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Westland Controller Devin Adams carries the Community of Excellence Award the city received from the Michigan Municipal League for the new city hall project.

Observer's Mason receives key to city

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Journalists usually try to stay out of the spotlight but *Wayne-Westland Observer* Editor Sue Mason was center stage at the State of the City Address.

Before beginning his speech, Westland Mayor William Wild recognized Mason, who is retiring next month, presenting her with the key to the city.

"If you are an avid reader of the local *Observer & Eccentric* or live in the area, then you have to know Sue Mason," Wild said. "After 35 years of community journalism, Sue is retiring. She has done an incredible job advancing news to our community through her work."

Also editor of the *Garden City Observer*, Mason has been with the papers since 1985 and had worked previously for other suburban newspapers in Dearborn and Wayne.

"Sue is someone who always exudes the highest level of professional excellence and brings true meaning to the term professional journalism," Wild said.

During her career, Mason has won numerous awards for her writing and for her sections from the National Newspaper Association, Suburban Newspapers of America and the Michigan Press Association. She has twice been recognized by the Michigan PTA for coverage of education and schools and she was honored by the Wayne-Westland Community Schools for her exemplary coverage of educational issues.

Mason was also the 2007 Westland Civitans Citizen of the Year and served 15 years on the Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Advisory Board. Mason is also a past recipient of the prestigious ATHENA Award that recognizes individuals on the merits of attaining and personifying the highest level of professional excellence and for opening the door to professional opportunities for women.

A John Glenn High School graduate and Westland resident, Mason and her husband Bob have two children, Bobby and Carolee.

"Sue, it is apparent in your writing that you know and care deeply about your hometown," Wild said. "I have always enjoyed your columns and appreciate you keeping us abreast of important issues happening in our communities, and the fairness you have always showed me personally and my administration over the years."

See MASON, Page A2

Mayor Wild: State of Westland is strong

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

From a three-year balanced budget, an award-winning new city hall and significant private investment, Westland Mayor William Wild had plenty of highlights to talk about during his 2015 State of the City Address.

"Like many of you, I've lived in Westland for nearly all of my life," Wild said. "And there's an ongoing excitement that continues to grow in our city like I have never seen before. I suspect you've seen and felt it too."

The changes in Westland have been noticed by many, including the media, which saw the city named one of Wall Street 24/7's 50-most livable cities, he said. On an almost weekly basis, Wild said he is asked to speak to various organizations about Westland's turnaround.

Speaking at city hall, which opened a year ago, Wild's speech was accompanied by slides and videotaped segments. That included showing a taped presentation on the city's retrofitting of a former Circuit City store as a new city hall.

That video presentation was produced to accompany the city's nomination for the Community Excellence Award, the highest community honor given by the Michigan Municipal League. Westland's city hall project recently received the award and a traveling trophy.

Wearing white gloves and sunglasses and accompanied by Westland Police Honor Guard members, Controller Devin Adams carried the trophy to the front of the

See ADDRESS, Page A2



Westland Mayor William Wild during his State of the City Address.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two men face trial for assault, robbery of elderly man

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Two men charged with assaulting and robbing an elderly Westland man have been bound over for trial on multiple felony charges.

One defendant, Jack Edward Todd, 35, was instructed by Westland 18th District Court Judge Sandra Cicirelli to stop making efforts to contact the 71-year-old man or any potential witnesses in case.

"After speaking with the officer in charge (of the case), Mr. Todd has been calling the victim from jail," Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Ryan Lukiewski said. "The victim has refused the calls, so there has been no contact."

Todd, who was acquainted with the elderly man for several years and had done odd jobs for him, told Cicirelli he



Todd



Denton

also mailed a letter to the man.

Both Todd and co-defendant Clyde Denton, 37, of Canton are charged with unarmed robbery, one count of illegally possessing a stolen financial transaction device (ATM card), one count of using the stolen ATM card and unlawfully using a motor vehicle. The two defendants are being held in lieu of

bond. Both entered not guilty pleas.

Todd had called the elderly man Sept. 6 and asked him to pick up Todd and Denton, his brother-in-law, said Westland Police Sgt. Chris Gazdecki. Todd and Denton were at the man's home in early hours of Sept. 7.

Police reported the 71-year-old sustained multiple injuries, including skeletal fractures, which caused him to lose consciousness. He was unclear on who

See TRIAL, Page A2



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MASON

Continued from Page A1

When she attended a Westland City Council

meeting in August, Mason said the mayor mentioned he would like to recognize her but she didn't expect to be honored at the State of the City.

"I'm kind of overwhelmed. I thank the mayor. The officials I worked with over the years were wonderful people," she said. "I thank the people of the community for opening their doors to me."

"Journalists are kind of professional snoops and they trust us to do a good job with their story."

When she started her career 43 years ago, Mason said her goal was to be the best journalist she could be and that continues to be her goal. Mason also thanked

Observer & Eccentric publisher Susan Rosiek for being a wonderful mentor over the years.

In retirement, Mason said she is looking forward to spending evenings at home with her husband who was often left home while she was covering meetings or other night assignments.

"I will truly treasure this," said Mason, receiving the key to the city.



Retiring Wayne-Westland Observer editor Sue Mason had a few words for the crowd after Mayor William Wild presented her with a key to the city.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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ADDRESS

Continued from Page A1

audience like it was the Stanley Cup.

"As I meet with mayors, elected officials and business executives from across Michigan and our great country, I'm often asked, how are you having so much success in Westland," Wild said. "I tell them it's because we have cultivated a spirit of cooperation. I have a city council that gets it."

"While we don't always agree, we have proven that we can work together to tackle major issues that have been plaguing our city for years and deal with the curveballs that come at us on a daily basis," he said.

Other highlights mentioned by Wild included the new Fire Station 1 that was built on part of the former Service Merchan-

dise property, the new Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center, improvements to the historic Norwayne community and the restored Central City Park.

» Wild recognized Councilman Dewey Reeves, a Nankin Transit Commissioner, and Nankin Transit Executive Director James Ridener for their efforts in getting the senior citizen/disabled bus service running effectively and in the black.

» During the recession, Westland property valued dropped over 40 percent, "but I'm proud to say that property values are on the rise in Westland."

"After a modest 4.5-percent increase in 2014, we saw a double-digit increase of 12 percent in 2015," Wild said. "And local realtors are calling the Westland market one of the hottest in the area,

with several homes selling above asking price and same-day sales and multiple offers are being reported citywide."

» Westland recently completed a \$1 million road repair project on Central City Parkway between Warren and Wayne roads. Citing on-going reinvestment in the community infrastructure, Wild noted the first phase of a \$700,000 local street pavement rehabilitation program will begin in October.

» The reconstruction of Central City Parkway between Ford and Warren Road will start in the spring of 2016. It's a \$3.4 million project partially funded with a \$1.2 million federal grant.

