# WAYNE-WESTLAND

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2015 • hometownlife.com



Newlyweds play husband, wife on stage

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# City looks for Hawthorne demo price

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

After hearing two proposals for reusing the property, Westland is getting estimates for demolition of buildings at the former Hawthorne Valley restaurant and banquet center.

"We're trying to get some demolition people out to look it — also an asbestos abatement committee," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "Once we get those numbers, the property disposition committee can

After a recent proposal from House of Faith Ministries to purchase the property and rehabilitate the building, the matter was referred to the property disposition committee. The committee, which makes referrals to council on disposing of real estate, has a membership of Wild, Council President James Godbout, Finance Director Steve Smith, Planning/Building Director Bruce Thompson and the city assessor.

"At the end of the day, the city property is 14 acres and maybe half of that is developable," Wild said. "Increasingly, we have had to work on the building to secure it."

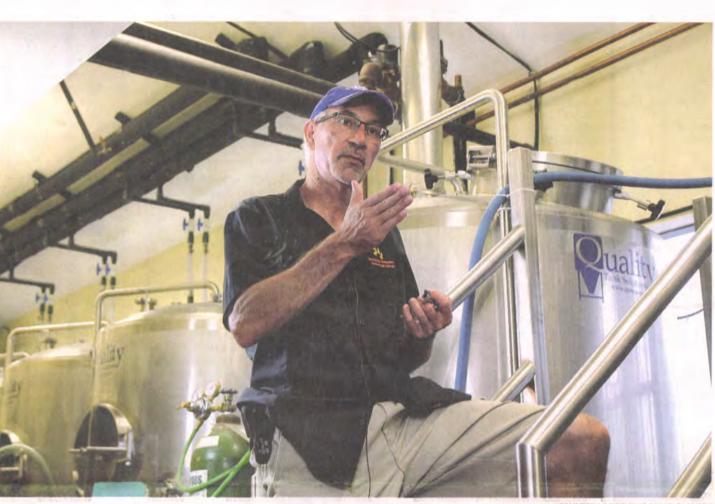
A case in point, was a recent incident when police were called to the building just before 2:30 a.m. Aug. 7. Police responded to find a vehicle parked outside the building and heard voices inside.

Four teens - an 18-year-old

See PROPERTY, Page A2



Talks continue disposition of the now closed Hawthorne Valley.



Tom Block, Of Block Brewing in Howell, will teach in the Schoolcraft program.

COURTESY OF SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

# Schoolcraft College launches brewing, distilling program

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

ich Weinkauf is ready to share a pint of beer made by students on Schoolcraft College's Livonia campus. The Schoolcraft College

vice president and chief academic officer will be one instructor teaching courses as a part of the college's new Brewing and Distillation Technology certificate program, which was announced Wednesday after receiving final approval from the Higher Learning Commission.

After looking at a study last year, Weinkauf said there were prospects for up to a 200-percent increase in jobs in making beer, and just under that for distilling, which led to an interest in starting a program at Schoolcraft.

Brewing had the biggest potential for jobs in the tri-county area," he said. "At the time, Michigan had about 190

breweries. The latest I talked to the Michigan Brewer's Guild, it's over 220

The 24-credit certificate program will help students learn the science of beer, brewhouse and marketing operations and packaging, among other skills. Adding other skills rather than just brewing was important to Weinkauf, who spoke to brewery owners to determine their needs before determining the program's components.

The first job you get at a brewery is probably not going to be a brewer,' Weinkauf said. "The first job you'll get is a packaging job. Or you'll work in a taproom, talking to customers." The program is limited to 24 stu-

dents in the fall, though Weinkauf hopes to double that by next year. Registration is currently open, and classes begin Aug. 31.

Weinkauf said he hopes to have taps

See BREWING, Page A4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Vice President for Instruction Rich Weinkauf explains the design of the brewing operation.

"The first job you get at a brewery is probably not going to be a brewer. The first job you'll get is a packaging job. Or you'll work in a taproom, talking to customers."

RICH WEINKAUF, Schoolcraft College vice president and chief academic officer

# Woman charged in shooting incident

A Westland woman has been arraigned on two felony charges over shots being fired from a moving vehicle.

The incident was reported just before 2 p.m. Aug. 9 as two cars driving recklessly in the area of Cherry Hill and Merriman with shots

being fired. During a subsequent traffic stop of one of the cars, Westland Police reported a front seat passenger had a 9mm handgun in her



Johnson

purse along with several live rounds and a spent shell casing on the front passenger seat

Victoria Johnson, 26, was arrested and later arraigned on two felonies: discharging a firearm in a vehicle and carrying a concealed weapon. Johnson allegedly was involved in an altercation with several females while at the Mobil Gas station at Cherry Hill and Mer-

See CHARGED, Page A2

# Senior scam hearing delayed

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

A preliminary examination for a Westland man charged with getting money from an elderly woman for work he never performed has been scheduled for Sept.17.

Tony Ross, 38, also known as Tony Miller, is facing felony charges of embezzlement from a vulnerable adult less than \$20,000, obtaining money under false pretenses and being a second-degree habitual offender. He entered a not guilty plea at his arraignment.

Free on bond, Ross waived his right to a preliminary examination within 14 days, which pushed back the hearing in Westland 18th District Court.

See HEARING, Page A2





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# Suspect sought for garage larceny

Westland Police are requesting the public's assistance identifying a suspect wanted in connection with a larceny from a garage.

At approximately 12:30 a.m. Aug. 8 a subject was captured on home security video riding a bicycle into a resident's open garage in the 34000 block of Stacy.

Once inside, police said he observes a back-

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pack leaf blower on the floor. The suspect then puts the leaf blower on his back, gets on his bicycle and leaves the location, police said.

Anyone with information regarding the identity of this subject should contact the Westland Police Department at 734-722-9600 or Sgt. Brian Humphrey at 734-

# **CHARGED**

Continued from Page A1

As all the parties involved left the scene in separate vehicles it is alleged that Johnson fired 4-5 shots

in the air from the moving vehicle.

Johnson was arraigned in the 18th District Court on Wednesday in front of Judge Sandra Cicirelli, who set bond for Johnson at \$25,000/10 percent and her exam date for Aug. 27.

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# Wayne woman wins Camaro raffle

A Wayne woman was the lucky winner of a 2010 Chevrolet Camaro courtesy of the Wayne Goodfellows. Carol Bevard's name was drawn at a recent concert in Goudy Park. The raffle is part of the fundraising efforts for the Wayne Goodfellows in their effort to make sure there are no kids without a Christmas.

# HEARING

Continued from Page A1

The charges are that Ross obtained \$3,500 from an 84-year-old widow after telling her she needed cement work. The woman, who lives alone, was reportedly driven to a nearby bank branch to get cash.



**Tony Ross** (Miller)

woman.

With her adult children living out of state, police said the woman

was aware that she was suffering from some dementia and had asked a neighbor to assist her with her finances.

As a result of the neighbor's access to the woman's banking records, she noticed the \$3,500 withdrawal and asked what had happened to the money. Neighbors were able to obtain a license plate number for

the suspect who police said returned to the home after repeatedly calling the elderly woman seeking more money.

It was through the license plate number that Westland Police located Ross, who was subsequently arrested.

lrogers@hometown.com 734-883-9039 Twitter: LRogers@Observer

# **PROPERTY**

Continued from Page A1

male from Westland and a Livonia male, also 18, and two 17-year old females, one from Livonia and one from Westland — exited the building. All four were arrested and charged with trespassing/ vandalism, with the Livonia girl also cited for underage drinking.

Police described three of the teens as recent Livonia Franklin High School graduates, the

other going starting her senior year at the school in the fall.

Regarding proposals to reuse the building, Wild said that he thought the assessments of the structure were likely not recent.

"I think the building has deteriorated since they were in it. The fire marshal said all the scrap metal is gone," Wild said. "We had the property appraised and the building is worth zero."

The land itself has been appraised at \$500,000. Along with the

church proposal, the city also had a presentation about a possible art center. Wild said there hasn't been any further information provided regarding that proposal.

How soon the property disposition committee will meet will depend on how quickly prices can be obtained for the demolition and asbestos abatement, Wild said.

Westland acquired 14.7 acres of the Hawthorne Valley property from a tax sale after the former banquet center/restaurant and nine-hole golf

course went into foreclosure. The city owns the restaurant building and the Merriman Road frontage.

As a result, the owners of the four other parcels that are the balance of the former golf course are effectively landlocked by the city. Much of the former golf course, which borders Hines Drive on the south, is un-buildable because it is part of the flood plain.

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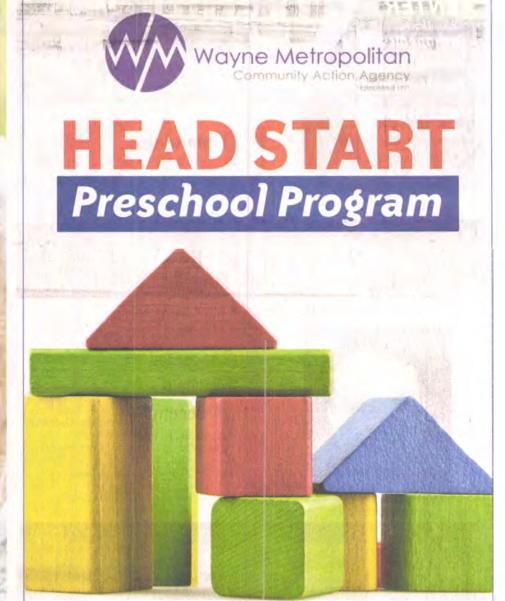
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# Movie night returns to Ford Field

Music. Games. And, of course, a movie. Those were just some of the fun activities many Livonia young people and their families enjoyed Thursday night at Ford Field, as Park It Family Fun Night returned to town.

Available were several games, live music and a showing of a movie in the park.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Livonia Fitness and Wellness Coordinator Scott Spahr helps 7-year-old Reagan Spurlock play Giant Jenga.

BILL BRESLER PHOTOGRAPHER Sixteenmonth-old Luciano Foster tries to get the hang of multiple hula hoops.





Kids and their families gathered for an evening of fun, music and a movie.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FunHouse, with Steve Thiem, and Jeff and Pam Polonis, entertain the crowd.





In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 502 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2006, as amended, and Articles XIX and XXIII of Ordinance #543, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, as amended, the City Planning Commission of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 1, 2015, in the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the following item:

Petition 2015-07-02-13 submitted by Panamera Motors requesting waiver use approval pursuant to Section 11.03(g) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, to operate a used auto dealership with outdoor display of vehicles at 35085 Plymouth Road, located on the south side of Plymouth Road between Wayne Road and Yale Avenue in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 33.

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

R. Lee Morrow, Chairman CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

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# Alumni show off their talents



CHRISTOPHER GUDDECK Gerry Wright looks at the homemade pens and woodworking of Michael Jose at the Alumni Arts and Crafts show.

CHRISTOPHER GUDDECK Keith Anleitner, Class of 1973, poses for a picture with Rick Shipley, festival organizer and Class of 1972 member.





West High School alum Kathy Carroll, Class of 1973, brought her homemade flag pallet artwork to the Garden City Alumni Arts and Crafts Festival at Garden City High School.

# 2 students receive AFPD Foundation scholarships

Two students from West-land and Canton have received academic scholarships from the Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers Foundation.

The scholarships were presented to Shelby Lawson of Westland and Olivia Tubaro of Canton at the seventh annual Joseph D. Sarafa Luncheon at the Detroit Athletic Club in

This year's keynote speakers were Earl Ishbia, owner of Sherwood Foods, and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan.

Tubaro is a sophomore at Central Michigan University where she is majoring in special education and English and minoring in Spanish. She graduated from Canton High School in 2014.

At CMU, she is involved in Colleges Against Cancer, Stu-dent Council for Exceptional Children, Organization of Women Leaders and Best Buddies. She volunteers for Special Olympics Michigan and is a Therapeutic Recreation Program Leader for Camp Leisure Club, a summer camp for individuals with disabilities.





Lawson

Tubaro

Lawson is a freshman at Schoolcraft College where she has made the Dean's List. She graduated from Wayne Memorial High School where she was president of three clubs. Her love of music has helped her achieve a high position in a Masonic Youth Organization called The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

Lawson also spends many hours heading committees to fundraise for charitable organizations, such as Angels from Above, Michigan Rainbow Connection and Special Olympics.

Each year, the AFPD Foundation awards academic scholarships, in the amount of \$1,500 each, to students throughout Michigan and Ohio.

# **BREWING**

Continued from Page A1

ready to pour beer at the American Harvest restaurant in the VisTaTech Center and sell it in six-packs and growlers at the college's Livonia campus on Haggerty sometime in 2016. Construction is being secured for adding the appropriate brewing equipment in the culinary arts department, and other permissions from the local to federal governments are still being secured.

Weinkauf said he's been in touch with several Michigan breweries, including Griffin

Claw in Birmingham, Witch's Hat in South Lyon and Short's in Bellaire. The reaction to the program, Weinkauf said, has been amazing.

"A lot of people are really helping with this," he said. "And I'm still not done. The brewing community, they're an awesome group of people.'

One of the first people he contacted was Joe Walters, brewmaster and general manager with Liberty Street Brewing Company, which has a pub in Plymouth and a production facility in Livonia.

