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**Local school boards
concerned about DeVos**



CHIP SOMODEVILLA | GETTY IMAGES

Betsy DeVos, President Donald Trump's pick to be the next secretary of education, prepares to testify during her confirmation hearing before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. DeVos is known for her advocacy of school choice and education voucher programs.

Members urged to protest appointment

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

The East Lansing Board of Education earlier this week passed a motion urging U.S. senators to vote "no" on the confirmation of Betsy DeVos as the Trump administration's nominee for secretary of education.

Canton resident Jason Kaye thinks the Plymouth-Canton

Board of Education should do the same.

Kaye, a consistent presence at P-CCS board meetings and on local school issues, suggested the board pass a similar motion and provided board members with copies of the exact motion East Lansing passed. He said passing such a motion would allow the board to "truly lead and protect the best interests of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools."

"In times like these, it's important for educational leaders lead, to accept the

difficult challenge to take unpleasant conflict head-on," Kaye told board members. "This is why you were elected. This is why I voted for you."

Kaye's comments drew loud applause from educators and parents in the room.

The East Lansing board passed its motion 6-1; according to a story posted at East Lansing Info, Trustee Kate Powers abstained, citing her work with organizations in the Grand Rapids area, including

See DEVOS, Page A3

**Westland
area women
offer their
Warm Hearts
for moms**

Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Carol Sharp is all about creating "aha" moments.

While dictionaries may define "aha" moments as a time of sudden realization, inspiration or insight, the definition for Sharp is all of this and more.

"Everyone has self-doubt at some point; it is human nature. The 'aha' moment is the moment when it all comes together for you and you can say to yourself, 'I've got this' or 'I can do this,'" said the 74-year-old Westland resident.

It is exactly the type of moment — and message — that Sharp is trying to create for new and expectant mothers facing difficult circumstances.

Sharp and the Warm Hearts — a group of volunteers founded in 2001 with 12 members and now numbers close to 30 — are the women behind "You are the Magic" baby showers, a free event for mothers-to-be in need of some extra assistance.

Open to new and expectant mothers of all ages, the events provide simple necessities such as diaper bags, quilts, receiving blankets and burp cloths, all hand-made by the volunteers. Each shower hosts between 35-50 attendees, and donated, gently used baby equipment is provided.

The showers also provide something even more valuable: education.

While the accouterments of new motherhood are much needed, so, too, are the parenting tips and lessons that have become the focal point of the events. Each four-hour shower features a continental breakfast, a lunch and four educational breakout sessions focused on themes including breastfeeding and nutrition; positive parenting, sleeping baby safety and brain development.

Volunteers from within the group and across the community, including retired school teachers, a social worker, professionals from Wayne County and more serve as instructors during the event, sharing essential and practical knowledge on infant and child care.

"They are very comprehensive and cover so many important topics," said Westland resident Don Osterwind, president of the Westland Rotary, whose group recently awarded the Warm Hearts a \$5,000

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elizabeth Lilley, 14, of Farmington and Ella Dolowy, 17, of Plymouth are ready to board the bus for Washington, D.C. They are students at St. Catherine of Siena Academy in Wixom.

**DOZENS HEAD FROM LIVONIA
TO MARCH FOR LIFE IN D.C.**

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Elizabeth Lilley is hoping this year's experience at the March for Life event in Washington, D.C., goes a little bit smoother than last year.

The student at St. Catherine of Siena Academy in Wixom said a large snowstorm last year abbreviated their experience, something, she said Thursday night, she hopes doesn't happen this year.

"We didn't actually get to march in the march. We walked up the sidewalk beside them because we had to get out of the city because of the snowstorm," the 14-year-old Farmington girl said. "So then we actually ended up getting stranded in Pennsylvania and stayed, like, three nights at a motel."

Lilley was just one of dozens of young people who left Thursday night on several buses from Madonna University in Livonia to head to the annual anti-abortion march, which was scheduled to take place Friday, held each year in late January around the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision that declared a woman's right to an abortion.

This year's march was scheduled to feature Vice President Mike Pence, New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan and Kellyanne Conway, a White House adviser and former campaign manager for Donald Trump. The buses were sent as part of Right to Life-LIFESPAN, a Livonia-based organization which advocates for anti-abortion policies.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Trip organizer Christina Hansen of Right To Life-LIFESPAN in Livonia, settling last-minute details.

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HEARTS

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grant. "By helping the mother they are helping the child. They cover a wide-range of topics that you don't always read about. They are really making a remarkable impact on children's lives," Osterwind said.

Osterwind said that information provided on topics such as infant and childhood nutrition and the dangers of letting an infant sleep in your bed are both valuable and relevant.

Statistics seem to concur: the most recent data from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services indicates infant mortality rates for Wayne County are among the highest in the state.

Sharp said the group was inspired to hold the baby showers after donating handmade quilts and blankets to the Detroit-based Coalition for Temporary Shelter and



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Carol Sharp, in foreground, and her crew of volunteers: Peggy Knivila, Linda Cielieska, Susan Parker, and Brenda Borrusch. All are residents of Westland, except Cielieska, who resides in Dearborn. The cavernous warehouse space is donated to the group.

other area charities.

After sewing and knitting baby blankets for a few years, the women began to recognize the growing need within the community and decided to take their outreach one step further, approaching the Wayne Westland Salvation Army about using space within their build-

ing to hold the events.

"We felt we needed to expand and provide more help. We noticed that these mothers seemed to be hungering for information," she said.

Since its inception 16 years ago, the group has held 23 baby showers, including nine in Detroit and one in Dearborn.

"You are the magic that makes it happen" is the theme of each shower, and Sharp underscores the sentiment by presenting each of the attendees with a wash cloth embroidered with those words to serve as a daily reminder.

Designed to both inform and empower the moms, each shower is carefully planned, Sharp said. In addition to the embroidered washcloths, messages of hope and inspiration such as "Knowledge is Power," "Believe, believe, believe" and "When God made you he was just showing off" are embroidered on the blankets.

"These are the important thoughts that can carry you through for a week, a month and even a year," she said, "and these events are designed specifically for the mother."

Attendees come alone to the showers, without other children, friends or spouses, so that they are

able to focus, she said.

"Being a mother is one of the most important jobs in the world, and we want to make sure that we can provide as many tools as possible to help them do their job successfully," said Sharp, who along with her husband, Ken, has lived in the city of Westland for 51 years.

As the mother of four, grandmother of 13 and great-grandmother of eight, Sharp certainly knew about raising children.

"It isn't easy to raise children; they don't come with rule books. If you don't know what you are doing, your comfort level drops," she added.

Sharp also knew a thing or two about nurturing hungry minds. "I really do believe that knowledge is power. These mothers hold the future in their hands, and they are all so excited about learning how to be a good mom. We are trying to arm these women with the knowledge they need to tackle the job ahead, and think we accomplish that."

"We always know it is a success because when we begin, everyone is very quiet, keeping to themselves. By the time the sessions are over, they are all chatting



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Linda Cielieska's husband Bob knits the hats. Linda makes the booties.

about what they have learned and it is hard to get a word in over the crowd," she said, "These truly are the 'aha' moments. It doesn't matter what age you have them: whether you are 14 or 40 ... as long as you have them."

Sharp is not the only who believes the one who believes that the showers are a success.

Paul Motz, director of Youth Assistance for the city of Westland said the mission of the group is very valuable.

"This event puts a happy perspective on what can be a difficult situation," he said. "It is helpful for the mother, and it is helpful for the baby as well."

Sharp believes it is also helpful for the volunteers themselves, who truly enjoy and value the opportunity to give back to their community.

Sharp cited the example of an 84-year-old volunteer who sews 100 over-sized tote bags to serve as diaper bags each year. She not only provides a much-needed

staple for new mothers, she provides encouragement for the tough job ahead.

"At one of our showers, we introduced her to the mothers and had her come up on stage and they applauded her. When someone asked her what she does it, she stood up, raised her arms in the air and said, 'because I love them all.' It was truly magical."

Although the Warm Hearts began as a group of women talented in sewing and other needle arts, the group has expanded to include many others that simply want to help. In addition to the baby showers, the Warm Hearts also participates in many other charitable events throughout the year.

The next baby shower is scheduled for April 1. The Warm Hearts group is currently collecting new and gently used Beanie Babies and baby equipment as well as children's books. If you are interested in donating, call Carol Sharp at 734-674-8680.

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Special Observer & Eccentric Reader Offer 2016 Should Be Your Last Year with Back Pain and Sciatica



By: Sam Potter
Health Correspondent

IF YOU suffer from low back pain and sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the USA with this often crippling spinal condition.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all symptoms of a pinched nerves often called "sciatica".

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting, numbness and constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

That is, until now...

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Livonia, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at the Kramer Chiropractic – the office low back pain and sciatica relief expert Dr. Gregory Kramer.

Gregory and his team of fully trained spinal care specialists have helped over 3,000 patients find relief from their agonising spine based problems.

According to Gregory, "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Livonia, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique programme for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

Patient Sister Marie from Dearborn says,

"I could not walk, stand, sit, work, sleep for 7 or 8 months!

I was given various drugs but many I was allergic to and the others only lasted a hour and then pain returns again.

Dr. Kramer has restored my health and allowed me to work and live healthy!

Thank god I called your number It's like a miracle to me.

Your invitation for a comprehensive consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your low back pain and sciatica...

The Observer&Eccentric has teamed up with the spine therapy specialists at Kramer Chiropractic, to help readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

All you have to do to receive a thorough diagnostic examination with the most advanced technology in the world and a comprehensive easy to understand report on your state of health is call 248-615-1533.

Mention this article (CODE: BOS37SCID5) and Greg will happily reduce his usual consultation fee of \$195 to just \$37. But hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer – with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Greg and his team now by calling 248-615-1533, they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.

That's why hundreds of grateful patients tell them "You gave me back my life!"

Over the years, they've treated thousands of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who've suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$37, the normal cost of such an exam is \$195 so you will save \$158!

Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

Call them now on 248-615-1533 and cut out or tear off this valuable article now and take it to your appointment. You'll be entitled to a comprehensive examination to diagnose the cause of your problem – and you'll be on your way to safe, lasting relief! Don't delay your important diagnosis and treatment another moment!

You can even call on the weekend and leave a message on their answer machine to secure your spot as they promise to return all calls; and during the week they are very busy, so if they don't pick up straight away do leave a message.

All Federal Guidelines Are Followed



Sciatica Relief Expert Greg Kramer, says: In 20 years of practice, I've never seen a treatment as effective as Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care for patients with sciatica or lower back pain.



The buses will soon depart from the parking lot at Madonna University. They will be back Sunday morning.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Dad and chaperone Jimie Miller of Livonia prepares to load provisions for the trip on the bus. His son Josh Miller, 12, and Mark Paul Vallespir, 13, of Northville, will ride to the march.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MARCH

Continued from Page A1

Christina Hansen, who works at the Right to Life-LIFESPAN office in Livonia and was headed to Washington as well, said the march is important, as she said one-third of her generation was "killed" by abortion. It's exciting for her to see so many young people energized about the topic and the desire to march on Washington, especially with all the political activity on the National Mall this past

week that included the inauguration of President Donald Trump and the Women's March the day after.

'Kids seem really excited'

"The kids seem really excited when I've been talking to them," she said. "Especially the millennials, they tend to be very aware of things, as we saw with the women's march just the other day."

She said several hundred people from metro Detroit, including another several buses from Troy in addition to the

Livonia meeting spot, planned on heading to the capital for the March for Life.

The buses that left the Madonna University parking lot planned on driving all night Thursday before arriving Friday for the march, participating Friday on the National Mall and staying in D.C. another day before driving all night Saturday and returning Sunday morning to Michigan.

Mark Paul Vallespir, a 13-year-old Northville student who attends Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Plymouth, said

he didn't get a chance to go last year because of the snow, but he's excited to head out this year.

He said he's looking forward to seeing the wide array of people both marching and protesting the march. But he hasn't lost his vision of why he's going to Washington, either.

"It's going to be fun, but also standing for life," he said.

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Fourteen-year-old Annie Herrmann of Livonia stows her gear. Claudia Sandoval (left) of Wixom will load hers before boarding. Both are St. Catherine of Siena Academy students.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DEVOS

Continued from Page A1

the DeVos family business, Amway.

The Plymouth-Canton board took no action on Kaye's suggestion and likely won't before DeVos's expected committee vote Tuesday. Members could, however, consider such a motion before DeVos's confirmation before the full Senate, although that seems equally unlikely at this point.

That doesn't mean

board members aren't concerned.

"The role of the Board of Education is always to advocate for what is best for the students and the district we serve," board President Kim Crouch said. "As a board, it is important we remain focused on specific policy and any potential impact on our students and district. We will be very vigilant and closely monitoring any federal, state and local policies that affect ... the education of our students."

DeVos, the Grand Rapids billionaire who

advocates for school vouchers and charter schools, had her confirmation hearing earlier this month. Her performance at that hearing raised eyebrows, with some observers on both sides of the political aisle saying she seemed unprepared.

Michigan Sens. Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow have both spoken out against DeVos's nomination.

Farmington

No other local districts are considering a motion opposing DeVos's

appointment, either. In Farmington, Board of Education President Jessica Cummings said she found the notion of a motion "interesting," but that nobody has approached her with the suggestion.

She admitted to concerns about DeVos, but said Farmington has had its own issues lately. The district has voted to close schools, is shifting its STEAM school from Highmeadow Elementary to Dunckel Middle School, is still without a contract for its teachers and has other budget

issues.

"I've had conversations about (DeVos) with some board members," Cummings said. "The board has been focused on important matters we've been handling in our own district. We've had a lot on our plate."

Livonia

The Livonia Board of Education also will likely not entertain such a motion, but that doesn't mean board members aren't concerned. Board President Colleen Burton said while there hasn't been a motion suggested,

conversations have taken place between board members and legislators.

"We regularly contact our legislators on education issues. ... It's a good idea to express opinions to those in charge," Burton said. "Members are contacting our legislators individually. It's more advantageous to have direct conversations. That's the most effective way."

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The Beast (Jayce Elmore) attacks Gaston (Shawn Kinsey).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Plates, singing their song, are Aubrianna Hodge, Cypreanna Kinzel, Brooklyn Fisher, Hannah McKellar, Samantha Martin and Mariah Ashby.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dancers Addison Chionn, Malorie Nofzinger, Katie Lyle, Savannah Holland, Emily Keefer, Cloey Samples and Aveleen Harvey rehearse a number.

'Beauty' meets 'Beast' on Wayne Memorial stage

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

Belle meets beast next week when the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Children's Drama club brings "Beauty and the Beast" to the stage at Wayne Memorial High School.

The club will perform the Disney classic at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, and again at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4.

The club, which currently has some 60 kids in first- through eighth-grade, held auditions in September and started rehearsals shortly after that. Director Anne McKolay said the actors can't wait to hit the stage.

"It's a Disney story, so the music is good," said McKolay, a kindergarten teacher at Schweitzer Elementary School. "The kids are familiar with it. They're very excited."

It's the club's one play of the year. All 60 kids get to have a hand in the show because McKolay doesn't like to exclude anyone who's putting in the time to be part of it.

"We don't do any cuts," McKolay said. "If you make the commitment, you're in. As long as you can be there, we'll find something for you to do."

McKolay, who also works frequently with



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Directors of "Beauty and the Beast" are Anne McKolay, Jennifer Blair, Jeremy Falsetti and Jenny Sexton.

the Howell Community Center, borrowed costumes from there and from Hartland High School. She, two assistant directors and three teachers — all volunteers — have been preparing the actors for opening night. The play is about twice as long as the nor-

mal half-hour show the kids are used to, which has made rehearsals challenging.

"Remembering their lines is the biggest challenge," McKolay said. "This is a junior production, so it's (an hour long) show, and there are so many musical numbers.

But we have amazing talent (in the cast). They'll be ready."

Tickets are \$3 and only available at the door. Wayne Memorial is located at 3001 Fourth St. in Wayne.

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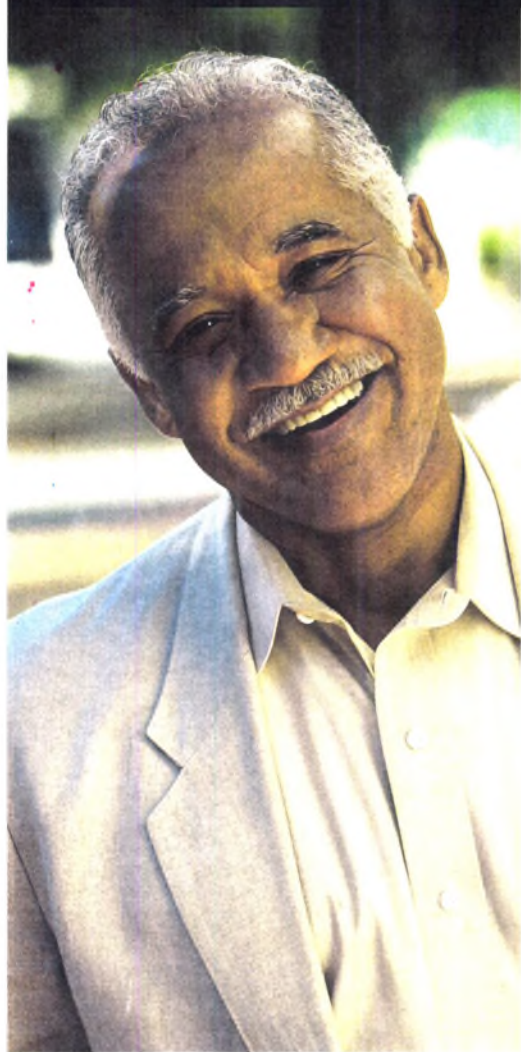
BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Jennifer Holland, director Anne McKolay and Angelina Williams help Alexis Robertson, who plays Belle, get ready for the rehearsal.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Belle (Alexis Robertson) and The Beast (Jayce Elmore) dance the night away.

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Young Inventors showcase ideas in contest

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

A fear of needles led Jillian Downey to think of an idea to conceal them.

That idea was enough to earn her second place in the annual Young Inventors contest, held among middle school students in the Livonia Public Schools, Clarenceville Community Schools and Wayne-Westland Community Schools districts.

