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## Man to face trial in home invasion, robbery case

**LeAnne Rogers**  
 Staff Writer

An Inkster man has been bound over for trial on charges that he broke into a Westland home and robbed a family of four at gunpoint.

Duan Crawford, 26, waived his right to a preliminary examination Thursday in Westland 18th District Court during a probable cause conference. Held in lieu of \$75,000 cash bond, Crawford is charged with first-degree home invasion, four counts of armed robbery and one count of felony firearm.

A parole absconder, Crawford is also charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and being a fourth-degree habitual offender. He is scheduled for Wayne County Circuit Court arraignment Oct. 22.

Co-defendant Darlene Binyard, facing the same charges except for the habitual offender count, decided that she wanted to hold a preliminary examination. That hearing was scheduled



Binyard



Crawford

for Oct. 22. Not guilty pleas were entered for both Crawford and Binyard at their arraignments.

It was one of several home invasions reported to have taken place in Westland, Garden City and Inkster on Sept. 28, according to Westland Police.

The alleged crime spree began when a couple reportedly forced entry into an elderly man's home in the 27400 block of Beechwood in Garden City,

stole his pistol and then drove away in the man's vehicle, police said. This incident was reported just after midnight.

With that stolen pistol, police said the suspects eventually entered an occupied home in the 30800 block of Somerset in Westland and robbed a family of four at gunpoint. This incident was reported at 6:10 a.m.

In between those incidents at 5:48 a.m., the same suspects allegedly kicked open a door at a home in the

See TRIAL, Page A2

### ARSON INVESTIGATION



Wayne-Westland firefighters finish putting out a fire that destroyed an abandoned home on the former Hawthorne Valley property Friday morning.

BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Wayne Police release photos of robbery suspects

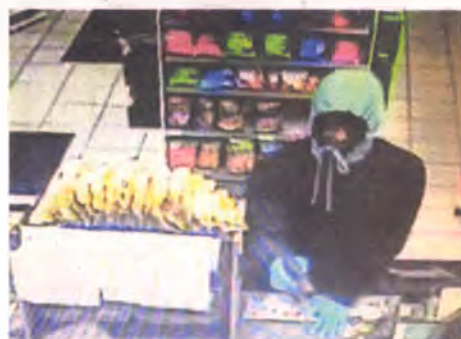
Wayne police have released photographs of suspects wanted for the armed robbery of two convenience stores.

The robberies were reported about 3:40 a.m. Oct. 12 at two 7-Eleven stores, 33920 Van Born and 32324 Annapolis.

In both incidents, police said several suspects entered the store and one suspect produced a handgun. At each store, the clerks were ordered to open the register and an unspecified amount of money was taken.

The suspects fled on foot in both incidents. The same subjects are suspected in both robberies, police said.

Anyone with information on either of these incidents is asked to contact the Wayne Police Department at 734-721-1414.



Wayne Police are looking for information on suspects in the recent robberies of two 7-Eleven stores in the city.

## Join Observer, Goodfellows on Make a Difference Day

Join the Observer & Eccentric and local Goodfellows for Make a Difference Day on Saturday, Oct. 24, to ensure local children have a Christmas.

The campaign — "Pennies from Heaven" — asks local residents of all ages to bring their pennies (and other loose change or donations) to one of nine local locations.

In the past three years, O&E area residents have donated more than \$12,000 to Goodfellows in Canton, Garden City, Farmington, Livonia, Milford, Novi, Plymouth, Redford and Southfield on Make a Difference Day, a National Day of Doing Good.

And joining in the event this year are the Wayne and Westland Goodfellows. In Wayne, the Goodfellows will be collecting donations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the site of the former Franks Furniture, Wayne Road between Chestnut and Glenwood.

In Westland, the Goodfellows will be doing two collections — from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road; and from 7-9 p.m. in the lobby at Westland Bowl.

See CAMPAIGN, Page A2

## FIRE DESTROYS HOME AT HAWTHORNE SITE

**LeAnne Rogers**  
 Staff Writer

A vacant home on the former Hawthorne Valley restaurant and golf course in Westland went up in flames early Friday morning.

The fire is under investigation as an arson deliberately set by a homeless man who had been staying in the building, located some distance into the woods, police said.

"There were two homeless guys squatting there. One provided dispatch with information on how the fire started," Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy said. "It sounds like they were arguing. There was the house and a little shed. It looks like whoever got there first would get the house. That triggered an argument."

The possible suspect hadn't been located later Friday morning. Calls about the fire began to come in about 7 a.m.



Flames and smoke from an early morning fire in an abandoned house on the former Hawthorne Valley property in Westland were visible above the tree line.

WAYNE-WESTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

See FIRE, Page A2



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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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## FIRE

Continued from Page A1

"Basically, there were calls to dispatch about significant smoke in the area of Warren and Merriman roads," Wayne-Westland Assistant Fire Chief Michael Stradtner said.

Flames were visible in the early morning sky above the tree line near the building, located on the Hawthorne Valley property along the east side of Merriman just north of Warren Road.

"The fire was fully involved when they (firefighters) arrived. The roof was partially fallen in when the battalion chief arrived," said Stradtner, adding there has been ongoing problems with homeless people staying in buildings on the property.

The wood frame home, one of several

structures on the property in addition to the large restaurant-club-house-banquet center, was located well back from the parking area along Merriman.

"It's so far off the road back into the woods, it's not unusual for a fire to get that involved — it's so isolated," Stradtner said. "We were not able to use our aerial ladder; we had to use ground lines (hoses)."

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, along with the vacant home destroyed in the fire.

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.

The restaurant building itself has been vandalized repeatedly, had a fire and has become an eyesore.

The city has received two proposals for reuse of the property: a proposed art center and a church. Westland's property disposition committee is expected to make a recommendation on the Hawthorne Valley property, which could include demolition of the buildings.

It was too soon to know if the house fire would have an impact on the recommendation, Westland Mayor William Wild said.

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## TRIAL

Continued from Page A1

1500 block of W. River Park in Inkster, police said. A female resident reported being robbed of money, credit cards and a laptop, police said.

The same couple allegedly attempted to rob another woman in the 28500 block of Somerset in Inkster at 6:39 a.m., police said, but the woman was able to shut the door on the pair before they could enter her home.

The suspects were identified after the pair eventually ran out of gas in the vehicle stolen from the Garden City man, leaving behind evidence that led to their identity and arrest by the Westland Police Department, police said.

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## Ask Dr. Stewart



Dr. James Stewart is a general dentist in Livonia, MI. Today he answers a question about the need for regular visits once you receive a set of dentures.

### DENTURES

Dear Dr. Stewart: If I've lost my natural teeth and now wear dentures, do I need to keep visiting the dentist?

Dr. Stewart: Yes, you still need to see the dentist on a regular basis. The dentist will take this opportunity to look for signs of oral cancer and other oral health concerns.

The visit also allows the dentist to evaluate the state of your dentures. Over time, dentures wear out and the mouth changes shape as supporting bone tissue shrinks. The visit allows the dentist to make simple fixes and adjustments to ensure your dentures fit comfortably. Depending on the amount of wear and mouth changes new dentures may be needed which most often greatly improves your smile and ability to chew.

If you have a question about your oral health and what you can do to enjoy a healthier smile, contact Dr. James Stewart.

Call 734.425.4400 or Visit [www.jamesstewartdds.com](http://www.jamesstewartdds.com)

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## CAMPAIGN

Continued from Page A1

While the event is called Pennies from Heaven, the Goodfellows welcome donations of pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and cash of all denominations. The money will help provide for children and families the Christmas season.

In its 24th year, Make A Difference Day is a USA Today initiative, backed by the Gannett Company and TEGNA Inc. In collaboration with Points of Light and with the support of Newman's Own, it is the largest national day of community service.

Anyone — regardless of age, location or resources — can accomplish amazing things.

"Bring your pennies and other change and join us for cider and doughnuts to make a difference in the lives of



Six-year-old Rylee Pankow is among people who have brought their change to the Pennies from Heaven fundraisers.

local children," said Debra Conner, who has organized the O&E Make a Difference Day project the last three years. "It is an honor help carry on the legacy of Nancy Spencer, a devoted Canton Goodfellow leader. Nancy began the 'Pen-

nies from Heaven' Project in memory of her father.

"I think she'd be happy to see how other communities have embraced this day of giving to our local children," Conner added.



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# Livonia man bound over in infant's death

**David Veselenak**  
Staff Writer

Sarah Pollack was in the middle of a 12-hour shift at St. Mary Mercy Hospital when she received a call from her boyfriend that their child had stopped breathing.

Pollack, 27, of Livonia, said she then called 9-1-1 to relay what her boyfriend had told her and rushed home to their residence on Summers, where they had just recently moved to from Canton.

"My boyfriend fell down the stairs with my 10-week-old," she told the 9-1-1 operator.

Her boyfriend, 33-year-old Mark Hontz of Livonia, was later arrested and charged in the child's death. He appeared Thursday before 16th District Judge Sean Kavanagh for a preliminary examination on

several criminal charges, including felony murder and first-degree child abuse. He's also charged as a habitual offender.

Kavanagh bound Hontz over on all the charges after the hearing concluded. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison.

Police say they arrived at the home Sept. 21 after receiving the call stating Hontz had fallen down the stairs with the child. The baby, Julian James Pollack, was first taken to St. Mary Mercy Hospital and was later flown to C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. He died the next day in the hospital.

Other injuries were discovered during the autopsy.

Dr. Jeffrey Jentzen, Washtenaw County medical examiner, testified Thursday that the child



FILE PHOTO  
Mark Hontz listens to his attorney, Sharon Clark Woodside, at the end of the probable cause hearing Oct. 8. Hontz was bound over on felony murder and child abuse charges.

had multiple injuries, both visible and non-visible, that appeared to have taken place several weeks before. Injuries included damage to the child's ribs and clavicle.

He said the injuries on the child were consistent with possible shaking

and were not related to anything that occurred during the child's birth in July.

While someone injuring a child would see the symptoms of the injuries quickly, he said it can take more force to damage a child's bones,

as they are still developing and are more malleable.

"The bones are thinner, and they are more pliable," Jentzen said. "It would require a lot more compression."

### 'It seemed that he was blue'

Sarah Pollack said she would leave the child in the care of Hontz when she worked overnight shifts at the hospital, as well as with other family members. She said there was no indication her baby had any health issues before that night.

"He just had a stuffy nose," she said. "The doctor wasn't worried about it."

When she returned to the house, she found her son on the floor naked. It was apparent to her instantly something was horribly wrong.

"I know he wasn't

breathing and it seemed that he was blue," Pollack said.

CPR was attempted several times on the child, she said, including by Hontz and a first responder.

The bathtub in the home was also full of water. Pollack said Hontz told her he wanted to see if submersing the baby in the cold water would help him come around.

"He said he dipped Julian in the bathtub with cold water to see if he'd wake up," she said.

Hontz is set for arraignment next Thursday in Wayne County Circuit Court in Detroit. He's currently locked up in the Wayne County Jail without bond.

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## U.S. Attorney McQuade to speak at LPS Foundation event

The Livonia community is invited to attend the sixth annual LPS Education Foundation Luncheon, which serves as the primary fundraiser for the Education Foundation's Competitive Edge College Savings Program.

The event will be held from 12-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia. Tickets are \$50 each or \$500 for a table of 10 and may be purchased at LPSFoundation.org via PayPal or via a check payable to the LPS Education Foundation, mailed to: LPS Education Foundation, 15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48154.

The guest speaker this year is U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan



McQuade

Barbara McQuade.

Appointed by President Obama, McQuade is the first woman to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan. She also serves on the Attorney General's Advisory Committee and chairs the Terrorism and National Security Subcommittee.

So far in her tenure as U.S. Attorney, McQuade has shown her vision to improve the quality of life for the people of Michigan, through enforcement, prevention and community trust. Significant accomplishments in her career, so far, include the conviction of former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and more than 30 others on public corruption charges. She also led the conviction and life sentence of an Al-Qaeda operative who attempted to bomb an airliner as it flew over Detroit on Christmas Day in 2009. The list goes on.

For more information, email jwozinak@lpsfoundation.org or call 734-744-2510.

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# Say Goodbye To Nerve Pain

Your nerve system is involved in everything your body does, from regulating your breathing to controlling your muscles and sensing heat and cold. Because your nerve system is so critical for your health when things go wrong with it you may experience excruciating pain and/or some very strange symptoms...

There are three types of nerves in the body:

**1. Autonomic nerves.** These nerves control the involuntary or partially voluntary activities of your body, including heart rate, blood pressure, digestion, and temperature regulation.

**2. Motor nerves.** These nerves control your movements and actions by passing information from your brain and spinal cord to your muscles.

**3. Sensory nerves.** These nerves relay information from your skin and muscles back to your spinal cord and brain. The information is then processed to let you feel pain and other sensations.

Because nerves are essential to all you do, nerve pain and damage can seriously affect your quality of life.

### What Are the Symptoms of Nerve Pain and Nerve Damage?

With nerve damage there can be a wide array of symptoms. Which ones you may have depends on the location and type of nerves that are affected. Damage can occur to nerves in your brain and spinal cord. It can also occur in the peripheral nerves, which are located throughout the rest of your body.

