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OBSERVER

SUNDAY 02.14.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Drug, weapons arrests up in Westland

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland has seen a decrease in overall crime since 2012 except for drug and weapons violations, which have increased steadily.
“The drug and weapons offenses are both highly tied to proactive policing.

The increased number of officers on the road for those years are leading to the higher numbers,” Westland Deputy Police Chief Brian Miller said.
Drug arrests, as well as weapons violations, almost always occur during traffic stops, he said, which are officer-initiated.
“A lot of this is an officer pulling a

car over and finding drugs. The same with weapons,” Miller said.
Drug arrests increased annually from 772 in 2012 to 1,598 in 2015. Weapons violation arrests went from 97 in 2012 to 135 in 2015 with a decrease only in 2014. Miller said the department is still vetting the crime statistics but is confident they are accurate.

The increase in drug and weapons arrests also reflects the department being able to get its full manpower on the road, Miller said, after vacancies due to retirements.
“2015 was find the first year we were up to our full manpower on the road,”

See **STATS, Page A2**



Diego Rangal goes after a loose ball during a visit from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee men's basketball team. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sportsmanship at Burger Baylor

Wisconsin-Milwaukee players visit to play the Broncos

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Rob Jeter, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee men's basketball coach, did some traveling with his team Friday — and there were no fouls called by the ref.

Jeter and players from UWM came to Burger Baylor School on Friday, Feb. 12, to play the Burger Baylor Broncos.

“This is awesome,” Jeter said as he and the athletes entered the gym at Burger Baylor, a Garden City district school in Inkster serving Wayne County students who have autism. “Anytime we have a chance to give back that's awesome for us.”

Jeter added at the game's end as his team headed to the bus, “This is fun for us.” The team gives many hours of community service a year back home in Milwaukee, he added.

“This is a way to do community service,” he said of the Burger Baylor game, which the Broncos won, 51-48, cheered on by an enthusiastic hometown crowd.

Middle school and high school students played Friday, with gym teacher Denise Gooding among the assistant

See **VISIT, Page A4**



At left: Cheerleaders Keyara Appling, Raedon Ponder, and Rylee Crawford keep the spirit high at the half.



Below: Posing for a group photo with the big guys from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Chamber to host State of the City

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Through his work on local business directories, Dan Martin dealt with many chambers of commerce around the state.

“I'd ask about their relations with city government. There were personal conflicts, politics and different goals — they didn't cooperate,” said Martin, Westland Chamber of Commerce board chairman.

That hasn't been the case in Westland in recent years, he said, mentioning the cooperative efforts such as the annual Blues, Brews and Barbecue, the Westland Farmers and Artisans Market and the Wine on the Vine event held at city hall.



Wild

Now the city will be hosting Westland Mayor William Wild's annual State of the City address at the chamber luncheon Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the Helene Cultural Center.

“We have such a symbiotic relationship with the city. It's a huge benefit to the chamber of commerce and the

See **STATE, Page A2**

Westland bottled water drive ongoing

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Westland residents and employee units are contributing to efforts to donate water to help Flint residents living with a lead contaminated water system.

“We have an ongoing water drive with water in the city hall lobby and out back, too,” said Westland Mayor William Wild.

So far, about 800 cases of water and 800 one-gallon jugs of water have been donated along with almost \$1,000 in monetary donations which the city will use to purchase additional water.

“It's really neat to see citizens come into city hall to do business and dropping off cases of water,” said Wild. “I've been in contact with Flint Mayor (Karen) Weaver. She said their biggest need is still water.”

The initially wasn't accepting monetary donations but Wild said donors could write checks Flint water on the check memo line.

See **WATER, Page A2**



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STATE

Continued from Page A1

business community at large," Martin said. "Everybody at the chamber is happy about it. It helps everyone's bottom line."

Last year, Wild focused on changes that had been made in city operations and a number of projects successfully completed or in progress.

"There are a lot of projects we're still working on. The speech will probably focus more on talking about the city's 50th anniversary and plans for that," said Wild, who promises a big announcement relating to Blues, Brews and Barbecue. "There are still issues facing us and I'll talk about how we're going to address them."

Speaking before members of the business community, Wild said he will also talk about the upcoming Newburgh

Road project and the future of the municipal property on Ford once the former city hall and Bailey Center are demolished.

"I like to hear more about the progress and great things that have happened," Martin said.

The lunch will be held at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy. Tickets are \$25 per person and tables of eight can be sponsored for \$300. Registration starts at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at noon and Wild speaking at 12:30 p.m.

Tickets for the luncheon event are available through the Westland Chamber of Commerce at 734-326-7222.

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WATER

Continued from Page A1

Along with residents, employees including the Wayne-Westland Firefighters Association, Westland police union, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1602 representing clerical and Department Public Services workers and the UAW Local 174 supervisors bargaining unit all donated cases of water.

The Flint bottled water drive was set up as part of Westland's Compassionate City Initiative. Bottled water donations can be dropped off at Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Water donations are also being accepted at the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center, 32150 Dorsey. Drop off your donations there 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Both city hall and Jefferson Barns will also accept a monetary donation by dropping off a



Members of UAW Local 174, representing Westland supervisory staff, unloading their water donation to benefit Flint residents.



Members of the Wayne-Westland Fire Department unload donated water from the firefighters union.



Members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1602, representing Westland city workers, move donated water into a storage area.

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Community Office:

29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
hometownlife.com

Editor: Brad Kadrich
734-678-2386
Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Sports: Ed Wright
734-578-2767
Email: ewright@hometownlife.com

Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.00 Thursday & \$1.50 Sunday
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\$52.00 six months
\$104.00 per year
\$91.00 six months mail delivery
\$182.00 per year mail delivery

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STATS

Continued from Page A1

Miller said. "As we are hiring new employees, they have four months with an FTO (Field Training Officer) even if they are certified officers."

In addition to filling the vacancies, the department also was able to hire four police officers under a federal COPS grant that covers the cost of the officers for two years and half their salary/benefits for a third year.

"Based on the trends we are seeing, it will be important for us to retain those officers at the end of the grant," Miller said.

The number of residential break-ins reported

annually went from 439 in 2012 to 242 in 2015. That's a slight increase from 221 break-ins reported in 2014 but an overall 45 percent decrease.

"That increase is with what might be expected in the normal fluctuation range based on the statistics from 2012-2015," Miller said.

Since 2012 there was a 24-percent decrease in larcenies — stolen property not including shoplifting. In 2012, there were 736 larcenies reported with annual declines until 558 incidents reported in 2015.

The city saw slight increase in reported larcenies from a vehicle in 2015 — 290 reports compared to 285 reports in 2014. But that number

was significantly down from 326 and 416 incidents reported in 2012 and 2013, respectively.

Reported motor vehicle thefts were down 5 percent in 2015 from the previous year and 43 percent less than reported in 2012.

"Having visible (road) patrol really helps with that. Full manpower allows officers to patrol the apartment complexes," Miller said. "A lot of times it looks like they (thieves) are looking for a hot car."

The number of violent crimes has remained steady since 2012, he said, with an increase of about 100 reported incidents in 2015 above the 1,200 reports in 2014.

Westland had four homicides in 2015, in-

cluding one in which a driver under the influence of drugs left the road and struck a child fatally injuring him.

"Homicides are one of the things that proactive policing is not really going to address," Miller said. "Especially the homicides like we have here. Most of the time they (the defendants) know the victims even if they are neighbors or acquaintances."

Miller suggests residents check out crime-mapping.com to look at crimes, pretty much in real time.

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Wayne teen wins Distinguished Young Women scholarship

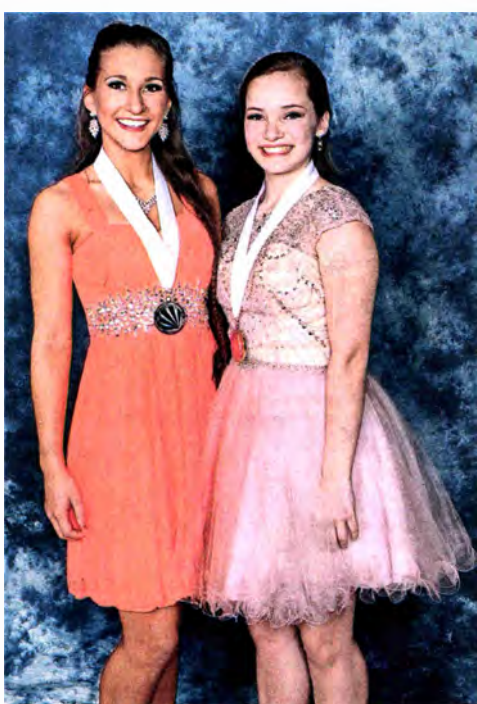
A local teen has been named Distinguished Young Women of Michigan scholarship winner for 2016.

Riana Hardyniec of Wayne, a student at Wayne Memorial High School, was one of two winners chosen by the DYW of Michigan Scholarship program, which for the first time chose multiple winners. Alexus Warchock of Napoleon was the 2017 winner.

Hardyniec received \$1,250 in cash scholarships and was named a top Physical Fitness and Interview winner. Warchock received \$1,550 and was a top Self Expression, Physical Fitness, Talent, Scholastics and Interview winner.

Both young women will represent Michigan at the Distinguished Young Woman of America Scholarship Program in Mobile, Ala. They are also eligible for many full-ride scholarships at various colleges around the country through the national program along with additional scholarship money.

"This was an incredibly smart and talented group of young women and we are so excited to have two new Distinguished Young Women of Michigan," state Director Angela Bobo said. "Both will be excellent representatives at statewide functions throughout the



Alexus Warchock (left) of Napoleon and Wayne Memorial High School student Riana Hardyniec were named Distinguished Young Women winners.

SUBMITTED

year and also at the nationals in Mobile, Ala." Twenty contestants from around Michigan competed and were awarded a total of \$7,000 in college scholarships. Other scholarship winners from the senior

class of 2016 were first runner-up Diana Davis from Oakland County, second runner-up Emma Seidel from West Bloomfield and third runner-up Kelsie Wysong from Wayne. Scholarship winners

from the junior class of 2017 were first runner-up Claire Burton from Oakland County and second runner-up Adaeze Ogbuaku from Inkster.

The Distinguished Young Women of Michigan Scholarship Program awards college scholarships to young women who have distinguished themselves at school and in their communities. Contestants are high school juniors and seniors from around the state of Michigan who compete in areas of scholastics, physical fitness, performing arts talent, private interview and on stage question.

It is part of the Distinguished Young Women of America, which is the largest and oldest scholarship program for high school seniors in the country. Since the scholarships program first began in 1958, over \$90 million in college scholarships have been awarded.

More information on the scholarship program is available by visiting distinguishedyw.org or emailing michigan@distinguishedyw.org.

Local businesses who would like to make contributions to the Wayne-Westland DYW Program, can email wayne-westland@distinguishedyw.org for details.

POLICE BRIEFS

Robbery at motel

Redford police were called the morning of Feb. 6 to the Travelers Motor Inn, 9939 Telegraph, on the report of a robbery.

The caller told police that two individuals came into the room and robbed him. He said the suspects came in using a key and tried to get him to purchase heroin. When he refused, the victim said they took his cellphone and some money. He said the pair had been following him for a few days, and that they damaged the motel room to scare him into buying the heroin.

Phone missing from restaurant

A patron who had gone to the Long John Silver's, 26430 Plymouth, came to the Redford police station the evening of Feb. 5 to report her phone missing.

She said she was at the shop with her children, one of whom had her cellphone in hand. The child placed the phone on the counter. Later, the woman went to pick up the phone but found it missing. She said she didn't see anyone take the phone and asked her children if anyone had taken the phone, but could not find it. She believes someone at the restaurant may have taken the phone.

Furnace, hot water tank stolen

Police were called the afternoon of Feb. 5 to a home in the 11300 block of Grayfield on the report of a home invasion that appeared to have taken place.

When police arrived, they spoke to a contractor working for a real estate agency in charge of the home. They said the home was secured the day before and when they returned that day, they found the rear door forced open. The furnace and hot water tank were both missing. A neighbor said they saw a white van that said "Appliance Repair" on the hood parked in the driveway the day before, leaving an unknown time later.

Vehicle stolen

Police were dispatched the morning of Feb. 6 to Save A Buck car rental, 26883 Grand River, on the report of a stolen vehicle.

The manager said the listed vehicle was stolen from the west lot of the business. The suspect reportedly got into the lot and walked into a 1999 Explorer before punching out the ignition. The suspect was then seen leaving the location in a 1997 Explorer, traveling on east-bound Grand River.

— Compiled by David Veselenak from reports filed with the Redford Township Police Department. Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

Coffee hours with mayor scheduled



Wild

Westland Mayor William Wild has been taking his monthly Mornings with the Mayor on the road in 2016 year.

The upcoming meetings with Wild are scheduled for 9 a.m.:

» Tuesday, March 15 at the

Westland Police Department, 36701 Ford

» Tuesday, April 12 at the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center, 32150 Dorsey.

"Mornings with the Mayor was a huge success in 2015," Wild said. "This year, we are taking them on the road in

order to visit different parts of Westland. I look forward to continuing to work with residents to make Westland the best it can be."

Everyone is welcome to attend to discuss city programs, services or concerns.

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VISIT

Continued from Page A1

coaches. "They have an interest in reaching out and doing some charity work," said Gooding, a Livonia resident. "We relish that."

Gooding added later, "This is great. They're just so good with the kids. The male role model is just amazing. Just the presence of these guys here. I was expecting height but not a wall of height."

Meredith Nackley, an occupational therapist and assistant coach, was also encouraging the Burger Baylor players to bring their A-game. "Our students do laps every morning when they come in," Livonia resident Nackley said. "The kids tally up how many miles they do. I think it helps them with the transition when they get off the bus in the morning."

Gooding said the students use a fitness room as well in an older part of the building. They do yoga and classroom fitness work, relays and running, "just letting them know any activity is good," she said.

Cheers of "Let's Go, Broncos," rang out in the gym, with the cheerleaders performing. The UMW men were in town to play Oakland University on Thursday night, a victory for them which Jeter called a "tough game," as well as the University of Detroit Mercy on Saturday.

Through school administrators and the Autism Alliance of Michigan, the men's team came to Burger Baylor during their Horizon League schedule. "The players wanted to spend some time with kids with autism," said Tammy Morris, program director for the Autism Alliance of Michigan. "We encourage it because it's so wonderful for the students. They had a rough game last night and they're having fun today," Morris added of the college athletes.

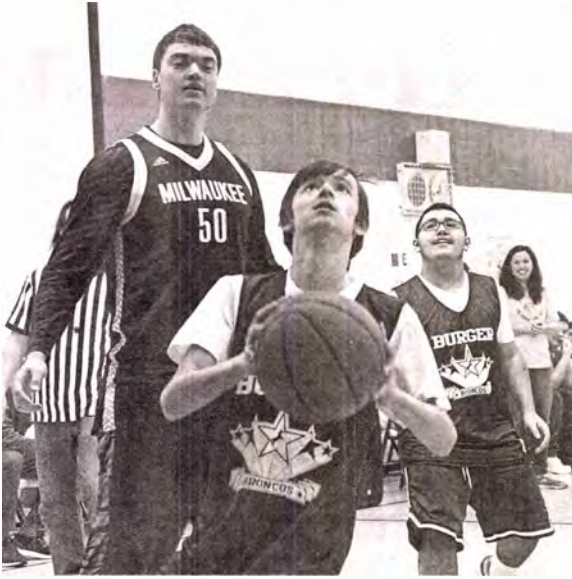
"I am impressed beyond belief," she added of the UWM men, who were given a brief



Bronco A.J. Zick is introduced.



Dawson Hayley makes a shot. U-of-W Milwaukee's Scotty Tyler looks impressed.



