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# Westland wants more data on art center proposal for vacant Hawthorne Valley

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Supporters of a proposed art center at the former Hawthorne Valley site need to provide a business plan with funding commitments to the Westland Council before their concept can move forward.

Dan Wakefield, along with other supporters of the art center proposal, had a large story board displayed at a recent council study session. The concept included a statutory garden, some future retail

development and a cafe to join an arts center.

City officials, some expressing support for the concept, had a lot of questions about funding for the project proposed for the former restaurant/banquet center and nine-hole golf course. Following bankruptcy and tax foreclosure, much of the Merriman Road frontage and the buildings are now owned by the city.

"I'm not feeling the love," said Wakefield after a lot of talk about the proposal and questions about the need for a

business plan.

"I'm not feeling the financial commitment," Westland Council President James Godbout said. "Without backing from someone showing this is financially viable and there are funds to pay for maintenance and insurance, I don't see how we can say, 'Here's the land.'"

It would be irresponsible of the city to give people access to city property without indemnification, he said.

Financial backers and grants can't be obtained until there is a commitment for an

art center from the city, Wakefield said.

## Appraisal needed

The city has not yet had the property appraised, Westland Mayor William Wild said, adding other interest has also been expressed in the property, including a church.

"The building is in terrible shape — there has been a fire and there is mold. We would see if we could build it up two or three stories or tear it down," Wakefield said. "That's the 12 acres the city has. I'd

like to work to acquire the whole 59 acres."

Wild was concerned about the great deal of maintenance needed for the property, the subject of complaints from neighbors since Hawthorne Valley closed.

"A lot of people are talking about it, not just me. We are really serious about making it happen," Wakefield said. "We are well aware of the maintenance on a huge property."

There is no art center of this

See PROPOSAL, Page A2



Appearing in Roosevelt-McGrath's Project UNITY YouTube video are Cameron Swafford (from left), Sibrey Ruel, Sydney Kosin, Austin Hasley, Donovan Uselman, Clarissa McMillan and Lizzie Rupert.

# Students open door to a unified Roosevelt-McGrath School

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Roosevelt-McGrath is a school divided.

On one side of a set of double doors is the 400-plus students of Roosevelt Elementary School in Wayne. On the other side, is the McGrath Center that serves 35 students with severe multiple impairments.

But thanks to an "amazing project," the school is now united with students from both sides getting together for unified activities like this week's field day and a kick-off assembly in which students were asked to remove the "R-word" (retarded) from their vocabulary and replace it with "respect."

"It's heartwarming," Principal Jennifer Keatts said. "We see the kids every day and see how incredible and awesome and wonderful they are. And their peers see it to."

## Project UNITY

Project UNITY was started by social worker Jennifer Bush and special education teachers Amanda Horton, dual diagnosed, and Erica Hope, adaptive physical education, to create a more inclusive culture for the McGrath students through regularly planned activities, special events and education.

"It's something that has bothered me; Roosevelt and McGrath are two separate schools; the doors were a physical barrier, they created a mental barrier," Bush said.

They rolled out Project UNITY — the



McGrath student Jacob Smith lets YouTube watchers know that he's outgoing.

UNITY stands for Understanding differences, New experiences, Inclusion of all students, Friendships created and Youth leadership. Students, with an assembly in which Roosevelt's third-graders and fourth-graders, joined

McGrath students to learn about disabilities.

Students were asked if they know what disability or special needs mean. A

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# Hearing delayed in fatal Westland stabbing

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Family and friends of a fatally stabbed Belleville man and the Westland man accused of killing him crowded a Westland courtroom Thursday.

Court officers made sure those attending the hearing for victim Matthew Green were separated by a full row of seats from supporters of defendant Dion Patterson. The groups were warned no talking was allowed in the courtroom.

"We are just grieving. We want justice for Matt," said Erin Muir, Green's sister following the brief hearing.

Green, 33, was reportedly fatally stabbed in the early hours of May 16 at his girlfriend's home in 35000 block of Thames, south of Avondale and west of Wayne Road in Westland.

Green, his girlfriend and two other people returned home from the bar about 2:15 a.m. Westland Police said they were making some noise, which prompted Patterson's mother to open her window and exchange words with the quartet.

Patterson, 17, police said, was awakened by the noise and asked his mother what had happened. He is charged with arming himself with a kitchen knife and going to the neighboring home where he forced his way inside, stabbing Green three times. Police said Green had tried to push Patterson back out of an unlocked side door he entered.

Held in lieu of bond, Patterson is charged with homicide-felony murder, homicide-second degree murder, first-degree home invasion and assault with a dangerous weapon. A not guilty plea was entered for him.

At Thursday's probable cause hearing, Patterson waived his right to preliminary examination within 21 days of arraignment. The preliminary examination was scheduled for June 18 before

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# UNIFIED

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lot didn't, so they did four mini activities that showed them how it felt to be deaf, blind and physically handicapped.

"We wanted them to think about words with negative connotations; we asked what words they hear and retarded was one of them," Bush said. "Then we asked them to think about nice words and they came up with sweet, smart, funny and friendly. We also got a lot of lists with pretty and cool."

The students and staff also took the pledge to remove the "R-word" from their vocabulary and replace it with respect. Each student has been invited to sign a pledge that hangs on the wall near the school's "Spread the Word to End the Word" banner.

Students and staff also signed respect handprints that cover the double doors that divided the two programs.

Project UNIFY is part of Special Olympics. A friend of Bush's who teaches autistic students started a Project UNIFY at her high school in Ann Arbor. She had a great response, so Bush decided to bring it to Roosevelt-McGrath.

She showed Bush what to do, including applying for a grant that has been used to put on special events and purchase a banner for the



Amanda Horton (from left), Jennifer Bush and Erica Hope stand in front of the decorated doors to the McGrath side of Roosevelt-McGrath School. The hand prints were signed by all staff and students who pledged not to use the R-word.

building and T-shirts for the staff. It took a year of planning before Project UNIFY was launched at Roosevelt-McGrath.

"We have a great culture here already; we've only expanded it," Keatts said. "We have a wonderful staff. They find ways to tie things in with what's happening in the building. They do things because they're the right thing to do. This mirrors what we're doing here at Roosevelt-McGrath."

Roosevelt and McGrath students have joined together for lunch, movies and game days and on Monday will hold a first ever unified field day with events that have been modified so all students can participate.

They've even produced a Project UNIFY video that can be seen on YouTube at [youtube.com/watch?v=5wT\\_slmur8A&safe=active](http://youtube.com/watch?v=5wT_slmur8A&safe=active).

"It (the video) is such a good message, it's so



Calvin Patton's message in the video is that he's determined.

simple," Bush said.

### Student driven

The project got started because of the tenacity of one fourth-grader who "really, really wanted to be over here helping," Bush said.

"She was one of the very first general ed students who sought out my students and got to know their names and was with them on the playground," she said. The teachers have recruited students for an

advisory committee. On the applications they asked for suggestions on what could be done and they came up with some great ideas, Bush said.

Actively involved in Project UNIFY are fourth-graders Sydney Kosin and Lizzie Rupert.

Lizzie likes to help special needs children. She always has wanted to pass through the doors to meet the students. She used to play bingo with them in first grade, but she has wanted to do more so she could interact with them.

"I think you feel better about yourself, if you get better treatment," she said. "This will make our school better. We're a team, we're one unified team."

"It wasn't fair that only a couple of students could come play with us," Sydney said. "I'd like more to come outside. They're different from us, they don't act normal, but they're really nice on the outside. You can see a big difference, but on the inside, you can see a lot of nice."

"There's a lot of nice people over here (McGrath)," she added.

Hope works with special needs students because it's her passion and seeing that passion in students like Lizzie and Sydney is inspiring.

"These girls have special interest, but it's also awesome to see the kids call a child by name," she said. "I see it across the school population, and it's heartwarming."

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# PROPOSAL

Continued from Page A1

in the summer, Wakefield said.

"If it doesn't happen here, it will happen somewhere else," he said. "I can't think of anything that would benefit the property more than this project."

A supporter of the arts center proposal, Councilman Michael Kehrer said he wouldn't want to sell the property but rather have a land lease under which the city maintains ownership.

"We will make it more beautiful than anything around. With flowers and plants, it will be a nice place for families," Wakefield said. "We would keep the pathways open. There could be cross country skiing and fire pits, we could use it year-round. It would be a cultural attraction."

The project has 450

supporters, he said, about half of whom live in the area. Others return to visit family and friends.

### Showing support

Wakefield offered to attend meetings with the city's support for the concept while an appraisal of the property is obtained.

While the council asked for a business plan, Wakefield asked if the council could vote in favor of the project. "If you are not in favor, cut us loose," he said.

"You need to boil it down to an action plan — exactly how you will take care of the building, the property, what you will do first with just the 14 acres," Kehrer said.

Wakefield agreed to provide information by the end of May.

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# HEARING

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Judge Mark McConnell. "Matt was always happy. He cared for everyone. The turnout at his funeral showed that,"

Muir said. "He helped so many people. So many people came up and said he had helped them out. He was a great person."

Having attended Wayne Memorial High School, Green worked in construction.

"We're trying to show that we are here for him. We're Matt's voice now. We want to make sure he gets justice," Muir said.

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**WESTLAND OBSERVER**  
Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

**Community Office:**  
29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737  
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
[hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

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**Subscription Rates:**  
Newsstand price: \$1.00 (Sun. & Thurs.)  
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\$49.00 six months  
\$98.00 per year  
\$77.00 six months mail delivery  
\$154.00 per year mail delivery

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# St. Mary Mercy faith leader appointed to national team

Sister Janet Marie Adamczyk, Chief Mission and Community Benefit Officer at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, first began her work at the hospital as a phlebotomist and medical technologist in the laboratory in 1973, even before she was a Felician Sister. It wasn't until 1978 that she joined the Felician congregation. And now, after more than 42 years of service and multiple leadership roles, she has been elected to the Felician Provincial Leadership Team for the Our Lady of Hope Province and will be leaving St. Mary Mercy, relocating out of state.

Nearly 100 hospital, business partners, friends and family honored her for her years of service with a farewell gathering on May 21.

"This is a big change for us — I am still getting used to the idea of her absence," said St. Mary Mercy Hospital President and CEO David Spivey, who has worked with Sister Janet Marie for 15 years. "She's made such an impact here at the hospital and in our community for so many years."

Through the ministry of the Felician heritage, Sister Janet Marie has contributed to the culture and success of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in many ways. An educated individual with a bachelor of science in chemistry and biology and a master of business administration, she has assumed leadership roles in many areas in addition to her laboratory work during her tenure, including purchasing, materials management, mission integration and supply chain and her most recent role, Chief Mission and Community Benefit Officer. Her thesis in graduate school



At her farewell gathering on May 21, Sister Janet Marie Adamczyk, Chief Mission and Community Benefit Officer at St. Mary Mercy Hospital (second from left), celebrates with (left to right), her aunt and former St. Mary Hospital President and CEO, Sister Mary Modesta Pivowar; Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey; and current St. Mary Mercy Hospital President and CEO David Spivey. Sister Janet Marie was presented with a commendation from the mayor for her service, as well as a special gift from the hospital.

even focused on the development of a value analysis committee that she implemented at the hospital.

Sister Janet Marie, whose last day of work at the hospital was May 22, will also be remembered by many in the community for her selfless service, including her membership both on the Madonna University and Marywood Nursing Care Center Board of Directors, Metropolitan Detroit Area Hospital Services, Livonia Prayer Breakfast Planning Committee and the Archbishop's Advisory Committee on Health Care Ethics.

"Her contributions as a clinician, as a business professional and as a

spiritual leader will leave a legacy of faith, commitment and fond memories," Spivey said. "We express our true appreciation and gratitude to Sister for her dedicated service. Her new appointment is quite an honor and reflects her remarkable leadership," he said.

