth. The Chiefs scored single runs in the second and fourth and two in the fifth.

Giacobbi was a thorn in the Canton pitchers' side in the second game, ripping two hits (including a double) and scoring a run. Lauren Michael contributed two runs, two singles and an RBI, DeFrain chipped in with two singles and two RBIs, while Banks and Makenna Dogonski laced RBI singles.

Garbarino also registered an RBI double.

Trailing 6-4 in the seventh, Canton loaded the bases with one out, but Franklin persevered when shortstop Ashley Kent fielded a grounder and fired home for the second out before DeFrain got the final batter to fly out to left field.



ED WRIGHT

Franklin's Becky Giacobbi had a productive day at the plate during Wednesday's sweep of Canton.

Chargers mercy Zebras

Livonia Churchill left no doubt as to which KLA South Division team was superior Wednesday when it stampered Wayne Memorial, 13-1 and 11-1.

Both games ended in the fifth inning due to mercy rule.

Eight of the nine starting hitters for Churchill collected at least two hits in Game 1. Rosie Garvin and Victoria Luper both contributed two hits and three RBIs, while Angela Lewan went 3-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs.

The Chargers scored seven times in the third to make a winner of Cassie Campbell, who gave up just four hits and three walks while striking out three in five innings.

Churchill's bats didn't cool down during the between-games intermission - particularly the one owned by Brooke Hanson, who went 4-for-4 with three runs scored. Hanson's big day helped her twin sister Paige pick up the victory

thanks to a five-hit effort during which she struck out six without yielding an earned run.

Also swinging big bats for the winners were Lauren St. Pierre (3-for-4, two runs, three RBIs), Alyssa Mazur (2-for-4, five RBIs), Colleen McGowan (3-for-4) and Rachel Mattison, who added three hits.

HVL wins

Huron Valley Lutheran rallied from an early 3-1 deficit Thursday to defeat Inter-City Baptist, 5-3. The Hawks improved to 7-4 overall and 5-1 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

Julie St. John earned the win by yielding just two hits and a walk while striking out seven. St. John also starred at the plate, going 3-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Anne St. John clouted a home run and walked three times.

Bethany Schaffer went 1-for-4 with two RBIs and Sam Golchuk was 2-for-4 with a double.

GIRLS SOCCER

Stevenson derails South Lyon East, 4-1

Franklin registers fourth consecutive shutout

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Four different players put the ball in the net for Livonia Stevenson during Wednesday's 4-1 victory at South Lyon East.

The victory improved the Spartans' record to 5-6-3 overall and 3-2-1 in the KLA Central Division.

"The last five minutes of each half proved to be the difference," Stevenson head coach Chris Grodzicki said.

Stevenson sophomore Megan Verant helped break a scoreless draw in the 35th minute, when she intercepted a Cougar's clearing pass and one-timed the ball to a streaking Audrey Kopitz, who ripped it past the goalie's outstretched hands.

Three minutes later, Alia Baserbie curled a corner kick onto the head of Maria Bayouk, who scored to make it 2-0.

"The corner kick was driven into a dangerous spot and Maria's run put her in a great position, where she could make no mistake," Grodzicki said.

East kept the game interesting in the 69th minute, when a long, looping free kick was headed to the back post past Spartans keeper Hannah Reamer.

However, it took Stevenson just seven minutes to regain the momentum, thanks to Jessie Wagner's goal from Sari Rakowicz.

Verant added an insurance marker two minutes later, when she lased a penalty kick into the upper-corner of the net. The PK was the result of a foul on Taylor Koltunchik.

Reamer made four saves during her complete-game effort between the pipes.

Patriots prevail

Livonia Franklin continued its mid-season resurgence Tuesday when it crunched Wayne Memorial, 4-0, before edging Westland John Glenn, 1-0, Thursday.

Franklin, which has registered shutouts in its previous four games, improved to 4-5-2 overall and 3-0-2 in its last five games.

"I am beyond proud of the team's will to grind out wins and play total team defense," Franklin head coach Dean Kowalski said. "I love this team."