### Autonomic nerve damage may produce the following symptoms:

- Too much sweating or too little sweating
- Lightheadedness
- Dry eyes and mouth
- Constipation
- Bladder dysfunction
- Sexual dysfunction

### Damage to motor nerves may produce the following symptoms:

- Weakness
- Muscle atrophy
- Twitching, also known as fasciculation
- Paralysis

### Sensory nerve damage may produce the following symptoms:

- Pain
- Sensitivity
- Numbness
- Tingling or prickling
- Burning
- Problems with positional awareness

In some instances, people with nerve damage will have symptoms that indicate damage to two, or even three, different types of nerves. For instance, you might experience weakness and burning of your legs at the same time. To further complicate matters we don't all develop the same way and different unexpected nerves can cause similar problems. This has made it very difficult to diagnose disorders caused by nerve damage based on which nerve "should" cause what.

### That is, until now...

Recent advances in technology that detects nerve damage has led to more precise diagnosis for those people suffering with nerve damage disorders.

And more precise diagnosis leads to better results... results which have been published in major medical journals. With data published in 2014 showing success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons are recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery (for nerve damage that leads to back pain and sciatica).

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## Duct Tape Tour message sticks with students

The Duct Tape bus rolled into the parking lot of Wildwood Elementary School recently with an important anti-bullying message.

Students in kindergarten through fourth-grade were invited to sign their name on Duct Tape brand duct tape and stick their name on a banner pledging to "stick together" to prevent bullying.

After they signed the pledge, they saw a demonstration on how two pieces of duct tape are stronger when they are stuck together. The message they received was if students stick together they can help prevent bullying.

Then students were able to make duct tape bracelets and visit the Duct Tape bus.

The Duct Tape Tour is an interactive experience housed on a 31-foot, bright-green bus that showcases the hundreds of Duct Tape colors, designs and licenses, user-generated videos, step-by-step craft videos, as well as videos featuring duct tape strength and how Duct Tape is made.

It also displays one-of-a-



Students were asked to sign a pledge to prevent bullying and post it on a board.

kind creations, Duct Tape outfits and gives visitors the option to make a Duct Tape craft

item to take away. The school visits are part of Duct Tape's partnership with



Fourth-grader Phoenix Wyler gets help making her Duct Tape bracelet.

Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center to help educate students about bullying in schools nationwide. PACER's NBPC recognizes bullying as a serious community issue that impacts education, physical and emotional health, and the safety and well-being of students.

In addition to signing the pledge to "Help us 'Stick Together' against bullying and signing their name on Duct

Tape, students and teachers received resources to prevent bullying.

The tips include:  
 » Parents calling the school every time their child is bullied and writing down what their children say and keeping their emails and messages. Learn More

» Only 25-50 percent of bullied children will talk to an adult about the situation, some parents need to talk to their child about bullying and what they can do.

» Parents need to be aware of what their child is doing online. Establish rules about access to their child's texts, emails and social networking sites.

» Ignoring bullying doesn't make it go away. Parents need to help their children develop strategies to address bullying, whether it's directed at them or others.

» Parents have an important role to play in addressing bullying. The end of bullying begins with them. Visit [www.PACER.org/bullying](http://www.PACER.org/bullying) for more information.

## Chores help children learn basic skills for living

Sharon Dusney  
 Guest Columnist

**W**hen should children begin doing chores? How many chores should parents assign their children? And, should parents give children an allowance for doing chores?

Chores give children some of the basic skills for living independently, such as cooking, cleaning or doing laundry. Chores teach children to become both independent and contribute to the family. They help children develop basic work attitudes and develop a work ethic, sense of responsibility, and become reliable contributing members of society.

Children can begin doing



chores as early as age 2. Shocking as that might sound, having toddlers help pick up their toys and put things away gives them a sense of being important and part of the family.

Begin by assigning one or

two chores that are relatively easy to do and interest your child. Acknowledge their efforts and praise improvements. Begin by teaching them how to do the chore by doing it with them. Find chores that can be done daily to establish a routine and then as children get older add weekly chores.

Adolescents can be expected to have three-four daily chores. Don't expect your children to remember to do their chores without prompting, this skill won't develop until age 10-12. An easy chart or checklist posted in a prominent place like on the refrigerator will help kids remember their responsibility.

See that the chore is com-

pleted. Letting children ignore their chores reduces the value of the chore as well as your credibility as a parent. When children complain, simply remind them, "Everybody has a job to do to help out the family. I appreciate it when you do yours."


It's important to rotate chore responsibilities among children. This allows all children to learn a variety of household skills and become familiar with everything from meal preparation, laundry, cleaning and other household maintenance activities.

Most experts oppose making an allowance contingent on chore completion. It's part of strengthening bonds and sharing the responsibilities


required to manage a family home. However, your decision will be based upon your beliefs, values, experience as a child and disposable income. Should you decide to pay for chores, make sure the amount is explicit and clarify if you will be paying for each chore independently or the completion of all chores.

And remember, if the child engages in misbehavior that is separate from the chore, give them a separate consequence and still pay them for completion of their chores.

Sharon Dusney is the director of special services for the Garden City Public Schools.



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[www.Waltonwood.com](http://www.Waltonwood.com)



# Schoolcraft moving forward with brewpub plan

**David Veselenak**  
Staff Writer

Livonia is one step closer to getting its first brewpub in town.

Schoolcraft College went before the Livonia City Council earlier this month to request approval for a new Class C liquor license for the college's new brewing and distillation technology program, which launched earlier this year.

Linda Mayer, an attorney representing Schoolcraft College, told the council the students, all of whom will be 18 and older, will brew beer as a part of the curriculum on campus at the VisTaTech Center.

"It will be within the culinary kitchen wing," she said. "The brewing equipment will be wholly contained within that space, and they will sell and serve the beer there within the restaurant that's affiliated with the culinary program."

The council voted unanimously to approve the request for the college to obtain the necessary license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. Rich Weinkauf, the college's vice president and chief academic officer, said they will submit the resolution from the city council once the minutes are approved Monday.

Mayer said the school is requesting a new Class C license for the brewing program, one that would allow for the school to serve and sell the beer made by students on the premises.

"Right now, they have a Class C license at the (VisTaTech) Center.



Tom Block, of Block Brewing in Howell, will teach in the Schoolcraft program. The program received approval from the Livonia City Council on Monday night to request a liquor license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

FILE PHOTO

It's an event license," she said. "It's only usable for events."

The original event license would remain intact at the college and could still be used during events and fundraisers, Mayer said. The new license would not affect the limited amount of licenses the city is allowed by law either, she said.

If approved, Schoolcraft College would be the first brewpub to open in Livonia. Several other communities have seen brewpubs open up in recent years, including in Farmington, Lyon Township, and Northville.

Earlier this year, Livonia saw its first beer maker, Liberty Street Brewing Co.,

come to town.

### The next steps

It could take about 90 days for the license to be approved, meaning the college will be able to serve beer sometime early next year if approved. That will allow students to serve beer at the American Harvest restaurant.

"We're really hoping for early January," Weinkauf said. "We intend to be teaching students how to serve beer, how to pour it."

Beers served will have to be other brewery's beers until the brewpub license is approved, Weinkauf said. That approval process will take several more months, as the college needs to have its equip-

ment in place before a state inspection. Weinkauf said it won't be until probably next academic year that students will serve beer brewed on premise.

Weinkauf, who is also an instructor, said the program has 44 declared students in it, and more are expected to join when the new semester begins in January. He said it's a wide mix of students, but that they are all very determined to succeed.

"That's the impression I'm getting. They are incredibly motivated," he said. "They seem extremely happy in this program. I think they're going to be successful."

Once all the proper permissions are secured, students will then be able to sell and serve their brewed beer to patrons on campus, as well as provide beer

sales for people looking to take some home.

"The idea is that the students have an opportunity to learn how to sell, to serve, to do all those kinds of things," Mayer said. "You could go in and buy a six pack of beer that was made by the students."

City council president Maureen Miller Brosnan said while the council checked on age restrictions on who could participate, the opportunities coming with the brewpub were something that benefited the college.

"As much as we want to be cautious, we also want to recognize how this provides Schoolcraft College with a unique advantage," Brosnan said.

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

## Fashionably Pink Fundraiser kicks off in Livonia

The Italian American Club's Charitable Foundation is sponsoring its first ever "Fashionably Pink" fundraiser. Proceeds will benefit the Shades of Pink Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps women who are undergoing medical treatment for breast cancer, [www.shadesofpinkfoundation.org](http://www.shadesofpinkfoundation.org).

"One of the main features of our Fashionably Pink Fashion Show is that all of the models, except those from Roma Sposa, are breast cancer survivors and will be sharing their stories of hope and courage with the audience," said event organizer Anna Giammarco. WDIV-TV 4 news

reporter Nick Monacelli will be the master of ceremonies at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, at the Italian American Club, 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$60.

The event features a silent auction with items donated by Orin, Rotterdam and Plymouth Jewelers among other items. There will also be 30 gift baskets raffled off, lunch and a cash bar. Clothing worn by the models will be provided by Roma Sposa Bridal Atelier, Coqueta Boutique, both in Birmingham, and The Clothing Cove of Milford.

"I am very excited to be a part of this wonder-

ful fundraiser," said Trish Tyl, a breast cancer survivor. "I know the money raised will help women who are going through one of the most difficult times of their lives."

Tickets are still available. Call Bea King at 734-420-4481 for more information.

The Italian American Club of Livonia's Charitable Foundation is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization. Its mission is to promote charitable, religious and educational programs for the Italian American Community and to infuse the knowledge of the Italian language, culture and traditions into the surrounding communities.

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE**  
**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD**

At the regular meeting of October 27, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., the Redford Township Board of Trustees will have the 2nd reading and adoption of proposed Ordinance #341.

**ORDINANCE NO. 341**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT THE USE, POSSESSION OR STORAGE OF FLAMETHROWERS AND TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES**

The ordinance can be viewed in its entirety either on-line at [www.redfordtwp.com](http://www.redfordtwp.com) on the home page under the section "Ordinances Links" or at the Township Clerk's Office, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, CLERK  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD

Published: October 18, 2015

**ADOPTED**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 340**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 58-242 (FIREWORKS) OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD CODE OF ORDINANCES ADDING SUB-SECTION (h) TO PROHIBIT THE DISCHARGE OR LAUNCH OF SKY LANTERNS OR SIMILAR TYPE OF UNMANNED FIRE**

At the regular meeting of October 13, 2015, the Redford Township Board of Trustees adopted the above Ordinance #340.

The Ordinance can be viewed in its entirety at the following public places within the Township:

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

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, CLERK  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD

Published: October 18, 2015

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**MINUTES OF REDFORD**  
**TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS**  
**FOR SEPTEMBER 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 September 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](http://www.redfordtwp.com)

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk  
Charter Township of Redford

Published: October 18, 2015

**WESTLAND HOUSING COMMISSION**  
**HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITING LIST**

The Westland Housing Commission will open the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) waiting list for applications at 3:00 a.m. EST on Thursday, November 19, 2015 and will close at midnight EST on Saturday, November 21, 2015. Applications for the waiting list are available on-line **ONLY** at:

<https://westlandhc.hdswaitinglist.com>

No paper applications will be available or accepted. All applications must be through the Westland Housing Commission application site above. The Westland Housing Commission will conduct a computer lottery of all applications to select 1000 applications for placement on the waiting list. Preference will be given to Westland residents (those living or working in the City of Westland.) Application *Frequently Asked Questions* (information and instructions) are now posted on the City of Westland web site: [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com) (click on "Choose Service" and "Westland Housing Commission"). To inquire as to whether the application is placed on the waiting list through the lottery process, applicants can return to the above website and select "Search Existing Record" button.

Joanne Campbell, Director  
Westland Housing Commission

Published: October 18, 2015

# Need help with your website?



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# Relay For Life of Redford hosts bowling kickoff Tuesday

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Redford will kick-off its 13th annual event from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, at Beech Lanes Bowling Alley, 15492 Beech-Daly Road, Redford.

The Relay Committee is inviting people who are interested in learning more and getting involved in the event to attend.

This is the first year that the Relay orga-

nizers will host their Kickoff Party in the fall, rather than the traditional spring. Beech Lanes is sponsoring the party and offering free bowling and shoes to anyone who is going to sign up for the relay this year.

Teams, individuals, cancer survivors and event sponsors are all invited to bowl and help jump-start the Relay season early.

"Our community is

very family-oriented and we wanted to offer a party where families could come together and have a good time. Our volunteers work very hard to raise important funds to fight cancer, and Beech Lanes was very generous to offer a free party to these Relayers," said Liz Evans, the local American Cancer Society Community Manager in Redford.

The Relay For Life of

Redford is a community event where teams and individuals camp out at Claude Allison Park and take turns walking around the park. Each team has at least one participant on the track at all times and participates in fundraising that supports the American Cancer Society's mission to save lives and finish the fight against cancer. Four million people participated in more

than 6,000 events worldwide in 2015. This past May, over 400 people participated in the Redford event and the community blew their fundraising goal of \$71,000 out of the water and raised \$84,500!

