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Ford announces \$850M investment

Ranger, Bronco set to come to Wayne Assembly

LeAnne Rogers

When manufacturing of the Ford Focus leaves the Michigan Assembly Plant in 2018, the plant will be retooled to

build the Ford Ranger and, eventually, the Ford Bronco. Ford Motor Company offi-cials officially announced an \$850 million investment into the plant — Wayne's largest employer with more than 3,500 workers at the assembly plant

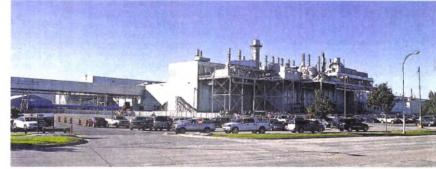
and adjoining stamping plant. The Ford operation covers approximately two square

square-mile area. "For some time, there has been discussion about the future of the Wayne Assembly Plant Since 2003, I've

miles of the city's six-

served Wayne first as a council member and now as mayor. Wayne Mayor Susan Rowe

See FORD, Page A2



FILE PHOTO

Garden City

mayor to

seek fifth

term

Joanne Maliszewski

Randy Walker will seek his fifth term as mayor of Garden City in this year's city council

As approved by the city council last year, the mayor's term, beginning with the Nov. 7 election, will be a four-year

"There's still a lot to be done," Walker said. "I still love being a part of this city." Walker was first elected to a two-year city council seat in 2007. He was then elected

election.

Ford Wayne Assembly is getting a large reinvestment by the company.

CITY OF LIVONIA

Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright (left) recently officiated the wedding of Gordon Gregoroff and Isabelle Ella Connor. Marry Potter (right) was the witness

GUESS WHO MIGHT GET TO MARRY YOU NEXT?

Jay Grossman

When Bloomfield Township Supervisor Leo Savoie was asked if he wants to perform marriage ceremonies, his answer came without hesitation: "I do!"

A new bill in Lansing just might make it possible.

State Rep. Mike McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills) has introduced a bill that would allow township supervisors to perform marriage ceremonies. Under the current law, judges, magistrates, county clerks and city mayors have the authority to solemnize a

marriage. House Bill 4272 would add township supervisors to that list.

Savoie spoke before the House Judiciary Committee two weeks ago in support of the legislation. He said that over the years, he's had nu merous requests to perform marriage ceremonies.

"I think it would be a great honor," he said. "Hopefully, it's a joyous occasion."

It's one of the perks of the job that Dr. Ken Massey enjoys, and he's got a pretty good if tongue in cheek — reaif tongue in cheek — rea-

son.
"It's the one time nobody

See MARRIAGES, Page A2



SUBMITTED Lisa and Kyle Clark get married on the steps of City Hall in Birmingham.

Walker

mayor every two years beginning in 2009. Seats now held by council members Jaylee Lynch, Pam King, Mark Jacobs and Pa

tricia McKarge are also up this year. The November ballot will include a special election to fill the remaining term — ending November 2019 — of council-man Jim Kerwin who passed away earlier this year. The two top vote-getters in this year's city council election will receive four-year terms, with the remaining two successful can-

didates earning two-year seats. Petitions to seek placement on this year's ballot are due April 25. Petitions must contain 75 signatures. If necessary, a primary will be held in August.

If re-elected as mayor, Walk-er will serve the new term until 2021, making a total of 12 years as mayor. "My vision hasn't changed. If it is good for Gar den City, I will vote for it. If it's not good for Garden City, I won't," said the Ford Motor Co. research and engineering man-

ager.
Walker said he will continue to campaign and — if re-elected — operate on a philosophy of fiscal responsibility to the city and its residents.

See WALKER, Page A2



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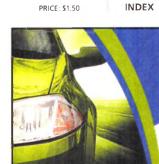
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Obituaries...

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FORD

Continued from Page A1

said. "I have seen the ups and downs of the economy and the detrimental impact plant closures have had on communities across the country. Ford brings a tremendous amount of traffic into our downtown, and I believe that this investment in our economy is an investment in our commu-

Describing herself as elated at the news from Ford, Rowe said the timing couldn't be better for a city that is facing some significant economic challenges. Wayne is working on its finances in an effort to avoid state control.