» The city will save an estimated \$39,000 annually thanks to replacement of mercury vapor street lights with LEDs.

» A \$10 million program to replace obsolete

water meters citywide is already underway.

The State of the City provided a chance to highlight people making contributions to the city, including city staff, boards and commission members, Wayne-Ford Civic League President Vic Barra and Henry Johnson, chairman of the Norwayne Community Citizens Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Emma Socia, who founded Empower Kindness after being bullied on her school bus.

Sue Mason, editor of the *Wayne-Westland Observer* and *Garden City Observer*, was presented with the key to the city. She is retiring in late October.

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TRIAL

Continued from Page A1

took his ATM card.

"They (Todd and Denton) pointed fingers at each other," Gazdecki said. "We know for a fact that the ATM card was used in Wayne on Michigan Avenue about 4 a.m. (Sept. 7)."

As the two defendants entered the courtroom,

Todd walked behind Denton pointing at him and mouthing "he's a rat" to family members until a court officer told him to face forward.

Paroled on May 18, Todd had been sentenced to five years in prison for identity theft, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections. Todd also has prior convictions for home invasion, identity theft and assault with intent com-

mit armed robbery.

A parole absconder, Todd had listed an Inkster address with his parole officer.

"With a new state law, we can go to a parolee's house to look around," Gazdecki said. "Todd wasn't there, but Denton was there."

Denton was arrested while Westland Police released information on the incident and photos of Todd seeking the public's

help in locating him.

At a hearing Thursday, Denton waived his preliminary examination. Todd waived his probable cause hearing and also his preliminary examination. Both were scheduled for circuit court arraignment Oct. 1.

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Knezek seeks repeal of Michigan fireworks law

State Sen. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights, has introduced legislation that would repeal the Fireworks Safety Act of 2011, returning Michigan to the rules and guidelines that were in place prior to its passage.

This legislation was prompted by several constituent complaints and resolutions passed by the Dearborn Heights City Council, the Garden City Council and the Redford Township Board of Trustees.

"Since first being elected in 2012, my office has routinely handled constituent complaints surrounding the use of fireworks," Knezek said. "The complaints have come from many different people, ranging from pet owners to parents, worried about the safety of their homes and families, and our military veterans."

Knezek's legislation would only allow municipalities to grant fireworks permits for outdoor pest control or agricultural purposes; for public display by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks or other eligible groups of individuals.

It would prohibit anyone under age 18 from being granted a fireworks permit. The legislation still allows the sale, possession or transfer of certain toy pistols, paper caps, sparklers and toy snakes as well as other small products.

"The safety and security of our community has always been a top priority for me," said Knezek, who represents the 5th District that includes Dearborn Heights, a portion of Detroit, Garden City, Inkster and Redford Township. "Part of that equation includes passing laws that permit residents to live peace-



State Sen. David Knezek has introduced legislation that would repeal the Fireworks Safety Act of 2011.

"The complaints have come from many different people, ranging from pet owners to parents, worried about the safety of their homes and families, and our military veterans."

STATE SEN. DAVID KNEZEK, D-DEARBORN HEIGHTS

fully in their own homes. The fireworks laws in our state have shattered that standard of living for many people."

"Out of respect for my constituents who find the use of these fireworks to be a nuisance, I decided to act. I'm hopeful that we can return to common sense laws and that Michiganders can continue to celebrate important holidays like Independence Day," he added.

Senate Bills 450 and

451 were read for the first time on the Senate Floor on Sept. 9 and referred to the Committee on Government Operations where they await a hearing. Identical legislation was introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives on June 16 by Rep. Henry Yanez, D-Sterling Heights.

There have also been multiple petitions circulated calling for a ban with thousands of signatures from across the state.

Man charged in fire that injured 2

David Veselenak
Staff Writer



Darlington

One person who police believe may have been responsible for an early morning fire Sept. 19 in Livonia has been arrested and charged.

Sgt. Steve Petsch of the Livonia Police Department said Jonathan Darlington, 45, of Wayne, was arraigned last week on charges stemming from a fire at a building on Plymouth Road near Deering.

Petsch said Darlington was arrested shortly after the fire, which fire officials said originated in the front of the building. He was arraigned on two counts of attempted murder, two counts of first-degree arson, two counts of placing offensive substance with intent to cause physical injury, one count of arson preparation to burn a dwelling and habitual offender fourth offense. His preliminary exam was scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 1, in Livonia's 16th District Court,

Petsch said. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison.

Fire

inspector Keith Bo of the Livonia Fire Department said two individuals were inside the building when the fire broke out. He said both were transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The individuals injured with burns inside the building, Petsch said, appeared to be spending the night there. He could not say for sure whether Darlington knew there were people inside.

"That's what we believe," he said. "Whether he did in fact know, we can't say."

Fire knocked down quickly

Livonia fire chief Shadd Whitehead said firefighters were called to the building after an employee at the Crest-

wood Lounge Bar and Grill noticed the fire and called first responders. Crews arrived from across the city and knocked the fire down in about 10 minutes, Whitehead said.

"It was a fire that was knocked down fairly quickly," he said. "It was pretty much contained to the front portion of that building."

The Michigan State Police also arrived to assist in the investigation, Whitehead said.

He said the building was not vacant, and it appeared the owner was possibly using it for storage.

"The building is occupied, but it's not in use. It's not a vacant building, it does have an owner," he said. "I would say it's not in significant use right now."

The incident remains under investigation by both the fire and police departments.

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GC Elementary PTA puts color in fun run/walk

Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Garden City Elementary PTA is bringing color to its annual fun run.

For several years the PTA has sponsored fun runs at the Garden City's four elementary schools. Youngsters solicited pledges and then spent the afternoon running a course on the school playground.

This year, however, those four runs will be combined into one event — the Color Fun Run and Walk, which is set for 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, at the Garden City Middle School track on Radcliff, south of Ford.

"We decided to do something different and change it up. We decided to combine all

the schools into one event, so we could get a lot of participation from our families and the community," Elementary PTA President Jamie Beccaccio said. "We started thinking about it last year, but there wasn't enough time to plan it."

In a Color Run, spectators shower participants with colored powder as they run around the track. Color stations are set up around the course where the different colored powders — red, blue, orange, yellow and green — are available to buy at \$3-for-one or \$5-for-two.

Beccaccio said the colored powder is made of cornstarch and is biodegradable and non-hazardous. One packet is good for one person.

Participants are encouraged

to wear white or light-colored shirts and can wear protective goggles or sunglasses. The color packets are non-toxic and should easily wash out, but there may be temporary staining of hair and skin, Beccaccio said.

The event is free for students in kindergarten to sixth grade, but is open to anyone who pays the \$10 registration fee. Registration can be completed at www.eventbrite.com under Garden City Elementary PTA. Students can also do fundraising at www.thegetmovincrew.com; click on the gold Register Your Child and search for Garden City Elementary PTA.