For more information, visit [www.relayforlife.org/redfordmi](http://www.relayforlife.org/redfordmi) or contact Liz Evans at 248.663.3452 or [Elizabeth.Evans@cancer.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Evans@cancer.org).



SUBMITTED  
At Relay For Life of Redford, teams and individuals camp out at Claude Allison Park and participate in fundraising that supports the American Cancer Society.

## History of Detroit on tap at Garden City Library

Join author Amy Elliott Bragg at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2, to hear about the Hidden History of Detroit at the Garden City Public Library.

Learn about the days when Detroit was full of grog shops, boots trappers and haphazard cemeteries as well as a variety of other eccentrics.

There's no cost for the program. Just call 734-793-1830 to reserve a spot at. The library is located on Maplewood, west of Merriman. Use the Balmoral entrance.

## SHE hosting fall shopping event

SHE is hosting a shopping event to support JARC, an organization serving people with disabilities, on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 22-23, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the boutique's Bloomfield Hills location at 4076 W. Maple Road.

The special days of shopping will feature a Spring 2016 trunk show with sought after designer Smythe. Fall and holiday collections are currently in store and will also be on display. A favorite of celebrities, Smythe has created essential wardrobe pieces that are both modern and emotional. The contemporary, flawlessly tailored jackets and coats feature nostalgic colors, textures and prints that are distinct in their traditional menswear tailoring details. This artful tailoring and sartorial fit made Smythe an instant success when the label launched in 2004. Smythe's made-in-Canada jackets and coats are iconic silhouettes that are novel yet versatile.

The Caliber Collection is a new kind of jewelry on the market that takes a stand against gun control in the Motor City and beyond. Created by designer, Jessica Mindich, her innovative Caliber Collection is composed of jewelry made with serial numbers for illegal guns and metal from bullet casings taken off the streets. There are specific Jewelry collections made from guns confiscated by police in Detroit, Hartford, Conn., Newark, N.J. and San Francisco. Mindich will be making a personal appearance with her collection during the shopping event.

A portion of the sales from this shopping event will be donated to JARC. There is no charge to attend. Visit [www.jarc.org](http://www.jarc.org) or call 248-538-6611.



Medicare Solutions

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To view more locations or attend one of our online workshops, visit [hap.org/medicareworkshops](http://hap.org/medicareworkshops).

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A licensed HAP Medicare sales person will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings call (888) 832-2138 (TTY: 711). Workshops discuss plans for Medicare-eligible individuals who purchase their own health care coverage.

Y0076\_ALL 201593 AEP WRKSHP AD CMS Accepted 8/24/2015

# See the 2016 Lincoln MKZ and experience the 'Demmer Difference'

The 2016 Lincoln MKZ is on sale now at Jack Demmer Lincoln, where customers benefit from the "Demmer Difference."

The midsize sedan has an "open and inviting interior with many features that will surprise people," Demmer sales manager Chris Conley said. "From the floating center console with ample storage underneath it and the attention to detail that is noticeable throughout the vehicle."

The 2016 MKZ is available with front- or all-wheel drive. "Three engine choices with three levels of performance and three suspension settings allows the MKZ to be tailored to each driver's personality," Conley said. The hybrid version is rated at up to 41 MPG.

"The available all-wheel drive offers peace-of-mind for all driving conditions," he added.

Standard features for the 2016 MKZ include:

- » 240-horsepower, turbo-charged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine
- » Six-speed automatic transmission with shift paddles
- » Front-wheel drive
- » Adaptive LED headlights
- » LED taillights
- » Heated front seats
- » Digital instrument cluster
- » Sync and MyLincoln Touch with 8-inch screen
- » Remote start
- » Backup camera
- » Required in every new car: front airbags, anti-lock brakes and an electronic stability system

The MKZ features easy-to-use technology including an available Embedded Modem to connect to your vehicle through a smartphone App Conley said. Other available features include:

- » 300-hp, 3.7-liter V-6
- » 19-inch alloy wheels
- » All-wheel drive
- » Leather upholstery
- » Ventilated front seats
- » Heated rear seats
- » Retracting panoramic roof



The 2016 Lincoln MKZ

LINCOLN MOTOR CO.



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The 2016 MKZ has open and inviting interior with a floating center console with ample storage underneath and attention to detail that is noticeable throughout the vehicle.

- » Navigation system
- » Heated steering wheel
- » THX II-certified premium stereo
- » Blind spot warning system

- » tem with rear cross-traffic alert
- » Inflatable rear seat belts
- The MKZ Hybrid uses a 2.0-liter four-cylinder gas en-

- » gine, an electric motor powered by lithium-ion batteries and a continuously variable automatic transmission. It gets an EPA-estimated 41 mpg in

city driving and 39 mpg on the highway for a combined rating of 40 mpg.

Significant features of the hybrid include:

- » New EcoSelect selectable driving mode for enhanced efficiency
- » Front-wheel drive
- » Total system output of 188 hp
- » Same starting price as gas-only MKZ
- » Similar standard and available features as regular MKZ

From the moment a client enters Jack Demmer Lincoln, it becomes very clear what sets Jack Demmer Lincoln apart from the competition. With the integrity and knowledge of the professional sales staff, today has never been a better time to buy from Jack Demmer Lincoln.

"Most of our MKZ clients lease another MKZ because they love the car so much," 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 go to demmerlincoln.net.

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This **Early Bird** Program offers select **Ford RCL customers** with scheduled terminations: Focus, Fusion(Gas/HEV/Phev), Escape, Edge, Flex, Fiesta, Taurus, C-Max(HEV/PHEV) or Expedition from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016 the opportunity to terminate early with up to (6) remaining payments waived, the remaining payments are the customer's responsibility. The program is limited to current qualifying RCL customers and requires the customer to purchase or lease a new eligible (2015/2016)-Model Lincoln Vehicle from October 1, 2015 through January 4, 2016. Select **Lincoln RCL customers** with scheduled terminations from November 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016 the opportunity to terminate early with up to (3) remaining payments waived, the remaining payments are the customer's responsibility. The program is limited to current qualifying RCL customers and requires the customer to purchase or lease a new eligible (2015/2016)-Model Lincoln Vehicle from October 1, 2015 through January 4, 2016.

**2016 MKZ \$245\*/mo. ZERO DOWN!**

**ZERO DOWN and \$245 Due at Signing**  
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\*All payments are based on A/Z-plan, plus tax, title, and plates. 24 month/21,000 mile lease. Owner Loyalty and 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 amounts shown in this offer. Non A/Z plan payments slightly higher. Price is subject to change. This offer ends 10/30/15.

**2016 MKC \$226\*/mo.**

**\$1,759 Down and \$1,985 Due at Signing**  
 VIN - 5LMCJ1C9xGuJ11886

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**2016 ALL-NEW 2016 MKX \$356\*/mo.**

**\$2,982 Down and \$3,338 Due at Signing**  
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**2015 MKS \$335\*/mo. ZERO DOWN!**

**ZERO DOWN and \$335 Due at Signing**  
 VIN - 1LNHL9DK4FG604169

\*All payments are based on A/Z-plan, plus tax, title, and plates. 36 month/31,500 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 10/30/15.

**2015 MKT \$394\*/mo.**

**\$2,595 Down and \$2,989 Due at Signing**  
 VIN - 2LMHJ5FK8FBL03654

\*All payments are based on A/Z-plan, plus tax, title, and plates. 36 month/31,500 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 10/30/15.

**2015 NAVIGATOR-22" Wheels, Power Moon Roof \$677\*/mo. ZERO DOWN!**

**ZERO DOWN and \$677 Due at Signing**  
 VIN - 5LMJJ2JT3FEJ13130

\*All payments are based on A/Z-plan, plus tax, title, and plates. 36 month/31,500 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 10/30/15.

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# Sky lanterns banned; flamethrowers likely next

**Beth Jachman**  
Staff Writer

A move to ban the use of sky lanterns in Redford was approved Tuesday — and it looks like personal flamethrowers are next.

Sky lanterns, which are basically small hot air balloons made of paper fueled by a small candle, have raised safety concerns and an ordinance change to ban them received second reading approval at a Redford Township Board of Trustees meeting this week.

That means it will go into effect after it is published.

Saying the township needs to “get out front of any new trends of stupidity,” township Clerk Garth Christie proposed the ordinance change during the summer.



Flamethrowers can shoot a stream of flame 25 to 50 feet.

SUBMITTED

Fire departments all over the country oppose sky lanterns, township attorney Jeff Clark said at a recent meeting. The lanterns can touch down while still burning, posing a risk to homes, businesses and — dur-

ing dry-weather conditions — fields and grass.

### Flamethrower fears

Another proposed ordinance change received first reading approval Tuesday to ban flamethrowers in Red-

ford Township.

The issue came to light earlier this year when a Warren-based company began marketing and selling personal flamethrowers, leading to some moves to ban them. For example, a

bill was introduced in the state House in September to ban them statewide, but it hasn't been taken up by the legislature yet.

Personal flamethrowers can shoot a stream of flame 25 to 50 feet.

Their proposed uses include controlling weeds and insect hives, clearing snow and ice, facilitating a controlled burn to clear brush, starting a bonfire — or just for having fun, according to a website that markets them.

Redford's ordinance proposal would prohibit the possession, storage or use of a flamethrower in Redford, except by law enforcement, fire department or a member of the armed forces as part of their work.

Violators of the ordinance would face a misdemeanor charge.

Some companies are

selling personal flamethrowers on the Internet, with prices ranging from \$900 to \$1,600.

### Sky lantern ban

Meanwhile, a bill has also been introduced in the state House to ban sky lantern use statewide. The National Association of State Fire Marshals has adopted a resolution urging all states to ban the use of sky lanterns.

In 2013 in England, a fire involving 100,000 tons of plastic recycling material was sparked by a Chinese sky lantern.

Sky lanterns, which are set afloat by hot air from a small candle, are banned in some countries, while others require a permit to use them.

Canton Township approved a sky lantern ban this summer.

## Bloom tells OU class: Top 3 mistakes investors make

Recently, I was a guest lecturer for a finance class at Oakland University. I talked to a number of undergrads about investing. During my talk, I had a Q&A session so I thought I would answer some of those questions here. One of the students asked me to name the top three mistakes investors make. Here is my answer:

The first mistake average investors make is they focus too much on their investments. I know this sounds strange, but it's not. As investors, the most important thing is not what investment we use but rather, that we have the right overall strategy for our portfolios.

The key to success is an overall strategy based upon individual goals and objectives. Unfortunately, the great majority of investors have no strategy and as a result, they fail.



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

Investors need a strategy for what they buy and one for the sell side as well. If investors spent more time on an overall game plan, they would be more successful.

The second mistake investors make is they focus too much on taxes. Many people are under the mistaken belief that their goal is to lower their taxes. That is wrong. The goal is to maximize your net worth. Focus on what ends up in your pocket, not taxes.

The third common mistake deals with who investors seek out for financial advice. The same brother-in-law you

wouldn't loan \$100 to because you know you'll never get it back is not the person you take financial advice from. The same applies to talking heads on TV. Just because someone's on TV doesn't mean that they're an expert. After all, it wasn't too long ago that so-called experts were telling us the Lions were a playoff team.

At the OU session, I was asked why so many investors fall prey to investment scams. I told the students that people fall for investment scams because they let greed dictate their investment decisions. People must be realistic when it comes to their returns.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. Email him at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com)

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# Westland mall hosts annual Festival of Arts

Original watercolors, acrylics, oils, pencil, pottery and photography and more will be on display and for sale at the Three Cities Art Club's fifth annual Festival of the Arts from Friday-Sunday, Oct. 23-25, at Westland Shopping Center.

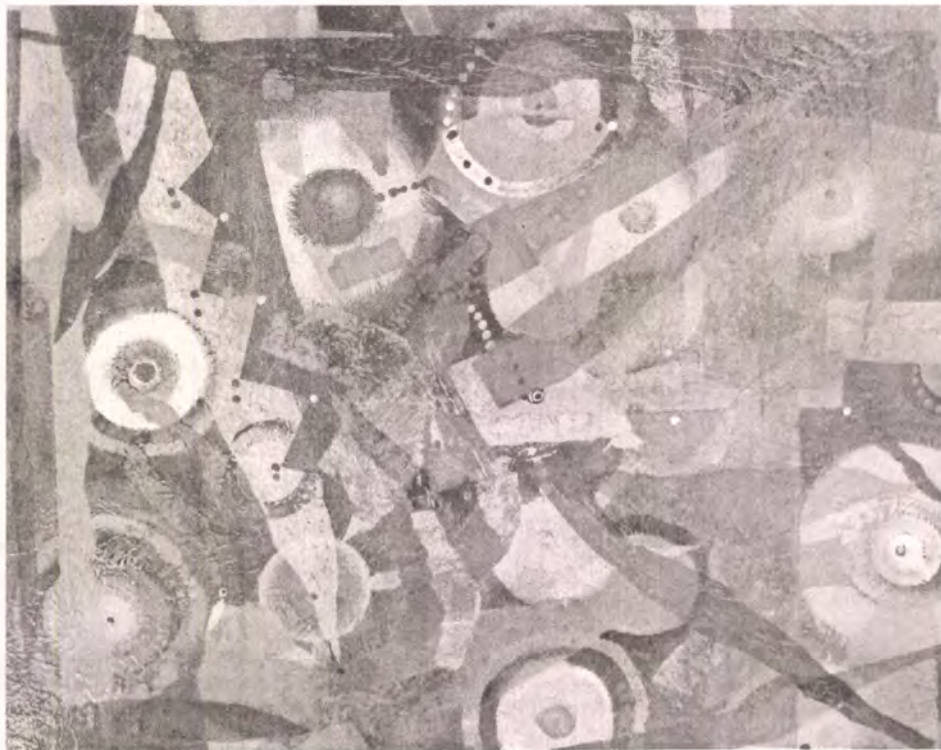
The show will be in the East Court of the mall, located at Warren and Wayne roads in Westland. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. It will feature original artwork, framed and matted prints, note cards and refrigerator magnets and live entertainment.

