

# WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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**SHEPLER REPEATS AS O&E GOLF CHAMP**  
SPORTS, B1

## City agrees to HYPE rec center lease

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Temporarily closed due to financial problems, the Wayne Community Center will soon be reopening under the management of nonprofit HYPE Athletics.

The council voted Tuesday to lease the facility to Dearborn Heights-based HYPE con-

tingent on an agreement being worked out by the city attorney. The lease would save the city just under \$80,000 over the cost of maintaining a closed building while still keeping it open.

"There has been a lot of debate for nearly two years. The community center certainly is an asset to the community," Interim City Manager Lisa

Nocerini said. "No one wanted to close the community center. We're very close to an agreement."

Under the agreement, the city would pay HYPE \$274,905 per year for five years. That would include a \$6,000-per-year management fee. That compares to \$975,000 annually that the city was spending on operating the facility.

The agreement calls for the city to pay HYPE \$144,000 of the \$6,000 monthly management fee upfront. That would revert to a monthly payment after six months.

The nearly \$275,000 annual payment to HYPE is higher than the approximately \$210,000 the city projected as the annual expense for maintaining the community center

closed. HYPE would be responsible for maintenance and repairs of the building and equipment except for replacing of HVAC units, pool pumps and filters, if required.

That upfront \$144,000 fee will be used by HYPE to install a basketball court in the closed

See HYPE, Page A2



Councilwoman Christine Cicirelli Bryant speaks with council incumbent Dewey Reeves.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Nankin Transit: New buses, more riders

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Nankin Transit, the local service that provides transportation for senior citizens and disabled residents, recently added 10 new buses.

"We've not had new buses in 10 years. Everyone is thrilled — the drivers and the passengers. They have a new-car smell," Nankin Transit Executive Director James Ridener said. "We finally have air conditioning in the summer and heat in the winter."

The new buses have been on the road for a week, but Ridener said an official unveiling will be held next month after the full-time drivers are outfitted in their new uniforms.

It's unusual for an agency to receive 10 new vehicles at one time from the Suburban Mobility Agency for Regional Transportation. Ridener credited the efforts of Melissa Hightower, the SMART ombudsman for Wayne County, with getting the buses replaced.

"I'm sure SMART was getting tired of fixing our buses. Two days before we got the new buses, one blew its transmission and another blew its motor," Ridener said. "It was time for them to be replaced."

Thanks to computerization, Nankin Transit has been able to become more efficient scheduling rides in the participating communities of Westland, Wayne, Garden City and Inkster.

"Our computer system expanded our ridership. We probably used to have one passenger per hour per bus," Ridener said. "Now, we have 3.5 passengers per hour per bus. We will never have completely full buses with curb-to-curb service in the four communities we serve."

Representatives from each of the participating communities serve on the Nankin Transit Commission, which oversees bus service operations.

"Nankin Transit has done a 360-degree flip. Ten new buses were delivered, all the (employee) UAW contracts are settled and approved," said Westland Councilman Dewey Reeves, who serves on the commission. "It is totally revamped. We are operating in the black for the first time in 12 years. We've expanded

See NANKIN, Page A2

## Low voter turnout picks field of candidates for clerk, council

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Westland Councilman Bill Johnson had a message for supporters who gathered at the Wayne-Ford Civic League Tuesday evening: The incumbents did well in the primary election.

"And we'll do better in the general election," he said.

Johnson placed second in the primary in which a field of 12 candidates was pared down to eight for the November election. He was one of three incumbents who finished in the top four spots in

an election in which less than 8 percent of the city's 60,233 registered voters went to the polls.

Johnson was referring to a strong showing by Peter Herzberg and council regulars Judy McKinney and William Campbell who finished ahead of incumbent Adam Hammons in the election.

The top vote getter was City Council President James Godbout who garnered 2,146 votes. Johnson was second with 2,018 votes, while former

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Council incumbents Bill Johnson (left), James Godbout (seated) and City Clerk hopeful Richard LeBlanc look at precinct numbers early in the evening.

## Westland acquires 24 properties from tax foreclosure

Westland is continuing efforts to deal with blighted properties by picking up properties from tax foreclosure.

The city recently agreed acquire 24 properties, including 10 in Norway, which will be demolished. The total acquisition cost of the foreclosed properties is \$71,000, which will be paid for through federal funds.

One parcel will be the site of a Habitat for Humanity home, while four parcels will have new homes constructed through the city's partnership with the construction trades students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

There will be 10 parcels redeveloped through Community Development redevelopment. One parcel

will be resold through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

"Redevelopment this year equates to the Community Development Department overseeing the renovations. The city is not working with developers," Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell said.



Campbell

By LeAnne Rogers



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NANKIN TRANSIT

Nankin Transit had received a fleet of new buses.

## NANKIN

Continued from Page A1

routes to more hospitals. Kudos to the director. It's been a 1,000-percent turnaround."

A retired Westland Police chief, Ridener was appointed to head Nankin Transit in March 2014. Financially, Nankin Transit saw a move from a \$68,000 deficit to be about \$8,000 in the black. Ridener said a surplus is expected again this year, but wasn't sure of

the amount yet as the audit is just being completed.

"We are moving in the right direction. It shows the leadership with Jim Ridener. The four communities are working together and getting along," Wayne Councilman and Nankin Transit Commissioner John Rhaesa said. "It's a great program. We need to promote it more in the community."

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## HYPE

Continued from Page A1

ice arena. Nocerini noted that the basketball court would remain with the city, if the lease ended.

Most residents who were at the meeting supported keeping the community center open. In addition to costs to secure and maintain the building, the city has to repay bonds for its construction — \$3.3 million in principal and interest over the five-year lease period.

"There are no secrets or hidden agendas. We are trying to identify the best opportunity," Nocerini said. "You have bond payments and have in-

vested in the building. You still have to make bond payments."

Resident Ron Roberts complained that the lease negotiations had been going on for months but residents only had about 15 minutes to look over the proposal.

"What has the city done to look at using the building for city services?" said Roberts, questioning why the Wayne Library and other city offices couldn't have been consolidated at the community center.

That was studied, said Councilwoman Susan Rowe, adding she had supported moving the library to the community center until reviewing library building require-

ments. That included large expenses for upgrading the floors to withstand the weight of books and special lighting needs.

"No one is asking us for a large parcel like that (the community center) for redevelopment," said Rowe, noting the concerns about the impact of such a large empty building on the surrounding neighborhood.

This lease provides the best opportunity to provide services residents have called for, Rowe said, as the city will still own the building and it will be occupied.

"If the citizens support HYPE in the services they say they want, in two

years I hope he'll (HYPE founder and CEO Ali Sayed) come to us and want to buy the building," Rowe said.

Resident Kathy Rockwell commented that the membership fees might be unaffordable for some residents and asked about discounts. The proposed fees range from \$79 per month for a family with up to four children to \$19 per month for a senior age 59 and older.

"We couldn't afford it either. You have to pay. We were losing \$1 million a year (under the city fee schedule)," Mayor James Hawley said.

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## ELECTION

Continued from Page A1

mayor and ex-councilman Charles Pickering placed third with 1,817 votes. Rounding out the top four was Dewey Reeves with 1,689 votes.

Herzberg received 1,613 votes, followed by McKinney with 1,503 votes, Campbell with 1,326 votes and Hammons with 1,303 votes.

Four spots will be filled in the November election. The top three candidates will get four-year terms with the fourth candidate receiving a two-year term.

Eliminated in Tuesday's primary were Steve Boron, 798 votes; Chris Coldren, 445 votes; Dennis LeMaitre, 941 votes; and Kevin Miller, 782 votes.

Godbout said the incumbents need "to get the real message out to the people."

"I'm honored that residents still have enough confidence in me to make me the top vote getter," he said.

Reeves, who is completing a two-year term on the council, was surprised at the results.

"There were a lot of untruths that we didn't dispel; we tried to stay



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Council incumbent James Godbout and Sharon Scott wait for primary election results.

clean," he said. "We now have to address those untruths. We start our campaign for re-election today."

"Starting today, every day is election day," added Johnson. In the city clerk's race, Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc received almost 75 percent of the votes cast in the race. He finished the

night with 3,388 votes, well ahead of Jody Rice-White who received 617 votes.

LeBlanc and Rice-White will vie for the four-year term in the November election. Finishing a distant third was Christopher Cox with 290 votes and Zivka Wojtowicz with 220 votes.