The Felician Sisters' Our Lady of Hope Province originally had eight provinces in North America that were consolidated into one in 2009, and at that time the first group of leadership was elected. Recently the second group of leadership was elected. Responsible for creating and implementing policies, workings of the congregation and the well-being of the Felician

Sisters, Sister Janet Marie has been elected to the North American Province that now includes eight members in the Provincial Administration Team, each with a dedicated scope of responsibility. Sister Janet Marie will serve a six-year term in Pennsylvania, overseeing a region that includes several states.

"St. Mary Mercy Hospital has been a special place to work and live. The family spirit of the hospital is one of the things that I have always treasured and I will miss the people who work here because they have

become my family. I am grateful to God for the many blessings received during the 42 years at the hospital and to those who have helped me to learn and grow. These experiences have prepared me for my new ministry in congregational leadership," Sister Janet Marie Adamczyk said about her job change.

In the 55-year history of the hospital, there have been only five hospital presidents, four of which were Felician Sisters. She added, "I've worked under four of the five presidents, who have followed our Foundress Blessed Mary Angela in

responding to the needs of the times. With the transfer of ownership of the hospital to Trinity Health in 2000, the fifth and current President and CEO, Dave Spivey, has built upon the strong Felician heritage in continuing to respond to the changing health care needs of the community. I am confident the legacy will live on in this organization."

"On behalf of a grateful organization and community, we thank Sister Janet Marie Adamczyk for her many contributions and wish her good health and happiness," Spivey said.

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## St. Raphael School in Garden City nets awards, recognitions

By Sue Buck  
 Staff Writer

St. Raphael Principal Kathleen Fotiu couldn't be happier with the awards and recognition received by the Garden City school.

This is the first year that Fotiu has served as principal.

This spring the school was again accredited in a process that occurs only every seven years.

"We were recently re-accredited by MNSAA (the Michigan Non-Public Schools Accrediting Association)," Fotiu said.

In March a team of principals, teachers and catechists went through all of the required documentation.

"It's a team of 15 people in the educational field," she said. "They said that everything we are supposed to be is above and beyond. We are growing our mission in knowledge and in God's spirit. It was wonderful news."

Accreditation is something to hang your hat on. "It means that our school is doing what it is supposed to do," she said.

The accreditors look at the school's mission, what they are doing about the Catholic faith, curriculum instruction, technology, teachers, marketing, finance and how testing data is



Breanna Santos (foreground) took third place in the Vicariate spelling bee. Rachel Foss and Sammy Maslanka also placed.

used.

The team was on campus two days but they had the 72-page accreditation document previous to that time.

"We talked about every area of our school," Fotiu said.

Although the accreditation was gained March 24, the school won't receive its plaque until the start of the next school year.

"We have been accredited since 1994 which is probably when it started," Fotiu said.

The students also were successful in the Vicariate

Catechism Bowl.

"We won the Northwest Wayne Vicariate Catechism Bowl," Fotiu said. "This tests their knowledge of the Catholic faith. Six schools are in the Vicariate. A Vicariate is a section of schools."

The winners were eighth-grader Madison Anderson of Livonia, eighth-grader Anthony Crisologo of Westland, eighth-grader Dylan Graham of Garden City, seventh-grader Elaina Ryan of Westland and seventh-grader Brody Riopelle of Garden City.



The winning team members of the Northwest Vicariate Catechism Bowl are Dylan Graham, Elaina Ryan, Madison Anderson, Brody Riopelle and Anthony Crisologo.

The students felt satisfaction at their achievement. "It was really fun," Anderson said.

Ryan thought it was somewhat difficult. The bowl drew from their cumulative knowledge gained through their school years.

The students attend daily religion classes and go to Mass once a week.

St. Raphael students also participated in the Vicariate Spelling Bee which was for fifth-graders through eighth-

graders.

Fifth-grader Breanna Santos, a Canton resident, took third place overall in the bee.

"I was really happy," Santos said.

She thought the words statistician and milieu were the hardest.

Seventh-grader Samantha Maslanka of Garden City and fifth-grader Rachel Foss of Westland were among the top 10 winners.

sbuck@hometownlife.com

## John Glenn, Wayne Memorial high schools to add college advisers

Students at two Wayne-Westland high schools will get help making it into college with the addition of college advisers to the schools' staffs next fall.

John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High Schools, at which Canton students attend, are among 51 high schools around the state that have been selected to join the Michigan College Access Network's new AdviseMI program.

The goal of AdviseMI is to place recent college graduates into high schools to serve as

advisers in communities across Michigan, particularly those with low college-going rates and low adult educational attainment rates. Working alongside high school counselors and other school staff, the advisers will support students as they make the transition from high school to a postsecondary education institution.

"This is an exciting step to help increase college attainment rates across Michigan," said Brandy Johnson, MCAN executive director. "These well-trained, dedicated college

graduates will be able to provide important support to students and will supplement the great work of high school counselors."

Michigan high school counselors currently average case-loads of more than 700 students apiece, making it hard for them to provide one-to-one college advising or help students navigate the complex process of college admissions and financial aid.

MCAN's advisers will be ready to fill the gap starting in fall 2015 at the high schools

selected for AdviseMI. Some advisers will split their time between two high schools allowing 40 college advisers to serve the 51 high schools.

After an intensive five-week training period, advisers will be able to help students navigate the complex college exploration process, retake college admissions tests, apply to colleges that are a good match or fit, complete the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), secure financial aid, and enroll in a postsecondary institution.

The advisers will be recent graduates from 13 partner colleges, including Alma College, Central Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, Ferris State University, Grand Valley State University, Madonna University, Michigan Technological University, Oakland University, Saginaw Valley State University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, University of Michigan-Flint, Wayne State University and Western Michigan University.



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# Tino's Farm transition center opens doors in Lyon Township to help men stay sober

By Diane Gale Andreassi  
Staff Writer

Tino's Farm, a transition center for men fighting to stay sober, opened this month as a legacy to Constantino Del Signore who was known for his abundant generosity.

Shortly after Del Signore died at the Lyon Township farm in a 2010 tractor accident, his family and friends knew he would like to see the home used to help men fighting to stay sober.

"Tino got the idea for a center when he was in New York and had a thought to use his farm for rehab for other people, as a perfect and peaceful spot away from temptation," said his father, John Del Signore, a Livonia resident.

"When he passed we decided to make the house for that."

### A safe place

The 37-acre farm on Eight Mile and Currie roads is a transition center that will eventually house 12 men who are at least 18 years old and are working on maintaining sobriety. Each man will be expected to hold a job, pay a stipend to live at Tino's, do chores in the garden and tend to the farm animals.

Del Signore said someday he hopes to build a kitchen in the farm's barn to teach residents how to cook, which will offer them a skill they can use when they leave Tino's Farm.

"Work therapy is good for the soul," said Tom Crabill, a Constantino Del Signore Foundation board member. It's important for men who have recently become



Richard Asztalos, Constantino Del Signore Foundation president, John Del Signore and Tom Crabill, CDS Foundation board member talk at Tino's Farm, which recently opened in Lyon Township.

sober to have a structured environment like Tino's Farm, he added. "This is a safe environment."

In life Tino always found a way to help others — he launched the CDS Foundation more than 20 years ago when a church in the province of L'Aquila in Abruzzo, Italy, needed a roof. Then Tino, along with other CDS board members, decided organizations in Michigan could use help, too.

CDS now supports cancer research and other causes, like the South Lyon chapter of FAN (Families Against Narcotics), St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Garden City Hospital, Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, Angela Hospice in Livonia, Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit, Safari Club International and other

organizations, as well as the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, which Tino founded.

In death, Tino's spirit of generosity continues.

### Next chapter

Helping men with addictions was the next logical step, said Richard Asztalos, CDS Foundation president.

"We're taking baby steps," he said, adding that Tino's Farm does more than help the men living there, it also raises awareness about addictions. "It's maddening right now with the epidemic going on with heroin."

Tino would be ecstatic about using the house for men fighting addictions, John Del Signore said.

CDS worked with Dawn's Farm in Ann Arbor to create a model for rules and expectations at Tino's Farm,

Asztalos said. The Lyon Township facility, however, won't provide treatment. Alcoholics Anonymous and Bible studies will be held at the farm with hopes of reaching people of all ages, including teens, Crabill said.

"Working with teens was our first intention," said Constantino's mother, Lina. "I hope someday that dream will come true."

Asztalos and other CDS board members are in the process of placing six men who will live at Tino's Farm. For more information, call house manager Paul Frescoln at 248-860-4990 or intake director Jerry Costanza at 734-216-3621.


Every year since Del

Signore's death, CDS Foundation has held annual picnics to raise the \$500,000 to start Tino's Farm. The fourth annual event is Aug. 23 at Tino's Farm. The sign outside reads Sweet Acres, 55880 Eight Mile Road. With proceeds going to local organizations, the picnic is sponsored in cooperation with Livonia Save Our Youth, Families Against Narcotics, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Botsford Hospital and Safari Club International Chapter - Michigan Southeast Bow Hunters. "This is Tino's legacy," John Del Signore said.

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- Balance Screening
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**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**  
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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**

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Pre-registration is preferred. For more information or to register, call 734-655-2929, or visit [stmarymercy.org/healthyagingconference](http://stmarymercy.org/healthyagingconference).

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# Angela Hospice competes in Art Van Charity Challenge

The 2015 Art Van Charity Challenge officially began May 18, and if Livonia residents scroll through the list of participants they will notice a familiar name: Angela Hospice.

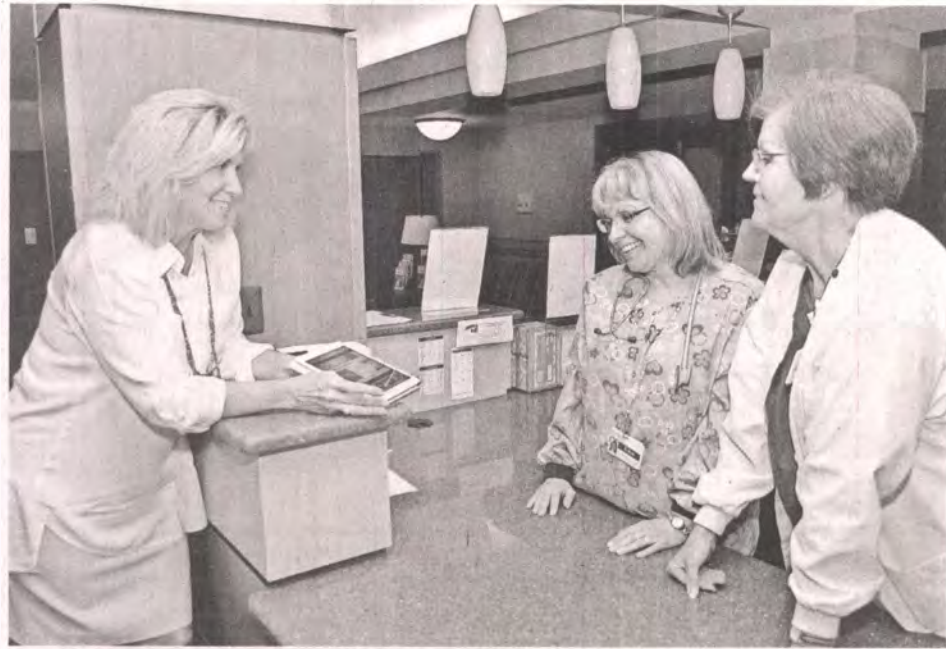
The Livonia-based nonprofit is one of 124 charities competing in the challenge this year and is the only organization based out of Livonia. Since being founded in 1985, Angela Hospice has been fortunate to have constant support from the Livonia community and is hoping to receive continued support as it tries to raise the most funds during the five-week competition.