Milwaukee's Brett Prah lets Dawson Hayley slip by him to make a shot. Behind Dawson is Diego Rangal.



Mustafa Alkhafiji looks for someone to pass to. Scotty Tyler and Dan Studer guard him.

introduction on autism issues before playing. "They're really amazing," added Morris, a Windsor, Ontario, resident.

She noted the alliance's focus on awareness and in-

clusion, and said, "For these guys to come is amazing."

High fives were common in the gym, with *We Are the Champions* on the loudspeaker after the game and time for

photos. Said school Principal Mary O'Neill of Monroe, "They're all so tall. It was so sweet. They're fabulous. Such good memories. It's so nice to have these interactions outside

of our school."

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Eastern Market of Canton

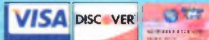
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MEATS

USDA Choice T-Bone or Porterhouse \$6.99 lb	USDA Prime Rib Roast \$9.99 lb	USDA Choice Boneless Rump Roast \$4.99 lb
USDA Choice Bone-in Grass Fed English Roast \$5.99 lb	USDA Choice Sirloin Fillet \$6.99 lb	Bone In Pork Shoulder Butt Roast \$1.69 lb
Amish Boneless Chicken Breast \$2.99 lb	Amish Chicken Wings \$13.99 5 lbs.	Amish Chicken Leg Quarters \$10.00 10 lbs For
USDA Choice Cube Steak \$5.99 lb	Grass Fed Beef Shanks \$4.99 lb	Grass Fed Short Ribs \$5.99 lb
USDA Choice Ground Round \$3.99 lb	Pork Baby Back Ribs \$3.99 lb	Pork Spare Ribs \$2.99 lb

PRODUCE DELI GROCERY

Betty Crocker Red Potatoes 2 5 lb bags / \$5	3 Count Romaine Hearts \$2.49	Bananas 49¢ lb	Boar's Head Tavern Ham \$6.99 lb	Boar's Head London Broil \$9.99 lb	Boar's Head EverRoast or Chipotle Chicken \$6.99 lb	Traverse City Cherrywood Ham \$7.99 lb	Made in Michigan Guernsey Ice Cream \$5.99 1/2 Gallon
Spanish Onions 69¢ lb	Green Giant Mushrooms 2/\$3	Seedless Red Grapes \$2.99 lb	Boar's Head Corned Beef \$9.99 lb	Boar's Head Domestic Swiss \$6.99 lb	Boar's Head American Cheese \$5.99 lb	Kowalski Garlic Bologna \$4.99 lb	Gold Metal Flour and Domino Sugar \$2.99 ea
Jumbo Yams 69¢ lb	8 oz Whole Head Lettuce \$1.29 ea	Beefsteak Tomatoes \$2.99 lb	Albies Made in Gaylor, Michigan Beef or Chicken Pasties 2/\$5	Kowalski Coleslaw, Potato Salad or Macaroni Salad 2 lbs/\$5	Hoffman Hard Salami \$7.99 lb	Krakus Polish Ham \$4.99 lb	Del Monte Vegetables & Campbell's Gravy 5/\$5.00

MEAT BUNDLES

Everyday Bundle \$249.99 3 Lbs. Sirloin Fillet or Pepper Steak 3 Lbs. New York Strip 3 Lbs. Denver Steaks 3 Lbs. Porterhouse or T-Bones 2 Lbs. Pot Roast 3 Lbs. Sirloin Tips or Rump Roast 8 Lbs. Ground Round 2 Lbs. X-Lean Beef or Pork Steak 2 Lbs. Hickory Smoked Bacon 1 Pkg. Homemade Sirloin Patties 3 Lbs. Center Cut Pork Chops 4 Lbs. Breakfast Bulk Sausage 2 Lbs. EMC's Homemade Meatloaf 3 Lbs. EMC's Homemade Fresh Sausage 8 Lbs. Whole Fryer (May Be Cut Up) 3 Lbs. Amish Boneless Chicken Breast 2 Lbs. Beef, Pork or Chicken Cube Steaks	Single Family Bundle \$126.99 1.5 Lbs. Beef or Pork Stew 8 Lbs. Lean Ground Beef 2 Lbs. Sirloin Tips or Rump Roast 2 Lbs. Country Ribs or Pork Roast 2 Lbs. Chicken Breast 2 Lbs. Bacon 1 Lb. Beef, Pork or Chicken Cube Steaks 1 Pkg. Homemade Sirloin Patties 2 Lbs. Pork Chops 3 Lbs. Pot Roast 1 Whole Fryer (May Be Cut Up)	Beef Bundle \$126.99 2 Lbs. New York Strip Steaks 3 Lbs. Sirloin Tips or Rump Roast 2 Lbs. X-Lean Stew Meat 6 Lbs. Lean Ground Beef 2 Lbs. Porterhouse or T-Bones 3 Lbs. Pot Roast 3 Lbs. Cube Steaks 2 Lbs. Homemade Meatloaf	Shrimp Tray Small \$39.99 Large \$59.99	Cheese Tray Small \$39.99 Large \$59.99	Deli Tray Minimum 10 People \$6.99 Per Person with salad, bread and condiments
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Wayne Rotary donates dictionaries to third-graders

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

It's become an annual tradition — third-graders at Wayne schools receiving dictionaries as gifts from the Wayne Rotary Club.

There is a book plate inside the front cover and the Rotarians write each youngster's name inside their new dictionary. Last week, the Rotarians visited students at Roosevelt McGrath Elementary School joined by members of the Wayne-Westland Fire Department.

"The firefighters offered to help out at the last two schools as long as they didn't have a run," Wayne Rotary Club member Lois VanStipdonk said. "They were like rock stars — we were kind of pushed to the back."

Along with writing the child's name in the new dictionary, youngsters also asked firefighters to autograph their books.

"The kids lined up for the firefighters' autographs — it was so cute," VanStipdonk said.

This year, Wayne



Wayne-Westland Fire Department Sgt. Rob Caccia writes Lily Keniston's name in her new dictionary. Fire Capt. Fred Gilstorff speaks with Destyne Muhammad, waiting her turn to have her new dictionary personalized.



Wayne Rotarian Bridget Kelly writes Jeremiah Bojda's name in his dictionary, a gift from the Wayne Rotary Club.

Rotary will donate 340 dictionaries — one for each third-grade student at Wayne's public and parochial student plus Schweitzer Elementary School in Westland, which draws about half its students from Wayne. "They are beautiful

dictionaries with beautiful pictures. The kids were looking up words," VanStipdonk said. "A lot of the kids have older siblings who got the dictionary, so they're on board and looking forward to their turn." It's the tenth year for

the dictionary program, which was started by longtime Wayne businessman and Rotarian Nat Weiser, now 89. A survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Weiser and his wife Norma now live at Henry Ford Village.

The dictionaries cost the club \$12.85 apiece plus shipping and handling or a total of about \$4,369 for the books themselves.

Wayne-Westland Schools is on winter break this week, so the last dictionary distribu-

tion will be at Taft-Galloway Elementary School when students return to school.

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Carry-out \$9 & \$10
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www.livoniastmichael.org

Teens, veterans connect in dance, history project at John Glenn High School

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

For the fourth year, a U.S.O.-style dance is being offered at John Glenn High School.

This year's dance is set for 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, in the school cafeteria, 36105 Marquette, between Newburgh and Wayne roads in Westland.

The dance started for World War II veterans, said David Ingham, John Glenn principal.

"It's really now open to all veterans," he said.

"It's a wonderful event for the community. The veterans and their families really appreciate the recognition."

Also ongoing at John Glenn in the Wayne-Westland district is an oral history project in which students interview veterans of all conflicts about their experiences.

"The students are just astounded, connecting these two generations," Ingham said.

The dance on April 27 is free, and will feature master of ceremonies Ryan Wooley of WWJ Radio 950. Music will be by the John Glenn Music Department.

On the oral history, each veteran receives a copy with a copy also given to the Library of Congress. To participate or learn more, contact Mstecheherlady@mstecheherlady@charter.net or call her at 734-915-1937 and leave a message.

Harmala on the ice

Michele Harmala, Wayne-Westland superintendent of schools, was the speaker Thursday, Feb. 4, at Westland Rotary. Most of her talk was on education issues, although she also noted she's played hockey since growing up of Finnish

culture among 14 brothers and sisters.

"I love playing hockey," Harmala said, adding her parents were Upper Peninsula natives. "It keeps me healthy."

She's been invited by Westland Mayor William Wild to again play in a Friday, March 18, hockey benefit at Mike Modano Ice Arena in Westland. She praised the Red Wings Alumni's great talent.

"I look at them not having to work at all," she said of the charity games.

jbrown@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @248Julie

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WESTLAND HOUSING COMMISSION - ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN 2016-2017 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM PUBLIC NOTICE

The Westland Housing Commission (WHC) is developing the fiscal year 2016 Agency Plan in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, issued by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Agency Plan reflects the goals and objectives of the WHC and the administration of housing and community development programs. The Agency Plan is available for public review for a period of not less than 45 days at the Westland Housing Commission, 32150 Dorsey Road, Westland, Michigan 48186, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday. Submit written comments to the WHC. The comment period will end on April 12, 2016.

The WHC Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing to obtain citizen comments on the Agency Plan on March 15, 2016, 6:30 pm, at the Jefferson Barns Community Center. The Agency Plan will be submitted to HUD no later than April 15, 2016.

Joanne Campbell, Director
William R. Wild, Mayor
Published: February 14, 2016

CITY OF WESTLAND - CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2016-2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM Public Notice

The City of Westland is preparing the CDBG/HOME 5 Year Consolidated Plan 2016 - 2021 and Annual Action Plan, the proposed use of funds, in anticipation of receiving an estimated \$972,335 of CDBG funds and \$227,994 of HOME funds for the year 7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017.

PROPOSED USE OF CDBG AND HOME FUNDS

CDBG funds (estimated \$972,335; program income \$20,000):	
• Grant Administration	- 194,467
• Public Service Activities:	
Commodity Food Program, Fair Housing Initiative	- 221,500
Senior Programs, Youth Assistance	
Community Policing, Domestic Violence	
• Code Enforcement	- 175,000
• Rehabilitation Projects	- 106,460
• Friendship Center Improvements	- 35,000
• Acquisition/Demolition Blighted Structures	- 91,908
• Norwayne Infrastructure and Parks	- 55,000
• Section 108 Loan	- 53,000
• Community Center Roof Replacement (Phase 1)	- 60,000
HOME funds (\$227,994; program income \$20,000):	
• Grant Administration	- 37,799
• Housing Rehabilitation	- 55,000
• Homebuyer Assistance	- 94,400
• Housing Acquisition & Rehabilitation	- 220,795
• Norwayne Development Planning	- 20,000

Other Program Administration:

- Housing Voucher Program; Family Self-Sufficiency Program
- Neighborhood Stabilization Program
- Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center
- Referrals for low income, homeless and special needs persons for shelter, foreclosure prevention and other services

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - 2016-2017 Action Plan Public Hearings: March 15, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Jefferson Barns Community Center; April 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m., Westland City Council. The proposed 2016-17 Annual Action Plan is available for review at the Housing and Community Development Dept during normal business hours. Submit written comments to: Housing and Community Development Dept, 32150 Dorsey Road, Westland 48186 until April 12, 2016.

Joanne Campbell, Director
William R. Wild, Mayor; City of Westland
Published: February 14, 2016
Westland Observer Newspaper
WLDN Westland Cable
Westland City Hall, Public Library, Friendship Center, Darsy Community Center

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
REPAIR AND RESTORATION OF LFD STATION # 4 TERRAZZO APPARATUS BAY FLOOR

Sealed proposals will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 at which time the RFP will be secured by the City Clerk. Each proposal shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Proposals shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late proposals will be returned unopened.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the Livonia Fire Station 4, 12300 Middlebelt, Livonia, Michigan 48150, phone number (734) 466-2356 at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016. Proposals will not be accepted from those firms who do not attend.

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the proposal must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed proposals in response to this request will not be accepted.

All proposals shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN - REPAIR AND RESTORATION OF LFD STATION # 4 TERRAZZO APPARATUS BAY FLOOR, name of vendor and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

No vendor may withdraw his proposal within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any proposal does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Michael Kelly
Captain, Livonia Fire Department

Dennis Wright
Mayor

Published: February 14, 2016

When the market recedes it is a good time to convert to Roth IRA

Q: I read your articles all the time and attend your lectures at Plymouth District Library. Thanks for doing it. I enjoy your practical advice and outlook. I was thinking about converting my Roth and what shows up in tonight's paper but an article on it? One question: Other than the obvious tax implication as you outlined, is there any limitation based upon your income? If my annual income is too high to contribute to my Roth, can I still do the conversion?

A: First, thanks for the kind words. I've always considered myself lucky that I get to write this column and speak at places like the Plymouth library. When I speak at a library, I always meet some incredibly nice people like you — so thank you!

With regard to a Roth IRA conversion, one of the beauties is that there is no income limitation. There are income limitations when it comes to new contributions into a Roth IRA, but no income limitations when it comes to converting. Anyone can convert their traditional IRA into a Roth IRA. The one caveat is if you are over 70½ and mandated to take minimum required distributions, the amount of your required minimum distribution is not eligible



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

to be converted. You can, however, convert anything above that amount, but not the required minimum distribution.

The key issue from a tax standpoint is that by converting to a Roth IRA, you don't want to throw yourself into a higher tax bracket. It's important to remember that the amount of money you convert from a traditional IRA into a Roth IRA is subject to ordinary income tax. One of my rules about whether a conversion makes sense or not is to confirm that it won't put you into a higher tax bracket.

Obviously, the markets have taken a significant hit since the beginning of the year. As I mentioned in a previous column, when markets are in retreat, investors ought to look for opportunities. One of those opportunities is in converting traditional IRAs into Roth IRAs. Just think, with the market temporarily down, you're able to convert at a lower tax cost. Then, when the market rebounds, since the money will be in the Roth IRA, all that gain will eventually be tax-free.

When markets are retreating, one thing everyone should look at doing is taking advantage of Roth conversions. That doesn't mean Roth conversions are for everyone, but it certainly pays to explore the opportunity.

In some situations, after someone converts to a Roth IRA, they realize a mistake. For example, your taxable income can be higher than you expected, you don't have the cash on hand to pay the additional tax liability or the value of your investments in the converted Roth IRA has declined. In those situations, you can reverse the Roth IRA conversion. This process is known as a re-characterization. You don't have to re-characterize the entire amount converted; you can do it for just a portion of the amount converted. The key is that the re-characterization must be completed by the last date, including extensions, for filing your tax return. Typically, that would be Oct. 15. Therefore, if you did a Roth conversion now, you would have until Oct. 15, 2017, to re-characterize the transaction.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser.

John Kasich plans Tuesday campaign stop in Livonia

David Veselenak
Staff Writer



Kasich

Yet another presidential candidate appears headed to Livonia for a campaign stop.

Ohio governor John Kasich will make a campaign appearance next week at the Livonia GOP field office on Seven Mile west of Farmington, according to an event listing by his campaign.

Kasich, who came in second in Tuesday's New Hampshire primary, is scheduled to appear at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the office at 33462 Seven Mile. The event listing describes it as a "special town hall event."

He will be the second presidential candidate to stop in Livonia to campaign since August. U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio stopped in and gave an address at the field office back in August when he was in Michigan. Former presidential candidate Rand Paul addressed Republicans at the same office back in 2014.

The event is free, though the campaign is requesting those planning to attend to register beforehand, which can be done on the Eventbrite listing page for the event.

Before coming to Livonia, Kasich plans on stopping at Allendale and Utica the day before. Other Republican candidates who remain in the race

as of Wednesday morning include: Jeb Bush, Donald Trump, Ben Carson, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz and Jim Gilmore. Both Carly Fiorina and Chris

Christie dropped out of the race Wednesday.