It came as no surprise that LeBlanc would come

## HOW WESTLAND VOTED

### CITY CLERK

Christopher Cox ... 290  
Richard LeBlanc ... 3,388  
Jody Rice-White ... 617  
Zivka Wojtowicz ... 220

### CITY COUNCIL

Steve Boron ... 798  
William Campbell ... 1,326  
Chris Coldren ... 445  
James Godbout ... 2,146  
Adam Hammons ... 1,303  
Peter Herberg ... 1,613  
Bill Johnson ... 2,018  
Dennis LeMaitre ... 941  
Judy McKinney ... 1,503  
Kevin Miller ... 782...  
Charles Pickering ... 1,817  
Dewey Reeves ... 1,689

out on top in the voting. A popular state lawmaker and now county commissioner has a strong following among Westland residents.

"I truly appreciate what happened here today," LeBlanc said. "I appreciate what the electorate has done and I'm appreciative of my hometown."

He also voiced his support of the four council incumbents and, like Johnson, said "we need to do a better job of getting out our supporters."

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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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# Golf outing putts big for wounded war veterans

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton resident Rich Keenan, owner of Old Glory Flags and Flagpoles of Livonia, believes Americans have a duty to care for U.S. war veterans.

He ranks it close to raising children. "It's the biggest responsibility we all, as Americans, have to take care of," he said. "When our veterans come home, we definitely have to make sure we take care of them."

Keenan and a committee of volunteers are doing their part. For a second year, they organized the Old Glory golf outing to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, which is serving more than 75,000 war veterans through an array of free programs and services intended to nurture their minds and bodies while empowering them economically.

Keenan said this year's golf outing is expected to raise more than \$50,000. Nicole Schulz, a Canton resident and committee member whose husband served in the U.S. Navy, said 104 golfers joined the effort last Friday at the 18-hole Polo Fields at Washtenaw, formerly the Washtenaw Country Club.

"We do this every year for the Wounded Warrior Project," she said. "We just started seeing more and more of our veterans coming back and not getting the care they need."

Schulz said the Wounded Warrior Project spends nearly all of its proceeds directly on veterans, helping them with a wide range of services and care. She said it relies on a vast number of volunteers who give their time to help veterans.

"They're just wonderful to work with," she said. Among those attending this year's Old Glory fundraiser were former Detroit Red Wings great Ted Lindsay, who had recently celebrated his 90th birthday, and James Wisniewski, a professional hockey player for the Carolina Hurricanes.

Old Glory's golf outing last year raised about \$40,000, Schulz said, an amount organizers say they will exceed this year. Keenan said it's a worthy cause.

"I just have a tremendous sense of indebtedness and gratitude to all our veterans, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice," Keenan said. "There are thousands of veterans with PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) and I don't think the message is getting out there sufficiently from the government."

That makes it more critical, he said, for volunteers to help organizations, such as the Wounded Warrior Project. Donations still may be made at woundedwarriorproject.org to event number 22766.

Old Glory Flags and Flagpoles was joined in sponsoring this year's golf outing by Atchinson Ford of Belleville and Skyway Precision Inc., of Plymouth.

Keenan credited the Old Glory Flags for the Benefit of the Wounded Warrior Project Committee for its untiring help, including Brian Berndt, Jimmy Barr, Jonathon Johnson, Bill Matthews, John Moeder, Jim Paglino, David Schulz, Nicole Schulz and John Swanson.



The Romulus VFW Honor Guard was on hand for the Old Glory golf outing to benefit war veterans.



Among those attending the golf outing were (from left) Wounded Warrior Project speaker Deven Schei, James Wisniewski of the Carolina Hurricanes, Ed Wisniewski and former Detroit Red Wings great Ted Lindsay.



World War II veteran Ed Wisniewski takes the ceremonial tee shot at the Old Glory golf outing to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

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## Pretrial set for ex-coach charged with stealing from cheer team

By Aileen Wingblad  
Staff Writer

The ex-coach charged with stealing nearly \$10,000 from a Farmington High School cheer team was arraigned by mail for her upcoming trial in Oakland County Circuit Court and is scheduled for an Aug. 20 pre-trial.



Hernandez

count of larceny by conversion for the missing money, accumulated through fundraisers by the team to pay for uniforms and other equipment.

According to Farmington Public Safety Deputy Director Ted Warthman, during a June interview with investigators Hernandez admitted taking the funds for personal use such as travel and to pay bills.

As word of the alleged theft has spread, donations topping \$15,000 have been given to the team.

Circuit Judge Denise Langford Morris is assigned to the case.

Westland resident Kandice Hernandez, 25, faces one

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## WAYNE COP CALLS

### Stolen vehicle

A Newport man told police that about Aug. 4 someone stole his 2005 Ford DRW Super Duty F-350 dually truck from the body component parking at Ford Motor Company, 38303 Michigan Ave.

Security cameras at the plant showed the truck, valued at \$30,000, in the lot at 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. but it was gone just before 7:30 a.m. The owner told police that the truck is paid off and he had both set of keys. The maroon or burgundy colored truck was described as having a custom tow bed and a fifth-wheel hitch.

### Vandalism

Police were called to Tire Stop, 32449 Michigan Ave., Aug. 2 just after 8:15 a.m. after the owner found a 6-foot by 4-foot display window shattered. There appeared to be a BB dent in the window. Nothing was disturbed so the owner concluded no entry had been made.

By LeAnne Rogers

## WESTLAND COP CALLS

### Vandalism

A resident in the 32000 block of Glen told police that when he left for work early July 29 he found someone had smashed the rear window of his vehicle, which was parked on the street. The officer was unable to locate an item that caused the damage.

### Fraud

On July 30 a Westland woman told police that she had learned that a week earlier someone used her personal information to unsuccessfully apply for unemployment benefits.

### Larceny

A resident in the 36000 block of Oregon told police Aug. 1 that he returned home and went to put his motorcycle in the garage when he noticed the lights didn't come on. Checking the side of the house, he said he noticed the electrical meter and the glass cov-

ering it were missing.

### Alarm call

Police responded to a home in the 1400 block of Elia on Aug. 2 about an alarm call. Officers found doors open but no sign of forced entry. Officers were unable to check inside the home due to multiple dogs. Officers closed the open door.

### Vandalism

On Aug. 2 a resident in the 6900 block of North Venoy told police that he returned home to find someone had shot the left side of his sliding glass door causing a hole in one pane. The resident said that earlier in the week the right side of the door had been similarly damaged.

### Larceny in a vehicle

A resident in the 1200 block of South Henry Ruff told police Aug. 2 that someone stole his wallet from his vehicle. He said he thought he had left the

vehicle locked but found the passenger door ajar. There was no cash reported in the missing wallet but it did contain his identification, ATM/credit and debit cards.

### Found property

While doing a check at Cuda Auto, 1136 N. Wayne Road, July 29, an officer was given a set of keys. A person at the business told police that the keys had been found behind the building three days earlier.

### Vandalism

An excavator on the site of the demolished Nankin Elementary School, 8100 Hubbard, told police July 29 that someone damaged the equipment. The windshield and sliding window were smashed, the headlights were damaged or missing, the engine compartment was open but the engine still started. The damage was estimated at over \$750.

By LeAnne Rogers

## GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

### Break-in

No items were taken during a break-in at Gamer's Avenue, 29552 Ford, July 28. Police responded to an alarm at the building at 2 a.m. and found a window beside the entrance broken out. Two large rocks surrounded by broken glass could be seen in the interior of the store.

Officers were able to view a surveillance video in which a suspect, wearing a black hoodie and silver shorts, could be seen entering and immediately leaving the building through the broken window. The video also showed a suspect waiting outside the building.

The two suspects fled east toward Middlebelt. Nothing was reported taken.

### Larceny

A resident in the 33000 block of Kathryn told police she came outside July 27 to discover a love seat and two

wicker chairs with purple cushions missing from her front porch. She told police the furniture had been on the porch when her husband went to work at 6:30 a.m.

A resident in the 28000 block of Marquette suspects an ex-boyfriend entered her home July 24 and stole a gold bracelet, silver earring, silver necklace and silver heart charm. She told police she came home to find her side door closed but the deadbolt unlocked. She looked through the home and found the jewelry missing from a bedroom dresser.