The online fundraising challenge sponsored by Art Van Furniture has been helping nonprofits that focus on supporting children, health and human services for the past six years. At the end of the challenge, June 22, the top 10 charities will receive bonus grants from Art Van, ranging from \$7,500 to \$75,000. There will also be week-

ly bonus challenges to compete in each week.

"We're grateful to be a part of the Art Van Charity Challenge, not only to raise funds so that Angela Hospice can continue to provide its exceptional level of care, but also to advance the discussion of critical issues that people encounter at the end of their lives," said Barb Hendrickson, Angela Hospice Board of Directors Chair and a top fundraiser for the challenge. "Hospice is so misunderstood. People perceive that it's about dying, but it's really about proactively choosing to live on your own terms — as comfortably as possible — surrounded by the ones you love. Not a bad way to live every day."

Angela Hospice serves 1,800 patients a year through home care and its inpatient Care Center. Located on Newburgh Road, the Care Center houses 32 patients total, including Doris LaFave, a Far-



Barb Hendrickson shows nurses Erica Miloser and Sylvia Bettner her team fundraising page for Angela Hospice in the Art Van Charity Challenge.

mington Hills resident.

LaFave has been in Angela Hospice's Care Center since February, after spending two years at another facility. When hospice was first suggested LaFave said she

was hesitant, but now she's glad she came.

"It was a very good move," LaFave said. "A lot better than I expected."

Patients like Doris receive pain and symp-

tom management, as well as emotional and spiritual support, from an interdisciplinary team of professionals. LaFave said that before coming to Angela Hospice she was in a lot of

pain. "Now everything seems to be calmed down," she said. "The nurses are great."

Donations from the challenge will go directly to fund the services provided at Angela Hospice, including grief support programs that are supported entirely through donations, and are available free-of-charge to anyone in the community.

Individuals who would like to support Angela Hospice in the Art Van Charity Challenge can visit [crowdrise.com/ahhc-artvan2015](http://crowdrise.com/ahhc-artvan2015) to donate. (Donations must be made through this page in order to count toward the challenge.)

For questions about the challenge, contact Angela Hospice's coordinators for this project: Dana Casadei at 734-953-6053 or [Dcasadei@angelahospice.us](mailto:Dcasadei@angelahospice.us) or Lisa Norton at 734-953-6008 or [Lnorton@angelahospice.us](mailto:Lnorton@angelahospice.us).

## Plawecki legislation aims to improve motorcycle rider safety

State Rep. Julie Plawecki, D-Dearborn Heights, has introduced legislation that would revise penalties for un-

endorsed motorcycle riders. The intent of the bill is to improve motorcycle safety and bring the penalty for riding a

motorcycle without an endorsement in line with driving an automobile without a license.

The bill's introduction commemorates Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

"It is estimated that over half of our state's fatal motorcycle accidents involve unendorsed riders," Plawecki said. "I am encouraged by the bill's bipartisan



Plawecki

save lives."

House Bill 4651, if passed, would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code by increasing the fine

for riding a motorcycle without an endorsement. Under current law, the penalty is up to a \$100 fine and/or 90 days in jail. This proposal would revise the law up to \$500 and/or 90 days in jail for a first violation, and up to \$1,000 and/or a one-year sentence for a subsequent violation.

Plawecki worked on the bill with motorcycle safety advocates as part

of an ongoing effort to reduce accidents and fatalities through rider education, car driver awareness of motorcyclists and reducing the unendorsed rider population among the motorcycling community.

Plawecki represents Garden City, Inkster and portions of Livonia, Westland and Dearborn Heights.

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#### HAMSTRING PULLS

Pain in the back of the leg is at the least annoying, and at worse, incapacitating. In between these two extremes the pain poses a risk to safe walking. A spasm while going to a step can lead to a tumble down the stairs.

The most common cause of back-of-the-leg pain and strain is a hamstring pull. The hamstrings are a group of muscles that start in the pelvis at the site of the butt, travel in the posterior thigh and then anchor into the back of knee. Contraction of the hamstring muscles allows flexion of the knee. Pain during that movement disrupts the ability to take a coordinated step and makes walking impossible.

A person with a hamstring pull does not delay making a doctor's appointment. Unfortunately, a prompt medical remedy is not possible. First, in most instances the reason for the hamstring pull is not apparent. People cannot recall a specific move or strain on the leg that would set off the condition. A hamstring pull comes on while walking or engaged in recreation like jogging or tennis but the activity is the immediate event not the underlying cause. The cause itself is elusive.

Second, what constitutes sound treatment is unclear. With any muscle strain cold to numb the pain and prevent swelling, followed by heat and massage are standard treatments. The help this regimen gives is limited. Physical therapy suffers the same limitations; while receiving PT the leg feels fine, but between treatments the pain likely will return.

What eventually happens is that time and the body succeed in healing. Muscle uses what Nature gave us to make us whole before there were doctors, messages, sources of heat or ways of applying cold.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING GARDEN CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

ON ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016

The Board of Education of Garden City Public Schools, County of Wayne, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Monday, the 8th day of June 2015, at 7:30 p.m., at the Garden City Public Schools Administration Building, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, Michigan, to consider the approval and adoption of the operating budget of Garden City Public Schools for the 2015 -2016 fiscal year.

Copies of the proposed budget will be available in the Business Office at the Garden City Public Schools Administrative Building, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, Michigan, for inspection during regular business hours beginning June 8, 2015. At the public hearing, all citizens, taxpayers, and property owners of Garden City Public Schools shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the proposed budget. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education of Garden City Public Schools, County of Wayne, Michigan.

Dr. Patrick McNally, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Garden City Public Schools

# Different sort of graduation

18 seniors complete The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints seminary

By Amanda Ordaz  
Correspondent

The alarm clock sounds at 5:30 a.m. By 5:50 a.m., high school students from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are at the church or home of their teacher to participate in a 50-minute course called seminary, a worldwide, four-year religious educational program for youth ages 14 through 18.

Eighteen high school seniors from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Northville and Riverview were awarded their certificate of completion at the Westland Stake Seminary Graduation held on Thursday, May 21, at the Westland Stake Center.

In seminary, students and their teachers meet each weekday during the school year to study scripture. The curriculum is organized in a sequential or chapter by chapter manner. Instruction concentrates on a different volume of scripture each year, rotating between four courses: Old Testament, New Testament, Book of Mormon and Doctrine and Covenants and Church History. By the time students graduate from seminary, they have completed the study of all of the standard works of scripture.

Sarina Burnside and Jesse Nelson, both of Canton, were two of the graduating seniors. They both agreed that waking up was the hardest thing to do, especially with late night bedtimes. However, they also agreed on the benefits of always being on time to school and starting the day out right. While many of their fellow students fell asleep or arrived late for their first hour high school class, Sarina and Jesse had already been studying for an hour.

Kaitlyn Hall of Livonia is graduating from Churchill High School's CAPA program. She managed to fit seminary attendance and reading assignments into her busy schedule of after school and evening dance rehearsals that ended at



Seminary students and teachers of the Westland Stake include Jesse Nelson of Canton (back row, from left), Sarina Burnside of Canton, Zarin Loosle of Canton, Brian Fichtner of Canton, Autumn Belt of Rockwood, Alisha Burnside of Canton (front row, from left), Jazlynn Bel of Rockwood and Leah Bertrand of Canton.



Students and teachers of the Westland Stake Institute of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints welcome new seminary graduates Eric Mlynar of Canton (back row, from left), Sarina Burnside of Canton, Jesse Nelson of Canton, Masashi Burnside of Canton, Larry Budge of Plymouth, Morgan Beauchamp of Redford (front row, from left), Angelisa Hassan of Canton, Mary Bertrand of Canton, Linda Budge of Plymouth and Isaac Shulan, Canton into their class.



Brian and Yoshimi Burnside of Canton, pose with their four children. Two are seminary graduates and two currently attending. It will take eight years of early mornings before all of their children graduate from seminary.

10 p.m. each night.

"I would pull up the scriptures on my phone and read during silent reading in school or read right after school before dance practice," Hall said.

**'Something you do'**

Attending seminary is "just something you do," and it also helped her gain admission into Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, a

four-year college owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where Hall will attend this fall.

"There were many days I missed seminary and I could tell the difference," she said. "When I went to seminary, my day went better and smoother. Everyone is quiet at 6 a.m., as opposed to Sundays when everyone is excited to see each other. I was able to feel the

ing, they hold family prayer at 5:35 a.m. and are out the door by 5:40 a.m. in order to be ready for the students to arrive at the church at 5:50 a.m.

Shultz said "it's simply awesome" to be a Seminary teacher.

"Even as a Bishop I have never spent this much time with the youth of the church (not since I was one of them) and I love them so much," he said. "This is the most important, exciting, fun, scary time of their lives and I have a front row seat. I get to see 15 of the most amazing young people learn about the gospel. And that's what I care about. That's what makes me excited to get up and be there each morning."

When asked about challenges, he said that "every day there are things going on that have nothing to do with Seminary that find their way into our classroom."

"The challenge is getting enough focus from enough students for long enough to have the Spirit touch some of them enough to strengthen their testimony of the Savior and the gospel," he said. "And some days I'm better at it than I am on other days. Some days I despair of getting through to them at all. Other times it's fun because they're pretty darn good kids and they're a lot of fun."

**'Greatest triumph'**

He added that they sometimes start teaching each other, which is wonderful.

"The greatest triumph is when we all feel it," Shultz said. "There is another presence in class and we all know what that is. On those days, no one wants to leave. I don't want to go to work and they don't want to go to school, because nothing we do for the rest of the day is going to be as sweet as what we have right there in that little classroom in the corner of the church."

Once they graduate from seminary, students are welcomed into the collegiate counterpart — institutes of religion. Both programs have a wider reach than almost any educational organization worldwide. Today the seminary and institute programs teach more than 700,000 students in more than 150


different countries.

Linda Budge of Plymouth, was a volunteer teacher for early morning seminary for seven years and currently teaches the Westland Stake institute class each Thursday evening. She agrees that teaching at 7:30 p.m. is easier than 6 a.m. and has noticed that college-age students have more input and experiences to share during class. It is a challenge, however, to recruit students to attend, because they are no longer under the direct guidance of their parents.

The institute is open to all young adults ages 18-30 interested in studying Jesus Christ and His teachings. It meets from 7:30-9 p.m. Thursdays at the Westland Stake Center 7575 Hix, north of Warren Road, Westland. For more information, contact Linda Budge at lindabudge@comcast.net.

The Westland Michigan Stake (a stake is similar to a diocese) of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints encompasses much of western Wayne, Monroe and parts of Oakland counties.

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**(734) 744-2500**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

**Concert Instruments - Band Equipment Bid for the 2015-2016 School Year**

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, [www.livoniapublicschools.org](http://www.livoniapublicschools.org) under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2014-2015 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, [www.buy4michigan.com](http://www.buy4michigan.com). Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Sealed bids marked "Concert Instruments - Band Equipment" will be received until 10:00 A.M. on the 9th day June, 2015, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

The Bid Opening will take place at 10:00 A.M. on the 9th day of June, 2015, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Business Services, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance – Iran Economic Sanctions Act. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder: to waive any irregularities and/or informalities: and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be F.O.B. Destination. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Nick Armelagos  
Administrator of Finance  
Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154-5474

**"Concert Instruments- Band Equipment"**

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, [hlaul@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:hlaul@livoniapublicschools.org), 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**15125 FARMINGTON ROAD**  
**LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474**  
**(734) 744-2500**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

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LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

# Baseball team scores big for food drive

**By Sue Mason**  
Staff Writer

When Laurie Viviano decided to hold a month-long food drive at the Sports Venue Bar and Grill in Garden City, she set her sights on collecting 900 items for the H.O.M.E. Food Pantry.

With just a few days before it ends, she has more than exceeded her goal, thanks to the efforts of 12 baseball players.