Democrats still in the running include Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders.

The stop comes just under a month before Michigan's primary on March 8. Before Michigan's primary election, candidates have several other contests, including the South Carolina primary and Nevada caucuses later this month. The "Super Tuesday" primaries, where elections are taking place in several states, will happen March 1.

The polls are open for Livonia residents to vote in the presidential primary starting at 7 a.m. March 8 and closing at 8 p.m. Those who vote must request either a Republican or Democratic primary ballot. Absentee ballot applications remain available at Livonia City Hall as well.

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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 (800) 499-8526 (TTY: 711). Workshops discuss plans for Medicare-eligible individuals who purchase their own health care coverage.



DiDomizio and Irene Borders, Marie DiDomizio and Irene Borders take a break Friday afternoon during the used book sale, which wraps up noon to 3 p.m. today, Sunday, at the Westland library.

Book sale: Bargains galore, food for thought

Friday morning, eager readers were at the Friends of the Westland Library Used Book Sale as doors opened. The sale continues through today from noon to 3 p.m. with a Sunday \$4 bag sale.

The Westland Library is on Central City Parkway's west side, between Ford Road and Warren in Westland. For this sale only, paperback titles are 10 cents each.

Nan Borders, Friends vice president, said Friday afternoon of the sale, "It's going well. We're

very happy with the number of people we had today." Of Sunday afternoon, Borders emphasized, "You can fill the bag with anything for \$4."

Items for sale include: DVDs, CDs, hardcover books, paperbacks, videos, cassettes, records and magazines. Book sale proceeds help to support a variety of library offerings.

By Julie Brown

'Lady Pirates of Captain Bree' plays to record crowds at theater

After opening Jan. 29 to a full house, *The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree*, Inspire Theatre's first full-length musical in over nine years, has been playing to sold out audiences.

The largest undertaking for IT in recent history, *Captain Bree* has already surpassed anticipated projections for attendance. Artistic director Len Fisher said he's been "amazed" by the audience's response to the show.

"People are raving about the show," Fisher said. "Not only are they excited about the show, many are acclaiming it the best community experience they can remember. They gush about the costumes, the set, the music, the acting. What more could a director want? We have some amazing people."

"It's been an incredible amount of fun," Fisher added. "And the show is campy hilarity."

The play takes place on merchant ship *The Kayla May*, where pirates are holding the passengers and crew as hostages. The leader of the marauders, known only as "Bree," is demanding an undisclosed amount of gold for their



"The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree," Inspire Theatre's first full-length musical in over nine years, has been playing to sold-out audiences.

release. The fact the pirates are women adds to the hijinks, which take place on the ship. The Royal British Navy is dispatched to end the siege and rescue the hostages. As this drama unfolds, swords fight and musical numbers fill the deck of the *Kayla May*. Located in the former

Westland cable TV station, WLND, the theater was refitted for performances, classes and concerts. Playback rooms, studios, editing bays and office space have been revamped to theater space, dressing rooms, concession and ticket offices, a green room and a scene shop.

IT is holding a costume contest at each performance. Patrons dressed as pirates will be

judged on creativity, and prizes will be awarded.

The show closes out at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14. Tickets are \$16 and available at inspiretheatre.com or by calling 734-751-7057.

Inspire Theatre is at 33455 Warren Road in Westland, inside the Westland Center for Performing Arts.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN LIVONIA CIVIC LIBRARY ROOF COOLING TOWER

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016 at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the bid must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be accepted.

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN - LIVONIA CIVIC LIBRARY ROOF COOLING TOWER, name of vendor** and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Douglas L. Moore
Superintendent of Public Service

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Published: February 14, 2016 LO-0000271804 3x4

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN LIVONIA FIRE DEPARTMENT - TURN OUT GEAR

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016 at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the bid must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be accepted.

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN LFD - TURN OUT GEAR, name of vendor** and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

John Unsworth
Livonia Fire Department

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Published: February 14, 2016 LO-0000272104 3x4

CITY OF LIVONIA LIVONIA HOUSING COMMISSION ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia-Housing Commission, Michigan as Owners, until the hour of 3:00 p.m. (Local Time) on Thursday, March 10, 2016, at the offices of the Housing Commission, 19300 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152, at which time said proposals will be opened and publicly read.

SCOPE OF WORK/SERVICES

McNamara Towers elevator maintenance services on four elevators in two high rise buildings. Two elevators are geared traction in an 8-story high rise and two elevators are hydraulic located in a five story high-rise building. McNamara Towers is a federal public housing community serving low income elderly and disabled residents.

PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS

Proposal documents and scope of services information will be available beginning Monday, February 15, 2016 at the Housing Commission administrative offices, 19300 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152. All proposals are to be submitted to the contract form furnished by the Executive Director of Housing which is included in the proposal invitation. All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the name of the project, name of elevator contractor, and shall be addressed to James M. Inglis, Executive Director, Livonia Housing Commission. Elevator contractors wishing to submit proposals are strongly encouraged to contact the Executive Director (248-477-7086 ext. 5) to visit the McNamara Towers to review/inspect the elevators.

The City of Livonia-Housing Commission reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to award the elevator services contract to the lowest responsive and responsible proposer and to waive any informalities in the proposals received. No proposals shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of the proposals without the consent of the Housing Commission.

James M. Inglis, Housing Director
Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-0000272092 4x8

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Six-year-old Hannah Cox looks over one of the hearts she uses to decorated her Valentine card.



Garden City resident Amelie Werman looks like she wants to add a few more decorations to her Valentine card.



Ayla Werman shows off her stained glass heart that she crafted at the Garden City Library this past Thursday evening.

Valentine's design fun order of day at GC Library

Sure, you can buy Valentines at the drug-store or card shop. Some creative kids met the evening of Thursday, Feb. 11, to create their own artistic designs for Valentine's Day. Creativity was in ample supply as the kids fashioned their own heartfelt sentiments.

On Thursday, Feb. 18, the library is hosting a Family Game Night from 5-7 p.m. Come enjoy a night of board games, card games and Wii games with your favorite family mem-

bers. Pizza will be served.

Library staffers ask that anyone interested in attending call and register at 734-793-1830.

The Garden City Public Library is available to answer inquiries during normal business hours in person or over the phone at 734-793-1830. When visiting, enter the Balmoral side of Maplewood Center located at 31735 Maplewood, Garden City. Library hours are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday-Saturday noon to 5 p.m.



Garden City resident Kimberly Holiday gives son Jordan a helping hand as he creates his Valentine penguin at the Garden City Library Thursday night.

At top left: Makayla Thomason builds a Valentine penguin at the Garden City Library Thursday night.

At left: Katelynn Johnson show off her Valentine card made special for her mom at the popular Valentine decorating event held Thursday.

Lynda L. Scheel, City Treasurer, would like to announce that the deadline to pay 2015 property taxes has been extended. Property owners have until February 29, 2016 in which to pay their taxes without additional penalty and interest. The Treasurer's Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please refer to the back of the tax bill for additional payment information.

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-0000271816 2x1.5

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

The City of Westland will hold its public accuracy test on the ES&S M-100 voting equipment for the March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the ballot results count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Richard LeBlanc
Westland City Clerk

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-0000271906 2x2



PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES OF REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved Minutes for meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the month of January 2016 are posted at the following public places within the Township:

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

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

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-0000271711 3x2.5

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NOTICE OF HEARING - BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

APPEAL CASE NO. 483-01-16

An appeal has been filed with the Building Code Board of Appeals by Ken Scicluna, Angry Bear Lawn Care Inc., 30443 Industrial, Livonia, Michigan 48154 seeking to modify the decision which would not allow temporary storage buildings longer than six months without the approval of the Building Code Board of Appeals (Michigan Building Code 2012, Sections 108 & 3103) and without proper permits.

A hearing will be held on **Thursday, February 25, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.** in the offices of the Inspection Department, in the Annex of the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154, thus offering an opportunity of the appellant's position being recorded on this appeal.

APPELLANT MUST APPEAR OR HAVE AN AUTHORIZED AGENT PRESENT

In accordance with Title II of the American with Disabilities Act as it pertains to access to Public Meetings, the City Clerk's Office of the City of Livonia, upon adequate notice, will make reasonable accommodations for persons with special needs. Please call (734) 466-2591 if you need assistance.

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-0000272013 3x2.5

CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA Zoning Board of Appeals

March 1, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.

Livonia City Hall - Auditorium (1st Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466 2259

APPEAL CASE 2016-02-15: Joshua and Dora Reeber, east side of Chestnut Circle (20557) between 8 Mile and Morlock Ave., seeking to install a built in pool located in the corner side yard, resulting in deficient side yard setback.

APPEAL CASE 2016-03-17: Frank Wojcik, west side of Camden (12339) between Plymouth and North End, seeking to erect a six (6) foot tall privacy fence, which will be within the side yard, which is not allowed. Privacy fencing must stop at the rear line of the home.

APPEAL CASE 2016-03-19: Marco Cervi, 26521 Somerset Drive, Inkster, MI 48141, seeking to erect a six (6) foot tall privacy fence along the rear and south property lines, upon property located on the west side of Cardwell (11683) between Plymouth and Wadsworth, resulting in the adjacent property owners not consenting their approval which requires a variance, also, maintaining the existing chain link fence in the rear yard, resulting in a double fence and extending the privacy fence into both side yards, each is not allowed.

APPEAL CASE 2016-03-20: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, MI 48152, on behalf of Lessee Trinity Home Health Care, north side of College Parkway (17410) between Haggerty and East End, seeking to erect a second wall sign, resulting in excess number of signs and sign area.

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

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-0000272246 3x4.5

Book sale on tap at GC Historical Museum

The Friends of the Garden City Library will have an off-site used book sale at the Straight Farmhouse/Garden City Historical Museum from

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25. There will be no Friday hours. However, Saturday, Feb. 27, is \$5 bag

day in which you can fill a paper bag from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and pay \$5. Hardcover books are \$1. Large paperbacks will be 50 cents, small pa-

perbacks 25 cents as well as children's books for 25 cents. There will be CDs and DVDs for \$1 each. The museum is at 6221 Merriman, south of Ma-

plewood in Garden City. Half of the proceeds will go to the Straight Farmhouse/Historical Museum. Book sales are run by volunteers that

belong to the Library Friends group. Registration forms to become a Friend are available at www.friendsof-gclibrary.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Food distribution

On Tuesday, Feb. 16, the City of Livonia will distribute, through the State of Michigan Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), salmon, sliced carrots, bran flakes, UHT milk, pinto beans, rotini, apple sauce and cranberry juice concentrate. Other items will also be provided from Forgotten Harvest.

The distribution is from noon to 2 p.m. at the vacant district court building, 15140 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile Road. This distribution is offered to Livonia residents who are currently enrolled in TEFAP with a TEFAP identification card. Distributions are scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month. Senior housing residents should check with their housing office for TEFAP information.

For more information, contact the Community Resource Department, Commodity Food line at 734-466-2673. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Scrapbooking event

SS. Simon & Jude hosts a scrapbooking event 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the church, 32500 Palmer in Westland.

Vendors will be available, and food, beverages and snacks will be provided. The public is welcome. Cost is \$35 for the full day, \$20.00 for a half-day.

For more information contact Sandy at 734-

Bright futures



Dante Williams, a senior at John Glenn High School and an EMU Bright Futures volunteer, with Mary Browe, director of Dyer Senior Center, and Ann Chatfield of EMU Bright Futures. The Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures Mixed Media Madness Club at Marshall Upper Elementary School painted Valentine pictures for the members of the Dyer Senior Center. The fifth and sixth-grade students painted 22 pictures. EMU Bright Futures is funded by a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant through the Michigan Department of Education.

721-48676 or Karen at 734-634-3934.

American Legion Lent

American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia, hosts its Lenten fish fry from 5-7:30 p.m. every Friday during Lent.

The menu is fried cod, baked cod, shrimp and baked chicken. Diners include fish or chicken, choice of side, coleslaw, bread or rolls and coffee. Price is \$8.50 for fish or chicken din-

ners and \$9 for shrimp. Bake sale desserts are also available.

Mom2Mom sale

St. Edith/St Colette hosts a Mom2Mom sale from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 9, featuring 74 tables of great deals on gently used maternity, baby and children's items.

St. Edith Church is at 15089 Newburgh in Livonia. Admission is \$2 from 8:30-9 a.m.; \$1 from 9 a.m. to noon. For more informa-

tion, email m2msale@stecmops.org.

Colbeck hours

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and District Manager Penny Crider will hold monthly office hours for February in Livonia from 11 a.m. until noon Friday, Feb. 19. The office hours will be held at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center and will be open to the public.

Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. No appointment is necessary.

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

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

St. Patrick's Day dinner

St. John's Episcopal Church hosts a St. Patrick's Day dinner from 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at the church, 555 S. Wayne Road in Westland.

The menu includes a corned beef dinner, dessert, beverage and fun activities.

For more information or tickets, call 734-721-5023.

Origins of Motown

The Livonia Civic Center Library, in celebration of Black History

Month, hosts a celebratory and informative program on the Origins of the Motown Sound presented by Joel Stone of the Detroit Historical Society at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18. Stone is senior curator of the Society, which oversees the Detroit Historical Museum and roughly some 250,000 artifacts in the City of Detroit's collection.

The free event and will take place in the library's auditorium, will last approximately 45 minutes and have a brief question-and-answer session immediately following.

Bonamici recital

Native born Livonian Anthony Bonamici will perform a recital at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, at Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church, 24110 Cherry Hill.

Hill, just west of Telegraph on the North Side of Cherry Hill.

Bonamici left in the fall of 1994 to

study in Russia at the famed Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory. As a child studying with Professor Donald Morlock, Schoolcraft College, he was giving recitals with orchestras and taking part in international competitions for piano and composition.

Bonamici has performed on numerous occasions with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and he currently per-

forms in chamber concerts and recitals. He is also engaged in pedagogical activities, teaching piano and chamber ensemble classes at the State Russian Herzen Pedagogical University.

Tickets are available at the door for \$20. Pre-concert sales are \$15. Call 313-565-2424 or with credit card at dearbornsymphony.org.

Fish fry

For the 10th consecutive year, St. Michael the Archangel Parish invites the community to its All-You-Can-Eat Lenten Fish Fry on six Fridays in Lent, which begins Feb. 12 and runs through March 18, from 4:30-7 p.m. in the St. Michael School cafeteria.

The dinners will all feature baked or fried, hand-dipped fresh Icelandic cod, mac and cheese, green beans, cole slaw, french fries or baked potato, rolls, butter, beverages and ice cream — all at family-friendly prices: Adults, \$10; seniors, \$8; kids 3-13, \$5; and kids under 3, free. Take-out service is also available at \$9 and \$10 per dinner, with two or three fish fillets, respectively.

Lenten Stations of the Cross services will be offered in the church at 7 p.m. each evening following the dinner. St. Michael's is at 11441 Hubbard Road, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia. For more information, call the parish office at 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www.livoniamichael.org.

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USDA Inspected Smith Platter Bacon 2-3 lb. Avg. \$5.99 lb.	Great 4-Pk. Tilapia Fillets 2-3 lb. Avg. \$3.99 lb.
USDA Inspected Smith Platter Bacon 2-3 lb. Avg. \$5.99 lb.	Great 4-Pk. Mock Chicken 2-3 lb. Avg. \$5.49 lb.

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Marriage trends: Wait, co-habit, maybe kids first

Susan Bromley
Staff Writer

This Valentine's Day, there will likely be more than a few proposals made, although not as many in the past, and the question may not be accompanied by a ring, but a key.

Trends show that, increasingly, the question is not "Will you marry me?" but "Will you live with me?"