Although Ford an-nounced the reinvestment earlier this week, the reinvestment at the plant has been a commitment in the 2015 agreement reached with the United Auto Workers

union. "We knew about the money allocated for retooling. It would have been rather hard for them to violate that. It was a main selling point of the national contract, said Bill Johnson, UAW chairman at the assem-

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shut down for retooling for three to five months. The trades (employees) will be working during that time and some select production people will

bly plant. "The plant will

Johnson has worked at the Wayne Assembly Plant, located on Michigan Avenue, since 1969. Rowe had attended a

Michigan Strategic Fund Board meeting in Lansing to support Ford's request for grant funding and State Essential Services Assessment Exemptions for their up coming investments in several communities

including Wayne. When asked by the board what incentives the City of Wayne would be providing to Ford during the Wayne Assembly Plant project and what limitations, if any, the city had identified, Rowe discussed Wayne's current financial challenges and the inability

to provide abatements.
"The City of Wayne
was hit hard by the recession of 2008 and still has not recovered. In fact, we are working to stay out of the state's control," Rowe said. "At this time, with the loss of revenue sharing, the fact that the city owes hun-dreds of thousands from a tribunal tax settlement and the elimination of the personal property tax, the city is not in a position to provide any tax abatements to Ford for

this project."
The city could expe dite permits through the Buildings and Engineering Department and a letter was sent to Ford acknowledging this commitment, Rowe said.

Irogers@hometownlife.com 734-883-9039 Twitter: @LRogersObserver

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2017-10 March 22, 2017

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. at the Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Presentations: of the Police Officer of the Year, from Senior Alliance and Wayne Main Street. APPROVED: minutes of Regular & Special City Council meeting of March 7, 2017; special event permit for Goudy Park Concerts; call public hearing for 2016 Special Assessments; 2017 weed cutting fees; City Attorney to review weed cutting fees at railroads; IGA for Fire Chief Services; PSA with Hydro Corp; accept LED grant from State of Michigan; TCO #613; business with City Council owned business; consent calendar. Received and filed Communications and Reports. Adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller

Publish: March 30, 2017

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474 (734) 744-2500

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

Churchill Tennis Courts / Buchanan Elementary Paving Bid for the 2016-2017 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2016-2017 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Sealed bids marked Churchill Tennis Courts/Buchanan Elementary Paving will be received until 1:00 p.m. on the 6th day April, 2017, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

A mandatory walk-thru meeting will be on Monday, March 27th, 2017, 2:00 p.m. at Churchill High School which is located at 8900 Newburgh, Livonia, MI, 48150.

The Bid Opening will take place at 1:00 p.m. on the 6th day of April, 2017, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

PREVAILING WAGE RATES APPLY TO THIS BID.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Finance, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance – Iran Economic Sanctions Act. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award 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 district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be F.O.B. Destination. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations Livonia Public Schools 15125 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154-5474

"Churchill Tennis Courts/Buchanan Elementary Paving"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, hlau@livoniapublicschools.org. 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

Publish: March 30, 2017

MARRIAGES

Continued from Page A1

yells at me," the Far-mington Hills mayor said with a laugh.

Massey said he's probably performed more than 40 such ceremonies, and has three scheduled in the next few weeks. He called it "a privilege" to take part in something so life

changing.
"It's a pleasure to participate when people are taking such a major step in their lives," Mas-sey said. "If I can play a small role in that, it's fun.

Former Birmingham Mayor Rackeline Hoff has had the privilege of marrying 27 couples during her 16 years in public office.

"They've all been very happy affairs," Hoff said. "We've had ceremonies in the commission room, at Oakland Hills, Quarton Lake, Shain Park sometimes people only



CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS Farmington Hills Mayor Dr. Ken Massey (right) said he's probably done more than 40 wedding ceremonies since he became mayor.

have two witnesses, and sometimes there's a roomful of people. There are some tears occasionally, but they're

tears of happiness." Lisa and Kyle Clark of Birmingham were married by Hoff on the front steps of City Hall last November.

"We were looking for an intimate civil cere-

mony, and the steps of City Hall was the per-fect setting for our nup-tials," Lisa Clark said. "Mayor Hoff made the experience very simple and fun to plan. We strolled to dinner with our guests, and enjoyed an afterglow and stay at the Townsend Hotel. It

truly was the perfect day for us."
Livonia Mayor Den-nis Wright, on the other hand, has performed about a dozen marriage ceremonies. The one ceremony that stood out most involved an 89year-old bride and an

981-year-old groom.
"That was one pretty unique," the Livonia mayor said with a smile.
"It was definitely true love." love.