Patriots keeper Kathryn Macrae continued her flawless play in front of net, denying six John Glenn shots while providing great communication, Kowalski said.

"The back line of Riley Burnette, Morgan Justice, Bailey Elliott and Sara Cable also did a great job of keeping the game scoreless with communication, tackling and organization," Kowalski said. "Riley has been outstanding since returning from mono a few weeks ago. We are a different team with her."

The well-played game's lone goal unfolded eight minutes in, when Bella Yardley delivered a short pass to Cable, who struck



ED WRIGHT

Stevenson senior Aliya El-Sabeh advances the ball during a game earlier this spring.

a one-hopper past the keeper.

Rachel Dudek ignited the scoring spree against Wayne when she scored 15 minutes in off an assist from Anna Dodane. Approximately 10 minutes later, the Patriots doubled their lead when Madison Kean converted an upper-90 goal after securing a slick pass from Yardley.

Yardley made it 3-0 early in the second half, when she netted a free kick into the goal. Hawley assisted.

The final tally came 10 minutes later, when Riley Burnette scored from Emily Pappenheim.

"It was fantastic small-ball passing that led to the goal," Kowalski said.

Panthers fall

Redford Union's young and improving team dropped a 10-0 decision Wednesday to Belleville. Goalie Hailey Piece made 16 saves for the Panthers.

Churchill update

The Chargers earned a 1-1 draw Tuesday with Westland John Glenn before upending Plymouth, 1-0, Thursday.

Trojans excel

Clarenceville earned its third victory in girls soccer - and second in as many nights - Thursday with a 1-0 victory over visiting Southfield Christian.

Nickendra Thomas scored the lone goal with an assist from Jordan See on a corner kick. The Lady Trojans are 3-6 overall.

"We played a great game tonight, using our communication and positioning as our key," coach Amanda Moody said. "We were in the right places defensively and offensively."

It was the second straight victory for the Trojans, who Wednesday defeated Redford Thurston in a WWAC game, 2-1.

Thomas scored the first Clarenceville goal with assists from Curvin and See. Curvin netted the second goal for the Trojans on a breakaway. Bunker was the goalie and made 15 saves.

Staff Writer Dan O'Meara contributed to this story.

Volleyball champions



A team consisting of Garden City residents captured the Women's Christian Volleyball League championship earlier this week. The team of (pictured from left) Amanda Quartz, Rebekah Pummill, Kathy Stellema, Justine Pummill, Jaclyn Pummill and Shannon Pummill won the title game 25-21.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Lutheran Westland hits on all cylinders

Lutheran Westland's Abbott dazzles Oakland Christian

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Host Oakland Christian's baseball team didn't have an answer for Lutheran Westland's Nate Abbott or Brandon Ruelle during Thursday's Michigan Independent Athletic Conference showdown.

Ruelle was golden as the Warriors' lead-off hitter, going 2-for-4 with an RBI, run and two steals, while Abbott tossed a complete-game two-hitter in Lutheran Westland's 3-0 victory.

The Warriors improved to 9-3 overall and 3-2 in the MIAC while Oakland slipped to 5-5 and 2-1, respectively.

"This was probably our best game all season," noted LW head coach Kevin Wade. "Even though we had two errors, we cleaned things up immediately. We got great starting pitching and manufactured enough runs to secure the victory."

"It was a great bounce-back win after our disappointing loss to this same team on Tuesday. Hopefully this gives us some momentum heading into the month of May."

The winners played two runs in the second and one in the fifth. In addition to Ruelle, Jordan Williams (2-for-3), Cleveland Tarp (1-for-3, run) and Andy Faith (1-for-3, RBI) had nice days at the dish for LW.

Abbott was dominant, striking out eight while yielding just one walk.

Chargers sweep Wayne

Playing in its fourth and fifth games over a three-day span, Livonia Churchill swept

Wayne Memorial, 5-1 and 7-0, in a KLAAs South Division doubleheader Wednesday.