Americans now enter first marriages at a later age, are more likely to have lived together first, and may have children before taking vows.

Janet Perez, 30, and her fiancé, Tim Albany, 31, fit the new mold. The couple began dating six years ago, have lived together in Flat Rock for four, and have two children, Alexander, 4, and Aria, 3-and-a-half months. Albany proposed to Perez in October, a week before their daughter's birth.

"I did things a little backwards," laughed Perez while shopping at the Novi Bridal Expo last



Matt Matteson, 25, of White Lake, and Kasey Buchholz, 23, of Lake Orion, look at bridal gowns at the Novi Bridal Expo. They met at Michigan Tech and are now both employed as engineers. They will marry in July.

month in preparation for a 2017 wedding. "It just happened that way."

Her future mother-in-law, Terry Albany, who came to the bridal expo at Suburban Collection Showplace with her, said she is glad her son and Perez waited a little longer to get married than she did. Albany will celebrate her 36th wedding anniversary with her

husband this year, but admits she knew a lot more at 30 than she did at 20, when she married.

"They've really gotten to know each other and will have the money they need," said Albany. "I think it's smart to wait."

Older wals

When Albany married in 1980, the median age of first marriage was 23 for



Kimyata Smith (left) and Katelyn Bedi, friends and co-workers, with flowers Smith's live-in boyfriend sent to her at Marlee's in Twelve Oaks mall. Both women say marriage can wait.

women and 25 for men, according to U.S. Census data and the American Community Survey. In 2010, that number had risen to about 28.5 years old for men and nearly 27 years of age for women.

"This is a striking increase," said Pamela Smock, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, Population Studies Center at University of Michigan. "What people are doing before marriage has also continued to change; they are living together first. Three out of four marrying couples these days live together before tying the knot."

Such is the case with Chereese Gould, 30, and Nicholas Skora, 30, who began dating eight years ago. In the fall of 2014, Skora took Gould back to Henry Ford Academy, where the two graduated high school and first became friends, and asked her to marry him. They live together in Detroit and note that many of their friends who are similar in age are engaged or living with their significant others.

Gould said their friends, like themselves, have goals they want to accomplish, including completing higher education and establishing

careers. Skora and Gould are both working toward degrees and also work in maintenance, he in public schools, she at a church. They were attending the bridal expo for the second year in a row, with plans to seal the deal in an October wedding.

"I feel people are taking their time and want to make sure it lasts," said Skora. "Some of my friends are concerned about the financial costs of a wedding and how much it costs on average."

Smock said it is important to note that co-habitation is now widely considered an acceptable alternative to marriage in most segments of society with the possible exception of those with strongly-held religious convictions and many couples who live together achieve the same benefits as those who are married — companionship, childbearing and economies of scale, such as two people sharing the expenses of maintaining one household.

Economic reality

She has interviewed lower middle class and working class co-habiting young adults who have also voiced their concerns about wedding costs.

"They have mentioned they don't want to just go to the justice of the peace, they want a 'real wedding,'" said Smock. "One young man said he didn't know how he could possibly come up with \$5,000 for a wedding. This amount would seem like very little to someone from the upper middle class."

She adds that marriage itself is perceived as having a higher economic bar than cohabitation, with couples wanting to be sure they are economically "set" before marriage. She has interviewed men who also often held fast to the gender stereotype that the male should be the primary breadwinner,

even as women are more likely to be in the workforce as well.

Kasey Buchholz, 23, of Lake Orion and Matt Matteson, 25, of White Lake will marry this summer. Both work as engineers who met in an engineering class at Michigan Technological University in 2012. Matteson proposed two years later.

"I have a lot of friends that I thought would have gotten married, but they're putting their careers in front of dating and marriage," he said. "For me, it was about finding the person you can spend your whole life with and who will love you even on your worst days."

People who are economically disadvantaged may never feel ready for marriage, said Smock. As a demographer, she has seen projections that suggest it is likely there will be fewer marriages going forward among the least advantaged groups in society while the middle class and above are likely to still marry.

"Some people want an answer such as is it race or is it class?" said Smock. "I tend to interpret family patterns in terms of class. Blacks and Latinos are more likely to be in very precarious economic positions than majority whites. This is so for many reasons, but there is tremendous inequality by social class in this country — and that is getting worse — and that is correlated with race and ethnicity. So yes, marriage is less likely for blacks than for whites, but I believe this is largely due to the quite marked disparities in economic well-being."

Staying single

U.S. Census data and the American Community Survey reflect her comments, showing that in 2010, more than 25 percent of black men and black women older than 35 in the U.S. had never married, compared to roughly 12 percent of white men and about 8 percent of white women of the same age. At age 45, the 2010 number still hovered at around 20 percent of black men and black women having never married, with about 9 percent of white men and 7 percent of white women never taking wedding vows.

Duran Crosby, a 21-year-old Novi resident, is single, but says he wants a serious relationship. His parents are divorced, but he proudly notes that his grandparents have been married for 40 years and together for 52. He has other family members that have long-standing marriages that he aspires to one day as well.

"Teamwork makes the dream work," said Crosby, who currently tries to make it as the hip-hop artist Decando and hopes to attend school this year for radio broadcasting. "I am hoping one day it all comes true. I'm still young. The love stuff can wait, I am working on my education and making money and having fun right now."

Katelyn Bedi, 22, of Novi, has a similar mindset.

"The reason I'm single

is because I have so many things I want to do," she said. "I want to travel, I'm going to school, I want to be happy with myself before I officially make someone else happy."

On a recent Friday evening, she was working alongside Kimyata Smith, 22, at Marlee's in Twelve Oaks Mall when a floral delivery arrived at the store.

Smith's boyfriend, Roderick Hurst, 26, had sent her two dozen red roses, which she says is an apology for not spending enough time alone with her at the Southfield home they have shared for the past month.

The two began dating six months ago, after Hurst saw her on a mutual friend's social media account and sent her a friend request. He has told her she is someone he wants to marry, but she is in no rush.

"I'm not ready for that," said Smith. "I came from a broken home. My parents divorced when I was 5, and watching them go through it — it was something I don't want to go through."

Smock is hesitant to make any statements on outcomes of the children of divorced parents or those whose parents were never married.

"There are hundreds, thousands of studies looking at every possible permutation of family structure and instability on child well-being and how the children fare once they grow up," she said. "I think the bottom line is about family structure stability and having sufficient income... The consensus is that what matters most is family stability rather than the exact structure of the family."

Empirically, among facts that can be measured, she said marriage is the most stable of a myriad of family structures, but that is more likely due to economic factors — those who get married are more often well-off financially.

Divorce rates

Smock notes the divorce rate, which hovers at about 50 percent, has plateaued since the 1980s. There is evidence that for most educated and high social economic status individuals, divorce has even decreased, but it remains high and perhaps increasing for the less educated. Most people remarried, although they increasingly live together first or cohabit instead of remarrying. She adds that studies also suggest somewhat more fragile than first marriages.

Older studies showed that living together before marriage had a subsequent negative effect on subsequent longevity of marriage, but now that co-habitation is so common, there is no longer any effect on whether a couple will stay married.

Co-habitation continues to increase, with half of these couples going on to marry within three years, and the majority of the rest breaking up, said Smock. About 10 percent co-habit for long periods.

"Young adults think it would be foolish to marry without first co-habiting, given that divorce is common," Smock said. "Their parents have divorced or their neighbor; it's just everywhere. The only group that is not co-habiting before marriage are those with strong religious convictions against it."

Many of those co-habiting couples don't wait until after the wedding to have children. About 41 percent of all births in the U.S. this year will take place outside of marriage, Smock said, and in 60 percent of those cases, the birth is not to a woman living alone, but to a co-habiting couple.

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NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD MARCH 2016 BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the 2016 March Board of Review for the Charter Township of Redford will meet at the Redford Township Hall, 15145 Beech Daly Road Redford, Michigan 48239 in the Board Room for the purpose of reviewing the 2016 Assessment Roll. Appeals will be heard BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. You must call the Assessor's Office at (313) 387-2730 to schedule your appeal.

THE BOARD WILL MEET ON THE DATES AND TIMES INDICATED BELOW

Day	Date	Organization Meeting
Tuesday	March 8, 2016	11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Thursday	March 10, 2016	9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
Friday	March 11, 2016	9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
Monday	March 14, 2016	3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
Thursday	March 17, 2016	3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
Friday	March 18, 2016	9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

THE BOARD OF REVIEW PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A TAXPAYER TO PROTEST THE VALUATION PLACED ON THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE YEAR 2016.

NON-RESIDENT APPEALS BY MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH MARCH 18, 2016.

ATTENTION POVERTY APPEALS: PLEASE CONTACT THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR POVERTY APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AT (313) 387-2730.

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD

Published: February 14, 2016

LO-000272034 3/16

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World of Beer expects to open this summer in Canton

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Thirst not, Canton. The beer is on its way. Work crews have cleared a once-wooded area on Ford Road, west of Lilley, where World of Beer is coming with more than 600 flavors from at least 30 countries.

Chad Wilson, owner of the Canton WOB, said preliminary construction is expected to begin within weeks.

"It's looking like we definitely should be open this summer," Wilson said Thursday, though a precise date isn't yet known.

World of Beer, just west of La-Z-Boy's furniture gallery along Canton's bustling Ford Road corridor, will be a 5,500-square-foot tavern and restaurant with an outdoor patio. WOB is ex-

pected to have a seating capacity of about 200.

Wilson said the tavern will have about 75 beers on tap and another 550 flavors in bottles — predominantly craft beer. He told the *Observer* last August that he wanted to locate in Canton and, specifically, on Ford Road.

"We think Canton is a perfect fit because it is under-served in the craft beer market," he has said.

WOB comes to Canton as Michigan's craft beer industry has witnessed rapid growth.

Rex Halfpenny, publisher of *Michigan Beer Guide*, said Michigan ranks fifth in the nation for its craft beer industry, including microbreweries and diversity of flavors.

"Michigan is on the map," he said. And while World of



World of Beer is expected to open this summer in Canton.

WORLD OF BEER

Beer doesn't brew its own beer, it literally taps into a consumer thirst for multiple flavors.

"We don't have any brand loyalty anymore,"

Halfpenny said. "We're all over the place, and these new places like World of Beer cater to that. What they're doing is capitalizing on all these

styles and diversity of beer. It's a very different beer climate right now."

Canton officials say WOB broadens an already diverse group of

businesses that dot the Ford Road landscape. Economic Development Manager Kristen Thomas has called it "a great fit for Canton."

WOB offers flavors from about 30 countries such as Germany, France, Scotland, Italy, Thailand, Japan and Brazil, among others — but many brews will come from across the nation and closer to home, Wilson has said.

WOB has over 70 locations across the nation. Halfpenny said he believes the company can prosper in Canton as long as it offers quality beer, food and service.

"It's like you need those three things to make fire," he said.

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The announcement was made that the 2017 Lincoln Continental was named the 2016 North American International Auto Show's Best in Show at a Detroit Economic Club annual luncheon with Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

The Lincoln Continental is one of many amazing vehicles that will be available to consumers from Lincoln in 2016. Dealerships all over the country are preparing to receive these vehicles. Varsity in Novi already has the best of what Lincoln has to offer and will soon have the Continental, as well. The dealership has held the honor of highest volume sales globally since 1997.* Varsity offers a newly remodeled showroom, indoor delivery area and service reception where the highest in customer service is available.

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The 2017 Lincoln Continental was named the 2016 North American International Auto show's Best in Show.

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their customers remain number one. Celebrating over 20 years in business, Varsity Lincoln has won many other prestigious automotive awards, including the Triple Crown Award, Lincoln Leaders of Excellence, Presidents Award, Ford One Hundred Club, CPO Sales Leadership and Premier Club. When you come to Varsity Lincoln in Novi, you're getting service from the best.

With both new and certified pre-owned Lincoln vehicles available, Varsity runs many specials throughout the year to better serve its customers. Right now, Varsity Lincoln is offering a complimentary maintenance plan for certified pre-owned Lincoln vehicles. This includes an oil change, tire rotation and multipoint inspection every 7,500 miles for one year/15,000 miles. With more than 200 certified pre-owned Lincoln vehicles available for as little

as \$16,995+, it's no wonder that people will travel from far and wide to the Novi dealership to get "The Varsity Advantage!"

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a certified pre-owned, including the outstanding warranty that comes with the vehicles," said Jere Law, Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager and Pre-Owned Director. "The 100,000-mile free bumper-to-bumper warranty that comes alongside all certified pre-owned purchases is better than a new car warranty! Additionally, anytime you bring your vehicle in for a service visit, you can receive a loaner for no cost, exclusively at Varsity Lincoln! The warranty is key with certified pre-owned and you will get the very best at Varsity Lincoln."

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"Leasing or buying from a number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," Law said. "Our dealerships are ready to assist customers with anything, whether it is special financing or specific vehicle features. We can handle even the most unique situations."

Besides the high volume of vehicles that Varsity provides, more proof of their dedication to customer service comes from the customers themselves. "If you want a really nice experience at a dealership, go to Varsity. I see the difference," customer Aretta Mackenroth said.

"Our customers speak for themselves about their experiences," Law said. "This dealership provides the Varsity Advantage. Team members here are selected based on their unwavering focus on customer care and satisfaction. When you read the re-

views our customers write online, you can see how happy they are, before, during and after the sale, that's enough for us."

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- » Fri. 8:30 a.m to 6 p.m.
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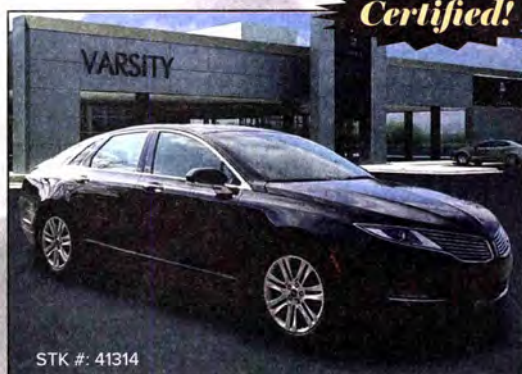
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HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Rockets romp to district championship

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Westland John Glenn wrestling team did a pretty good imitation of a steamroller Thursday night during the Division 1 district tournament it hosted. Ranked No. 7 in the state by MichiganGrappler.com, the Rockets launched an all-out assault against their pair of foes, blanking Wayne Memorial, 81-0, in a semifinal match before destroying Belleville, 48-15, in the district final.

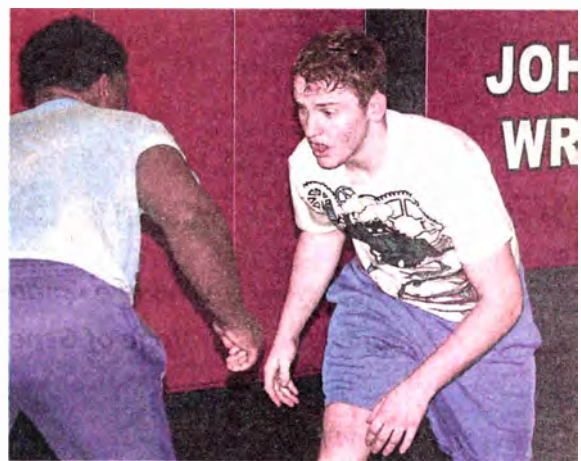
With the emphatic triumphs, John Glenn punched a ticket to Wednesday's D1 regional tournament, which it will also host. The Rockets will take on Southgate Anderson in the 5:30 p.m. opener. A victory would propel them into the regional final against the winner of the No. 10-ranked Temperance Bedford-Saline encounter.

Thursday's final was tight for a while, before John Glenn reeled off a 31-0 run to cage the upset-minded Tigers.