"I'm sure the kids would love to see their parents get out there and run with them,"

Beccaccio said, adding that "it's not an official 5K race."

Students who raise at least \$10 will receive a color packet to get extra colorful before the event. Those who raise at least \$25 will be part of the KidFit bracelet raffle. The top three fundraisers, from among all students, will receive an iPod Touch or Kindle Fire.

Participants can register the day of the event, although pledge sheets must be turned in at the various elementaries by Sept. 30.

Beccaccio said the date and time was selected to not conflict with GCYAA football and church services. If the weather is bad, the rain date will be Sunday, Oct. 11.

The PTA is looking for businesses to sponsor the color

stations. A sponsorship is \$100 and the business name will be displayed at the color station. Sponsors don't need to man the stations, but they can come and participate in throwing colored dye packets at the runners and walkers.

For more information about the event or being a sponsor, contact Beccaccio at jaimie2195@gmail.com.

"We're hoping for at least 200 participants," Beccaccio said. "We're trying to keep it reasonably priced for families so they don't have to expend a lot to enjoy a nice Sunday afternoon activity."

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GM donates engines to Career Technical Center

William D. Ford Career Technical Center's Automotive Technology class was on the receiving of a donation from General Motors.

The automaker donated 10 1.2-liter, four-cylinder GM Spark Engines to the class. The opportunity was provided through the center's relationship with AYES (Automotive Youth Education System.)

The engines will be utilized in the Auto Technologies program to help ensure students continue to get exposure to the latest vehicle engines and technologies.

The Automotive Technology class is one of 18 programs offered to 11th-12th-grade students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. The program is designed to prepare students for a career in automotive technology.

Students learn shop practices, use of tools, shop safety and the use of diagnostic test equipment. Theory and practice are combined to perform basic service in engine repair, engine performance, electri-



Showing off the new engines are Joseph Chetosky, Alec Wilson, Tabitha Hardy, William D. Ford Career Technical Center Principal Steve Kay, Joseph Dittmar, Justin Kabara, instructor Len Shenko, Alec Cullen, instructor Mark Batko and Adriano Colangelo.

cal systems, brake systems, suspension and steering and air conditioning.

Opened in 1981, the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, 36455 Marquette, Westland, offers world-class educational opportunities to high school students and adults. The 100,000-square-foot facility offers 18 distinct technical training programs. Each program has state-of-

the-art equipment, technology and instruction to prepare high school and adult learners to gain skills directly related to the goal of employment.

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For more information about the technical center, call 734-419-2106.

STUDENT ACHIEVERS

Adam Knapp, William Milliere and Kevin Uhrig, all of Westland, were named to the President's List for the Spring/Summer 2015 semester at Davenport University. The President's List recognizes top students who excel with outstanding academic performance. To achieve the recognition, a student must maintain a minimum 3.8 grade-point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

Heather Chiti of Garden City has been named to the Dean's List for the Spring/Summer 2015 semester. To achieve the Dean's List, a student must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade-point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

The College of Nursing at Kent State University has welcomed Hannah Udell of Westland to the Kent, Ohio, university. She is among more than 6,300 newly enrolled students comprising Kent State's Class of 2019.

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JULIE BROWN

Patricia Meacham, a Wayne Memorial High School graduate, is the new volunteer coordinator/administrative assistant for the Wayne-Westland corps of the Salvation Army. She lives in Canton with her husband and three children.

Salvation Army volunteer coordinator has 'sympathetic ear'

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Patricia Meacham has rolled up her sleeves and gotten to work at the Wayne-Westland Corps of the Salvation Army.

"I actually grew up right around here," the 37-year-old Canton resident said, pausing from her duties at the corps on Venoy, south of Palmer. She graduated from Wayne Memorial High School and learned medical billing at Dorsey Schools.

She grew up in the Salvation Army, since age 8-9, and is a church member at the Wayne-Westland Corps. Meacham is the new volunteer coordinator and administrative assistant there, succeeding Phil Hull, who took a Salvation Army job in Indiana.

She's also volunteered at the Wayne-Westland Corps in Sunday school, "whatever's needed in the corps, basically." Meacham has volun-

teered with the Plymouth Salvation Army as well. She and husband Chris Meacham have three children ages 14, 11 and 8, who were in preschool at the Plymouth Corps where she helped.

"This is my community I grew up in," Patricia Meacham said of her new role, which she began in July. "It's being back in the community to help." She finds it rewarding, working with people and groups.

"Because you know some of the things they struggle with," she said. "Knowing what struggles they go through helps. I think it gives you more of a sympathetic ear."

Wayne-Westland is a different corps and community from Plymouth and Canton, Meacham added.

In her free time, "it's just spending time with family." Her husband is involved with Boy Scouts and their middle child in football.

"We're very happy to

have her," envoy Jim Hulett said. "This position is very valuable. She's good, she knows the corps. It was of great benefit she kind of knows the Salvation Army and the community."

Hulett added that being relatively new himself, he needs good staffers – and volunteers. "We are wanting to build a volunteer base," he said.

That's true for the upcoming Christmas season, including bell ringing for the Red Kettle campaign and helping to screen assistance applications. The holiday senior dinner and toy shop draw volunteers, but other volunteers are needed, particularly for assistance applications and bell ringing.

Contact the Wayne-Westland corps at 734-722-3660 and Meacham at ext. 101.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @248Julie

Support National Kidney Foundation at Trick or Feet!

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is asking the community to step up and join the more than 500 runners and walkers Sunday, Oct. 4, at its annual Trick or Feet! 5K/10K Run, Walk & Roll at Maybury State Park.

This Halloween-themed event will transform Maybury's beautiful terrain into a "spooktacular" atmosphere for the whole family.

There will be 5K and 10K courses and a half-mile Mini-Monster Dash for ages 12 and under. All three courses are on a paved trail.

The day will include live music, food and refreshments, massages, giveaways, exercise demos by Gazelle Sports and kids activities like face painting, pumpkin painting, a

Home Depot workshop and much more.

Participants are encouraged to dress to impress for the following costume contest categories: Best Individual Costume, Best Group Costume (4 or more), Best Kids Costume, and Cutest Furry Friend! (Please note: dogs on a leash are welcome to attend.)

HAP is the presenting sponsor of this year's Trick or Feet! and has chosen this event as its 5K Challenge race. HAP members and community members who have stepped up to complete HAP's Couch to 5K Challenge have received a nine-week training plan, participate in group trainings and will be running with the HAP Orange Striv-

ers team the day of the event.

The event begins at 10 a.m. on a paved trail. The half-mile Mini-Monster Dash, for all kids under age 12, begins at 11:30 a.m. Registration is \$35 for the 5K, \$45 for the 10K and \$10 for the Mini-Monster Dash.