He said he was excited when he heard about the program starting up in the fall and knows it's unique compared to other schools and their recent offerings for the beer industry.

"It's absolutely in very high demand. The other colleges

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Block Brewing, in Howell, Michigan.

COURTESY OF SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

are putting together two-year degrees," he said. "We don't need brewmasters, we need brewery workers, brewery employees.'

He'll also be involved in the

program, as he's been hired to instruct some coursework in the program.

The Livonia facility, which opened up earlier this year, will be where students will get

their immediate first-hand practice on crafting beer while work continues on Schoolcraft College's facility.

"You're going to be working with equipment. You're going to be pitching yeast, you're going to be counting yeast cells in the science class," Weinkauf said. "You're going to be doing all this stuff. It's really not aimed at bookwork and the-

ory."
Having a bigger candidate field to pick from will be beneficial to the Michigan craft beer industry, Walters said, and will result in better products overall.

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# Second marriages have financial consequences

Q: Dear Rick: Five years ago after 25 years of marriage, my husband I divorced. It was pretty amicable and under the terms I got our house, free and clear, along with alimo-ny. In addition, I received child support. When the Supreme Court voted to allow gay marriage, my lover and I decided to marry. We have been living together for about three years. My ex-husband, who was actually at my marriage ceremony, has stopped paying my alimony. Unfortunately, our divorce agreement allows him to do that. Is that legal, and is there anything I can do? If I don't get that money, I will have to sell our house. Even though I got the house, if I sell it I owe him one-third of the proceeds. Since he stopped my alimony am I required to give him that money?

A: Your ex-husband is correct. Provisions that end alimony upon remarriage are the norm. Therefore, he is well



Bloom MONEY MATTERS

within his rights to stop the alimony.

With regard to the provisions on the house, you are obligated under your divorce agreement to pay him that amount. The fact that he is no longer required to pay you alimony has nothing to do with this provision.. If you decide not to pay him his share, you are opening yourself up to a

We live in very complex times, particularly when it comes to marriage. When someone decides to get married later in life, they must consider a whole host of issues such as how the marriage will affect health care, government benefits and, yes, even divorce settlements.

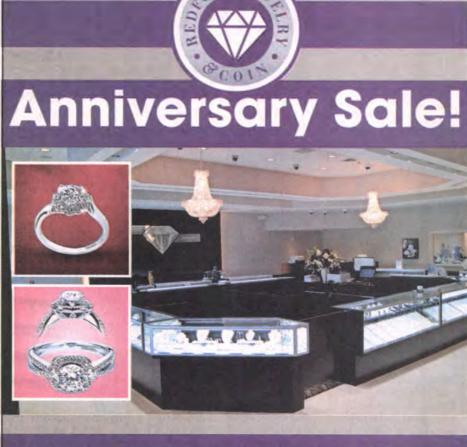
Many times throughout my career I've had to instruct people on the negative consequences of getting married. I remember one person, as

an example, that had a Cadillac health care plan that they would lose if they got remarried. I recognize that many of you may say that it is not fair that someone should have to consider these issues before they get married. I may agree with you, but that isn't the issue. The reality of the situation is that marriages have consequence.

Also, when someone decides to marry later in life it is important to review all prior beneficiary designations on IRA's 401K's and life insurance policies. Make sure your primary and secondary beneficiaries are accurate. Don't forget if you have any outstanding estate planning documents such as a will or medical or durable power of attorney, that those documents are also up to date.

Good luck.

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



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# Colbeck to meet with constituents in Livonia



Colbeck

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and District Manager Penny Crider will hold their monthly office hour from 11 a.m. to noon Friday, Aug. 21, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia.

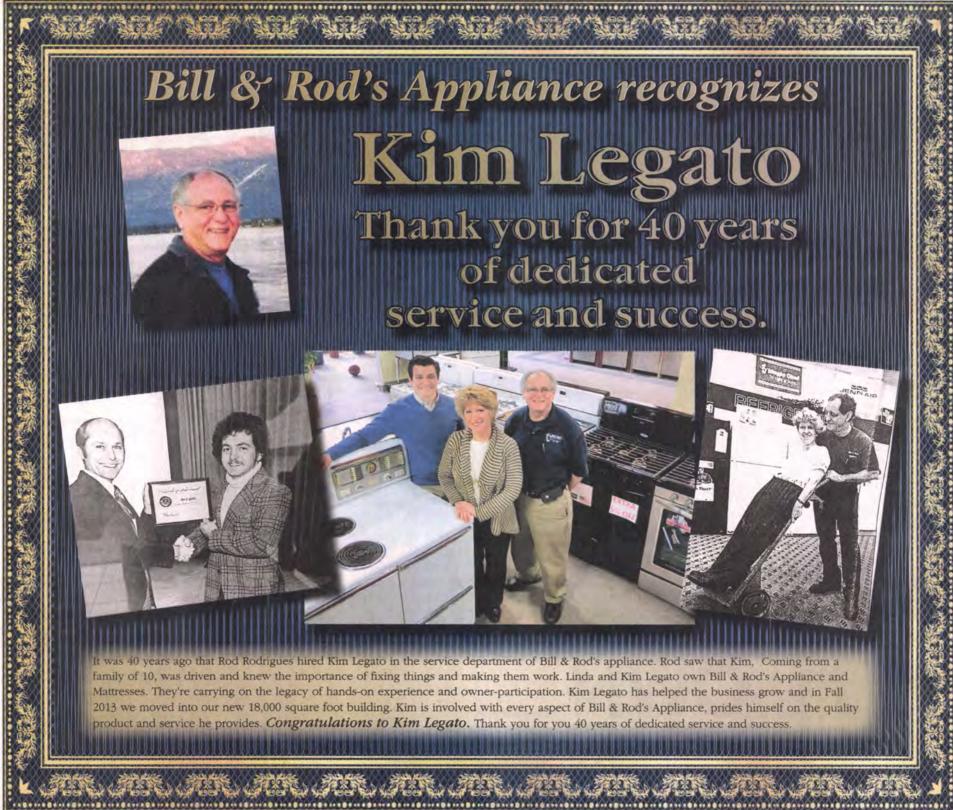
Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. The public is welcome, and no appointment is neces-

"I encourage anyone who needs help or wants to express a viewpoint to stop by," said Colbeck,

R-Canton. "I'm looking forward to continuing a regular series of office hours throughout the district and hearing directly from constituents about state and pocketbook issues."

Colbeck represents the 7th Senate District, which encompasses the cities of Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne, as well as the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth.

For more information or to contact Colbeck, visit www.Senator PatrickColbeck.com or call 517-373-5713.





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# Livonia woman takes teaching assignment in Uganda

By Diane K. Bert Correspondent

At the 175th Anniversary celebration at Franklin Community Church, Pastor Lynn Hasley wished longtime member Kelsey Brichford, 22, a safe, fulfilling experience teaching in Uganda.

In early 2015, Brichford, a recent Eastern Michigan University graduate, served as a missionary for three months at the Show Mercy International organization in Uganda. She hoped to return to the central African country.

"I loved working there. I found it such a pleasure to see the happy smiles of the children

and the friendly attitudes of the elderly. Every day I was excited to get up. I knew I had to go back," Brichford said.

After being very active in the Livonia community in music activities, Franklin Community Church and at Stevenson High School, Brichford's talent and experiences in jazz and orchestral music led to her music major at Eastern Michigan University.

Brichford graduated as a voice and instrumental music teaching major in December. Looking for opportunities, she saw an ad for an opening at the Rainbow International School, a prestigious international British school in Kampala, Uganda. It is considered one of the best schools in Africa, serving primary through secondary level local and "expat" students. In the parlance of people working internationally, expat is short for expatriates. At the international school, 60 nationalities are represented. Teaching is done in English.

She is already aware of one aspect of working in Uganda. One of the descriptions of life there states, "You will witness varying degrees of inequality, corruption and underdeveloped infrastructure."

After successfully applying for a job as a middle school vocal music teacher, Kelsey left



SUBMITTED Kelsey Brichford of Livonia has taken a teaching assignment at the Rainbow International School, a prestigious international British school in Kampala, Uganda.

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SPAY · NEUTER · DENTAL · SPECIAL OFFERS **BOARDING & GROOMING • REASONABLE RATES**  last week to begin working. She flew to Boston to begin her 17-hour flight to Dubai, had an overnight layover, and then flew for five more hours to Entebbe, Uganda. She joined one of her colleagues in Boston for the long journey.

"I'll be living in my own house furnished by the school. I'll have to boil the tap water prior to drinking or cooking with it. The whole two years I am there, I'll be taking anti-malaria medicine and sleeping under mosquito netting," Brichford said of her living arrangements.

Brichford also will take her violin and ukulele. She took her ukulele before. The people were not familiar with it. She called it her little guitar. One of her favorite activities was making up songs about the children and singing with them. They loved it, also.

On weekends, Brichford is planning to return to the village where she did mission work.

"I had such a great relationship with the

people there; it will be great to go back." Kelsey is taking her fine new camera with her. "I'll take appealing photos of the children so the Show Mercy International staff can promote the idea of recruiting supporters for \$35 a month for children. I am supporting a child now. My family is, also."

Brichford's mother Debra visited her in Uganda.

'We supported Kelsey's idea of doing mission work, expecting it would be in the United States," she said. "It made us nervous to think of her in Africa. I decided to go to experience it myself and see what her life was like. That was a good decision. I saw her in action with the children, how the children loved her and what a difference she was making. I'll visit her this time, too. We can communicate through Skype, smart phones, and can text daily."

Brichford's father Mark said, "We are comfortable with her working at the school and so

very, very proud of her." Brichford has fond memories of her interaction with villagers in Kawanswa/Kaliti. On three occasions she was asked to name children. One family had daughters named Rebecca and Rachel. They wanted another R name for their new baby girl. Brichford suggested Ruth and the family was delighted. By naming the child, Brichford became her god-

mother. In March, Brichford will visit a friend in India. She is already anticipating adventures and becoming involved in helping improve the lives of the orphans and abandoned children of the village in which she did mission work.

The path she has chosen certainly differs from that of most recent college graduates. Her hope is to make the world a better place for this under-served population in Uganda while also providing a fine education for the students at the Rainbow International School.



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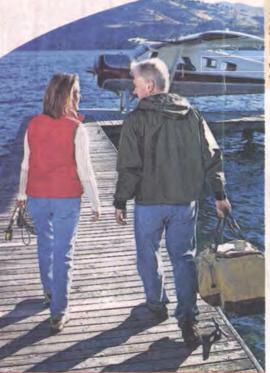


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They are also registered representatives of Thrivent Investment Management Inc., 625 Fourth Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55415. For additional important information, visit Thrivent.com/disclosures.

Tuesday, August 18 4:30pm or 6:30pm **Redford Township Public Library** 25320 W. Six Mile Rd Redford, MI 48240

Thursday, August 20 6:00PM **Allen Park Public Library** 8100 Allen Rd Allen Park, MI 48101

Tuesday, August 25 5:00pm or 7:00pm **Westland City Hall** 36300 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185

27623FA R3-15



The Bennett Arboretum in Northville is the oldest arboretum in Michigan.

WAYNE COUNTY PARKS

# Wayne County Parks offers nature walks, historical program



WAYNE COUNTY PARKS

Among the trees that can be found in the arboretum is the musclewood tree, Carpinus caroliniana.

Looking for something new to do this summer? Wayne County Parks has a variety of nature programs for people of all ages to try.

On tap is a Family Nature Hike from 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Holliday Nature Preserve in Westland. Join a parks naturalist for a walk in the nature preserve and learn about the many plants and animals that live there.

Bug spray and good walking boots or shoes are recommended. Meet at the Cowan section of the Holliday Nature Preserve on Central City Parkway between Wayne and Warren roads. This program is recommended for ages 7 to adult.

The cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult and pre-registration is required.

Other program in-

» Botany Hike - Deciduous Tree Collections, 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Bennett Arboretum in Northville. The arboretum was developed in the 1930s as part of the Middle Rouge Parkway. Many rare trees from around the world were planted here, as well as maple, oak and beech collections.

Participants will hike the hilly terrain to see what trees remain today and explore new plantings. Meet at the Disc Golf parking lot, off of Hines Drive, north of Six Mile Road. Insect repellent is recommended. The cost is \$2 per adult and pre-registration is required.

» French Fur Trading History Program 1-2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29. The French arrived in the Great Lakes as early as the 1500s.

Their influence in the region is still evident today. Learn why Michigan was significant in the fur trade at this presentation at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. This program is recommended for adults.

The cost is \$2 per adult and pre-registration is required.

Register for these programs by calling 734-



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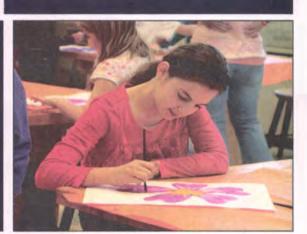
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# Independent filmmaker takes on sex trafficking

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Write

The film Paid in Full proves three things: sex trafficking is a big issue, minorities and women are more than capable of playing lead roles in movies, and Novi has its own creative, independent filmmaker.

Nipa Shah, a Novi resident, is the producer of this new film that was made entirely in Michigan with some help from Hollywood talent.