Westland Mayor William Wild will be joined by State Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood, Rotary Club of Westland President Paul Motz and Westland Center General Manager, Gerry Wheeler in selecting their favorite artwork from more than 90 pieces of fine art, photography and pottery created by 33 artists.

Find out which ones have been selected by the guest judges and hear what it was that influenced their decisions at 1:30 p.m. The winning artists will each receive a cash prize donated by Wild for his "Wild about Art" award and Michigan Chiropractic Specialists for the other three winners, an award certificate and a ribbon.

Visitors also can vote for their favorites that automatically enters them in a drawing for a chance to win a prize. No need to be present to win. Prizes will be mailed to the selected winners after the close of the Festival.

There will be live entertainment from noon to 7 p.m. Saturday and



"Hold That Thought" is the work of Canto artist James Bramlet.

noon to 4 p.m. Sunday Performers include J.D. Kilgus of Piano Pleasures, Harmony Town Chorus, Irish Dance Center, Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestra, Pastors of Praise and Gaby Brooks. Visit the art club's website at [www.threecitiesartclub.org](http://www.threecitiesartclub.org) for a list of performance times.

This annual event is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Westland, Michigan Chiropractic Specialists, Ari-El Enterprises Inc., Showroom of Elegance and many other community businesses dedicated to supporting the arts.

People who have thought about exercising their creative side or are just interested in art, can attend a club meetings. Three Cities Art Club meets at Canton Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center Road. For more



Kay Masini of Plymouth entitle this work "The Knights."

information about this event or the club, contact Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939, by email

[marilynmeredith@wowway.com](mailto:marilynmeredith@wowway.com) or visit [www.threecitiesartclub.org](http://www.threecitiesartclub.org).

# Hundreds expected for Canton's Consumer Expo

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Canton's Consumer Expo, a place to window shop amid scores of businesses all under one roof, is meant to show visitors the myriad products they can find without leaving town.

It all unfolds 3-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at Canton's Summit on the Park grand ballroom, 46000 Summit Parkway. It's free and sponsored by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Downtown Development Authority.

Canton chamber President Thomas Paden expects as many as 600 visitors to browse booths featuring more than 50 businesses.

"I hope that visitors will walk away from the expo with a sense of how great the businesses in Canton really are," he said Thursday. "Canton businesses really support the community and I want to make sure the

community — its residents — return the favor. And that's why the chamber hosts the expo, to help our businesses connect with the residents."

The expo each year has featured an array of businesses — fitness centers, senior housing, travel agents, jewelers and pet services, among others.

Consumer Expo vendors hope to generate business by finding new customers. Several local restaurants also plan to participate and offer free samples of their food.

Selling merchandise at Consumer Expo isn't the goal. Rather, the event is intended to give visitors a glimpse of Canton businesses in hopes customers will visit their shops, spend money and support the local economy.

The event also includes more than 50 door prizes.

[dcllem@hometownlife.com](mailto:dcllem@hometownlife.com)



Hundreds are expected as Consumer Expo returns to Canton.

## Jewelry and Vintage Apparel show set for Oct. 24

For 11 years, the annual Bloomfield Jewelry and Vintage Apparel Show has been a staple of fall in metro Detroit. It's the largest and longest-running vintage show in Michigan and one of the larger vintage shows in the Midwest. You would have to go to New York City or Los Angeles to find many of these rare fashions.

The show is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward, in Bloomfield Hills.

This year, the show features a line of vintage designer fashions that spans the 1950s through the 1990s — literally the history of modern fashion. Also featured are exciting young dealers from Chicago and the New Center/Eastern Market areas of Detroit.

The show features costume, designer and fine antique jewelry, as well as stylish vintage clothing from the Victorian era through the 20th century. Contemporary fashion accessories, such as belts and purses, are also featured. There will also be some men's vintage clothing, including suits, pants, belts and hats.

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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: October 18, 2015 LO-0000258758 2x3

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# Families remember infants at TEARS memorial dedication

Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

A white dove circled in the sky over downtown Wayne last Saturday afternoon, bringing what the Rev. Tyson Noffzinger hoped was release for families who have experienced the loss of an infant child.

Speaking at the dedication of The TEARS Foundation Angel of Hope memorial, Noffzinger referred to the biblical story of Noah and the Ark in which a dove brought Noah an olive leaf after it was released following the deluge.

"The olive leaf was the symbol of hope in a season of death. It was God bring life to them," Noffzinger said. "You won't forget your loss, but your hope is you will be reunited with your child. With the release of the dove may God allow you to release your grief."

National and state TEARS Foundation officials, state and local officials and families gathered on the lawn of the Harry J. Will Funeral Home for the dedication of the monument, the fourth one TEARS has erected in the United States.

Sarah Slack, the founder of TEARS was on hand for the ceremony, officiated by TEARS Michigan Chapter director Allen "Buddy" Shuh. Sheri Blumberg also was there to read her poem, *Angel of Hope* that is engraved on the memorial. The memorial is flanked by two butterfly wings engraved by the names of 65 babies lost due to miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.

Shuh became connected with the TEARS Foundation after talking to trainer Bob Harper while he was contestant on NBC's *The Biggest Loser*. He spoke about the loss of his five-month-old



The Shuh family (center) and representatives of the H.J. Will Funeral Home (left) and The TEARS Foundation unveil the Angel of Hope memorial.

daughter Bella and how painful it was not to be able to pay for her funeral.

"I'm honored to have been a part of the process that started a year ago," said Shuh who heads up the Michigan Chapter with his wife Shelby. "This was a heart mending project."

Slack spoke about how surreal it was to hold her stillborn baby and know she would not be bringing him home to raise and care for him.

"That cold day in November I said hello and good-bye to my son," she said. "There was a time after he died I did not want to be here, the grief was unbearable. There is no easy way to rid yourself of that grief. By being here today, you've taken a huge step to recognizing your baby and healing your heart."

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, in a letter to the Michigan Chapter, said the memorial will serve as a "lasting remembrance for grieving families who can find solace there."

"I sincerely hope this angel provides comfort to the families of children who left us too soon," he said.



Jodie Smith releases a dove as part of the dedication ceremony.

The names of the infants were read and their families were given red carnations to place in a stone vase. After the ceremony, they had time to make colored tracings of the engravings and take photographs.

The three pieces were uncovered by the Shuhs and their children, TEARS representatives and members of the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, which is among 14 funeral homes in the state that works with the foundation in helping families suffering infant loss.

The TEARS Foundation provides grief support, peer companionship and help with funeral expenses for families experiencing the loss of an infant. It also provides Graco Pack n Play cribs and safe sleep materials to families with an un-

safe sleep environment for their infant.

The memorial will continue to grow as names are added to the butterfly wings. Each October, which is National Infant Loss and Miscarriage Awareness Month, a ceremony will be held to honor the families whose children's names are being added to the memorial.

For more information about The TEARS Foundation, visit [www.thetearsfoundation.org](http://www.thetearsfoundation.org). To become involved with the Michigan Chapter contact the Shuhs at 734-765-7430 or by email at [MichiganWalk@thetearsfoundation.org](mailto:MichiganWalk@thetearsfoundation.org).

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# Homeless vets have somewhere to go, speaker says

Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Lisa Todd's work with veterans is challenging — but also rewarding.

"The computer lab has been the best story ever," Westland resident Todd said of the lab at Piquette Square for Veterans in southwest Detroit. Many veterans have tracked down their children on Facebook.

She told of one veteran who cried after tracking down his daughter on social media. He'd been seeking her some 20 years.

"I have story after story of people reconnecting," Todd told members and guests of the Plymouth-Canton branch, American Association of University Women on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Piquette Square for Veterans opened in June 2010, and houses 150 formerly homeless veterans, 10 of them women. Todd oversees support services and case management staff under Southwest Solutions.

"She is passionate about her work and it's making a difference in our world," said Dawn Parker of Canton, vice president of programs for the AAUW branch.

The agency has a "Housing First" philosophy, Todd explained during her Canton appearance. "We care about you as a person. How can you do anything unless you have housing?"

### 'Riddled with trauma'

A veteran can be a heroin user, she said, and still get housing. "Whatever your journey is, it's your journey. Their stories are completely riddled with trauma."

The agency has contributed to Detroit's comeback, she noted. "Southwest Solutions has taken the neighborhood back. The businesses around it started taking pride."

Todd, who began in youth ministry, noted her agency's work with peer support specialists who can function and do case notes. One such man is a 14-year staffer.

"He's doing well," she said of the man, whose wife earlier died. Those staffers need reminders on self-care as they tend to think so much of client needs.

Piquette Square for Veterans offers permanent, subsidized housing in which tenants pay a portion of rent.



Westland resident Lisa Todd tells of working with formerly homeless veterans.

The agency fundraises constantly, she said, noting such contributors as General Motors and Masco.

Although each veteran gets a case manager, using the services is optional. Relapse into drugs is a common problem, said Todd, who works with many peacetime veterans from the 1980s.

The website lists the agency mission: "Southwest Solutions has pursued its mission to help build a stronger and healthier community since 1972. We provide a broad range of programs in the areas of human development, economic development and community engagement."

These three areas together form a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy and effort that impacts more than 25,000 people a year.

Veterans' services come under human development. In addition to Piquette Square, there are: Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (including vocational training and job opportunities), and Supportive Services for Veterans' Families (to help low-income families with housing stability).

There's also a Veterans Community Resource and Referral Center, described online as a "one-stop" treatment center for homeless veterans in need. The VCRC is operated by the Detroit VA Medical Center. It provides access to a wide range of services, including health care, housing, employment, benefits and education.

"It's a fabulous facility," said Todd of Piquette Square.

### Youth ministry background

She earned her master of arts degree and agency and school counseling from Wayne State University. She also has a bachelor of science degree from Eastern Michigan University in interpersonal communication, with a psychology minor, and is a 1989 Bishop Borgess High School graduate.

Earlier, she worked for a number of area Catholic parishes. "I found a lot of mental illness in the group. I had cutters, female cutters. You don't get that training in youth ministry," she said.

Todd found parents would reach out to her for help, part of the reason she went on for a counseling degree at WSU. She was nine months without a job after Wayne graduation with many resumes out, when a Catholic church contact landed her the interview at Southwest Solutions.

"So the Catholic world got me into the social work world," Todd also praised the Father Clement H. Kern Foundation, named for the late Detroit priest, which includes services to the mentally ill.

"God, whatever you want to call it, it worked out for me," she said.

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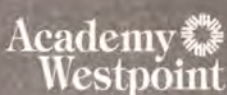
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Physicians face difficult decisions when approached by employers who want information on how to fit an employee with Fibromyalgia into the environment of a desk job, assembly line, or on-the-road type of work.

The dilemma facing the physician is that a feature of fibromyalgia is that the condition is subject to repeated, unexpected and prolonged flares of pain, extreme fatigue, possible intense headache and loss of the ability to concentrate and make decisions. Medicine may cut down on these flares, but the price is a loss of mental agility during the working day.

To explain the patient's possible limits without making the person appear like an employee the company would not want on its payroll, becomes a task of diplomacy as much as an exercise of medical evaluation.

The physician's problems worsen when asked to fill out disability forms on a patient with Fibromyalgia. The problem that the physician sees is the friction and disruption the patient causes to others working in the same office, room or line. The degree of disability a patient with Fibromyalgia feels varies day to day; at times the patient can hide pain and fatigue and work with others, exchange remarks and be part of an atmosphere that fosters workmanship.

But other times the patient's mood precludes the company of others, disrupting the cohesion that a good working environment requires. Seeing the patient in the office and assessing how that person acts on the job is the basis for a physician's decision to support or not an application for disability. To emphasize the point: it is not how the patient is mentally and/or physically impaired, but to what extent will the patient disrupt the work of others.

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# Westland teen pleads guilty in murder of Belleville man

**LeAnne Rogers**  
Staff Writer

A Westland man has entered a guilty plea to a charge of second-degree murder in the fatal stabbing of a Belleville man in the aftermath of verbal altercation.

Dion Patterson, 17, submitted the plea

under which charges of felony murder, home invasion and felonious assault were dismissed. The second-degree murder charge carries a maximum sentence of up to life in prison with a chance of parole. The first-degree murder charge carries a maximum sentence of life in prison without parole. Patterson is scheduled to be sentenced in Wayne County Circuit Court on Oct. 23 by Judge Qiana Lillard.