All race participants will receive a finisher's medal and T-shirt. There will also be awards for the top three male and female runners in each age group: 17 and under, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70 and over.

Register before the event at www.nkfm.org/TrickorFeet or on the day of the event starting at 9 a.m.

Maybury State Park is at 49775 Eight Mile Road in Northville.

CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA Zoning Board of Appeals

October 13, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall – Auditorium (1st Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466 2259

APPEAL CASE 2015-09-46: Robert Konrad, south side of Middleboro, (31609) between Berwick and Arden, seeking to operate a group day care home for the care of up to twelve (12) children, which requires approval of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-50: Charles and Kay Silkworth, 6637 Greg Way, Lake Worth, FL 33467, on behalf of Lessee Arby's, east side of Middlebelt (19000) between Dardanella and Clarita, seeking to replace an existing ground sign with a new sign being, resulting in such sign being excess in height, area and containing a bulletin board, which is not allowed.

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-51: D. S. Homes, 14315 Denne, Livonia, MI 48154, seeking to erect a single family home upon property located on the south side of Munger (30687) between Merriman and East End, resulting in deficient front yard setback.

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-52: Paola Vespa, west side of Melvin (14661) between Lori and Linda, seeking to erect a six (6) foot tall vinyl privacy fence with being unable to acquire the adjoining property owners approval. This approval is required for all privacy fences.

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-53: Dino Poulos, north side of Five Mile (31680) between Auburndale and Ingram, seeking to construct a detached garage while maintaining an attached garage, resulting in excess number of garages and garage area.

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-55: Constantino and Jennifer Buffa, east side of Yale (15186) between Five Mile and Henry, seeking to operate a group day care home for the care of up to twelve (12) children, which requires approval of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 – all comments must include name, address and signature.

Published: September 27, 2015

START SAVING YOUR PENNIES!

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015

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CHRISTMAS

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NEWSPAPERS AND ONLINE AT
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



USA TODAY
MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Schoolcraft Foundation holds Culinary Extravaganza

The Schoolcraft College Foundation held its Culinary Extravaganza, a celebration of food and wine, Sept. 20 at the Vis-TaTech Center on the Livonia campus.

The annual event is the nonprofit's premier fundraiser for raising money to provide scholarship support to stu-

dents as they pursue their academic goals.

The event features some of metro Detroit's best restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors.

A silent auction with sports tickets, sport memorabilia, travel and theater and food packages was also held.



SCHOOLCRAFT FOUNDATION
Susan Cereza delivers more goodies to the Main Street Cafe.



SCHOOLCRAFT FOUNDATION

Chef Andrew Sheridan of Birdies Something Chocolate serves tastes of chocolate ganache. He is a Schoolcraft graduate and is a sous chef in the banquet department.



SCHOOLCRAFT FOUNDATION
Eating and drinking for a good cause at the Schoolcraft Culinary Extravaganza.



SCHOOLCRAFT FOUNDATION
Shelby Janisch, Carrie Shannon and Brandy Cook serve breads baked by culinary students.

City of Garden City Close of Registration Notice City General Election, Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the last day of registration for the City General Election is Monday, October 5, 2015.

Candidates for the following offices are to be voted upon:

- Mayor
- City Council
- Library Board Member

The following proposal will be voted on:

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OPERATING CHARTER MILLAGE PROPOSITION

Shall the total charter tax rate limitation previously approved by the electors of Schoolcraft Community College District, Michigan, on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all taxable property within the community college district be increased by 0.6 mill (\$0.60 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2016 to 2025, inclusive, to be used for operating purposes of the community college district and all other purposes authorized by law; if approved, the estimate of the revenue the community college district will collect in 2016 is approximately \$8,000,000?

Yes No

This notice is given by order of the Garden City Clerk Allyson Bettis.

Published: September 27, 2015

LO-0000257548 3x3.5

NOTIFICATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia-Housing Commission (LHC) for the purpose of providing snow removal services at its Senior Citizen Housing Communities and Administration Building for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons.

Proposal documents will be available as of September 28, 2015 at the LHC Office located at 19300 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152, between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. All proposals must be returned to the LHC on or before October 9, 2015 at 2:00 pm, at which time all proposals shall be publicly opened.

For additional information regarding the request for proposals/qualifications contact Brandie Isaacson, Division Director at bisaacson@ci.livonia.mi.us. Subject Line to Read: SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES RFP.

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

Published: September 27, 2015

LO-0000258422 3x2.5

HEROES ON HINES HALF MARATHON AND 5K

Wayne County's 3rd Annual Heroes on Hines Half Marathon and 5K



Saturday, October 3, 2015

Half Marathon: 8:00 a.m.

5K: 8:45 a.m.

Hines Park in Plymouth Township, MI

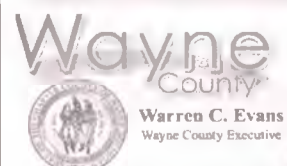
Entry includes technical race shirt for all distances and a finisher's medal for all distances

All proceeds will go towards the maintenance and upkeep of the First Responders Memorial

(Hines Drive and Haggerty Rd.)



For registration and race details, visit www.HeroesOnHines.com



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Auctions, Cinderella featured at annual St. Mary Mercy Livonia Gala

The 23rd annual St. Mary Mercy Livonia Gala, Cinderella's Magical Dreams: A Fairytale Evening, will take place at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center.

The evening will include a live and silent auction, entertainment by Dance Dynamic and Intrigue and a special appearance by Cinderella and her prince. This year's event committee chair is Monique Marks, president and CEO of Franklin-Wright Settlements in Detroit.

Tickets to the event are available, as well as VIP tickets which include an invitation to an exclusive pre-party Thursday, Sept. 24.

Proceeds from the 2015 St. Mary Mercy Livonia Gala will make a life-changing difference for patients at St. Mary Mercy's Behavioral Health Services Unit.

"This important renovation project in our Behavioral Medicine Unit will enhance patient comfort and care, creating a modern, updated space that better supports current treatment models and philosophies of care, said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Livonia. "Throughout the past 40 years, our specialized staff has offered care that meets the medical and emotional needs of our patients. This is the next step in transforming our inpatient services throughout St. Mary Mercy to reflect our commitment to advanced medicine and compassionate care."

The proceeds will improve the health and quality of life of hundreds of individuals and allow St. Mary Mercy to serve as a beacon of hope in the community.



Committee chair Monique Marks and her husband Bert at the 2014 St. Mary Mercy Livonia Gala.

"Getting Your Affairs in Order"

Estate planning attorney David Mammel and Glen Eden's Sharon Molinaro will present a fact-packed seminar. They will share the latest information that you need to know on planning for your estate, survivors, assets and final arrangements.

RSVP: 248-477-4460

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- Probate
- IRS
- Lawyers
- Family
- Documents
- New Laws
- Final Arrangements
- Answers to all your questions

**Tuesday
Sept. 29th, 2 p.m.
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In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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Risk levels & screening options for breast cancer.