A resident in the 33000 block of Sheridan called police July 29 after finding a Frozen backpack containing miscellaneous jewelry belonging to a Garden City woman. The man told police he didn't see the backpack when he left for work at 3:30 a.m. but found it when he returned.

The woman identified the

jewelry and police were able to contact the owner of the cell phone who told them she had left it in the vehicle.

The backpack also contained two pairs of sunglasses, two packs of cigarettes, eight lighters, a gold glove and a bottle of Claritin.

### Fraud

A resident in the 27000 block of Maplewood told police July 27 that someone had opened a PayPal account in her name. She was surprised to receive a statement from PayPal showing she owes \$699. She told police she never gets on the Internet and the only account she has is her bank account.

She showed the statement to her son who helped her call PayPal. She was told to file a police report and call PayPal back to have their name removed from the bill and the account closed.

By Sue Mason

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# Madonna hosts musical theater program for high schoolers

For two weeks this summer, the auditorium and music classrooms at Madonna University become home to an intensive training program for high school students who are passionate about, and perhaps considering a career in, musical theater.

After days filled with sessions in dance, voice, monologue and audition practice and critique, the instruction ends with a student production "My Way to Broadway," celebrating Frank Sinatra and contemporary Broadway. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7 and Saturday, Aug. 8 in Madonna University's Kresge Hall. Admission is \$5 and open to the public.

Led by Barbara Wiltsie, associate professor of voice at Madonna, and Patti Davidson-Gorbea, guest drama instructor, the program is geared toward talented students looking to refine their skills. Several past participants have gone on to study musical theater, music or drama at their college or university.

The instructors have high expectations for the students, because they know the students are capable. "We don't baby them," Wiltsie said. "We want to create an atmosphere where they're supportive of each other."

The students start each day with group dance instruction, which includes both basic training and specific choreography for their end-of-program performance. They close out the morning with ensemble music and, after lunch, attend a round robin of voice, drama and monologue lessons. Evenings are filled with activities such as professional-style audition practice, guest speakers and critiques, a talent agent visit, and movie-making fun with the help of Madonna's



Dakota Firestone from Farmington High School and Lauren Tischler from Lutheran High School Westland rehearse a dance number for the final performance of the summer musical theater program at Madonna University.



Kelsi Fay, left, and Caraline Weglarz, Livonia Churchill High School students and members of the Creative and Performing Arts program, participate in music practice as part of the summer musical theater workshop at Madonna University.

Broadcast and Cinema Arts students.

At the final performance students will show off their refined techniques with a lead role in two scenes that include a song, and a scene or

monologue. "Everyone will be featured somehow in the show," Wiltsie said. Each night, an audience member also will be selected for a small role in a scene from the movie *Airplane*.

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# Road crews near completion of Ford Road project

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Road construction crews are nearing the end of a \$3.7 million project intended to help ease traffic congestion along Ford Road near I-275, one of Michigan's most crash-prone areas.

"We're moving along," Bill Erben, project manager for the Michigan Department of Transportation, said Tuesday.

The project, including adding a continuous, third westbound lane from Lotz past Haggerty and connecting pedestrian sidewalks near the I-275 overpass, should be completed by late August, barring a flurry of bad weather.

"I would say the end of the month is comfortable," Erben said.

Work crews have lengthened turn lanes, tweaked I-275 ramps and

added the third westbound lane in hopes of easing traffic along a stretch of Ford Road, near IKEA, where studies have indicated 50,000 motorists pass each day.

Melissa McLaughlin, who chairs the Canton Downtown Development Authority, said the road project, which started in May, has made it somewhat more difficult to access some businesses along Ford Road.

"I'm sure they have felt it and will be glad to have it done," she said.

However, McLaughlin said Canton businesses are resilient.

"I think the businesses in Canton are war-hardened," she said. "They've been through this (road construction) so many times. I do think they are, in general, always anxious to have traffic move smoothly on Ford Road.



Shoulder work is occurring along the southbound I-275 exit to Ford Road.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"We don't want people to look at Ford Road and utter their words through clenched teeth," McLaughlin added. "We want people to come to Ford Road, shop, spend their money and support the local businesses."

MDOT and Canton officials say the project should provide some relief to traffic congestion, along with the paving of Lotz between Ford and Cherry Hill - a project that still hasn't started, despite assurances by

county officials that some work will occur this season.

Lotz's paving would give motorists another north-south artery and an alternate to roads such as Haggerty.

The Ford Road project, meanwhile, includes a resurfacing between Lotz and Marlowe, a street near the Rusty Nail Lounge - a move ushering in a smoother drive.

Erben also said he believes longer turn lanes, such as one from westbound Ford onto south Haggerty, should help to ease traffic bottlenecks that worsen during peak rush hour.

"I think it will improve the situation. It'll help," he said.

But MDOT and local officials have said a long-term solution may center on transforming Ford Road into a boulevard

and eliminating left turns at major intersections. MDOT has said that project is contingent on funding becoming available.

The latest Ford Road work comes as studies have shown that Canton has three of Wayne County's top 10 crash-prone intersections outside of Detroit, although Canton is only one of 43 communities in the county.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy has said Canton is seeking - for the seventh time - federal aid to pay for the longer-term solution to Ford Road traffic woes.

Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said no word on the federal dollars had been received as of Tuesday afternoon.

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734-972-0919

# First Step adds garden for healing at Wayne site

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

When you enter the new First Step Healing Garden, one of the first things you see is a family of five penguins on an ice flow.

"It is designed to create a feeling of fun and whimsy," First Step Associate Director Theresa Bizoe said. "The portico (near the door) is for security. The table close to the building lets people just coming in to stay here and be closer the building."

The recently opened healing garden and playscape is designed with elements of a hospital healing garden to meet the needs of adults and children. Serving residents of western Wayne County and Downriver, Wayne-based First Step provides services to victims of domestic and sexual violence.

"It used to be an open field with standing water and muck. It has been transformed," Bizoe said. "This took three years of fundraising and design. We put in drainage, electrical and plumbing. Now, 20 minutes after a rain, it drains and the kids can play."

Jonathan Dreyfuss of Greenscape Systems was the architect and volunteered as project manager for the healing garden and playscape. A wide range of service clubs and other volunteers donated time, materials and labor for the healing garden and playscape.

## Something for everyone

The goal is to provide something for everyone. There is a toddler town play area with swings, a splash pad that allows the youngsters to cool off, a xylophone and pebble harp for music, an adult fitness area that includes a ping pong table, a healing garden that provides



Associate director Theresa Bizoe shows off a water feature that is part of the healing garden and playscape recently dedicated at First Step.

LEANNE ROGERS



Inspirational messages are included on bricks decorating First Step's new healing garden and playscape.

LEANNE ROGERS



First Step associate director Theresa Bizoe with a family of penguins in the new healing garden and playscape.

LEANNE ROGERS

a serene place for quiet reflection overlooking the park and a pavilion for gatherings.

"There was no place for kids to play. We can house up to 50 people on any given night and more

than half are kids or infants," Bizoe said. "They range from newborns to teenagers. We get all ages and are almost always full."

For someone who has escaped domestic or

sexual violence, Bizoe said the retaining wall around a seating area in the healing garden is

designed to provide a sense of security like sheltering arms.

"We want everyone to

feel they will be OK here. Coming to a facility is so scary for kids, leaving all they know," Bizoe said. "We want them to know it's OK to be a kid, that they don't have to protect the adult."

Bizoe mentioned a particular volunteer on the project who lost his sister and two nephews to domestic violence.

"He knew his sister was hesitant to go to a shelter - that it would be too hard on her kids," Bizoe said. "If she knew of a beautiful place like this for her kids, she might have gone (to a shelter) and it might have saved her life."

## Place to counsel

Along with providing a relaxing outdoor space for shelter residents, Bizoe said the healing garden also services counseling clients as well as staff.

"We can do counseling under a blue sky with beautiful flowers," Bizoe said. "The staff can take a walk here - they hear traumatic stories all day."

The healing garden and playscape were also designed with an eye on being green. A 2,000-gallon cistern holds water from the building roof and pumps it into the garden areas. The water and rock gardens have a porous paver that eliminates run-off and lets rain water drain into the ground. There were 60 trees planted, all donated.

Established in 1978, First Step provides free and confidential programs to help survivors of domestic and sexual violence. That includes a shelter, counseling and referral services. There is a 24-hour help line at 1-888-453-5900.