Shah said Paid in Full presents a unique look into sex trafficking. which is a global, multibillion dollar industry. It's a crime drama, about two sisters, a beat-up cop, and the struggles these characters find themselves in against with the massive crimi-

nal sex trafficking ring. The film takes a



Nipa Shah

serious look into some subject matter that is disturbing and in which more awareness has to be raised," Shah said. The underlying mes-

sage in the film is that girls as young as 12 to 14 are victimized right here in the United States, many due to isolation

and loneliness, Shah said. According to her,

Michigan is said to be number two in the country for sex-trafficking activity. Raising awareness about this has become an important cause for Shah. Some of the profits from the film will go to help organizations taking on the issues of sex trafficking.

This is also a film that Shah has put her all into. As an Indian-American woman, Shah said she faced some big challenges in getting the film done, from financing to people taking her seriously as a filmmaker.

"People need to know that minorities and woman can make important things happen. I hope this film is a reminder of that," Shah said.

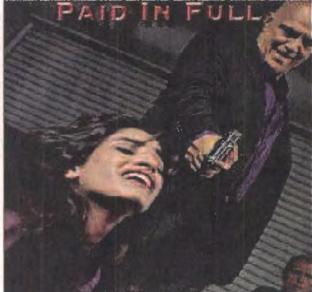
After a career in marketing, it was her daughter's desires to be an

actress that led her to take on such a big project as producing an independent film. She wanted to help her daughter because she believed in her talents as an actress,

"I thought-let's make one ourselves," Shah said.

The film is a noire crime thriller packed with action and drama. The story begins when a young girl dies under mysterious circumstances, and the police are unhelpful in finding the culprits, her older sister takes matters into her own hands, and takes revenge against a gang of sex-traffickers.

The synopsis for the film: Rani and Mili are sisters and best friends. While Rani is busy with her life, Mili becomes isolated and lonely, and unwittingly becomes a victim to a charming sex-trafficker, Sam ( Dumb & Dumber fame, Zen Gesner). Mili dies at the hands of one of Sam's clients. Rani is devastated and seeks to avenge her sister's death. Enter Jack (Mean Girl's fame, Jonathan Bennett), an ex-cop, and



COURTESY

The film poster for "Paid in Full," a movie about sex trafficking.

someone who is facing his own demons. Rani's search leads her to John Desmond ( *Django Un*chained fame, James Russo), a ruthless sex trafficker. Rani's journey also becomes Jack's, and together they avenge Mili's death, and in the process, also uncover a sex-trafficking ring operating in their midst.

The film is funded almost entirely by Shah

with some help from fundraising. It's ready for distribution and is being submitted to Toronto, London, Raindance, New York, and Chicago film festivals.

Its Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/ stopgirltraffickingnow.

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# Franklin grad mentors teen girls in STEM program

Ki-Jana Malone, a graduate of Livonia Franklin High School, recently mentored students as part of the GO-GIRL (Gaining Options-Girls Investigate Real Life) program on Wayne State University's main campus.

The Westland resident is an alumna of the program herself and is now paying forward what she's learned. A biology major at Wayne State,

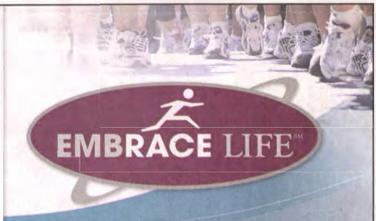


Ki-Jana Malone (center) of Westland mentors students as part of the GO-GIRL (Gaining Options-Girls Investigate Real Life) program on Wayne State University's main campus.

she aspires to be an OB/ GYN doctor.

GO-GIRL exposes girls to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Summer academy participants worked with human brains as part of the "Neurons to Whole Brain" session led by WSU's Dr. Rita Kumar, assistant professor in the departments of Emergency Medicine and Physiology.

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FREE Information Session on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m. Livonia Campus, Applied Science Building, Room 940.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

FREE Information Session on Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m. Livonia Campus, Jeffress Center, Room 103.

DEMENTIA CARE

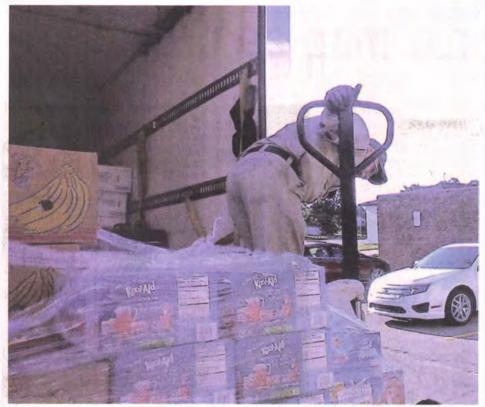
FREE Information Session on Saturday, October 3rd @ 11 a.m. Livonia Campus, Biomedical Technology Center, Room 200.



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Drink boxes are unloaded for summer school students at Churchill High School.

# Livonia Goodfellows help feed summer school students

The Livonia Goodfellows are best known for ensuring every needy child has a Christmas, but this summer they helped provide lunches for summer school students.

Prior to this year, students in summer school primarily had only vending machines from which to purchase items, assuming they had sufficient funds. Occasionally, clubs would come in with food items to sell as fundraisers. When kids are not hungry, they can concentrate more on the lessons, said Kevin Reina, the leader of the Livonia Public Schools Sum-

mer School program. The Goodfellows approached the Livonia Public Schools as to how best to provide food for students during the summer, said Livonia Goodfellows President Bill

With the assistance of Karen Ling, Summer School director, and Lisa Wilson, LPS Student Assistance coordinator, it was decided to provide the food where students would be, as opposed to having students come to

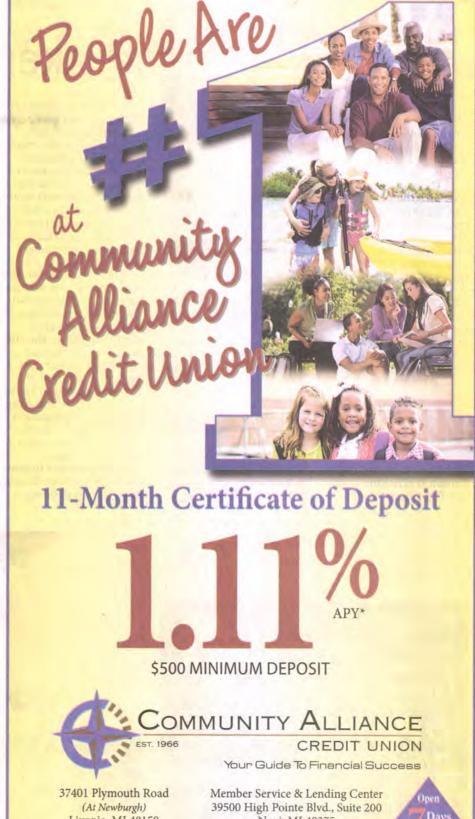
a specified location. The Goodfellows then approached Forgotten Harvest, who advised it had a summer lunch program in several areas within southeast Michigan and could provide the required quantity to feed students from the three Livonia high schools who would be attending summer school at Churchill High School.

Forgotten Harvest provided a meat-andcheese sandwich, fruit, pouch drink and sweet item to feed all the students in summer school for each of the 20 days of school. For each day of school, the Goodfellows

took the items provided, placed them in a brown bag, added condiments and a napkin, and pre-sented the lunches to the students during the short time the students had between the two classes they were taking.

Reina strongly expressed his appreciation for what had been done to feed the students and for the positive impact it had on student behavior and performance.

While the Livonia Goodfellows concentrate primarily on their Christmas-related effort, they continue to be involved in helpful endeavors like the summer school lunch program throughout the year. Contributions can be made to the Goodfellows at P.O. Box 51982, Livonia, MI 48151. Forgotten Harvest also welcomes contributions at 21800 Greenfield, Oak Park, MI 48237.



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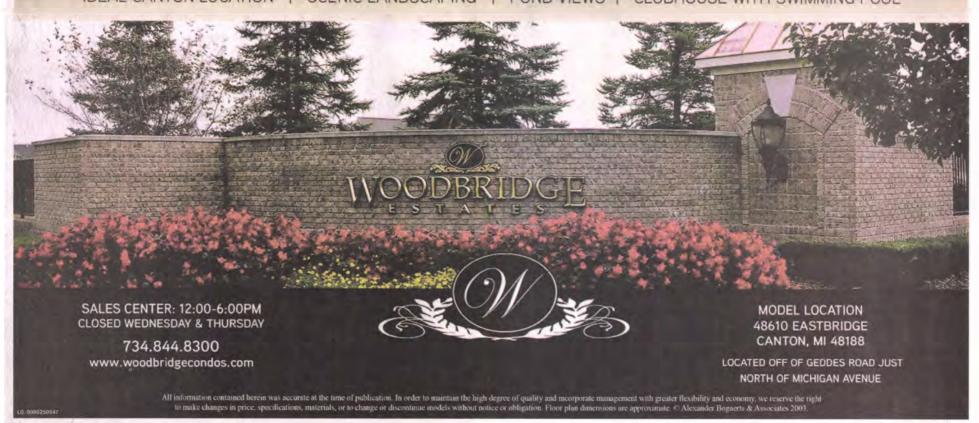


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# Adcraft Club taps Livonia man as president

The Adcraft Club of Detroit, Metro Detroit's association for marketing and advertising professionals, has selected Eric Kracht of Livonia as its president for the 2015-16 year.

Kracht began his oneyear term as president in July after moving through the ranks of the Adcraft board of directors as corporate secretary, second vice president and first vice president, following Adcraft succession policy. He was first appointed to Adcraft's board of directors in 2007 and elected to a two-year term in 2008.

"Adcraft has been a

significant contributor to my professional development," Kracht

Kracht

said. "I'm looking forward to leading the club that has given so much to me and ensuring it continues as a resource for current and future Detroit advertising professionals.

Kracht's involvement with the club spans throughout his career with a focus on leading the club's educational programming and events

as co-chair of its program and education committees. During his time on the board, his contributions included transforming Adcraft's "Advertising as a Career Symposium" into the current "AdCon" student conference as well as transitioning the "Northwood Study Program" into "AdVance," a 10week program that provides professional development opportunities to younger Adcraft mem-

He also contributed to the development of Adcraft's Executive Learning Series, an ongoing professional development program for Adcraft members, and the club's AdValanche ski

trip.
Prior to his time on the board, Kracht spent three years on the Adcraft PM Committee, the club's social and civic arm, including one year as chair. He also served on the Adcraft Club's Program, Membership, Roster Sales, Special Events, Centennial, Nominating and Education committees and chaired the annual Oktoberfest event for three years.

"Eric has repeatedly demonstrated strong leadership skills throughout our years working

together and has contributed significantly to expanding professional development opportunities to our members. outgoing president Phil Rzepka said. "I'm confident he will continue to lead the club in the right direction and look forward to exciting developments ahead.

Kracht is currently Vice President, Sales for Fox Networks, including Fox Broadcasting, Fox Sports, FX Networks and National Geographic Channels. Previously, he was an account executive for National Geographic Channels and FX Networks. Prior to joining

FOX, he spent time work-ing for the online media solutions company, Phase2Media.

Established in 1905, the Adcraft Club of Detroit brings together members of the media, advertising and agency community to exchange ideas, support and educate one another as means of evolving their own professional development and the creative industry they are a part

With 2,100 plus members, the Adcraft Club of Detroit houses some of the most well-respected and established consumer brands in the world.

# Zeal's Cybulski honored as NYIB Volunteer of Year

Jeremy Cybulski, youth and community development coordinator for Zeal Credit Union, was awarded Outstanding Volunteer of the Year by the National Youth Involvement Board during the organization's

in San Antonio, Texas.

The NYIB provides resources to encourage youth participation in the credit union movement and to promote financial literacy.

Cybulski received the award for his involvement and work with Zeal Credit Union's student credit union program in local schools and for his numerous financial presentations. He also used a recent appearance on the national TV show Wheel of Fortune to support and raise funds for the NYIB scholarship program.

At the conference, Cybulski was also elected to serve on the executive committee of the NYIB as the North Central Regional Coordinator, to represent states in the region and to speak on behalf of financial literacy and ad-

> vocacy. "We are extremely proud of Jeremy, who is very deserving of these honors," said Lisa Fawcett, vice president of

Cybulski

marketing for Zeal Credit Union. "He is very dedicated to helping youth secure their financial future. His passion and hard work exemplify the values of Zeal Credit Union and our members.'

Zeal Credit Union is a full-service, nonprofit financial institution with assets exceeding \$513 million and maintains 11 full-service branch offices in metro Detroit.

Members also have access to more than 5,000 shared branches and nearly 30,000 ATMs nationwide. Member deposits are insured to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), a U.S. government agency.

For more information about Zeal Credit Union,

www.zealcreditunion.org or call 800-321-8570.



Trott holding service academy application reception

Trott

U.S. Rep. Dave Trott, who represents the 11th Congressional District, will hold U.S. Service Academy application reception Thursday at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. The event will take place from 4-5:30 p.m. in the VisTaTech

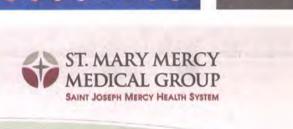
Center at 18600 Haggerty.