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October 8 • 7 pm-9pm

Providence-Providence Park Hospital, Novi
47601 Grand River Ave., Novi, MI 48374
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(located inside the Heart Institute entrance)

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1651 S. Milford Rd., Highland

Wednesday & Friday
9am-5pm
Wayne County Farm Bureau
308 N. Canton Center, Canton



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Councilman Brandon and Rebecca Kritzman & Family • Ken and Ellen Bourgon • Commissioner Terry Marecki • Livonia Chamber of Commerce • Terry, Sue, TJ, Tina, Devin, Dylan, Amy Sue and Kaiti Poster • Robert Hardies • Conrad and Andrea Schwartz • Visual Art Association of Livonia • Cathy White

Mayor Jack and Patt Kirksey • Councilwoman Lynda and Doug Scheel • Councilwoman Laura Toy • Mayor Jack and Senie Engebretson • Brian, Kathleen McIntyre, David and Patrick Culliton • Katie, Jim, Lexie, Claire, and JD Jolly • Schoolcraft College Trustee Gretchen Alaniz • Joe Neussendorfer

Dan, Veronica, Kameron, Ashlyn, & Marissa MacIver • Melissa Pilzner of Raymond James-Livonia • Tim, Deanna and Andie Klisz • Former City Councilman Jim and Linda McCann • Tom Karabatakis—Promotional Concepts • Four-M Associates—Jim and Charlie Mahoney • Corsi's Restaurant & Banquet Halls

Blue Plate Diner • Alan Helmkamp • R. William Joyner—FridayMusings • Kathy Ventitelli—Think Ink • Schoolcraft College • Alpha USA • Livonia Civic Chorus • The Gaskill Family • Debra Bonde • Kathy and Bob Hoen • Heather, Dave, Sommer, Kailey, Tyler and Chase Douglas • Downtown Livonia Partnership • Community Alliance Credit Union • Livonia Family YMCA • Old Rosedale Gardens Homeowners Association • Judge Timothy and June Kenny • Eileen and Bob McDonnell

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- 3 Public Golf Courses
- 2 Indoor Ice Arenas
- 3 Outdoor Swimming Pools
- 77 Baseball Diamonds
- 43 Tennis Courts

Hall of Fame 2015

1835 Livonia City Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Carol Strom
introduced by Kathleen McIntyre

Livonia YMCA
introduced by Brandon Kritzman

Friends of Greenmead
introduced by Jack Engebretson

Joe Neussendorfer
introduced by Liz Jarvis

Laura Toy
introduced by Dennis Wright

Alan Helmkamp
introduced by Terry Marecki

Carl Riegel
introduced by Tammy Bonifield

Dr. Janet Haas
introduced by Lynda Scheel

Thursday, October 1st
Rosedale Gardens
Presbyterian Church

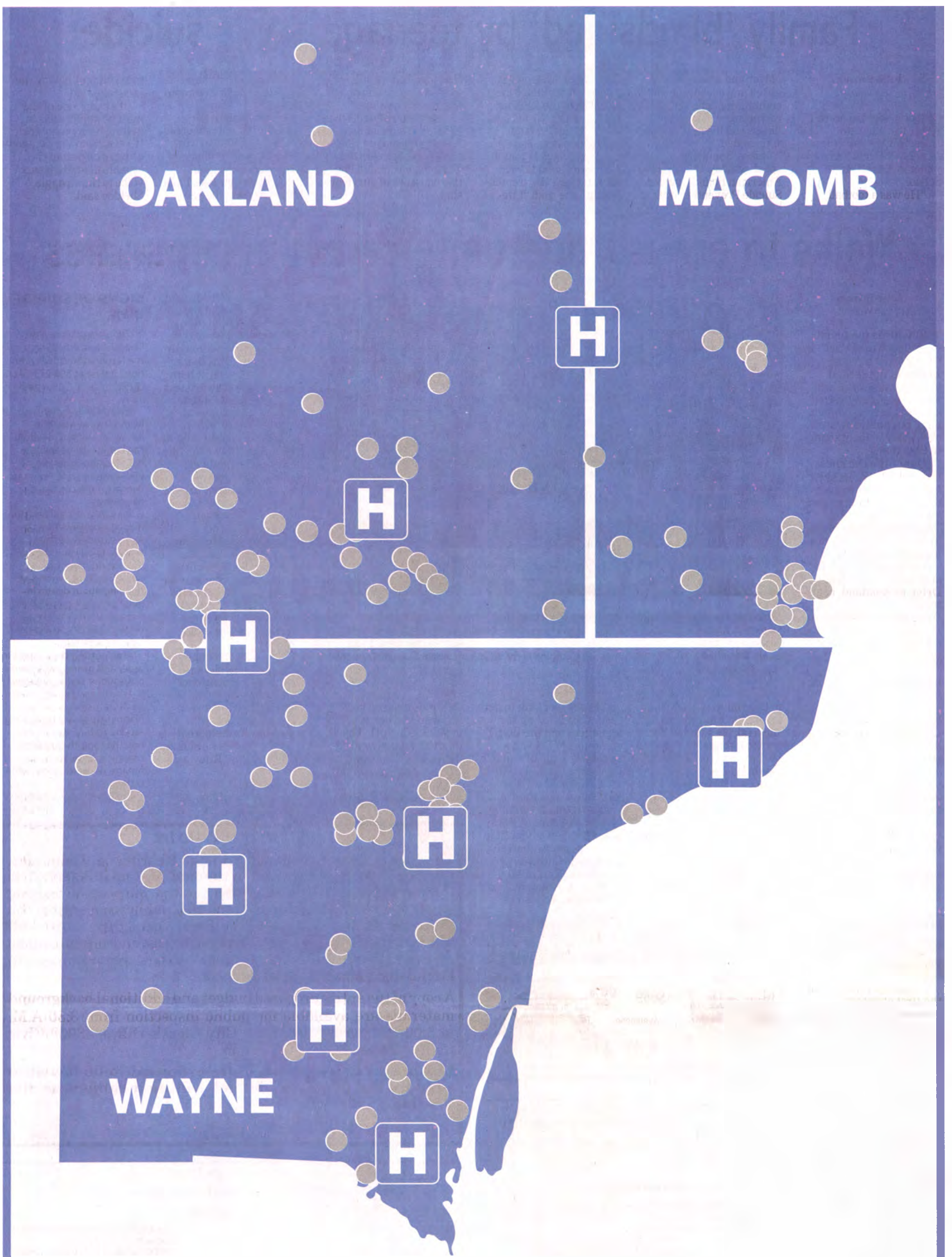
@7:00 pm

Public encouraged to attend
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HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL



Members of the Canton and Westland John Glenn volleyball teams pose for a group photo prior to Thursday night's Make-A-Wish fund-raiser match.