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# John Glenn alum begins fundraiser to help planetarium 'shine again'

**By Sue Mason**  
Staff Writer

When Steve Koponen and his wife Sandi got together with high school friends in June for a bit of a reunion, they wanted to come up with a few activities. One of them was visiting their alma mater, John Glenn High School, specifically the planetarium.

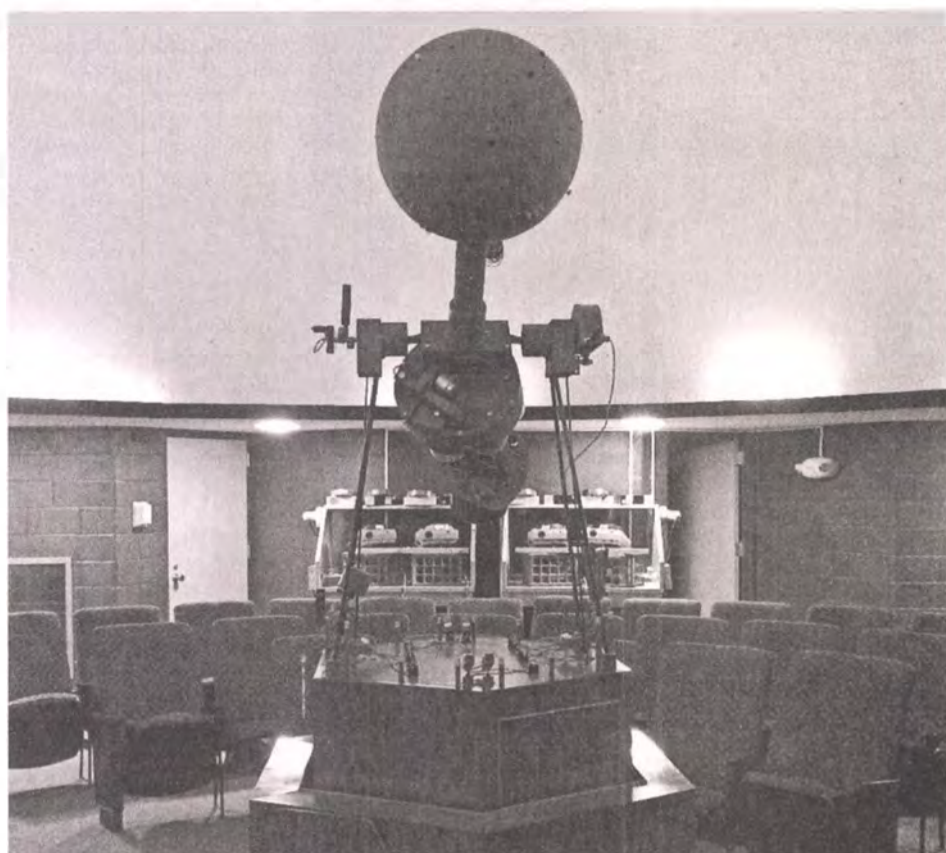
They were disappointed when they found out it wasn't really functioning.

The Koponens, 1989 graduates of the Westland high school, decided to turn that disappointment into a project to raise enough money to update the planetarium.

"We have pride in our alma mater and this is a good way to give back," said Koponen, a Farmington resident. "We saw it and said we should plan something. My wife and I said we're going to do it."

Working through the popular GoFundMe website, Koponen has set up a fundraising page aimed at getting enough money to bring the planetarium into the 21st century. The goal is \$50,000.

The high school opened in 1964, just two years after its namesake, astronaut John Glenn, became the first man to orbit the Earth. The school included a planetarium which was funded



A huge light projects stars out of a large metal ball in the center of John Glenn High School's planetarium.



STEVE KOPONEN

The original 1960s analog technology includes switches and dials that control the large metal ball.

through a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Fifty years later, its analog equipment is outdated and in disrepair.

**Analog technology**

According to Koponen, a science teacher in the Farmington Public

Schools, the planetarium still uses the original 1960s analog technology that was installed when the school was built. A huge light projects stars out of a large metal ball in the center of the room and is operated through a series of switches and dials.

In a post on the GoFundMe page, Koponen said the old analog equipment remains unreliable and low-tech. The plan is to replace it with a digital system and an iPad to control the planetarium and new LED energy-efficient cove lighting.

"Having a digital system in the planetarium would again make the John Glenn planetarium a shining star in the school and in the community, with a potential to offer a great resource for astronomy students and a wonderful potential to again offer planetarium programming to other students as well as community groups," he wrote.

The biggest expense is the digital equipment,

which Koponen said "is pretty cutting-edge."

The fundraising drive kicked off three weeks ago and, to date, it's raised just under \$1,700. Koponen hopes it will pick up once school starts next month. It has the support of Wayne-Westland Assistant Superintendent John Albrecht and planetarium directors David Christiansen and Linda Willman.

In a letter posted on the GoFundMe page, Albrecht described the planetarium as one of the gems of the high school and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools district.

"I support Steve's work developing a fundraising effort to generate dollars to upgrade the facility to 21st century technology," Albrecht wrote. "I recall the great times I had as a teacher and administrator at John Glenn High School. I also had the experience of being a parent of five John Glenn graduates. It was a wonderful place for life beyond high school."

**Benefit community**  
Christiansen and Willman echoed Albrecht's

support, noting that "the upgrades would benefit not only the students of the Wayne-Westland Community School District, but the community as a whole."

Koponen remembers the planetarium from his elementary school days.

"Growing up in Westland, I remember in elementary school walking to John Glenn to get my first taste of astronomy in its planetarium, which is a rare treasure to have in a high school building," he said.

Koponen hopes to have enough money raised by November. Donations can be made at John Glenn Planetarium: Shine Again page at [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com). People also can send a check made payable to John Glenn High School with Planetarium Fund written on the memo line and send it to Steve Koponen, 22973 Mayfield Ave., Farmington, MI 48336-3965.

"I would love to pull this off; it would be one of the coolest things I could do in my lifetime," he said.

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**CITY OF WESTLAND - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PROGRAM STATUS AND SUBMISSION OF THE CAPER (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)**

The City of Westland will hold a public hearing on the status of CDBG and HOME programs, year ended June 30, 2015, August 18, 2015, 5:30 p.m., 32150 Dorsey Road, Westland. Draft CAPER available for comment August 17 - September 12, 2015. Submit written comments to: Department of Housing & Community Development, 32150 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI.

**CDBG FUNDS**

Project	Status	Amount
CDBG Administration	Annual, Complete	\$197,477
Housing Rehabilitation	Annual, Ongoing	\$117,010
Senior Programs	Annual, Complete	\$155,000
First Step	Annual, Complete	\$3,500
Wayne County Family Center	Complete	\$2,000
Friendship Center Improvement	Complete	\$45,000
Community Resource Officer	Annual, Complete	\$116,000
Outreach Ordinance/Code Compliance Officer	Annual, Complete	\$105,000
Samuel B. Ware Community Center	Annual, Ongoing	\$15,000
NSP - Acquisition/Demolition	Ongoing	\$293,858
Norwayne Parks	Complete	\$21,947
NSP3 Family Self-Sufficiency	Ongoing	\$870
Rental Rehabilitation Program	Ongoing	\$23,622
Fire Rescue Vehicle	Complete	\$71,000
<b>TOTAL CDBG EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$1,167,284.00</b>

**HOME FUNDS**

HOME Administration	Annual Complete	\$38,177
Homebuyer Program	Ongoing	\$88,682
NSP - Acquisition/Renovation	Ongoing	\$196,657
HOME Housing Rehabilitation (Limited)	Ongoing	\$126,087
<b>TOTAL HOME EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$449,603.00</b>

CDBG program income is \$24,191. HOME program income is \$124,893. Financial data is subject to reconciliation and audit adjustments. The City of Westland will submit the CAPER to the Detroit HUD Office on September 25, 2015.

William R. Wild, Mayor  
Westland Observer and Eccentric

Publish: August 6, 2015

LO-00022899 3x6.5

**LIVONIA HOUSING COMMISSION BID ADVERTISEMENT**

**MCNAMARA TOWERS ROOFING AND WINDOW REPLACEMENT 2014-2015 HUD CAPITAL FUND PROGRAMS**

The Livonia Housing Commission, Livonia, Michigan, will receive sealed bids in its offices at 19300 Purlingbrook Road, Livonia Michigan 48152 until 11:00 a.m. local time, on August 27, 2015. A public opening will take place at that time. Any bid received after this time will not be considered. All work shall be performed pursuant to the plans and specifications prepared by Design House Architects and Designers, LLC, 10484 Range Line Road, Berrien Springs, MI. Bid work shall consist of roofing and window replacement and minor repairs of associated work. All bids shall be executed on forms provided in the specifications or approved equal provided by the bidder. A special board meeting date will be determined to award the contract.