Members of U10 Gladiators traveling baseball team dropped off 850-plus items at The Sports Venue on Thursday afternoon as a way of saying thank you to Viviano for her support of their fund-raising to pay for a 2017 trip to Cooperstown for a week-long Hall of Fame baseball tournament.

"This puts us over the top," Viviano told the kids. "You guys did an awesome job."

The tournament is held at the Cooperstown Dream Park and is for 12-year-olds. The boys need to raise \$38,000 to pay everything along the way for the trip of a lifetime and Viviano has helped, hosting a Battle of the Sexes Trivia night and providing gift certificates for prizes for other fundraisers.

"We've raised about \$13,000 so far and she has helped us," team manager Tony Widmer said. "We saw she was doing this; we already helped with her Thanksgiving dinner, so we called and asked how we could help."

#### Two-week collection

The team did the food collection over a two-week period. They also



Members of the U10 Gladiators show off the food they collected for Sports Venue's food drive.

SUE MASON

asked grandparents and relatives for donations, and parents asked at their work. They timed the collection so it didn't coincide with the annual postal carriers' collection earlier in the month and after they had competed in a tournament.

Their deadline was May 28 and they were still counting as they gathered at the Sports Venue to deliver the food stuff.

"I emailed parents and said that if each player got 25 items, it would be good," Widmer said. "My personal goal was 300 items. This blew me away."

Jeffrey Smith collected 40-50 items. It wasn't hard at first, but



SUE MASON  
Members of the Garden City U10 Gladiators unload the more than 850 items they collected for a food drive at the Sports Venue in Garden City.

"toward the end it was tiring," he said.

The 11-year-old plays second base, right and left field for the Gladiators. He's been on the team for three years and has been playing baseball for more than seven years.

"When I heard Cooper-

stown, I tried to keep my enthusiasm down to a minimum," he said. "When I heard fundraising that took it down. When I got home, I was ecstatic."

The team has done a bottle and can drive, euchre parties, bowling benefits, corn hole tour-

naments and a free throw contest called Ballin' for Baseball.

Kids have been getting snippets of videos about the Cooperstown tournament. One hundred teams from around the country and from Canada play in it. Widmer has been there in 2009 and 2013 with his sons and called it "an amazing experience."

"It won't hit them until we pull up and they see the ball fields and the Cooperstown sign," he said.

#### Sports prize package

Viviano has been giving out one raffle ticket per can, box or non-perishable food item donated for the pantry. The prize is a sports package that includes four tickets in the Tigers Den at Comerica Park for the June

26 Detroit Tigers vs. Chicago White Sox game, dinner at Harbor House in Greektown and limousine service 4:30-11:30 p.m.

Donations can be turned into employees or the bartender at the Sports Venue, 6327 Middlebelt at Maplewood, Garden City, to receive a raffle ticket for the drawing which will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 31. The winner need not be present.

For Gladiators, however, the prize will be a pizza party.

"The goal was 900 items and the kids raised almost that amount on their own," she said.

In addition to the food donations, Viviano also received a \$100 check from Inkorporate Graphics to allow the food pantry to buy needed items.

"When a business does something like this, you don't think about another business helping out," Viviano said. "This is phenomenal."

The kids loaded the donations into a pickup, which were delivered to the food pantry at the Maplewood Center. The pantry sees 20 families per day or 240 per month. It's open from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

People need to sign up. They can pick for themselves from the pantry, which has household, personal, frozen and refrigerated items, canned foods and dry goods. There is a limit of 10 pounds per person or up to 50 pounds per family per month limit by appointment only.

Residents of Garden City, Westland and Dearborn Heights are eligible.

[smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com)  
734-674-2332  
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

**Notice of Public Hearing**  
American Montessori Academy will hold a public hearing June 15, 2015 at 6:30 pm at 14800 Middlebelt Road in Livonia (734) 525-7100 to review the proposed 2015-2016 operating budget. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address.  
Published: May 31, 2015

**CITY OF LIVONIA**  
CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to City Ordinance No. 2593 that dogs, cats and all pets (with the exception of service animals) shall be prohibited on the land owned by the City of Livonia lying at the southwest corner of Newburgh and Eight Mile known as "Greenmead" on Sunday June 7, 2015 for the health, safety and welfare of persons attending the Flea Market.  
Published: May 31, 2015

**REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT No. 1**  
**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**  
**ON PROPOSED 2015-2016 BUDGET**  
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on June 8, 2015, at 6:30 o'clock p.m., at the Board of Education Administrative Offices located at 17715 Brady, Redford, Michigan, 48240, the Board of Education of Redford Union Schools, District No. 1 will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2015-2016 budget.  
The Board may not adopt its proposed 2015-2016 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2015-2016 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 17715 Brady, Redford, Michigan 48240.  
**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**  
This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.  
Patricia J. Isabell  
Secretary, Board of Education  
Redford Union School District  
Published: May 31, 2015

**CITY OF WESTLAND**  
**SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES**  
**MTG. 10 5/18/15**  
Presiding: President Pro Tem Hammons  
Present: Bryant, Coleman, Johnson, Kehrer  
64: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 5/4/15.  
- St. John's Episcopal Church 1-day beer tent for Fall Festival 9/12.  
- Traffic Control Order 2015-05: Install (1) "No Parking This Side of Sign" on w. side of Carlson, s. of Cherry Hill.  
- Bid for rock salt w/Detroit Salt for 2 yrs; amt. \$54.57/\$55.07 for 2015-06 & \$56.57/\$57.07 for 2016-17 season.  
- Bid for Lawn Fertilization/ Weed Control to TruGreen; \$7,283.  
- Bid for Jefferson Barns Parking Lot Improvements to Nagel Paving, \$51,964.  
- Bid for Street Sweeping to National Industrial Maintenance; \$363,600.  
- Purchase of CAT 247B3 Multi Terrain Loader for DPS; amt. \$31,194.02.  
- Purchase of 2015 Ford F-150 for DPS; \$24,412.15.  
- Purchase of 2 Transit Vans for DPS; \$45,000.  
- Agrmnt. w/ Detroit Water and Sewer Depart. regarding the prop. Inkster Pump Station force main.  
- 1 yr. contract renewal w/ BPI Information Systems for Technology Support; \$272/day per technician.  
- 5 yr contract renewal w/WCA Assessing for Assessing Svcs.  
- IGA w/Wayne County for improvements to Firefighter's Park.  
- IGA w/Wayne County for improvements to Lions Pavilion.  
- Intro Budget Amendment 2014/15-08; 3rd Quarter.  
- Adopt. Ord. 27-A-2, granting Consumers Energy right to operate local gas business in the City.  
- Established Defined Contribution Plan w/MERS for new hires.  
- Adopted Resolution btwn. City of Westland & Wayne County regarding abandoned 12 inch sanitary sewer force main facility within the Inkster Roads rights-of-way between Annapolis and Michigan Avenue.  
- Adoption of City's New Auction Policy and Procedures.  
70: Conf. re-appt. of H. Lebert to ZBA for 3 yr. term to exp. 6/21/18.  
72: Conf. re-appt. of J. Underwood to ZBA for 3 yr. term to exp. 6/21/18.  
73: Conf. appt. of D. Fowlkes to Planning Comm. To fill unexpired term to exp. 2/18/17.  
74: Conf. re-appt. of W. Tremper to Planning Commission for 3 yr. term to exp. 5/18/18.  
75: Appr. checklist: \$ 2,007,406.81.  
Mtg. adj. at 8:14 p.m.  
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.  
Adam Hammons  
Council President Pro Tem  
Publish: May 31, 2015  
Eileen DeHart-Schoof, CMC  
City Clerk  
Published: May 31, 2015

## Livonia schools OK'd to offer free summer lunches for kids

Livonia Public Schools will offer free lunch to students who are enrolled in two academic summer camps at Frost Middle School and Emerson Middle School. (Camp Emerson will be housed at Cooper Upper Elementary due to renova-

tion projects at Emerson.)

The district was certified by the Michigan Department of Education to offer this federally funded summer food program. Assistant Director of Food Service for Livonia Public Schools, Pat Schuchardt, said it is a needed service for many children.

"So many kids who we feed during the school

year (on free or reduced lunch programs) do not have access to those meals during the summer, and we felt the need to provide this food service," she said.

Here is how it will work: The students who are enrolled in the Camp Frost and Camp Emerson summer programs will receive free breakfast and lunch at those locations. Those camps provide math and literacy support for students identified as needing supplemental instruction. Students also experience physical education and technology at Camp Frost and physical education and art at Camp Emerson. The camps are funded through the Title I Part A federal program for academically at-risk students.

**Notice of Public Auction**  
**Thursday, June 11, 2015**  
**At or After 10:00 am**  
**1-800-Mini Storage of Redford**  
**15440 Telegraph, Redford MI 48239**

1213	Debra Fittrakis
2304	Cortez Dugger
2306	Cortez Dugger
2527	Starletta Banks
2624	Candice Thomas
3307	Nicholas Patterson
3522	Steven Taylor
3712	Ellis Currie
3719	Kanissa Dorsey
3826	Gladys Huddleston
3901	Starletta Banks

Goods are to be sold to satisfy landlord lien.  
All goods will be sold to highest bidder for cash.  
1-800-Mini Storage reserves the right to reject any bids and reserves the right to bid on unsold units.  
Contents include but are not limited to furniture, appliances, household goods, clothing, boxes & more.  
Published: May 31 & June 7, 2015

**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, June 17, 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 15' x 30' addition to the rear of the non-conforming home; whereas Sec. 5:2.3 states that a non-conforming structure cannot be enlarged.  
**Petition #2825-J. Sahi-Lot #1 Norwayne Sub.**  
Req. for a 25.05' rear yd. setback variance from Ord. 248 to construct a duplex on Lot #1, Norwayne Sub. 9.95' from the rear lot line; whereas Sec. 7:4.2 requires a minimum rear yd. setback of 35'.  
**Petition #2826-P. Hellyer-38604 Emerald Ln.**  
Request for a 2 variances (a side location variance & a 6" side yard fence height variance) from Article X of the Westland City Code of Ordinances in order to install a 5' high privacy fence in the east & west side yards of the home; whereas Section 22-304(a) states that only rear yards may be enclosed with a fence and Section 22-303(c) states that side yard fences that are allowed cannot exceed 4'6" in height.  
Published: May 31, 2015



# Laws becoming more complex: Seek advice of professional when dealing with tax issues

**Q: Dear Rick: I will be 70 later this year. Next year I will begin to take my required minimum distribution. My IRA is about \$75,000 and I won't need the money. I thought I would do a Roth conversion starting half this year and half next year. I was discussing this with a friend and he told me that the way to avoid all the taxes on an IRA is to transfer it into a Health Savings Account (HSA). Then I would be able to use the money to cover any medical bills. What do you think is better - move the money into a Roth IRA or a HSA?**



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

a traditional IRA into a Health Savings Account (HSA).

Yes, the law allows rollovers from a traditional IRA into a health savings account; however, there are rules. First, the IRS only allows an IRA to an HSA rollover once in a lifetime. The rollover must be from an IRA in your name to a HSA in your name. You cannot rollover an IRA in your spouse's name into your HSA.

Once the transfer has been completed, you must remain enrolled in

a high deductible health plan for at least one year. If you terminate your coverage, the rollover can be taxed to you. Furthermore, the amount of the rollover is limited.

The maximum rollover allowed is the maximum HSA contribution for the year minus any HSA contributions that have already been made for that year. For example, this year the HSA contribution limit for an individual is \$3,350. In addition, if you're 55 or older, you can increase your contribution by \$1,000. Thus, the maximum rollover that you can do is \$4,350.

I have no problem taking money from a traditional IRA and moving it into a Health Sav-

ings Account. For example, if you qualify and you know you're going to need the additional money for medical costs, it is a good opportunity. The reason I like using a traditional IRA vs. a Roth IRA is that we are taking tax-deferred money and converting it into tax-free money without cost.