House Bill 4272 was approved by the judicia-ry committee on Wednesday. The pending legislation now heads to the full House for consideration.

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

WALKER

Continued from Page A1

Looking back at his years as mayor, Walker said he is most proud that the city endured the latest economic reces-sion. "It was the worst in Garden City history. We took steps. We never came close to having an

emergency manager."

The city survived the recession by offering longer-term employees buyouts and salary freezes to reduce costs, cuts in the use of city cars and cell phones, and a hold on purchasing certain new equipment. such as police patrol cars. "We went through all departments. We did

what we had to do."
Walker praises city
employees, who pulled
together to reduce costs, as well as those who applied for grants to help with costs. Employ-

ees now receive about

2-3 percent raises. "The employees understood the trouble the city was in then. Everybody pulled together."

And today, property
values are increasing
and Garden City has received a Wall Street bond rating of A+, which would allow the city

'We have been fiscally responsible in our spending."
Walker said he is also proud that the city began curbside recycling and

continues to draw new

better interest rates

businesses.
What continues to concern Walker are the community's roads. "We rebuild the streets with the money we have. I wish Lansing would give us more back (from taxes paid). I know the residents are fired up

about the condition of the streets — as I am." Blight is an issue that also concerns Walker as the city continues to clean certain areas.

Walker has a bache-lor's degree from Sienna Heights College and is an Air Force veteran. He is married to Linda and has four grown children and seven grandchil-

jmaliszews@ . hometownlife.com

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CORRECTION A story in the March 23

Westland Observer about the possible recall of Westland City Councilman
James Godbout mentioned fellow council members Kevin Coleman and Peter Herzberg. Councilman Coleman notified the Observer that neither he nor Councilman Herzberg is a part of the recall effort.

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474 (734) 744-2500

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

Holmes Middle School -Water Main Replacement Bid for the 2016-2017 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2016-2017 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Sealed bids marked <u>Holmes Water Main Replacement Bid</u> will be received until 1:00 p.m. on the 6th day <u>April. 2017</u>, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

A mandatory walk – thru meeting will be on Monday, March 27, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. Holmes Middle School is located at 16200 Newburgh, Livonia, MI. 48154.

The Bid Opening will take place at <u>2:00 p.m.</u> on the **6th** day of <u>April. 2017</u>. at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. PREVAILING WAGE RATES APPLY TO THIS BID.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the hidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Finance, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance – Iran Economic Sanctions Act. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award 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 district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be F.O.B. Destination. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations Livonia Public Schools 15125 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154-5474

"Holmes Middle School - Water Main Replacement Bid"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, <u>hlau@livoniapublicschools.org</u>. 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Publish: March 30, 2017

WAYNE POLICE BRIEFS

Motorcycle stolen

Wayne police were called last Thursday evening to a home in the 4500 block of John Hix on the report of a motorcy

The victim said he left for work at 7 a.m. that morning. He came home about 12 hours later and discovered his motorcycle was missing from the yard. The victim said he had all the sets of keys for the motorcycle and could not provide any suspect information.

ID theft reported

A victim of identity theft filed a police report Monday morning saying their informa-tion was used a Citgo at 35600

Michigan Ave.
The individual said their bank account has been used several times at the gas station

Backpack taken from car

A victim of a larceny from auto filed a police report Sunday afternoon, saying their backpack had been taken from their vehicle parked at the State Wayne Theatre, 35310 W.

Michigan Ave. They said they went to the theater and left their backpack on the backseat of their car. After returning to their vehi-cle, they noticed the backpack was missing. No damage or sign of forced entry was observed. Just the backpack was missing.

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Car stolen from shopping

Livonia police were called Sat-urday afternoon to the parking lot at Dick's Sporting Goods, 13301 Middle-belt, on the report of a stolen vehicle. When police arrived, they spoke

to the victim, who said he went into the store with his son. When they came out, he saw someone sitting in the driver's seat of his vehicle and then drive off. He said his vehicle was being followed by a gold-colored sedan. He said the vehicle contained an iPad, sunglasses and Bluetooth headphones. Police checked the area the victim said they drove toward but could not locate the vehicle. Police went to the nearby Panda Express restaurant to ask them to check their cameras.