The incident in which Matthew Green, 33, was fatally stabbed happened in the early hours of May 16. Green was visiting his girlfriend who lived in the 35000 block of Thames next door to Patterson. When Green, his girlfriend and two other returned from a night about 2:15 a.m., police said Patterson's mother opened a window and exchanged words with the group about being noisy.

The verbal exchange awoke Patterson, police said, who asked his mother what had happened. At that point, police said Patterson armed himself with a kitchen knife and went to the girlfriend's house.

According to police, Patterson opened an unlocked door and began forcing his way into the neighbor's home. Green, the first person Patterson came in contact with inside the home, was stabbed three times as he tried to push the intruder back outside, police said.

A former Wayne Memorial High School student and a construction worker, Green died of his wounds at Beaumont Hospital-Wayne.

After the incident, Patterson returned to his home where he was arrested by officers without incident. He has been jailed since his arrest.

*irogers@hometownlife.com*  
734-883-9039  
Twitter: @LRogersObserver



Green



Patterson

# Livonia robotics team spreads message of clean water



Submitted: Parko Methodist School boys at tap.



Submitted: Girls at River Densu.

Livonia Warriors Robotics FRC Team 2832 will host a special screening of the documentary *Slingshot* from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, at Stevenson High School in Livonia. Doors open at 6 p.m. and there will be concessions and informational tables available.

*Slingshot* focuses on Segway inventor and FIRST founder Dean Kamen and his work to solve the world's water crisis. Kamen lives in a house with secret passages, a closet full of denim and a helicopter garage.

His latest passion: the Slingshot water purification system created to obliterate half of human illness on the planet. *Slingshot* is both a character study and a look at Kamen's technology from its earliest development. An eccentric genius, Kamen's inventions help people in need and ease suffering.

*Slingshot* has won numerous accolades and awards. The screening in a fundraiser for the Livonia Warriors FRC Team. Tickets are \$10 and can be reserved at <https://www.tugg.com/events/62379>.



Dear Neighbors,  
Let me introduce you to my husband, Jim Jolly, who is a candidate for Livonia City Council. He is an amazing husband and father to our three young children, Alexis, Claire, and JD, and he is dedicated to creating a Livonia that is welcoming to the young and old alike. He is keenly focused on issues of great importance to the future of all Livonia families, such as thriving neighborhoods, community recreation, enriching arts and culture, and revitalizing public schools. I've witnessed his work ethic and tremendous dedication as he worked to become a respected attorney and magistrate of the Livonia District Court. Jim will work tirelessly for Livonia families, just as he has for our family. The time is now for Livonia residents to rally their support behind city council candidates that will put the priorities of Livonia citizens first. Please mark your calendar to vote on November 3rd and strongly consider casting your ballot for Jim Jolly.

Thank you for your support,  
Katie Jolly

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SUBMITTED  
Constance Laderoot of Dearborn holds newborn son Hayden, delivered by Westland Police Sgt. Robert Kenyon.

## Officer delivers baby in police station parking lot

**LeAnne Rogers**  
Staff Writer

When Hayden Laderoot grows up, he will have a story to tell about his birth — not too many people have been born in the Westland Police Department parking lot.

Hayden's parents Ralph and Constance, who was in labor, were on the way to the hospital about 9:30 p.m. Oct. 8 when it became clear the baby would arrive before they could make it there.

Ralph Laderoot called 911 for help and since he

was passing the police station on Ford west of Carlson, the dispatcher directed him to the parking lot.

Officers who were in the station met the couple to assist until fire department EMTs could arrive.

The baby wasn't waiting for paramedics either. When Westland Police Sgt. Robert Kenyon went to assist the woman, he found that the baby's head was already visible. Kenyon then held onto the baby as it was delivered, checking to make sure the umbilical cord wasn't wrapped around the newborn's neck, then noticed that the baby started to cry.

Kenyon held the child until the Westland Fire Department arrived. Mother and baby Hayden, who weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces, were all doing well after going on to the hospital.

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com  
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## Task force's vehicle helps fight mortgage fraud

The Wayne County Mortgage and Deed Fraud Task Force has received another tool to combat mortgage and deed fraud in Wayne County.

Since 2005, when the Wayne County Register of Deeds, Prosecutor and Sheriff created the first of its kind Joint Mortgage and Deed Fraud Task Force, the investigators in the unit have driven their personal vehicles in the course of their duties: fraud investigations as well as transporting suspects to and from court proceedings.

This month, the Fraud Unit received a new vehicle that has signage that identifies the telephone number for the Fraud Unit's hotline (313-224-5869) where they can report mortgage or deed fraud. It also provides the website where individuals can check for fraudulent documents that may have been recorded against their property (www.waynecountylandrecords.com).

It's a great benefit



WAYNE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS  
The Wayne County Joint Mortgage and Deed Fraud Task Force is using its vehicle to promote its mission.

to citizens of Wayne County who may not be aware of these resources that are used in the fight against mortgage and deed fraud, according to Bernard J. Youngblood, founder of the Task Force and Register of Deeds.

"This type of criminal activity is not unique to Wayne County, but our task force is," Youngblood

said. "Ten years of creating the nation's model for this challenging work has culminated in closing 1,450 cases, and more importantly, returning 174 homes to their rightful owners here in Wayne County."

"Often it is painstaking and tedious detective work to identify perpetrators, but extremely rewarding to return a fam-

ily's most valuable asset. I am most grateful to our other elected officials who contribute the talented staff for the success of this unique team," he added.

For those perpetrators that think they can take Wayne County homeowners for a ride, the Task Force now has a special ride just for them.

## Community outreach members march against hunger

The Plymouth-Canton area Interfaith Community Outreach walked against hunger Sunday, Oct. 4. Marchers represented the diverse community cultures. Though anti-Muslim and open carry groups protested at mosques throughout the country, faith and cultural groups served their communities as a counteraction to these protests.

In Dearborn, where only four protestors

showed up, Muslim members greeted them and finished up with all shaking hands at the end of the protest, founding member Anne Marie Graham-Hudak said.

"Our community will continue to teach others about the faiths and cultures in our neighborhoods," Graham-Hudak said.

The local ICO welcomes others to join by emailing plymouth-cantonico@yahoo.com.



Members of the Interfaith Community Outreach gather for a group photo Oct. 4 following their walk against hunger.

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# Flag football fun: Dads take to the field



THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Errol Franklin protects his teammate Cyrie Simpson as he runs down the field during the second annual Watch D.O.G.S. flag football game held at Thurston High School last week.



THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Mark Heilborn looks back as he runs the football in for a touchdown during the D.O.G.S. annual football game representing the four elementary schools in South Redford Thursday night.

The Watch D.O.G.S. took to the field last week for their second annual flag football game.

D.O.G.S. are Dads of Great Students from the four elementary schools in the South Redford School District: Vandenberg, Addams, Fisher and Jefferson.

The event was held at Thurston High School and the money raised was donated to Redford Interfaith Relief.



THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Addams Elementary School principal Michelle Hubbard signals a touchdown during the game.

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DIVISION 1 REGIONAL TENNIS

## Churchill is Midland-bound again

Chargers' second-place finish fueled by consistency

Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Across-the-board consistency propelled Livonia Churchill's boys tennis team into the prestigious Division 1 state meet for the fifth time in the past six years during last week's Division 1 regional tournament at Livonia Stevenson.

The Chargers compiled two points in six of the eight flights and scored in all but one set of brackets to finish with 13 points, second only to Birmingham Brother Rice's dominating

total of 24.

The top two teams in each regional tournament advance to the state meet, which is set for Midland.

Led by No. 4 singles player Jon Montie's two wins, Livonia Franklin placed third with nine points followed by the host Spartans, who accumulated eight points. None of the other three teams scored more than one point.

Each of the Chargers' top three singles swingers won two

See TENNIS, Page B2



Members of Livonia Churchill's tennis team pose after placing second in last week's Division 1 regional tournament.

### Churchill harriers win South

Livonia Churchill's girls cross country team clinched the KLAAs South Division title Tuesday at Cass Benton Park with a 22-33 victory over Canton.

The Chargers were paced by the one-two finish of Christina Murphy (19 minutes, 56.2 seconds) and Kathleen George (20:09.6).

Canton's Anna Nagleont (21:14.4) and Kaite Cotham (21:14.4) finished third and fourth, respectively, before Churchill's Gabrielle Swider (21:20.8) and Alexis Lombardo (21:30.0) placed fifth and sixth.

Churchill's fifth scorer was Caroline George, who placed eighth in 21:54.9.

The Chargers' non-scoring performers were Raquel Zwick (11th in 22:30.8), Madison White (13th in 22:49.1), Cathryn McGowan (17th in 23:38.8) and Emily Halkey (18th in 23:32.6).

### Stevenson 50th anniversary

People planning on attending Livonia Stevenson's home football game Friday, Oct. 23, are advised to pre-purchase their tickets due to the large crowd expected for the game.

In addition to homecoming, the school will be celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Tickets for the 7 p.m. game can be purchased at Stevenson on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 22-23, during all three lunch periods by the north cafeteria (10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.).

On game day, the ticket booths at Anders Field will be open at 4:30 p.m.

Tickets for adults and all students in kindergarten through seniors in high schools cost \$5. Children under 5 will be admitted free (with an adult). All seniors 62 and over will also be admitted free.

Stevenson family and student passes will be honored as will Stevenson staff IDs and KLAAs passes.

The game will not sell out; however, fans are advised to arrive early as seating is first-come/first-served.

### Attention parents of athletes

If your son or daughter's high school athletic team is not receiving recognition in the *Observer*, encourage their coach to report results to sports editor Ed Wright, who can be reached at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometown-life.com.

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE FOOTBALL



Livonia Stevenson's Devin Dunn helps bring down Canton's Markus Sanders during the second quarter of Friday night's Kensington Conference crossover game.



One of the lone bright spots Friday night for Stevenson was this long run by senior Malik Lowery.

## RED 'C' RISING

Canton back on track with rousing win over Stevenson

Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Sideline by a lingering headache last week, Canton senior Jared Stephens was a headache for Livonia Stevenson during Friday night's Kensington Conference crossover clash.

And the hard-running speedster wasn't the kind of ailment a couple of

capsules of ibuprofen were going to make go away.

Just moments after Stevenson's Frank Carlin squirted through a hole on a counter play and dashed 28 yards to put the Spartans up 7-0 and momentarily silence Canton's homecoming crowd, Stephens took a handoff from quarter-

See STEVENSON, Page B4

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

## Warriors chiseling out memorable season

Undefeated Lutheran Westland tops Ypsilanti Arbor Prep, 2-1

Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

If Disney is searching for magical sports stories for an upcoming feature film, it might want to check out Lutheran Westland's boys soccer team.

After losing most of their defensive back wall and their goal-keeper to graduation, the Warriors have constructed an epic season this fall, improving to 15-0-1 following Thursday's

exciting 2-1 victory over Ypsilanti Arbor Prep.

"Teamwork has been the No. 1 thing that has gotten us rolling this season," head coach Rod Schultz said. "The boys have just jelled as a team. They play well together, they're trusting one another and things have just fallen into place.

"It hasn't been an easy season; we haven't won any blowouts. We've had a couple really nice comebacks and we've had a lot of close victories."

If there is one triumph that stands above the other 14 in Schultz's estimation, it is the Warriors' 3-2 homecoming-

See SOCCER, Page B3



Jordan Williams elevates high for a save for Lutheran Westland's unbeaten soccer team.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# Franklin survives wild encounter with Salem

**Ed Wright**  
Staff Writer

During Friday night's record-setting 49-42 victory over Salem, members of Livonia Franklin's offensive line earned the nickname "Fantastic Five."

Paving the way for a school-record 509 rushing yards were Patriots Joe Fortin, Josh Redding, Daniel Domgalski, Robert Madley and Jax Gasaway, who do their best work in the trenches.

"Those guys were amazing tonight," said Franklin head coach Chris Kelbert, whose 5-3 team will seek to earn a playoff-clinching win next week at 4-4 Royal Oak. "We had three guys run for over 100 yards, but none of that would have been possible without those guys up front."

The No. 1 benefactor of the blockers' gutsy effort was Franklin senior quarterback Denzel Adams, who dodged, dart and bulldozed his way to 205 yards and five touchdowns on 25 carries. Adams also completed 4-of-5 passes for 54 yards and a touchdown to Jacob Clark.

Patriots sophomore running back Isaac Moore made an impressive varsity debut after getting promoted from the junior varsity in the wake of Nate Binkiewicz's season-ending collarbone injury.

Moore piled up 174 yards on 26 hauls, while Clark carried eight times for 113.

"Neither team's defense showed up tonight," Kelbert said, referring to the 91 total points. "We jumped out to a 14-0 lead, but we had a couple special teams miscues and, before you knew it, the score was 14-all."

"After that, it was pretty much a punch-for-punch, back-and-forth game. It wasn't a clean performance by our guys, but they fought hard to the end."