The idea is to conceal a shot given to a child, hiding the syringe in a case that looks like a small animal such as a frog, bird or chameleon.

"It would basically have a hollow cylinder in the middle, so you can basically slip it over the needle," said Jillian, an eighth-grader at Stevenson Middle School in Westland. "You can slide it back when you actually give the shot, so you can actually use the needle."

The contest this year took place across the six middle schools, which included Franklin and Stevenson middle schools in the Wayne-Westland district for the first time. The contest is designed to encourage students to think of an idea that could be useful and create a concept board describing the idea. The top students from the six middle schools were invited to the Young Inventors Banquet Showcase, which took place Tuesday night at VisTa-Tech Center at Livonia's Schoolcraft College.

The overall winner of the competition was Franklin Middle School's Steven Smith, who designed a toothbrush that contained some toothpaste that would emerge from the handle onto the brushes. Sharing third place was Emerson Mid-



The young inventors gather for a group portrait.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

dle School student Ryan Taylor, who came up with an earpiece that could translate foreign languages into someone's ear; and Frost Middle School's Danny Jakubowski, who came up with a device that could quickly scan food items and detect for allergens in foods.

Growing in number

Chuck Dardas, the COO at Livonia's AlphaUSA who helps oversee the contest, said adding the two Wayne-Westland middle schools was a great addition and increased the submissions to more than 600 this year.

"I'd like to get to 1,000," he said.

It's his goal to try to incorporate more area schools into the contest in the coming years as well, bringing the program to places such as Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

The inventions ranged from lifesaving measures to inventions to help with health. But some were invented to help out the students' peers. One such invention was the Capener, thought up by Emerson Middle School student Eric Polzin.

The invention would place a cap on the tip of a pencil that would allow

him to sharpen a pencil at his desk and not have to get up during class. The eighth-grader, who lives in Westland, said the idea dawned on him during a test in one of his classes.

"One day, I was taking

a test and I kept breaking my pencil. And I had to get a sharpener, but she doesn't let me sharpen my pencil during a test," he said. "I thought I could just make something that I could just put on and if

it breaks, I can just sharpen it. I don't have to take it off or nothing."

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City of Livonia – 11/02/2016 Regular Meeting Synopsis

Present: Meakin, Kritzman, Jolly, White, Bahr, and McIntyre
Absent: Brosnan.

Items were received and filed.

- #407-16 Approving minutes of the 1,811th Regular Meeting of the Council on October 17, 2016.
- #408-16 Refer subject matter of regulating advertisements delivered to residential homes, to the Department of Law for its report and recommendation.
- #409-16 Approve reappointment of Michael Paul Condon to the Livonia Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a term of three years.
- #410-16 Accepting bid from Tel Systems, for completing all work required in connection with the renovation and upgrade of the computer and audio/visual equipment in the Livonia Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- #411-16 Approving request to extend the Sublease Agreement between the City of Livonia and the Livonia Public Schools School District for the gymnastic area at the Livonia Community Recreation Center for the period July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017. (CR 325-07)
- #412-16 Authorizing the City Clerk to execute a Modification of Sub-Contractor Agreement between the Conference of Western Wayne and the City of Livonia, extending the contract for the period October 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017, and will provide that the County of Wayne will reimburse the City of Livonia for Youth Assistance Program costs in the amount of \$10,439.00
- #413-16 Accepting the bids of VTP for the installation of equipment and training of staff in connection with the video equipment upgrade of the auditorium control room in the amount of \$14,400.00, and MAS Electrical Services, Inc., for materials and labor necessary to install and complete electrical work necessary for upgrades to the auditorium in the amount of \$2,240.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$16,640.00. (CR 349-16)
- #414-16 Authorizing purchase of one (1) Thompson Pump, to replace a current pump, utilizing the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) pricing, at a total cost not to exceed \$61,065.00; FURTHER, authorizing disposal of the replacement pump at public auction after receipt of the new pump.
- #415-16 Authorizing the release to Cade Meadows, LLC, the financial assurances previously deposited pursuant to Council Resolution 339-15, adopted on November 4, 2015, specifically: (CR 339-15)
- #416-16 Authorizing the release to Leo Soave Building Company, Inc., the financial assurances previously deposited pursuant to Council Resolution 296-14, adopted on October 6, 2014, specifically: (CR 296-14)
- #417-16 Approving Petition 2016-09-02-16, requesting waiver use approval to construct and operate a credit union with drive-thru facilities (Zeal Credit Union) located at 15950 Middlebelt Road, subject to conditions.
- #418-16 Waiving the twelve foot (12') width requirement, to allow for a minimum nine-foot six inches (9'-6") width for the drive-up lanes and the bypass lane for drive-thru traffic. (Petition 2016-09-02-16)
- #419-16 Approving Petition 2016-09-02-17, requesting waiver use approval to operate a limited service restaurant (Jersey Mike's Subs) within a multi-tenant retail building located at 13215 Middlebelt Road, subject to conditions.
- #420-16 Approving Right-of-Access Agreement between the City of Livonia and Consumers Energy Company granting Consumers Energy temporary permission to enter the portion of Wilson Barn property located at 29359 West Chicago for the period November 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.
- #421-16 Determining to take no further action regarding the matter of an update on the status of the Community Recreation Center from the administration. (CR 33-08)
- #422-16 Determining to take no further action regarding Petition 2002-02-02-04 submitted by Chinese Gospel Church, requesting to modify Council Resolution No. 224-02 in connection with a previously approved waiver use adopted on April 24, 2002. (CR 327-16)
- #423-16 Approving the purchase agreement and purchase agreement addendum, dated September 8, 2016, between the City of Livonia, as purchaser, and Benjamin Crabill, Trustee of Crabill and Company Trust, as seller (the "purchase agreement"), as well as the second addendum dated October 20, 2016, and authorizing the Department of Law to acquire said property, subject to conditions set forth in the Purchase Agreement, including that the purchase price shall be the sum of \$999,990.00; FURTHER, that the Department of Public Works will return to Council for the approval process for the construction costs at the new facility and other master plan improvements.
- #424-16 Determining to take no further action regarding a proposed amendment to the City's solicitation ordinance to include a "Do Not Knock Registry". President McIntyre passed the gavel to Vice-President Kritzman and stepped down from the podium at 7:43 p.m. to avoid any perceived conflict of interest on the following item.
- #425-16 Approving the reappointment of Kathleen McIntyre to the Livonia Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a term of three years. President McIntyre returned to the podium at 7:44 p.m.
- #426-16 Referring the subject of rezoning the property at 33233 Five Mile Road to the Planning Commission for its report and recommendation.
- #427-16 Referring the matter of Petition 2016-08-08-12, in connection with a proposal to remodel the exterior of one of the units at the Brickshire Square Retail Plaza located at 29102 Five Mile Road to the Committee of the Whole for its report and recommendation.
- #428-16 Accepting the quit claim deed secured without monetary consideration from Leo Soave and Maria Soave, as part of the Adams Court Lot Split Development, in order to obtain the necessary road right-of-way in the Adams Court Development.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Full text of the official minutes are available in the Office of the City Clerk.

Susan M. Nash
Livonia City Clerk



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City of Livonia – 11/14/2016 Regular Meeting Synopsis

Present: Meakin, Kritzman, Jolly, White, Bahr, and McIntyre
Absent: Brosnan.

Items were received and filed.

- #429-16 Approving minutes of the 1,812th Regular Meeting of the Council on November 2, 2016.
- #430-16 Approving request to waive sidewalk requirement in front of the newly constructed home at 18316 Lathers Street.
- #431-16 Accepting bids of Library Design Associates, Inc., for performing all work required in connection with the carpet installation for the Alfred Noble Library and the Carl Sandburg Library and SCI Floor Covering, Inc., for performing all work required in connection with the carpet installation for the third floor of the Robert and Janet Bennett Civic Center Library.
- #432-16 Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk, for and on behalf of the City of Livonia, to execute the addendum to the Specialized Services Vehicle Agreement between the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) and the City of Livonia to cover three (3) 2016 Champion lift equipped buses which have been provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 Grant through SMART for the Livonia Community Transit Program.
- #433-16 Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a contract for the period December 1, 2016 to November 30, 2018, with York Risk Services Group, to provide the City with claims administrative services; FURTHER, authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to enter into a Contract for the period December 1, 2016 to November 30, 2018 with Midwest Employers Casualty Company, to provide the City with excess insurance coverage when losses from any one claim reach \$750,000.00, and the Director of Finance is hereby requested to do all other things necessary or incidental to the full performance of this resolution.
- #434-16 Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a contract with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA), for the period December 1, 2016 to November 30, 2017, for the City's Liability and Property Insurance coverage and for the period December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018, with a premium increase to be based upon reinsurance increases incurred by MMRMA in 2017, not to exceed eight percent (8%); and the Director of Finance is hereby requested to do all other things necessary or incidental to the full performance of this resolution.
- #435-16 Authorizing the City Engineer acting as the Street Administrator to apply to the Michigan Department of Transportation for the inclusion of said streets in the City's local street system for purposed of computing the City's share of Act 51 revenues.
- #436-16 Approving the establishment of improvement bonds to assure the installation of public improvements at Washington Park Site Condominiums, located on the southwest corner of Hix and Ann Arbor Roads (former Washington Elementary School site), in the Southwest ¼ of Section 31. (CR 151-16)
- #437-16 Approving Petition 2016-08-01-05, to rezone a portion of the property located at (38105 Plymouth Road) from C-1 (Local Business) to R-1 (One Family Residential) for preparation of the Ordinance for submission to Council and the City Planner is hereby instructed to cause the necessary map for publication to be prepared indicating the zoning change herein approved and to furnish the same to the Department of Law and, upon receipt of such map, the Department of Law is requested to prepare an ordinance amending Ordinance 543, as amended, in accordance with this resolution.
- #438-16 Approving Refunding and Contract between the City of Livonia and the Municipal Building Authority of Livonia to refinance the 2007 Municipal Building Authority Recreation Bonds to reduce future debt service obligations of the City.
- #439-16 Accepting a Grant of Easement executed by Scott Maxwell, General Manager for McLaren Performance Technologies, Inc., for a 10-foot wide public utility easement in connection with the sanitary sewer constructed at 32367 W. Eight Mile Road.
- #440-16 Accepting a Grant of Easement executed by Scott Maxwell, General Manager for McLaren Performance Technologies, Inc., for a 10-foot wide public utility easement in connection with the sanitary sewer constructed at 32205 W. Eight Mile Road.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Full text of the official minutes are available in the Office of the City Clerk.

Susan M. Nash
Livonia City Clerk

SCHOOLCRAFT NEWS BRIEFS

Foundation scholarships

Students may apply online for scholarships for the 2017-18 academic year beginning Feb. 1 and the improved application system makes it easier for students to apply.

According to Mary Holaly, scholarship coordinator for the Schoolcraft College Foundation, there are more than 130 different scholarships distributed by the foundation. Each scholarship has unique criteria and there are scholarships to fit the needs of most students based on their area of study, interests, academic success or ability to overcome hardships. Holaly said that these scholarships are invaluable because many students depend on them to help make it through school. The Schoolcraft College Foundation was able to distribute more than \$350,000 in scholarships to qualifying students in 2016-17.

Students who apply and qualify for the Schoolcraft College Foundation scholarships after Feb. 1 will be able to use the funds for the 2017-18 academic year. The online scholarship application is available at www.scf.schoolcraft.edu applying. For more information about the Schoolcraft College Foundation scholarships, call 734-462-4455. For information on other scholarship opportunities at Schoolcraft College, visit the Scholarships area at www.schoolcraft.edu/aid or call 734-462-4433.

Gourmet cuisine

The start of the winter semester at Schoolcraft College also means the opening of the award-winning American Harvest restaurant and its companion Main Street Cafe, offering gourmet cuisine prepared by students in the Culinary Arts program under the direction of three certified master chefs and three certified executive

chefs. The food at the American Harvest restaurant includes creative entrees, artisan breads, house-made charcuterie and French pastries, all artfully prepared by culinary arts students using classical techniques.

In addition, the adjoining Main Street Cafe offers gourmet "take out" cuisine prepared by second-year culinary students with a menu that changes weekly and includes such favorites as homemade soups, bread, pastries, salads, pastas, family-size entrees and cookies.

The American Harvest offers a breakfast buffet 8:30-9:30 a.m. each Thursday and Friday; lunch Tuesday through Friday, with seating beginning at noon; and a dinner buffet Thursday and Friday, with seating beginning at 5:30 p.m. For reservations, call 734-462-4488 or go to www.opentable.com. The Main Street Cafe is open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Wednesday and 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each Thursday and Friday.

Digital sculpture info session

A free information session to learn about the Digital Sculptor Program at Schoolcraft College will be held 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, in Room 128 of the Jefferson Center. The session provides information on the series of four classes that teach Autodesk Alias used in the field of digital sculpting and the certificate awarded to students upon completion of the courses. Program instructor Donald Lloyd, a digital sculptor at Nissan Design America, will discuss the various aspects of the courses and answer questions from attendees. The information session is open to anyone interested in the field of digital sculpting and no registration is required. For more information, contact Schoolcraft College's Community Educa-

tion and Professional Development office at 734-462-4448.

Dual enrollment

The Schoolcraft College Admissions Department will host a Dual Enrollment Information Night event 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, in the VisTaTech Center to provide details for high school students and parents interested in learning more about ways students can get an early start on earning college credit.

The Dual Enrollment program allows students enrolled in public and approved non-public high schools or a qualified home school to take college courses if they meet all state and college provisions at the time of application.

At the event, Brian Barber from the Michigan Department of Education will discuss the specifics of the dual enrollment program in Michigan and attendees can get specific information relating to public, private and home school students.

The Dual Enrollment Information Night event is free and doesn't require registration. For more information, about the event or Dual Enrollment opportunities at Schoolcraft College, go to schoolcraft.edu/dual or call 734-462-4683.

DSO trio to perform

Three members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra will perform a classical concert as part of the Noon Concert Series at Schoolcraft College on Wednesday, Feb. 8, in Room 550 of the VisTaTech Center. The concert will feature DSO members Jeffrey Zook on flute, Sheryl Hwangbo on violin and David LeDoux on cello.

The hour-long Noon Concert is free and open to the public, with donations accepted at the door. For more information, go to www.schoolcraft.edu/music or call 734-462-4403.

Annual winter golf tribute to loved ones comes to an end

Freezing temperatures, snow, sleet, ice and very heavy winds normally do not aspire golfers to hit the local links. However, Saturday, Jan. 7, a group of dedicated winter golfers held their final and 30th annual Memorial Winter Golf Outing at the Independence Greens' Old Golf Course in Farmington Hills.

For 30 years, the group of friends and relatives has met without fail to memorialize the life and death of their friend and relative, Billy Brown.

Brown was killed in 1987 at age 25 in a motor vehicle accident. His fiancée sustained a traumatic brain injury and had a successful recovery after a long rehabilitation. Their car was hit by a driver who ran a red light. Brown was probably killed instantly, but procedures were followed to honor his wish of being an organ donor.

He cherished winter golfing with brothers Len and Mark McCulloch and all three pals also shared a love for coney dogs. In the aftermath of Brown's accident, Len McCulloch, who has been a resident of Independence Greens for 25 years, met with a core group of Brown's friends and relatives. They created the "Bill Brown Memorial Winter Golf Coney Dog Invitational Classic," referred to as the "BBM" for short.

The group of a dozen members has never wavered in 30 years from its pledge to keep the outing alive. Members have played in 6-inch snow, mud, balmy rain, driving winds and treacherous icy condi-



Len McCulloch

tions.

Ceremonial fireworks are shot off at the first hole in Brown's honor and at the second hole in honor of founding member Tom Jasina, who died from cancer 10 years ago.

The group couldn't help but contemplate members' own mortality as the longevity of the BBM forced a look at the quickly passing years. The subject of time was often bantered about on the cold, snowy fairways.

The zany group plotted its final course with orange construction pylon cones and used orange balls for visibility. Residents of the Country Club Golf Course, at Halsted and Grand River Complex, have been known to appear with video cameras to film the group and cheer members on over the years. The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers published the group's activities, in pictorial essays, at the time of the inaugural BBM as well as at the fifth year, the 10th year and the 25th year outings, heralded as "A Therapeutic Holiday Tradition."

Some say the activity of mourning the death of loved ones takes one through certain stages. Some feel there are more active "tasks" to accomplish during the mourning period, which can be never ending. Some feel we don't really get over a death, but "get used to the absence of a loved one." Some

say, part of the lost one lives on with us forever, in memory.

From the beginning until its demise after 30 years on an extremely cold winter day, the event united, in a unique, newsworthy way, a group of people bonded by a loss and became one way of mourning, i.e., getting accustomed to the lack of the presence of the deceased.

Setting a closing date for the annual BBM was decided upon for different reasons. One was because of the aging of the members and the potential hazard of participating in such an event. Another was to share part of the control of something ending, which was not something within the group's power to control, with regards to the death of Billy Brown. We decided to take the opportunity, which we had created and therefore planned a termination of the event. I suppose our next task will be to get accustomed to or "get used to" the future absence of the BBM Winter Golf Memorial Outing.

Len McCulloch is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in traumatic stress, mental health, brain injury, social work and addictions. He is a 15-year contributing columnist to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Approximately 250 of his articles are archived at the Farmington Library, www.farmlib.com. He is a psychotherapist of 40 years and continues to author his monthly column, "Our Mental Health," for the syndicated O&E Newspapers. He can be reached for a courtesy phone consultation at 248-474-2763, ext. 222.

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Geralyn Morris, Audiologist

Garden City Hospital

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734-261-8040

14555 Levan Suite 206, Livonia

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A frog in the Lahser Marsh.

Volunteers sought for annual Rouge Frog and Toad Survey

Spring is only two months away, the time when frogs and toads begin their chorus of calls. This spring, consider learning why frogs and toads are making those sounds and which ones you might have in your area. Friends of the Rouge is looking for people interested in participating in the annual Rouge Frog and Toad Survey. The survey is a simple presence/absence survey. Volunteers visit wetlands at night and identify what types of frogs and toads are calling.