John Glenn's Anthony Gibson opened the match with a second-period pin at 125 pounds before Belleville's Kyre Boatman brought his team to within 6-4 with a 17-6 victory over Brandon McCollum at 130.

Tiger Chris Brown's 7-4 decision over Rocket John Smietasz at 135 gave the visitors a temporary 7-6 advantage, but that all changed when John Glenn 140-pounder Brenton Polk pinned Nathan Lazar with 23 seconds left in the opening stanza, giving the Rockets a 12-7 lead.

John Glenn's Payton Beneteau dominated his 145-pound bout against Zach Buhra before winning, 17-1, to widened



ED WRIGHT
John Glenn's Alec Durette, pictured during a recent practice, won his 189-pound match, 3-1, Thursday night.

See DISTRICTS, Page B2

HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTICS

Flippin' to fight cancer



Members of the two Livonia gymnastics teams — Red and Blue — form the shape of a ribbon prior to Wednesday's "Flip For A Cure" meet.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

LIVONIA TEAMS SQUARE OFF FOR ENTERTAINING, FUNDRAISING MEET

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The significance of Wednesday night's Livonia rivalry gymnastics meet stretched way beyond the uneven bars, balance beam and floor-exercise mats.

In a spirited encounter between Livonia's two gymnastics teams, Blue compiled 143.275 points to outlast Red's 140.700, but the night's biggest winner was the University of Michigan Cancer Center, which will receive a minimum of \$375 — the total of the donations raised at the door prior to the annual "Flip For A Cure" competition.

"It was a great meet and the fundraiser was a success as well," Blue head coach Lisa Broomfield said.

The result improved Blue's record to 3-2 overall and 3-1 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, according to klaastandings.com. Red slipped to 4-2 and 2-2, respectively.

Both teams were powered by a pair of four-event contributors.

Blue was led by the dynamic one-two combination of Bri Rhoad and Jessica Weak, who registered respective scores of 36.7 and 36.425.

Red countered with Marissa McVey and Olivia Rytarsyk. McVey racked up 35.25 points while Rytarsyk finished with 34.65.

The vault competition left little room for error as four competitors finished within an eyelash of one another.

Weak and Rhoad tied for first with scores of 9.10, just .05 ahead of second-place Red competitors Mikaela Hille and McVey.

Red's Mackenzie Borrmann and Rytarsyk both

See FLIPPING, Page B3



TOM BEAUDOIN

Livonia Blue's Jessica Weak placed third on the balance beam with a score of 9.15.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY



Churchill goalie Andrew Broyles makes one of his 40 saves despite pressure from Stevenson's Ben Kowalski.

Stevenson rallies to edge Chargers, 3-2

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

In an up-tempo contest that featured a quicker pace than most Olympic ping pong matches, Livonia Stevenson's hockey team dug itself out of a 2-0 hole to earn a spirited 3-2 victory over Livonia Churchill on Wednesday night at Eddie Edgar Arena.

The result left both state-ranked rivals with a 16-4-1 record as the home stretch to the 2015-16 looms.

With the game deadlocked at 2-2 and the 10-minute mark of the third period fast approaching, Stevenson junior Alex Walkuski punched home the puck from just outside the goal crease. Justin Alton and Sam Judd assisted.

Walkuski's fifth net-finder of the season ultimately held up — but only after Stevenson repelled a furious offensive push by the Chargers over the final 82 seconds during which they played with a two-skater advantage after pulling goalie Andrew Broyles coupled with a Spartan penalty.

Stevenson's players, coaches and fans weren't able to fully exhale until Alec Allen cleared the puck out of harm's way as the final buzzer sounded.

With the exception of a 66-second stretch of the second period when Churchill netted both its goals, Stevenson senior goalie Cullen Barber was splendid, stopping 21 shots, several with quick-reflex motions.

Broyles was also spectacular between the pipes, frustrating the attacking Spartans with 40 saves.

The first hint that the game would probably go down to the wire was revealed during the first period when neither team was able to break the scoring ice.

Churchill finally cracked its scoreboard goose egg 3:48 into the middle stanza when Josh Friend zipped up the left boards before cutting in and wristing a well-placed shot onto the top shelf.

Conor Burnette and Nolan Cioch

See HOCKEY, Page B2

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HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING

Churchill overpowers Franklin with 10 firsts

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill's boys swimming-and-diving team performed like a well-oiled machine Thursday night against host Livonia Franklin.

Fueled by a sweep in the three relay races as well as several stellar individual efforts, the Chargers prevailed, 132-51.

The victory upped the Chargers' record to 5-5 overall and 3-2 in the KLAASouth Division, according to KLAAStatistics.com. The Patriots slipped to 0-6 and 0-4, respectively.

Churchill shot off the blocks like a water rocket in the meet-opening 200-yard medley relay as the foursome of Kevin Taylor, Tyler Opdycke, Ethan Stack and Tim Ohtake earned

first-place points with a time of 2 minutes, 2.08 seconds, well ahead of Franklin's quartet of Gavin McCreadie, Bryan Hives, Ethan Nordstrom and Daven King.

Nordstrom gave the hosts a shot of adrenaline when he won the 200 freestyle in 2:08.79, almost 10 seconds faster than runner-up John Kerstein of Churchill.

However, the Chargers won the next four events, and it was off to the races.

Kevin Sutton beat all competitors in the 200 individual medley by a whooping 23 seconds. Joel Nagle then helped the Chargers maintain the momentum with a half-second victory in the 50 freestyle over Franklin's Patrick Selix.

Churchill's trio of Patrick Holton, Kevin Tarta and Andrew Saltzmann swept the



TOM BEAUDOIN
Churchill's Kevin Taylor glides through the water during a breast-stroke race earlier this season.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Franklin's Ethan Nordstrom, pictured competing in the 100-yard buttefly event earlier this season, is one of the Patriots' most versatile swimmers.

diving competition as the Patriots passed on the event.

Taylor then stormed back to take the 100 butterfly moments before Sutton won the 100 free-

style. Anthony Campbell-LaClair posted a 1-second win over Stack in a breath-taking 100 breaststroke showdown.

CHURCHILL 131 FRANKLIN 51
Thursday at Franklin
200-yard medley relay: 1. Churchill (Kevin Taylor, Tyler Opdycke, Ethan Stack, Tim Ohtake), 2:02.08; 2. Franklin (Gavin McCreadie, Bryan Hives, Ethan Nordstrom, Daven King), 2:14.41.
200 freestyle: 1. Ethan Nordstrom (F), 2:08.79; 2. John Kerstein (C), 2:18.24; 3. Alex Babut (C), 2:21.80.
200 individual medley: 1. Nathan Sutton (C), 2:19.22; 2. Jason Henzi (C), 2:42.59; 3. Noah Morrison (C), 2:52.09.
50 freestyle: 1. Joel Nagle (C), 25.77; 2. Patrick Selix (F), 26.21; 3. Ethan Stack (C), 26.34.
1-meter diving: 1. Patrick Holton (C), 181.20 points; 2. Kevin Tarta (C), 162.30; 3. Andrew Saltzmann (C), 125.55.
100 butterfly: 1. Kevin Taylor (C), 59.81; 2. Tyler Opdycke (C), 1:10.85; 3. Bryan Hives (F), 1:27.55.
100 freestyle: 1. Nathan Sutton (C), 54.69; 2. Steven Haywood (C), 1:07.47; 3. Tim Ohtake (C), 1:09.80.
500 freestyle: 1. Patrick Selix (F), 5:50.13; 2. John Kerstein (C), 6:14.74; 3. Noah Morrison (C), 6:17.94.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Churchill (Nathan Sutton, Tim Ohtake, Alex Babut, John Kerstein), 1:55.30; 2. Franklin (Patrick Selix, Bryan Hives, Drew Niemiec, Gavin McCreadie), 1:58.14.
100 backstroke: 1. Kevin Taylor (C), 1:01.30; 2. Ethan Nordstrom (F), 1:08.14; 3. Joel Nagle (C), 1:10.56.
100 breaststroke: 1. Anthony Campbell-LaClair (C), 1:21.59; 2. Ethan Stack (C), 1:22.72; 3. Jason Henzi (C), 1:34.47.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Churchill (Nathan Sutton, John Kerstein, Noah Morrison, Tyler Opdycke), 4:13.44; 2. Churchill (Joel Nagle, Tim Ohtake, Ethan Stack, Jason Henzi), 4:13.73.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

LIVONIA FRANKLIN ROLLS INTO REGIONALS

Franklin dispatches Stevenson, Churchill to claim district title

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Winning Division 1 district wrestling championships has become a way of life at Livonia Franklin.

On Thursday night in the Franklin gymnasium, all the blood, sweat and year's worth of discipline paid dividends for the Patriots, who captured their 11th straight district title with a 49-24 triumph over Livonia Churchill in the final match.

Churchill out-performed Livonia Stevenson, 63-18, in the night's lone semifinal showdown (Franklin drew a first-round bye in the three-team event).

The Patriots advance to Wednesday's regional tournament hosted by Salem. Franklin will match up against Dearborn Fordson in a semifinal clash with the host Rocks squaring off against Detroit Novi Catholic Central.

The winners will meet sometime around 7 p.m. with a ticket to the state team finals at Central Michigan University at stake.

Thursday's championship match started at 135 pounds, which is right in the Patriots' wheelhouse.

Franklin piled up a resounding 27-0 lead before Churchill finally got on the board when Also Bella decisioned Andres Garza, 7-3, in the 171-pound match.

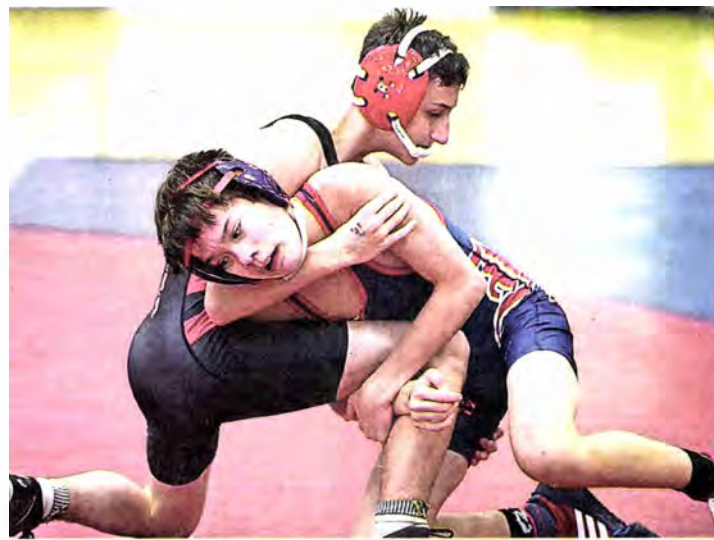
Marino Diponio (135 pounds) got the Patriots on the right track when he defeated Briard Walrad, 5-1, in a defensive masterpiece.

Franklin's Jeremy Nelson wasted no time in picking up a six-point pin against Spencer Blanchard.

After receiving six points due to a Churchill forfeit at 145, Franklin's Kristo Cule pinned Jameson Erwin in 25 seconds.

In the night's headliner match, Franklin's unbeaten Nathan Atienza moved up to 160 to defeat Churchill's Chase Gardner with a second-period fall.

Following Bella's win at 171, the Patriots recorded two



TOM BEAUDOIN
Livonia Franklin's Russ Rusnell (right) eventually pinned Churchill's Anthony Marchione in this 103-pound battle.

TOM BEAUDOIN
Members of the Livonia Franklin wrestling team pose with their Division 1 district championship trophy Thursday night.



straight pins from Mannee Willie (189) and Josh Retting (215).

Churchill regained some footing at 285 when Austin Simpson pinned Devin Visnaw in the first round.

The Chargers kept battling, winning three of the final five matches.

Franklin's Russ Rusnell

pinned Anthony Marchione at the 5:30 mark at 103; Franklin's Howie Whitaker then earned a 17-8 major-decision triumph over Drew Bush.

With the outcome already decided, the Chargers captured three straight wins courtesy of strong efforts from Ethan Englehart (119), Josh Mussen (125) and Isaiah Kozak

(130).

Stevenson's three winners in the semifinal match were Castor Rodgers, who pinned his opponent at 135; James Snapp, who won by forfeit at 145; and Tarik Alcodray, who pinned his foe at 152.

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DISTRICTS

Continued from Page B1

the Rockets' advantage to 17-7. The Tigers clawed back to within 17-15 when Caleb Brown earned a 10-4 decision at 152 and Keyion Smith posted a convincing 21-6 triumph at 160.

But it was all Rockets from that point on.

Logan Beaudoin shifted the steamroller into first gear with a 7-2 win over Andrew Antolin at 171. Moments later, Alec Dirette outlasted Pat Burrage, 3-1, at 189 to stretch the hosts' edge to 23-15.

Putting the exclamation point on the huge win were Jawuan Peete, a 3-1 winner at 215; 285-pounder Avery Casey, who pinned Don McCoy in the second round; Kyle Borthwell, who registered a pin against Jacob Shafer at 103; Isaac Lefler, a 12-1 victor over his 112-pound foe Chris Marki; and Michael Mars, who recorded a quick fall against Dejaun Woodruff at 119.

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HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

picked up helpers on Friend's goal.

The Chargers doubled their lead to 2-0 just over a minute later when Jordan Vengoni netted an even-strength goal that was assisted by Joe Wozniak and John Doyle.

It took the Spartans just 54 seconds to regroup.

Allen secured a loose puck in front of Broyles and deposited it into the mesh to cut his team's deficit in half. Walkuski and Adam Olson assisted.

Just under two minutes later, Churchill was penalized while derailing Stevenson's Shane Leonard on a break-away.

Sixty-seven seconds later, always-dangerous Joe Alcantara made the Chargers pay by one-timing a slap shot past Broyles to knot the game at 2-2. Allen was the teammate who teed up Alcantara's goal with a spot-on crossing pass. Olson also assisted.

That set the stage for Walkuski's heroics, which held up despite the game's final 10 minutes of fast and furious action.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL POM

Livonia Pom places second in the state

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Pom placed second at Sunday's Mid-American Pom Pon State Championship competition at Michigan State University's Breslin Center.

The team, which is coached by Andrea Shook, consists of students who attend the city's three middle schools.

The squad out-performed eight other middle-school teams from across Michigan.

In addition to Shook, the coaching staff is made up of Kari Barden, Jillian Henderson and Brittney Rees.

Team captains are Brooke Gietzen, Rylee Binkiewicz, Meghan Kelly, Claire Partington, Amanda Towler and Sammie Zawisza.

Also on the team are: Isabella Abate, Abigail Boettcher, Sydney Castilenti, Ava Collyer, Kaylen Finnegan, Allison Gar-



The Livonia Pom team is pictured during Sunday's state competition at Michigan State University.

pow, Amelia Glen, Rylee Guidash, Allison Gwizdz, Halena Harris, Ainsley Johnston, Sarah Lamb, Madison Lee, Isabel Longoria, Morgan Matick, Emily Mitchell, Sophie Nomi-des, Madison Norton, Rachel

Parrelly, Madison Prowse, Rachel Salutes, Claire Sierota, Zoe Zagar and Emily Zimmerman.

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Stevenson pom team second in state



Livonia Stevenson's varsity pom team placed second in Sunday's Mid-American Pom Division 2 varsity state championship event hosted by Michigan State University's Breslin Center. Stevenson was edged out by Chubberson by just one-half of a point. Pictured are (front row from left) Alaina Pierson, Allison Paulus, Lauren Raden, April Burling, Caitlyn Regan, (second row from left) Katie Orlich, Leah Eby-May, Eva Koelzer, (third row from left) Jenna Roderick, Holly Cleaver, Janine Shymanski, Jenna Fisher, Kelly Jarosz, (fourth row from left) Rachel Sulter, Shelby Pelc, Caroline Kaniowski, Maddie Piccard, Lexis Cholette, Maddie Dawson, Kayla Korol, (back row from left) coaches Shaylyn Sikorski, Kelly Sikorski and Savannah Sikorski.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Host Farmington captures team district mat crown

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

It came down to the final match and a dramatic ending Wednesday to decide the Division 2 team district wrestling champion at Farmington High School.