Starting pitcher James Rintala kept the Zebras at bay in the opener as he delivered a complete-game four-hitter, striking out five while walking just two.

Brendon Benton suffered the mound setback for Wayne after giving up five runs, eight hits and two walks over six innings. Benton struck out three.

Noah Cross spearheaded the Chargers' offense by reaching base three times (two hits, hit by pitch), scoring once and knocking in a run. Rob Copciak went 1-for-3 with two RBI. Justin Johnson was 2-for-3 with one ribbie for Wayne.

Junior starting pitcher Matt Jones was brilliant for the Chargers in the nightcap as he scattered four hits and a walk while fanning six during his six-inning shutout.

Tyler Harnos took the loss for the Zebras after giving up seven runs in 3½ innings. Harnos was effective at times, striking out seven.

Rintala sparked Churchill's offense with two hits, including a double, and a run. Steve Szymanski reached base three times on a hit and two walks, scored twice and swiped three bases.

Harnos was 2-for-3 at the dish for Wayne with a stolen base.

Franklin, Canton split DH

Runs were hard to come by during Wednesday's KLAAs South Division twinbill featuring host Livonia Franklin and Canton.

The Patriots rallied for two runs in the bottom of the seventh to win the first game, 3-2, before Canton plated a pair in the top of the final frame to seize the second game 2-0.



Churchill senior shortstop Steve Szymanski throws out a base-runner during a game earlier this week against Franklin.

ED WRIGHT

The split left Franklin with a 13-6 record overall and 7-3 mark in the division.

Jake Fry earned the pitching victory in the first game after turning in 1½ innings of stellar relief of starter Kolby Dewhirst. The pair limited the Chiefs to just four hits.

Trailing 2-1 in the seventh with one out, Ryan Prohaska reached on an error. Nathan Rodgers, who pinch ran for Prohaska, raced to third on Mitch Gonyaw's single then scored the game-tying run on a Canton error. Gonyaw scored the game winner on a fielder's-choice grounder off the bat of Hunter Sellers.

Gonyaw blanked the Chiefs for six innings in the nightcap before freshman Lou Baechler delivered the game-winning hit in the seventh — a hard ground ball that deflected off the third-base bag, scoring Nick Romanowski, who led off

the inning by getting hit by a pitch.

The Patriots put runners on second and third in the bottom of the seventh, but a well-struck ground ball off the bat of Nick Curtis was speared by third baseman Baechler, who fired to first to end the threat and the game.

Spartans white-wash Wildcats

Livonia Stevenson upped its record to 12-5 overall and 7-2 in the KLAAs Central Division Wednesday when it swept visiting Novi, 13-0 and 2-0, in a double-header.

The double-dip dropped the Wildcats to 7-10-1 and 3-6-1, respectively.

The Spartans didn't trail the entire afternoon after erupting for three runs and four hits in the opening inning of the first game.

Starting pitcher Dan Bos owned the Wildcats, giving up just four hits and one walk over five innings. Bos struck out four.

The big blow for the Spartans' offense was a third-inning grand slam by Chris Tanderers, who went 3-for-3 to fuel the winners' 14-hit attack. Also swinging hot sticks for Stevenson were Danny Morris (2-for-3, three RBI, three runs), C.J. Breen (2-for-2, two RBI, run) and Jack Ferguson, who laced two hits, knocked in one run and scored once.

Ferguson was outstanding on the hill in the second game, tossing a complete-game six-hitter. Ferguson struck out three and walked three. Losing pitcher Alec Bageris was nearly Ferguson's equal, as he allowed just four base-runners.

Mark Petterson (2-for-2) knocked in both Stevenson runs with a single in the second and a double in the fifth.

Thurston splits

Redford Thurston rebounded from Monday's 2-0 setback to Clarenceville on Monday by trimming Harper Woods, 7-6, on Tuesday.

Senior starting pitcher Bobby Snell was the hard-luck loser against the Trojans as he allowed just three hits while striking out nine. Both of the runs he gave up were unearned.

Clarenceville scored the game's only runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Zack June recorded the Eagles' only two hits.