Interested volunteers need to sign up for one of three training sessions held several Saturdays in February. All materials are provided at the workshop. Volunteers are assigned survey blocks and required to visit them several times a month March through June on damp warm nights.

This will be the 20th year of the survey. Friends of the Rouge started the survey in 1998 to involve local residents in collecting data about the health of Rouge River wetlands. The presence of frogs and toads is used as an indicator of wetland health as the animals disappear when wetlands

are too polluted. Diverse, healthy wetlands support diverse assemblages of amphibians. To learn more about the findings from the survey, go to the FOTR website at www.therouge.org.

Workshop dates

» Saturday, Feb. 4: 10 a.m. to noon

Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia

» Saturday, Feb. 18: 10 a.m. to noon

Canton Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

» Saturday, Feb. 25: 10 a.m. to noon

Farmington Hills Council Chambers, 31555 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills

Friends of the Rouge is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement and other collaborative efforts, for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants, and animals of the watershed. The Rouge River covers 466 square miles in three counties and 42 communities in the Detroit area. For more information, visit www.therouge.org.

Inspire Theatre stages 'Flapper'

How does a local community theater celebrate its 12th anniversary? With a show, of course! Young women with bobbed hair and fringed skirts, gangsters with "violin" cases and a rich young heiress who dreams of becoming a Ziegfeld girl — Inspire Theatre's latest offering has it all. With a cast of 28, the stage is filled with great music and dance numbers from start to finish. The colorful characters and the many up-tempo tunes will have audiences laughing and singing all the way home.

"Flapper" is about a rich young heiress who is planning a fabulous party to celebrate her 18th birthday. But there's trouble ahead! Mobsters are planning to grab her fabulous diamond necklace called the Ice Garden, her aunt is being taken advantage in a confidence scheme and Polly has to audition to become a Ziegfeld girl. Her daring new boyfriend, her sinister best friend and other colorful characters fill the stage in uproarious fashion.

All this excitement takes place at the Westland Center of the Arts, 33455 Warren Road. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3-4, 10-11 and 17-18 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, 12, and 19. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door and can be ordered at inspiretheatre.com.



Cast members are dolled up for the debut of "Flapper" Feb. 3 at the Inspire Theatre.

ticketleap.com.

Fresh off their successful run of the southern comedy, "Doublewide," directors Len Fisher and assistant Mike Cuba have put together a stellar cast of local talent ranging from young teens to the more "mature" actors, including many first timers to the Inspire stage. But as Fisher is quick to point out, "This wouldn't be the great show it is without the music and choreograph-

ical direction of Elizabeth Fisher." The Fishers not only share a name, but are father and daughter. Len and Liz have collaborated on many projects in the past, including last summer's original compilation "Rock and Roll Heaven."

Tackling the lead role, pretty Polly Pepper, is the Inspire alum Rachel Ogger of Livonia. She was last seen at IT in "The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree." She is

joined by many longtime Inspire regulars, including Courtney Nixon of Farmington Hills and Deanna Lee of Redford. Nixon and Lee have been involved with Inspire Theatre before there was an Inspire Theatre. Nixon began working with the Fishers on a production of "Godspell" in summer 2004 and Lee joined in a production of "A Christmas Carol" the same year. Other "old timers" are Wendy Hardy of Livonia and John Donnelly of Redford, both joining the ranks in summer 2006 with "The Wizard of Oz."

As Westland's only community theater, Fisher, who is also the managing director of IT, insists that the company keep a full schedule. While getting ready for opening night, auditions and preparations are underway for the next show, "Cripple of Inishmaan," written by Martin McDonough. Directed by "Flapper" cast members Lisa Brawley and Richard Holland, many are wearing multiple hats this winter. "Cripple," nominated for six Tony Awards, was recently remounted on Broadway starring Harry Potter's Daniel Radcliff. IT also offers youth classes. Slated to start again in March, Inspire School of Theatre Arts is planning on offering "The Wizard of Oz." Beyond that is a summer production and two fall shows.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 21 OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3945 THERETO.

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Pursuant to the report of the City Planning Commission, dated July 13, 2016, setting forth its resolution 07-74-2016 recommending approval of Petition 2016-04-01-03, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on August 15, 2016, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2016-04-01-03 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

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

Section 3.3945. Petition 2016-04-01-03 submitted by Dave Phipps is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from OS and R-2 to R-9-I:

PARCEL NO. 081-99-0018-000

THAT PART OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 21, T. 1 S., R. 9 E., CITY OF LIVONIA, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBE AS BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 21 DISTANT DUE SOUTH 1308.90 FEET FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 21 AND PROCEEDING THENCE DUE SOUTH ALONG SAID EAST LINE 206.93 FEET; THENCE N 89°41'00" W 330.00 FEET; THENCE DUE SOUTH 66.00 FEET; THENCE N 89°41'00" W 330.00 FEET THENCE DUE NORTH 268.20 FEET; THENCE N 89°54'20" E 660.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT THE EASTERLY PART THEREOF ADJACENT TO THE EAST SECTION LINE MEASURING 93.00 FEET ON THE NORTH LINE AND 51.47 FEET ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID PARCEL. CONTAINING 3.40 ACRES.

PARCEL NO. 081-99-0026-002

THAT PART OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 21, T. 1 S., R. 9 E., CITY OF LIVONIA, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING DUE SOUTH 1308.90 FEET AND S 89°54'20" W 660.00 FEET FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 21; THENCE DUE SOUTH 400.19 FEET; THENCE S 89°41'00" E 607.04 FEET; THENCE S 00°25'16" W 131.93 FEET; THENCE N 89°41'00" W 594.65 FEET; THENCE S 04°55'40" E 119.52 FEET; THENCE N 88°43'10" W 366.07 FEET; THENCE N 00°03'25" W 470.38 FEET; THENCE N 89°28'30" W 12.61 FEET; THENCE N 00°03'25" W 172.00 FEET; THENCE N 89°54'20" E 357.58 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT THE SOUTHERLY 10.00 FEET OF THE EASTERLY 600.00 FEET. CONTAINING 6.91 ACRES.

and the Northeast 1/4 of Section 21 of the Zoning Map is hereby amended to conform to the changes made in this section.

Section 4. The attached map designated "Amendment No. 961 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

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

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

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, December 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

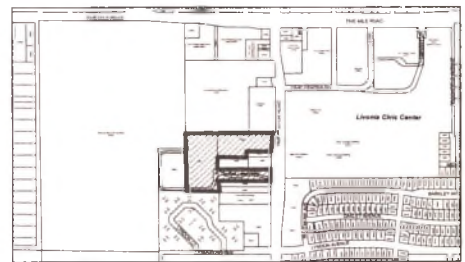
The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 20th day of December, 2016.

Dennis Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:

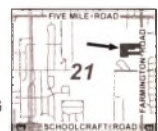
Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney
 Dated: December 20, 2016

BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT AS AMENDED FROM OS, OFFICE SERVICES & R-2, ONE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R-9-I, HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY - 4-STORIES MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS



PETITION NO. 2016-04-01-03
 A PART OF THE N.E. 1/4 OF SECTION 21

AMENDMENT NO. 961 TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 3020
 Adopted by the City Council on 12/19/16



Westland UPS kicks off 'Sealed with a Kiss'

In support of U.S. active military and our nation's veterans, The UPS Store located at 36500 Ford Road in Westland is launching Operation: S.W.A.K. - Sealed With A Kiss - which provides free first-class postage (49 cents) for one-ounce cards and letters sent to armed forces members stationed overseas or to veterans in VA hospitals.

A greeting card or handwritten letter provides a soldier with a memento to keep and use for continued inspiration and encouragement. In recognition of this, and to pay tribute to the sacrifices made by our military, The UPS Store created Operation: S.W.A.K. This is the second year the The UPS Store 0293 in Westland is participating in the initiative.

"Currently, there are more than 150,000 U.S. soldiers deployed overseas," UPS Store owner Monty Beaune said. "As a veteran it's our honor to show our support for these dedicated men and women by offering com-

plimentary postage for cards or letters addressed to them."

Government regulations stipulate that all mail must be addressed to a specific U.S. serviceman or woman with an APO/FPO address (or a veteran residing in a VA hospital) and must include a valid return address. To ensure overseas delivery by Valentine's Day, Beaune also recommends sending mail by Feb. 2, although cards and letters will be accepted through Feb. 14.

The UPS Store 0293 in Westland is also offering free packing services and/or free packaging materials when packing care packages sent to servicemen and women serving overseas or to veterans in VA hospitals. Shipping fees still apply.

The UPS Store 0293 is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sundays. For more information, visit www.theupsstore.com/0293 or call 734-595-1288.

January Toy Sale & Clearance!

UP TO 50% Off
 Storewide Thru 2/4/17



Huge Selection of Games & Puzzles For Family Fun!
 Visit dollhospital.com for information
 The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop
 3947 W 12 Mile, Berkley 248.543.3115 Mon-Wed, Sat 10-5:30, Thurs 10-8:30, Closed Sun

OPEN ENROLLMENT

The AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School, located at 22001 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI, will have "Open Enrollment" from March 8, 2017 - March 31, 2017, between 10 AM to 1 PM, and on Sunday March 19, 2017 from 10 AM to 1 PM. For further information or special appointments, please call the school at 248.569.2988. Random selection drawing for new applicants will take place at the school on Friday, April 21, 2017 at 10 AM. Families of those selected will be notified.



ST. MARY MERCY HOSPITAL
Dr. Dipak Das, left, was honored for 40 years of service by Peter Dews, MD, MS, FACP and members of the St. Mary Mercy Livonia medical staff.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia installs medical staff officers

St. Mary Mercy Livonia announced its new medical staff officers during a ceremony Jan. 11 at Laurel Manor Banquet Conference Center.

During the ceremony, the following medical staff members were named to the hospital's Medical Executive Committee:

- » Ratna Zampani, M.D., replacing Michael Calice, M.D. as chief of staff
- » Michael Brager, M.D., replacing Paul Friedman, M.D., member-at-large
- » Amit Mohindra, M.D., replacing Subburaman Sivakumar, M.D., member-at-large
- These officers join the following members on the St. Mary Mercy medical executive committee:
 - » Michael Calice, M.D., Emergency Medicine chair
 - » Susan Molina, M.D., secretary/treasurer
 - » K.C. Joseph, M.D., Behavioral Medicine chair
 - » Timothy Johnson, M.D., Maternal Child Services chair, chief of staff-elect
 - » Stewart Knoepp, M.D., Pathology chair
 - » Christopher Esshaki, M.D., Radiology chair
 - » John Iljas, D.O., Surgery chair
 - » Marc Mastropaolo, D.O., member-at-large
 - » Anthony Edelman, M.D., Anesthesiology chair
 - » Adrian Sheremeta, M.D., Medicine chair, Interim Family Medicine chair
 - » Lawrence Lipnik, M.D., member-at-large

During the ceremony, St. Mary Mercy also honored physicians for milestone years of service. Dipak Das, MD, internal medicine, received a special tribute for 40 years of service.



Emergency crews on the scene of a multiple-vehicle pileup on I-96 between Webberville and Fowlerville on Dec. 8, 2016.

DAVE WASINGER | LANSING STATE JOURNAL

A deadly year on Michigan roads

Robert Allen
Detroit Free Press

Last year was the deadliest since 2007 for drivers on Michigan roads, preliminary state data show.

Experts say an improving economy, lower gas prices and possibly increased texting and driving appear to be factors in the increase in road deaths, which have also gone up nationally after a big decline during the Great Recession.

A running total of 1,021 people were killed in 301,525 overall crashes in Michigan last year. The figures were released earlier this month.

The numbers are expected to climb as more reports are received, said Ann Readett with the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. She said the number could also decrease if, for example, a cause

is determined to be a medical problem separate from the crash.

Since dipping to a record low of 817 in 2009, the number of traffic fatalities in Michigan has increased, gradually, by about 15 percent during the six years that followed, according to data from Michigan State Police.

In 2007, there were 1,084 traffic fatalities.

Carol Flannagan, a researcher with the University of Michigan, said the Great Recession — with its uptick in unemployment, foreclosures and bankruptcies — caused a national decline in the number of younger, riskier drivers, especially in rural areas.

"It doesn't seem as though we're experiencing a very Michigan-specific kind of situation," she said. "Certain types of risky drivers — or driving — drops out when the economy goes

bad."

A steady U.S. decline of 21 percent in traffic fatalities between 2007 (41,259) and 2011 (32,479) was followed by a leveling out, a slight drop then an uptick in 2015. The Great Recession, the worst decline in the U.S. economy since the Great Depression, lasted from December 2007 to June 2009, and the recovery continues.

Flannagan said that drivers younger than 25, known as an especially risky demographic on the roads, are shown to drive more during better economic times.

"When the economy gets better, those people have jobs, buy gas and drive for reasons not specifically (for) getting to a job," she said.

Daniel Blower, an associate research scientist at U-M, worked with Flannagan on the study. He said in an email that a decline in gas prices

since 2015 also could be making it cheaper for people to spend more time on roads.

Research from the National Safety Council indicates that texting on a smartphone while driving is also a factor causing a rise in traffic fatalities. The percentage of drivers texting or otherwise using handheld devices increased from 0.9 percent in 2010 to 2.2 percent in 2014. For drivers ages 16-24, that rate jumps to 4.8 percent; and young women are more likely to text than men, NSC research shows.

Flannagan said texting is a "very high-risk activity," but she doesn't think it's "responsible for the big changes that the economy can kind of produce in a short time."

Also, texting while driving is tough to track. "We don't have good data on it," she said.

"Unfortunately, we don't really know when people

are texting."

While the number of traffic fatalities is increasing, it's still near its historic low in the big picture. In Michigan records dating to 1940, the number peaked at 2,487 in 1969 — more than 2.5 times the 963 people killed in 2015.

"In reality, we are making headway," Flannagan said.

She said electronic stability control mandated in new cars starting in 2009 is "incredibly effective," helping prevent rollovers and more. And other innovations are expected to further make vehicle safer.

Automakers are introducing technologies that enable parents to monitor the driving habits of teenagers and control the volume of audio systems, but there are no options launched yet that deactivate a smartphone when a vehicle is moving.

Trump fundraiser and U-M regent will likely lead Michigan GOP

David Jesse
Detroit Free Press

Ron Weiser, the influential Republican donor and current University of Michigan regent, is poised to take over as head of the Michigan GOP after the other candidate for the top job dropped out Sunday and endorsed him.

"After meeting with multiple members of the Trump White House, I've



Weiser

decided that the best way I can help make Michigan Great Again is to withdraw from the

race for MIGOP Chair," Scott Hagerstrom posted on Facebook on Sunday afternoon. "I am confident that Ron Weiser understands that the

future of the Michigan Republican Party lies in embracing the constitutional principles that led to President Trump's historic victory."

Hagerstrom is a former state director of Americans for Prosperity in Michigan and directed Trump's campaign in Michigan. Weiser was one of six vice chairs of Trump's campaign fund-raising committee.

"Ron has a history of showing the foresight to work with, not against, conservative Republicans," Hagerstrom's statement said. "Not only was Ron a top fundraiser for the Donald J. Trump Presidential campaign, but he also played a pivotal role in making Michigan a right to work state."

"Now is the time for all of us, as a united Michigan Republican

Party, to get to work helping implement President Trump's vision for the future. I look forward to working with all of you towards this goal, in whatever role God has in store."

Weiser would replace Ronna Romney McDaniell, who was recently tapped to take over as head of the national Republican committee.

djesse@freepress.com

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Mt. Hope's 'Pastor Steve' retiring after 34 years

The Rev. Dr. Steven B. Schafer, mostly commonly known as simply "Pastor Steve," has been the minister at Mt. Hope Congregational Church in Livonia for more than three decades, a tenure almost unheard of in the ministerial profession. The end of January will mark the end of his illustrious career. Since July 1982, Schafer has performed countless weddings, baptisms and funerals, but it is his well-delivered Sunday morning sermons and his caring bedside manner



Schafer

during times of difficulty that have truly made his congregants feel loved and kept them coming back for more.

One congregant, an attendee since the 1990's said this: "I had attended Mt. Hope for years, but never became a member. When we moved out of state for my job and had to begin the process of church hunting, I looked

at my wife and said, 'I didn't realize how good we had it. If we ever move back home, I'll become a member.'" Two years later, the young family did move back and, that very Sunday, Schafer made the announcement that a new member class would be starting. "It was just one more sign that we were home," the congregant said.

Adults aren't the only ones who feel the love from Schafer. "The best thing about Pastor Steve," said one youth, "is sitting on the steps with him

because he teaches us stuff and we get stuff." It's true that over the years, Schafer has given numerous tokens and trinkets to the youngsters who sit on the sanctuary steps for his children's sermons. Examples include a set of kinetic magnets, illustrating forces we cannot see with our eyes, but still exist in the universe, just like God; or a fossil demonstrating just how old our world is and, therefore, how much older its creator must be.

Since Schafer became minister nearly 35 years

ago, there have been numerous changes at Mt. Hope. The fellowship hall was expanded and new Sunday school classrooms were added, with Biblical murals decorating their walls. A steeple was added to the roof, a beacon to those traveling on I-96 and beckoning them to join in the fellowship. The congregation built the Mt. Hope Activities Center, known as the MAC, both an acronym as well as a tribute to the MacIntyre family, longtime members whose legacy largely contributed to the build-

ing's construction. Technology was added to the sanctuary, including a closed-loop hearing system for those with hearing loss.

But the greatest change by far for the people of Mt. Hope will be saying goodbye to its longest standing minister in the church's 125-year history. Schafer will be greatly missed, both by the congregation and the Livonia community that he has so faithfully served. Best wishes for your retirement, Pastor Steve.

OBSERVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Raggle Taggle

The Raggle Taggle Band will play Irish and Scottish music at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge on Thursday, Feb. 2, in a free concert from 5:30-8:30 p.m. for Burger Night. These lively musicians are Franklin Dohonyos on guitar/fiddle/vocals, Jean Dohonyos on percussion/vocals, Ron Karvonen on mandolin, Bob Ervin on banjo/vocals and Kim Dominick on bass. Burgers and other food items and beverages will be available for purchase. The kitchen will be open from 5:30-7 p.m. The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. For more information, call 734-453-1780, email jazzattheelks@gmail.com or visit www.plyaa325.com.