Freshman sensation Donovan King, fresh from winning an OAA Red Division title, pinned his 215-pound Redford Union opponent to give the host Falcons a 42-36 victory.

"We thought we had the advantage there," Farmington coach Al Beyar said. "We just had to make sure he didn't make a mistake or get some kind of weird call like we had the previous match."

"He's just a freshman. He hasn't gone through a match like that with the importance placed on it. But he did very well; we were happy with that."

In the previous bout at 189, Farmington senior Gage Brent was leading 2-1 in the second period when RU's Bobby Dixon sustained a leg injury and was unable to continue.

Brent was cited for unnecessary roughness and disqualified. Dixon received six points for the default victory, enabling the Panthers to tie the team tally at 36-36.

"It wasn't done on purpose," Beyar said. "I think (Brent) was trying to do a leg sweep and ended up hitting the kid right in the knee."

"Now, it's down to one guy. But anything can happen. We

learned that the last match. I can't imagine it would happen twice in a row.

"Anytime you have big kids wrestling and one gets picked up in the air, (you never know). They're in the heat of battle; sometimes, they don't get put down on the mat like they should."

With King (27-10) in control of the match with Zack Johnson, it worked out well for Farmington, which will face Melvindale in the regional tournament Wednesday at Warren Woods-Tower.

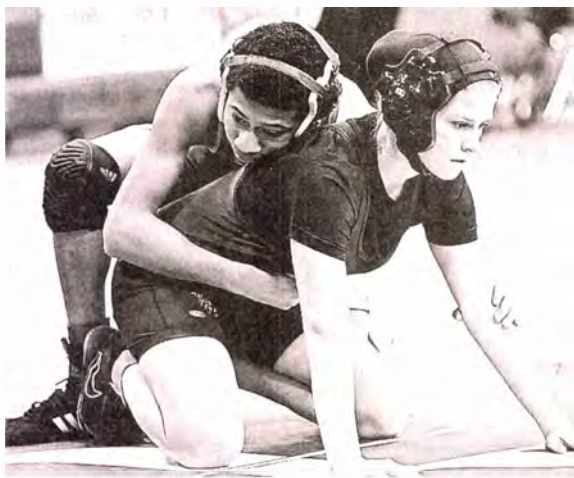
The Falcons had a 24-6 lead after six weight classes; however, the Panthers capitalized on a void and consecutive pins by Kenny Vadnais (140) and Chandler Shettleroe (145) to tie the score.

Farmington (13-15) regained the lead with a third-period pin by senior Kavinda Herath over Taz-Don Moore in what had been a tightly contested and evenly matched bout at 152.

"We had to win three of the last five," Beyar said. "Kavinda came through with a pin and won the match, I think. That was a senior win. We were just hoping Kavinda would win. Him getting a pin was huge."

Senior Gyasi Davis followed with another pin and a turnaround victory over Trevon Williams, who had beaten Davis at the Observerland tournament, for a 36-24 tally.

RU, which finished with a .500 record, pulled even again with a pin by Trevontea Owens



Redford Union's Clifford Stafford (top) is pictured during a match earlier this season.

TOM BEAUDOIN

and Dixon's default victory. "We were hoping for a little better," RU coach Rob Rankin said, adding he lost two veteran wrestlers to injury and ailment and had four others move away in recent weeks. "We wrestled mostly freshmen tonight, so the effort was there. I'll take that. They're young wrestlers, so we'll be better next year." "We probably had six freshmen in the lineup, and we have one senior on the team. We're getting better. I was pretty

happy with the effort." If the Panthers had the team they did a month ago, Rankin thought they would have won the district.

"I thoroughly expected to," he said. "I had real good matchups. We lost to Melvindale early in the year by six points, and we did pretty well at Warren Lincoln."

"With only one senior in the lineup, we have a great couple years coming up. Both teams wrestled pretty hard. Both can leave here and feel pretty good

about themselves today."

RU advanced to the final match with a 45-30 win over Farmington Harrison in a semifinal that immediately preceded the championship event.

"We didn't know which team we were going to face, because we knew it would be a close match between RU and Harrison," Beyar said.

"We had a plan figured out for Harrison. We didn't know a whole lot about RU, so we really didn't have a plan. We had seen Harrison and knew its lineup. (As it turned out), we matched up real well with RU, I thought."

DIVISION 2 DISTRICT FARMINGTON 42 REDFORD UNION 36

Feb. 10 at Farmington
285: James Beaubien (RU) won by void; 103: Anthony Avierette (F) dec. Eric Gregory, 8-3; 112: Aidan Kikline (F) dec. Gabriel Mendez, 5-4; 119: Solomon Johnson (F) pin. Eli Boyer, 2:19; 125: Jake Justice (F) pin. Justin Blunt-Bell, 1:18; 130: Luke Higley (F) pin. Cliff Stafford, 0:38; 135: Korey Washington (RU) won by void; 140: Kenny Vadnais (RU) pin. Logan Krautholer, 3:00; 145: Chandler Shettleroe (RU) pin. Tyler Dickson, 2:15; 152: Kavinda Herath (F) pin. Taz-Don Moore, 4:51; 160: Gyasi Davis (F) pin. Trevon Williams, 1:28; 171: Trevontea Owens (RU) pin. Dominik Chierozza, 2:53; 189: Bobby Dixon (RU) won by disqualification over Gage Brent; 215: Donovan King (F) pin. Zack Johnson, 3:07.
REDFORD UNION 45 FARM. HARRISON 30
Feb. 10 at Farmington
215: Joe Madrid (H) dec. Bobby Dixon, 7-4; 285: Lindon Juetz (H) dec. James Beaubien, 9-4; 103: Hanting Wong (H) pin. Eric Gregory, 1:21; 112: Gabriel Mendez (RU) pin. Mitch Rotter, 0:21; 119: Eli Boyer (RU) pin. Luciana Speck, 1:45; 125: Jozef Pietruski (H) pin. Justin Blunt-Bell, 1:42; 130: Cliff Stafford (RU) pin. Aaron Bartlett, 1:27; 135: Kenny Vadnais (RU) pin. Jeff Bell, 1:17; 140: Austin Crutchfield (H) won by void; 145: Chandler Shettleroe (RU) dec. Ryan Boynton, 7-5; 152: Taz-Don Moore (RU) pin. Vincent Rawls, 1:45; 160: Trevon Williams (RU) pin. Luke Losie, 1:39; 171: Trevontea Owens (RU) pin. Demarius Lipscomb, 1:57; 189: Divine Filemu (H) pin. Zack Johnson, 1:04.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Salem put-back edges Stevenson

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

In a feat nearly comparable to bowling a 300 game (with an opposing bowler's hand in your face every time you release the ball), Salem big man Kenny Topolovec made all 11 of his shots Friday night — the final (and biggest) coming with just over a second to spare.

With the Rocks' game at Livonia Stevenson deadlocked at 81-all and the final seconds winding down, the 6-foot-6 Topolovec soared above the masses to secure a missed Cameron Grace floater and deposit the ball into the cylinder with just 1.7 ticks on the clock for the difference-making points in Salem's 84-81 victory.

Salem's final point came when Grace buried one of two technical foul shots after Stevenson was whistled for calling a timeout it didn't have with a fraction of a second left.

The final KLAA Central Division game of the season for both teams left Salem with a 10-6 overall mark and 6-4 division record, which gives them a second-place seed heading into next week's KLAA tournament.

Stevenson is now 9-7 and 5-5, respectively, and secured a third-place seed despite the loss.

Seedings were the furthest things from Topolovec's mind when he ascended toward Grace's off-the-mark shot and banked in the put-back to complete a sizeable comeback for Salem.

"We knew the game was tied and we had some fouls to give, so my main focus was to crash the glass and get a rebound if there was a missed shot," said Topolovec, who finished with 30 points. "When my teammate put the ball up, I was able to get the rebound and put it in."

Topolovec's perfect shooting night — he also canned eight of nine free throws — was extraordinary given that the lightning-quick pace of the game often leads to fatigued players and short shots.

Energized by a relentless offensive effort from Ian Knoph and Kyle Malkowski (both of whom finished with 24 points), and Devin Dunn (who added 18), the Spartans sprinted to a 65-54 lead with three minutes remaining in the third quarter.

However, the Rocks answered with an 11-0 run that was capped by Matt White's inside bucket in the final minute of the third.

Salem eventually built an 81-76 lead with 1:01 to go in the game when Topolovec scored on a put-back (he finished with 13 rebounds), but the Spartans roared back to knot the contest at 81-all on a Knoph triple with 45.9 second left and a Dunn runner in the lane at the 22-second mark.

Following a time-out, Salem



Players battle for a loose ball during Friday night's wild and entertaining Salem-Stevenson game.

ED WRIGHT



Stevenson's Nader Kandalaft drives to the basket Friday night.

ED WRIGHT

worked the clock down to seven seconds when Grace drove the baseline from the left side and threw up and off-balanced six-footer that caromed off the backboard and into the hands of Topolovec.

The first half was played at a crazy-fast tempo and ended with the Spartans owning a 48-47 lead.

"The way the first half went, I thought somebody was going to score 100 points tonight," said Salem head coach Bob Brodie. "We knew Stevenson liked to play fast and pressure the ball. We changed our defense up a little bit at the end to try and slow them down, and we worked the clock a little bit more when we had the ball."

Grace was phenomenal from long distance, hitting four of his first five treys (with the only miss rolling out after circling the rim) to finish with 18 points. Junior guard Camren Bar-

den gave the Rocks a huge lift off the bench in the second quarter, when he scored 11 of his 12 points.

Knoph excelled at the defensive end for Stevenson, too, picking up seven steals

Churchill rolls over Franklin

"Senior Night" proved to be special for Livonia Churchill, which upended Livonia Franklin, 75-26.

The Chargers, who improved to 10-6 overall and 6-4 in the KLAA South Division, were led by Jon Hovermale's 18 points. Three Chargers — senior Trahad Whitfield, junior Trajan Stinson and senior Joan Andoni — added 11 points a piece.

Churchill never looked back after rolling to a 25-5 first-quarter lead.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Warriors too much for South

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Lutheran Westland girls basketball team's defense was off-the-charts dominating during the final three quarters of Friday night's 46-9 victory over Lutheran South.

After grabbing a 15-6 lead in the first quarter, the Warriors yielded just three more points the rest of the game to cruise to a comfortable triumph.

"We played as a team and won as team tonight," said LW head coach Sandi Wade. "It was a good game as a team; just about everyone scored. I'm proud of my team for playing as a team tonight."

Junior Taylor Jones registered five steals to set a new school single-season steal record of 85. The former mark was 81.

Jones also contributed a team-high 11 points, two more than Bethany Hoehne. Emma Johnson and Katie Hoehne both added four points.

The Warriors made three of four free-throw attempts.

Stevenson falls

Marissa Martin scored a game-high 15 points to lead Salem to a 48-31 victory Friday night over visiting Livonia Stevenson.

The game was significant because the winner qualified for the KLAA tournament that begins next week while the loser will play the other non-qualifiers in a round-robin type schedule.

Stevenson, which has struggled to score the past month, was led by Grace Lamerson's eight points.

Jayna Lenders joined Martin in the double-digit club with 11 points.

Salem led 12-7 after one quarter, 30-15 at the half and 40-23 after three quarters.

HVL wins thriller

Huron Valley Lutheran improved to 5-9 overall and 3-6 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division Thursday night by edging Warren Macomb Christian, 63-61.

Sam Golchuk continued her streak of spectacular play by scoring 45 points to go along with 11 rebounds and four steals.

Golchuk was nearly perfect from the free-throw line, canning 13 of 14 attempts.

Ashley Setian also played well for the winners, contributing 15 points and eight rebounds.

Shawna Rawls led Macomb with 24 points.

Macomb exploded out to a 22-7 first-quarter lead before the Hawks cut their halftime deficit to 36-28.

HVL kept digging and trailed just 49-45 with eight minutes to play before outscoring Macomb 18-12 down the stretch.

"Golchuk drove to the basket hard all night," said HVL head coach Kris Ruth. "I was pleased with the fight we put up. After digging ourselves a 15-point hole, we didn't give up."

T-Birds defeat Garden City

Dearborn Edsel Ford defeated Garden City, 64-39, in a WWAC Blue game played Friday night. The loss dropped the Cougars to 5-13 overall and 2-8 in the division.

Taylor Rankin led Edsel Ford with 19 points. Jaida Futch added 16.

Lindsey Michalak topped the Cougars' scoring ledger with seven points. Brittany Radtke added five points and five rebounds while Kayley Hewer contributed four points and seven boards.

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FLIPPING

Continued from Page B1

notched scores of 8.85 with their vault performance.

Rhod took first on the challenging uneven bars, earning a score of 9.05 to edge Weak, who received an even 9.0. Blue's Emily Chatterjee was third with an 8.775 while McVey placed fourth.

Red outscored Blue, 36.000-35.950 thanks to a one-two finish by Hille (9.25) and Borroman (9.2). Weak (9.15) and Rhoad (9.05) were third and fourth respectively. Chatterjee also turned in a good performance in the event, garnering a score of 8.95.

Rhod delivered a masterful performance during her floor routine, impressing the judges to the tune of a 9.5 score. Red's Olivia Dillon placed second with a stellar



Livonia Red's Olivia Rylkarsyk scored an 8.85 on her vault attempt.

9.35 while Weak was third at 9.175.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

FEBRUARY AUCTION

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14

Location: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland

Details: Auction supports Concordia Lutheran School. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$270 for a table of 10 and includes appetizer, dinner, desserts, drinks and auction. Deadline is Feb. 8. Order by calling 248-474-2488 or 313-937-2233.