Salem snatched its lone



NANCY ERWIN  
Livonia Franklin's Rob Erwin (left) busts through the Salem offensive line to block a kick during Friday's 49-42 victory over the Rocks.



NANCY ERWIN  
Franklin's Jacob Clark explodes through a hole during Friday night's victory over Salem.

lead of the game, 28-21, early in the third quarter, but the resilient Patriots rallied to take a 14-point lead, 42-28, into the fourth.

Franklin re-upped its cushion to 49-35 on an Adams-to-Clark TD pass, but Salem narrowed its deficit to seven on its next drive.

After recovering an onside

kick, Salem drove to the Franklin 20 with an opportunity to tie the game, but the Patriots' defense stiffened when it absolutely needed to.

A win next Friday in Royal Oak would propel Franklin into the playoffs for the first time since 2010.

ewright@hometownlife.com

KLAA SOCCER

# Stevenson blanks Mott, 2-0

**Ed Wright**  
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's boys soccer team closed out its regular season in style Wednesday by upending host Waterford Mott, 2-0.

The victory improved the Spartans' record to 10-5-2 heading into Monday's Division 1 district opener against visiting Plymouth.

Mott slipped to 11-6-2 with the setback.

The tightly contested match was scoreless at half-time.

Stevenson's first goal came in the 51st minute when Tyler

Gregory scored off an assist from Justin Schultz.

Nine minutes later, Ian Henzi ripped an insurance goal into the net after securing a pass from Gregory.

The Spartans, who outshot Mott 11-4, notched their eighth shutout of the season thanks to strong play in net from Turner Miller and Drew Padgen.

"Our back line and goal-keeping has been excellent this last month," Stevenson head coach Ken Shingledecker said. "It was on full display tonight again."

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BRIAN DOWNEY  
Bobby Sprague has played a key role in Lutheran Westland's unbeaten regular season.

## SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

night win over Huron Valley Lutheran.

"We were losing late in that one, 2-1, under the lights with a lot of fans watching, and the boys managed to score two goals to win it," he said. "As a coach, it was nerve-wracking, but I'm sure the fans enjoyed it."

The anchor of the Warriors' nine shutout victories has been goalkeeper Jordan Williams.

"He's a pretty big kid with a long arm span, but his best quality is his poise," Schultz said. "He's always where he needs to be."

Other key players in the

team's defensive dominance have been center-backs Brent Croft and Colin McLaughlin.

Schultz said the team's "field general" has been center-mid Kyle Downey, while Bobby Sprague has been the Warriors' scoring catalyst with 20-plus goals.

Downey spear-headed Thursday's victory over Arbor Prep with a first-half goal off a penalty kick. After Arbor Prep knotted the game at 1-1, Jake Kuhn won it with a late goal.

"That game was a big test for us because Arbor Prep is a very physical team, but we passed it," Schultz said.

The Warriors open the Division 4 district tournament on Monday at 4 p.m. at Plymouth Christian Academy.

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HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

# District brackets offer compelling matchups

## Three state-ranked teams in mix at John Glenn tournament

Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

The Division 1 district boys soccer tournament hosted by Westland John Glenn next week is loaded with talent — not to mention a few teams that could contend for a state championship if they can survive the grueling four-day test.

While it may not feature as many state-ranked teams, next week's D1 district hosted by Livonia Franklin should also be intense and well-played.

The John Glenn brackets will kick off Monday at 6 p.m. with three games at different sites.

Canton, which is ranked No. 6 in the state, according to the Michigan High School Coaches Association's Oct. 12 rankings, will battle the host Rockets while No. 11-ranked Plymouth will travel to Livonia Stevenson to play the surging Spartans. Monday's third 6 p.m. showdown will feature host Wayne Memorial against Livonia Churchill.

The winners of Monday's Canton-John Glenn and Churchill-Wayne games will face off on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at John Glenn.

The winner of Monday's Plymouth-Stevenson game will move on to play No. 5-rated Salem in a 6:30 p.m. semifinal at John Glenn.

The district's championship game is set for Thursday at 6 p.m. on the Rockets' turf field. The Franklin-hosted district tournament will feature these four first-round Monday matchups: Cass Tech against Dearborn Fordson, Franklin at Crestwood (7 p.m.), Dearborn Edsel Ford at Dearborn (7 p.m.) and Detroit Western International at U of D Jesuit (8 p.m.).

The semifinals are set for 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesday while the championship is slated for 7 p.m. Friday at Franklin.

### Division 2 preview

The Division 2 district hosted by Farmington High School offers some intriguing matchups.

Garden City will open things up Monday when it hosts Redford Thurston at 5 p.m. The second first-round match in the top half of the brackets features Redford Union visiting Farmington Hills Harrison in a 6 p.m. clash.



Churchill's Devin McCulley will be leading his team onto the pitch Monday against Wayne Memorial in a Division 1 district opener.

The two winners will meet on Wednesday at 5 p.m. at Farmington.

The lower brackets include a first-round game between the host Falcons and visiting Detroit Cesar Chavez Academy (7

p.m.). The winner will play Dearborn Divine Child at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

The championship game is scheduled for Friday at 7 p.m. [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com)

PREP FOOTBALL

# Novi regroup to stop Churchill, 35-26

Tom Morelli  
Correspondent

A week after losing the Baseline Jug to Northville, Novi went into its football crossover Friday against host Livonia Churchill knowing full well that this could be its last shot at a playoff bid, let alone a winning season.

That dream appeared to have vanished in the first half, after fumbling the ball away on three occasions, two of which led to scores by the Chargers.

Down 14-7 at the half, Novi stormed out of the gates to score on its first two possessions and regain the lead before eventually pulling out a 35-26 win.

Junior quarterback Alec Bageris (24-for-33 passing for 283 yards) tossed a 10-yard screen pass to senior running back Emanuel Jackson, capping a 14-play, 65-yard drive to even-up the score.

Upon taking the field again, Novi (4-4) went to its offensive duo once again, this time on a screen pass that saw Jackson (13 catches for 151 yards) weave his way past several Churchill defenders for a 50-yard score.

Although the extra point was blocked by the Chargers' Jacob Chantres, Novi remained ahead 20-14 with 3:19 left in the third.

Churchill (4-4) stalled on its next possession, but not before a gutsy fourth-down call.

On what the Wildcats anticipated would be a routine punt, the Chargers snapped to ball to senior fullback DeMarco Kinney for a 44-yard sprint down the left sideline and into the end zone. The play was nullified however, thanks in part to a holding call in the backfield, backing the Chargers up another 14 yards and forcing an actual punt.

"After the fake punt, everybody was excited and then everybody was down after that," Churchill coach Bill DeFillippo said. "That might have been the big one that turned it around."



Churchill junior quarterback Evan Cummins hands the ball off to Omar Morris during a game earlier this season.

As hard as Novi tried to put the game away in the fourth, the Chargers kept finding ways to keep the game close and competitive.

After trading possessions to start the quarter, Novi got a huge boost on second down with a 31-yard run by junior running back Aahmaud Jenkins that moved the ball to the 12.

Following a quick gain up the middle by Jackson, Bageris connected with wide receiver Anthony D'Annibale off a quick slant for a 3-yard touchdown. The Bobcats would go to D'Annibale again on the very next play to complete the two-point conversion and make it 28-14.

The Chargers responded by relying on their passing game to set up their next scoring drive, with wide receiver Jamal Allen hauling in a 3-yard touchdown pass from

quarterback Evan Cummins, who completed 7-of-11 passes on the drive. Churchill missed the extra point, leaving the margin at eight, 28-20, with 1:59 left remaining.

Needing another score to at the very least force overtime, the Chargers went for the onside kick, which fell into the hands of Novi's Nick Sabo.

With 1:06 left on the clock, Jackson (14 carries, 77 yards) put the game out of reach by scoring his fourth touchdown of the game on a 45-yard run.

Using a hurry-up offense, Cummins (15-of-33 passing for 207 yards) threw for a first down and ran for another before hitting senior wide receiver Matt Pachota for a 35-yard score as time expired.

Despite fumbling the ball near the goal line on its opening drive, Churchill was able to squeeze a safety out of it after the turnover, as defen-

sive linemen Austin Simpson and Robert Barnes devoured a Novi ball carrier in the backfield.

The Bobcats grabbed their first lead of the game less than two minutes into the second quarter, courtesy of a 22-yard pass by Bageris to Jackson.

Not to be outdone, the Chargers responded on the ensuing drive on a scoring run by junior running back Omar Morris, though the extra point would sail wide of the goal post.

A Cummins pass to Allen off a skinny post route from 9 yards out would round out the scoring for the first half, as Churchill's attempt to make a two-point conversion ended with an incomplete pass.

Junior running back Rocco Parrelly led the Chargers' ground game with 84 yards off 11 carries, while Cummins rushed 13 yards for 70 yards.

## STEVENSON

Continued from Page B1

back Jake O'Donnell, followed a kickout block by Jacob Wickens and exploded up the visitors' sideline for a 62-yard touchdown run that doubled as a lightning bolt for the Chiefs, who eventually steam-rolled the Spartans, 49-7.

On the heels of a rare two-game losing streak, Canton improved to 6-2 and punched its eighth consecutive postseason ticket with next weekend's regular-season finale in Galesburg, Ill. looming.

Stevenson, which clinched a playoff berth on the same P-CEP field during last Saturday's 38-19 win over Salem, will take a 6-2 mark into Friday's homecoming game against Churchill.

Stephens looked like a picture of health on Canton's second drive, too, breaking off a 58-yard TD up the sidelines.

"I went to the doctor Monday and got cleared to play

tonight — thank God," Stephens said, smiling through his visor. "I felt pretty good all along, but our trainers wanted to be cautious. I was back at practice Tuesday."

"Both of my touchdowns were on off-tackle plays. I followed a great block by Jacob Wickens on the first one and my fullback, Markus Sanders, sacrificed his body — and he reminded me about it after the game — on my second one."

"Jared was hungry after missing last week's game," Canton head coach Tim Baechler said, "and he ran like it. He ran hard tonight."

Baechler said the last thing he wanted for his team was to carry the burden of having to win the last game — which will require an eight-hour bus ride in order to get win No. 6.

"If we would have had to go down there to qualify, that would have been tough," he said, revealing a relieved smile. "(Galesburg) is a good team; they're huge."

"Three words sum up to-

night's win — effort, accountability and responsibility. The kids have been giving the physical effort it takes, but our mental effort was lacking. In our two losses, there were four, five, six plays that killed us and we don't have that much margin for error this year."

Speaking of huge, that is the best word to describe the Chiefs' 35-7 halftime lead, which was constructed by Stephens' two TDs along with 65- and 31- and 5-yard TDs from Sanders.

The catalyst of the Chiefs' swarming defense was senior captain Thomas Evely.

Stevenson's usually-productive offense suffered a setback in the first quarter, when starting running back Austin Petrie was forced to leave the contest with a lower-leg injury.

Petrie's absence forced the Spartans to shift slot back Frank Carlin to the backfield.

"We got beat by a really, really good football team tonight," Stevenson head coach Randy Micallef said. "We knew

they'd be fired up with it being homecoming and needing a win to qualify."

"Obviously, losing Austin wasn't ideal for us. We had to move some things around. Once Canton got that moment going, I think our kids kind of sensed what was going on. The bottom line is that they just kicked our butts."

Canton ran 28 plays to Stevenson's six during the second half, which breezed along like the gusty winds that swept the field due to the running clock that kicked in once Canton pushed its lead to 42-7 on Sanders' fourth TD of the night, a 9-yard run with 8:21 left in the third quarter.

Jacob Thornton found pay dirt on a 9-yard run with 9:02 left to cap the night's scoring.

One of the more entertaining plays of the night was provided by Stevenson's 6-foot-3, 261-pound sophomore offensive lineman Giovanni Agazzi, who scooped up the ball after a teammate fumbled and rumbled 19 yards.

WWAC FOOTBALL REPORT

## Both Redford teams triumphant

Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Friday night was a good one for fans of Redford Township's two football teams.

Redford Union clinched its first two-win season since 2012 when it buried Dearborn Heights Annapolis, 41-28, in a Western Wayne Athletic Conference crossover contest.

Further south in Romulus, Thurston ran its record to 5-3 with a convincing 34-8 triumph over Romulus, which dropped to 5-3.

The Panthers, who will take a 2-6 mark into next week's finale against Pontiac, led 28-6 at the half and 35-14 with 12 minutes to play before holding off a late Annapolis charge.

Sophomore running back Isaac Grant was sensational for the Panthers, gaining 225 yards on 25 carries, including a 53-yard deal-sealing TD late in the fourth quarter.

"We came out on offense and methodically drove the ball down the field on our first two drives," RU head coach Miles Tomasaitis said. "Isaac ran really hard tonight."

RU got on the board first thanks to a 3-yard TD run by Grant. Ruhben Crowley made it 8-0 with a two-point conversion run.

The Panthers extended their lead to 14-0 moments later when Grant scored again a few plays after RU partially blocked a Cougars punt.

Marquise Hathaway found the end zone from 4 yards out later in the second quarter before Grant scored his third TD one play after Blake Hartsfield blocked a punt.

Crowley added a 5-yard scoring run in the third quarter and Josh Smith split the uprights on the extra point.