Each bid must include a "non-collusion" affidavit and fully enclosed HUD 5369-A form, and a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid. This bond will be forfeit in case of any failure to enter into the contract at the bid price after notification of acceptance of such bid.

Section 3 Performance as well as all other forms as outlined in the specifications must accompany all bids. Both the Architect and Housing Commission desire all prime contractors submitting bids to encourage all minority subcontractors to perform any portions of the work which will not be performed by the contractor's forces or could be performed by the minority subcontractor. Bidders must submit written evidence that they have solicited quotations from qualified Section 3 subcontractors at the time the bidder submits its bid to the Housing Commission for all portions of work the bidder is not proposing to complete with its forces. The Architect and Housing Commission also desire that the prime contractor will make an attempt at the hiring of those housing residents that can perform any function of the work successfully. All bidders shall comply with HUD Section 3 Clause of regulation 24 C.F.R. part 135. Department of Labor, Davis-Bacon Wage rates shall apply to this project.

The Livonia Housing Commission is in no way obligated to accept the lowest or any other bid submitted and reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Livonia Housing Commission also may waive informalities in any bid if it determines to do so and to defer the acceptance or rejection of such bids until the financial arrangements for the project bid are completed.

Plans and Specifications may be obtained from: The Livonia Housing Commission, 19300 Purlingbrook Road, Livonia Michigan 48152 on or after **August 10, 2015**. A deposit of **Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars** is required of Prime Contractors for each set of Drawings and Specifications up to a maximum of three (3) sets. The deposit is refundable in full only if:

- The Drawings and Specifications are returned within ten (10) days after the bid date.
- The Drawings and Specifications are in useable condition as determined by the Architect.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 11:00 am, August 18, 2015 at the Livonia Housing Commission office. Additional site visits will be by appointment only and made through the Housing office by contacting Mr. James M. Inglis at 248-477-7086 ext.5.

Contractor awarded the project will provide an acceptable Performance and Payment bond equal to 100% of the contracted price. These bonds shall conform to the forms prescribed by the State of Michigan. Plans, Specifications, and Instructions to Bidders are on file at the Livonia Housing Commission and Design House Architects and Designers, LLC, 574-276-1411.

James M. Inglis, Executive Director  
Jack E. Kirksey, Mayor

Published: August 6 & 13, 2015

LO-000252125 9x7

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CANTON LEISURE SERVICES

Organizers say more than 75 craft and specialty beers will be available at Beer, Brats & Bands at the Barn.



FILE PHOTO

Beer, Brats & Bands at the Barn is returning to Preservation Park.

# Beer, Brats & Bands at the Barn returning to Canton

**By Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Hundreds of craft beer lovers will have a chance to sample flavors from across the nation — and from Canton — as Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn returns to Preservation Park.

"Metro Detroit's growing craft beer culture can taste and appreciate specialty brews from all over the country in one location," said Gregg King, Canton facilities supervisor and fundraiser organizer. "Any event involving drinking craft beers, eating brats and listening to music with friends and family is bound to be a good time."

Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn — or B4, as some call it — is set for 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Cady-Boyer Barn, 500 N. Ridge, north of Cherry Hill, on Canton's west side. Tickets are \$25 before Sept. 6 and \$30 afterward or at the door — and just \$10 for designated drivers.

The event, geared toward the over-21 crowd, benefits the Canton Historical Society with its educational efforts in schools, exhibits at the Canton Historical Museum and displays at the old pole barn at Preservation Park, CHS President Bill Tesen said.

B4 has steadily grown in what will be its sixth year. Crowds have more than doubled, Tesen said. "We're up to over 800 people now," he said. Organizers say the

event includes over 75 craft and specialty beers. Barry and Cara Boggs, owners of Canton Brew Works, expect to bring six flavors from their microbrewery on Lilley south of Joy.

"It's a small beer festival right here in Canton and we just want to be involved," Barry Boggs said.

Entertainment will include The Dale Hicks Band performing classic rock hits and All Directions, which plays rhythm and blues standards.

For tickets go to [cantonthistoricalsociety.org](http://cantonthistoricalsociety.org) or to [tickets.beerfests.com/event/BrewBratsandBandsatTheBarn](http://tickets.beerfests.com/event/BrewBratsandBandsatTheBarn).

Tickets also are available at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, the Canton Treasurer's Office, 1150 S. Canton, and on Sundays at the Canton Farmers Market, 500 N. Ridge.

Admission includes seven drink tickets — each good for a 4-ounce beer sample — brats with fixings and a keep-sake beer-tasting mug. Additional tickets for four samples can be bought on site for \$5.

Sponsors include Canton Leisure Services, Holiday Market, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Canton Brew Works and Beerfests.com.

For more information on the event, call 734-394-5314.

[dclem@hometownlife.com](mailto:dclem@hometownlife.com)  
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# Motorcyclists raise \$15,000 at Ride for Autism

**By Curtis Drogmiller**  
Correspondent

Livonia resident Larry Stock and 122 other motorcyclists had picture-perfect motorcycle riding weather Saturday for their annual Ride for Autism, which raised more than \$15,000 for autistic children and their families.

Stock is a Livonia business owner (In Stock Marketing) and second vice-president of the nonprofit Ride for Autism.

Stock and fellow board members don't receive any compensation for their efforts in organizing the fundraiser. "It's all worthwhile when they see the smiles on all the faces of the children and adults with autism and their families," Stock said.

The Ride for Autism is an annual motorcycle ride that began in 2005 when two coworkers from UAW Local 245 were on break wondering what they could do to help another coworker's family whose son was autistic. The first year ride in 2005 had 56 motorcycle bikers raising over \$8,000. In the past 10 years the RFA has raised over \$100,000 with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting Macomb/St. Clair County ASA and Autism Connections of the Judson Center.

The 11th annual 2015



CURTIS DROGMILLER

The Executive Board of the Ride For Autism. From left are President Sal Ferra, 1st Vice President Pete Joseph, RFA Ambassador Rachael Adams and second vice-president Larry Stock.



CURTIS DROGMILLER

The lead motorcycles for the Ride for Autism as they drive down Telegraph Road after a 60-mile ride from Southfield to Taylor on their way to Biker Bob's Harley Davidson for the conclusion of the day's events.

RFA began at the Southfield Civic Center and ended 60 miles later in Taylor at Biker Bob's Harley-Davidson. The Ride received police escorts from the Southfield Police Department, Wayne County Sheriffs and Taylor Police.

Events included a pancake breakfast, lunch, entertainment by Remedy, 50/50 raffle, multiple raffle prizes, T-shirts, motorcycle simulation ride and bounce house for kids. President Sal

Ferra said, "This event was the best to date, a great big thank you to all those who continue to come out yearly and especially to our motorcycle ride escorts, Southfield Police, Wayne County Sheriffs, Taylor Police and Biker Bob's Road Captain."

A highlight of the day's events was the Medallion Ceremony, during which medals were presented to autistic children and adults in attendance.