Be a Miracle League volunteer

The Miracle League in Plymouth is in need of two coaches for the 2017 season. Teams will consist of younger players, ages 5-11. If interested, contact Shari Bilkie, shari@miracleleagueplymouth.org

Miracle League player registration also begins Feb. 6 and ends at 4 p.m. Friday, March 10.

Livonia pavilion reservations

Picnic pavilion reservations for the 2017 season will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis for Livonia residents beginning at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the Jack E. Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. Beginning Feb. 8, open dates will be available at the Kirksey Recreation Center or at www.ci.livonia.mi.us. Payment in full is due at the time of reservation.

In 2016, approximately 377 pavilion reservations were made at six park locations providing a total of 10 pavilions with an estimated attendance of over 25,000. Livonia boasts pavilions for groups ranging in size from 20-150. It is recommended that reservations be obtained for groups of 20 or more at least a week in advance. Applications, guidelines and online reservations for picnic permits may be obtained from at the Kirksey Recreation Center or at www.ci.livonia.mi.us. For more information, call 734-466-2900.

Railroadiana

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers' Club will sponsor a buy-and-swap Railroadiana Train Show from noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 5, at the Ss. Simon & Jude Catholic Church Social Hall, 32500 Palmer Road, between Merriman and Venoy Roads, Westland.

There will be approximately 100 dealer tables available. The cost is \$10 for an 8-foot table. Dealer set up is 9 a.m. on the day of the show, and complimentary coffee and doughnuts will be available for dealers until 10:30 a.m. Food will also be available to the public. Admission is \$2 per person and \$4 per family. Parking is free. For more information or table reservations, call Bob at 734-728-1247 or Norm at 734-595-8327.



Listen to Irish and Scottish music at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge on Thursday, Feb. 2.

3D Photography Club meeting

The February meeting will feature a workshop by special guest speaker George "Dr. T" Themelis on making and using a top-quality digital stereo camera system. The club will also have another "Freebie" drawing for free 3D items. It will conclude with its monthly club 3D image competition. Time/date: 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8 at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile. Meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome. Stereo cameras, 3D movies, and educational videos are available for members to borrow or rent. For more information, visit www.Detroit3D.org or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

Hayden's outreach

Hayden's Grill & Bar of Canton and Plymouth Community United Way are partnering to raise funds for community outreach programs. Hayden's will donate 15 percent of your total bill back to the community. The event will run 11 a.m. to midnight Friday, Feb. 10. Guests must present a flier to donate the 15 percent back to Plymouth Community United Way. Fliers can be downloaded directly from www.plymouthunitedway.org, or shown on your mobile device. For more information, call Randi Williams at 734-453-6879, ext. 5 or email randi.williams@pcuw.org. Hayden's is at 39895 Ford Road, Canton.

Yooper pastie dinner

The Moose Lodge of Garden City will host a homemade Yooper Pastie dinner 5-7 p.m. Feb. 18, at the Moose Lodge, 29122 Ford Road. Dinner is \$6 and includes pastie of your choice, salad and homemade cobbler. Also the Moose Lodge is taking orders for beef, chicken or vegetarian pasties that are filled with potatoes, onion, rutabaga and carrots all in a flaky crust. Prices are one for \$3.50, six for \$20 or a baker's dozen (13) for \$40. These are made fresh and are frozen and ready for pick up after 5 p.m. Feb. 18. To order, call Kim Dowidait at 734-564-5777 or see the Moose Lodge bar staff. Orders must be placed by Feb. 13. Proceeds from this dinner will help benefit Mooseheart and Moosehaven.

'Finding Dory' shows

The Clarenceville Church will host the movie "Finding Dory" on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the church 20300 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Admission is free. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and the movie will start at 7 p.m. Popcorn and drinks will be available. For more information or to pre-register, call 248-474-3444 or email the church at clarencevillechurch@gmail.com.

Birthday Party Luncheon

The Livonia Historical Commission at Greenmead Historical Park will host a Birthday Party Luncheon from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. Advance tickets only for \$20 are available at the Greenmead Office. The luncheon will include a pasta lunch, party games, cupcakes and birthday singing. Each guest is asked to bring a \$1 gift to share. Dress in your birthday best. For more information, contact 734-477-7375.

Redford chamber has scholarship apps

The Redford Chamber of Commerce now has applications available for high school seniors to apply for a scholarship. The high school senior does not have to attend a Redford school but must have been a resident of Redford for two years. You can pick up the application at the Chamber Office at 26050 Five Mile Road, Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Applications will also be available in the Counselor Offices at Thurston, Redford Union and Clarenceville High Schools. Deadline for submission of applications is March 24, 2017. Any questions, call the Redford Chamber of Commerce office at 313-535-0960.

Hopgood coffee hours

State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) invites members of the community to join him at upcoming coffee hours to discuss state and local issues of concern. Hopgood represents the 6th Senate District, which includes the Wayne County communities of Belleville, Brownstown Township, Flat Rock, Huron Township, Rockwood, Romulus, Sumpter Township, Taylor, Van Buren Township and Westland. The coffee hours provide opportuni-

ties for citizens to meet Hopgood and share their thoughts about current events in Lansing and the local community.

The January Coffee Hour is set for 10:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 27, at the Brownstown Township Center, 21311 Telegraph Road in Brownstown. The February Coffee Hour will take place at noon Monday, Feb. 13, at the September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road in Van Buren Township.

Camera Club featured

Livonia Arts Commission announces that the Fine Arts Gallery on the second floor of the Bob and Janet Bennett Civic Center Library will feature the Greater Detroit Camera Club Council for the month of February.

GDCC is composed of members from the Grosse Pointe Camera Club, Livonia Camera Club, the Motor City Camera Club located in Bloomfield, the Oakland Camera Club located in Waterford, The Photographic Guild located in Southfield, the Seven Ponds Nature Center Camera Club located in Dryden, the Shutterbug Camera Club located in Detroit, the Toledo Camera Club, the West Oakland Camera Club located in New Hudson and the Windsor Camera Club. These photography clubs meet on different days and different times but share a common interest: photography.

Each club has competitions in their Electronic Imaging Divisions, including Monochrome, Color, Nature and Color Creative (altered reality). They also have competitions in the two Print Divisions: Monochrome and Color. During the year, all of these clubs will compete against each other in all of the digital division as well as print division. All of the winners from each competition go into the GDCC's End-of-the-Year Print and Digital competition.

This month they celebrate with an end-of-the-year banquet and preparation for the February exhibit.

Garden City Valentine sweetie contest

The Garden City Downtown Development Authority will host a Valentine Sweetheart Photo Contest with first- and second-place winner announced on its Facebook at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Sweet talk your Valentine into posing for a picture with Willy, the Garden City "Cupig" located in the Commons, at the northwest corner of Middlebelt and Ford, for a chance to win a free Sweetheart Date Night Gift Package. Pictures must be posted to the Downtown Garden City Facebook page at www.facebook.com/downtowngardencity by 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8. Pictures must be from 2017; only one entry per couple/group; must be age 18 or older to win.

'Covering your Brother's Sins'

In light of the political and racial conflicts and divisive issues of this past year, Father Jerome

Sanderson will preach on how Christians can think and act in a way most beneficial to all. The topic is titled "Covering Your Brother's Sins." Sanderson is a founding member of the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black, and is an Orthodox Christian priest, author, iconographer and woodcarver. The event is free and open to the public at 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 23300 W. Chicago, Redford. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 734-634-2650.

Friday Night Glow Skate

The Mike Modano Ice Arena in Westland hosts Glow Skate from 7-9:20 p.m. each Friday. The cost is \$8 for kids and \$9 for adults. Skate rentals are \$3. Everyone receives a free glow accessory with purchase. The arena is at 6210 Wildwood.

Pagan office hours

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, will host her monthly coffee hours in January:

The fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton.

The fourth Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road, Belleville.

For more information, contact her at KristyPagan@house.mi.gov or 517-373-2575.

Guardian Angel dinner

The Italian American Club of Livonia has a unique relationship with the Italian priests of St. Louis Center in Chelsea and members continue to show their commitment to supporting persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the Guardian Angel Dinner Dance, now in its 22nd year.

The IACL Banquet Center is at 39200 Five Mile Road, near I-275, in Livonia. This year's event will be Sunday, Jan. 29, starting with a noon Mass, followed by an Italian buffet dinner at 1 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the band Amici and there will also be a silent auction and a gift raffle.

Passages

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

ALGIE

MARGARET "PEG" L. Age 85 passed away peacefully in the care of her family on January 24, 2017. Loving wife of the late Blair for 58 years. Devoted mother of Michael (Sharon), Mark (Noreen Noring), and Jeffrey (Amy Graves) Algie. Cherished grandmother of Karen (Paul) Quada, Brian (Katie), Gerard, and Jacob Algie and great grandmother of Emma and Naomi. Peg was a longtime parishioner of and contributor to Nardin Park United Methodist Church. Visitation Sunday 2p.m.-8p.m. at McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. In state Monday 12p.m. until time of Funeral Service 1p.m. at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Interment at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Novi. Memorial Contributions may be made to Nardin Park in her name.
www.mccabefuneralhome.com

MICHLEWICZ

JOHN A. January 9, 2017. Beloved husband of the late Patricia. Loving father of John (Donna), Debbie (Brian J), Mark (Dawn), Karen (Mike). Ten grandchildren. Memorial Mass Saturday, February 4, 2017 10:30 a.m. at St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, 48152. In lieu of flowers, family suggests contributions to Reverence Hospice, 37850 Garfield, Clinton Twp. 48036

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

Nix gets CWW leadership post

The Conference of Western Wayne, an association of the chief elected officials from 18 communities in western Wayne County, picked its leadership team for 2017 earlier this month.

Dearborn Mayor Jack O'Reilly will lead the group, while Mayor LeRoy Burcroff of Romulus will be vice chairman, Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix II the secretary and Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley the treasurer.

Westland Mayor Bill Wild, chairman for 2016, is now chairman emeritus.

The CWW met Jan. 13 at Northville City Hall and the new officers were sworn in by Judge Kurtis Wilder of the Michigan Court of Appeals.

"I am truly grateful to serve the 18 communities in western Wayne County that make up this organization," O'Reilly said in a press release. "Our board meets monthly to discuss issues such as state and federal legislation, county issues, transportation, public safety, substance use prevention and community and economic development."



Judge Kurtis Wilder (left) administers the oath to the Conference of Western Wayne's officers for 2017, who were named Jan. 13. Taking the oath are Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix II, Dearborn Mayor Jack O'Reilly and Romulus Mayor LeRoy Burcroff. At right is Westland Mayor Bill Wild, chairman emeritus.

The CWW is a bipartisan group whose members share information and discuss mutual issues and ways to improve the quality of life for the nearly 700,000 residents who live in the region. The CWW communities are Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne and Westland, plus Canton, Huron, Northville, Plymouth,

Redford, Sumpter and Van Buren townships.

Despite the diversity of size, economic development and population density, these communities have been working to enhance the region for more than 37 years.

"It is vital that we continue to collaborate in order to create the best solutions possible to the challenges we face," O'Reilly said.

Justice for Baron: Woman raises money for mutilated dog

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Leslye Galperin Golding could not turn away when she saw the photograph of Baron, a stray dog who was discovered wandering the streets of Detroit with part of his nose and ears chopped off.

"I'm a 35-year volunteer for the Michigan Humane Society and I've seen lots of abuse over the years," said Golding, a Birmingham resident. "I've seen dogs with their chain still embedded in their neck ... but I've never seen anything like this."

Hoping to help catch the person responsible for mutilating the dog, Golding started a GoFundMe page called Justice for Baron. In a matter of days, she's managed to raise over \$6,000 in reward money.

"Someone must know who committed this horrific and sadistic act on a poor, defenseless dog," she said. "This was torture and somebody should have to pay for it."

Pet owners Claudia Drilich and Linda Schlesinger-Wagner, both of West Bloomfield, donated to the page.

"I was devastated that someone could actually harm an animal like that," Drilich said. "What kind of monster could do such a thing?"

Wagner has five King Charles rescue dogs at home. Four of them join her at work.

"I am so sad for our world, that sick people could do such a horrible crime against an innocent animal," she said. "I'll do anything I can to get behind finding the person or persons behind this cruel act."

Golding said her goal is to raise \$50,000 in re-



MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY
Birmingham resident Leslye Galperin Golding has started a GoFundMe page to help find Baron's attacker.

ward money. If nobody comes forward, she plans to divide the money equally between the Michigan Humane Society, the Michigan Animal Rescue League and the Detroit Dog Rescue. The Humane Society also has a reward fund that's reached more than \$35,000.

"The Humane Society has already raised a lot, but we think more money can be raised," she said. "All the donations — 100 percent — will go to this reward."

This was Golding's first GoFundMe page and she found it heartwarming to see the number of people who have banded together to help the Rottweiler mix.

"My 9-year-old neighbor donated \$5," she said. "I'm honestly overwhelmed by all the people who are stepping up and offering to help this poor dog."

Baron is now recovering at the Michigan Humane Society. Anyone with information is asked to call the Humane Society hotline at 313-872-3401.

jgrossman@hometownlife.com
586-826-7030
Twitter: @BhmEccentric

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Mary, Madalynn, Gwen and Michael Kinney, with their Livonia Observer, recently visited Johnson Space Center in Houston.

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CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 2017 AGGREGATES

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 14th, 2017 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 2017 AGGREGATES**, 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
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Livonia Public Schools (LPS) will receive sealed proposals for:

Move & Technology Move Management Services

Until 11:00 a.m., local time, Thursday, February 9, 2017, bids will be received by Phillip Francis - Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154 at the Administration Building at which time, and place, all proposals will be opened and read aloud. Proposals received after the above stipulated date and time will not be opened, considered or accepted. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

On or around Monday, January 23, 2017, Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at:

<https://app.e-builder.net/public/publicLanding.aspx?QS=57ef8aaa2a1740b08fe96397eb6e5771>

Please contact LaMerra Hobbs at lamerra.hobbs@plantemor.com if you have any questions regarding obtaining this information.

All interested firms are requested to attend a **MANDATORY** pre-proposal meeting on **Friday, January 27, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.** at Churchill High School located at 8900 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI.

All proposals must be submitted on forms furnished by Plante Moran Cresa and comply with the requirements of the RFP and include a **5% bid bond**. All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner (bidder) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education or District Administration, a signed and notarized statement to comply with the Iran Economic Sanctions Act of 2012, and the Equal Opportunity Statement. No bid shall be accepted that does not include these documents.

Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals. LPS reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein and accept that bid, which best serves the District's interest.

Phillip Francis
Director of Operations
Livonia Public Schools

Published: January 29, 2017 LC 000010047 3X5.5

Stabbing reported after RU/Thurston basketball game

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

The Redford Township Police Department is looking for witnesses who may have seen a possible stabbing that took place Tuesday night after the Redford Union vs. Thurston boys basketball game.

Police say a fight broke out outside of Redford Union High School, 17711 Kinloch, after the basketball game. Police say an 18-year-old male was running when he received a "minor wound" to the back from a sharp object by an unknown suspect.

Several police officers were on hand during and after the game because of the rivalry between the schools and the larger-than-usual crowd for the game.

The victim was taken to a local hospital, treated for minor injuries and released, police said. No one was in custody as of Wednesday morning.

Anyone who saw the incident is encouraged to contact the Redford Township Police Department at 313-387-2551 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK-UP.

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

Family inspired to hold blood drives

On June 3, 2015, Tina Dunphy went into a scheduled Cesarean-section with her husband to welcome their third child.

She had the same procedure with her second child, so they didn't expect anything out of the ordinary.

"The entire pregnancy, our baby never stayed in one position. The day of the delivery, he had turned sideways. We both knew something felt different, but it wasn't too alarming," Dunphy said.

Their newborn son, Philip Dunphy, was born at 8:30 a.m. June 3. Within hours, Tina began vomiting as her blood pressure plummeted. After testing, she was taken to the hospital's medical trauma unit.

Seven units of blood saved her

That's when the family learned the mother of three was suffering from internal bleeding due to a damaged artery behind her uterus. Doctors used seven units of blood to save her.

"I didn't know how serious it was until I saw the bag of blood hanging the next day," she recalled. "I didn't fully understand what had happened until then."

Dunphy spent three days in the intensive care unit and another three days in recovery. "It's a humbling experience laying in the ICU.



The Dunphy family from Livonia gives back by hosting blood drives.

DAN RAYMOND ADM

It was just surreal. You can't really tell what's reality and what's not," she said. "I just kept looking at my blood pressure, hoping it would go up."

The entire time in the hospital Tina remembered hearing about Michigan Blood drives over the PA system. After realizing the blood she received came from Michigan Blood, she decided to find a way to give back.

A month after Philip's birth, Dunphy and her husband held their first blood drive through Michigan Blood. Since then, they've held multiple drives.

"It's kind of been our thing — if we can do something to give back, for me, this is the best

thing we can do. Michigan Blood makes it so easy to host a blood drive. We provide the space, and they take care of everything," she says.

As for their son, Philip, now 18 months old, "He's completely healthy with no complications," she adds. "He never even knew what had happened. He was asleep the whole time."

Blood donor requirements

Any healthy person 17 or older (or 16 with parental consent) who weighs at least 112 pounds may be eligible to donate, although females age 18 and under must weigh 120 pounds or more.

Blood donors should

bring photo ID. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. Donors can schedule an appointment by calling 866-MIBLOOD or by visiting www.miblood.org.

Michigan Blood is the primary provider of blood and blood products for more than 60 hospitals in Michigan, including Beaumont Health and Henry Ford Health System.

Donations given outside of Michigan Blood do not have direct local impact. Michigan Blood is currently in urgent need of O-negative blood donations.

Blood drive locations

» Jan. 29: Orchard Grove Community

Church, Multipurpose room, 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

» Jan. 31: Schoolcraft College, Student Activities Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

» Feb. 1: Schoolcraft College, Student Activities Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, noon to 6 p.m.

» Feb. 7: Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills, 2 East A Conference Room, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

» Feb. 17 - Beaumont Hospital - Royal Oak, Classroom 2, 3601 W. 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak, 9 am to 3 p.m.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 2017 BITUMINOUS MATERIALS

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 14th, 2017 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.