Purse missing

A shopper at Meijer, 13000 Mid-dlebelt, came to the police station Monday to report her purse had gone missing after a shopping trip at the

She said she came out of the store, loaded her car up and headed home. After she got home, she realized the purse was missing. She returned to the store and could not find it. After searching, she went inside and asked if a purse had been turned in, which it had not. She said the purse contained her driver's license, social security card, credit card, gift card and cash. No suspect information was available.

Car stolen

Police were dispatched Saturday afternoon to Quality Metal Craft, 12001 Farmington, on the report of a stolen vehicle.

The victim said he drove the vehi-cle to the business and parked it in the parking lot that morning. He came out a short time later and the vehicle was still in the lot. Later that afternoon, he found the vehicle was gone. He said he would try to access the security cameras the following week, and said he had both sets of keys to the vehicle. The vehicle was unlocked at the time.

Wallet taken from vehicle

A victim came to the police station Saturday to report his wallet was stolen while his vehicle was parked in a lot in the 12100 block of Levan.

He said he left his wallet in the vehicle's center console and parked the car in the parking lot, leaving it unlocked. He said he came back to the vehicle later and found the wallet missing. It contained credit cards, cash and a fishing license.

Retail fraud suspect arrested

Police were called Friday evening to Walmart, 29555 Plymouth, on the report of a retail fraud suspect in custody.

An employee told police they saw a suspect bag peanut butter without scanning it. They then reportedly saw the suspect bag several items that were not scanned while at checkout. The individual reportedly tried to leave without paying but was stopped and detained by an employee. Police arrived and arrested her, taking her back to the police station for processing.

 Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department

Farmington Hills man charged with 19 counts of child pornography

Jay Grossman

A Farmington Hills man is being charged with 19 felony counts of possession of child por-

nography.
Jeremiah Moore, 40, entered a not-guilty plea at his arraignment Tuesday before 47th District Judge Marla Parker. Moore is being charged with multiple counts of possession of child sex-ually abusive material, along with one felony count of using a computer to commit a crime. His bond was set at \$500,000.



Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck Nebus said a coordinated effort between multiple agencies led to Moore's arrest.

cres led to Moore's arrest.

"These cyber cops who work on these investigations, they will find you and they will get you," Nebus said. "We've worked with them before and they are very knowledgeable and extremely committed. They will get you."

Moore is currently on probation after he was convicted of possessing child pornography in 2015. In January, the Michigan Attorney General's office became suspicious that Moore was

al's office became suspicious that Moore was violating certain conditions of his parole.

That suspicion led to a multi-jurisdictional investigation that resulted in Moore's arrest.

On Jan. 24, agents from different depart-ments conducted a compliance check on Moore's house on Ardmore Street, where they reportedly uncovered multiple videos and hundreds of photos containing child pornography on computer devices allegedly belonging to the suspect.

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 2017 FORD FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

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, April 25th, 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.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at Ford Field, 14281 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, April 10th, 2017. Bids will not be accepted from those firms who do not attend.

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

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 2017 FORD FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT, 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 o

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.

Edward Davis Superintendent, Parks & Rec Published: March 30, 2017

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE 2017 GENERAL NOTICE REGARDING WEED CONTROL

No person who is the owner, occupant or lessee of real property in the City of Wayne, shall allow grass, weeds, vines or other vegetation to grow to an average height of greater than six inches on his or her property.

Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of Chapter 1459 of the Codified Ordinance of Wayne shall be liable to the imposition of penalties and expenses incurred by the City in declaring the property a nuisance and abating all nuisance conditions created by the

Fees for mowing, established by the City Council, are as follows:

Category A - lots less than 20,000 sq. ft \$250.00 Category B - lots between 20,000 sq. ft. & 1 acre Category C - over 1 acre/per acre basis Category D - railroad crossing intersecting roadways \$300.00

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the City of Wayne Ordinance Department at (734) 419-0140.

Matthew K. Miller City Clerk

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Publish: March 30, 2017





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For more information, visit stmarymercy.org

THURSDAY MARCH 30, 2017

RECREATION

Marshmallows signal park season

Joanne Maliszewski

Some things are so cool, no matter your age that they stir your imagi nation and pump your adrenaline with amazing anticipation — like the annual Marshmallow Drop. The whoop, whoop of the helicopter filled with marshmallows is nothing but pure delight.