Hathaway and Grant were standouts on defense for the winners.

### Thurston 'D' dominant

Thurston's defense scored on two of the four turnovers it forced — one on a fumble return by Jacob Jenkins and another on a pick-six by Kobe Williams.

Antwain Dungy also recovered a fumble for the Eagles and Alonzo McCoy registered an interception.

Thurston sprinted in front 7-0 on a 40-yard TD run by McCoy.

Jenkins then picked up a fumble that was cucked by Tyejuan Triplett's strip and rumbled 12 yards to put the Eagles up 14-0 (following Williams' second extra point).

The Eagles led 34-0 at the half courtesy of touchdowns by McCoy (11-yard run), Williams (pick six) and McCoy (40-yard run).

Romulus scored its only TD late in the fourth quarter.

"This was one of our best defensive performances all season," Thurston coach Bob Snell said. "We shut them down all night."

Romulus rushed for just 35 yards on 24 carries, Snell added. Romulus managed to complete just 4-of-21 passes for 73 yards.

"Our cornerbacks — Keion Harris and Darryis King — were outstanding," he said.

# 2015 Nissan Murano is a roomy five-seat SUV

Gas price instability and the economic downturn got shoppers rethinking how much SUV they really need, with most deciding a compact SUV was enough. Consumers with a few kids, who needed more room, chose a three-row crossover. That left the mid-size, five-seat SUV an unwanted commodity by most.

The redesigned 2015 Nissan Murano — available at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave. — is a quiet, comfortable, roomy five-seat SUV, perfectly executed for empty-nesters or others who prize a spacious cabin and cargo area, but who have no desire for a third row, where kids routinely wind up.

These shoppers want a solid road-trip vehicle, not a rally car.

## Exterior and styling

While the Murano delivers on the practicality and electronic wizardry its target buyer may demand, its styling panders to folks who may be more daring than those shopping this segment.

The radical front end has curvaceous fenders and a grille that drops down in a V pattern. It makes the Jeep Grand Cherokee look stately and Ford's upcoming Edge redesign look a bit staid in comparison.

Eighteen-inch wheels are standard and look appropriately sized for the vehicle. The 20-inch wheels on the Platinum model seem a bit too big, visually, but there will likely be plenty of people who opt for them.

## How it drives

Nissan's venerable 3.5-liter V-6 remains the workhorse under the hood, producing 260 horsepower and 240 pounds-feet of torque. It's teamed to a continuously variable automatic transmission that uses artificial shift points to make it seem like a traditional automatic. The experience feels more CVT than automatic, but power comes on fast and won't leave drivers wanting much, whether the engine is mated to front- or all-wheel drive.

The brakes are also solidly predictable, and when it's running on its standard 18-



The 2015 Nissan Murano.

inch wheels and tires, the Murano is one of the smoothest non-luxury SUVs out there. Mileage is 21/28/24 mpg city/highway/combined for both front- and all-wheel-drive versions. A V-6 Jeep Grand Cherokee gets identical mileage with all-wheel drive and 22/30/25 mpg with rear-wheel drive.

The Murano cabin is as quiet as can be.

## Interior

In the past, Nissan has made a few interiors that felt close to its Infiniti luxury brand, and the Murano follows suit. In its highest, Platinum, trim, which offers a dark brown leather interior, there are few areas that distinguish it from an Infiniti.

Even on the more accessible SV trim, there are still swaths of leather everywhere from above the gauge cluster to on the armrests on the doors. Even if you're sitting in a cloth driver's seat, you're seeing and touching leather.

Space is considerable in the backseat, which Nissan expects to be used for adults on a double date, not preteens being shuttled to soccer practice. The outboard seats are also Zero Gravity types, and on the Platinum trim they're also heated.

## Ergonomics and electronics

Nissan should get an award for its center console, a near-perfect mix of physical buttons, four knobs and a touch-screen. Buttons are either piano black with illuminated text and icons, or chrome-covered plastic with the labels above.

The 8-inch touch-screen — standard on SV trims and higher — has terrific resolution and has been completely rethought from the previous generation of Nissan systems. Luckily, everything is still laid out in a straightforward way that should cause few headaches for the tech-averse.

There are separate screens

for music, navigation and various other functions, as well as a home screen that gives brief glimpses of many systems that are active.

The base stereo has good sound, and you can connect two devices via USB — one for front passengers and one for rear. Either can pipe music through the car's stereo.

## Cargo and storage

There's a nice covered tray between the cupholders and a cubby in the center console that can do duty as a smart-phone bin; otherwise, the driver will have to rely on the door pocket to stash frequently used items like loose change and other miscellaneous things.

There's also a small tray behind the cubby for rear passengers to put items, namely smartphones, into, because the rear USB ports are directly beneath it.

A generous cargo area is another benefit of moving up to an SUV this size. At 39.6

cubic feet, the Murano doesn't disappoint, providing plenty of room for four good-size pieces of luggage or a mix of luggage and golf bags.

The rear seats fold flat via release handles by the lift gate; this expands cargo room to 69.9 cubic feet.

## Safety

A backup camera is standard on the Murano, while Nissan's Around View Monitor is standard on SL and Platinum trims. When activated, it offers a bird's-eye view of the SUV by using cameras in front, back and in the side mirrors.

Blind spot warning is standard on SL and Platinum trims, as is a system to detect objects moving behind the car, called Moving Object Detection, and rear cross-traffic alert. Intelligent cruise control, forward collision warning and forward emergency braking are part of an optional Technology Package on those two trims, as well.

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# Cemetery pilgrimage celebrates souls, saints on Halloween

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Bring a list of your departed loved ones to the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society's cemetery pilgrimage on Oct. 31 — but leave your Halloween costume at home.

The pilgrimage will start in the mausoleum at 1 p.m. at St. Hedwig Cemetery, 23755 Military Road, east of Telegraph, in Dearborn Heights. Although the eighth annual event coincides with Halloween, it's about souls and saints, not ghosts and ghouls.

"Our event is a prayer service where we remember our departed," said Laurie Gomulka, vice president and executive director of the Society, which is based at St. Colette Church in Livonia. "This is one of our most popular events. We are very excited about this event and we anticipate a large turnout. It will be primarily Polish, but all are welcome. Our organization does have members from all different backgrounds. We don't exclude anybody. I also believe Father Tony's presentation will attract a lot of people."

The Rev. Tony Fox, a Franciscan friar, will talk about "The Francis Effect: St. Francis Then, Pope Francis Now." The Rev. Gary Michalik, Society president and pastor at St. Colette, will lead the prayer service, which will include hymns, a Scripture reading, prayers, a blessing and the Wypominki.

"Wypominki means naming and that is the point where everyone in attendance will be asked to read aloud the names of their departed, who they would like to remember," Gomulka said. "It's calling them to be present with us at that time. It's a way of keeping their memory alive."

After the prayer service, the group will visit several graves and light candles at three of them. The procession will include a stop at the grave of the Society's founder, Stanley Wisniach, as well as the graves of military veterans.

## Big event

The Society holds its All Saints Day/All Souls Day pilgrimage at a different cemetery each year, choosing between St. Hedwig, Holy Cross, Woodmere and Mt. Carmel in Wyandotte. All Saints Day is Nov. 1. All Souls Day is Nov. 2.

"All Saints All Souls is actually a national holiday in Poland and the most traveled day there as well. The poor and beggars are fed and prayers are said for them because it is believed that their prayers carry great weight. Candles are lit on all the graves. No grave is left unattended. Strangers' graves are cared for if there is no one to clean them and to light candles at them," Gomulka said. "It is said the smoke rising from the candles creates the appearance of a dense fog in the air."

Although the Society will light just three candles, St. Hedwig Cemetery will glow with candlelight every night through November. The cemetery, generally closed to the public after 5 p.m., will be open for viewing at night one day next month.

"People will be allowed to come into the cemetery and see the thousands of candles that burn, some are blue, some are red. For as far as you can look, which is two miles, are lighted candles," Fox said. "This is the only cemetery I know where every grave has a candle." He said cemetery staff lights candles on the graves of Catholic priests, sisters and brothers. Families take care of the rest.

## Celebrating the dead

Gomulka sees similarities in the ways that the Polish culture and Mexican culture regard the deceased. While candles glow on Polish graves during November, Mexican "Day of the Dead" altars adorn graves with skulls, pictures and symbols of the departed. Both cultures include food — a "bread of the dead" or "soul cake" — in remembering the deceased.

"The Mexican culture like the Polish culture is very Catholic," she noted. "We do have (Society) members who are of Hispanic heritage."

Fox also sees connections between St. Francis and Pope Francis.

"I think a lot of people think of St. Francis as the hippie bird-loving person, which is nice. But he's much more," Fox said, pointing out that Pope Francis included the saint's Canticum of the Creatures prayer in his encyclical on the environment. He said his presentation will look at the "con-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Tony Fox, a Franciscan friar, will talk about St. Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis at the eighth annual All Souls All Saints Day Pilgrimage, Prayer Service and Wypominki, Oct. 31 at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A Surowiec family monument carries this photo of Leo A. Surowiec.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Laurie Gomulka places flowers on the grave of Leo Surowiec, a soldier who died during World War II.

trast and comparison of these men of vision, a man from the 13th century and a man from the 21st century and showing that these two figures have a lot to teach us."

An optional banquet will follow the pilgrimage from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Cariera's Italian Restaurant, in Dearborn Heights. Cost for the family-style meal is \$23 for Society members and \$27 for non-members. Send a check or money order payable to WSDPAHS and mail to Laurie A. Gomulka, 32040 Grand River Ave., unit #47, Farmington, MI 48336. Deadline is Monday, Oct. 26.

Gomulka also asks for an RSVP for the prayer service to help the Society estimate the number of seats needed. Call 855-765-6642 by Monday, Oct. 26.

## BURIED AT ST. HEDWIG CEMETERY

» Johnny Sadrack led a west side Detroit polka band and played violin and saxophone in addition to singing.  
» Stanley Adamus, a west side band leader, played saxophone and clarinet.  
» Stanley Wisniach, accordionist and founder of the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society, led the orchestra on WXYZ's *Club Polka Show* in the 1950s and performed on the *Soupy Sales* show and *Our Friend Harry*, a children's show.  
» Ted Gomulka was a trumpeter, polka band leader, and father of Laurie Gomulka, vice president of the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society.

# Livonia grandpa engages grandkids with pumpkins, egg throwing, window smashing

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Bill Bencik's seven grandchildren will celebrate Halloween this year with personalized pumpkins grown and carved in their grandpa's front yard.

"I've always been interested in gardening," said Bencik, a Livonia resident and retired high school social studies teacher. "Last year, I put pumpkins in the front yard and nothing. This year, I put them in and they took off. I had 10 pumpkins."

A fellow gardener at Greenmead, where Bencik also grows vegetables, suggested etching names into 4-to-6-inch pumpkins while they are

on the vine. Bencik tested the idea on his prolific front yard pumpkin patch.

"Once I put the name on the pumpkin, then I cut off excess vines. It (the carving) expands as the pumpkin grows. I used a variety of knives. You make a small incision into the skin of the pumpkin and more than likely it will start bleeding water. But don't worry about that," he described the process. "Almost all of our pumpkins did well."

When the grandkids visited recently, they lined up for a photo with their personalized pumpkins, before taking them home to Kalamazoo and Wisconsin. Bencik even carved pumpkins for a

baby grandchild in New York and a grandchild-to-be, expected next month in Pennsylvania.

Pumpkin carving is a tradition with Bencik and his family. He and his wife, Diane, who's also a former teacher, generally visit their daughter, Kristin, and her family every October to celebrate a grandson's birthday.

"My daughter lives in Whitefish Bay, outside Milwaukee. During October, they have hundreds of pumpkins out there. We must have 10 pumpkin carving kits."

## Egg toss

Pumpkin carving is among the milder activities that Bencik shares with his family.

"He is always doing something crazy with the kids," Diane noted.

"I like to do something different with the kids each year. I am crazy," he said. "Two years ago, they got to throw eggs at me. Initially I was going to use tomatoes and have them throw them at me. I said it was a gift from grandpa to all my grandkids. Every year I try to come up with something special."

Another time, in conjunction with a granddaughter's birthday, he let the children break storm windows. He was disposing of his old windows, recycling the metal frames, and "had to get rid of the glass." He



Bill Bencik readies for a little quality time with his grandchildren, who are armed with raw eggs.

# Rescue plans Halloween party for abused cat's vet bills

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Sebastian, a cat rescued by Guardian Angels Animal Rescue (GAAR) in Livonia, carries scars of abuse but hasn't let his experience break his spirit.

"Sebastian has a slit in him from eye to throat," said Sandra Mezza, GAAR president. "He is a fighter and has a will to live, that along with all the love, prayers and great vet care from Dr. (Steven) Burns at Walled Lake Veterinarian Hospital, is pulling him through this ordeal."

"He loves to cuddle and purrs very loud. He deserves to live a life of a spoiled kitty. GAAR will make sure he will never feel scared, cold, alone, hungry or un-loved again."