Austin Benoit was the hitting hero for Thurston on Tuesday as he had two hits and drove in the game-winning run. Benoit was also the winning pitcher in relief, striking out five and walking one in four-plus innings.

Novi topples Clarenceville

Clarenceville dropped a non-league baseball game Thursday to visiting Novi, 10-0. Despite the score, the Trojans played well against an opponent with a much bigger enrollment, according to coach Craig Cotter.

"We turned a nice double play, played solid defense overall and handled all of the chances we got except one," he said. "We made them earn every run. Our guys threw strikes; we only walked three."

The Trojans have struggled offensively in their last four games and only scored two runs.

"We have lost our focus a little bit at the plate," Cotter said. "We're not grinding out at-bats and getting opposing pitchers' pitch counts up."

Justin Kelley, Matt Drain and Jonathan Murphy had the only hits for the Trojans.

Lightning strike gold



The GU14 Livonia Lightning soccer team was crowned champion of its division in the Michigan Club Challenge Tournament, April 25-26. The team went 4-0, with its final victory being a shootout triumph in the championship contest. Pictured are Nivene Rizkallah, Rachel Glovatsky, Emily Halkey, Miranda McIntosh, Erin Sanchez, Hannah Davis, Sydney Boyce, Marissa McCracken, Sabrina Kliza, Sydney Millis, Caroline Bimberg, Angela Gioia, Abby Daoust, Niki Berridge, Lauren Wilson, Rachael Morgan and Alex Thomas. Also on the team is Jasmine Edwards. The team is coached by Sarah Daoust, Dana Mills and Gene Boyce.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Madonna goes home early in WHAC softball tourney

Regular season co-champion Madonna University made an early exit Thursday from the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference women's softball playoffs as Aquinas College upset the Crusaders, 4-3, at the Art Van Complex in Rockford.

Lexi Pompa went 3-for-4 and Heather Gusse was 2-for-4 with two RBIs as the Saints stayed alive in the double-elimination playoffs.

Erika Whittington (8-13), who pitched the final 3½ innings in relief of starter Caitlyn Hensel, got the victory allowing no runs on four hits.

Madonna ace Bree Crampton (17-7) was charged with the loss as she allowed three earned runs on eight hits and three walks in six innings.

MU (34-12-1) lost despite out-hitting Aquinas 11-8, but committed three errors.

North Farmington's Karleigh Creighton hit a solo homer, her fifth of

the season, while Emma Cook went 3-for-4. Nicole Salloum (Livonia Churchill) and Morgan Kaiser collected two hits and one RBI each, while Kasey Trierweiler also added two hits.

Madonna, which qualified for the NAIA national tournament after tying Davenport University for the WHAC title, does not return to action until Monday, May 11, at one of 10 campus sites around the county. The Crusaders learn which three teams they will match up with and next Thursday when the NAIA releases its national tournament brackets.

Opening rounds

On Wednesday, MU found itself in survival mode after losing its playoff opener to No. 8 seed Siena Heights, 9-1, at the Art Van Complex in Rockford.

The Crusaders did bounce back in the double-elimination tournament later in the evening to beat University of Northwestern Ohio, 13-2, in five innings as Crampton scattered seven hits and one walk while striking out seven to keep MU

alive. Creighton (2-for-3), Bria DeBono (2-for-2) and Morgan Thompson each homered in the victory.

Also chipping in offensively were Trierweiler (three RBIs), Breanna Keethler (2-for-3, RBI) and Erin Combs (3-for-3, RBI).

Northwestern Ohio finished its season at 25-17 overall.

Combs (17-5), the starting pitcher against Siena Heights, was rocked for nine runs, including seven in the sixth inning as the Saints pulled off the first-round upset in a six-inning mercy.

The sophomore right-hander from Imlay City gave up 11 hits, but only two runs were earned, in 5½ innings.

Taylor Heisler went 2-for-3 with three RBIs, while Taylor Hayes went 2-for-4 with two RBIs for the Saints (23-19).