The reception is an opportunity for students and parents who are interested in a nomination to the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force, Merchant Marine, and Coast Guard academies to learn

more about the process and apply for a nomination.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Trott's district office at 248-528-0711 for more information or to request an application.

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# Upcoming Presentations:

Sept. 16: Meadowbrook Country Club 40941 Eight Mile Road, Northville

Oct. 14: Cantoro Italian Market II 15550 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth

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

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

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# Yankee Air Museum rededicates former bomber plant

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

Randy Hotton was in his element.

Standing inside the gutted shell of a 144,000square-foot section of the former Willow Run Bomber Plant, the Canton resident pointed out features of the original plant that were uncovered during the cleanup of the building that's destined to become the National Museum of Aviation and Technology.

"It had wooden blocks for a floor so it wouldn't be damaged if the workers dropped tools," Hotton said. "The factory had a wooden floor up to where the planes were fueled before leaving.

Hotton, board member and treasurer of the Yankee Air Museum, Yankee Air Museum founder Dennis Norton and Save the Bomber Plant Campaign co-chair Bob Lutz, were among a group of special guests who gathered recently to rededicate the former bomber plant

Built by the Ford Motor Company, the plant used Henry Ford's massproduction technology to build B-24 bomber planes for World War II. More than 8,600 B-24s had been built at Willow Run, and by 1944 it was producing one plane every

The unveiling of a marker designating Willow Run as a Michigan Historic Site served as the groundbreaking ceremony for the museum. The marker isn't new. It was moved to the plant and placed on a temporary stand for the cere-

"Many of you weren't here the day after the fire, many of you weren't here the night of the fire," said Kevin Walsh, the museum's executive director. "It wasn't a matter of if, it was a matter of how we would rebuild. There was never an if spoken. Ten years later, we have found the perfect place for the museum.'

# After the fire

Walsh was talking about a devastating fire in October 2004 that destroyed the hangar that had been the museum's home. Volunteers were able to save the B-25, the Yankee Warrior, the B-17, the Yankee Lady, and a C-47 troop transport plane, the Yankee Doodle Dandy.

Volunteers regrouped and the museum reopened in 2010. But since the fire it has moved three times and is currently spread out over

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four locations at Willow Run Airport.

"We can't maximize our potential, but with this 144,000 square feet we can," Walsh said. "Coming back to one location will show what this location is capable of doing.

"This is a very important day to all of us in the museum who have been working on this for four years now," Norton said.

"Today is like a homecoming for us and this will be home in two-three years," added Ray Hunter, YAM board chairman. "When Dennis Norton started the Yankee Air Museum 30 years ago, his plan was to bring home a Ford built B-24. There are only four Fordbuilt bombers left — one in Canada, one in Mississippi and two in England. If the planets and the stars line up and we have a benevolent sponsor, we'll bring one back to Willow Run.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, who was instrumental in getting the remaining money needed to buy the plant from RACER Trust, said the museum is representative of the "cando" spirit and the "sizzle" that's coming to Michigan with the growth of the aerospace industry.

"I remember the first time I looked at the building and we talked about what's next," he said. "I looked at what was going on at the plant and your we-can-do-it' spirit. I thought it was impossible, but you did it."

## **Getting started**

Work has already started to enclose and prepare the building. The new museum will be located in what was the tail end of the former assembly line. According

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF WAYNE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

TO ALL CREDITORS:

Notice To Creditors: The decedent, KAREN D. BAY, died 06/16/2015. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Suzanne M. Anthony, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 26/325 Franklin Terrace, South Lyon, MI 48178 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

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Personal Representative Name

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YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, waits with the Tribute Rosies for the unveiling of the relocated historical marker.



YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

The re-dedication ceremony was held in front of the hangar doors where B-25 bombers rolled off the assembly line during World War II.

to Hotton - who is writing a book about Willow Run for Arcadia Press the future museum is only 3 percent of the original factory.

When it was built, it was the largest plant under a single roof in the world," he said. "It was so immense."

According to Hotton,

the government gave

Henry Ford \$200 million "for a project that was designed on the back of hotel stationary." Ford needed 3,200 feet for the assembly line. In cleaning up the building in advance of the work to turn it into a museum, the original track used to pull the planes down the



YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

The Yankee Air Museum plans to locate the historical marker at the portion of the Willow Run Bomber Plant that is the the future National Museum of Aviation and Technology.

assembly line was uncov-

Hotton has more than the YAM connection to the plant. His father, a tool-and-die maker, went to work there in 1941.

"All my life, he'd come here and say 'I worked here,' " Hotton said. "I've been fascinated with it since my first exposure to it. I'm so excited to save the place. It's a story that needs to be told."

YAM already has raised \$8 million to purchase and enclose the building. It is now in the process of raising another \$5 million to build the interior facilities and exhibits. Information on how to make donations can be found at www.savethebomberplant.org.

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INVITATION TO BID Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Dorsey Center, 32150 Dorsey, Westland, MI 48186, on August 28th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

JEFFERSON BARNS COMMUNITY CENTER MECHANICAL AND HVAC SYSTEMS PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at <a href="https://www.cityofWestland.com">www.cityofWestland.com</a>. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams City Controller

Published: August 16th, 2015

# CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on September 2nd, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.
(no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

JOINT AND CRACK SEALING

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

> Devin J. Adams City Controller

Published: August 16, 2015

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

To all residents and interested parties: Legal notices are available for review at our website.

The minutes (including approved ordinances) from regular and special Council meetings are available at:

www.gardencitymi.org/minutes Current requests for bids and proposals are available

at: www.gardencitymi.org/bids You may also access this information at Garden City City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or

in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.

Published: August 16, 2015



# Get out hogs and helmets for first 'Ride for Red Shield'



The Plymouth Salvation Army's Sandy Kollinger is ready for the inaugural "Ride for the Red Shield," Aug. 22.

By Joanne Maliszewski Staff Writer

Sandy Kollinger will be on her Honda Shadow on Saturday, Aug. 22, in the Plymouth Salvation Army's inaugural "Ride for the Red Shield."

She will be joined by her husband and dad, as well as at least 11 other motorcyclists - so far and a minimum of four Wayne County Sheriff's deputies, members of the department's motorcycle unit, as the procession begins in Plymouth and heads to Wyandotte for this first-time fundraising event.

"It's exciting and nervous and everything in between," said Kollinger, Salvation Army volunteer and special events coordinator.

Kollinger, who began motorcycling about five years ago, had been

thinking of a ride to help raise money for the Salvation Army. She finally took pen to paper and planned it this year.

The ride has a number of purposes. The first is fun. The second is a fundraiser. Thirdly, Kollinger and other Salvation Army officials want to get new groups of people - such as motorcyclists - familiar with the Army and its programs.

'Anything the Salvation Army does is about awareness," she said. "We want to get the community to see what we

Kollinger has quite a ride planned for participants. When she asks folks to get their hogs out, she's not talking farm animals. By the way, it's still open for more riders right up to the morning they gather at the Plymouth Salvation Army,

9451 S. Main Street.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast for all riders and their passengers. Tours of the corps community center and information about the Salvation Army's programs and services will be offered prior to the ride. Registered riders will depart from Plymouth at 11 a.m., escorted by the Wayne County Sheriff's Motorcycle Unit.

Motorcyclists will start down Ann Arbor Trail and take a break with refreshments at the Dearborn Public Schools Career Center in Dearborn Heights and then head down Outer Drive, a bit of the Southfield Freeway, to Biddle and, finally, Wyandotte and the Salvation Army's community center there. A barbecue lunch will be served in Exchange Park

right behind the Salvation Army.

"When the barbecue is over, everyone is free to go on their way," Kollinger said.

The event is \$25 for motorcyclists and \$15 for passengers. Each rider and passenger will receive an event T-shirt. "Ride for the Red Shield" proceeds will support programs and services offered at the Salvation Army of Plymouth and the Salvation Army of Wyandotte corps community center.

Thunder Valley Powersports, Inc. in Plymouth is a supporter of this event.

For more information about the event or to register, contact Kollinger at 734-453-5464, ext. 24, or Janice Quick at 734-282-0930, ext. 100.

jmaliszews@michigan.com

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

and Sept. 27. The Livonia His-The Community Calendar runs in the Observer as space pertorical Commission will be mits. Nonprofit groups and novelty at the AJ Geer Store; community organizations are welcome to submit news of just show your paid admission upcoming events. Include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email address is: in the fall on Sept. 27, Oct. 4, ksmith@hometownlife.com

#### **GREENMEAD SUNDAY TOURS**

Time/date: 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16, 23, 30.

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

Details: All tours start at the Gift Shop, the building closest to the stop sign, about in the middle of the park. "Ice Cream" Sundays will be held Aug. 30

treating guests to an ice-cream pass. Cost is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students. Tours will also be held Dec. 6 and 13.

#### Contact: 248-477-7375. **WIDOWED MEN &** WOMEN

Time/date: 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19.

Location: Eastside Mario's, 31630 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Details: Widowed Friends, a peer support group, invites those widowed for lunch and friendship. Six items to choose from; unlimited salad or soup and much more for \$15. Meet

new widowed friends in a safe setting.

Contact: RSVP to Elaine at 734-717-0303

**GLUTEN FREE PICNIC** 

Time/date: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 22 Location: Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile.

Details: The Tri-County Celiac Support Group is hosting a Gluten Free Picnic at the pavilion in Heritage Park. Gluten free hot dogs, buns and condi-ments will be provided. Bring your own paper products, drinks, eating utensils and any side dish you wish to eat. Bring bathing suits and there is a children's playground also. There is a \$5 fee per family at

Contact: RSVP to Ellen Hechler at ellenhec@hotmail.com. NEW HOPE FAMILY

**FUN FESTIVAL** Time/date: 4-8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30.

Location: Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold, Northville

Details: This festival is a fundraiser and outreach event for New Hope Center for Grief Support with activities for adults and children including: live music from the Shawn Riley Band, a Planet Fitness activity zone, science activities from the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, interactive games, raffle prizes, barbecued food and a candlelit memorial tribute that evening. An additional portion will include a dunk tank in which attendees will have the option to raise money to get themselves dunked or donate to have a specific individual dunked. There will also be a station available for individuals to decorate luminary bags in memory of a loved one they have lost and participate in a

lighting ceremony that evening.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10

for teens and free for kids

under 12. To purchase tickets, www.newhopecenter.net/rsvp

or call 248-348-0115. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Contact: www.newhopecenter.net.

CULINARY **EXTRAVAGANZA 2015** Time/date: 2-5 p.m. Sunday,

Location: Schoolcraft College's

VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. Details: The Schoolcraft College Foundation presents Culinary Extravaganza 2015 — a celebration of food and wine that benefits students by providing scholarship support. features some of Metro De-

Tickets are \$60 per person, and troit's best restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors. A silent auction with sports tickets, sport memorabilia, travel and theater and food packages is also planned. Raffle tickets featuring cash prizes and dinners at the American Harvest Restaurant are available for \$5 each or 3 for \$10. The drawing is held between 4-5 p.m. the day of event. The raffle grand prize is \$1,500, second prize is

\$750 and third prize is \$500. Three prizes of dinner for two at American Harvest are also available. For ticket information, contact Mary Holaly at 734-462-4518.

#### **CRAFT SHOW**

Time/date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10. Location: St. Theodore Social

Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Tables available for \$25 each. Sponsored by St. Theodore Confraternity of Christian Women.

Contact: Mary Allsteadt at 425 4421 (vm#10).

### FARMERS MARKET

Time/date: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday through Oct. 10. Location: Wilson Barn, 29350 W. Chicago, Livonia.

Details: Locally grown produce, honey, home-baked items and American-made crafts. Free activities this year include a Kids' Corner with special craft projects from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 29. The market will be closed for the holiday Sept. 5.

Contact: www.wilsonbarn.com.

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 Property taxes captured:

Revenue

Bond Reserve

Expenditures Landscaping, maintenance, banners, consulting/engineering, capital improvements

and facade improvements: Outstanding note indebtedness

Initial Assessed Value

Captured Value Tax Increment Revenue Received From Wayne County:

From Township and Library:

Number of Jobs Created

Additional Information

395.92 Marquee of Redford Township Revenue: 8,251.00

Total: \$ 0

\$ 0.00

3,284,440.00 4,772,337.00

169,920,57

128,279.37

58,589.33 102,684.32

161,273.65

If you have any questions pertaining to this report, please contact the Downtown Development Authority at 313-387-2771.

Michael Dennis, Director Downtown Development Authority Charter Township of Redford

Published: August 16, 2015

Unknown Several businesses opened due to public and private capital improvements/

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**Heartland Health Care** Center - Livonia NE 29270 Morlock Street Livonia, MI 48152 248.476.0555

**Heartland Health Care** Center - Canton 7025 N. Lilley Road Canton, MI 48187 734.394.3100

**Heartland Health Care** Center - Plymouth 105 Haggerty Road Plymouth, MI 48170 734.455.0510



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WHEN:

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RSVP: 734-458-4330



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- Discussions and displays informing men and women of screenings that are a covered health benefit based on age and gender. \*According to the Center for Disease Control
- Samples of healthy food choices from local restaurants will be available.