Roth IRAs are already growing tax free therefore, there's no benefit to convert that into an HSA.

I would consider a combination of both a Roth IRA conversion and a HSA conversion. I would have no problem converting the maximum from your traditional IRA into a HSA and at the same time do a Roth conversion.

One of the beauties of

the Roth conversion is that you can have this money grow tax free and at the same time, it is not subject to required minimum distributions.

In order to accomplish the transaction, you must use a direct transfer. The key is to have the money go directly from your IRA custodian into your HSA.

Contact both your IRA and HSA custodian so you can dot the i's and cross the t's.

As I mention many times, it can be dangerous to take tax advice from friends who are not current on tax laws.

If this reader went through with the transaction and converted her entire IRA into a health savings account, there

would be substantial taxes owed on the transaction.

Tax laws are complex and getting more so. That is why when it comes to tax advice I recommend a professional. After all, if you go back over the last 10 years, we've had more than one tax law change a day. It is very difficult for an amateur to stay current on tax laws.

Make sure that you don't make mistakes when it comes to taxes, always deal with a professional.

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

## Donate blood in honor of World Blood Donor Day

The American Red Cross seeks eligible donors to give blood in honor of World Blood Donor Day, June 14, and throughout the summer to help ensure a sufficient blood supply for patients in need.

Summer is an especially difficult time to collect enough blood to meet the needs of hospital patients. Many schools that host blood drives are out of session during the summer, and regular donors are often vacationing, potentially making them less available to give.

Eligible donors are encouraged to choose their day to make a difference. Donors of all blood types - especially those with types O negative, A negative and B negative - are needed.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood

Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities include:

» June 6 — 1-6:45 p.m., Abundant Life Church of God, 2200 Hannan, Canton

» June 6 — noon to 5:45 p.m., Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Dr., Canton

» June 6 — 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., BAPS Temple, 3175 South Canton Center Road, Canton

» June 10 — 1-6:45 p.m., St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia

» June 1 — 1:30-7:15 p.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 West Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

» June 2 — 1-6:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth

» June 4 — 9 a.m. to

2:45 p.m., Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road E., Plymouth

» June 7 — 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

» June 8 — 2-7:45 p.m., Nativity of the Virgin Mary, 39851 W. Five Mile, Plymouth

» June 14 — 7 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford

» June 15 — 1-6:45 p.m., VFW Post Hubert Fortiers O'Grady, 27345 Schoolcraft, Redford

» June 7 — 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., First Congregational Church, 2 Towne Square, Wayne

» June 15 — 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Oakwood Hospital, 33155 Annapolis, Wayne

» June 14 — 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., Divine Savior CC, 39375 Joy, Westland

**ST. MARY MERCY MEDICAL GROUP**  
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

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### Women's Health Presentation Series

Dr. Paul Makela, gynecologist, provides insight and education about a host of female conditions. Grab a friend, your sister or mom and learn about the latest therapies and procedures available that may help eliminate or reduce your symptoms or pain, and improve your quality of life.

**Upcoming Topics in 2015:**  
**May 27:** Bladder Dysfunction and Overactive Bladder  
**Jun. 24:** Pelvic Prolapse

**Location**  
 Cantoro Italian Market II  
 15550 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth

**5:45 p.m. - Check-in**  
**6 p.m. - Presentation**

**REGISTER NOW!**

The presentations are free, but registration is required. Please call 734-655-1980.  
*Light refreshments will be served.*

Dr. Makela is a member of St. Mary Mercy Medical Group, a group of primary care and specialty physicians who provide comprehensive medical care, health maintenance and preventative services to help you and your family stay healthy.

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[stmarymercy.org/westside](http://stmarymercy.org/westside)

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<p><b>\$67</b>  <b>VACCINE PACKAGE-Dogs</b>                  Wellness Exam • Distemper/Parvo Combo                  Lepto • Bordetella • Fecal Test                  Heartworm Test • Rabies (1 Year)  <small>Not valid with any other offers. With coupon.</small></p>	<p><b>\$35</b>  <b>VACCINE PACKAGE Dogs &amp; Cats</b>                  Wellness Exam • Fecal Test                  Distemper Combo • Deworming  <small>Not valid with any other offers. With coupon.</small></p>

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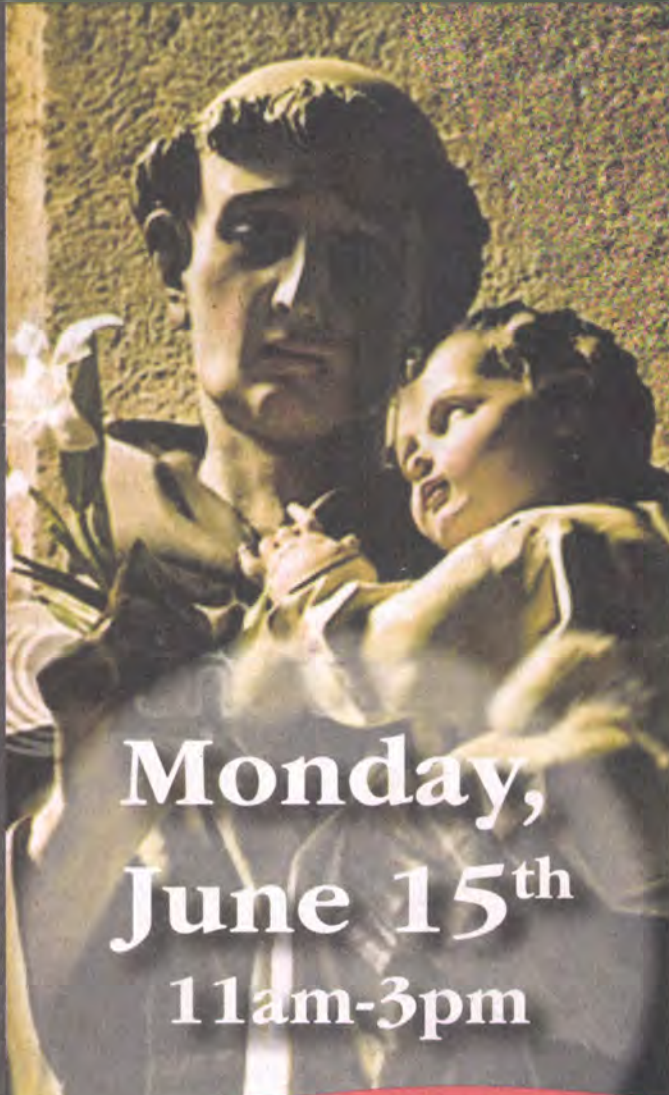
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**THURSDAY JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>, 5:30PM TO 7:00PM**

# Antonio's CUCINA ITALIANA

## Celebrate The Feast of St. Antonio



**Monday,  
June 15<sup>th</sup>  
11am-3pm**

The Rugiero family cordially invites you to join them in celebration of the 22nd annual Feast of St. Antonio on Monday, June 15th, 2015

*When our restaurants will be devoted to the mission of St. Antonio...helping those less fortunate.*

Choose the Lunch Buffet (11 am - 3 pm) and donate what you can  
- or -

Order items from the regular priced Menu (11 am -10 pm) and a portion of the proceeds will be donated.

**- Antonio's locations only -**

*Proceeds from this annual event are distributed to charitable organizations that assist the under-served in our community.*

*Antonio's 2015 recipient is the*

**Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Detroit, Michigan**



The Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, Michigan is an organization of caring and loving people inspired by the Spirit of St. Francis. It serves the poor who suffer from the lack of basic human needs such as food, clothing and household necessities.

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**Antonio's  
CUCINA ITALIANA**

37646 W. 12 Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331  
248-994-4000

**Antonio's  
CUCINA ITALIANA**

2220 N. Canton Center Rd.  
Canton, MI 48187  
734-981-9800

**We will be observing St. Antonio's Day on Monday June 15th  
www.antoniosrestaurants.com**

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# SPORTS

**SECTION B (WGRL)**  
SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2015  
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA  
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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

**GIRLS SOCCER DISTRICT**

## Late goal sidelines GC, 2-1

Spot-on free kick lifts  
Pioneers to victory

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

A free kick struck with such precision it would have made a surgeon jealous ended up breaking the collective heart of the Garden City girls soccer team Friday night.

With 5:20 remaining in the Division 1 district championship game, Dearborn junior forward Nina Gutierrez bent a

20-yard shot inches below the crossbar and inches above the outstretched fingertips of Cougars goalkeeper Tatum Spears to give the hosts a 2-1 lead they would never relinquish.

Gutierrez's game-winner was launched from the left side of the field and couldn't have found a more dangerous spot for the Cougars to defend.

Gunning for its second straight district championship, Garden City saw its season end with a 10-10-1 record.

Looking to mix things up

See **SOCCER**, Page B4



ED WRIGHT  
Garden City's Lindsay Yankasky cuts off a Dearborn forward from the ball during the second half of Friday's game.

### Trierweiler earns honor

Madonna University senior Kasey Trierweiler (Grand Ledge) was recently named for the second straight year to the Capital One Academic All-America Softball first-team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

The accounting major carried a 3.96 grade point average, third highest among the first-team honorees.

Trierweiler also batted .363 with 17 RBI this season as Madonna (37-14-1) captured a share of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title, while making its fourth appearance since 2009 in the NAIA National Championship.

Trierweiler was also among four Crusader players saluted by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) as 2015 Daktronics Softball Scholar-Athletes.

Seniors Karleigh Creighton (North Farmington) and Bree Crampton (Anchor Bay), along with Trierweiler, were all tabbed for the second straight year. Junior Hayley Wallace (Davison) is a first-time honoree.

A total of 402 players were recognized nationally carrying a 3.5 or higher GPA during their junior or senior seasons.

### C.A.P. golf

The Churchill Athletic Patrons 15th annual Golf Outing will be held Sunday, June 7, at Whispering Willows Golf Course. The event raises money for annual scholarships C.A.P. awards to Churchill senior athletes.

The deadline for registration is Monday, June 1. To register, visit [chs-cap.com/golf.htm](http://chs-cap.com/golf.htm).

### Tim Shaw camp

Tim Shaw's annual Dream it! Do it! football camp will be held from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, June 12, at the Clarenceville football field, located on the east side of Middlebelt Road between Seven Mile and Eight Mile.

Shaw is a former Clarenceville football star who had outstanding careers at Penn State University and in the NFL.

The camp is free for all kids entering grades four-12.

Registration begins at the field at 4:45 p.m. June 12. Participants can pre-register at [timshawfootball.com](http://timshawfootball.com).

The noncontact camp offers football-specific and speed skills that will be taught according to position and grade level.

Instructed by current and former NFL and college players, as well as local coaches, athletes will be inspired to reach their goals in a positive environment. A sports trainer will be on-site during the camp.

The first 150 registrants accepted will get a T-shirt.

For more information, email [johnshawfamily@gmail.com](mailto:johnshawfamily@gmail.com).

**PREP PROFILE**



Pictured (from left) are Szymanski brothers Jimmy, Andy, Johnny and Steven.

SZYMANSKI FAMILY PHOTOS

## END OF AN ERA

Run of baseball-playing Szymanski brothers coming to a close at Churchill

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Every parent who has ever observed their child take his or her first swing in a T-ball game, looked on as the youngster advanced through youth travel leagues and, ultimately, watched with sentiment-glazed eyes as the high school senior stepped off the diamond for the very last time can relate to what Jim and Kathy Szymanski are experiencing this week.

Only the Szymanski's feelings are compounded by the fact that son Steven – a senior shortstop/pitcher for Livonia Churchill – is the youngest of four sons who be pulling on a Chargers baseball uniform for the final time in the coming days or weeks.