NO. 2989

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 20 OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3932 THERETO.**

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

**Section 1.** The report of the City Planning Commission, dated April 22, 2015, setting forth its resolution 04-18-2015 recommending approval of Petition 2015-03-01-02, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on May 20, 2015, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2015-03-01-02 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

**Section 2.** Article III of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 543, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

**Section 3.3932.** Petition 2015-03-01-02 submitted by the City Planning Commission is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from RUF to PO I:

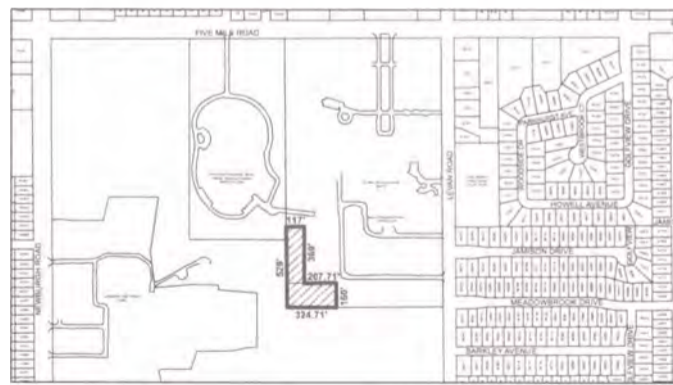
**PARCEL A:** THAT PART OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 20, T1S, R9E, DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING FROM THE N 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 20; THENCE S 00°11'46" E 60.00 FEET; THENCE N 89°56'26" W 43.00; THENCE S 00°11'40" E 1784.58 FEET; THENCE N 89°57'08" W 1018.58 FEET; THENCE N 00°00'10" W 160.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE S 89°57'08" E 117.00 FEET; THENCE N 00°00'10" W, 369.00 FEET; THENCE N 89°57'08" W, 117.00 FEET; THENCE S 00°00'10 E, 369.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING .99 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

**PARCEL B:** THAT PART OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 20, T1S, R9E, DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING FROM THE N 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 20; THENCE S 00°11'46" E 60.00 FEET; THENCE N 89°56'26" W 43.00; THENCE S 00°11'40" E 1784.58 FEET; THENCE N 89°57'08" W 693.34 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE N 89°57'08" W 325.25 FEET; THENCE N 00°00'10" W 160.00 FEET; THENCE S 89°57'08" E, 324.71 FEET; THENCE S 00°11'40" E, 160.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 1.19 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

and the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20 of the Zoning Map is hereby amended to conform to the change made in this section.

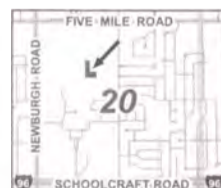
**Section 4.** The attached map designated "Amendment No. 948 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

**BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT AS AMENDED FROM R-U-F, RURAL URBAN FARM TO PO I, HIGH RISE PROFESSIONAL OFFICE**



PETITION NO. 2015-03-01-02  
A PART OF THE N.W. 1/4 OF SECTION 20

AMENDMENT NO. 948 TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN  
ORDINANCE NO. 2989  
Adopted by the City Council on 7/ 8/15



MAYOR  
CLERK

**Section 5.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

**Section 6.** Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Wednesday, July 8, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan Hoff, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 9th day of July, 2015.

Jack Kirksey, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney  
Dated: July 9, 2015

Published: August 6, 2015

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Marzetti Veggie Dips & Salad Dressings All Varieties <b>2/\$7</b>			Seasonal Tea Sale! Bigelow & Celestial Tea <b>2/\$5</b> All Varieties
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Kona Big Wave Golden Ale <b>\$7.99</b> 6 pack

WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

# Jordyn Shepler repeats as O&E golf champion

Madonna University senior and former Churchill star earns second straight title

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Twice was just as nice for Livonia's Jordyn Shepler, who repeated Saturday as the overall champion of the *Observer & Eccentric* women's golf tournament at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

Shepler, who turned 21 last week, shot the same score (77) as she did a year ago in the Championship Flight and finished four strokes in front of Southfield's Shelly Weiss. Janina Jacobs, who had won four consecutive titles until being dethroned by Shepler last year, finished third with 86.



Shepler

"Being the defending champion was a little nerve-wracking, because people are saying, 'Oh, you won this last year,'" said Shepler, who played a more balanced round this time.

She shot 3-over-par 39 on the front nine and secured her

See SHEPLER, Page B3



Jordyn Shepler of Livonia won the annual O&E women's golf tournament for the second straight year Saturday.

## Bowling event to help animals

The 10th annual Bowl-4-Animal Rescue will take place Saturday, Aug. 8, at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills, 30250 W. Nine Mile Road.

The first nine events raised nearly \$200,000 for the benefit of the Dearborn Animal Shelter and the Michigan Animal Adoption Network.

Participants will have the opportunity to bid for and win a pair of tickets to the Michigan-Michigan State football game on Saturday, Oct. 17, courtesy of Kramar Jewelry.

Bowling tickets are still available. Non-bowlers are welcome to enjoy the auctions, music and food. The event begins at 7 p.m. Bowling check-in starts at 5:30 p.m.

To register to bowl as an individual or team or learn more about the event, go online to bowl4animal-rescue.org or call 248-615-9060. The event is on Twitter at bowl4animalresc.

PORT HURON-TO-MACKINAC SAILBOAT RACE



Boat owner Chuck Blaty checks the main sail while manning the wheel during a storm on Lake Huron. Blaty and his crew won the Class R Cruising title.

## Crusaders sign another golfer

Madonna University women's golf coach Scott Marzolano announced a late addition to his 2015-16 roster with the signing of Colombia native Karen Zambrano to a letter of intent.

"To get a player of her caliber this late in the recruiting season was a great pickup for our team as we try and capture the conference championship," Marzolano said.

"With our three new players, plus all of the veteran experience we have coming back, I am excited to get practices and our events started in the next few weeks."

Zambrano is the third player to sign with the Crusaders for this season, joining Kelsey Edwards and Manuela Lopez Hernandez.

Zambrano comes to Madonna as the ninth-ranked golfer in Colombia after winning the Colombia National Youth Team Championship in 2014.

She also won medalist honors at three Interclub Junior Tour events, shooting a low round of 70.

The Crusaders open their fall schedule on Sunday, Aug. 30, at the Wolfpack Invite in Milwaukee, Wis.

## Women's senior qualifying event

A qualifying round for the U.S. Women's Senior Amateur Championship will take place Wednesday, Sept. 2, at Edgewood Country Club in Commerce Township.

Amateur female golfers who are 50 years old by Sept. 26 and have a handicap index of 18.4 or less are eligible to enter. Golfers can register online at www.usga.org by Wednesday, Aug. 12.

Qualifiers will play in the championship event Sept. 25-Oct. 1 at the Hillwood CC in Nashville, Tenn. For more information, call Barbara Nowickowski at 248-433-3577.

## Widzinski golf outing Sept. 6

The third annual David Widzinski Community Golf Classic will take place Sunday, Sept. 6, at Tanglewood Golf Course in South Lyon.

Golfer registration begins at 11 a.m. and will be followed by a shotgun start at noon. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

The entire package is priced at \$100 per golfer. Dinner and dancing only is \$33 per person. The event includes golf contests, raffles, auctions, cash bar and live band.

For more information, go online to www.davidliveson.com.

# Days End sails to Mackinac win



John Cooke takes a turn at the wheel as the sun peaks over the horizon.

Farmington Hills skipper Charles Blaty and crew cruise to victory in annual race on Lake Huron

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Wind speed and the ability of a crew to handle and harness it well makes all the difference in sailboat racing.

Charles Blaty of Farmington Hills and his team aboard the Days End mastered the task and sailed to victory last month in the annual Bell's Beer Bay-view Mackinac Race.

It was the second time Blaty and his boat finished first in the

Class R Cruising Class, having also won in 2008.

"Our boat does well under certain conditions," Blaty said. "It does well when it's a short race. When there's a lot of air, we do well."

"That year it was blowing pretty good. It was the same this year. We finished in 40 hours because it was a fast race. Last year it was a slow race, and we were second from

See MACKINAC RACE, Page B2

RECREATIONAL RUNNING

# Naughton remains No. 1 in Founders Festival race

U-M's Taleen Shahrigan is women's winner in annual Farmington four-mile run

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

The annual Farmington Founders Festival four-mile road race undoubtedly will be on the 2016 calendar for Conor Naughton and Taleen Shahrigan.

Both have titles to defend



Naughton



Shahrigan

now. The pair of young runners from Northville were the men's and women's winners in the July 18 event.

Naughton is a two-time defending champion, having

competed in the last three races. Shahrigan was a first-time participant and finished sixth overall.

The Founders Fest race is noted for its finish and the crowd lining both sides of Grand River Avenue, waiting for the annual parade to start.

Naughton and Adam Richmond, who was the 2013 winner and runner-up last year, gave people reason to cheer with a foot race to the finish line.

"It was a battle the whole

last mile," Naughton said. "With about 100 meters to go, he was still up on me, and I was able to find one more gear and move by him at the end."

"It was fun and people were really enjoying the race going on. The crowd gave us some extra energy. With a lot of people watching, I didn't want to lose."

Naughton, who will be a senior at Northville High School, was 32nd and just

See FOUNDERS, Page B2



O&E WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

# Pritzl's never-give-up attitude provides payoff

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Nobody was more surprised than Plymouth's Pam Pritzl after she won the First Flight championship Saturday in the annual Observer & Eccentric women's golf tournament.