CASSIE DULOCK

PLAYING FOR A GREATER CAUSE

Rockets, Chiefs put spotlight on Make-A-Wish during fundraising showdown

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Winning wasn't everything during Thursday night's KLAA South Division volleyball showdown between undefeated Canton and always-competitive Westland John Glenn.

At least for one night, victory took a backseat to compassion as the two teams turned the match into a fundraiser/awareness-raiser for Make-A-Wish — an organization that strives to grant wishes — no matter the magnitude — of children who are diagnosed with life-threatening medical conditions.

According to its website, Make-A-Wish grants a wish every 37 minutes — a statistic that comes as no surprise to two mothers who had daughters participating in Thursday's match — and daughters whose lives have been touched by Make-A-Wish.

Thursday's match was extra-special for Jonelle Loving, whose daughter, Carley, is a sophomore middle hitter for the Rockets, and Sandy Linsner, whose daughter, Cassandra Tanana, is a sopho-



Westland John Glenn's Shelby Hodges chases down a ball during Thursday's match against Canton.

ED WRIGHT

more outside hitter for the Chiefs. Linsner's youngest daughter, Natalie, who was born with a rare genetic syndrome, was granted a trip to Disney World earlier this year.

Make-A-Wish financed the reno-

vation of a bathroom for Ashley Loving, who was wheelchair-bound due to spina bifida and hydrocephalus before passing away at the age of 15 in 2009.

"This night is very special for our family because we're able to give back

to an organization that gave something so precious to us," said Loving.

Talking about the night's meaning brought tears to the eyes of Linsner, who said Make-A-Wish stepped up when several other organizations didn't.

"Make-A-Wish is amazing; they are so giving," she said. "Even though we're a divorced family, they brought everyone together for a trip. It was not only a special trip for Natalie, but for the older kids as well because it was so relaxing."

"When you have a special-needs child, it can be so hard on the siblings because there are always appointments to juggle and therapy. To be able to take that trip was awesome, and Make-A-Wish made it happen."

Linsner said Natalie's health challenges have been eye-openers for her volleyball-playing daughter and her friends.

"I saw some of my daughter's friends crying tonight (during a presentation before the match)," said Linsner. "They have been so compassionate toward Natalie. It's something you can't teach."

Cassie Dulock, whose daughter Victoria is a member of the John Glenn varsity squad, helped organize Thursday's event with the help of Make-A-Wish representative Susan Smith.

"The girls on both teams were very excited to do something good," said Dulock, who said the match helped

See GREATER, Page B3

WWAC FOOTBALL REPORT

Garden City throttles Redford Union, 38-6

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Garden City's football team forced six Redford Union turnovers and blocked three punts on the way to upending the visiting Panthers 38-6 in a Western Wayne Athletic Conference Blue Division contest played Friday night.

The Cougars improved to 2-3 overall, while the Panthers slipped to 1-4.

The Cougars led just 10-6 at the half before turning on the after-burners the final 24 minutes.

RU threatened to seize a lead heading into the half, however, a GC defensive back made an "incredible" interception in the end zone to thwart the drive, according to Panthers head coach Miles Tomasaitis.

"We just turned the ball over too many times to win tonight," Tomasaitis said. "We have a young quarterback and we fumbled the ball a couple times on the center-quarterback exchange."

On the bright side for RU, weekly mainstays Isaac Grant and Marquise Hathaway performed admirably.

Grant scored the visitors' lone touchdown in the second quarter after a 60-yard run by Hathaway put them in



Garden City's John Giangrande is hauled down by a Redford Union defender following a substantial gain Friday night.

ED WRIGHT

the red zone.

Life doesn't get any easier for either team next week. Redford Union will celebrate its homecoming against Dearborn Fordson, while the Cougars' homecoming Friday will be against Dearborn Heights Robichuad.

ewright@hometownlife.com

PREP FOOTBALL

Tank-less South Lyon proves no match for Stevenson

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The first sign indicating Friday night might be a long one for South Lyon's football team emerged during pre-game warm-ups when star player Trevor Tank appeared wearing purple basketball shorts, not white football pants.

The second sign came 20 seconds into the contest against host Livonia Stevenson when the Spartans drove 75 yards in three plays and scored on junior quarterback Chris Tanderys's 23-yard pass to Austin Petrie, who had hauled in a 41-yard pass on the previous snap.

With Tank sidelined (reportedly by a high bruise) and Tanderys doing a pretty good impersonation of Marcus Mariota, Stevenson rolled to an emphatic 35-0 victory in a KLAA Central Division clash.

Stevenson improved to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the division. The loss dropped the Lions to 2-3 and 0-3, respectively.

Stevenson outgained South Lyon in total yards, 437-188.

"We had heard a couple rumors that (Tank) may not play, but we just fo-



Stevenson's Austin Petrie hauls in a touchdown pass from Chris Tanderys in front of South Lyon defensive back Cliff Price.

ED WRIGHT

cused on playing a good game, whether he played or not," said Stevenson defensive standout Tyler Hudson, who piled up eight solo tackles and seven assists. "They had some big boys carrying the ball, but our defense is quick and our coaches preach 11 hats on the

See STEVENSON, Page B4

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Check out 2016 Maxima at Nissan of Canton

Cars.com

The redesigned 2016 Nissan Maxima is a powerful, good-handling sedan that stays true to the nameplate's performance-oriented heritage and features an upscale interior that befits its price. You can view and test drive one at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave.

"Maxima" is Nissan's longest continually-in-use nameplate, and the eighth-generation car is a boldly styled sedan that draws heavily from the Nissan Sport Sedan Concept.

Ever since the Nissan Altima grew into a midsize family sedan in the early 2000s, the Maxima hasn't fit neatly into a segment. Nissan says the 2016 Maxima is designed to compete with larger, traditional full-size sedans like the Chevrolet Impala and Toyota Avalon, as well as appeal to buyers looking to move up to a luxury car, like the Acura TLX.

The 2016 Maxima is offered in five trim levels — S, SV, SL, SR and Platinum — that determine the level of equipment; accessories are available, but there are no option packages. We drove an SL, which is priced at \$37,715, and the \$38,495 SR. That one is the most performance-focused model, with unique suspension bushings, springs, shocks, front stabilizer bar and chassis bracing, in addition to 19-inch alloy wheels with stickier Goodyear tires (prices include an \$825 destination charge).

Exterior and styling

The Maxima brings Nissan's Energetic Flow design language to its sedan lineup. Signature cues include a plunging grille bordered by LED daytime running lights and gloss-black pillar finishes that give the roof a floating appearance — something Nissan says is inspired by a fighter jet's canopy. The front end is aggressive — the car looks menacing when you see it coming up on you in your rear-view mirror — and also memorable. It's a design that demands a reaction, good or bad.