Twins Jimmy and Andy Szymanski excelled for Churchill head coach Ron Targosz before graduating in 2009. Johnny Szymanski, who now plays for Michigan State University's club baseball team,

briefly formed a middle-of-the-infield double-play combination with Steven at Churchill before graduating in 2013.

"As these final weeks and final games have come and gone, both Kathy and I have realized how precious they are," Jim Szymanski said.

"While we never took watching any of our sons for granted, we've probably enjoyed watching Steven this year

See **BROTHERS**, Page B2



ED WRIGHT

Churchill senior shortstop Steven Szymanski prepares to throw out a runner at first during a game earlier this spring.

**HIGH SCHOOL GOLF**

## Garden City seventh at Division 1 regional

RU qualifies for team regional in Division 2

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

The 2015 boys golf season ended this week for all Garden City, Livonia and Redford golfers, but not before several impressive postseason rounds

were recorded.

Garden City closed out a spectacular season by placing seventh at the Division 1 regional event held Wednesday at the Dearborn Country Club.

Winners of last week's district competition at the The Legacy in Ottawa Lake, the Cougars recorded a four-player score of 336. The three teams that qualified for the state meet

from the regional were: Plymouth (305), Northville (310) and Canton (311).


Individual qualifiers were Ann Arbor Skyline's Rahul Ramanathan, who earned medalist honors with a 74, Ann Arbor Huron's Ken Dairiki, who fired a 77, and Skyline's Arjun Lama, who came in with a 78.

Juston Bastion led the Cougars with a seven-over-par total

of 79, which was good enough for 13th place overall and just one shot off the individual state-qualifying pace.


GC's Joe Pummill closed out a spectacular four-year varsity career with an 82 (29th place), just ahead of Jaried Latham, who carded a solid 83. Connor Johnson also scored for the

See **GOLF**, Page B4



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## GIRLS SOCCER DISTRICT

# Northville outlasts Stevenson in shootout

Neither team score in regulation time

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

There were plenty of anxious moments Tuesday night, but defending MHSAA Division 1 girls soccer champion Northville lives to play another day.

For the second straight outing, the 13-3-5 Mustangs needed penalty kicks to earn another big win, this time over host Livonia Stevenson, 1-0, in the opening round of the state tourney.

It was a carbon copy of the KLAA Association final on May 20 when Northville won the title after battling Brighton to a scoreless draw through 80 minutes of regulation play followed by a pair of 10-minute overtimes.

In the shootout, Northville went 4-for-4 as Maddy Westenberg, Chelsea Estes, Abby Henzi and Jenna Baughman all converted. Baughman's shot proved to be the match-clincher.

Stevenson (6-9-6), meanwhile, missed its first chance when a shot sailed over the crossbar, but made good on its second despite Northville goalkeeper Emily Maresh partially getting a hand on the ball. But the Spartans failed to score on their third chance as an attempt rang off the crossbar.

The Mustangs now advance to the District 9 semifinal, which was originally scheduled for Wednesday, but has been moved to 7 p.m. Thursday at North Farmington against Farmington Hills Mercy.

"I tell my girls survive and advance," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "We definitely did not play our best. Our heads were not in this game for whatever reason. It might be because of prom tomorrow. Not our best effort, but we figured out a way to advance."

The start time was moved up 15 minutes because of thunderstorms in the area. The game was then halted four minutes into the second half for nearly 40 minutes because of lightning.

Stevenson's Paige Ackman had the best scoring chance in the opening half when her shot from 22 yards out hit the crossbar, but Northville was able to clear the ball out.

The Mustangs fought first-half winds and a slippery surface, but after the weather delay, the winds died down but the team couldn't produce any scoring before going into OT.

"We had a couple of corner kicks that if we the right touch on it, it would have been interesting, but it was nothing but 'aw-shucks' kind of stuff," Brucker said.

Stevenson (6-9-6) played close to the vest in extra time.

"We put pressure on them, but just didn't hit the frame," Brucker said. "A lot of goal kicks for them. Literally, the two 10-minute overtimes neither team did anything. It was more of defensive posturing. We were trying to put pressure on them ... we just did not play great. And they were all for going to a draw it seemed like. They didn't put too many people forward and put people on the back line to make sure that we didn't score on them."



Stevenson's Paige Ackman advances the ball during an earlier game against Northville.



Friends and family surround Keenan Jones as he signs a letter of intent with Saginaw Valley State University.

## COLLEGIATE SIGNING

## Jones' running career to continue at Saginaw Valley

Franklin's premier long-distance standout set to excel for Cardinals

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin's Keenan Jones will be continuing his exemplary distance-running career at Saginaw Valley State University.

Jones, who excelled in both cross and track and field for the Patriots, signed his letter of intent earlier this month in the school's library with several family members and friends looking on.

The slender endurance star's resume is piled high with eye-popping accomplishments, including ownership of Franklin's 3,200-meter record time of 9 minutes, 29.6 seconds.

Jones has been mentored throughout the past several years by his father Tobin and Franklin coach Dave Bjorkland, who has been "a friend, mentor, role model and a true rock" to Jones, according to Tobin Jones.

"It has not always been easy having his dad as his coach, so Dave's role in Keenan's devel-



Franklin's Keenan Jones is pictured during his triumphant victory in the 1,600-meter run at the KLAA Kensington Conference Meet earlier this month.

opment as a runner – and more so as a young man – cannot be understated," Tobin Jones said.

Jones' range as a runner is boundless. He was second fastest in the Patriots' pre-season time trials in the 100-meter dash. He also holds stellar personal-best times in other distances, including the 400 (50.3), 800 (1:55.8), 1,600 (4:23)

and 5,000 (16:02).

Jones will be coached at SVSU by former U.S. Olympian and Oregon All-American Jason Hartmann, who prepped at Rockford High School.

"Coach Hartmann said he sees room for tremendous growth in Keenan's running," Tobin Jones said.

## BROTHERS

Continued from Page B1

more than ever, just because he's our youngest son and this is his last season, at least at Churchill."

Steven Szymanski's final baseball season almost ended before it began. A wrist injury he suffered during the late stages of the 2014 football season for Churchill was more serious than first believed.

It eventually required a surgical procedure that replaced the injured scaphoid bone with a bone from his forearm.

"At first, the doctor said I would have to miss the first five weeks of the season," Szymanski said. "But it was my senior season and you don't get these games back, so I kind of went against what he said and I only missed one game. I hit a double my first game back, so I knew I was going to be fine."

The youngest Szymanski fondly recalls his earliest memories of Churchill baseball, when his twin brothers Andy and Jimmy joined the program.

"Ever since I first watched them play here, I couldn't wait to play for Churchill," he said. "It's hard to believe how fast everything has flown by now, with me getting ready to play my final games."

"I know it's hitting my parents pretty hard that my career is almost over. My dad has coached me since I was 5 and I honestly believe they've been to every game myself and my brothers have ever played in."

Kathy Szymanski, who is a nurse, even had her work hours changed to the 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift so that she wouldn't miss her sons' baseball games.

"I'd get off work at 4 p.m., so I'd only miss the first inning or two, which wasn't too bad," Jim Szymanski added.

Steven Szymanski said his brothers are as close as can be, even though they're

spread out around the country. Jimmy is a chemical engineer in Louisiana, Andy is working toward a nursing career after graduating from the University of Detroit and John is at Michigan State.

"We have a really strong connection," Steven said. "Both of my brothers who still live in Michigan get to as many of my games as they can. And I have an app that lets Jimmy watch highlights of my high school football games."

"I've always looked up to them and they've been really supportive of me, in sports and away from sports."

Steven was a two-way standout for Churchill's ultra-successful football team this past fall. He served as a hard-hitting, ball-hawking safety on defense and sure-handed wide receiver for the 10-win Chargers.

"I liked both sports a lot," he said, when asked if he had a preference. "If I had to pick one, I'd probably choose baseball because when you feel like playing, you can just grab a mitt and go play catch. You can't really do that with football."

Given the severity of his wrist injury, Szymanski has enjoyed a productive final year with the Chargers. Along with playing an airtight shortstop, he has been an on-base machine near the top of the team's batting order. He has also evolved as one of the team's most reliable pitchers.

While they won't get to watch one of their sons perform on the Churchill baseball diamond any more, there's a decent chance Jim and Kathy Szymanski will get to see Steven compete at the next level.

The soon-to-graduate senior has registered for classes at Schoolcraft College, where he will pursue a degree in the firefighting and paramedic fields.

"And they have a new baseball program there, so I'm going to try out for their team," he said.

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## CLARENCEVILLE ROUNDUP

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Redford Union won all three baseball games with Clarenceville this year, including a 5-0 victory Tuesday in a Division 2 pre-district game.

"All you can do is tip your hat to them," Clarenceville coach Craig Cotter said of the Panthers. "We have played them tough three times. We could never get the big hit with runners in scoring position like they could."

That was a major issue for the Trojans all season. They lost four games by one run. The Trojans outthit each of those

opponents with no errors in the field, but they either made mental mistakes or couldn't get a clutch hit, according to Cotter.

"As a team, we were getting on base almost 40 percent of the time in every game," he said. "We just could not bring them home."

The Trojans had three hits Tuesday, one each by Justin Kelley, Ryan Menifee and Mitch Kubiak. Menifee took the loss but pitched well enough to give the Trojans a chance.

"Ryan has been our ace all year," Cotter said. "Every time he took the mound, we had a chance to win."

Clarenceville finished with an 8-18-1 record, which is a three-game improvement over last year.

### Softball report

Livonia Clarenceville added a forfeit victory over Dearborn Heights Robichaud Wednesday to finish with a 6-4 softball record in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

The Trojans, who were 7-14 overall, finished in third place behind champion Dearborn Heights Annapolis and Redford Union.

Clarenceville had only two hits Tuesday in a Division 2 pre-district loss to state-ranked

and host Livonia Ladywood, 26-0 in two innings.

The hits came from seniors Emily Schwartz and Mia Sampson. Both concluded four-year careers on a positive note by demonstrating a willingness not to quit, according to coach Joe DeCaire.

### Soccer update

Livonia Clarenceville got to the semifinal round of a Division 3 district soccer tournament and was stopped there Thursday by host Macomb Lutheran North, 9-0.

Jillian Bunker and Kaitlyn Denny combined to make nine saves for the Trojans (5-12),

who defeated visiting Detroit Jalen Rose Academy in the opening round Tuesday, 8-0.

Jordan See scored three goals and assisted on three others. Sarah Curvin and Jillian Bunker had two goals and two assists each; Samantha Franco accounted for the other goal. Denny was the goalie and had no shots on net in the mercy win.

"We played a great game overall with great communication that led to the win tonight," coach Amanda Moody said. "We had solid defense that kept the ball in our offensive half, and we had great movement with the ball offensively."

COLLEGIATE SIGNING

# Padget taking football skills west

Kalamazoo College next stop for speedy Charger

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Fearless on the football field and nearly-flawless in the classroom, Livonia Churchill's Dylan Padget will be extending his gridiron career at Kalamazoo College later this summer.

With a grade point average that hovered right around the 4.0 mark, Padget will fit right in at the western Michigan institution that is known for its academic excellence.

A speedy receiver and punt returner, the former Charger is also looking to make a fast impact on the Hornets' Division III football program, which finished 2-8 overall last season and 2-4 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

"I'm looking to go into business, so academically it's a good school for that," said Padget, who is the son of Bob and Lynn. "The coaches made me feel welcome there and they carry less players — around 90 — than most college teams because of the academic requirements."

Padget will follow in the footsteps of his older brother, Blake, who just concluded a successful four-year college football career at Alma. Bob Padget is a longtime youth football coach in Livonia.

Padget's oldest brother Robbie, who is an accountant and graduate of Central Michigan University, has also been a positive influence on his life, he added.