Winning pitcher Kelsie Abbott (17-8) struck out four and scattered seven hits to earn the victory.

Salloum went 2-for-3 with an RBI in a losing cause.



Crampton



Jones

COLLEGE BASEBALL

MU sweeps Davenport in regular season finale

The Madonna University baseball team ended its Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season Wednesday with a sweep of No. 7-ranked Davenport, 6-2 and 4-3, at Ilitch Ballpark.

Todd Jones (3-2), who gave up two runs on eight hits in 6½ innings, earned the win for MU in Game 1. Bobby St. Pierre also threw a scoreless ninth, while middle reliever Patrick

Wierimaa (Redford Union) retired all five batters he faced.

MU's Shane Dokey went 3-for-4 with an RBI, while Zack Byron (2-for-4, two RBIs), Levi Larmour (2-for-4, RBI) and Taylor Grzelakowski (2-for-3) also made offensive contributions.

In Game 2, starter Dylan Cooper (3-0) tossed the first six innings to earn the win. He allowed two runs on nine hits and a walk. St. Pierre, who gave up a run in the seventh, picked up his school-record 11th save of the season.

Ryan Freemantle drove in what proved to be the game-winning run in the nightcap. Mitch Hudvagner also went 2-for-3 with two RBIs, while Grzelakowski collected two hits and an RBI as third-place MU (36-13 overall) finished 26-6 in the WHAC.

After University of Northwestern Ohio (40-11, 28-5) split on Thursday, the Racers captured the title outright, while Davenport (44-8, 27-6) took second. The WHAC playoffs are scheduled to begin Monday at Siena Heights.

CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 4 of Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended, the City Zoning Act (MSA 5.2934; MCLA 125.584) as well as Article XXIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the Council of the City of Livonia on **Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**, in the Auditorium at City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, with respect to the following item:

Petition 2015-03-01-02 submitted by Trinity Health-Michigan, d/b/a St. Mary Mercy Livonia Hospital, to rezone the property adjacent to the south end of the hospital at 36475 Five Mile Road, located on the west side of Levan Road between Five Mile Road and Schoolcraft Road in the Northwest ¼ of Section 20, from RUF (Rural Urban Farm) to PO I (High Rise Professional Office).

SUSAN A. HOFF, CITY CLERK

Publish: Sunday, May 3, 2015

LC-000241201 3x2 S

CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 4 of Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended, the City Zoning Act (MSA 5.2934; MCLA 125.584) as well as Article XXIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the Council of the City of Livonia on **Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**, in the Auditorium at City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, with respect to the following item:

PETITION 2015-03-01-03 submitted by Leo Soave, to rezone the property at 35652, 35700, 35800 and 35850 Ann Arbor Trail, located on the north side of Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne Road and Newburgh Road in the Southeast ¼ of Section 32, from RUF (Rural Urban Farm) and C-1 (Local Business) to R-1 (One Family Residential - 60' x 120' Lots).

SUSAN A. HOFF, CITY CLERK

Publish: Sunday, May 3, 2015

LC-000241198 3x3

Ikebana club marks 50 years with free demonstration of its work

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Cheryl Linck occasionally picks tree trimmings from the curb and cuts down plants in roadside ditches.

Cynthia Kidd often searches her back yard for branches.

And Amy Langdon looks through her garden for the perfect flower.

Their discoveries, whether cast-off branches, leaves, stalks or flowers, are combined to create graceful Japanese-style arrangements called ikebana.

"It's fun to search around your yard and look at things in a different way. A branch that has a certain curve or line might make good material for a certain style of ikebana," said Kidd. "That makes the arrangement more personal."

Linck grows shrubs, ornamental trees and flowers specifically for use in her arrangements.

"Traditional ikebana practice uses materials that are in season, expressions of the season, so it's only natural to use local materials," she said. "Traditional ikebana also does not throw out a leaf or flower because it has a brown spot or has been a bit chewed on by an insect. Honoring all aspects of nature, the changing of the seasons and cycles of life is part of the practice."