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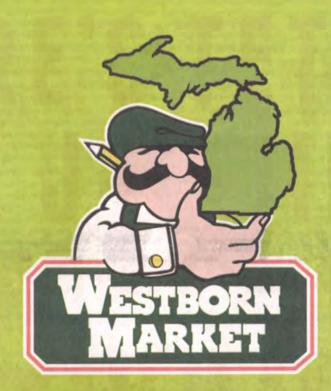
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# INSIDE: COMMUNITY LIFE, B5-6 | OBITUARIES, B7 | HEALTH, B8

SECTION B (WGRL)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2015 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# SPORTS

**ED WRIGHT, EDITOR** 

EWRIGHT@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 734-578-2767

MHSCA HALL OF FAME



**COURTESY CANTON ATHLETICS** Veteran Canton football coach Tim Baechler continues to rack up lofty honors.

# 'Hall' of an honor for Canton's Baechler

Chiefs' veteran coach to be inducted Sept. 20

> By Tim Smith Staff Writer

It already was shaping up to be an eventful opening month of the 2015 season for Canton head football coach Tim Baechler.

On Friday, Aug. 28 at Wayne State University, Baechler's defending KLAA South Division champion Chiefs will open the schedule against Dearborn Fordson in the Prep Kickoff Classic.

But Baechler's calendar just got busier with an unanticipated trip to Central Michigan University on Sunday, Sept. 20. He won't mind one bit because he'll be formally inducted that day into the prestigious Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

The MHSCA honor trumps his 2012 induction into the state football coaches' hall, noted Baechler in an e-mail to the

"Being inducted into the Football Coaches Hall of Fame in 2012 was a tremendous honor," Baechler said. "Being chosen by my peers in the same sport of football was extraordi-

"However being selected from a pool of coaches representing all high school sports to be inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame is incred-

Baechler is one of 15 honor-

ees who will be inducted in the Terrace Room of CMU's Bovee University Center. Among others are John Walker (Troy Athens), and John Osler (Orchard Lake St. Mary's).

There are so many coaches who do a great job year after year in every sport, and who have stood the test of time," Baechler continued. "These coaches continue to put teams on the field, court, track, or pool and maintain successful

See BAECHLER, Page B2

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



COURTESY STOVER FAMILY

Recent Plymouth grad Ben Stover (No. 6) guards opponent Matt Johnson during the 2015 season. Both players were named All-Americans by US

# WINNING PLAN

All-American boys lacrosse player Stover embarks on pursuit of Wall Street dream

> By Tim Smith Staff Writer

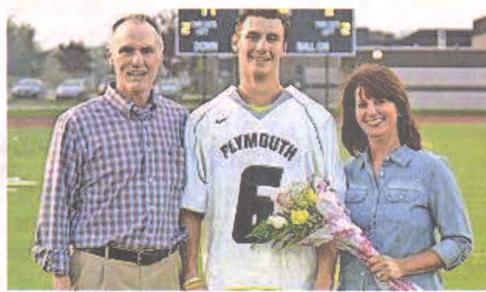
When Ben Stover was growing up, he loved basketball: Stopping and popping, draining one from the corner, hitting a banker off the backboard.

Then during fifth grade, he discovered lacrosse and a new world burgeoned for the Canton resident.

Now, the 19-year-old Stover is reaping benefits from switching sports. Fresh off his fourth season on Plymouth's varsity boys lacrosse team, he earned selection from US Lacrosse as as an All-American player. He is the first lacrosse player from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park to collect that honor.

Plymouth head coach Brian Walsh nominated the hard-nosed defender for All-American consideration.

"I was honored that he nominated me, with everything he's done for me," Stover said. "When I came in I wasn't the most confident kid and he always believed in me and instilled in me that I could be great if I wanted to.



COURTESY STOVER FAMILY

On Senior Night, Plymouth's Ben Stover (No. 6) is flanked by parents Randy and Janet Stover.

"With his coaching I feel like it's really what took me to the next level.'

Stover, who will play club lacrosse while pursuing a business degree at West Virginia University, said the honor hum-

"I wasn't really expecting it," he said. "I knew I played really well in the season, but my goal was for our team to do well this season, not for my own personal accolades."

With Stover's steady and sturdy presence in the lineup, Plymouth enjoyed a winning record (9-8) in the KLAA Ken-

See STOVER, Page B3

POWERBOATING

# No slowing down for Sechler

Retired APBA champ remains active in racing

> By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

When he retired from competitive powerboat racing last year, Jim Sechler thought his summers would be more relaxed and filled with doing other things.

It wasn't that easy to leave the sport, however. The Farmington Hills resident is still involved in it and as busy as he ever was.

"It sure seems like it," he said, addtrip to Seattle recently. "I do a lot of team support. It ends up being a full-time job.

I like doing it; I have no complaints. "I purchased a pontoon boat and thought I'd hang around the lake and enjoy my free time. That hasn't happened. There's just a lot

of things going on." Sechler probably doesn't travel as much as he did when he criss-crossed the country with his own boat, but he now serves as an inspector at American Power Boat Association events.

A mechanical engineer by trade, he was the person who kept the Fast Eddie II in working order and led Sechler Motorsports to 10 con-secutive APBA national

Because he no longer has to work on the engine in his boat, which he recently sold, Sechler's services have been in high demand by other owners. In one weekend race, he had built engines for six of the eight boats.

"I'm working with others to be successful now," he said. "Now, they ask me, 'Well, what did you do? What would you do?' Now that I'm

See SECHLER, Page B3



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PREP FOOTBALL PREVIEW

# Shamrocks hope to hit ground running

By Brad Emons

A one-year hiatus from the football state playoffs has Novi Detroit Catholic Central chomping at the bit to get the 2015 season underway.

Coach Tom Mach, who has a 348-93 record entering his 40th season with the Shamrocks, believes there is a heightened sense of urgency after going 4-5 and missing the MHSAA Division 1 postseason for only the third time since 1999.

"They're hungry," said Mach, who has guided CC to 25 playoff appearances and 10 state crowns during his long tenure. "They've been working hard this year, very much in the weight room. We had a good spring program. We lift four days a week from January to August, so they've been doing a great job in that workout. They're in very good shape at this point of the season and ready to go."

The Shamrocks return 12 players who started last year, led by the senior captain quartet of Alex Bock, Tom Kowalkoski, Tyler Laurentius, Phil Schmitz and Austin Darkangelo.

"We always put our emphasis on defense, that's our number one concern," Mach said.

"This year, we probably have about six or seven guys that have put a good amount of time last year that are coming back on defense, but not too many on offense. The offense is going to be a



DENNIS BARNES

Senior Alex Bock (top) figures to be a key cog in the Shamrocks' offense this season.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF
PHOTOGRAPHER
Coach Tom Mach is entering

his 40th season with CC.

little bit new. But of course, we're used to that going against the schools we go up against in our league. We can't afford to have too many new guys out there if you're going to do well."

All five senior captains are two-way play"All of our captains play defense," Mach said. "I'd say overall the captains are good leaders for us.

Kowalkoski (6-5, 280), a tackle, will anchor both offensive and defensive lines, while Schmitz (6-2, 190) takes over at tight end and linebacker.

Darkangelo (5-11, 175) is slated at both linebacker and running back, while Bock (5-11, 185) and Laurentius (5-11, 185) will get time in both the backfield and secondary.

"Bock can do a lot of things," Mach said. "He runs a 4.5 (40-yard dash) and is a good athlete with a lot of versatility. And Tyler can do a lot of things. He can run and he can catch. He's an athletic guy and he has a good head on his shoulders." As usual, a grind-it-out running game will prove essential to CC's success in the Catholic League's perennially strong Central Division, which includes Orchard Lake St. Mary's, the defending Division 3 state champ and preseason favorite, along with defending Division 2 state champion Warren DeLaSalle and Birmingham Brother

"We need the backs to hit the holes with speed," Mach said. 'We want to get three or four yards a crack. We don't have to break them, but we need some guys that can break them. Our running backs have always been traditionally tough people. They get an extra yard, don't get stopped by one tackler. We're three

downs and a cloud of dust, keep it going most of the time. We're looking for a tough back that's got some speed and can actually be moved around as a receiver when we go spread and so forth."

Other key returnees for CC include senior defensive back Tarek Dalou (5-8, 160), senior defensive end Michael Edwards (6-4, 220), senior safety Chyle Johnson (5-8, 165) and junior tight end Jackson Ross (6-3, 230).

During the preseason, Mach said he will be looking at as many as five different quarterbacks before deciding who will start in the season opener Friday, Aug. 28, at home against Muskegon.

"We're going to determine our quarterback in the next two weeks," Mach said. "We don't know what they'll be like because we've never seen them in a varsity situation."

And Mach has a specific type of QB in mind to call the signals.

"We want a quarterback this year that can run our team, make big plays when we need them, be able to throw the football when necessary," Mach said. 'We want a guy that's a good leader first, a guy who can take control ... put us in the right position, so if we're not in the right position to make a play selection or whatever it has to be."

bemons@hometownlife.com

# BAECHLER

Continued from Page B1

teams year after year.
"I suppose being chosen from all the talented coaches in Michigan is very flattering."

# Not just about him

The coach might be the person receiving the award and accolades that come with it. But he is adamant about sharing the kudos with many others.

Right up there are Canton assistant coaches: Bob Williams, Tony Boucher, Dave Smilo, Rich Mui, Tom Garrett, Andy LaFata, Drew Dodds, Mike Edwards, Bob Smedley, Pat Schneider, Ferras Isa, Vince Tata, Bubbs Hnatuk, Tom Dixon, Brett Phillips, Jeff Sanctorum, Pat Korona, Adam Payter, Tracy Scott, Mark Kersten, Jake Roberts, Devin Thomas and Dennis Do-

"They have all sacrificed and made our program better," Baechler said. "Some past assistant coaches like Jake Houser, Jeff Powers, John Wright, Mark Blomshield and Mike Tomasitis were also impactful coaches and dynamic role models.

"Over the years, I have been very fortunate to have had unparalleled people on my team. They are loyal, they believe in our approach to this game, and I consider them my brothers."

Also, Baechler gave a lot of credit for his success to the support of his wife, sons and parent volunteers in the Canton Booster Club.

"If your spouse isn't all in, then it is impossible to spend the amount of time we spend on preparation," Baechler stressed. "Believe me, my players like her a lot more than they like me. It's not always easy to be the football coach's son, but my sons, Brocton and Lou, have been my wing men.

"We have had tremendous support from our Booster Club over the years and from specific parents, which have made our jobs as coaches easier. Kerri McCue is our long time equipment manager, and is a god-send."

Last but not least, Baechler credited the plethora of outstanding players who have populated his rosters year after year.

"The players for whom I have had the honor of coaching over the years provide the most significant ingredient to our success," he summed up. "Without their trust, belief and hard work, success cannot happen."

The Michigan High School Coaches Association was founded on the campus of Central Michigan University in 1954 with the Hall of Fame located in the Student Activities Center.

Those interested in attending the Sept. 20 induction banquet may purchase \$30 tickets by contacting MHSCA executive secretary Mark F. Holdren, mholdren@portlandk12.org.

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports SWIM CLUB

# Beechview swimmers post record times

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Numerous records were established this summer by members of the Beechview Swim Club in Farmington Hills

Mashley Turak, 14, set the girls 13-14 records in the 50-meter butterfly record with a time of 29.42 and the 50 freestyle with a time of 27.00. The previous records were set by Katie Romero in 2013.

Turak, who will be a freshman at Harrison High School, also is the Northwest Suburban Swim League champion in the 50 freestyle.

Sean McCann, 14, also broke two individual records, swimming the boys 13-14 100 IM in 1:06.93 and the 50 breaststroke in 33.90.

The old breaststroke record had stood for 34 years. The previous record in the IM was set by Tyler Roshak in 2011. McCann will be a sophomore on the Walled Lake Northern swim team.

Drew Hoelscher, 14, broke the boys 13-14 50 butterfly record, which had been held by Scott Farabee since 1985, with a time of 29.01. Hoelscher is a member of the Harrison/Farmington Phoenix swim team.

Emily Brunett, 18, broke the girls 15-18 50



Beechview's girls 66-and-under 200 freestyle relay team of (top, left to right) Katie Romero and Emily Brunett and (bottom, left to right) Ashley Turak and Grace Xu set a club record of 1:51.07.

butterfly record that was set by Marissa Doepker in 2007 with a time of 29.42.

An all-Observer and all-state swimmer, Brunett is a 2015 graduate of Harrison High School and will continue her swimming career at Michigan State Univer-

Roshak, 18, broke his own boys 15-18 records in the 100 freestyle and 50 butterfly with times of 51.43 and 25.22, respectively. Both of his swims also were NSSL records.

In both events, Roshak and Nicholas Ross of the Forest Hills Athletic Club posted the same times and tied for first place in the NSSL championship meet.

mixed medley relay team of Ella D'Errico (11), Haylie Pohlman (10), Emme D'Errico (9), and Miranda Burke (10) broke a club record that stood since 1994 with a time of 2:39.32.

The girls 66U 200 freestyle relay team of Romero, Turak, Grace Xu and Brunett broke the club record (set by Miranda Doepker, Marina Borri, Brunett and Olivia Rath in 2012) with a time of 1:51.07. Romero and Xu are members of the Harrison swim team, too.