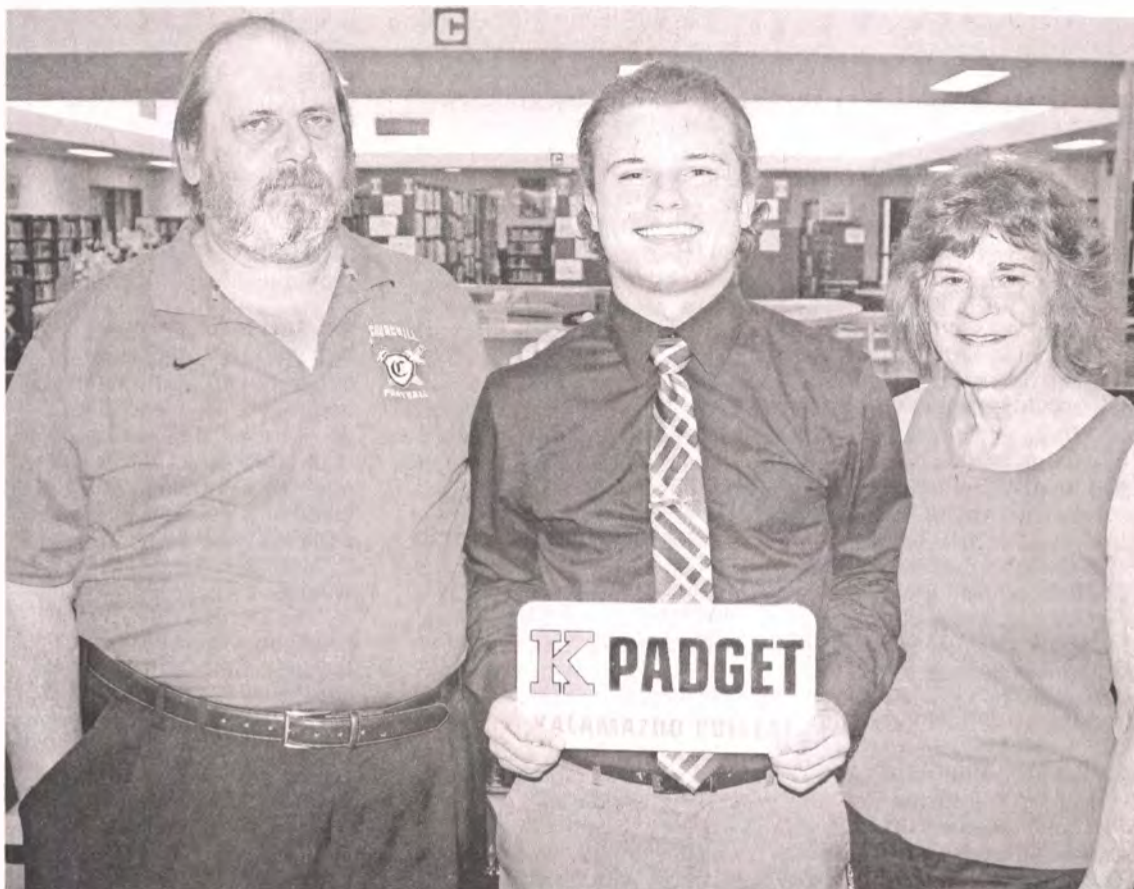
Among the roles Padget held for the Chargers was returning punts.

"I liked that the coaches trusted me enough to put me in that position," said Padget, who often put the Chargers in decent field position by catching punts that would have rolled another 10 to 20 yards.

In addition to his family, Padget said Churchill assistant football coach Allen Feigel has been one of his biggest role models.

Padget has played football and baseball since he was in third grade. He is currently a catcher on the Chargers' baseball team.

ewright@hometownlife.com



Dylan Padget is pictured with his parents, Bob and Lynn.

ED WRIGHT



Churchill's Alivia Kondrath charges through a pair of Salem midfielders in pursuit of a loose ball.

ED WRIGHT

GIRLS SOCCER DISTRICT SEMIFINAL

## HAYES LEAVES ROCKS IN DAZE

Churchill goalkeeper phenomenal in 1-0 double-OT victory

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Nothing less than kryptonite was going to stop Livonia Churchill goalie Brittney Hayes during Thursday night's hyper-intense Division 1 district soccer semifinal against Salem at Westland John Glenn High School.

And Lord knows the Rocks kicked everything short of a speeding bullet and a roaring train at the Chargers' super-keeper.

Churchill advanced to Saturday's 2 p.m. final against Canton (a 2-0 victor over Plymouth in the night's second semi) with a 1-0 double-overtime victory thanks in large part to Hayes, whose spectacular performance included the turning away of three point-blank Rock missiles — one with an all-out horizontal diving effort — and the defusing of a first-overtime penalty kick that appeared to be headed into the top-left shelf of the field's south net.

The instant classic's lone goal came in the eighth minute of the first overtime when Charger sophomore Sara Taylor roped a penalty kick into the PK line like Tiger Woods teeing up a Titleist, then ripped the eventual game-winner into the net.

"Ashley Slaviero would have normally taken the PK, but she was feeling sick and we had to sub her out every six or seven minutes," revealed Churchill head coach Reid Friedrichs. "But Sara is one of our best at penalty kicks and I had complete confidence that she would make it. She is so calm under pressure."

The Rocks were still very much alive, however, as MHSAA rules require that two 10-minute overtimes are played to completion in all post-season contests that end in a tie regulation play.

Thus, 76 seconds after Taylor's goal, the official whistled Hayes for a similar foul on Salem's Ari Finn just



Churchill sophomore goalkeeper Brittney Hayes, third from right, organizes her defense prior to Salem's last-second corner kick Thursday night.

ED WRIGHT

inside the box, giving Rock senior Hayley Rogers an opportunity to deadlock the score.

Rogers struck a searing laser to the right of Hayes, who went parallel to the ground to knock the shot away. She then regained her footing and secured the rebound before the quickly advancing Salem players could pounce on it.

"You're kind of guessing on those," Hayes said, "because you don't know which side they're going to take and how wide they're going to go. I just stayed on my line until the first touch and then I reacted."

Utilizing some slick dribbling moves, Bridget Nicol penetrated deep into the box twice in the opening four minutes of overtime, only to get her shots defused by Hayes.

Finn's sweet moves and door-step shot also met a similar fate with three minutes left in the first extra session when Hayes did a stellar impersonation of Hope Solo.

"If you make one save like that during a regular season game, it's cool," said Friedrichs, a former stand-out goalie at Michigan State Univer-

sity. "But when you make three or four saves like that — and you stop a penalty kick in a state playoff game, well, that's pretty amazing."

The Chargers played without defensive anchor Hannah Damico, who suffered a leg injury late in Tuesday's district opener against Livonia Franklin, so several back-liners — including Sylvia Cervantes, Sediqua Nedam, Elizabeth Rubenson and freshman Loren Kruger — needed to step up, and they did.

"Our center-back Sylvia Cervantes was unbelievable and Loren Kruger — who is a freshman making her first varsity start in a state playoff game — did an outstanding job," said Friedrichs. "But this really was a total team effort. Everybody did their job."

Friedrichs couldn't say enough good things about Hayes, who has worn a jersey throughout this season that her coach wore during an all-star college game over a decade ago.

"Brittney is making a bid to become one of the better goalies in the state right now," Friedrichs said. "Only once this season has she given up two goals in one game."



Wayne Memorial's Shaelya Woejeski battles for possession with Plymouth's Katie Chipman.

ED HENGESH | EXPRESS PHOTO

GILRS SOCCER DISTRICT

## Plymouth ends Wayne's season, 8-0

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Tuesday's brief deluge gave Plymouth senior defender Erin Winters reason to pause.

After all, she was about to make her return to the lineup after missing action due to a badly sprained ankle.

The last thing she wanted to do was re-injure it on the rain-drenched grass field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

"I had an ankle brace that was on the right ankle," Winters said. "But yeah, I was a little worried. You just got to play through it."

Did she ever do that. Winters survived the girls soccer Division 1 district match-up against Wayne Memorial with flying colors from a physical standpoint, and scored two goals — one on a penalty kick — as Plymouth won 8-0.

"It feels really good, honestly," Winters said. "I've been really trying to work hard to come back to this. Now, I'm excited for Thursday."

The Wildcats (8-4-1) now will face Canton at 7 p.m. Thursday at Westland John Glenn.

Thrilled to have Winters back was Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich.

"Our soccer IQ goes up a little bit with her in the lineup," Neschich said. "She's a real smart player and got good experience, just a calm player."

After a brief rain delay, it only took the Wildcats about five minutes to get on the scoreboard, when Kathryn Gordon chipped a shot in off the post.

Plymouth doubled that edge to 2-0 with 21:49 remaining in the half, when Olivia Janke threaded a pass to Alyssa Swanson, who ripped a shot into the Zebras' net.

About seven minutes later, Winters followed with her PK goal, a rising shot that caromed in off the crossbar.

Goals by Rachel Rubio and Swanson upped Plymouth's lead to 5-0 at the intermission.

In the second half, goals by Katie Chipman (re-directing a slick pass from Karishma Nair), Janke (on a great individual effort) and Winters finished the scoring.

On the night's final goal, Winters got on the end of Lexi White's corner kick.



## Livonia peace group kicks off summer youth series with 'Mr. Peace'

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Colleen Mills hopes a combination of music, poetry, hip hop artistry and motivational messages will inspire teens to follow their passions this summer.

"It's basically to get the kids involved in something that touches their hearts to improve the world. We're trying to encourage students to get involved in something important, like their future," said Mills, president of Citizens for Peace, a Livonia-based organization dedicated to the practice and principles of nonviolence. "So, we're drawing them in with Kevin Szawala, who has devoted his life to peace activism for young people."

Szawala, 30, of Redford, is a motivational speaker known as "Mr. Peace" and a youth minister at St. James Catholic Church in Novi. He'll kick off the organization's "Summer of Youth," monthly meetings that will focus on youth issues.

His free concert, with poetry, hip hop and inspirational message starts at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 9, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia. Betty Appleby of Detroit will be on hand to talk about a peace quilt she created.

Although the meeting is aimed at youth, it's also open to adults. Young attendees will receive guides with ideas for getting involved in peace-related activities, along with a pack of "conversation starter" cards about love, forgiveness and compassion.

"They'll be getting a lot of cool stuff and hopefully they'll take it home with them and think about what they can do this summer. That's what we're hoping to motivate them to do," Mills said.

### Inspirational speaker

Szawala, who presented an anti-bullying program May 22 at Franklin High School in Livonia, started his motivational speaking forum, Being Who I Want 2 B, in 2006. He found his passion for peace activism while studying economics, Spanish and global change at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

"I think it was through a series of meeting certain people. You know, you're called to do something greater and act on it. It was one of those things that I had gone to some life-changing workshops... I was off and running and started to go after my passion. It was peace for me."

Szawala started a peace day event on campus that will celebrate its 10th year in September. After graduating from the



Kevin "Mr. Peace" Szawala of Redford will kick off the Citizens for Peace "Summer of Youth" with a concert, poetry and inspirational message.

University of Michigan, he spent five years working in management and marketing for a corporation, but used his days off for peace work and motivational speaking. He earned a master of business administration degree from Wayne State University before leaving the corporate world in 2010. As the state coordinator for the national Department of Peace campaign, Szawala traveled throughout Michigan in 2011 promoting the idea of a state peace and justice commission.

"By 2012, I was pretty much a full-time speaker. You can't put a price tag on passion. I ended up going another route," he said, reflecting on his split from his management and marketing work. "And I haven't looked back since. My spirit and soul have been fulfilled since then."

### Get involved

In his talks, he encourages students to discover and follow their passion, to consider their dreams.

"Ask yourself, what makes you come alive. Tell me something you're passionate about.