Furnish the City of Livonia with Approximately:
400 Tons of Asphaltic Concrete and 600 Tons of Cold Patch Material

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 2017 BITUMINOUS MATERIALS, 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, Public Works

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Published: January 29, 2017

LC-000309983 3x4.8

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INVITATION TO BID CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM & CLASSROOM RENOVATION

The Board of Education of Livonia Public Schools is accepting firm prime contractor bids for all labor, material, equipment and all other services to complete the work at Livonia Public Schools - Churchill High School Auditorium and Classroom Renovations.

Plans and specifications may be obtained electronically via PlanWell through George W. Auch Co. and are available for review at the office of the George W. Auch Company, 735 S. Paddock Street, Pontiac, MI 48341, 248-334-2000, on or after **January 24th, 2017**. The bidding documents consist of plans and specifications as prepared by French Associates. Complete sets of printed documents may be purchased from ARC Document Solutions, 1009 W. Maple St., Clawson, Michigan 248-288-5600 or email michigan.troy@e-arc.com.

The envelope bearing your proposal must identify your company and the proposal being bid and addressed to the attention of Mr. Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Administrative Offices, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154. Bids must be delivered no later than **12:00 noon, February 10th, 2017** to Livonia Administrative Offices (address above). Attn: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations. Each proposal must be submitted on the forms furnished by the construction manager and must be completed in full. Each proposal shall be sealed in an opaque envelope and marked with the name of the bidder. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays. No bids will be received at the George W. Auch Company Office; all bids must be sent to the Livonia Administrative Offices.

A Bid bond executed by a **U.S. Treasury listed surety company** acceptable to the owner, or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Livonia Public Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of \$23,417.00. All proposals shall be firm for a period of ninety (90) days. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

Contractors will be required to meet the Prevailing Wage requirements which are provided with the project manual.

A pre-bid walk through is scheduled for **Friday, January 27th, 2017 at 1:00 pm** at Churchill High School (8900 Newburgh Rd, Livonia, MI 48150). Please meet at the Cafeteria on the Northwest side of the school. **This walk through is not mandatory, but highly recommended.**

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a meeting convened at the Livonia Administrative Offices Lower Board Room starting at **2:00 pm on February 10th, 2017**. Post-bid interviews will be held on February 13th - February 23rd at the office of the George W. Auch Company OR Livonia Administration Office; the low responsive bidder must be prepared to meet on these days.

Successful bidders whose proposals are \$50,000 or more will be required to furnish a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of their bid. The cost of the Bond shall be included in each proposal.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board or Superintendent of the Livonia Public Schools. All bids must be accompanied by a signed and notarized statement to comply with the Iran Economic Sanctions Act of 2012 and the Equal Opportunity Form.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the owner. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Phillip Francis
Director of Operations

Published: January 29, 2017

LC-000309983 3x8

Branch Line School, a tuition-free Michigan public charter school, is accepting applications for the 17-18 school year. Kinder-8th grade. Located at 16360 Hubbard, Livonia, MI. Open Enrollment: Feb 3 - Feb 24, 2017. Applications online at www.branchlineschool.org OR via our website on campus on Sun, Feb 12, 1-3pm or Thurs, Feb 16, 4-7pm. IF applications exceed available space, a lottery, open to the public, will be held on Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 3pm at Branch Line School. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first come, first served basis to capacity. **Those enrolled are required to attend an Informational Family meeting and student visit days will be scheduled.** Tuition based preschool is also available, enroll via our website.

Published: January 29, 2017

LC-000309312 3x2

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Family Medicine



Pat Freeman, DO
Family Medicine

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HOMETOWN ACTOR FEELS THE LOVE

Julie Yolles
Correspondent

For months, John Sloan III has been taking endless ticket orders for his friends and family. Even his dentist is bringing the whole office to see the talented actor perform on the Detroit Opera House stage beginning Feb. 1 in the national tour of Disney's "The Lion King."

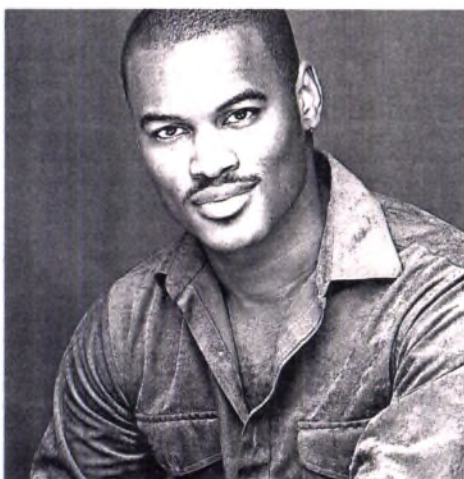
For local fans, tickets to see Sloan are almost as hard to get as those for "Hamilton," knowing that this is the third and final time that Sloan will perform in "The Lion King" in Detroit. His contract expires in July.

"The beauty of doing the show at home is that I can always walk out the stage door and run in to someone I went to school with," said Sloan, who grew up in Oak Park and moved to Farmington with his family when he was 13.

When he was a kid in the early '90s, Sloan performed with the Lathrup Youth Theatre and Metropolitan Youth Symphony and, to this day, he always travels with his violin. He'd do television commercials and voiceovers while attending the International Academy in Bloomfield Hills and, later, Farmington High School. He left high school a year early to attend Oakland Community College. It was right after graduating from the University of



"The Lion King" returns Feb. 1-26 to Detroit.



John Sloan III stars in "The Lion King" production.

Michigan and moving to New York in 2005 that his friend "dragged him" to his first professional open call audition for "The Lion King."

"I had seven callbacks, but didn't hear back for two years," said Sloan, 33, who performs in the ensemble and understudies Banzai the Hyena. "After I didn't hear back from Disney, I spent the next year-and-a-half doing the starving-artist thing - working at Starbucks, Banana Republic, doing catering jobs. I needed the flexibility to audition."

In 2006, Sloan landed his first professional job in Philadelphia, playing the role of Mereb in

"Aida." He earned his Actor's Equity union card with that show. He then played Schroeder in "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" for the same theater before moving back to Farmington. He worked for Wild Swan Theatre in Ann Arbor and Plowshares Theatre in Detroit and was an acting coach for Detroit Youth Slam.

"New York can be very hectic and stressful," Sloan said. "So I came home to see my folks. I didn't intend to stay for as long as I did, but in this industry, you don't turn down work."

Sloan has been with "The Lion King" on and off for 10 years, taking time off occasionally to perform in other productions, such as "Showboat" on the big island of Hawaii.

"As an African-American actor, it's great to be creative and vibrant and tackle iconic roles like Joe, who sings 'Old Man River' and perform in 'The Lion King,'" Sloan said.

In advance of coming to Detroit for "The Lion King," which will run Feb. 1-26 at the Detroit Opera House, Sloan has been working on scheduling outreach events and educational theater workshops with the Detroit chapters of Black Lives Matter and The Future Project in connection with his newly sponsored nonprofit, The Helping Hands Campaign.

"Our goal as artists is to figure out a way to support and engage schools and the community, by using the power of art to inspire change and progress," Sloan said of The Helping Hands Campaign that he started a few years ago.

Along with "The Lion King" cast, the casts of "Wicked" and "Jersey Boys" have put on benefit concerts, held food drives and conducted workshops in different cities while on tour. To date, Sloan noted they have raised more than \$85,000 that they have distributed to various charities.

"My mother taught me how to do what I do and my father taught

me why," he said. "I grew up with a strong family support system and learned the importance of music education at home at an early age."

Sloan's mother, Brenda Gold-Sloan, taught music in Detroit for 15 years; she currently teaches at Warner Middle School in Farmington. His aunt, Ernestine Livingston, is a retired high school music teacher in Detroit and his father, John Sloan Jr., is a counselor and teaches philosophy at OCC.

"I'd like to think that I've always been altruistic," said Sloan, who's ready for this next chapter in his life, which is a full-time dedication to The Helping Hands Campaign. "My parents and family have always instilled in me that you should know why you're doing what you're doing and do your best to live with a sense of integrity."

In the meantime, Sloan plans to continue his charitable work while being on the road for the next five months with "The Lion King."

"The show is really relatable to our audience," he said. "Whether you're 8 or 80, there's universal elements about the desire to live up to our parents while also having the fear of living in their own shadow. It's about finding your own identity."

Sloan has 10 elaborate costume changes as a member of the ensemble. When he understudies Banzai the Hyena, Sloan noted that the costume weighs an additional 25 pounds.

Sloan offered a tip for audience members to find him in "The Lion King" crowd:

"There's three guys on stage, on the audience's left side. I'm wearing an orange-ish and blue dashiki - almost U-M colors. It's definitely much better than having a scarlet and gray costume," the University of Michigan Musical Theatre graduate said with a laugh.

In Detroit, "The Lion King" will play at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. There are also special 1 p.m. matinees scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 2 and 23. Note there is no evening performance Sunday, Feb. 26.

A special open-captioned performance will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12. Tickets for the open-captioned performance may be purchased in person at The Fisher Theatre and Detroit Opera House box offices or by phone at 313-872-1000, ext. 0.

Purchase tickets at Ticketmaster locations, online at www.broadwayindetroit.com or www.ticketmaster.com, by phone at 800-982-2787 and at The Fisher Theatre box office. Ticket prices start at \$25.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 30 OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3944 THERETO.

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Pursuant to the report of the City Planning Commission, dated September 19, 2016, setting forth its resolution 09-94-2016 recommending approval of Petition 2016-08-01-05, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on October 24, 2016, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2016-08-01-05 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

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

Section 3.3944. Petition 2016-08-01-05 submitted by Michael Gowen is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from C-1 to R-1:

Land situated in the City of Livonia, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, described as follows:

Lots 1 to 4, inclusive, also the adjacent vacated alley adjacent thereto, Chaney & Bakewell's Plymouth Park Subdivision, T1S R9E as recorded in Liber 55, Page 77, Wayne County Records, also Lot 637 except the South 660 feet thereof Supervisors Livonia Plat No. 9, T1S R9E as recorded in Liber 66, Page 60 Wayne County.

and the Southeast 1/4 of Section 30 of the Zoning Map is hereby amended to conform to the changes made in this section.

Section 4. The attached map designated "Amendment No. 960 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

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

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

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, December 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 20th day of December, 2016.

Dennis Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney

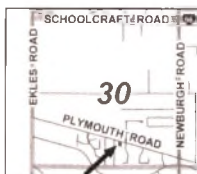
Dated: December 20, 2016

BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT AS AMENDED FROM C-1, LOCAL BUSINESS TO R-1, ONE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL - 60' X 120' LOTS



PETITION NO. 2016-08-01-05
A PART OF THE N.E. 1/4 OF SECTION 30

AMENDMENT NO. 960 TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 3019
Adopted by the City Council on 12/19/16



Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF WAYNE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust
FILE NO. 2017-823856-DE
Estate of PATRICIA A. RATKE, died 12/22/2016
Decedent, Date of birth: 07/02/1945
TO ALL CREDITORS:
Notice to Creditors: The decedent, PATRICIA A. RATKE, died 12/22/2016. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Kimberly A. Lane, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1307 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of the publication of this notice.
Date: 01/17/2017
Attorney Name: Bar No. Bradford L. Maynes P68319
133 West Grand River
Brighton, MI 48116
(810) 227-6000
Personal Representative Name: Kimberly A. Lane
8165 Northview Drive
Howell, MI 48855
(734) 377-2120
Publish: January 29, 2017
LO-000320876 4x12.1

PUBLICATION OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN 46th Judicial Circuit - Family Division OTSEGO COUNTY
TO: MICHELLE WATSON IN THE MATTER OF: JOSHUA LOGAN WATSON (DOB 04/09/2012)
A hearing regarding BENCH TRIAL AND TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS will be conducted by the court on February 28, 2017 at 1:30 P.M. in DISTRICT COURTROOM 101, 800 LIVINGSTON BLVD. GAYLORD, MI 49735 before HON. MICHAEL K. COOPER. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that MICHELLE WATSON personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above.
This hearing may result in TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.
Published: January 29, 2017
LO-000320877 1x4

I am an American We are One Nation

SEEKING EQUALITY USING DIALOGUE

Hmong woman's group forms to heal community divided after stabbing

MARK TREINEN
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit onenation.usatoday.com.

WAUSAU, Wis. - Maysee Herr saw a need to bring people together. A summer of racial tensions threatened to divide her hometown, and she felt her voice could make a difference.

She became a founding member of a new community dialogue project called Toward One Wausau, which sprang up in the wake of heated debate over the treatment of a Southeast Asian teenager convicted of stabbing another boy to death in a street fight. Dylan Yang, who was 15 when he killed 13-year-old Isaiah Powell, shares a Hmong heritage with Herr.

The Hmong are an ethnic group that fled persecution in their homeland after aiding American troops in the Vietnam War era. Thousands have settled in the central Wisconsin community of Wausau, which had been almost all white prior to the arrival of Hmong and Laotian refugees starting in the late 1970s.

Dylan Yang's conviction in adult court stirred Hmong Americans across the nation to protest on social media, in letters to authorities and finally in a march in Wausau. The protest was to promote peace and justice, and to call for leniency, but it elicited fear and anger among those who believed marchers had unjustly targeted police and prosecutors.

Herr, who grew up in Wausau and went on to become a college professor, was torn between her own concerns about injustice and her desire to teach and heal. She and others formed Toward One Wausau to encourage people of all backgrounds to "talk openly, listen earnestly" and know their neighbors.

She knew it wouldn't be easy. "It is in our discomfort that learning takes place," Herr told residents who gathered for the first Toward One Wausau public forum in October. "That dialogue, the



MARIE WALKOWSKI/FOR USA TODAY NETWORK
Maysee Herr is one of the founders of Toward One Wausau, a project to encourage people in her community to talk about racial and ethnic differences.

discussions you have are powerful."

Toward One Wausau has grown to include local police and school administrators, the local newspaper and public radio affiliate, the nonprofit Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service and representatives of African-American, Hispanic, Hmong and Native American groups. The group plans a series of public deliberations in the spring to involve more people in the community.

**ONE NATION
NOMINATE AN AMERICAN**

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onenation.usatoday.com or via email to onenation@usatoday.com or post a video submission to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram (no longer than 2 minutes, please) with the hashtags #IAmAnAmerican #WeAreOneNation.

**Q&A WITH
MAYSEE HERR**

Maysee Herr grew up the daughter of refugees from war-torn Laos. She has a doctoral degree in curriculum studies and early childhood education from Indiana University and taught in Indianapolis before returning to her hometown of Wausau, Wisconsin. She is now an associate professor of education and a founding member of the Toward One Wausau unity project.

What does it mean to be an American?

To be an American means being able to express my thoughts and ideas freely but responsibly. It means having the right to stand tall and being able to pursue whatever dreams I wish even when the path isn't always easy.

What moment touched and motivated you to take part in this effort?

I've always felt that this type of effort was needed. However, there have been many national and local challenges related to race that have made me realize there is an urgency for this type of effort.

What gives you hope and what concerns you?

Efforts such as the Toward One Wausau project are giving me hope for a more open and equitable community. What is most concerning to me is when people aren't willing to try putting themselves in the shoes of someone else to try understanding their experiences. When we aren't open to listening to one another, we remain static as a community and not much changes.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

If something I say or do can encourage someone to also take a stand for understanding and equity in the community, I will have done my job. As an American, we all have a responsibility to help build a better community for every one of its members and to spread hope where there is none.

I am an American We are One Nation

Meg works with teachers nationally to help students respectfully deal with the divides of our society.

Meg Heubeck
Director of Instruction,
Youth Leadership Initiative
University of Virginia

Each week we will highlight an American who is helping our nation. Here's your chance to nominate the next.

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 - Only 1,040 miles

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2014 Lincoln MKS FWD



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2014 Lincoln MKZ AWD



STK #: 43062

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STK #: 43111

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STK #: 43533

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 - Remote Engine Start
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2015 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid FWD



STK #: 43118

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 - Keyless Entry
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**NOW ONLY
\$23,995***

2013 Lincoln Navigator L 4WD



STK #: 43173

- Certified!**
- Bluetooth Connection
 - Satellite Radio
 - Only 42,487 miles

**NOW ONLY
\$34,995***

2012 Lincoln MKZ FWD



STK #: 43098

- Certified!**
- Bucket Seats
 - Climate Control
 - Only 54,212 miles

**NOW ONLY
\$13,995***

2017 Lincoln MKZ FWD



STK #: 43526

- Certified!**
- Keyless Start
 - Bluetooth Connection
 - Only 6,427 miles

**NOW ONLY
\$35,995***

2014 Lincoln MKS EcoBoost AWD



STK #: 43206

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- Bluetooth Connection
 - Satellite Radio
 - Only 39,953 miles

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GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As part of a group of high school and college athletes at Jake's House of Iron, Jeremiah Riordan cranks up the intensity with each and every repetition.

SNAP JUDGMENT



TIM SMITH
Following his workout at Jake's House of Iron, Jeremiah Riordan gets in some extra repetitions snapping the football. The velocity off his snaps rival that of a hard-throwing baseball pitcher.

Buffalo-bound Riordan working long and hard to succeed as college long-snapper

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Jeremiah Riordan dropped to the floor at Jake Sweeney's House of Iron in Canton, then elevated in a flash in time to be ready to catch the 20-pound medicine ball heaved at him by his training partner. Riordan fired it right back from whence it came, at former Canton High School baseball catcher Nick Romanowski (currently playing at Schoolcraft College) standing about 10 feet away. They traded tosses at a faster and harder rate of speed and power during the so-called burly throw, one of numerous cutting edge exercises that Sweeney — who long-snapped in the early 1980s for legendary Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler — incorporates into intense group

"They have a senior who's graduating. They want me to be that guy. They need me to step in day one and be that guy and I'm willing to do that and work my butt off for that."

JEREMIAH RIORDAN

workouts populated by high school and college athletes.

"You got to go down and get up right before the ball gets to you," Riordan said. "Just got to keep moving. All energy is going forward."