#### O&E golf tourney

The annual Observer & Eccentric men's open golf tournament is set for Sept. 6-7.

This year's men's tournament will feature a guaranteed \$2,500 in prizes, which will be rewarded in gross and net divisions. The entry fee for the two-day men's event is \$99.

The registration window will close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28. Pairings and tee times can be obtained by calling either 248-471-3400 or 248-476-4493 after noon Thursday, Aug.

The field for the men tournament is limited to the first 120 entrants. There will be a senior flight (55 and older) and regular flight.

For more information, go to golflivonia.com.



#### Check out USA Hockey

The buzz is building for the first season of National Team Development Program hockey at USA Hockey Arena (formerly Compuware Arena).

So you might want to get out to the arena on Beck Road south of Five Mile Road for the USA Hockey Open House and 2015-16 NTDP Select-a-Seat Night. The event takes place 5-8 p.m. Wednesday.

There will be an open skate and free rentals, and the opportunity to pick exact seat locations for season ticket packages.

In addition, the evening will provide fans the chance to learn more the NTDP (which has Under-17 and Under-18 teams), get a peek at exciting renovations, meet NTDP staff, players and mascot and take part in fun raffles. There also will be pizza and refreshments.

To make a reservation, call 734-453-8400 or email char.merckel@usa-hockeyarena.org.

The season starts Friday, Oct. 9 when the USA NTDP U-18's host the United States Hockey League's Chicago Steel at 7 p.m. The team will

play its second home game 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, against the Notre Dame.

# Two for Brindza

Yes it was only the preseason opener. But that doesn't take away from Plymouth High School alum Kyle Brindza's big first night in the National Football League.

The rookie kicker, who went from Plymouth (where he graduated in 2011) to Notre Dame, connected on field goals of 49 and 41 yards in the Detroit Lions' 23-3 victory over the New York Jets Friday night at Ford Field.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

# New MHSAA rules implemented for 2015-16 season

Rule changes the Michigan High School Athletic Association is implementing this year:

# FOOTBALL

The definition of unnecessary roughness was expanded to include excessive contact with an opponent, including a defenseless player, which incites roughness. A defenseless player can be considered one no longer involved in a play, a runner whose progress has been stopped, a player focused on receiving a

has given up on an errant pass, or a player already on the ground. Unnecessary and excessive contact can include blindside blocks and players leaving their feet to contact an airborne receiver attempting to secure the ball

kick or a receiver who

ball.

The grabbing of a quarterback's facemask by a defensive player, if it does not including the twisting, pulling or turning of the facemask, will be ruled incidental and result in a five-yard pen-

alty instead of a roughing-the-passer penalty and automatic first down. A 2014 rule change

stated that the kicking team must have at least four players on each side of the kicker when ready-for-play is signaled; a change this season states four players must be lined up on each side of the kicker when the ball is kicked. That fourth player may shift after ready-for-play but before the kick to comply with this formation rule, but may not go in motion

more than five yards behind the ball. If the shifting player travels more than five yards behind the ball, it is a dead-ball foul for encroachment.

# CROSS COUNTRY

The loosening on what runners are allowed to wear during competition continued after a ban on jewelry was lifted in 2014. Runners also now may wear sunglasses, and previous restrictions have been eliminated for specific styles of head

gear — ski bands, head bands, stocking caps and hoods attached to other clothing. Previously, those head gear had to meet criteria including color and size of brand logos displayed.

# SWIMMING AND DIVING

The ban on jewelry has been lifted. The National Federation of State High School Associations deemed the ban unnecessary because there is little risk of injury to the competitor or opponents.

# **STOVER**

Continued from Page B1

sington Conference.

# Keep improving

"I think I did a lot for our program growing it," Stover said. "When I came in as a freshman it wasn't a very organized team, we weren't very good at all.

"And, through all the seniors, I think we instilled a work ethic to our team, that you have to constantly be trying to get yourself better.

That stance continues for Stover, as he gears up for the next chapter in his life. It's a message he deftly slings to every young lacrosse player he sees, just like a basket-tobasket feed.

The son of Randy and Janet Stover helped coach a youth boys box lacrosse team out of Heritage Park in Canton. Box lax features seven-player teams getting after it on a smaller chunk of turf.

"It (box lax) really focuses on your stick



COURTESY STOVER FAMILY

Ben Stover (back row, third from left) enjoys coaching a youth box lacrosse team at Heritage Park.

skills, because it's a smaller, more condensed field," Stover explained. "Everyone's closer together. ... It forces you to have a much sharper, quicker stick and be able to handle the ball better. So that's kind of the benefit of it."

As for coaching for the first time in his life, it has been pure elation for Stover - like looking in the mirror and seeing himself when he was a youngster discovering lacrosse.

"I found I really have a passion for it (coaching),"

he said. "I grew up loving lacrosse, and to be able to give that back to kids who are just coming into the game I find a lot of joy in seeing them fall in love with lacrosse, just like I did.

"I can see myself in so many of these kids. It's just fun to be out there playing lacrosse."

# **Looking back**

Stover remembered what it was like when he started getting into a sport that finally is starting to make inroads in the Midwest. Although he

loved playing basketball, he longed for something more physical.

"I started playing because my mom didn't want me to play football and I wanted to play something physical," he said, smiling. "I knew she knew nothing about lacrosse so I asked her if I could play and she agreed.'

During his elementary and middle school years, Stover played for Canton Youth Lacrosse, later mixing in playing time with GBL Lacrosse (a club program run by University of Michigan coaches).

After Stover moved from Pioneer Middle School to Plymouth High School, he still played basketball and lacrosse. But a transition was looming.

"Basketball was my first love, and then over time it just got overbearing," Stover emphasized. "I was playing basketball all the time and I wanted something new. In high school, I got hurt (during 10th grade) and I came to a point where I realized I

didn't want to ruin my lacrosse season by getting hurt playing basket-

With Division I scouts already watching Stover excel in lacrosse, first as a long-stick midfielder, it was the prudent course of action to take.

# All business

More recently, however, he had to make another important choice. Did the owner of a 3.5 gradepoint average want to pursue the dream of playing D-I men's lacrosse if that meant not being able to study for a business degree?

Stover, who wants to work on Wall Street someday, found the answer in West Virginia University. It helped that his sister, Grace (a 2012 Plymouth grad), attends nursing school at the Morgantown campus.

I chose West Virginia for academics," he said. "I had to make that decision, I knew what I wanted to do with my career.

"I want to go into investment banking and go into finance and a lot of

the schools that I was looking at, that I had (lacrosse) offers from didn't even have business

schools. That there is club men's lacrosse at WVU further alleviated any anxiety about the decision. "I realized I could still play lacrosse there at a high level but also get

the education I wanted." There also is a lacrosse-business connection that Stover expects will help him following

"Because of lacrosse I became a very driven and confident person," Stover said. "And that's what you need in the business world, especially in a place like Wall Street. You're going to have to be confident, and be able to be under pressure situations and be able to handle those pressure situations.

'And I know I've done that time and time again on the lacrosse field, so why is the business world any different?"

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

# SECHLER

Continued from Page B1

not racing, it's a little easier to let loose with some of the secrets.

"The teams I work with want to be No. 1 and be very competitive. If things aren't going well, I feel the stress, too. That kind of stress doesn't seem to go away

"When all the boats go out and leave the dock, I get just as nervous as if it was my own boat, because I want them to do well."

Sechler, 52, added he has entered a new phase in the sport, being able to work with a lot of new

"It's fun to watch some of the new guys and see them doing well," he said. "I feel a part of their team. I used to be part of one team, but now I'm a part of more teams."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Before he sold his boat, Jim Sechler took a photo of it surrounded by all the trophies and awards Sechler Motorsports won while racing it.

Sechler volunteered to be an inspector at APBA events as a way of giving back to the sport. One is required to be at every

He also has served on the commission that governs inboard racing as chairman of the technical committee for eight

"If someone questions

the legality of a boat, I can inspect it and verify it," he said. "At every title race, you have to go through all the engines and verify everything meets the rules before they can win.

Every boat needs to be inspected annually. Some are coming from Canada to race in the U.S. and are required to have

safety and technical inspections.

Sechler and his team, which included longtime driver Dan Kanfoush, completed an amazing run in 2014 by winning the points championship in the one-liter modified inboard class for the 10th year in a row.

"It really couldn't have finished up any better for

us," he said. "We worked hard. We won 10 consecutive Summer Nationals and national titles, which is pretty rare. I'm not sure it's ever been done.

There are people out there who could do it. What we were blessed with was a very solid team that stayed consistent for years. It was not really a boat-speed thing.

"A lot of things have to go in your direction. I'd say there are teams that could do it if they want to do it. You have to make that kind of commitment.'

Sechler Motorsports also set 19 world records in the one-liter modified class. Kanfoush retired as a driver at the same time as Sechler.

"Now, you can't get a golf club out of his hands," Sechler said. "You can't take the competitor out of a competitive person. He's just going to find something

else to be competitive at." A decade of competing and maintaining the boat was fun and rewarding, Sechler said, but the time and effort required to

remain at the top of the

sport was tiring.

"To be honest, in some respects, I'm glad it's over," he said. "I'd be lying if I didn't say it was getting to be more like a job instead of a hobby.

"I think all of us were getting a little burned out, but we still enjoyed it right up to the end.

Sechler said he does miss seeing the boat in his garage when he comes home and "going through a gas station in the middle of nowhere and all the kids come up and look at your boat," he said. "To the day I sold it, I thought it was super cool to own a piece of equipment like that. That part I do miss. The boat was always pretty special to me."



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# Number of schools using pay-to-play drops

The percentage of Michigan High School Athletic Association high schools that assessed participation fees to help fund interscholastic athletics dropped five percent during the 2014-15 school year to its lowest since 2011-12, according to the most recent survey taken by the MHSAA - although the ratio of schools assessing fees remained above 50 percent of respondents for the fifth straight year.

A total of 522 high schools or 69 percent of the MHSAA membership - responded to the 2014-15 survey for the highest feedback rate since 2010-11.

A total of 269 high schools, or 50.5 percent, that took the survey, charged fees this school year, compared to 56.6 percent of schools that responded in 2013-14.

There were 753 senior high schools in the MHSAA membership in 2014-15. This was the 11th survey of schools since the 2003-04 school year, when members reported fees were being charged by 24 percent of schools. The percentage of member schools charging fees crossed 50 percent in 2010-11 and remained at 50.5 percent

in 2011-12 before making a nearly five-percent jump three school years ago.

The largest drop of those charging fees in 2014-15 came at Class B schools, with 52 percent reporting fees after 62 percent reported using them in 2013-14. Class A schools saw a seven-percent decrease to 70 percent with fees, and Class D schools saw a four-percent decrease to 35 percent that assessed. Class C schools saw a one-percent increase to 47 percent assessing for participation.

Charging a standardized fee

for each team on which a student-athletes participates regardless of the number of teams - remains the most popular method among schools assessing fees, although that rate fell slightly from 41 percent of schools assessing during 2013-14 to 39 percent this school year. Schools charging a one-time standardized fee per student-athlete also fell, from 33 to 28 percent of schools that assess fees. The survey showed a slight increase in schools assessing fees based on tiers of the number of sports a student-athlete plays

(for example, charging a larger fee for the first team and less for additional sports). There also was a slight increase in fees being assessed based on the specific sport being played.

The median fee by schools that charged student-athletes per sport did drop \$10 to \$75. Other fees remained consistent from the 2013-14 school year: the median one-time student fee at \$100, the median annual maximum fee per student at \$150 and the median annual maximum family fee at

# SPORTS TRYOUTS

#### **RU** soccer tryouts

The Redford Union boys soccer team will be holding tryouts from 5-7 p.m. Monday through Friday at MacGowan Elementary School, just north of the high school.

All student-athletes trying out for the team must bring their own water.

For more information, contact coach Jim Gibbs at 313-995-4234.

#### **Garden City Gators**

The Garden City Gators fast-pitch softball program offers fall ball, indoor winter training, spring/summer leagues and tournaments, along with hitting, pitching and catching camps for four age levels: 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U.

Tryouts will be held Aug. 22-23 and Aug. 25-26 at Garden City High School's "Lighted Field," which is located at the intersection of Maplewood and Hartel

The times of the tryouts Aug. 22-23 are 9-11 a.m. for 10U and 12U; and 12:30-2:30 p.m. for 14U and 16U

The Aug. 25 tryout day will feature a 6-8 p.m. slot for 10U and 12U, while the Aug. 26 day will feature a 6-8 p.m. time block for 14U and 16U.

Players are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes before the

scheduled start of each tryout. For more information, contact Barry Patterson at 734-

635-2388 or gcsoftball@mi.rr.com. You can also check out the program's Facebook page by searching for 'Garden City Gators Fastpitch Softball.'

### **GC** tennis tryouts

Tryouts for the Garden City boys varsity tennis team will start 9-11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 17. All student-athletes will

need a racquet and a physical in order to try out. The tryouts will be held rain or shine.

#### **Blues baseball**

The 10U South Farmington Blues will have tryout at Shiawassee City Park on the following days: 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16; and 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18. Details for the 15U tryouts are to be determined.

For more information about the Blues tryouts, visit www.sfbluesbaseball.com.