After an admittedly poor start, Pritzl worked her way back into contention and eventually first place, finishing three shots ahead of Suzanne Madej at Whispering Willows Golf Course, 86-89.

"I didn't think I had any chance at all after playing so poorly at the start," Pritzl said, adding she was 10 strokes over par after the first six holes. "Things just started to click at seven, and I was only 4-over on the last 12 holes."

"Honestly, I don't know what happened. I just started playing better. I hit a few good shots, some putts went in and things turned around." With several foursomes

playing behind hers, Pritzl had no idea where she stood in relation to the other players or that she was even a contender until well after she had finished the round.

"I was absolutely surprised — and winning was a complete shock," she said. "I was very happy to win the tournament, because there were some really good players in the field."

It was Pritzl's first time playing in the O&E tournament, and it was the first time she has won a tournament.

Pritzl has been playing quite well of late, she said, lowering her handicap from 17 to 14. Her average 18-hole score is in the low to mid 80s.

"Recently, I've been working a lot on my short game," she said. "I've worked a lot on chipping and putting, and making some key putts was the difference on Saturday."

Pritzl, who used to play in a league at Whispering Willows, has been a recreational golfer

for 10 years and a serious golfer the last five.

She received a trophy and an \$80 gift certificate to use in the WWGC pro shop for her victory, which she said is a statement about perseverance.

"I thought I was way behind because of my shaky start," she said. "It's a lesson in never give up, because you never know what can happen."

"I'm over-the-moon excited. The trophy means a little more this time. Hopefully, it's not the last one I win."



Pritzl

## SHEPLER

Continued from Page B1

victory with 38 on the back. That was in marked contrast to last year, when she posted 3-under 33 at the start and finished with 44.

"It might have been the same score but not the same round," Shepler said. "I was more consistent this year. I was really good on the front nine last year."

"I was just hitting a lot of the greens. It helped to know the course and have played there so long and so many times."

Shepler said her nine-hole scores this year were more her average rounds, adding 33 is a really good round for anybody.

"And I got lucky last year," she said. "I eagled the (par-4) ninth hole, and that helped my score. This year, it was more fairways and greens and lot of putts made."

### Repeat the feat

Shepler, who starred at Livonia Churchill High School and is a member of the Madonna University team, had another eagle this year on the par-5 10th hole.

"I hit a really solid drive and happened to catch the downward slope, so that gave me extra roll," she said. "I made a solid second shot, which put me within six feet of the hole, and I hit a little



The prize winners in the annual Observer & Eccentric women's golf tournament are (left to right) Suzanne Madej, Denise Buechel, Kathy Brennan, Shelly Weiss, Jordyn Shepler, Pam Pritzl, Olivia Bayagich and Lu Stockton.

slider to make eagle." Shepler had worked hard on hitting greens before the 2014 tournament, and that was a major factor in both of her wins.

"That's always a big goal of mine, because it makes it easier to score, obviously," she said. "I hit every green on the front nine this year, and it helped to make my score low enough to win."

Shepler had a bit of a rough start, however. She needed three putts to finish each of the first two holes.

"That put me into a differ-

ent mindset, to get the ball to the hole on each hole," she said. "I was fine after the first couple holes, which knocks away the nerves, puts you at ease and gets you ready for the rest of the round."

### Stays the course

Shepler had a nice lead more than halfway through the tournament and, though Weiss played well on the back nine, could afford to give away a couple of strokes on the last couple of holes.

"I think (knowing the course) helps everyone who

plays a golf course a lot and happens to play in a tournament there," she said.

"You know all the little secrets of the course. It helps to build your score and makes you confident as to how you want to play the next hole."

Shepler, who said she most likely will return for a possible third straight title in next year, is looking forward to her senior season at Madonna.

"I have one last year; I don't want it to end," she said. "We have some new recruits coming in, so that's going to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jordyn Shepler rolls a putt toward the pin en route to her second straight win.

make for a good season, hopefully.

"The fall season is a lengthy one. Being the last one, it will be nice to play in a lot of tournaments."

**OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
Aug. 1 at Whispering Willows  
**Championship Flight:** Jordyn Shepler, Livonia, 77; Shelly Weiss, Southfield, 81; Janina Jacobs, 86; Kathy Stella, 87; Cindy Hill, 87; Olivia Bayagich, 87; Sue Dorr, 88; Shelly Manning, 91; Deb Horning, 93.  
**Net winner:** Bayagich; **Closest to the pin:** Bayagich; **Long drive:** Dorr.  
**First Flight:** Pam Pritzl, 86; Suzanne Madej, 89; Yvette Gagnon, 96; Cynthia Pinkard, 97; Lu Stockton, 98; Barbara Coury, 98; Joan Cleland, 99; Ann Pearson, 99; Becky Tenerowicz, 100; Mary Warnick, 100; Denise Buechel, 101; Kathy Brennan, 101; Mary Washington, 104; Monica Oliver, 107; Pat Shelton, 124.  
**Net winners:** 1. Lu Stockton, Canton; 2. Denise Buechel, Walled Lake; 3. Kathy Brennan, Plymouth;  
**Closest to the pin:** Cynthia Pinkard, Southfield; **Long drive:** Pinkard.

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**GET OUT**

Continued from Page B8

**HISTORY**

**PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday  
**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17. Free museum admission for active duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve and their families, from Memorial Day through Labor Day  
**Exhibit:** The Fair That Changed America runs to Nov. 1, and focuses on the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago, Ill. Many contemporary, commonplace objects were introduced at this World's Fair, including the Ferris wheel.  
**Contact:** 734-455-8940

**MUSIC**

**BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8  
**Location:** 240 N. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** Josh White, Jr., performs; \$20  
**Contact:** 734-404-6889; justgobarefoot.com

**BLUES@THE ELKS**

**Time/Date:** 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** Bring your dancing shoes. \$5 donation  
**Contact:** 734-453-1780

**CANTON COLOR TOUR**

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Friday, through Aug. 21  
**Location:** A different parking lot each week along Ford Road in Canton  
**Details:** Yancy, Aug. 7. Both perform at the Super Bowl, located between Canton Center and Sheldon. Charles & Gwen Scales perform Aug. 14 at JCPenney, located between Morton Taylor and Sheldon. Urban Jazz Coalition, Aug. 21, will be at Kroger, at Ford Road and Canton Center.  
**Contact:** shopcanton.org

**CANTON CONCERTS**

**Time/Date:** 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, through Aug. 13  
**Location:** Heritage Park, adjacent to the Canton Public Library on the campus of Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton  
**Details:** Greg Jaqua with an Elvis Presley Tribute, Aug. 6; and The Dan Rafferty Band, Aug. 13  
**Contact:** cantonfun.org

**CONCERT IN THE PARK**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11  
**Location:** Handy Park, 26650 Capitol at Hemingway, Redford Township  
**Details:** Persuasion, Aug. 11  
**Contact:** 313-387-2650



See Josh White, Jr., Saturday, Aug. 8, at Barefoot Productions in Plymouth.



Becky Copenhaver and Jerry Carney rehearse a scene from "Palliser Suite," for Better Than Ever Productions.



The Laugh Riot Dolls perform Aug. 15 at the Yellow Barn in Ann Arbor.