Plymouth resident and University of Detroit-Jesuit senior Riordan said the burly throw is exactly the kind of drill he needs to sharpen up his skills before going to the University of Buffalo — a Division 1 school in the Mid-American Conference, where he is officially signing his national letter of intent Feb. 1 to become a long-

THE RIORDAN FILE



Who: Jeremiah Riordan, 18-year-old senior at University of Detroit-Jesuit.
What: The 6-2, 225-pound Plymouth resident,

whose parents are Meghan and Michael (a Michigan Court of Appeals judge), will sign with Division I University of Buffalo to be the Bulls' long-snapper. He is receiving a full scholarship.

On the grid: He is a three-year varsity player for the Cubs, who played him as a lineman, tight end and long-snapper, among other roles. With Buffalo, he will strictly snap for field goals, extra points and punts.

Other: Riordan carries a 3.0 grade-point average and attended middle school at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth.

See RIORDAN, Page B2

MPHSH SHOWCASE

Churchill icers put scare into Eagles, but fall in third period

Chargers make life miserable for top-ranked Hartland in Chelsea

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

Livonia Churchill entered Thursday's game against Hartland looking to make a statement.

When junior forward Jordan Venegoni smoked a rising shot past Eagles goalie Brett Tome just 30 seconds into

the game at Chelsea Arctic Coliseum, the Chargers looked poised to make it a tough night for the top-ranked team in Division 2.

It took until the third period for Hartland to finally catch and surpass the Chargers, with the Eagles' speed and firepower ultimately too much as Hartland rallied for a 5-3 victory. The contest was played as part of



Broyles



Venegoni

the six-day Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase.

"We knew tonight was going to be our biggest test and I think we came in with the mentality this is really going to be a measuring stick for us," said

Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds, whose team dropped to 11-5 overall. "To Hartland's credit, they didn't allow us to get too comfortable. We were fortu-

nate enough to get the early lead, and just continued to preach consistency, good habits. I think we made it a hell of a hockey game."

The Chargers went up 2-0 with 7:40 left in the first on a goal by junior forward Josh Friend, from junior linemate Conor Burnette and Hartland (16-1-0) could not solve Churchill senior goalie Andrew Broyles (31 saves) until the 11-minute mark of the second period.

See HOCKEY, Page B4

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ATHLETIC TRAINING

Sweeney helps them up their game

Ex-Wolverines lineman's House of Iron is a welcome home for those who want to get tougher, faster, better

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

When Lawrence "Jake" Sweeney played football at the University of Michigan for the legendary Bo Schembechler, long-snapping was an extra duty linemen were entrusted to perform.

And with only 40-something roster spots to fill, whether in the Big Ten or National Football League, the idea of giving scholarship money — or a pro contract, for that matter — to a player solely to snap the ball to kickers and punters was little more than a pipe dream.

The game — not to mention the importance of long-snappers — has evolved in a big way in the more than three decades since Sweeney suited up for the Wolverines. There's potential for opportunity, too, with college and pro rosters typically exceeding 50 athletes.

"It's become a legitimate position," Sweeney said. "It used to be ... they found a guy on the team that could (long-snap) and he did it."

Another way things are different now: Bo called Sweeney "Larry," but that's a story for another day.

Sweeney performed all the things long-snappers do today, but he was a center first and foremost. He cut his teeth as an all-state player at Alma High School and then played every game over four seasons (1980-83) for Schembechler. He

was a member of the 1980 Big Ten championship squad that won the 1981 Rose Bowl.

"I played center at Michigan and I learned to long-snap when I was in junior high," Sweeney said. "My dad was a football coach; he coached at Alma College. Back in the day, centers did it all. They snapped to quarterbacks, holders and punters. I just naturally developed that skill."

"And I was recruited by all the big boys, but it was basically between Michigan and Notre Dame. Those were the final two."

No limit

He didn't make the big time in pro football, but he worked a decade as a federal law enforcement officer. During those 10 years, Sweeney became the go-to guy for raising the physical fitness bar for federal agents.

Ultimately, Sweeney decided to take his game to the private sector. Today, he owns Jake's House of Iron in Canton and is a strength and conditioning specialist.

It is boot camp, of sorts, because the ex-Wolverine makes sure the young men and women (mostly in high school and college) go to their physical limit — and then go well beyond that.

Among those who spend \$20 for a 45-minute session (his rate for prep and college athletes) two or three times a



Still a Michigan Wolverine at heart is former football center Jake Sweeney (center). Group exercise sessions at his Canton facility are all about trust, accountability and being part of a team.

week is University of Detroit-Jesuit senior Jeremiah Riordan of Plymouth, who is signing to be long-snapper for the University of Buffalo (a D-I school in the Mid-American Conference).

"Jeremiah's a good athlete, a good kid, from a good family," Sweeney said. "I think he'll have a great career. I really do. When he was offered, his dad asked me what I thought."

"I think he's good enough that he could probably play anywhere. I think he's that

good, with the speed that he snaps with."

Sweeney doesn't have a crystal ball about what the future might bring for any athlete who trains at his facility. But for those getting through the workouts and coming back hungry for more, he does have a gut feeling about someone's work ethic, character and commitment to excellence.

Those all are traits that can translate into success as a college or pro athlete.

"The game's changed, but I just enjoy training the athletes as football players and see where it goes," Sweeney said. "I've got some really neat young kids now that are training with me that I see a lot of potential in."

Jake's House of Iron is located at 42030 Koppernick, Suite 311, Canton. For more information, go to jakeshouseofiron.com.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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RIORDAN

Continued from Page B1

snapper.

Beyond the limit

He is getting a full-ride scholarship just to make sure the pigskin is snapped accurately and with some oomph on it. That trend is picking up steam as colleges are making a greater commitment to those who can do the job, rather than hoping a lineman can handle such duties.

"Blocking, especially when I'm getting up from snapping," Riordan said when asked about how the drill might help him with the Bulls. "Snapping my head up, it's just going to help me block faster and just get me prepared for the speed at the next level."

Chugging a bottle of Muscle Milk following the 45-minute workout, the 18-year-old Riordan said he loves to keep pushing the envelope with help from Sweeney and the rest of the group at House of Iron (located at Haggerty and Koppernick and a workout facility of choice for many pro football and hockey players).

"It's a tough workout, I couldn't do it," said Riordan's dad Michael, a judge on the Michigan Court of Appeals. "I can do an elliptical. I couldn't do what those guys are doing."

"But the proof's in the pudding, Brennen Beyer comes here, Kyle Brindza."

Working out during the same session were Brindza and Jamarl Eiland, a Buffalo wide receiver. Both are Plymouth football alums, as is Beyer (who plays for the NFL's Baltimore Ravens).

Brindza, a former NFL kicker, is now feverishly training to recover from a torn Achilles tendon.

"I like the battling ropes, just a great workout all-around," Jeremiah Riordan said. "Toughest is the sled, especially when they jump on it. You got to do all the weight and have the body weight of the person when they jump on. It gets you."

Desire and dreams

Riordan's got something else, too. He is talented, of course, but his desire to fulfill his football dreams is off the charts. So is his overflowing gratitude to those who have believed in him.

Nothing is going to stop the 6-2, 225-pounder from doing all he can to make sure Buffalo scouts and coaches made the right call.

"They have a senior who's graduating," Riordan said. "They want me to be that guy. They need me to step in day



Jeremiah Riordan puts everything he has into workouts at Jake's House of Iron in Canton.

one and be that guy and I'm willing to do that and work my butt off for that."

Sweeney noticed from the get-go when Riordan walked into Jake's House of Iron that he had a young man who didn't mind going through countless hours of hard work to get to where he wanted to go.

"It's been four or five years (working with Riordan), maybe more," Sweeney said. "His dad brought him to me. I won't train them how to long-snap. I'll condition them, get them more explosive and stronger and faster."

"And if they want to stay afterward and work on some long-snapping, then we do that. I offer that service to all my players that play football and are offensive linemen."

Versatility counts

During his three-year prep career at U-D Jesuit, Riordan did much more than snap the football. He played tight end, linebacker, defensive end, offensive line — pretty much wherever Cubs coaches wanted him on the gridiron.

And that's a huge plus for any football player who might someday find a spot long-snapping in college or perhaps the

professional ranks.

"I teach offensive linemen to be centers, too," Sweeney said. "Because only the five best players play. So a kid like Mason Cole at Michigan, he was a tackle. They needed a center, so they moved him to center. These things happen all the time."

"Jeremiah's really applied himself. He's gone to camps, he's had these combines, places where they take parents' money and tell them, 'Oh, I can get your kid a scholarship.' I guess it works out sometimes and it doesn't."

"You got to understand, I'm kind of old-school. I look at it from the point of view that a college coach, a staff, they're going to find good football players. They don't rely on these all-star combines to find their talent in. But that's me."

Help from home

Word of mouth in Riordan's neighborhood helped him go to Jake's House of Iron several years ago.

"Jake was recommended to us by Patrick Salo (also a Plymouth grad), who lives in our sub," Michael Riordan said. "I think he's going to be a doctor now. But he said Jake's the best

"I think the reason there are not more scholarship offers for long-snappers is that their are only so many scholarships to give."

TIM BAECHLER
Canton head coach

around."

The younger Riordan knows where his bread is buttered, so he makes sure his dad gets major props for the upward trajectory his football career is taking. Last weekend, Michael and Jeremiah drove some 600 miles round-trip to Buffalo's official campus visit for 2017 recruits.

"I'm very blessed; my dad helped me a lot," Jeremiah said. "He's the one who actually got me into it (snapping). Eighth-grade year, he was looking at all these camps and said, 'You can actually go somewhere.'"

"He pushed me. We just worked at it together, traveling all around the country. I'm blessed with the opportunity Buffalo gave me and I'm going to prove I can make it four years, that long-snapping is something you can do."

Others have been there for him, too, such as former Novi Detroit Catholic Central and Michigan long-snapper Sean Griffin and Nick Adams, who snapped at Central Michigan University.

They pick up the training baton from Sweeney and ran with it.

"With anything, including snapping, repetition is the key," Griffin said. "You take so many snaps behind the scenes, when you step out on the field, it's second nature."

"The actual game doesn't change much. It's all about repetitions to develop muscle memory."

Mind over matter

And one of the muscles benefiting from that approach is the brain, so that athletes such as Riordan do not soften mentally when a key field goal needs to be kicked at the same time opponents and spectators scream expletives in an attempt to throw them off.

"With any specialist position, mental toughness is very important," Griffin said. "That's why you always see pro coaches try to 'ice the kicker' at the end of a game before a big kick."

"You always have to have a short memory while snapping. If anything goes wrong, forget about it and move on to the next one."

Riordan considers Griffin and Adams big brothers who will do anything for him. That's why he doesn't want to let them down.

"They teach you how to do your mind right; it's all men-

tal," Riordan said. "You can win or lose the game and you don't want to be the one to lose the game."

"Nick, he said, imagine the first game is at Minnesota, imagine the people there yelling and shouting. I have a couple buddies that snap with me, we just yell at each other, taunt, trying to make each other laugh, do whatever we can to distract each other. But you just got to focus on that snap."

Changing perspective

The future Bull can't wait until he gets the chance to butt helmets in the MAC, because he is a football player first and foremost.

Yet he understands he has an important job ahead of him for the next four seasons.

It is a job that is being taken seriously by more college coaches, enough so that Riordan is part of a growing fraternity — long-snappers with scholarships, rather than needing to prove their mettle as walk-ons.

Such was the case with Collin Cafilisch, a 2015 Canton graduate who walked on at Michigan State the past two seasons.

Cafilisch, like Riordan a physical beast at 6-4, 288 pounds, is entering his junior season with the Spartans, looking to break into the regular lineup.

"I think the reason there are not more scholarship offers for long-snappers is that their are only so many scholarships to give," Canton head coach Tim Baechler said. "I think most programs try to recruit a player based on position needs and they hope that a few of the guys they give scholarships to can also long-snap instead of just giving a scholarship to a snapper only."

"Collin can also play offensive line, but was mainly recruited because he is an excellent long-snapper that is also developing into a good offensive lineman at MSU."

Indeed, coaches like players they can count on and that definitely is the case with Riordan. At least, that's how he wants to be perceived.

And he doesn't mind one bit facing the challenges ahead.

After all, if Jeremiah Riordan can handle a burly throw, he's game for just about anything.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Dierker scores 1,000th point for MU

Former Salem High School standout reaches milestone in junior season, scores 20 as Crusaders top UNO

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

During Chris Dierker's high school career at Salem, he was a thorn in the side of KLAA opponents because of his double-threat ability to soar to the rim for buckets and boards or shoot jumpers from the perimeter.

Nothing has changed during his college career at Madonna University, as demonstrated by the 6-7 forward's milestone performance Wednesday at No. 21 University of Northwestern Ohio during the Crusaders' 82-76 victory.

Dierker sank a free throw for the 1,000th point of his three-year career with the Crusaders, becoming the 13th player in the history of Madonna men's basketball to join the exclusive club.

He sank a free throw in the second half for the big point and scored seven of his team's points during a 10-2 run that put Madonna up 72-58. The Crusad-



Going to the rack during a game earlier this season is Madonna University junior forward Chris Dierker, a Salem graduate.

ers had to withstand a late push by the Racers, who got to within 78-76 with 37 seconds left before junior guard Austin Johnson made two free throws for some breathing room.

"Reaching 1,000 points at this point in his career is a testament to his consistency," Madonna head coach Noel

Emenhiser said. "Since his freshman year, we've been able to count on Chris to produce nearly a double-double every night.

"He has really improved since then and is really a force on both ends. I'm proud that all of his hard work is put on display and being rewarded in this

way."

Dierker, of course, enjoyed another double-double against the Racers. He scored 20 points and grabbed 14 rebounds.

But the former Rocks standout wasn't the only MU player to spark the win. Johnson set a career high with 33 points (12-of-17 from the floor) to keep the offense rolling.

"Austin Johnson had an incredible night," Emehiser said. "He played a lot of minutes (32), defended their top offensive player and scored with great efficiency."

Chipping in eight points each were Dan Hall and Andrew Myers, while Stephan Umfress scored six.

Madonna, now 11-12 overall and 6-9 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, led 39-31 at halftime and held off the Racers down the stretch in large part to the play of Dierker and Johnson.

"UNO is a difficult place to play and they have a very good team," Emehiser said. "I was impressed with our defense throughout the game."

The Racers dropped to 15-8 overall and 10-5 in league play.

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COLLEGE HOCKEY

Schoolcraft splits weekend set vs. Ontario squad

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Schoolcraft College dropped a 6-5 game Jan. 20 to Sault (Ontario) College at Redford Ice Arena, but Ocelots men's hockey coach Rob Lindsay liked adjustments made during the contest.

"We started working the puck hard until we won the battle and got some great shots on the net," Lindsay said. "We finally realized that the secret to success in this game is puck control."

The following night, also at Redford, the Ocelots came out with the lesson in their collective memory bank and dominated from the start in a 10-5 victory.

Zach Nichols and Shane Leonard scored two goals each and Owen Hund (Garden City/Belle Tire AA), Zack Nelson (Livonia Franklin), Matt Bederka and Nick Oliveri each tallied one goal and an assist in the Schoolcraft rout.

"We started out the game putting the body and winning the one-on-one battles all over the ice," Lindsay said. "We ran a 2-3 forecheck and Sault had a difficult time getting out of their zone."

"On the power play, when we lost the puck, we had three guys attacking it working the puck hard and regaining possession of the puck. We were beating them to the loose pucks and finding the passing and shooting lanes on the power plays."

Schoolcraft broke open the Saturday night contest with a six-goal surge that began when Nelson found the back of



Scoring two goals for Schoolcraft in a 10-5 win over Sault College was forward Zach Nichols (right), shown from earlier this season during a game at Redford Arena.

the Sault net with about seven minutes left in the second. That gave the Ocelots a 4-3 lead.

Hund scored unassisted before the end of the period and Schoolcraft tacked on Nelson's second goal, set up by Zack Finzel (Livonia Stevenson), in the first minute of the third to open a 6-3 edge.

Leonard scored twice within four minutes, with the first goal set up by

Livonia's Bayley Brothers and Alec DeFlorio.

Sandwiched between Leonard's goals was one by Nichols (from Hund). Closing out the scoring was Brothers.

Making 24 saves for win was goalie Bryan Donaldson.

When all was said and done, the Ocelots turned in their best game of the season and Lindsay is confident his team will ride the wave of positive momentum into upcoming contests.

As for the Friday game, Schoolcraft fell behind 5-1 midway through the second period and could not climb all the way back, despite outscoring Sault over the final 27 minutes, 4-1.

Vinnie Glenn (Livonia Stevenson) scored twice for Schoolcraft, with single goals by Jordan Martinez, Sheldon Varhol (Garden City/Cabrini) and Leonard.

Stevenson product Andrew Nowak and Leonard drew one assist for the Ocelots, with DeFlorio chipping in three assists.

Taking the loss was goalie Matt Monendo (Livonia Franklin), who made 28 saves.

Lindsay said Monendo bounced back from the tough start, although the team's bid fell short. "Monendo was very good between the pipes and our team started playing two-way hockey in all three zones," he said.

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PREP BOWLING

RU boys bowlers rebound vs. Dearborn

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Brendan Kerkhof rolled games of 225 and 223 as the Redford Union boys bowling team rebounded for a 24-6 Western Wayne Athletic Conference victory over Dearborn High in a match at Taylor's Skore Lanes.

Dennis Jackson added a 214 high game for the Panthers, who improved to 8-2 in the WWAC.

RU won the first Baker game, 184-136, while Dearborn took the second, 178-172. The Panthers then won both regular games, 949-798 and 823-780 to sew up the match.

On Jan. 24, Kerkhof rolled a high game of 227 and Kyle Keating added a 195, but it wasn't enough as the Panthers fell to host Belleville, 27-3, in a WWAC match at Lodge Lanes.

The Panthers dropped both Baker games, 219-175 and 225-198, along with both regular games, 949-903 and 1,099-884.

RU girls falter

The Redford Union girls slipped to 6-3-1 in the WWAC following a 27.5-2.5 loss to Dearborn at Skore Lanes.

Brianna Clapham (177) and Lizzie Pigeon (167) bowled individual high games for the Panthers, who lost both Baker games, 114-111 and 135-127.