Golden anniversary

The women, Linck from Berkley and Kidd and Langdon, both from Farmington Hills, are longtime ikebana practitioners and members of the Detroit Chapter 85 of Ikebana International. The organization will celebrate its 50th anniversary Friday, May 8, at the Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, with a free ikebana demonstration by Emiko Suzuki, an expert in the Ikenobo School of ikebana.

The celebration will be bittersweet for the organization's 50 members. Their teacher,



Emiko Suzuki, an expert in ikebana, will give a free demonstration at the Detroit Chapter 85 of Ikebana International 50th anniversary celebration.

Toshiko Shimoura of Southfield, died earlier this year.

"She had such expertise. It's hard for our group. I know Toshi would want us to continue," said Langdon. "Her spirit will be there."

Langdon has been an active member of the organization since it was formed. She judged flower shows and was active in garden clubs. She said her aunt, who also was a flower show judge, introduced her to the art of ikebana.

"It opened my eyes to the fact that Japanese flower arranging is simple to look at. They depend a lot on line (of plants) and that fascinated me," Langdon said.

Mother to daughter

Kidd began attending ikebana events when her mother joined the organization 35 years ago. After her mother died, a Chapter 85 member asked Kidd to join the group.

"I have all of my mom's

containers and some of her tools. It's very special. I just thoroughly enjoy the group," said Kidd, who left a graphic design career to become a floral designer. "The great thing about ikebana is that we bring flowers and branches in from our own gardens to use as material. All of us in the group tend to have gardens, so sharing a love for flowers and gardening is one thing we all have in common."

Linck also studied floral



Ikebana is the Japanese art of floral design.

design. Ikebana took her passion for flowers to "another level."

"Ikebana can be a spiritual practice and I find that to be so for me," she said. "The process can be challenging, fun, peaceful, frustrating much depending on my state of heart and mind. The art is thought to express the practitioner's soul — or for me state of being — while doing the arrangement. I do notice when I am in a peaceful state to begin with, in the moment and not attached to how the arrangement turns out or how others perceive it, I enjoy and find great peace and fulfillment in the process and the arrangements seems to take on that expression."

Kidd said Suzuki's demonstration is a good way to get a feel for the art of ikebana. Prospective Chapter members also may attend a monthly workshop/meeting. The group meets the second Wednesday of the month, March-December at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. A hands-on workshop runs 10 a.m. to noon, followed by a meeting. A second workshop is 1-3 p.m.

For more on Ikebana International Detroit Chapter 85, visit ikebanadetroit.org.

Canton couple advocate for 'adopted' test lab dog

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Kathy and George Garis would love nothing more than to bring their newly adopted beagle, Bandit II, home to Canton.

But first, the longtime dog rescuers need to secure the pooch's freedom.

"We plan out finding out all we can about Bandit, starting with what sex Bandit is. Next we plan to inquire as to whether we can send a toy or a blanket for our dog and we want to be allowed to see our new friend. Lastly, and most importantly, we plan to advocate for Bandit's release," said Kathy Garis.

"None of God's creatures should be forced to live their lives to test, even for the benefit of humans. And actually, what we hope to accomplish, in the immediate term, is Bandit's release. And in the long term, to stop or at least vastly reduce all experimentation on helpless animals."

The Garises adopted the dog on paper only, through the Beagle Freedom Project's Identity Campaign, which connects individuals to dogs — many are beagles — and cats that are kept in taxpayer-funded university research labs across the country, including at Michigan State University (MSU) and Wayne State University (WSU). The Project lists available animals online and sends each adopter an adoption certificate, a tag with the animal's identification number and lab location, along with a records request template to help them acquire veterinary reports, health records and daily care logs for their new pet. Private facilities and institutions aren't listed on the website because they are not obligated, under state "sunshine laws" to respond to the Project's information requests.

"Part of the purpose of our Identity Campaign is to empower our members and sup-



porters to take a more active role in our efforts against dog and cat experimentation," said Jeremy Beckham, Campaign coordinator. "Most nonprofits only ask their supporters for donations and the occasional online petition signature. We want our supporters to actively drive our efforts and their voice to be heard."