**JAZZ@THE ELKS**

**Time/Date:** 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres  
**Contact:** 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

**JAZZ IN THE PARK**

**Time/Date:** 4-7 p.m. Sunday, through August  
**Location:** Band shell at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth  
**Details:** Three different jazz acts perform each week at this free concert  
**Contact:** jazzinthepark.org

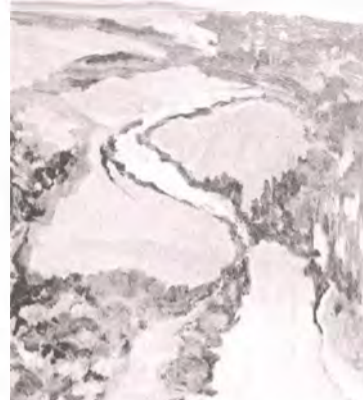
**MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC**

**Time/Date:** 6:15 p.m. Aug. 29  
**Location:** Grand Circus Park in Detroit in August  
**Details:** Mowtown, Mamma Mia and

More! will celebrate the music of the 1960s-'70s by such artists as The Supremes, Stevie Wonder, The Rolling Stones and The Temptations. Local vocalists, Kathryn Calzone, Lauren Norris and Taylor Wallis, will join the Michigan Philharmonic on the "Mamma Mia" finale. Concerts are free.  
**Contact:** 734-451-2112; michigan-phil.org

**MILFORD MEMORIES**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8  
**Location:** Beer tent at the festival, in downtown Milford. Park at Holden's Party Store, 2055 S. Milford Road or Milford High School, 2380 S. Milford Road to catch the shuttle  
**Details:** Local band Powerplay performs. Other performers during the festival, which runs Aug. 7-9 and includes an art show, are The Icemen, Dave Hardin, Leah and the Troublemakers, Lida Mary, Jon McAuliffe, Phoenix Theory, and more  
**Contact:** milfordmemories.com



"The Danube," and other paintings by Barbara White, are on display this month at Northville Art House.

through Aug. 26  
**Location:** Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth  
**Details:** Gemini, Aug. 12; Barbara Bailey Hutchinson, Aug. 19; Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic, Aug. 26  
**Contact:** plymoutharts.com  
**RHYTHMS IN RILEY PARK**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Friday, through Aug. 28  
**Location:** Downtown Farmington  
**Details:** Allie Louise, Aug. 7; Hullabaloo, Aug. 14; Twisted Root Revival, Aug. 21; Thurd Coast Kings, Aug. 28  
**Contact:** downtownfarmington.org  
**STARS IN THE PARK**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday through Aug. 27  
**Location:** Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Sonic Freeway, Aug. 6; Farmington Community Chorus, Aug. 13; Kathy Kosins, Aug. 20; L'USA, Aug. 27  
**Contact:** 248-473-1848  
**TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE**  
**Time/Date:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Open Stage, Aug. 18; Martyn Joseph with Jan Krist, Aug. 14. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted  
**Contact:** 734-464-6302 for additional information

**THEATER**  
**BETTER THAN EVER PRODUCTIONS**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 27-29 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30  
**Location:** Enter through door #13 at Plymouth Parks and Recreation Complex, 650 Church, Plymouth  
**Details:** The group performs "Palliser Suite," a comedy by Caroline Russell-King. Tickets are \$15  
**Contact:** betterthaneverprod.wix.com/btep or call Jeanne Pruet at 734-306-7883

**FARMINGTON PLAYERS**

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. registration, 7 p.m. start, Aug. 19-20  
**Location:** Farmington Players Barn, 32332 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Auditions for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* are Aug. 19 for youth, ages 12-16, and Aug. 20 for ages 16 and over. Participants will sing a short excerpt from one of the songs from the play. They'll learn a short dance combination and will audition the dance moves in a small group. They'll also read a monologue from the show  
**Contact:** farmingtonplayers.org

**PAUL'S PLAYERS**

**PENNY SEATS THEATRE**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Aug. 6-8 and 13-15  
**Location:** The West Park band shell, 215 Chapin, Ann Arbor  
**Details:** Tickets are \$7 and \$10 for *Urinetown, the Musical*.  
**Contact:** pennyseats.org

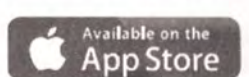


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GETTY IMAGES

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Love oatmeal? Try these variations made with milk and old-fashioned oatmeal. Together, milk and oats make a breakfast powerhouse delivering protein and other key nutrients Americans need, like fiber, potassium, calcium and vitamin D. Plus, when you make old-fashioned oatmeal with milk instead of water, you get 2.5 times the protein.

Try some of the recipes below to ensure a nutritious and delicious start to your day.

For more delicious oatmeal recipes with protein to power your morning, visit [MilkLife.com](http://MilkLife.com).

Courtesy of Family Features



### STRAWBERRIES 'N' CREAM OATMEAL

Recipe by *Kath Eats Real Food*  
Makes: 1 serving

**1/2 cup** Scottish oatmeal (or sub rolled oats)  
**1 cup** 2 percent milk  
**1 cup** fresh strawberries, sliced  
**1/2 cup** lowfat cottage cheese  
**1 teaspoon** vanilla extract  
**1 tablespoon** dry roasted almonds, chopped  
**1 tablespoon** shredded coconut  
**1 (8-ounce)** glass of milk, to serve with oatmeal

Combine oats and 1 cup of milk in saucepan over medium heat. Stir consistently as oatmeal begins to bubble.

Once oatmeal has reached desired consistency, about 5 minutes in, add strawberries, cottage cheese and vanilla. Stir to incorporate. Cook for one more minute. Remove from heat and pour into bowl. Top with almonds and coconut. Serve with remaining 8-ounce glass of milk.

*Nutrition: 560 calories; 20 g fat; 9 g saturated fat; 40 mg cholesterol; 32 g protein; 68 g carbohydrates; 9 fiber; 520 mg sodium; 696 mg calcium (70 percent of daily value). Nutrition figures based on using 2% milk, and include an 8-ounce glass of milk served with oatmeal.*



### BREAKFAST BARS

Servings: 8

**1 cup** old-fashioned or quick oats (not instant)  
**1 bag** mixed dried fruit (7 ounces)  
**1/2 cup** sugar  
**1/2 cup** shredded unsweetened coconut (optional)  
**1/2 cup** chopped walnuts (optional)  
**1/2 teaspoon** salt  
**1/2 teaspoon** ground cinnamon  
**1/2 cup** honey  
**2 tablespoons** olive oil  
**1/2 cup** unsweetened almond or peanut butter  
**1 tablespoon** lowfat or fat-free milk  
**1/2 teaspoon** vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°F; lightly coat an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with nonstick spray. In a bowl, toss together the oats, dried fruit, sugar, coconut, walnuts, salt, and cinnamon. Set aside.

In a second bowl, blend together the honey, olive oil, almond butter, milk, and vanilla. Pour honey mixture over the oat mixture and stir until completely coated. Pour mixture into prepared pan and press firmly. Bake for 20-25 minutes or until beginning to brown and turn bubbly. Remove from oven, let stand for 10 minutes, then cut while still warm. Let cool completely before removing from the pan. Store in air tight container. Bars will last up to a week.



### LEMON BLUEBERRY OATMEAL MUFFINS

**1-1/2 cup** Quaker Oats (quick or old fashioned, uncooked), divided  
**2 teaspoons** firmly packed brown sugar  
**1 cup** all-purpose flour (add an additional 2 tablespoons if using old fashioned oats)  
**1/2 cup** granulated sugar  
**1 teaspoon** baking powder  
**1/2 teaspoon** salt (optional)  
**1 cup** skim milk  
**2 egg whites** or **1/2 cup** egg substitute with yolk or **1 egg**  
**2 teaspoons** canola oil  
**1 teaspoon** grated lemon peel  
**1 teaspoon** vanilla  
**1 cup** fresh or frozen blueberries (do not thaw)

Heat oven to 400°F. Spray 12 medium muffin cups with cooking spray; set aside. For topping, combine 1/2 cup oats and brown sugar; set aside. In large bowl, combine remaining 1-1/2 cups oats with remaining dry ingredients; mix well. In small bowl, combine milk, egg substitute, oil, lemon peel and vanilla; mix well. Add to dry ingredients; stir just until moistened. Do not overmix. Gently stir in berries. Fill muffin cups almost full; sprinkle with topping. Bake 18 to 22 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool muffins in pan on wire rack 5 minutes. Remove from pan. Serve warm.



### SLOW-COOKER TROPICAL OATMEAL

Servings: 4

**1 cup** steel-cut oats  
**3 cups** lowfat or fat free milk  
**1/2 cup** salt  
**1 tablespoon** unsalted butter  
**3 tablespoons** brown sugar  
**1/2 cup** diced fresh pineapple  
**1 banana**, sliced  
**chopped pecans**, toasted

Combine oats, milk, and salt in a 2-1/2-quart slow cooker. Cover and cook at low heat for 6 to 8 hours. Before serving, melt butter in a small skillet over medium heat. Add the brown sugar and pineapple and cook just until pineapple starts to release its juices, about 2 minutes. Off heat, fold in the banana. Spoon topping and sprinkle with pecans.

*Nutrition: 240 calories; 4.5 g fat; 2 g saturated fat; 10 mg cholesterol; 9 g protein; 42 g carbohydrates; 3 g fiber; 0 mg sodium; 250 mg calcium (25 percent of daily value). Nutrition figures based on using fat free milk.*