Corey Routen grew up with the Wayne County parks. You name it, he did it — learning about bugs and critters, Native Americans, camping, playing and just getting out in the fresh air. The Nankin Mills Interpreta tive Center in Westland was a favorite. But that helicopter and marshmallows falling from the skies was something to

As a kid, the Marshmallow Drop was something he didn't miss. And the Westland John Glenn High School junior will be there again on Good Friday, April 14 — in time for Easter — with one major change. He's no longer a kid. But he will continue his five-year tradition of volunteering as the iconic bunny

Routen was well known among parks personnel because he was long part of many programs. When he got older, he offered to volunteer wherever needed Then five years ago came the request from Carol Clements of the Wayne County Parks
Nankin Mills Interpretive Center — where
Routen and his family played. Clements asked Routen's mom, Lisa, if he would serve as the official Marshmallow Drop bunny

"It was a no-brainer," Routen said. "I get there a couple of hours early It's fun with all of the kids. When the marsh



Corey Routen of Westland is in his fifth year as the Marshmallow Drop bunny

Whoop, whoop! means the Marshmallow Drop helicopter is ready to drop its load of gooey treats

At 11 a.m. kids and parents will watch the helicopter drop about 20,000 marshmallows over Nankin Mills on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. An earlier drop is planned for 9 a.m. in Elizabeth Park, Trenton.

mallows drop, I have photos (taken) with all of

the people."

Life is definitely a circle. When Routen first dressed in the bunny costume, it was sort of big on him. "Now it's getting sort of small," he said.

When Wayne County residents next hear the whoop, whoop of a heli-copter, rest assured the young man in the bunny costume will be Routen. ready to celebrate the

33rd Marshmallow Drop. At 11 a.m. kids and parents will watch the helicopter drop about 20,000 marshmallows over Nankin Mills on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in West land. An earlier drop is planned for 9 a.m. in

Elizabeth Park, Trenton. It's not just the helicopter that draws the kids. There's rhyme and reason to the marsh-mallows. The gooey, spongy goodies mean prizes. Each child in attendance needs only one marshmallow though they can certainly fill up their baskets — to receive a prize at the treat area under the shelter in Nankin Mills. There will be three age groups in which kids will be awarded their prizes: 4 years and younger, 5-7 years and 8 and older.

Parents are urged to ensure that their kids do not enter the drop zone until the "OK" is announced and to avoid running or standing underneath the helicopter.
The free event is spon-

sored by Friends of Wayne County Parks Team Schostak, Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters & Millwrights and Trenton Parks and Recreation

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com 248-396-6620

How do you play?

Hiking nature

Armed with a camera, Kathy Marick of Canton hikes a couple of times a week. It's her "me" time and a moment for some alone fun. "I hike there two times per week," she said, referring to Kensington Metropark in Milford. The Woodland Hills Nature Center in Far mington Hills is another favorite.

As she hikes and sees birds and critters, she has her camera handy. "I always take my Canon 60D camera and use my iPhone for videos," she

Digging for treasure

Tom Kilsz of Livonia likes to dig. And so do the more than 100 members of the Michigan Treasurer Hunters. "It's the joy of the hunt — what's coming up next?" Klisz said. "Why do people like fishing? You never know what vou're going to get.

Klisz has hunted treasure for 40 years and enjoys the research that goes along with it. Club members get permission to check out properties or bediened further. bodies of water. They use metal detectors and, when they hear a beep, they delicately use a knife to dig back the dirt, "Some metal detectors have a

meter," he said. "It will tell you if it's a quarter or a dollar." Tokens, relics, jewelry and coins are among items Klisz and his col-leagues have unearthed. "We find mostly old stuff. This has set some members up in coin collecting and in using the Internet for research," Klisz

"We often hunt Wayne County parks, as well as private residences," he added. "Get off the couch and see what your neighbors are finding and learn about our fascinating hobby!"

Michigan Treasure Hunters meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt. The next meeting is April 25. Contact Klisz at 734-422-6345. usually have a guest speaker on metal detecting or history," he said.

Old Gear Shifters

As far as the Canton-based Old Gear Shifters are concerned, you are never too old to get off your duff and bicycle literally all over the place health and fun.