The organization plans a Halloween party to raise funds for Sebastian's medical care. Surgery alone could top \$1,000. The event is Oct. 23 at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Doors will open at 5 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and include dinner, dessert, one pop, beer or mixed drink, and one door prize ticket. The party, which is open to all ages, will include a tarot reader, dancing, music, best costume contest, raffle, silent auction, and more. Costumes are optional. For reservations, call 734-788-6857 or email sandra.mezza@hotmail.com.

GAAR rescued Sebastian in late August. "According to the person who called us Sebastian was born under a porch and he



SUBMITTED Sebastian is healing after he was cut from eye to throat.

was the only kitten to survive," Mezza said. "He had been a stray in this neighborhood for years." GAAR is an all-volunteer, non-profit animal rescue. Visit its website at gaarmichigan.org.

### Bowling for animals

Tail Wagger's 1990 will hold its 26th annual bowling event Saturday, Nov. 7 at Woodland Lanes in Livonia.

Bowling times are 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Cost is \$25 per adult and \$15 per child. The entry fee includes three games of bowling, lunch or dinner with dessert, a commemorative gift and entry into mystery game to win donated prizes from local businesses. A raffle with prizes from the Detroit Tigers, Detroit Red Wings, hotels and restaurants, will be held along with 50/50 drawings at all three bowling times.

The event will raise funds for Tail Wagger's 1990 programs that help "people help animals." The organization, based in Livonia, operates a wellness clinic at 28418 Five Mile, Livonia, offers a pet food pantry, low-cost vaccinations and spay and neuter services.

Sign up for the bowling event at tailwaggers1990.org. For questions, call Laura Zain at 734-855-4077 or email tailwaggers.1990@yahoo.com.

### On the road

The Humane Society of Huron Valley reminds motorists to be cautious about deer and other animals in the road during the fall. It offers these tips for preventing accidents.

- » Don't drive distracted.
- » Be extra aware during dawn and dusk.
- » Scan the sides of the road while driving.
- » Use high beam lights on dark roads when there is no on-coming traffic.
- » Know that some roads are more risky than others, especially those near parks, nature preserves and wooded areas.
- » Slow down if you see an animal at the side of the road.
- » When you see one animal, prepare to see more.
- » Don't veer if an animal jumps in the middle of the road. Apply the brakes, keep hands on the wheel and come to a controlled stop. Honk your horn to drive the animal out of the road.
- » Don't swerve if an accident is imminent.

# Reflecting on motherhood at baby's first birthday

Sarah Davies  
Guest Columnist

A mother's letter to her daughter on her first birthday:

Thank you. Thank you for taking the time to read this. Actually, you probably are having someone else read this to you, while you sit there laughing and pointing at me, like you usually do. I wish for just one moment you would sit there and focus and listen intently, and understand what I am about to tell you. You have changed me! You have made me so much better of a person, and I want to thank you for that.

Thank you for teaching me that a lot can be accomplished on a very little amount of sleep. Thank you for helping me to discover that spiders really aren't that scary and that I really am capable of a lot more than I ever thought. You have shown me so much love, more love than anyone ever has before. You have snuggled me, cuddled me, hugged me and kissed me. You have placed your hands on my cheeks and stared into my eyes, and have fallen asleep beside me or in my arms more times than I can count.

Thank you for giving me courage, and also for reminding me how important it is to have fun and laugh and smile. I am so grateful to have you around, so that I am constantly reminded that there is good in the world, and that we truly can find the good in everything if we try. Thank you for helping to heal my broken heart, and for loving me unconditionally, in every moment of our lives.

I never imagined I would find a love like this. I don't even think I was sure of how strong a love between two



SUBMITTED Sarah Davies of Livonia with daughter, Grace, who will be 1 year old this month.

people could be until I met you. But once I met you, I knew that forever I would be changed. The love was so overpowering that I immediately felt a need to protect you always.

Thank you, my dearest daughter, for giving me a new life. Thank you for waving goodbye when I leave for work in the morning, for smiling and swinging your arms when I come to pick you up after work. Thank you for biting my fingers with your five and a half sharp teeth, and for spitting up on me. Thank you for keeping me up for countless hours at night, pretending it is morning while we dance, sing, or play. Thank you for being the best gift ever! Happy first birthday to my little princess.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the joys and challenges of single motherhood. Her daughter, Grace, was born Oct. 25, 2014. Contact her at sarah-mari Davies@gmail.com

## PUMPKINS

Continued from Page B7

cordoned off an area of his yard, placed a tarp under the

windows and the grandkids let rocks fly.

"I had (the windows) propped against an old swing and was able to do it safely. My son and I picked up the glass. I think the kids enjoyed

it." Bencik said he likes dreaming up activities that his grandchildren will remember as they grow older. That also includes simple fun, like collecting bottle caps, gardening

or finding rocks. "When the kids come over I'm always trying to give them something to do," Bencik said. "We have a close family. We've had eight dogs in the family room at Christmas.

They all got along because they see each other several times a year. We want our grandkids to know who their aunts and uncles are. We do everything we can to foster family relationships."

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## Genetic testing can identify your risk for developing cancer

Every October we are invaded by a sea of pink bringing attention to breast cancer prevention and detection. During this time, we see stories throughout the news and social media of survivors who beat the odds and the families that supported them through it all. What we don't hear as much is that some of these survivors were born with a genetic predisposition to develop cancer, and other family members may also have increased risk for cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, genetic testing is the process of using medical tests to look for changes (mutations) in a person's genes or chromosomes. Genetic testing can be used to determine if a person has an inherited mutation known to increase the risk for certain cancers, or to confirm a suspected gene mutation in a person or family. Professionals trained in cancer genetics can identify which people should consider testing, and provide counseling to assist them in making an in-



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GUEST COLUMNIST

formed decision.

Genetic testing may be recommended for individuals if others in their family have had a certain disease or certain patterns of disease. You should talk to your doctor about genetic testing if:

» You or a close relative was diagnosed with cancer before age 50.

» Relatives in more than one generation of the family have cancer.

» You or a relative have been diagnosed with cancer more than once.

» You or a relative have been diagnosed with a rare type of cancer such as male breast cancer or sarcoma.

» You or a relative have a history of 10 or more non-cancerous colorectal polyps.

» You have a relatives with cancer combinations — breast and ovarian; breast, thyroid and endometrial; breast, brain, bone and soft tissue tumors; and pan-

creatic and melanoma.

Almost all cancers are caused by acquired gene mutations. Acquired mutations happen over the course of a lifetime, and can be caused by multiple environmental and lifestyle factors. These mutations are also called sporadic. Most cancers are sporadic.

Inherited gene mutations are present in the egg or sperm that forms a child. This mutation is present in every cell of the body, so it can be passed on to the next generation. These mutations are called hereditary mutations or germline mutations. Inherited mutations cause approximately 5-10 percent of all cancers.

A genetic counselor can explain the genetic testing process and test results. Genetic counselors have special training and graduate degrees in their field. Some doctors and advanced oncology nurses with special training also may provide genetic counseling. The counselor will help you determine if genetic testing will be useful for you and provide you with all of the pros and

cons of the test. You also should discuss with the counselor how the test results may affect your relatives. After the test, a genetic counselor will help you understand what the test results mean. If a result is unfavorable, the counselor will give you options appropriate for your situation.

### Counseling process

Your first appointment with a genetic counselor will include a risk assessment. The assessment will ask questions about your family's history of genetic diseases, your personal medical history including any abnormal test results you may have had in the past as well as questions about lifestyle risk factors, such as smoking, and your exposure to cancer-causing agents. You may also have a physical exam that focuses on the cancer type that is a concern.

If you are found to be at high risk, the genetic counselor will explain the pros and cons of testing. With your written consent, you'll learn the type of testing you

will receive, the accuracy rate of the test, other testing options, the treatments available if anything were found and a list of counseling and support services. You'll also learn about your right to refuse testing. A sample of blood or cheek cells will be collected for the test.

### Test results

A positive result means that you have a genetic mutation and are at risk for developing the type of cancers for which you were tested. There is no way of knowing when or if the disease will develop. Your doctor or counselor will help you understand your options and give you instructions on how to manage your risk.

Negative results mean that the mutations you tested for were not detected, but you could still be at increased risk based on your personal and family history, lifestyle, and environmental factors. There may also be mutations that have not been discovered, or that current technology is unable to detect.

Regardless of whether your genetic testing

results are positive or negative, make sure to discuss your concerns with your physician or genetic counselor. They will assist you in reducing or managing your cancer risk, and guide you through any recommended interventions.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia offers genetic cancer risk assessment, genetic testing, and genetic counseling services. Call 734-655-1185 for more information. To find a physician at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, call its physician referral line at 888-464-WELL or visit [stmary-mercy.org](http://stmary-mercy.org).

*Amit Mohindra, M.D., medical director of the oncology clinical trial program and the program coordinator of the Medical Oncology and Hematology Graduate Medical Education Program at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, is board-certified in medical oncology and hematology and is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. He completed his residency in internal medicine and combined fellowship in oncology and hematology at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit.*

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### Diabetes Day

Garden City Hospital sponsors its 23rd annual Diabetes Day for individuals with diabetes, pre-diabetes, families, friends and caregivers from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road. It includes presentations by an endocrinologist, cardiologist, podiatrist and dietician, plus lunch, displays and giveaways. Register at 734-458-4259.

### Seeking volunteers

St. Mary Mercy is recruiting PAL volunteers and will host an informal Coffee Chat for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer, from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Oct. 28, in St. Mary Mercy's Cancer Center Conference Room, on the hospital campus at Five Mile and Levan in Livonia. The volunteer program provides patients with daily visits, help with therapeutic activities and companions during

walks, meals and exercise. For more information, call 734-655-3497.

### Stress

Garden City Hospital sponsors a program on stress from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road. Salah Alenzi, M.D. will talk about the causes and physical symptoms of stress, medical issues involved with stress, and living a healthy life. For more information, call 734-458-4259.

### Ongoing

#### Ab-Anon

A 12-step program and weekly group to help those 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 loved ones from 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 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](http://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. Open to families. 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, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. 734-458-4330.




## I Will Never Forget

### One Woman's Incredible Journey through Dementia

A FREE MEET THE AUTHOR EVENT

**Thursday, October 29, 2015**

**Featuring Guest Speaker**  
**Elaine C. Pereira, MA,**  
**OTR/L, CDP, CDC**  
**Author, Certified Dementia Practitioner, and Caregiver**




*The One Book on Dementia that No One Else Could Write.*

This book is the incredible true story of the author's talented mother's poignant and often humorous journey through the mystifying haze of dementia. Learn about Elaine's dementia caregiving journey through her superb stories. You will also be able to learn from Elaine's unwitting mistakes as she weaves her way through her mother's unpredictable disease to capture insightful and effective intervention strategies.

Adult day care will be provided at all events. Please ask for this service when making your reservation. For your convenience, this presentation will be offered at both locations. Please RSVP for the location most convenient for you.


Brought to you by:



**11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**      **3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**


<b>Arden Courts of Livonia</b> 32500 Seven Mile Road Livonia, MI 48152 <b>RSVP by calling</b> <b>(248) 426-7055</b>	<b>Arden Courts of Bingham Farms</b> 24005 West 13 Mile Road Bingham Farms, MI 48025 <b>RSVP by calling</b> <b>(248) 644-8100</b>
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## THINK THE STUDENT LIFE IS BORING?



## THE BASKETBALL TEAM POLITELY DISAGREES.

With championship athletics, 33 student-run clubs, and countless activities and events throughout the year, campus life at Schoolcraft is anything but boring. In fact, you'll have as much fun as you can handle—while still handling your classes, of course.

Welcome to college. [schoolcraft.edu](http://schoolcraft.edu)  **Schoolcraft College**

Join Observer & Eccentric in support of  
**MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**  
 Saturday, October 24th.

As part of our commitment to the community we serve, Observer & Eccentric is partnering with your local Goodfellows in

**“Pennies from Heaven”**

Several area Goodfellows have joined the project as part of their commitment to ensuring **every child has a Christmas.**



**“See how YOU can make a difference!”**

**Bring your pennies to the following locations on Saturday, October 24th**

**CANTON** 10:00 AM - Noon  
 Summit on the Park  
 Community Center  
 46000 Summit Pkwy

**REDFORD** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 Redford Marquee  
 25833 Elsinore  
 (Next to the Redford Police Station)

**GARDEN CITY** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 Garden City High School  
 (in front of school)  
 6500 Middlebelt Rd.

**WAYNE** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 Empty lot at former  
 Franks Furniture  
 Wayne Rd. between  
 Chestnut and Glenwood

**LIVONIA** 10:00 Am - Noon  
 Livonia Civic Senior Center  
 15218 Farmington Rd.

**WESTLAND** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
 Westland Bowl  
 (parking lot)  
 5940 N. Wayne Rd.  
 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Lobby

**NOVI** 10:00 AM - Noon  
 Fire Station #1  
 42975 Grand River Ave.

**FARMINGTON** 9:00 AM - Noon  
 Farmington Hills Fire Dept.  
 31455 Eleven Mile Rd.

**PLYMOUTH** 9:00 AM - Noon  
 Farmers Market  
 (in front of PennTheatre)  
 760 Penniman Ave.