Dearborn also took both regular games, 744-733 and 755-659.

On Jan. 24, RU fell to Belleville in a WWAC match, 19-11, as Clapham and Pigeon paced RU with high games of 163 and 150, respectively.

The Panthers jumped out to a 10-0 lead by winning both Baker sets, 165-160 and 179-171, but Belleville won both traditional games, 788-678 and 847-680.

The RU boys and girls, coach by Roy Biggs and David Battistelli, return to WWAC action 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31 at Redford's Mayflower Lanes to face Dearborn Heights Annapolis.

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PREP SWIMMING

Redford Union swimmers sink rival Thurston

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Redford Union captured nine-of-11 events to earn a 100-59 Western Wayne Athletic Conference boys swim victory on Jan. 19 against rival Redford Thurston.

The Panthers, who improved to 4-1 in the WWAC, were led by Jamison Ortiz, who captured the 200-yard individual medley (2:34.80) and 100 butterfly (1:11.43), along with Mac Kewandwy, who took the 500 freestyle (6:06.28) and 100 backstroke (1:09.25).

The Panthers' other individual first came from Ray Samuel in the 50 freestyle

(25.53) and Jackson Allison in the 100 breaststroke (1:22.75).

Kewandwy, Samuel, Ortiz and Xavier Walters won the 200 medley relay (1:59.30), while the foursome of Ortiz, Walters, Stuart DiDonato and Allison captured the 200 freestyle relay (1:52.40).

Thurston's lone individual winner was Patrick Werth in the 200 freestyle (2:21.03). He also teamed up with Mike Werth, Patrick Valdez and Brashawn Williams for a win the 400 freestyle relay (4:23.38).

"The meet was closer than the score indicated as Thurston did not fill all of the events," RU coach Shelly Helwig said. "We were able to swim well in the relays, which

is always key to being successful in any dual meet. Our 'B' relay Ben Scanlon, Bradley Marx, Anthony Buscemi and Brett Byrd just got edged out in the 200 medley relay for second place (2:21.09), which shows how our younger swimmers are coming along. Marx had an impressive day getting a P.R. in the breaststroke (1:28.60). He has come a long way for a rookie."

RU returns to WWAC action 6 p.m. Thursday at home against Belleville, while Thurston faces Dearborn Heights Annapolis 6 p.m. Thursday away.

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BOYS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Offense rolls again for Spartans, Rockets

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

Livonia Stevenson turned on the jets Friday night and cruised to a 74-45 win over KLAA Central Division rival South Lyon East.

Devin Dunn scored 15 points to lead the Spartans (11-1 overall, 5-1 in the division), who enjoyed leads of 14-9 after one quarter and 39-20 at halftime.

Ian Knoph added 11 points for Stevenson while George Ferguson and Thomas Demers added nine and eight points, respectively.

"It was a very fast-paced game tonight," Stevenson assistant coach Chris Haldane said. "We ran our full court presses to speed the game up to the pace we like to play and to cause turnovers."

"All our players were really active on defense and caused a lot of turnovers which led to fast break baskets." Haldane cited the strong defensive work turned in by Ferguson and Demers.

Rockets soar again

Westland John Glenn rolled to a 86-50 victory over host Livonia Churchill on Friday night to make it 10 wins in 11 games overall (5-1 in the KLAA

South).

The Chargers dropped to 2-10 overall and 0-5 in the division.

Joe Moon IV scored 26 points for the Rockets, while Daijon Parker (20), Christian Agnew (14) and Khalil Wright (12) all had strong offensive nights.

Genesis Barnes scored 14 points for the Chargers.

John Glenn broke the game open in the third quarter, enjoying a 28-4 edge on the scoreboard to carry a 74-32 lead into the fourth.

Wayne nips Plymouth

It took overtime, but Wayne Memorial got past Plymouth 67-64 in a hard-fought KLAA South Division boys basketball game.

The Zebras (9-2 overall, 5-1 in the KLAA South) were paced by Keion Epps, who scored 17 points.

Also helping the Wayne cause were Rashad Williams (12 points) and Trevez Nyx (11 points).

Plymouth (5-7, 2-4) was led by Anthony Crump and Tariq Woody, with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

Adding 11 points each for the Wildcats were Joey Robb and Connor Bush. Plymouth visits Livonia Franklin on Tuesday.

Romulus clips Eagles

State-ranked Romulus (8-2, 5-0) pulled away in the second half Friday night to post a 91-57 Western Wayne Athletic Conference Blue Division victory over visiting Redford Thurston (4-7, 1-4).

Braden Morgan and Jaren English scored 16 and 15 points, respectively, for Romulus, which led 50-39 at halftime and 68-51 after three quarters before blowing it open with a 25-6 fourth quarter run.

Thurston's Malik Hill scored a game-high 20 points.

"We played well tonight," Thurston coach Brian Bates said. "We were down 11 at the half and most of the third quarter. We ran out of steam in the fourth quarter. I'm proud of my players. They played hard and well. We're getting better each night out."

Clarenceville falls

Rayvon Williamson scored a game-high 20 points Friday as Dearborn Heights Robichaud (8-2, 4-1) rolled to a 91-18 WWAC Red Division victory over Livonia Clarenceville (0-13, 0-5).

The Bulldogs led 33-9 after one quarter and 68-12 at halftime before a running clock was implemented for the

second half.

Torre Brown scored seven points in a losing cause.

RU postponed

Friday's scheduled WWAC Red Division game between host Redford Union (6-5, 2-2) and Dearborn (7-3, 3-1) was postponed until Tuesday, Feb. 7 because of security reasons, according to RU coach Randall Taylor.

Following RU's 66-65 double-overtime win on Jan. 24 at home against rival Redford Thurston, a fight broke out and a stabbing allegedly took place in the parking lot across the street from the school's gymnasium entrance.

The victim was taken to a local hospital, treated for minor injuries and was released, police said. No one was in custody as of Wednesday morning and police continue to investigate the incident.

"They just thought it was best we cancel at the end of the day and just reschedule it for another time," Taylor said.

RU athletic director Miles Tomasaitis could not be reached for comment on Friday night.

Staff writer Brad Emons contributed to this report.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Warriors edge Eagles; Zebras top 'Cats

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Lutheran High Westland overcame a five-point deficit with less than two minutes left and went on to earn a 47-45 non-league girls basketball victory Wednesday night at Redford Thurston.

Taylor Jones scored 15 of her game-high 19 points during the second half, including the game-tying basket with 40 seconds left to knot the game at 45-all.

After a Thurston turnover, Lutheran Westland's Kelli Orme converted the go-ahead basket with only nine seconds remaining off an out-of-bounds play to put the Warriors ahead for keeps.

Thurston's attempt at a three-pointer with only six seconds left missed the mark as the Warriors held on.

Jones also added 10 steals as the Warriors improved to 8-2 overall.

Rachel Reddeman contributed 16 points and 12 rebounds for Lutheran Westland, which trailed 22-20 at halftime before leading 36-35 after three quarters.

"I'm proud of our effort tonight, especially in the second half," Lutheran Westland coach Sandi Wade said. "We still have some things to work on and improve upon, and we will do that, but for now we will enjoy this one."

Bryanna Burton and Naudia Jackson each scored 13 points for the Eagles, who dropped their fifth straight to fall to 5-7 overall.

WAYNE 60, PLYMOUTH 50: Host Wayne Memorial built leads of 18-8 after one quarter and 29-16 at halftime and went on to post a KLAAs South Division girls basketball victory. Chantal LeDoux scored 15 points for Plymouth (4-8, 3-3), with Alexa Ebeling and Gabby Chouinard adding 13 and 12 points, respectively.

No individual stats were available as of press time for the Zebras. "Our group is battling consistency right now," Plymouth coach Ryan Ballard said. "We played Wayne tough again for three quarters. We have to find a way to put it all together."

CANTON 61, FRANKLIN 8: On Friday night at Livonia Franklin, the Chiefs were dominant from start to finish. Erin Milt scored 15 points for Canton while Brianna Finn and Shama Butler helped the cause with 10 and nine points, respectively. Canton led 36-7 at halftime. "It was clear the team was relieved to have finished their end of the semester finals today and came to the gym absolutely ready to play basketball," Canton coach Rob Heitmeier said. "We shot a solid 48 percent from the field and also made six of 11 three-point attempts so it was one of those nights."

Conversely, it was a tough night for the Patriots. Aleaha DeFrain scored three points to lead the team. **LUTHERAN WESTLAND 54, HURON VALLEY 47:** On Friday night at Huron Valley Lutheran, the Warriors played a steady game and posted the seven-point victory.

Lutheran Westland (9-2, 4-1) led 13-12 after one quarter and 23-20 at halftime. Leading the Warriors with 26 points was Rachel Reddeman while Taylor Jones added 15. The Hawks dropped to 5-8 overall and 2-2 in the division. "Coming into this game, we expected it to be tightly contested and that is what we got," Lutheran Westland head coach Sandi Wade said. "They (Hawks) do a good job with some pressure and that caused some problems early, which we took advantage of. We settled down and ended up getting some good looks

eventually. We were able to take advantage of some size inside and Reddeman was able to have a big game which also allowed Jones to get some space and attack the basket."

THURSTON 43, CLARENCEVILLE 23: Junior Bryanna Burton scored a game-high 14 points to lead Redford Thurston (6-7, 2-3) to a 43-23 Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division win Friday over visiting Livonia Clarenceville (1-11, 0-5).

Senior Gillian Drake and sophomore Naudia Jackson chipped in with eight and seven points, respectively for the Eagles, who snapped a five-game losing streak.

Myia Hoskins-King who hit a three-pointer to start the game giving Clarenceville its only lead of the night, finished with a team-high 12 points.

Thurston led 26-8 at halftime and 32-11 after three quarters. The Eagles were 6-of-15 from the foul line (40 percent), while Clarenceville was 2-of-8 (25 percent).

CHURCHILL 41, STEVENSON 35: Livonia Churchill earned a 41-35 victory Tuesday over Livonia Stevenson. Sparking the Chargers was Annie York with 20 points and 16 rebounds. Sarah Tandens scored 12 for Stevenson. "When Annie plays with that kind of energy and hunger we can compete with any team and tonight was proof of that," Churchill coach K'Len Morris said. "Shae Smith did a good job attacking their defense and creating plays of others. As a collective unit, I was very proud of how tough we were mentally."

Spartans head coach Karen Anger said her team was hurt by poor free-throw shooting, with the team missing 21 of 28 attempts.

Staff writer Tim Smith contributed to this report.

MID AMERICAN POMPON REGIONAL

Stevenson pom qualifies for states

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

Livonia Stevenson's varsity pom squad did more than just compete Sunday, Jan. 22, in the Mid American Pompon Regional at Northville High School.

The Spartans did well enough to qualify for the state meet, slated for Feb. 19 at Michigan State University's Breslin Center.

Stevenson made the cut in Division 1, the top category.

There will be another top-level competition for the team before then, however. On Feb. 11, the Spartans will take part in the Michigan Pom Association Competition at Saginaw Valley State University.

Members of the team include Riley Bauman, Kaitlyn Boris, Samantha Burney, Lexis Cholette, Holly Cleaver, Jenna Fisher, Riley Hannigan, Julia Hebert, Kelly Flannigan, Rylie Ickes, Kelly Jarosz, Caroline Kaniowski, Keri Martin, Alexa Michels, Katie Orlich, Shelby Pelc, Megan Pence, Maddie Piccard, Alexis Raymond and Sammie Zawisza.

Coaches are Megan Bugajski and Hazel Pacion.



Livonia Stevenson's varsity pompon team qualified for states. Pictured are (top row, from left) Maddie Piccard, Caroline Kaniowski, Lexis Cholette, Riley Bauman, Rylie Ickes, Kaitlyn Boris, Shelby Pelc and Megan Pence; middle row (from left) Samantha Burney, Alexa Michels, Holly Cleaver, Riley Hannigan, Kelly Flannigan, Keri Martin, Jenna Fisher and Sammie Zawisza; (bottom row, from left) Alexis Raymond, Katie Orlich, coach Megan Bugajski, coach Hazel Pacion, Kelly Jarosz and Julia Hebert.

SUBMITTED

PREP SWIMMING

Belleville's depth too much for Redford Union

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Redford Union captured six events Thursday, but visiting Belleville's depth proved to be the difference as the Tigers earned a 105-77 Western Wayne Athletic Conference boys swimming and diving victory.

The Panthers were led by double individual winners Mac Kewandwy and Ray Samuel. Kewandwy captured the 200-yard freestyle (2:08.09) and 100 backstroke (1:05.62), while Samuel added first in the 200 individual medley (2:29.51) and 500 freestyle (5:55.38).

RU's other wins came from Jamison Ortiz (1-meter diving, 156.75 points) and Jackson Allison (100 breaststroke, 1:22.45).

Among the Panthers' second place finishers included Stuart DiDonato in the 50 freestyle (26.63) and Ortiz in the 100 butterfly (1:11.42).

Belleville captured all three relays including the 200 medley (1:57.87), 200 freestyle (1:41.55) and 400 freestyle (3:53.40).

"We had a great swim even though we didn't come out on top," said RU coach Shelly Helwig, whose team slipped to 4-2 in WWAC dual meets.

"The boys posted some of their best times of the year. Our top swimmers were able to win their events, but Belleville's depth was a deciding factor."

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HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

Brenden Tulpa scored to cut the Chargers lead to 2-1.

Undaunted, Churchill got it back on the power play with 2:38 remaining in the frame. Senior forward John Doyle (two assists) sent a pass back to senior defenseman Joe Wozniak, who ripped a hard shot over Tome's trapper.

The Eagles, who have only lost to Birmingham Brother Rice so far this season, scored an important goal with 25 seconds left in the period to trail just 3-2 going into the third. Scoring was Spencer Abraham, tapping in the rebound of a Blake Heier shot.

"Honestly, we might not win the game without that goal, because it's a two-goal lead going into the third," Hartland head coach Rick Gadwa said. "It was a spark. I'm a firm believer if we don't get to within one there it might be game over. That was a huge goal, a huge momentum turn for us."

The third period was pretty much all Hartland, as the Eagles enjoyed a 15-5 edge in shots (and 36-20 for the game). Despite a gallant effort by Broyles, the Chargers could not stem the tide.

Heier netted the equalizer at 2:30 (on the power play) and put the Eagles up with 8:37 left on a rocket from the right circle. Assisting on both goals was Carter Eiden.

"Drew has been a soldier for us the last several games," Reynolds said. "He's really battled for us, every once in a while you're going to get a bullet to the net like they had on that fourth goal. But he's battled hard for us, I certainly can't pin anything on him."

Churchill subsequently had a power-play opportunity, with a chance to tie the game again. But Jake Gallaher intercepted a pass at the Hartland blue line and skated in all alone on Broyles for the shorthanded tally that iced the win for Hartland.

"You don't want to let penalties dictate the game by any means," Reynolds noted. "It's just a testament that this game was literally that tight. A lot of things we can correct on our end and hats off to Hartland. They've got some great guns on their team."

Broyles said the team "knew it was going to be a hard game, since they were ranked number one. It felt good when we put all our effort out there and came together."

Mustangs prevail, 5-2

Nick Bonofiglio's natural hat trick was the difference Wednesday night as Northville downed host Livonia Churchill, 5-2, in a Kensington Conference boys hockey crossover at Edgar Arena. The Mustangs, who improved to 11-5



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Livonia Churchill goalie Andrew Broyles makes a stop against a Livonia Stevenson player during a game earlier this season. Broyles turned in a valiant effort Thursday against the top team in Division 2, Hartland.

overall and 7-2 in the KLAAs Central Division, tallied all five of their goals in the final period.

Bonofiglio opened the scoring at 1:01 from Jack Sargent, but Churchill (11-4, 5-4 KLAAs South) answered to make it 1-1 on Danny Carey's power play goal at 3:11 from John Doyle and Tyler Haydu.

Bonofiglio then added goals at 8:14 and 12:04, respectively, the first on a power play from Jimmy Dales and Daniel McKee and the second from McKee.

Just 14 seconds later, Churchill cut the deficit to 3-2 on Jordan Venegoni's goal from Doyle.

The Mustangs then put it away on Devin Laba's goal at 14:33 from Sargent followed by Alex Iafate's empty netter with 21 seconds to play.

Northville goalie Brett Miller also stood tall stopping 20-of-22 Churchill shots. Churchill got 26 saves from net-minder Drew Broyles.

Spartans rout Pats

On Wednesday at Edgar Arena, Livonia Stevenson earned an 8-0 victory over Livonia Franklin.

Jake Beaune and Adam Adamic each netted two goals for the Spartans with other multiple point scorers including Julian Decina (goal, assist), Kevin Stefanick (goal, assist), Morgan Gray (two assists), Sam Judd (two assists), Brendan Hall (two assists) and Tyler Slabaugh (two assists).

Collecting the other goals were Justin Alton and Seth Lause. Earning one assist each were Cody Ciesliga, Kyle Lynch, Connor Jakacki and Jack Williamson. Sharing the shutout were goalies Will Trage (10 saves) and Derek Dudek (two saves).

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What to expect from a job search in the new year

BY MATT TARPEY
 CAREERBUILDER

Whether you made a New Year's resolution to find a new job or are considering revisiting your options later this year, it may be hard to keep up with what is changing when it comes to the job-search process.

Here are some of the expectations employers will have for candidates – and job seekers will have for employers – in 2017.

Emotional intelligence

Many employers have come to place a high value on emotional intelligence – the ability to identify one's own, and other people's, emotions – and that is likely to continue through 2017.

"Demonstrating high emotional intelligence will surpass experience in some cases," says Valerie Streif, senior adviser with The Mentat, a San Francisco-based organization that hires, manages and mentors job candidates. "Due to the sensitive nature of society today, especially post-2016 elections, demonstrating a high level of emotional intelligence and empathy will be seen as crucial traits to have, and employees gifted with these talents will soar above the crowd."



GETTY IMAGES

Social media

Pretty much everyone is on social media, and employers are getting better at using this as a tool for both connecting with and learning more about potential candidates. As a job seeker, make sure you check out a company's social media presence while applying – and don't forget to make sure yours is respectful and professional.