"The members of our group have diverse backgrounds. Several are former engineers, but we also have a couple teachers, an airline pilot, a customs officer, an accountant and several other occupations represent-



Canton Old Gear Shifters photographed before the start of the 2016 Blue Water Ramble in Algonac. Members are (from left) Bhaskar Patel, Rick Grandke, Dave Young, John Chinn, Jesse Virden Jr., Don Weigand, Lise Lenahali, Spiro Karras and Valeria Krimmer.



A member of the Michigan Treasure Hunters displays found treasures following a dig.

ed," member Spiro Karras said. "Most are happily retired, but one of our younger members still works full time as a teacher and another works part time as a tax accountant during tax season. The age of our members ranges from the high 50s to the low

Some members will venture into other areas of Michigan or even out-of-state for non-competitive bicycling. "Our usual group rides range from about 20 to 40 miles at a pace around



These birds eat peanuts from your hand at Kensington Nature Center," said hiker Kathy Marick of Canton.

12-14 mph. On some bike tours, however, a few of us will go further (e.g., last August, three of us did the 62-mile metric century route at Wayne State's Baroudeur tour)," he said. "Needless to say, not everyone in our group has the same experience or ability, so we pretty much try to stick together and look out for each other."

Please send us photos that you have taken or anecdotes of what you are doing to have fun in our large array of Wayne and Oakland county parks. Do you hike? Do you run? What activities do you participate in at the county parks? Email your photos in jpg format and anecdotes to imaliszews@hometownlife.com, For more information, contact Joanne Maliszewski at 248-396-6620.

GET OUT OF THE HOUSE AND PLAY AT WAYNE COUNTY PARKS

Joanne Maliszewski

What's your pleasure? Golf? Hiking? Soccer, basketball, baseball or volleyball? Nature? Swimming? Bicycling? Walking the dog? Fishing?

The question isn't what do you want to do, but where can you do it? Well, that's a no-brainer.

If you live in Wayne County, you don't have far to go to play, get out-doors, learn about nature or participate in an active sport. Parks are strate-gically placed throughout the county.

Wayne County operates 41 locations that include 37 parks, two golf courses, a marina and an aquatic center. And within those areas, some parks, such as Bennett Arboretum on Hines Drive, specialize in nature. It offers a two-mile trail through Michigan's oldest arbore-

tum.
"Wayne County's parks system offers great experiences for people of all ages," Wayne County Director of Public Services Beverly J. Watts said.

"We hear that sentiment regularly from visitors, whether they're attend ing unique community-wide events, like Marshmallow Drop, or dropping by smaller interpretive programs, like maple sugaring. We continue to take pride in maintaining a world-class parks system with something for ev-

eryone to enjoy."

No doubt there's plenty of Wayne County residents who certainly have heard or attended the annual Lightfest, the Marshmallow Drop, Mud Day or the annual Fishing Derby. Those activities draw hundreds, perhaps thou-sands, of people and draw residents to the parks. Each park offers a variety of potential activities, depending on your

See PARKS, Page A5



Doesn't it look fun? Kids busy themselves on a playscape in Waterford Bend Park in

GoFundMe launched to support fallen county worker's family

Jacqueline Scherle said David Wolf could always be seen keeping busy in the Garden City neighborhood he called

home.
When he wasn't working at the Wayne County Department of Public Works, Scherle said she always saw him doing something to help the neighborhood, whether it was mowing an elderly neighbor's lawn or help-ing to fix someone's car. "All of our neighbors

would see him," the Garden City resident said.
"He was a very big pres-

ence on our street."
Wolf tragically died last Thursday while on the job: he was struck by another county vehicle while he was filling potholes on Beech Daly in Taylor. He was 47.

Since his death, a

GoFundMe page has been launched to help cover his funeral expenses and help the family he's left behind. Scherle said Wolf was the breadwinner of his home, and he and his wife have two young

boys.
"At home, he was a

very loving husband and father," Scherle said. As of last Thursday afternoon, the page has raised more than \$4,300

donations coming in all shapes and sizes and from all over. Those interested in donating can visit gofundme.com/ the-wolf-family. Any additional money donated will go toward supporting Wolf's wife and their two children.