Contact: Laura Goodman at 313-937-2233

BIBLE SEMINAR

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17-March 16

Location: Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist church, 4295 Napier, south of Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: The free seminar looks at the book of Daniel. Includes details of the "Daniel Diet" that has been thought to provide protection against heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses. Study guides available for all participants. Bring your own Bible or use one available at the seminar

Contact: 734-455-3580

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 21

Location: St. Theodore social hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: French toast, pancakes, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, ages 2-10

Contact: 734-425-4421

FAMILY FUN DAY

Time/Date: 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27

Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Games, prizes and special activities for kids, including a bounce house. Chair massages, chiropractic screening and a talk on health and wellness for adults. Sponsored by Applied Modern Health Chiropractic

Contact: 734-421-1760

FILM

Time/Date: 6:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, in Farmington Hills

Details: See a free screening of "A Pattern of Evidence - the Exodus." Filmmaker Timothy Mahoney begins with the question, "Is the Bible just a myth, or did the archaeologists get it wrong?" Chicken gyros will be available for dinner. Call the church office by Feb. 24 to make a reservation

Contact: 248-553-3380

FISH FRY

Time/Date: 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, through March 18

Location: St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: All you can eat, \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$5 for kids, ages 3-13, free for kids under 3, carry outs, \$9 and \$10

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext. 200

GRIEF WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17-March 16

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: "Grieving with Great Hope" a five week series, is for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization co-founded by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy, leads the sessions. For more information and registration details visit goodmourningministry.net or call the church

Contact: 734-261-1455, www.livonia.stmichael.org

GUEST SPEAKER

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 21

Location: The Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

Details: Willie W. Payne, historian and author, will present a multi-media lecture on "Underground Railroad Michigan Connection." He will use music and photos of local Underground Railroad stops to narrate stories and describe places used to harbor runaway slaves. He will discuss how slave work songs and spirituals were used to communicate escape plans and how these songs also influenced blues, jazz and other music

Contact: 248-478-7272

LENTEN DISCIPLINES

Time/Date: 10:10-11 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 14-March 20 and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17-March 16

Location: Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Sunday series is held in the refectory, Wednesdays in the St. Andrew's room

Details: Sunday morning series explores the meaning of Lent. Wednesday sessions focus on Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline

Contact: 248-626-2515, ext. 117

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 20

Location: St. Michael Lutheran School, 3003 Hannan, Wayne

Details: Take a guided tour of the school, meet with teachers, and learn more about Christian education for preschool-eight grade. The school offers licensed latchkey, and bus service for resident of Wayne and Westland schools

Contact: 734-728-3315; stmichael@lutheran.org

VENDOR SPACE

Location: St. Mel's Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren Road, Dearborn Heights

Details: Vendor and craft tables are \$35 for the 2016 Spring Charity Craft & Vendor Show, which runs 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at the church. Event includes bake sale, raffle, 50/50, with proceeds benefiting veterans and their families. See the Otto Miller JR Auxiliary Unit 396 Garden City, MI Craft & Vendor Shows Facebook page to view the contract

Contact: AmericanLegionAux396craftshow@yahoo.com

MARCH GRIEF SHARE SEMINARS

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Sunday,

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Non-denominational, Christian-based seminar/support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. Consists of group discussions, DVDs and workbooks. \$15 registration fee includes workbook/journals and weekly handouts

Contact: Rev. Roger Wright at 313-682-7491

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m. Sunday, March 6

Location: Divine Mercy Roman Catholic Regional School, 31500 Beechwood, Garden City on the current site of St. Raphael Catholic School

Details: Preschool 3- and 4-year-olds, grades K-8

Contact: 734-425-4420

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Our Lady of Loreto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through May

Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own Bible

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext 200 or on line at www.livonia.stmichael.org.

Faith Community Wesleyan

Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

EXERCISE

Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiwawasse, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month;

English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month

Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.

Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbosm.com

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

Contact: 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month

Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth

Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.

Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dw.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net.

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Connection Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday

Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

Details: Addition No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Fireside Church of God

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email adm@firesidechog.org

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturday

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: A twice-monthly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

Contact: 734-421-8451

St. Thomas a' Becket Church

Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton

Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: Overeaters Anonymous **Contact:** 248-559-7722; www.aa.org for additional information

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts), Thursday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecoveryc.org and www.wardchurch.org celebrate

THRIFT STORE

St. James Presbyterian

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Contact:</

PET PROJECTS

Paint your pet's portrait and aid The Buster Foundation

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Joanie Wazney created her very own 'pitcasso' paintings and says you can, too.

"I don't have an ounce of artistic flair but I was so impressed with the picture I made, said Wazney, president and co-founder of The Buster Foundation, a nonprofit pit bull education and rescue organization based in Belleville.

Wazney is planning the Foundation's third Paint Your Pet Party, which is set for 7-10 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at The Paint and Pour, 22000 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Participants will create an acrylic painting of their pet during the event, which will benefit the Foundation's rescue efforts.

During two previous parties, Wazney painted portraits of her dog and a foster dog — creations she calls her pitcasos — but she said painting party subject matter isn't limited to pit bulls.

"Everyone gets to leave with a keepsake of their precious pet, whether that's a dog or cat. People do birds, a turtle," she said. "It's a really great time. A lot of the people are Buster supporters. Others are animal lovers who just want to do a picture of their pet."

The Buster Foundation will receive a portion of the \$55 per person ticket price. Participants must buy tickets and submit a headshot of their pet by March 11 to thepaintandpour.com.

Paint and Pour artists will sketch each submitted photo onto canvass.

"When you get there you'll have a copy of your photo in color and the paint will be set up. The artists will stroll along and guide you, if you're having a tough time mixing the color or getting shading right. But they won't do it for you," Wazney said. "It's a fun evening."

Wazney rescued dogs independently for 18 years before co-founding the organization in 2003. The foster-based group has approximately 25 dogs available for adoption.

Volunteers, funding and training for foster dogs are among the challenges that she and many other rescues face.

"To get them homed they have to be well-balanced and able to get along with other animals," she said. "Today, shelters and rescues are inundated with pitty mixes. That's the what the majority of the dogs are, the reality of rescue."

For more information about The Buster Foundation, visit busterdogs.com or the Foundation's Facebook page.

Here's a sampling of other pet-related news:

"Puppy machine"

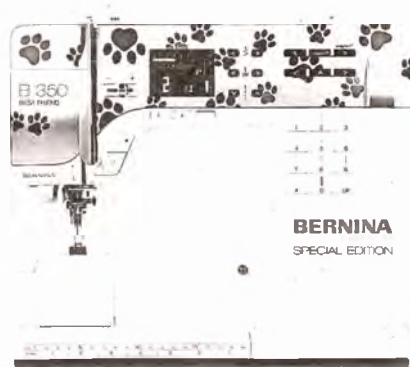
Bernina of America has introduced a sewing machine



Ready for your portrait? Pippa the dog says, yes.



Tink is posed with a toy and ready to be captured in acrylic.



Bits 'n Pieces in Wayne quickly sold out of these special paw print edition Bernina sewing machines, but has more on order. Bernina will donate a portion of the machine's sales to the Petfinder Foundation.



A previous painting party benefiting The Buster Foundation

aimed at pet lovers.

The 2016 Bernina 350 Special Edition Best Friend is decorated in a paw print design, with a portion of sale proceeds benefiting the Petfinder Foundation.

And boy, is it selling fast. Bits 'n Pieces in Wayne sold two before it even got a machine out of the box for display.

"We sold the last one two weeks ago. Ours are all gone. We've sold out of what we here called the puppy machine," store owner Julie Hale said. "I know more have been ordered."

Hale and her crew called the product "puppy machine" because of its packaging.

"They made the box look like a dog house with wooden sides and a red top. It was adorable," she said. "I don't have pets but they did such a good job on this I wish I had taken time to photograph the box."

Hale said the machine's paw print faceplate makes it unique among other sewing machines. It also includes a few more accessories than the regular Bernina 350 model. Suggested retail price for the special edition Best Friend machine is \$1,899.

In addition to benefiting Petfinder Foundation, \$30,000 will go to The Quilt Pattern Magazine's Kennel Quilt Team, to help shelter pets. Petfinder

Foundation offers grants animal shelters and rescue groups to make animals more adoptable and shelter operations sustainable.

Bits 'n Pieces is located at 34629 W. Michigan Ave. For updates on Bernina 350 SE Best Friend sewing machine availability, call Hale at 734-641-4970 or visit bitsnpieces.net.

Spay and neuter

The Humane Society of Huron Valley is offering \$20 spay surgeries for up to 150 female cats this month through the "Beat the Heat" campaign sponsored by Pet-Smart Charities.

The idea is to spay cats in

advance of their heat cycles and prevent unwanted litters from being born this spring. Spaying and neutering is safe for kittens as young as 8-10 weeks, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Mention the "Beat the Heat" campaign when scheduling an appointment to get the reduced spay surgery price. Cats must be up to date on their vaccines. If needed, they'll be given at an additional charge.

Visit hshv.org/clinic or call 734-662-4365.

sdargay@hometownlife.com
Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

Handbell ensembles move, ring in sync at BronzeFest

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Imagine ringing one bell that's as round as a metal trash can and another that's as small as a thimble.

Add 78 bells of different sizes to fill that seven-octave stretch.

How would they sound? "In sync. We're the same thing. We're one instrument," said Darlene Ebersole, director of Classical Bells, a Livonia-based handbell music group.

"We have one of the largest sets of bells. We have 80 bells and almost that many chimes. We have ringers who can ring from a dozen big bells on the table. In the upper (octave) bells they usually have two bells in each hand.

"We get just so many notes and we're all a piece of that. You have to be in tune with everyone to do that."

That isn't so easy for beginning bell choirs, but Classical Bells, now in its 32nd season, consists of handbell ensemble directors and experienced musicians. The 15-member group includes flute players, piano teachers and percussionists who all love to ring bells.

The group has played with the Detroit Symphony, the Michigan Opera Theater and for Pope John Paul II's visit to Detroit.

"We rang once on a moving float in the Thanksgiving Day parade. We do some crazy things. You get a little seasick when you're standing on is moving," Ebersole said.



Members of Classical Bells perform during the 2014 BronzeFest.



Classical Bells rehearses at St. Matthews United Methodist Church in Livonia.



Classical Bells is Dave Hunsche (seated, left), Sue Minkus, Karen Thompson, Melanie Notestine Draper, Sally Spearin, Julie Douse-Angileri, Rebecca Rowan, Margie Moore, Kay French, Darlene Ebersole, director, (standing, left), Amy Clark, Darcie West, Heather Mills, Kayren Cross, and Judy Mellen.

Public concert

Classical Bells will be on solid footing — with six other handbell choirs on hand — at BronzeFest Invitational, a weekend workshop that culmi-

nates in a public performance at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

Classical Bells is hosting the event that will give advanced

handbell ensembles from Midland, Kalamazoo, Ohio and West Virginia the chance to work with Fred Gramman, a composer-arranger who is director of music and an organist at the American Church in

Paris, France.

"We love doing stuff like this because it makes you grow as a musician. It stretches you," Ebersole said.

BronzeFest, held biennially, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Ebersole said it's one of few gatherings that bring advanced ensembles together for practice and performance.

"We don't get to do mass ringing very often because we're not a church or school group. There are a lot of bell festivals with church and school groups, but when you put seven professional groups together, it's an amazing sound," Ebersole said. "The conductor is an incredible musician and he will get the ensembles to sound like one instrument magnified."

Sound, choreography

Participating ensembles each will perform a solo piece, in addition to playing together in one massive choir. Viewers may see more than just ringing by hand. Ebersole said handbell players have invented new techniques and pay close attention to their choreography as well as sound.

"It's not just malleting them on the table. It's taking a wooden stick and stirring it around the rim to make the bells sing. It's suspending the bells and playing them with mallets. There are a lot of techniques for bell."

She said Classical Bells has invented a few techniques of



Former race horses and a work horse spend some time outside the barn.

JOE GAGNON

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

The Appliance Doctor spends three days living with the Amish

The story begins last summer while driving a county road near Union City with my good friend, Bob Merchant, who owns the hardware store in town.

I was telling him of my great interest in the Amish way of life when he pulled into the driveway of a well-kept white house.



Joe Gagnon
THE APPLIANCE
DOCTOR

When we stepped out of the vehicle, a group of little kids surrounded us and the mother came out onto the porch and asked how she could help us. We conversed for a while and then I boldly came right out with the question: "Is it possible that I could spend three days living with you and I

would be willing to do whatever chores might be assigned?" A date was set for three days and nights.

The day I arrived, it was 2 degrees above zero. Armed with long underwear and gloves and boots and a Red Wings Alumni Carhartt jacket, I was ready. Let me tell you right now, it was the most beautiful visit of a lifetime. You just can't imagine the love and kindness that I felt in those three days. The grandparents who put me up live in an addition to the home that the son built when he purchased the farm two years ago. Between the two homes is a breezeway that has a propane gas range, a Maytag wringer washer and four large laundry tubs with a huge table and chairs.

The grandparents live alone and the son and his wife with four children live in the original home. Across the driveway is a huge barn with six horses in immaculate stalls. Two of these beautiful creatures are used to drive the buggies. Keep in mind, when you are driving down the highway and see these buggies on the side of the road, that the horses mostly are former racers. There is a huge shed which contains a storage area for the buggies and a large workshop with another smaller shed they call the chicken coup. I quickly became an expert in that subject. There is another penned-in area where they keep piglets, raising them for a year and readying them for a dinner table. Needless to say, ham is a favorite meal.

Everyone works

There are many Amish families in the area and all play and pray by the same rules. No electricity in the homes, no telephones in their pockets, with a land line allowed in the barn connected to an answering machine. They make their own clothes, which are solid colors, and wear these little bonnets that remind me of the nuns who taught me in the old days.

The men do not farm, except what they need from their small acreage for their homes, because they work every day at factories that produce small and large campers. The two men in this family are up at 4 a.m. to



JOE GAGNON

The wringer washer is in full agitation cycle, filled with homemade detergent made of lye, rendered tallow, ammonia, white sugar, borax and water.



JOE GAGNON

A steam iron that uses white gas has a temperature setting control and a face cover installed to prevent a shiny effect on the outside of men's pants.



The home's kitchen includes a large wood- and coal-burning range.

JOE GAGNON



The family's summer harvest is canned and used throughout the winter.

JOE GAGNON



Clothing hangs on a line outside the Amish home where Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor, spent three days learning about the family's lifestyle and appliances.

JOE GAGNON

feed the horses, no matter what temperature, sit for breakfast and leave for work when their driver picks them up at 4:30 a.m. sharp. It was a long day for the new guy by the time they arrived home at 4 p.m. The children arrived from school and each had certain chores to do before the dinner hour arrived. There is no slacking off for anyone.

There was a birthday celebration during one dinner, where three mothers, three husbands and eight children sat at the dinner table. The meal was out of this world, but most beautiful were the children participating with about 30 seconds each saying grace. It was all in German, which is their main language. Each person speaks perfect English, with a bit of an accent on some words.

Versatile stove

Bedtime arrives at 8:30 p.m., when the very beautiful and large wood-burning stove is filled with coal and banked for the night. The temperature inside is 88 degrees, but a cool 60 degrees when you get up at 4 a.m. Call it "sleep like a log." This huge kitchen stove is not only used to heat the place, but all cooking is done on and in this range. The top is a solid piece and clean as a whistle; bread is simply laid on it to give you the most evenly-browned toast imaginable. There is a long tray with a cover that you fill with water and leave open to provide humidity in the house and also a ready supply of hot water. It reminded me so much of growing up in northern Canada. Doing the wash brought back more memories.

The Amish are very religious and abide by ways that live up to their culture. They love to do it all their way. Their children are very well-behaved and very warm once they get to know you. Their clothing is immaculate and, let me tell you why. This family's wringer washer is old. This family's wringer washer, which is driven by a gasoline motor. The grandmother and I spent more than three hours doing the wash. We pre-soaked for a half hour, rinsed, placed it in the wringer washer, put it through the wringers and rinsed it all on clothes lines that run around the porch. I remind you, it was 6 degrees outside and the clothes froze quickly. Once that happened, they were brought inside to hang on lines throughout the house. I can attest to the fact that there is not one speck of any dirt on any item of clothes, just unbelievable.

Each night when we knelt down to pray, I thanked God for giving this opportunity to all of us as it opened all eyes to what is right and wrong in this world. It gave me a whole new perspective, which was so easy to feel, but hard to describe. Asked by a friend what I learned from this wonderful experience, I replied, "Keep it simple." Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. each Saturday on WAAM-AM (1600). You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Taste healthy foods, learn home exercise tips and get free health screenings at Heartland Health Care's annual heart health event.

It's free and runs from 2-4 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Heartland, 7025 N. Lilley, Canton.

"It will all be going on at the same time. There will be different stations and you can come through at your own pace," said Melissa Kersten, Heartland business development director.

Blood sugar and pressure screening will be available, along with body mass index assessments.

"We'll have cards to write it all down and take back to your physician."

The center's dietary department will demonstrate heart-healthy recipes and offer tastings. Its physical therapists will teach exercises for practice at home.

Heartland Health Care in Canton is a short-term rehabilitation facility, that helps patients transition from hospital to home after surgery, such as hip or knee replacement, or illness. Heartland Health Care, with locations nationwide, also offers skilled nursing facilities, assisted living residences, hospice and home health care.