"Connecting with companies via social media not only allows easier access to their jobs, but also helps candidates get a better grasp of what working at the company is like, which helps with interview preparation," says Jason

Smith, senior vice president of KNF&T Staffing Resources. "Now more than ever there are smarter and more advanced tools available that make finding the right job easier, and candidates are jumping on these opportunities."

Better benefits

As employers are getting more competitive in their search for skilled workers, job seekers are able to use this to their advantage. In 2017, job seekers will continue to have more than just salary on their mind when comparing open positions.

"On a good note for job

seekers, salaries are expected to be a bit higher in the current year, and there very well could be more benefits and perks associated with any position you can find," says David Bakke, a career expert at Money Crashers. "If possible, try to negotiate a flex schedule, telecommuting options, or even a bit more paid time off if you can get yourself in the position of receiving a job offer."

Culture fit

Job seekers often seek a company where they think they will fit in with their co-workers and they will enjoy their time at the office. On the

flip side of that coin, companies also consider culture fit when deciding between candidates, and this is likely to continue this year. It is important to keep that in mind when interviewing, so you can highlight not only why you're a strong fit based on your skills, but also why you're a strong cultural fit.

More than just money

What factors you consider when evaluating a potential job opportunity are up to you, but it's worth noting that job seekers overall are increasingly looking for a fulfilling job with the potential to lead to a career.

"The shift will continue where job seekers are looking for two things: a challenging role that stretches them and the opportunity to grow their skills and career," says Ian Cook, head of workforce solutions at Visier Analytics. "Money always remains important as a baseline, but the key differentiators for job seekers will be related to how the work experience presents them with growth opportunities."

Matt Tarpey is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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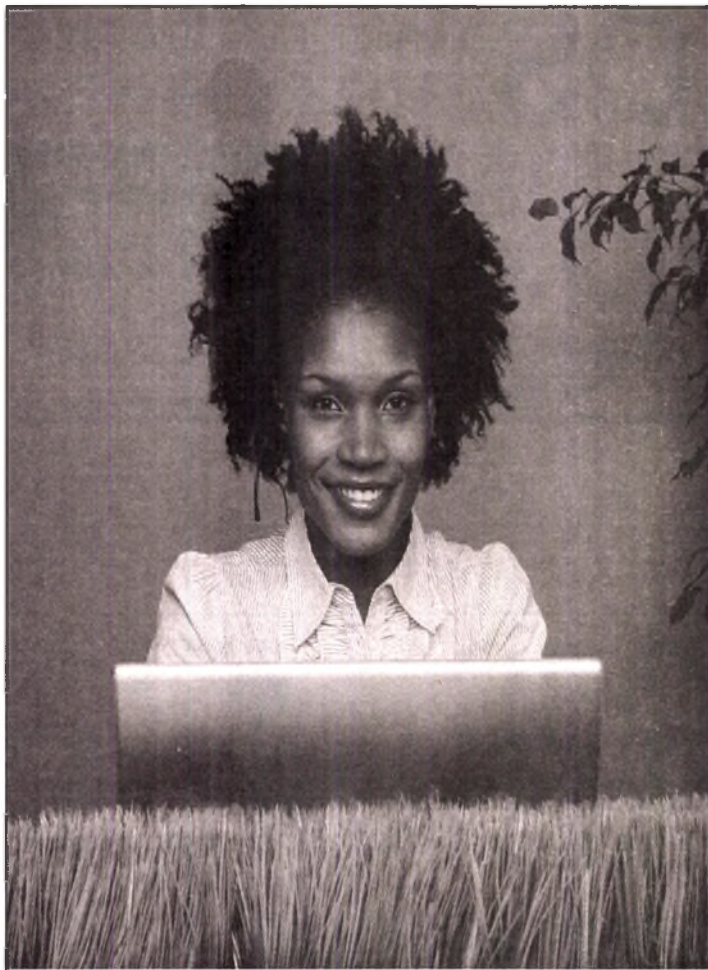
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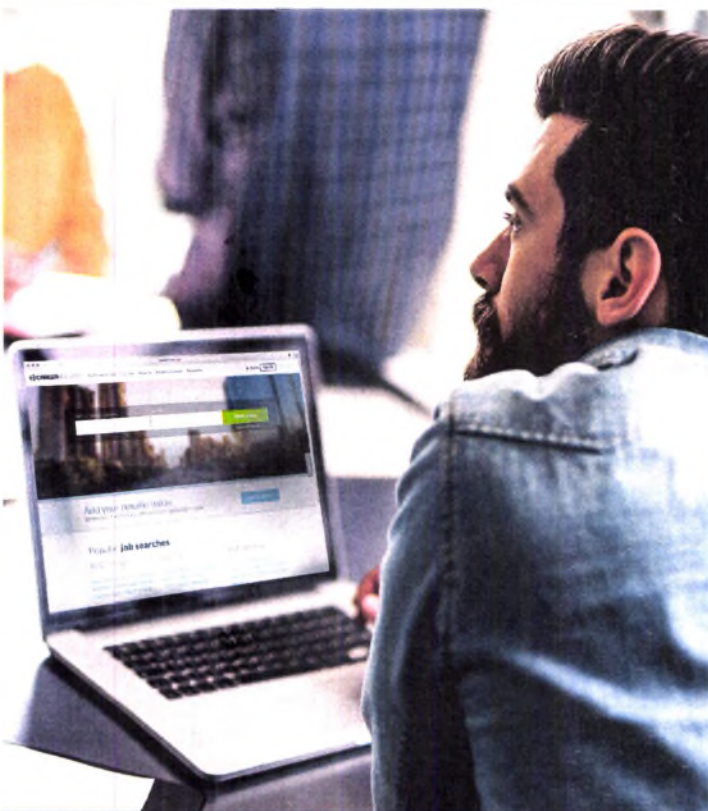
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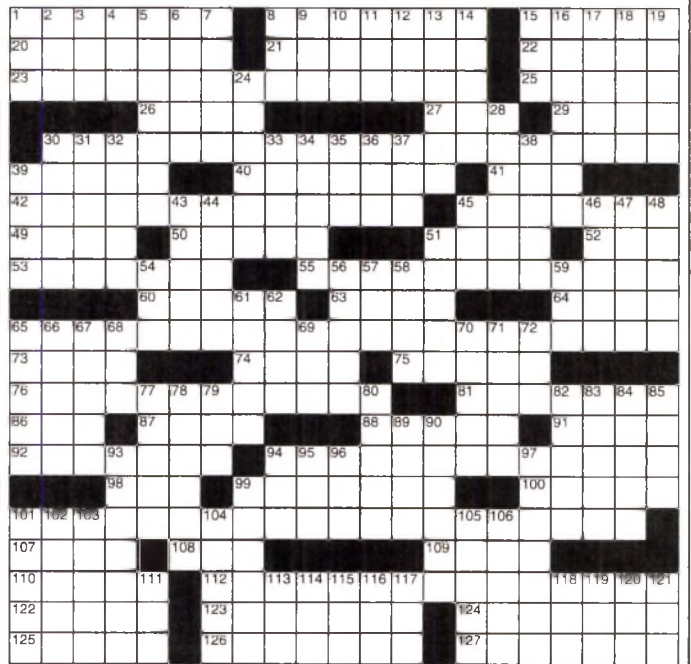
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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Deluding deliberately
 - 8 Stiff cat hair
 - 15 Capital of Morocco
 - 20 Of the side
 - 21 Plane for short hops
 - 22 Put a hex on
 - 23 Dog having no bounds?
 - 25 "I repeat..."
 - 26 Gal pal, in Grenoble
 - 27 Parts of lbs.
 - 29 Bring to ruin
 - 30 Dog hanging out with pride
 - 39 Gawk rudely
 - 40 Restrained with shackles
 - 41 Bit in trail mix
 - 42 British money depicting a dog?
 - 45 Capital of Indonesia
 - 49 Hollywood's Raines
 - 50 Edible mushroom
 - 51 Sack fiber
 - 52 Catering hall receptacle
 - 53 Take eager advantage of
 - 55 Equaling a dog's level of coziness?
 - 60 Plant pore
 - 63 "When I was ..."
 - 64 With 32-Down, Lucille Ball's partner
 - 65 Dog carrying a container of high-fat spread?
 - 73 Verdi song
 - 74 Cozy recess
 - 75 Old heads of Iran
 - 76 Dog along with Mrs. Truman?
 - 81 Gunfire noise
 - 86 Pindar work
 - 87 Heavy cart for haulage
 - 88 Ejects
 - 91 -Alto, California
 - 92 Fund for the future
 - 94 Dog's felt-tip pen?
 - 98 - Vicente
 - 99 Drum machine
 - 100 Property claims
 - 101 Dog that doesn't dial long-distance?
 - 107 Latin love
 - 108 Detroit-to-Charlotte dir.
 - 109 Golfer McIlroy
 - 110 Circle measures
 - 112 Hit by a dog?
 - 122 Heart's place
 - 123 French "Stephen"
 - 124 Resembling element #50
 - 125 Speediness
 - 126 Electrified
 - 127 Made irate
 - 10 Audit gp.
 - 11 Racecar fuel additive
 - 12 Chiang -shek
 - 13 Giorifles
 - 14 "The Godfather" character
 - 15 TV maker Carlo
 - 16 Capital of Maine
 - 17 Ranch iron
 - 18 Bnfl
 - 19 Carpentary digression
 - 24 Harder to grab hold of
 - 28 Haydn work
 - 30 Ripped off
 - 31 St. - Girl (beer brand)
 - 32 See 64-Across
 - 33 Memo words
 - 34 Nabisco's -Walters
 - 35 Prefix with 20-Across
 - 36 Sugar pie
 - 37 H.S. subj.
 - 38 Zaps in the microwave
 - 39 - Out of My League"
 - 43 Whacked, biblically
 - 44 Thus far
 - 45 Wine vessel
 - 46 Indian money
 - 47 Tie up tightly
 - 48 #1 Rolling Stones hit
 - 51 A tribe of Israel
 - 54 Subj. for U.S. aliens
 - 56 Burlap bags
 - 57 Camera inits.
 - 58 Scottish refusals
 - 59 Gator's tail?
 - 61 Mork's girl
 - 62 First little bit of progress
 - 65 BLT part
 - 66 Wear slowly
 - 67 Buenos - (capital of Argentina)
 - 68 Comedy aid
 - 69 Weeding bit
 - 70 Cuban hero Jose
 - 71 Deep fissure
 - 72 President before DDE
 - 77 Noble goal
 - 78 Dialects
 - 79 Equine loser
 - 80 Hercules
 - 82 Spring
 - 83 Sulu player
 - 84 Coeur d' - (Idaho city)
 - 85 Rocky crags
 - 89 Atop
 - 90 Gender determiners
 - 93 Like Russia before 1917
 - 94 Visualize
 - 95 Chance, old-style
 - 96 Pt. of NCAA
 - 97 Siding (with) inits.
 - 99 Yasmine of "Baywatch"
 - 101 Pine relative
 - 102 Nebraska city
 - 103 Ciphers, say
 - 104 Kefauver of old politics
 - 105 Terra -
 - 106 Hatch of politics
 - 111 Ending for Tokyo
 - 113 Copa's home
 - 114 Fun and games, for short
 - 115 Printer fluid
 - 116 Butyl ender
 - 117 Lipstick color
 - 118 The Indians, for short
 - 119 Aperitif with white wine
 - 120 Scrape (out)
 - 121 Beauty of "1941"



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SUDOKU

7			8			5		1
		5		9		3		
	1				2		7	
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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!

2	1	4	6	2	8	9	9	
8	8	9	1	5	4	2	2	6
5	6	2	8	9	2	1	8	4
9	8	1	8	2	2	4	6	9
8	9	6	4	8	9	2	2	1
2	4	2	5	1	6	8	9	8
6	2	8	2	4	5	9	1	8
4	9	8	2	2	1	6	1	2
2	2	5	9	8	8	6	4	2

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 T H R D A L R S Z Y W E T G R I G R E R
 R E W A A W M A P O Q D R I Z Z L E P A
 I P M N Z G Y O Z Y Z Z N W L S Q V U O
 Y G T P G A T T G Z D S U I Q B C T A N
 P U E B E H H N I O I C H E W U C E R M
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 M S S N U M M R O T S O R F Q Q I R V N

- WORDS**
- ACCUMULATION
 - ELIZARD
 - CHILL
 - COATING
 - COLD
 - DRIFTING
 - DRIZZLE
 - FLUFFY
 - FLURRIES
 - FREEZING
 - FROST
 - GLAZE
 - GRAPEL
 - GUSTS
 - HAZARD
 - HEAVY
 - HYPOTHERMIA
 - ICY
 - INCHES
 - PROTECTION
 - SHELTER
 - SHOWERS
 - SLEET
 - SLIPPERY
 - SNOW
 - SQUALL
 - STORM
 - SUSTAINED
 - TEMPERATURE
 - TINDING
 - VISIBILITY
 - WARNING
 - WATCH
 - WET
 - WHITEOUT
 - WIND

Crossword Answers

LYING TO WHISKER RABAT
 LATERAL AIR TAXI COURSE
 BOITOM BISPRATE ASIAIN
 AMIE OZ UNDO
 SPANIEL IN THE LIONS DEN
 STARE IN THE LIONS NUT
 HOUNDSTERTING JAKARTA
 ELLA MOREL JUTE URN
 FLIZCON ASSNUGABAPUG
 SITOMA ALLAB DIESIT
 BEAGLE WITH CREAM CHEESE
 ARIA NOOK SHARS
 CORGIANDBESS RATA TAT
 DOE DAV OUSTS PALLO
 NEMESO SHARPEL MARKER
 STAG BEATROE GIBLIN
 LOCALITE EPHONIC COLLIE
 AMOR SSE
 RADI TERRIER STRICKEN
 CHEST ETIENNE TIN LIKE
 HASTE SHOCKED ANGERED

Word Search

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Car Report

SOME AUTO CEOS COMING TO BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT TRUMP MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD FOR THEIR INDUSTRY AFTER ALL



By Dale Buss

President Donald Trump and the U.S. auto industry seem closer to understanding one another after his first few days in office. Ford CEO Mark Fields was one of a handful of top-company CEOs who met with the new American leader on his fourth day in office, about business issues, and he came away saying he believes that Trump may be good for business and the auto industry.

"I come out with a lot of confidence that he is very serious about making the U.S. economy strong, and will have the policies on taxes, regulation and trade to drive that," Fields said after the meeting that he shared with Tesla CEO Elon Musk, fellow Michigan-based CEO Andrew Liveris, of Dow Chemical, and others.



Ford CEO Mark Fields

The meeting followed weeks during which Trump drove automotive CEOs nuts with all of his job-shaming and tweets about car production in

Mexico. Many of the captains of the industry spent the first few days of the North American International Auto Show in Detroit trying to out-promise one another about creating new jobs in the United States.

And when they weren't doing that, these execs were wringing their hands about whether the president understands international trade well enough not to ruin it.

But some other auto leaders at NAIAS were sounding a far more sanguine view of the unfolding drama, figuring two things.

First, by tweeting his displeasure about car-making jobs in Mexico that he thinks should be in the United States, Trump basically was staking out a negotiating position that is ultimately designed to improve the North American Free Trade Agreement for his country, not to punish America's automakers.

And indeed, one of the first executive actions taken by Trump after he ascended to office was to put Mexico and Canada on notice that he wants to meet soon to renegotiate aspects of NAFTA, which on the campaign trail he repeatedly thumped as a "bad trade deal."

Second, the auto executives who are more optimistic believe that while Trump already has been pretty good for the car business as a whole, he'll likely prove even better now that he's actually in the White House.

Nissan CEO Carlos Ghosn is among the more optimistic group. When he mentioned Trump in remarks to the press at the Detroit show, the journalistic cognoscenti tittered with anticipatory glee that he'd ream Trump because many of his peers do, privately and publicly. But instead, Ghosn stunned them.

"Obviously whenever there is a new administration coming, particularly in the second-largest car market in the world, everyone is anxious and everyone is listening — that's predictable," Ghosn began. "Trump said America comes first, and, 'I want jobs in the U.S.' That makes a lot of sense [to] us — a lot of countries in the world want to promote [themselves] first."

Ghosn suggested that every auto company could adapt to new trade rules if they were uniformly enforced. For a long time, he said, "The rules have been NAFTA. And we all adapted to it." With Trump as president, he said, "It will be something else — fine, as long as the rules are the same for everyone."

And there was more. Ghosn had the temerity to imply that Trump's election already had juiced consumer confidence in America and to say that "the only thing that can be reasonably expected from the new administration is to maintain [high] consumer confidence. That's it. And by the way, [such sentiments are] very high in January... It looks now like 2017 will be better than 2016 for U.S. auto sales, an expectation



At the heart of Ford's Mexico strategy is manufacture there of the Focus.

that would have been considered hopelessly optimistic just a few months ago.

Throw in the fact that Trump wants to cut corporate taxes, Ghosn said, and "all of this is going to go in the direction of boosting growth" and creating "great things for the industry."

Toyota board member Mark Hogan sounded a similarly optimistic note despite Trump's opening rhetoric. "I look forward to a more pro-business environment, including tax cuts and incentives for job creation," Hogan told me. "He's willing to work on rebuilding the U.S. manufacturing base so that we can become a pre-eminent exporter again."

And Hogan pooh-poohed the apparent worries of many of his peers that Trump somehow doesn't

understand the complexities of global supply chains and the importance of free trade. "He's an international businessman with properties all over the world. He's built an empire; you have to give him credit for that. He just struck a chord with the American people" with his stance on jobs in Mexico.

Hogan also believes that Trump — author of The Art of the Deal, after all — is simply pursuing his bent for setting up the opposition to eventually accept the concession that he actually wants.

"Trump is a preeminent negotiator," said Hogan, a former high-level General Motors executive and former CEO of megasupplier Magna. "So when he makes a statement publicly or privately, it's always designed to get an advantage."

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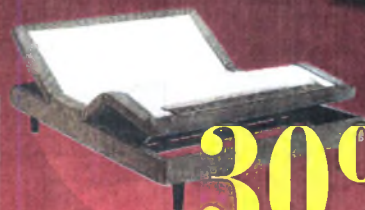
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