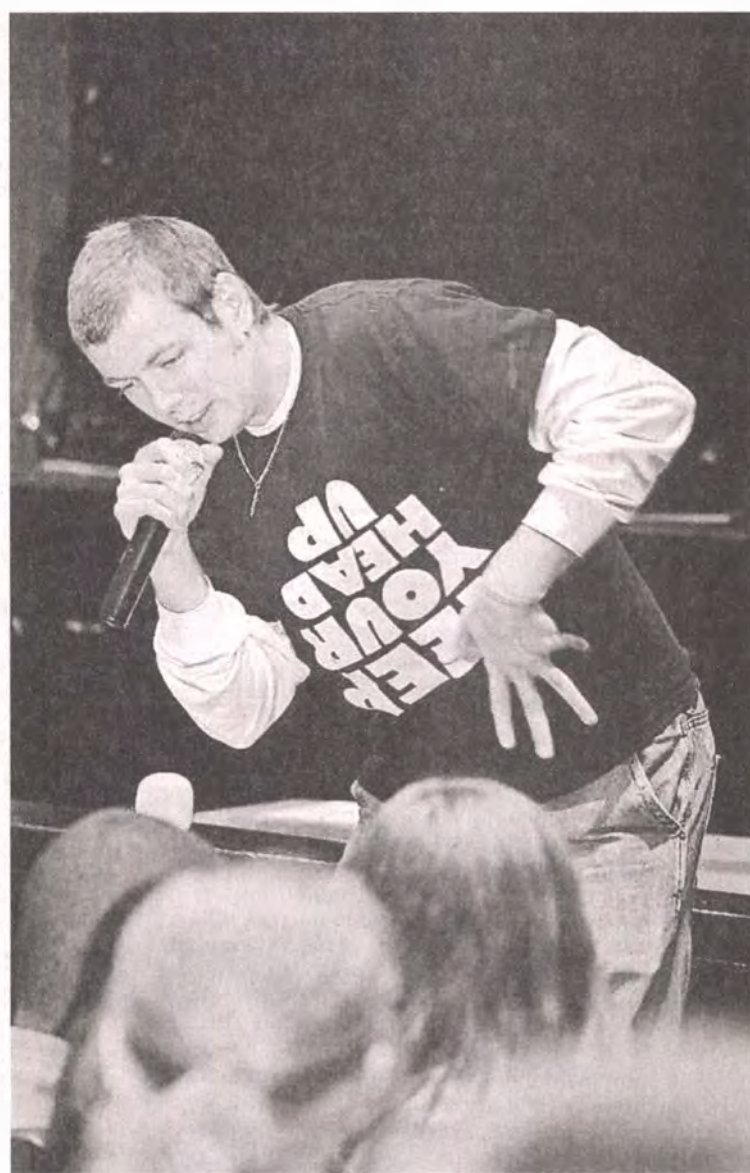


Betty Appleby will talk about her peace quilt project at Citizens for Peace, June 9, in Livonia.

My greatest passion is helping other people find theirs or begin the search."

Other Summer of Youth meetings will include a presentation by Monica Evans, a certified Gang Resistance and Education Training instructor, on July 14. Evans promotes conflict resolution and other restorative practices as an alternative to suspensions, expulsions and exclusionary punishments for students.

The meeting on Aug. 11 will focus on youth in prison and



Kevin Szawala talks to students at Franklin High School in Livonia. He'll bring his poetry and inspirational message to the Citizens for Peace meeting on June 9.



Monica Evans promotes conflict resolution and other alternatives to expulsion, suspension and exclusionary discipline programs in schools. She's the guest speaker at Citizens for Peace on July 14.

the Youth Promise Act. It will include a video of author Nell Bernstein, who wants to close juvenile prisons, and a discussion by Ann Abdo, a Citi-

zens for Peace board member. For more on Citizens for Peace, visit [citizens4peace.com](http://citizens4peace.com).

## Livonia teen wins prom dress in online contest

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Melissa Flannigan, dressed in a floor-length gown and with her date at her side, had one important stop to make on her way to the Stevenson High School prom on May 22.

She popped into the dress department at Von Maur department store, to thank the saleswoman, Phyllis Urban, who had helped her shop.

"She was a really nice lady and really helpful and she helped me multiple times when I was in the store," said Flannigan, who posed with her date, Fred Schulz, a Northville High School senior, and Urban for a photo.

Flannigan won a dress from Von Maur after entering an online contest that asked teens about prom.

"It was an explanation of what prom meant to you. I said how it was one of the last nights of the year with your class and friends together," said Flannigan, a Stevenson High School senior. "I clicked and entered, but I didn't think I'd win."

She won one of six available styles, and chose a floor-length gown with tulle skirt



Melissa Flannigan shows her prom dress to Phyllis Urban of Von Maur, before heading to the Livonia Stevenson High School prom with Fred Schulz, a Northville High School senior. Flannigan won a free prom dress from the store.

and a sparkly, mesh bodice. She ended up buying a different dress, red with sparkles, for the Northville prom.

Flannigan, who plans to swim and study secondary education math at Grand Valley State University, said she enjoyed her senior prom.

"It was not extravagant. It was like a school dance, but more formal."

## Rescued dog needs permanent indoor home after living in yard

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

### Hugo needs a home

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue in Livonia is looking for foster care — or a permanent home — for a year-old Lab/bulldog mix named Hugo.

### PET PROJECTS

"His owner had a family emergency and had to leave town immediately. Hugo and his yard mate had nowhere to go and the owner was going to release them to the streets of Detroit," said Sandra Mezza, Guardian Angel founder. "One of our volunteers heard about the situation and was able to get there in time."

The organization placed a mother dog and puppy in foster care, but hasn't found a permanent foster or adopter for Hugo. He's currently with a temporary foster.

Hugo is neutered, playful and needs an owner or family with lots of energy to keep him active.

"He is a very large and strong pup but thinks he is a lap dog. He is just a big clumsy pup full of love and energy.



Hugo, a Lab/bulldog mix, needs a permanent home. He's available for adoption or fostering through Guardian Angel Animal Rescue in Livonia.

Hugo lived his life as an outdoor dog, but is adjusting well to the comforts of being an indoor dog."

If you're interested in adopting Hugo, or fostering him until he is adopted, call 734-516-2171 or email [guardian\\_animal\\_rescue@hotmail.com](mailto:guardian_animal_rescue@hotmail.com) or [imdanac@yahoo.com](mailto:imdanac@yahoo.com).

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue finds new homes for surrendered, abandoned and



Peanut Butter is featured in the 2015 Michigan Humane Society Pet Calendar as pet of the month for May.

abused dogs and cats, and focuses on rescue in Detroit.

### On the calendar

The Michigan Humane Society wants to feature your pet in its 18th annual wall calendar. It's accepting photos for its 2016 Pet Calendar through June 15.

The entry fee is \$25 per photo. Submitted photos are guaranteed a place in the calendar and top entries will be chosen for Pet of the Month placement. The calendars will be sold for \$15 beginning in mid-October.

Here are submission guidelines:

» Photos must be clear, in





## Livonia woman raises awareness of Turner syndrome

If you need inspiration to deal with a rare medical disorder, look no further than Jennifer Wakenell of Livonia.

Jennifer is a wonderful example of one who transforms personal misfortune into self-healing and reaching out to others. You see, Jennifer has Turner syndrome.

This rare disease is a non-inherited chromosomal condition. It causes a multitude of lifelong health and learning problems in females. It can impact kidneys, thyroid, cardiac functioning and cause specific learning disorders. Common physical traits can include: short stature, low-set ears, triangular face, and webbed neck.

Jennifer is the creator and director of an inspirational awareness campaign that enlightens us and reduces stigma about those among us who are "different."

Someone once said that the only thing worse than a trauma is a maladaptive attitude about it. Rare disorders, some of which meet criteria as orphan diseases, are said to affect too few people to attract wide attention and research funding. But, did you know there are an estimated 7,000 different, distinct and separate orphan disorders in the United States? One need only meet



Len McCulloch

Jennifer to get a dose of inspiration from her positive attitude.

### Unique project

Amid competition with so many other maladies having low-profile status, Jennifer proceeds bravely and optimistically. Working against the odds, she has achieved a master of social work degree from the University of Michigan and has maintained her Turner syndrome awareness campaign for a decade. At its center is The Turner Town Project, a collection of dollhouses with accompanying storyboards. This educational, interactive, traveling exhibit depicts the day-to-day challenges of a girl with Turner syndrome and nonverbal learning disorder from birth through later years of adolescence. It offers suggestions for dealing with both medical and academic obstacles. It is a rare and valuable asset for family members and friends of folks with Turner syndrome. Visitors to Turner Town enjoy an interactive, engaging experience. As she points out, the initial learning



Jennifer Wakenell of Livonia and The Turner Town Project that teaches about Turner syndrome

of the diagnosis can be accompanied with anxiety and confusion about what it means. Visitors to her website commonly report relief and clarification.

If you have a suggestion for a Turner Town exhibit venue, need a speaker on Turner syndrome for a group meeting, or want resources and information, email Jennifer at [jwakenell88@gmail.com](mailto:jwakenell88@gmail.com). Visit her website at [Jwakenellts.wix.com/theturnertown-project](http://Jwakenellts.wix.com/theturnertown-project) or watch her videos on YouTube.

The Turner Syndrome Society of the United States website is [www.turnersyndrome.org](http://www.turnersyndrome.org).

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, addictions, trauma, brain injury and social work. His "Our Mental Health" columns are archived at [www.farmlib.org](http://www.farmlib.org). For a courtesy consultation, call McCulloch at his Farmington Hills office at 248-474-2763, Ext. 222.

### JENNIFER WAKENELL

» Works for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan in Farmington Hills  
» Created The Turner Town Project in 2005 to earn a Girl Scout Gold Award while attending Divine Child High School  
» Expanded the project and created educational posters and workshop materials, including children's activities, a teen newspaper, "fast-fact" flip books, photo collages, a resource guide book and portable reference/lending library and more  
» Turner Town has been on exhibit in more than 25 venues, including the Livonia Civic Center, Plymouth District Library, Redford Township Library, Farmington Community Library, Westland Public Library and Wayne Public Library  
» Wakenell says she wants to take the campaign to "as many places and communities as feasibly possible," ultimately placing it on permanent display as part of a learning center for individuals with disabilities

— Compiled by Sharon Dargay

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### Back pain

Oakwood Healthcare sponsors a free class with orthopedic spine specialists who will explain the causes of and treatments for back pain, 6-8 p.m. June 9, in the Oakwood Physical Therapy and Wellness Center, 17101 Rotunda Drive, Dearborn. To register, visit [Oakwood.org](http://Oakwood.org) under the Classes & Events tab or call 800-543-9355.

### Congestive heart failure

Jeffrey Zaks, M.D., cardiologist, will explain how to man-

age congestive heart failure through lifestyle changes, diet and exercise, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, June 9, at Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. Register at 888-751-5465.

### Diabetes management

The St. Mary Mercy Livonia Diabetes Support Group offers a free educational seminar, "Managing Diabetes: The Next Step," 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 10, in the North Auditorium of St. Mary Mercy Livonia, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. JoAnn Henderson-Collins will share in-

formation about diabetes self-management and insulin based on formal training and her personal experiences. For more information, call 734-655-8950.

### Free dental care

Farmington Hills Oral Surgery group will offer a choice of a filling, tooth extraction or a cleaning to the public, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 13, at 32905 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. The first 200 individuals in line are guaranteed to see one of the dentists. Appointments are on a first

come, first served basis. For more information, visit [dentistryfromtheheart.org](http://dentistryfromtheheart.org).

### Weight loss

Tallal Zeni, M.D., director of bariatric surgery at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, will talk about laparoscopic bariatric surgery, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 4, in the North Auditorium at St. Mary Mercy, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Register at 877-949-9344

### Ongoing

#### Ab-Anon

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. An Ab-Anon meeting group is available for families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-9776.



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- July 5
- September 6
- September 20
- September 27

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Wednesday 6/3/15 8:30am-6pm

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