How it drives



2016 Nissan Maxima

Large cars may be known for a forgiving, comfortable ride quality, but that's not the Maxima formula. Compared with a Chevrolet Impala or Chrysler 300, which both do a good job smoothing out bumps and cracks in the road, the Maxima is a much more connected, tighter-handling car. There's remarkably little body roll when driving quickly through a corner. You feel bumps, but they're dealt with in a refined way.

The SR trim level's unique suspension is considerably firmer and busier; you feel more road imperfections, even smaller ones, and the impact is harsher when you hit a big pavement crack. It's a little too rough-riding for me, especially considering the good ride-and-handling balance the regular suspension provides.

You'll want the SR trim if you really care about steering feel, as it offers the best of the bunch. Press the Sport button in an SR, however, and the steering wheel gains a nice, firm heft to it and some feedback through the wheel. It feels right in this performance-focused trim.

All trim levels benefit from the performance of the standard 3.5-liter V-6 engine, which provides smooth, effortless acceleration. Rated at 300 horsepower, the V-6 still has power to spare for a quick pass at highway speeds. It pairs with a continuously variable automatic transmission that's programmed to act like a conventional automatic at low

speeds for a more traditional driving experience, according to Nissan.

The Maxima shows how far CVT technology has come recently, at least when paired with a powerful engine. It's mostly unobtrusive, with only a hint of the droning that's associated with this type of transmission when you accelerate hard. If you've been driving a car with a conventional automatic, this CVT won't seem strange or different.

One of the benefits of a CVT is that it's able to quickly increase engine speed when you want more power because it doesn't need to shift to a lower gear. The Maxima's CVT is very responsive; nudge the gas pedal and engine rpm immediately increases, providing more power.

CVTs usually enhance gas mileage, and the Maxima's EPA-estimated 25 mpg combined rating tops most V-6 competitors by a few mpg or so.

Interior

Overall quality and attention to detail is very good. The standard leather-wrapped steering wheel feels great; it's even better in the SR, which has Alcantara simulated-suede inserts. The upper sections of the doors are finished with soft-touch material that's a comfortable alternative to the door armrests. The center console has a padded section to rest your knee against, and there's real stitching on the doors, console and dashboard.

Cargo and storage

The Maxima's 14.3-cubic-foot trunk is nicely shaped, and the trunk lid's support arms move within an enclosed area, so there's no risk of them crushing your cargo. The release straps for the 60/40-split folding backseat are in the trunk. The rear seatbacks fold flat with the trunk floor.

The Maxima has a media bin just ahead of the center console cupholders. The bin is large enough for an iPhone 6 Plus, according to Nissan, and it's also where the car's two standard USB ports are located.

Safety

Most of the Maxima's active safety features come on SL and higher trims. These models have standard blind spot warning, rear cross-traffic alert, adaptive cruise control, forward collision warning with autonomous braking and predictive forward collision warning. Predictive forward collision warning uses low-mounted radar to "see" under the car directly ahead of you to the next one in line. The system can issue a warning if it senses that car slowing suddenly — even if you can't see it yourself.

The top-of-the-line Platinum trim adds a surround camera system with moving-object detection and a drowsy-driver warning system. Drowsy-driver warning compares steering inputs at the beginning of a drive with ones later in the trip to determine if the driver is getting tired and needs to take a break.

Value in its class

Years ago, Nissan dubbed the Maxima the 4-Door Sports Car. It's an ambitious tagline, but it reflects the fact that the car caters to a specific type of buyer: the driving enthusiast who still needs sedan practicality. The 2016 Maxima is no different from its predecessors in this regard, but its new level of luxury — both in terms of cabin materials and features — now makes it a credible alternative to entry-luxury sedans. If you're shopping sport sedans, it's worth a test drive.

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Dealer hours: Monday & Thursday - 9am - 9pm; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am - 6pm; Saturday 10am - 3pm; Sunday - Closed

*Prices are plus tax, title, license, doc, acquisition fee and destination fee; 36 month lease with \$0 security deposit; \$0 down payment; with 12,000 in annual miles. Must take delivery from dealer stock. **Prices are plus tax, title, license, doc, acquisition fee and destination fee; 24 month lease with \$0 security deposit; \$0 down payment; with 12,000 in annual miles. Must take delivery from dealer stock. Offer Expires 9-30-15



The 2015 Lincoln MKX is on sale at Jack Demmer Lincoln, where customers benefit from the Demmer Difference.

2015 Lincoln MKX is on sale now at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn

The 2015 Lincoln MKX is on sale now at Jack Demmer Lincoln, where customers benefit from the Demmer Difference.

Sales Manager Chris Conley said that this midsize luxury crossover vehicle is ideally balanced, and noted its 305 horsepower and 26 miles per gallon highway on regular unleaded.

"Most of the competition requires premium fuel," he said.

A main feature, Conley said, is the optional Intelligent All-Wheel Drive that helps give

the Lincoln MKX enhanced traction while providing impressive performance along with tighter handling and control. The system responds actively by redirecting power to the appropriate wheel for best traction. It also helps enhance the vehicle's performance and handling in driving conditions such as rain, sleet, snow, gravel or sand.

The MKX's voice-activated technology helps drivers keep their eyes on the road and stay connected; its features include:

- » Hands-free calling

- » A compatible digital music player
- » Bluetooth audio
- » Incoming texts read with audible text messaging.
- » Voice/touch climate control

» 911 Assist using your connected mobile phone.

Conley said that MKX owner loyalty is very high.

"Most MKX clients buy or lease another MKX," he said.

And many return to Jack Demmer Lincoln because of the Demmer Difference, which includes:

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- » Being part of the Jack Demmer Automotive Group family
- » And attentive, knowledgeable professionals

"Great lease and purchase offers are going on now," Conley said.

Jack Demmer Lincoln is located at 21531 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn. The dealership is open from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

For more information, call 800-306-8674 or visit demmerlincoln.net.

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41 MPG



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with ZERO Down
and \$266 Due at Signing

VIN#3LN6L2LU1GR600530 • 24 Mo./21,000 Miles Lease

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2015 Lincoln MKS



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with ZERO Down
and \$338 Due at Signing

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2016 Lincoln MKZ



\$267/mo.

with ZERO Down
and \$267 Due at Signing

VIN#3LN6L2G92GR601708 • 24 Mo./21,000 Miles Lease

*All payments are based on A/Z-plan, plus tax, title, and plates. 24 month/21,000 mile lease. Lease Renewal Included. Residency restrictions apply. Security deposit is waived with approved credit through Lincoln AFS. Taxes, title, license and document fees are in addition to the Due at Signing amounts shown in this offer. Non A/Z plan payments slightly higher. Price is subject to change. This offer ends 9/30/15.

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\$393/mo.