Cage 13-077

Since the Identity Campaign launched in March, all of the available dogs at both WSU and MSU that were listed on the site have been adopted. Beckham said the organization is working to add University of Michigan lab animals to the website. The Garises adopted the beagle in Cage 13-077 at MSU and named the dog, Bandit II after their dog, Bandit, who died four years ago. Their new dog was born May 13, the date the Garises were married at the Michigan State University chapel.

"Since George is a graduate of MSU and we were married at Michigan State University, it was an easy decision to adopt one of the dogs being used there," Garis said. The couple own two beagles, Paulie, 7, and Taffy, 2.

MSU's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and Campus Animal Resources regulate and provide administrative oversight for animals used in biomedical, agricultural and veterinary teaching and research, according to the



The adoption is only on paper, but George and Kathy Garis hope to bring Bandit II home from a Michigan State University research lab one day.

university website. It indicates that more than 100 individuals provide care for the animals. The Committee did not return a phone call from the *Observer*.

According to its website, "MSU recognizes and embraces the fundamental interdependence of humans and animals and is committed to the core value of humane care and use of all animals. Animal-related activities are an integral part of MSU's teaching, research and outreach missions and help MSU advance the quality of life for people and animals."

"Annually, the MSU community cares for over 50,000 animals from a wide variety of species involved in cutting edge investigations on imaging technologies, cardiovascular and cancer studies, food production and performance, growth and development, social behaviors and infectious disease."

Private labs

Garis became aware of the Beagle Freedom Project through a photo on Facebook showing dogs in consumer product testing, inhaling oven cleaner fumes.

"I was absolutely outraged that these dogs were being subjected to this — how many dogs have to die before people know fumes from oven cleaners shouldn't be inhaled. I joined their Facebook page and started reading about the work they were doing. Many, if not most, of these experiments seemed pointless and are being conducted for commercial purposes."

"There is an app on the Beagle Freedom Project website, cruelty-cutter.org which will allow you to scan a product and have an immediate response about its animal testing status," Garis said, adding that many cosmetics and cleaning product manufacturers test on animals. "We hope



Kathy and George Garis of Canton received a tag from the Beagle Freedom Project when they "adopted" a test lab dog. The reverse includes the dog's identification number.

more people become aware of the practice of these companies and refuse to buy their products and let the companies know why.

"Under current law, no experiment on animals is illegal, no matter how needless or cruel and we believe that this practice needs to change."

Garis became involved in animal rescue in 2003 after the couple's Cairn terrier died. They adopted another dog from a Cairn terrier rescue and Garis began volunteering. She served as a board member for two different groups, developed an adoption program and post-adoption program, created calendars, wrote a newsletter and helped find homes for former puppy mill dogs. She sees similarities in rescuing test animals and puppy mill dogs and says it takes a "special family" to adopt them.

"The Beagle Freedom Project is very involved in introducing laws on a state-by-state basis to make it mandatory to have the animals used in lab testing offered to rescue groups and with George being an attorney, we would love to assist with this in Michigan."

"These animals deserve a voice. If not us, then who?"

Visit the Beagle Freedom Project at beaglefreedomproject.org.

Walks benefit Karmanos Cancer Center, Kidney Foundation

Lace up your athletic shoes and hit the pavement to help raise money and awareness for health causes Saturday-Sunday, May 16-17.

Start with the 17th annual North Brothers Ford & City of Westland Fun Run/Walk 9 a.m. Saturday, May 16, at Westland Farmers Market, 1901 N. Carlson, south of Ford Road. The 5K Fun Run/Walk



will benefit the Karmanos Cancer Institute for Cancer Research.

Registration fees are \$13 for students 18 and under; \$17 pre-registration for adults and \$20 for adults after May 9. Registration fee includes a cotton event T-shirt. Mesh performance running shirts also are available for an additional charge. Reg-

ister for the event at northbros.com. Questions? Call North Brothers Ford at 855-739-2023 and ask for Jackie.