#### **12U Livonia Stars**

The Livonia Stars 12U travel baseball team needs additional players for the 2016 season. Players cannot turn 13 before May 1, 2016.

For more information, contact head coach Matt Fournier at mattfournier22@sbcglobal.net or 734-968-0499.

# Wild about winning



The Livonia Wild 14U-Green softball team recently clinched the championship in the WWCL Silver-West Division with a spotless 14-0 record. Pictured are (front row from left) assistant coach John Colling, Lauren Bates, Emily Johnson, Bridget Folk, Kelsie Nowicki, assistant coach Mike Daoust, (middle row from left) Brenna O'Hare, Megan Lord, Julie Colling, (back row from left) head coach Butch Bond, Abby Daoust, Emma Bond, Sarah Iler, Jordan Berger, Kendra Juliette, assistant coach Gerry Folk and assistant coach Chris Berger.

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# Newlyweds play husband, wife in comedy on Plymouth stage

**By Sharon Dargay** Staff Writer

Beth Brooks and Harry Stafford can't help but identify with their characters in Better Than Ever Production's upcoming comedy, Palliser Suite.

The Northville residents are married both on stage and off. It's the first time the newlyweds - they were married June 18 - have shared the stage as husband and wife. And it's only the second time in four years that they've been on stage at the same time.

This is the first time we're playing a husband and wife," said Brooks, a Livonia native who began acting locally when she was a student at Ladywood High School. "It's much easier when you act with someone you know. You can recognize certain expressions and see what they are thinking. It helps you get to the next line. I know his face so well."

"It's easier in that we can play off one another," Stafford added. "It's easier to practice."

Brooks schedules their at-home rehearsals at 9 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. every day and says she sees a lot of herself in the neat-freak, overly-organized character she portrays. So does her husband.



Newlyweds Harry Stafford and Beth Brooks play a married couple in the comedy "Palliser Suite" at Better Than Ever Productions.

"Every night before she goes to bed she makes a list of what she's going to do the next day in 15-minute increments,'

"I am so organized. I get

everything done," she said. "I am this character."

## **Tribute to Neil Simon**

place in a hotel in Canada.

The play's scenes all take

Brooks's and Stafford's characters plan to spread the ashes of a loved one on a golf course. His estranged brother turns the event into a competition. Another couple rekindles their romance after discovering their divorce wasn't legal.

The play, which was written as a tribute to Neil Simon, is 7 p.m. Aug. 27-29 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, at the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Complex, 650 Church, in downtown Plymouth. Tickets are \$15 and available at betterthaneverprod.wix.com/btep or call 734-306-7883.

Better Than Ever Productions stages plays with parts for actors who are over 50, although membership in the group is open to all ages. Other cast members are Jerry Carney, Becky Copenhaver, Linda Trygg, Terry Viviani and Lee Thomas. Spencer Brooks, 16, plays a hotel bellhop.

Brooks was a member of a youth theater in Farmington Hills and a senior adult acting troupe in Novi before joining Better Than Ever Productions eight years ago. Stafford, whom she met online, worked as a bath and kitchen remodeling expert and had no acting plans. But within the first two weeks of dating Brooks, Stafford found himself at an audition.

"I was there to pick her up. I had gotten there early and the director said, you might as well try out, too. I hadn't even filled out an application," Stafford said. He landed a part in the play and has been involved with Better Than Ever Productions ever since.

#### **Exchanging vows**

The couple - both were widowed and have grown children from previous marriages - tied the knot at Denny's restaurant in Novi, the site of their first date. A local television crew was on hand and a video of their wedding went viral on YouTube.

"People we don't even know come up and say, I saw you get married at Denny's," Brooks

"I do have people recognize me from the plays I've done," Stafford added. "I went to give blood once and the nurse said, didn't I see you two days ago in

Although most of the cast is over 50, Brooks and Stafford say the play is aimed at audience members of all ages.

"It's really funny," Stafford said. "Very funny."

#### **BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM** HIGH SCHOOL

**CLASS OF 1965** 

50-year class reunion is set for 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 18-19, at Auburn Hills Marriott at Centerpoint, Auburn Hills. The main event will include a roving dinner, music and dancing, and fun. The Friday mixer starts at 5 p.m. and some of the junior high and elementary alumni will meet for lunch on Saturday. Visit www.seaholmclassof65.com for more information.

#### **DETROIT CODY**

**CLASS OF 1965** 

The 50-year reunion is scheduled for Sept. 19. January and June 1965 classmates can email codyclassof1965@yahoo.com or call Christine Snopkoski Nashlen at 734-561-3501 for more information.

# **DETROIT COOLEY**

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Looking for classmates from January and June for

# REUNIONS

50th reunion on Oct. 3 at Livonia Marriott Hotel. For information, email reunioncooley65@aol.com or call 734-397-

# FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1954

A 61st reunion lunch from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at the Stitt American Legion Post Hall in Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Nancy Barlow Gaspar at 313-581-6623 or 318-399-7718 or email Pat Gaston Chiesa at patc629@aol.com

## **NOVI HIGH SCHOOL**

CLASS OF 1995

Seeking classmates for a 20-year reunion Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Embassy Sites in Livonia. For more information, email melissacohn8@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/groups/Noviclas-

# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

ALL CLASSES

From 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, at The American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple, Troy; \$45 per person. For more information, call Rose Ann Filar at 248-770-1271.

# WAYNE MEMORIAL

CLASS OF 1985

A 30-year reunion set for Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Livonia Marriott. Tickets in advance are \$45. Call Tanya (Ibrahim) Williams at 734-223-5558, tanyadolour@tripointis.com, or Steven Johnson 734-635-0369.

# CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Dorsey Center, 32150 Dorsey, Westland, MI 48186, on August 28th, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

NORWAYNE RENTAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

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

> Devin J. Adams City Controller

Published: August 16, 2015

# CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on September 1st, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

TREE CUTTING AND STUMP REMOVAL

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

> Devin J. Adams City Controller

LO-0000253678 2x2.5

# CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on September 2nd, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

CONCRETE PAVEMENT REHABILITATION

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

> Devin J. Adams City Controller

Published: August 16, 2015

# CITY OF LIVONIA

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 4 of Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended, the City Zoning Act (MSA 5.2934; MCLA 125.584) as well as Article XXIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the Council of the City of Livonia on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 7:00 P.M., in the Auditorium at City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, with respect to the following item:

PETITION 2015-06-01-05 submitted by Grenn & Grenn, P.C., on behalf of C & L Development Corporation, to rezone the property located on the south side of Seven Mile Road between Middlebelt Road and Maplewood Avenue (28911 - 29010 Seven Mile) (Sunset Office Building) in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 12, from OS (Office Services) to C-1 (Local Business).

SUSAN A. HOFF, CITY CLERK

Published: August 16, 2015

LO-0000252263 3x2.5

# CITY OF LIVONIA

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 4 of Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended, the City Zoning Act (MSA 5.2934; MCLA 125.584) as well as Article XXIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the Council of the City of Livonia on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 7:00 P.M., in the Auditorium at City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, with respect to the following item:

PETITION 2015-06-01-06 submitted by Charter Real Estate, on behalf of Livonia Storage Units, to rezone the property located on the south side of Eight Mile Road between Grand River Avenue and Angling Road (28153 Eight Mile) in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 1, from C-2 (General Business) to ML (Manufacturing Limited).

SUSAN A. HOFF, CITY CLERK

Published: August 16, 2015

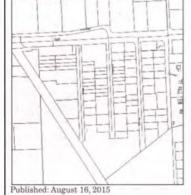
#### CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1474D, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Auto Body Repair/Used Car Dealer, 2037 S Marie, West Side of Marie Street, South of Ford Road and West of Hix Road, Parcel #050-01-0199-301, Atheer Odish (Joseph

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m.,

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.



Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman Westland Planning Commission

#### CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

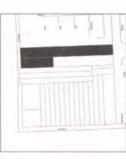
A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne

Case #1276K, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Addition to Mr. Stor-It, 5235 Merriman Road, Parcels #081-99-0027-004 and -0028-001, East Side of Merriman Road, North of Van Born Road, Larry Zuckerman

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., September 1, 2015.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman Westland Planning Commission



Published: August 16, 2015

# Culinary Extravaganza offers fare from top restaurants

The Schoolcraft College Foundation presents Culinary Extravaganza 2015 - a celebration of food and wine — 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, at the VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, on the Livonia Campus.

Tickets are \$60 per person for the premier fundraiser, which benefits students by providing scholarship support. The event features

some of Metro Detroit's best restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors. This year's participants include 2 Unique Caterers & Event Planners, Royal Oak; 5ive Restaurant - The Inn at St. John; American Harvest at Schoolcraft College; Big Rock Chophouse, Birmingham; Brown Dog Creamery, Northville; Coach Insignia, Detroit; Coffee Express Roasting Company, Plymouth; Cuisine Restaurant, Detroit; Guernsey Farms Dairy, Northville; Henry's at Schoolcraft College; Main Street Cafe at Schoolcraft College; The



FILE PHOTO Patrons enjoy some of the desserts offered at the VIP reception at a previous Culinary Extravaganza at Schoolcraft College.

Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit; The Root, White Lake; The Stand Bistro, Birmingham; and Ugly Dog Distillery, Chelsea.

The event attracts nearly 1,000 people from throughout southeast Michigan.

Sponsorship packages, which feature a VIP reception and recognition pre- and post-event including recognition in

the Observer & Eccentric in print and online. range from \$500 to \$5,000.

The \$500 bronze package includes four tickets and a quarter page ad in the event program.

The gold sponsorship, \$1,500, includes six tickets, admission to the VIP reception at 1 p.m., a half-page ad in the event program and recognition on the college's outdoor

electronic sign.

The platinum sponsor-ship, \$5,000, includes 12 tickets, admission to the VIP reception, a fullpage ad in the event program and recognition on the outdoor sign.

All sponsorships also include name on video monitors at the event and recognition on the foundation website.

A silent auction with sports tickets, sports memorabilia, travel and theater and food packages also is planned. Raffle tickets featur-

ing cash prizes and dinners at the American Harvest Restaurant are available for \$5 each or three for \$10. The drawing is held between 4-5

p.m. the day of event. The raffle grand prize is \$1,500, second prize is \$750 and third prize is \$500. Three prizes of dinner for two at American Harvest also are available.

For ticket information, call Mary Holaly at 734-462-4518. For event or sponsor info, call Sheri Frader at 734 462-4463.

# Garden party grows scholarships

hen Oakland Community College (OCC) Culinary Studies Institute's students attend orientation Aug. 17 at the Orchard Ridge Campus, several will be on scholarships - and they have The Garden Party Foundation to thank for that.

The Garden Party Foundation (TGPF) provides trade-school scholarships to underprivileged young students. Each year, TGPF puts on the Garden Party, which is run by the J. Lewis Cooper family and Elizabeth and Sydney L. Ross Foundation.

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Yolles SCENE

year, and held outside at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, the annual summer event is a strolling afternoon of fine food 27 restaurants participated - and tastings of 100 different types of wine from Great Lakes Wine & Spirits, along with classic cars, a tie-in to the Woodward Dream Cruise

In addition to the OCC Culinary Studies Institute, located on the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills, the Macomb Community College Applied Technologies Program is the second scholarship recipient. TGPF raised \$250,000 this year for the two programs.

For consideration of coverage in this column, send event happenings, including invitations and press kits, to Julie Yolles, Social Scene Columnist, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 Davis Ave., Birmingham, MI 48009. Contact her at socialscenejulie@ gmail.com or 248-642-9465.



JULIE YOLLES OCC Culinary Studies Institute's Jess Caswell, a second-year student, (left), with Chef/Instructor Doug Ganhs and Chef Julie Selonke. The OCC Culinary Studies Institute is located on the OCC Farmington Hills campus.



The Rugiero family, Sabrina, (left) Anthony, Enrica and Patrick, owners of Antonio's Cucina Italiana in Canton, Farmington Hills, Livonia and Dearborn Heights, enjoy the Garden Party. The Rugiero Promise Foundation will host its fifth annual Rugiero Casino Royale on Oct. 24 at the Dearborn Performing Arts Center to benefit the Antonio Rugiero Sr. Diabetes Research Fund; visit www.thatsantonios.com for more information. In addition, save the date for Dec. 5 when Patrick Rugiero will Chair the Kidney Ball.



JULIE YOLLES

OCC Culinary Studies Institute's Jess Caswell, a second-year student, (left), with Chef/Instructor Doug Ganhs and Chef Julie Selonke. The OCC Culinary Studies Institute is located on the OCC Farmington Hills campus.



JULIE YOLLES

Program Coordinator/OCC Culinary Studies Institute Susan Baier, Erika Ganhs of Livonia, at Garden Party, an annual fundraiser for culinary students.



#### PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES OF REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved Minutes for meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the month of July 2015 are posted at the following public places within the Township:

Community Center, 12121 Hemingway Fire Department, 15145 Beech Daly Library, 25320 Six Mile Road Department of Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly Police Department, 25833 Elsinore Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly

Approved Minutes may also be viewed on-line at www.redfordtwp.com

> GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk Charter Township of Redford

Published: August 16, 2015

## Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 248-478-7860

# INJURY

A doctor's first impression on seeing a patient with a painful and swollen foot, particularly someone over age 65, is to consider either gout or injury.