Other health-related events:

Blood drive

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will hold a blood drive from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, in the North Auditorium of the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. To schedule an appointment, call 800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcross-blood.org. Walk-ins also are accepted.

Childbirth education

Expectant parents can learn about the stages of labor, relaxation and

breathing methods, strategies for managing discomfort, C-section deliveries, medications, anesthesia and more from 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, 9, 16, and 23 at Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills, 28050 Grand River Ave. The Childbirth Education Comprehensive Series costs \$75. Register by calling 248-888-2500 or visiting botsford.org.

Hearing Loss Association

Rick Boyce of Memtech Acoustical will present "Acoustic Noise Control" from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297 or email afe-rack@comcast.net.

Joint replacement

Learn about joint replacement procedures and implant options from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, 36154 Five Mile, Livonia. To register, call 734-655-2345.

Peripheral Arterial Disease

» Mohammed Abu-Mahfouz, M.D., and Mohamed Sobh, D.O., will discuss the guidelines for diagnosing, treating and managing PAD from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren, Westland. Attendees will receive a free screening certificate. Register at 734-458-4259.

» Enjoy a light lunch while vascular experts Nicole Kennedy, M.D., and Syed T. Ahsan, M.D., discuss peripheral artery disease from noon to 1 p.m. Feb. 22, in the demonstration kitchen at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, 6777 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. Peripheral artery disease (PAD), is a narrowing of the peripheral arteries to the legs,

stomach, arms, and head. PAD is similar to coronary artery disease. Register by calling 248-325-3890 or email dk@hfhs.org.

Women's heart health

The women's heart health conference starts at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, at the Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend, in downtown Birmingham. Session topics include stress reduction and integrative medicine, the power of positive self-talk, heart-healthy foods and recipes, the perils of sitting versus standing, and more. The conference will include exhibits, massage and an opportunity to talk with physicians and medical experts. Cost is \$25. Register at beaumont.edu/cardiology-conferences or call Shannon Herrington at 800-732-6368.

Ongoing

Ab-Anon

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

Amputee support

The Amputee Support Group meets from 2-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month in Classroom #1 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-2837 for more information.

Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Butterflies

Mark Hunter, University of Michigan professor, will talk about the current patterns and future problems for Monarch butterflies at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Free for members of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association; \$3 for non-members. 734-223-5510. sembutterfly.org

Livonia Garden Club

Cheryl English, Advanced Master Gardener and Master Composter, will talk about incorporating native plants into the garden at 7 p.m. March 1 at the Civic Center Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. English has almost 200 species of native plants and more than 50 varieties of clematis growing in her yard in Detroit. She owns Black Cat Pottery and will have pottery samples and note cards for sale at the meeting. For more information, visit livoniagardenclub.org or email lgcpresident@yahoo.com.

Valentine Day hike

Adults, age 18 and up, can take an evening hike from 8-9:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, through Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. A naturalist will lead the "Stroll with your Sweetheart" hike, while talking about courtship behaviors of the park's nocturnal animals. Hot



SUBMITTED

Find dendrobium orchids and other species at English Garden's 14th Annual Orchid Festival Feb. 20.

drinks and sweet treats will be available after the hike, along with an opportunity to win prizes. Cost is \$5 per person. Register at recreg.fhgov.com or at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call the park nature center at 248-477-1135 for more information.

Frogs

Friends of the Rouge seeks volunteers for its annual frog and toad survey. Surveys are conducted independently on warm evenings, after dark, several times each month from March-June. Potential volunteers must attend a training workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 27, at Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Register for the

workshop at therouge.org.

English Gardens

» 14th Annual Orchid Festival will include a free presentation, "Orchids 101," at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20. Make an orchid garden for \$24.99 at 2:30 p.m.. Sign up online.
» Learn the latest trends and tips for landscaping to increase your home's value, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27. Free. Classes are offered at all stores. Local stores are 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor; 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights; 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak; 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

BELLS

Continued from Page B5

its own and makes choreography a prominent part of its performance.

"We like to think of ourselves as the Rockettes," she said, with a

laugh. "Trying to make it look easy is important."

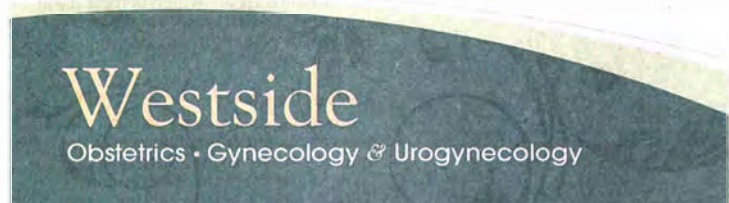
The group will play a new arrangement of *Singin' in the Rain* at BronzeFest.

"They'll be some rain stick and umbrella action," Ebersole noted. She doesn't want to reveal all about the piece, but hints at a twist in the choreog-

raphy. Think Gene Kelly meets handbell ringer.

Tickets to the BronzeFest concert are \$10 and will be available at the door. For more information, call 734-521-2525 or email info@classicalbells.com.

Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!



Women's Health Presentations

Dr. Paul Makela, urogynecologist, provides insight and education about a variety of female conditions including bladder dysfunction, overactive bladder and pelvic prolapse. Grab a friend, your sister or mom and learn about the latest therapies and procedures available that may help eliminate or reduce your symptoms or pain, and improve your quality of life. Attend any date!

February 24

March 16

St. Mary Mercy Livonia
Classrooms 1 & 2
36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia

5:45 p.m. - Check-in

6 p.m. - Presentation

REGISTER NOW!

Free of charge but registration is required. Please call 734-655-1980. Light refreshments will be served.

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



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Build a brand that sends the right message

BY DEANNA HARTLEY
CAREERBUILDER

It's nearly impossible to remain anonymous in today's connected world. The rise of the Internet and social media has had a profound impact on how we ought to conduct ourselves in the public eye — which extends to the job search as well.

Here are five tips to help you build and maintain your personal brand.

1. Identify your brand.

In today's digital age, you already have a brand, whether you like it or not. Do some research to find out what that is.

"Google yourself (and) see what your potential employers see," says Darius Fisher, president and co-founder of Status Labs, an online-reputation management firm. "Search yourself and analyze what shows up online. Anything you want to improve? Immediately tackle and correct areas of vulnerability."

"It's natural to be concerned with negative publicity or unflattering photos, but be equally concerned if nothing shows up in your search results," he adds. "If you have no digital footprint, create one today."

2. Be authentic.

It's important to be yourself, or people will see right through you. "Be authentic in all communications. Be likable and someone your audience can relate to," says Trish McDermott, co-founder of Panic Media Training. "When thinking in terms of your personal brand, you must first



THINKSTOCK

be authentic with yourself."

Lida Citroën, owner of reputation-management company LIDA360, echoes that sentiment. "Strive for consistency in building a reputation that's authentic and compelling," she says. "Be the same person online as in person, stay authentic and relevant, and build your reputation over time to achieve your desired brand."

3. Add value on social media.

Ross Simmonds, a strategist and entrepreneur who co-founded Crate content marketing software and the Hustle + Grind subscription service, suggests leveraging social media to drive awareness to your personal brand.

"It's very important for individuals looking to build their personal brands

to be consistent in telling their story," he says. "You need to identify the channels — Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat — that you want to use as your primary channel for communication, and be consistent in adding value in that space."

4. Start a website or blog.

It may seem intimidating or tedious, but a website or blog is a great way to control your messaging while showing off your interests and areas of expertise.

"Start a blog based on a passion or hobby or something having to do with your career," says Jennifer Krosche, president and founder of Blue Frog Communications. "For instance, if you are an HR person, you can write about connections and helping people, or if

you are (an) accountant, you can write about tax tips and deduction; or if you are a nurse, maybe a blog on health and wellness."

Regardless of the avenue, what's important is to put yourself out there. "Whether through blogging, podcasting, creating videos or self-publishing a book, if you can find a way to share your ideas publicly, it reduces the risk for employers to hire you because they already will have a sense of who you are and whether you'd be a good fit for the organization," says Dorie Clark, an adjunct professor at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and the author of "Reinventing You" and "Stand Out."

5. Don't be afraid to show your personality.

While you should be letting your professional side out for the world to see, it's equally important to show a little personality.

"If you love travel, you may want to have pictures of the places you have gone or want to go; if you are athletic, maybe posts of fitness and health; and if you are focused on goals, maybe inspirational quotes, books you are reading and workshops you attend," Krosche says. "Whatever your hobbies, you should communicate those in a positive and fun manner to let people get to know the real you as well as the professional you."

Deanna Hartley is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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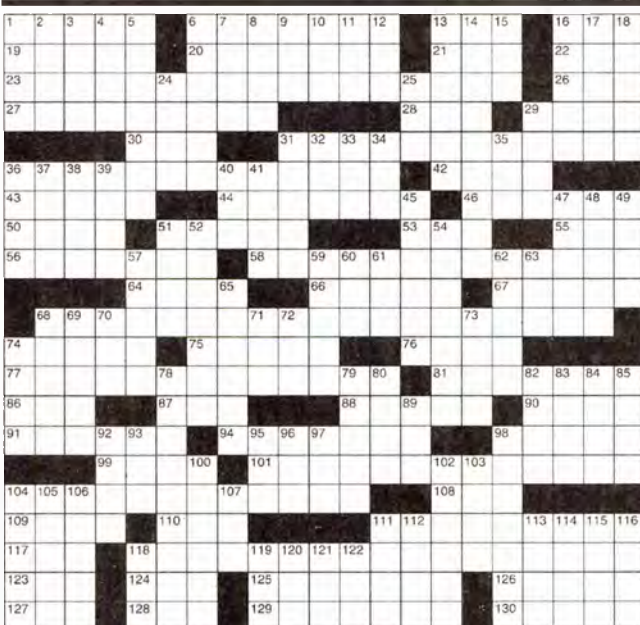
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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER



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- ACROSS**
- 1 Flynn of old films
 - 6 Hardly subtle
 - 13 Census datum
 - 16 Actor Belushi
 - 19 Prime
 - 20 Its capital is Bucharest
 - 21 Install, as tile
 - 22 Prefix with polar
 - 23 Old directory-assistance request, in Belmopan?
 - 26 Pan coverer
 - 27 Vitamins, e.g.
 - 28 "...-haw!"
 - 29 Ale barrels
 - 30 Caesar of 1950s TV
 - 31 Add an inducement, in Stockholm?
 - 36 Rock band staple, in Doha?
 - 42 Galaxy unit
 - 43 Steelmaking pieces
 - 44 Divided-skirt garment
 - 46 Really anger — facto
 - 50 — facto
 - 51 In the vicinity
 - 53 Early TV comic Louis
 - 55 Contemptible
 - 56 Alternative to GPS
 - 58 Tart pie topping, in Sanaa?
 - 64 "Break —!" ("Do well!")
 - 66 Duo
 - 67 Gets closed to
 - 68 Dependents expecting meals, in Budapest?
 - 74 Mortise's counterpart
 - 75 Full-speed, archaically
 - 76 Place to live
 - 77 Really tough puzzle, in Manana?
 - 81 Like Bach's music
 - 86 Paul's "Exodus" role
 - 87 RR building
 - 88 Less effectual
 - 90 — lang syne
 - 91 Hip-hop artist
 - 94 Bona fide
 - 98 Radiate
 - 99 Jai —
 - 101 Hand over a duty, in Thimphu?
 - 104 Beach Boys hit, in Kigali?
 - 108 Will be now?
 - 109 Locality
 - 110 Lav, in Bath
 - 111 Promise
 - 117 Deli salmon
 - 118 Orwell novel, in Port-au-Prince?
 - 123 Sch. URL ender
 - 124 Sporty truck, briefly
 - 125 Norm
 - 126 Ornamental ruffie
 - 127 "You're Wass"
 - 128 Actor Wass
 - 129 Argue in too much detail
 - 130 Long suit
 - 9 Lao-tzu's universal
 - 10 Journalist Curry
 - 11 Pen tip
 - 12 — kwon do
 - 13 Vulcans, e.g.
 - 14 Dictionary of geography
 - 15 Needle hole
 - 16 Kentucky Derby drink
 - 17 — Montoya ("The Princess Bride" swordsman)
 - 18 Center
 - 24 Israeli leader
 - 25 Soap stuff
 - 29 Deborah of "The King and I"
 - 31 La — (Philadelphia university)
 - 32 Intl. commerce group
 - 33 Munch on
 - 34 Gere little role of 2000
 - 35 Fictional Solo
 - 36 Arabian ruler
 - 37 Lead in to suction
 - 38 Snow queen in "Frozen"
 - 39 Blockhead
 - 40 300, to Livy
 - 41 Pier
 - 45 Tangle up
 - 47 Pond flora
 - 48 Melon, e.g.
 - 49 Lea females
 - 51 "Tra"
 - 52 Producing an effect
 - 54 So-far nonexist-in
 - 57 Carta lead-in
 - 59 Eurerst, e.g.
 - 60 Outer: Prefix
 - 61 High degree
 - 62 Conclude
 - 63 Premortally named
 - 65 Duffel with workout gear, maybe
 - 68 "You could — pin drop"
 - 69 Far from cool
 - 70 "... any drop to drink"
 - 71 Egyptian — (spotted cat breed)
 - 72 Grafton's — for "Outlaw"
 - 73 Sharif of film
 - 74 Ski lift type
 - 78 Manna eater
 - 79 Donovan of "Clueless"
 - 80 Speak wildly
 - 82 Waikiki site
 - 83 Cease
 - 84 Arm bone
 - 85 Early utopia
 - 89 "I'm not impressed"
 - 92 The old man
 - 93 Samara-dropping tree
 - 95 Indian gp.
 - 96 Green bread
 - 97 Amer. money
 - 98 County officer
 - 100 Pressed
 - 102 Less difficult
 - 103 Very dry, as champagne
 - 104 Bill — and His Comets
 - 105 Whiffle away
 - 106 Inimitable rival
 - 107 Adversity
 - 111 Starbuck's captain
 - 112 Pudding starch
 - 113 '60s hairdo
 - 114 Dark genre
 - 115 Unorthodox sect
 - 116 — Stanley Gardner
 - 118 Brazil —
 - 119 Bistro check
 - 120 Cain raiser
 - 121 Silthery fish
 - 122 Pro-gun gp.
- DOWN**
- 1 Land o' leprechauns
 - 2 Bausch & Lomb brand
 - 3 Balsa floater
 - 4 Sign of rot
 - 5 Greek harp players of old
 - 6 Chastain of women's soccer
 - 7 Pol Trent
 - 8 Gallic pals

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		4		5	2	1	
9					7		8
	3		9				7
	4				5		8
		6		3			5
8			2			4	

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	9	4	1	2	3	5	8
5	2	2	8	3	7	9	6
1	8	5	5	6	9	2	7
9	2	2	2	1	6	8	2
8	2	2	2	9	5	9	1
5	6	1	2	5	8	7	9
2	1	6	3	8	5	2	7
2	3	8	9	7	1	6	2
4	5	9	6	2	1	7	3

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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Crossword Answers

ERROU BLATANT AGE JIM
READY BOMANIALA PUNI
INFORMATIONBELLETTID
NUTRIENTS SWEDENTHERPOT
ELECTRICOATAR STAR
MILLS CULOTTE ENRAGE
TIPSO LOCAL NYE LOW
ROADMAP YEMENMERINQUE
ALEG OCTET NEARS
HUNGARYMOUTHSTOFEED
TENORAMAIN HOME
BAMBIANBUSTER BAROQUE
ART STALAMER AULD
RAPPER GENUINE SHINE
ALAI PASSTHEBUTAN
HELPERWANDA ARE
AREA LOO ASSURANCE
LOX NINEENHAIITIFOUR
EDUTE AVERAGE FRILL
YES TED BELABOR FORTE

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