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22" Wheels, Power Moon Roof



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and \$4,721 Due at Signing

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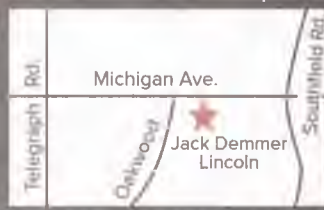
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Free cleanup kit helps prevent deadly sepsis

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Sepsis can strike anyone, at any age, and it can develop from something as severe as pneumonia or a simple cut or scratch.

"I'm a nurse practitioner and I see it in the ER every day," said Michele Moccia, R.N., program director, senior emergency center at St. Mary Mercy Livonia. "It's a life-threatening response to an infection, a bad outcome from an infection. All of a sudden your body goes haywire. The body starts to destroy itself. When people get sepsis, it can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and death. If you survive sepsis, you can have long-term functional and cognitive effects. Some people get amputations."

According to Sepsis Alliance, the condition starts with an infection caused by an illness, such as diabetes, cancer, upper respiratory infection, or appendicitis. Or an injury, like a cut or scrape, can turn into sepsis, causing systemic inflammation. It also can be caused by an infection following routine surgery. It can strike all ages, although the elderly, young children and individuals with weakened immune systems, chronic diseases and burn victims are at greater risk.

According to the National Institutes of Health, more than one million Americans develop sepsis and 28-50% die as a result.

"Five hundred people (nationwide) die from sepsis every day and they can die within hours. It's the ninth leading cause of death," Moccia said.

Spreading the word

September is Sepsis Awareness Month and Moccia and other members of STAR FoRuM, based at St. Mary Mercy, are doing their part to raise awareness of the condition. STAR FoRuM is a collaboration of representatives from the hospital, nursing homes,



Home Instead, a senior care company in Livonia, will distribute cleaning kits to help prevent sepsis, 2-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30.

rehab centers, home care companies and other agencies working to improve patient transitions between the hospital and their facilities.

The group distributed information about sepsis,

along with Clorox cleaning kits from Home Instead Senior Care at St. Mary Mercy's annual Embrace Life run/walk earlier this month and placed table displays showing the signs of

sepsis in the hospital cafeteria. Moccia also spoke on the topic at a Michigan Hospital Association meeting in Traverse City.

St. Mary Mercy and Home Instead will team

up Wednesday, Sept. 30, to distribute information and Clorox cleanup kits to help battle sepsis, 2-7 p.m. at Home Instead, 16013 Middlebelt, Livonia; 734-525-5300.

Glenna Yaroch, owner

SUBMITTED

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Candle lighting

"Wave of Light," a ceremony to honor and remember babies that have died, is set for 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, in the main lobby at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Pastor Bob McDonald will offer a short message and the Fairhaven Baptist Church Choir of Westland will sing. For more information, call 734-458-3300.

Flu shot clinic

Canton Leisure Services offers this clinic for adults, 18 and older, 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Oct. 6, in the Chestnut Room at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Most forms of insurance will be accepted. Participants should bring their insurance cards to the clinic. Patients without insurance can buy a pneumonia shot for \$95, a flu shot for \$33 or flu mist for \$35. Appointments are required. Call 734-394-5485, or visit cantonfun.org.

Guest speaker

The University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy presents James House, author of *Beyond Obamacare: Life, Death, and Social Policy* at 4 p.m. Oct. 7, in Weill Hall, 735 S. State St., Ann Arbor. This event is free and open to the public with a reception to follow. For more information, visit fordschool.umich.edu/events/2015/beyond-obamacare-life-death-and-social-policy.

Ladies Night Out

St. Mary Mercy Livonia presents "Get the Inside Knowledge: What You Need to Know About Gynecologic Cancer," 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. The event will include health screenings,



Join a local support group, get a screening, or take a class to improve your health.

massage, prizes, vendors and a presentation by Michael Hicks, M.D., St. Mary Mercy Livonia director of gynecologic oncology. The event is free, but registration is required. Call 734-655-1182 or visit stmary-mercy.org.

Medicare workshop

Bettie Hughes of The Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging 1-C, will answer questions about Medicare eligibility, coverage, and enrollment options with Medicare and the new Integrated Care dual program MI Health Link, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, at the Plymouth District Library. Register by calling 734-453-0750, Ext. 4, or visit plymouthlibrary.org and click on "events."

Melanoma walk

10th annual KDB Melanoma 5K Run/Walk is set for Sunday, Oct. 11, at Kensington Metropolitan Park, in Milford. Registration starts at 9 a.m., yoga is from 10-11 a.m. and the walk/run begins at 11:15 a.m. The event will include face painting and a balloon twister. Dogs may attend on leashes no longer than 6 feet. For more information, visit melanomawalk.org.

Ongoing

Ab-Anon

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

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. Visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Bipolar support

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6-7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. Meetings open to families. Call Nancy at 734-536-3457 for directions.

Blood pressure

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, lipid panel (\$15) testing, 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 2, in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

Breast cancer support

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month

in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Choir therapy

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22, or visit www.therapychoirs.org for additional information.

CPAP/BIPAP

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed. For more information, call 734-458-7251.

Health programs, support

The Garden City Hospital Health Enhancement Center offers classes designed to strengthen your heart after a cardiac event. It also offers an exercise class, "Get Up and Move." For more information, call 734-458-3242.

GCH Community Education offers classes in diabetes self-management education. The hospital also hosts various support groups including Nar-Anon, Alzheimer's, Alcoholics Anonymous, Focus on Living and Diabetes, which are held monthly. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

Low vision support

Meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For more information,

of Home Instead, a senior care company and member of STAR FoRuM, said her employees have been trained to identify sepsis symptoms. Their name badges also carry information on how to recognize early signs of infection.

"We need to start planting the word sepsis in our conversation," Yaroch said. "With sepsis, time is a critical piece to the outcome."

Treatment

According to the National Institutes of Health, patients diagnosed with sepsis generally are treated in hospital intensive care units and receive antibiotics and other medications. They may also need intravenous fluids, oxygen, kidney dialysis, or surgery.

Yaroch said staying up-to-date with vaccinations and using good hygiene can help prevent sepsis. That includes frequent hand washing and proper bathing, toileting and clean clothing, especially for seniors.

"Clorox created home care cleanup kits. They donated several hundred to me and we're pushing them out as a part of our sepsis awareness campaign," she said.

They contain gloves, hand sanitizer, a germicidal nonbleach spray, and a disinfectant.

"The biggest thing you can do is to make sure you get your vaccinations. Clean scrapes and wounds with soap and water," Moccia said. "There is no single symptom for sepsis. However, spelling out the word sepsis, the 's' is for shivering, with fever or very cold."

The 'e' represents extreme pain or discomfort, 'p' is for pale or discolored skin, 's' is for sleepy or confused, 'i' means I feel like I might die, and 's' is for shortness of breath.

She said individuals who have those symptoms should tell the doctor "I am concerned about sepsis," when they go to the emergency room or clinic.

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