On Sunday, May 17, more than 7,500 walkers and their supporters are expected to promote awareness and raise money for the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan by participating in the 1.5-mile Kidney Walk at the Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile, at Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak.

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan will trans-

form an area of the zoo's picnic grove into an energetic atmosphere for kidney patients, living donors, and transplant patients as a way to celebrate their lives and make them feel special.

The event will include free haircuts, massages, special food — appropriate for those fighting the disease — giveaways, music, contests, games like Giant Jenga, face painting, noodle art, Paws, the official Detroit Tigers' mascot, and food and refreshments donated

by area businesses.

The walk begins at 8:30 a.m., with registration starting at 7:30 a.m.

Participants also can register online at nkfm.org/walks before event day. Cost is \$20 per person, 13 and over, \$10 per child, 2-12, and free for kids, 2 and under. It includes parking, zoo admission and activities. Participants who raise \$100 or more will receive a walk T-shirt.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Agging 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. Register by calling 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.

Blood drive

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will hold a blood drive 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday, May 18, in the North Auditorium at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins also are accepted.

Blood pressure

Oakwood Healthcare will offer free blood pressure screening, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 8 at the Dearborn Farmers Market, 22100 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Visit oakwood.org for more information.

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 by calling 248-888-2500 or visit 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.

Hearing loss

» The Hearing Loss Association of America will present information on the care and cleaning of ears and hearing aids, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, at Garden City Hospital, 5245 Inkster, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297; aferack@comcast.net.

» The Hearing Loss Association of America sponsors the Southeast Michigan Walk4Hearing, Saturday, May 16, at Kensington Metropark in Milford. Registration will start at 9 a.m., followed by the 5-K walk at 10 a.m. The event is for all ages and will include light refreshments, entertainment and information about hearing, hearing loss and the association's services. For more information, visit walk4hearing.org. Email Barb at bquart@hearingloss-mi.org or Tony at aferack@comcast.net.

Or call Audrey at 313-562-5937.

Heart symposium

Hadassah Greater Detroit presents Heart Throbbing Woman's Heart Health Symposium, 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Thursday, May 28, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. Attendees will learn about the warning signs of heart disease for women, new CPR techniques, defibrillator use and the merits of mindful thinking. Rhonda Walker of WDIV will moderate the program. Keynote speakers will be Pam Marcovitz, M.D., director of the Ministrelli Women's Heart Center at Beaumont, and Shalini Modi, M.D., service chief of cardiology at Henry Ford West Bloomfield. Includes lunch, an optional walk and exercises. Cost is \$45. Register at Hadasah.org/events/whh. Call 248-683-5030 for more information.

Joint pain

Learn about the source and treatment of hip, shoulder and knee pain, 6-7:30 p.m. May 12, in the Oakwood Physical Therapy & Wellness Center, 17101 Rotunda Drive, Dearborn. Register at oakwood.org or call 800-543-9355.

Sleep series

Livonia Civic Center Library will offer a free program called How To Improve Your Sleep: A 3-Part Series From a

Holistic, Medical and Psychological Perspective, Monday-Wednesday, May 4-6, at 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Sandy Baumann will present Say Goodnight to Insomnia, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday. Donald Zaksek will talk about the psychology of sleep, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday. Gayle Young presents Sleep From a Medical Perspective, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday. Programs are free but registration is required. Call 734-466-2490.

Stroke program

Anne Pawlak, D.O., a specialist in adult neurology and chair of the residency-training program at Garden City Hospital, will talk about why strokes happen, the damage they cause, symptoms and prevention, 12:30-2 p.m. Saturday, May 30, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, Westland. The event is free. Visit gch.org

Walk with a Doc

David Sternberg, a minimally invasive thoracic surgeon, will talk about upper intestinal problems that make eating difficult, noon, Thursday, May 21, at the Heritage Park Nature Center, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. The talk includes a nature walk. Register by calling Botsford Hospital at 877-477-3621, option #1.

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