Gout usually presents with swelling over the great toe, not the whole foot, though that pattern does not always hold true. In cases of injury usually an x-ray reveals fracture, however, a hairline fracture may be difficult to see even though it causes great pain.

Often the doctor chooses to treat the patient for possible infection with a course of antibiotics, or decides that a trial of therapy for gout is the best course. To decide if an antibiotic is best requires the patient to take a ten day to two week course of the medication. To evaluate if gout is the underlying disorder means the patient will be under a high dose cortisone regimen for 4 days to a week. If the choice of cause is wrong then the patient continues in pain and both doctor and patient have lost days of appropriate therapy.

The experienced physician will wait only one or two days to see if care shows improvement. If the patient is making no progress, then the physician will order an MRI of the foot, looking for evidence of injury. That injury need not be a fracture that eluded conventional imaging. If tendinitis, torn ligaments or bone marrow edema are present, then the physician has sufficient proof to stop the antibiotic or prednisone and inform the patient that a long recuperation is about to begin.



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host.asse.com or email info@asse.com

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## WEDDING



Emily Pawlik and Michael Herzog on their wedding day.

#### SUBMITTED

#### **PAWLIK-HERZOG**

Emily Elizabeth Pawlik and Joshua Michael Herzog were married on May 30, 2015 at St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia. The wedding mass was celebrated by the Rev. James Scheick and Deacon Ric Misiak.

The bride is the daughter of Pat and Larry Pawlik of Northville. She is a graduate of Ladywood High School in Livonia and the University of Michigan. The groom is the son of Barb and Art Herzog of Flushing. He is a graduate of Flushing High School and the University of Michi-

Emily works as a regional recruiter for the University of Wisconsin-Colleges, and Josh is a doctoral engineering student at the University of Wisconsin.

The bride's attendants were maid of honor Rebecca Pawlik, Jasmine

Dubauskas, Jiselle Macalaguin, Mary McGovern, and Sarah McGovern. The groom's attendants were best man Christopher Herzog, Joseph Pawlik and Benjamin Porter.

A reception was held at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center in Plymouth. The couple honeymooned on Mackinac Island and northern Michigan before returning home to Madison, Wisc.

## WEDDING



SUBMITTED

Lida Ann Baur and Andrew Robert Sheard on their wedding day

# BAUR-SHEARD

Lida Ann Baur and Andrew Robert Sheard were married May 29,

2015 in Wheaton, Ill. The bride, daughter of Philip and Ann Baur of Farmington, is a 2011 graduate of Farmington High School, and 2015 graduate of Taylor University in Indiana. The from Taylor University

this year. The groom's father, the Rev. Daniel Sheard, officiated at the wedding. Lida's sister, Hannah Jetter, was the maid of honor, and Andrew's brother, Ben Sheard, was the best man. Blair Baker, 2011 Farmington High bridesmaid.

A reception was held at the Bowen home in Wheaton. The couple took a honeymoon trip to Banff, Alberta, Canada and now reside in Indiana.

## ANNIVERSARY



William and Nancy Graves of Livonia



SUBMITTED

William and Nancy Graves on their wedding day in 1955

#### **CELEBRATING 60 YEARS**

Bill and Nancy (Pesamoska) Graves of Livonia marked their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 5. They were married in 1955 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Detroit.

Bill and Nancy were high school sweethearts who began dating in the ninth grade at Pershing High School in Detroit. The couple married after graduation and Bill entered the U.S. Air

Force.

They celebrated their anniversary with their immediate family, Nancy and Leon Gribeck and grandchildren, Lauren, Ryan and Denielle Gribeck, at Bravo! Cucina Italiana in Livonia.

# BIRTH

# KARA JOYCE LADO

Kara Joyce Lado was born May 15, 2015 at St. Mary Mercy Livonia.

Kara joins her parents, Brad and Kate Lado, and brother, Matthew, 2, at home in Redford.

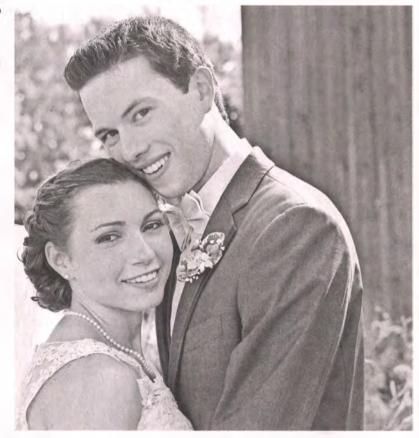
Grandparents are David Bobrowski of ivonia and the lat Joyce Bobrowski, Judi Lado of Adrian, and the late Frank Lado.



SUBMITTED

WEDDING

SUBMITTED Natalie Stam and Luke Gehrke on their wedding day



# STAM-GEHRKE

Natalie Stam and Luke Gehrke were married July 19, 2015 at Cobblestone Farm in Ann Arbor.

The bride, daughter of Breese and Kathleen Stam of Grand Rapids, is studying nursing at the University of Michigan.

The groom, son of Arlin and Judy Gehrke of Farmington Hills, graduated from the University

of Michigan in 2014 with a BSE in chemical engineering and is employed as a technical rep by Eldon Water Inc.

Erik Weber officiated the wedding.

Maid of honor was Claire Stam, the bride's sister. Bridesmaids were Heather Baker and Amanda Gehrke Ryder, sisters of the groom, and friends Celestine Schwartz and Karys

Rounds.

The best man was Melvin Joice. Groomsmen were Paul Stam, brother of the bride, and friends Cory Chin, Matthew Warnez and David

The couple spent their honeymoon at Banff and Lake Louise in the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

The newlyweds live in Ann Arbor.

# rassages

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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

Kara Joyce Lado



#### DOUGLASS, SR. JEFFREY PETER

Age 58, August 12, 2015. Loving husband and best friend of Linda. Loving father of Leslie Mason, and Jeffrey Jr. (Christine), (Kimberly). Grandfather Nora, Sophia, Oliver, Henry, Joshua, and Jacob. Brother of Cheryl (Donald) Wisniewski, Cheryl (Donald) Wisniewski, Debra Koch, and Stephen. Son-in-law of Raymond Disney. of Brian Douglass, other cousins, nieces and nephews. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Sunday 1-9 p.m. and Monday 10 a.m. until time of Funeral Service at 11:00 a.m. Please share a memory of Jeff at rggrharris.com.





# CHRISTOPHER PATRICK

November 20, 1966 - August 9, 2015 Christopher Patrick Green was brave and strong and fought cancer to the very end. He was a wonderful son, brother, and friend. He was an AMAZING father. Chris was happiest spending time with family and friends. Chris's favorite job was as a "hockey dad", he loved being at the rink with his Patrick. He grew giant pumpkins, always looking forward to beating his record the next year. Chris was a hard worker, he wanted the best for his family. He loved his epic camping adventures, sports, and backyard bonfires. His ready smile, quick wit, and selflessness made him easy to love. Chris's love remains in the hearts of all who knew him, laughed with him, and loved him. Please continue to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. We your thoughts and pull will miss you, Chris. Condolences can be sent to P.O. Box 244 or 112 Rose Street, MI 48654. Arrangements were handled by Steuernol & McLaren Funeral Home in Rose City, MI. For the full obituary information and to sign the online guest book, please visit our website at

www.steuernolmclaren.com

#### HOGAN, KATHERINE ROSE

View Online

www.hometownlife.com

Age 81, passed away August 8, 2015. She is survived by her cherished children: Steve (Laura) Hogan, Deb (Lou) Engerer, Linda (John) Hogan-Wilson, Laura Jean Hogan, Cynthia (Crispin) Taylor, Tom (Iris) Hogan-Schmidt, Theresa (Sam) LaMonica, and Martie (Jeff) Lickteig as well as 13 grandchildren and six greatgrandchildren. She is also survived by her ex-husband Arthur Hogan and a beloved extended family. A memorial service and luncheon will be held at Unity Church of Livonia on Saturday, August 29, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to SOS Children's Villages.



#### PETERSON. KATHY LYNN

Age 54. June 27, 2015. Daughter of Karen L. Peterson, Kim M. Dunn, and Kirk J. Peterson. Graduate of John Glen High School. Resident of Fort Meyers, Florida since 1995. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Moose Lodge 782, 5506 Stoney Creek Road, Ypsilanti, MI on August 29, 2015 from 5-10 p.m.

SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Podiatry group says teens need better foot care



The Michigan Podiatric Medical Association says teens need to learn more about foot care.

Teenagers are more likely to recognize the importance of regularly caring for their teeth, skin, eyes and bodies, but few know to care for their feet, according to the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association.

Feet are out of sight, out of mind. Yet, foot health plays an important role in overall health and wellness. Teens, especially girls, tend to care about having attractive feet versus healthy feet.

'While most individuals tend to react to foot issues later in life, the time to begin a good foot care routine is actually in the teenage years," said Jodie Sengstock, DPM, a Garden City Hospital podiatrist and director of professional relations, Michigan Podiatric Medical Association. "Only about half of teens believe that feet are important to their overall health and many are living with foot pain. It's vital that we educate teens on how to properly care for their feet and that local podiatrists are readily available to help relieve pain and avoid long term complications."

The average person takes approximately 10,000 steps per day, which adds up to more than 3 million steps per year. They apply four to six times their body weight on ankle joints when climbing stairs or walking steep inclines. With 26 bones and 33 joints, feet serve as the foundation for the rest of the body's structure. Feet that are painful or not mechanically sound can affect the knees, hips and even the lower

Feet are still growing during the teen years. However, teens should be aware that foot pain of any kind is not normal. Whether they are dealing with blisters, athlete's foot or ingrown toenails, caring for feet at an early age reduces the risk of complications later.

#### Sports, high heels

According to the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association, one-third of teenagers experience foot pain at least some of

the time. Sports are the major cause of foot pain among teens. Half who have had pain say sports was the source. Three-quarters of high school students play a school or recreational sport, and of them, four in 10 have injured their feet. Two in 10 suffer from foot pain from uncomfortable shoes — girls more than boys. High heels are the most painful shoe choice. Although six in 10 teens have had a foot problem in their lives, most selfmedicate or just live with the problem.

Fewer than two in 10 teens have visited a podiatrist. Teens who do see a podiatrist are more likely to care for their

Keeping feet healthy can help avoid embarrassing and uncomfortable problems such as athlete's foot, foot odor, and toenail fungus. The Michigan Podiatric Medical Association offers these easy steps to

maintain healthy feet:

» Wash your feet daily with soap and water. It's tempting to just swish your feet around in the shower, but it's important to use soap to remove germs and grime. Don't forget to wash in between your toes.

» Keep feet dry. Fungus, including the kind that causes athlete's foot, loves to grow in moist, damp environments, so after your shower, dry your feet thoroughly, paying extra attention to the spaces between your toes. If your socks get wet during the day, change

» Trim toenails into a slight curve. Too-long toenails not only wreck your socks and look crazy, but they can harbor bacteria. Use a pair of toenail clippers to cut your toenails to just above or at the edge of your toe. Cut straight across the nail, or a slight curve is

» Wear supportive, properly fitted shoes. Improperly fitted shoes with no support are a major cause of foot pain and injury.

Visit www.mpma.org to find a local podiatrist.

# MEDICAL DATEBOOK

# AFib 101

The free class will teach the causes and symptoms of atrial fibrillation, as well as the leading surgical and nonsurgical treatment options available. It runs 6-8:30 a.m. Aug. 20 in the Kalman Auditorium of Beau-mont Hospital - Dearborn, 18101 Oakwood Boulevard. Register at oakwood.org or call 800-543-9355.

# **Aging parents**

St. Mary Mercy Hospital-Livonia will partner will local organizations to offer advice

on caring for aging parents, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22-Oct. 13, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. The program will include information on dementia, keeping parents at home until you can't, handling emotions and finances, and getting the estate in order. To register, call 734-738-6300 or visit http://bit.ly/1LjrF6Y.

## Back to school

Salah Alenzi, M.D., will talk about good hygiene, head lice, strep throat, flu and other topics during a free program

Hospital, 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at Westland Shopping Center, East Court, 35000 Warren Road, Westland. Includes lunch for parent and kids. Register at 734-458-4259.

### **Blood drive**

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17, at the Westland Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. Register at redcrossblood.org, and enter sponsor code: wplccp or call 800-RED-CROSS. Or call the library at 734-326-6123 and ask

for Susan.

### Celiac support

Tri-County Celiac Support Group will hold a gluten-free picnic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22, at Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Far-mington Hills. Participants will meet at the pavilion. Glutenfree hot dogs, buns and condi-ments will be provided. Bring your own paper products, drinks, eating utensils and any side dishes you want. \$5 fee per family at the door. RSVP to Ellen Hechler at ellenhec@hotmail.com.

# **Diabetes prevention**

Learn about healthy eating, overcoming stress, physical activity and more through the National Diabetes Prevention Program, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mon-day, beginning Sept. 14 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital-Livonia, located at Five Mile and Levan. The 16-week class is for persons who are overweight and at high risk for developing diabetes or overweight and diagnosed with pre-diabetes. A lifestyle coach will facilitate the sessions. Register at 734-655-8947 or stmarymercy.org.





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