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



A photo of the GoFundMe page launched to help support the family of David Wolf.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To submit Letters to the Editor, Maliszewski at įmaliszews@ hometownlife.com

Spared Trump Care

After seven consecutive years and over 60 votes in the U.S. House to repeal "Obamacare," House Speaker Paul Ryan pulled the GOP replacement for the AHC 3-24,2017. It is quite obvious that the GOP, including Trump, ran on repeal and replacement of the AHC without any sem-blance of a workable

replacement.
Trump Care was
pushed fiercely March
23, as Trump wanted the bragging right to have his replacement bill, exactly seven years after President Obama signed the AHC. When the reality of insufficient GOP support from House Republicans, Rvan pulled the bill sparring those GOP representatives, who were poised to vote against Trump Care.

With but 17 percent support for Trump Care and only six percent strongly in support, the obvious incompetence of Trump and Ryan are on full display. Contrary to what has been the talking point for seven years, the GOP dripping hypocrisy was on full display with repeal, but incompetent

replacement.
The ACA is the law of the land and the 24 million American people are spared from losing cov-erage due to Trump Care. Trump Care would have cost Americans more for less health coverage and simply resulted in more welfare for the already

Over 90 percent of Americans now have health coverage, the high-est rate ever. The American people are the clear winners in being spared Trump Care scarcely health care coverage Gerald Maxey

Didn't even brake

To the person who rear-ended my friend and I on St Patrick's Day night about 11 p.m. and left. We know you drive a darker-colored car and a smaller car. You hit us on Lotz Road and Finley in Canton. Little do you know my friend is fight-

ing cancer, kidney disease and three other life-altering health is-sues, but also their walk-er was in the trunk that you destroyed when you didn't even slow down. In fact you didn't even hit your brakes! I hope you feel good about yourself for what you did. And next time you have some-thing in your life go wrong, ask yourself what you did to deserve it.

Dennis Brown

Democrats: Take advantage of failure

After Trump Care failed in the House Trump blamed the Democrats. I found that charge a little strange since not a single one of them had endorsed that train wreck. A few, very few, moderate Republicans thought the bill would hurt too many people. A lot more on the extreme Right said they would vote no, evidently not enough people would be

hurt.
Trump boasted about replacing the Affordable Care Act with one that would be much less cost-ly, would cover everyone, lower deductibles and be beautiful. Trump Care was none of those things. However, it did protect greedy pharmaceutical and insurance companies and gave a financial break to the ultra rich.

I hope the Democrats take advantage of this disaster of a bill and craft one that actually does what Trump promised. Present it to the House and Senate and let them fail to act, then blast them in every media available (including Tweets). Keep the pressure on these people, including Rep. Dave Trott, who favored Trump Care.

James Huddleston

Who is un-American?

Apparently Congressman Trott aide Stu Sand-ler (the guy caught on tape after a town hall admitting to "bouncing" constituents' questions replacing them with softball questions that Trott would rather answer) thinks many who attended the congressman's recent town hall are un-American because they

had the audacity to voice opposition to dramatic spending increases to the most wasteful, pork-laden, corrupt part of our government, the Department of Defense, while dozens of popular pro-grams and departments are likely to face savage cuts. Since Trott didn't walk back the claim I assume he tacitly agrees.

Seems to me that those who are un-American are those who support a president, like Trott and Sandler, that would take food from the mouths of poor and or disabled seniors, as well as underprivileged children, eliminate regulations that prevent industry from polluting our air and water, roll back standards that would slow the destruction of the planet by unabated warming, cut education spending, severely limit the rights of average citizens to sue corporations, prevent women from controlling their own reproductive health, and promote a bill that would strip health care from millions over a decade resulting in an estimated 11,600 unneces sary premature deaths next year steadily grow-ing each year to as many as 20,000 deaths in 2026 the total carnage tripling the number of Ameicans who perished in the Viet Nam War - all so that the wealthy among us could

enjoy generous tax cuts.
My guess is that many of the citizens of Michigan District 11 must have different values than Congressman Trott and aide Stu Sandler and would have different criteria for determining

Mitch Smith

Religious overreach

who is un-American.

Last week state Sen. Patrick Colbeck introduced a bill (SB 269) which would exempt the clergy from a law that makes it illegal to offer inducements or threats of punishment to influence how a person votes. Un-der this amended law, it would be legal for a min-ister to threaten expulsion or excommunication to a person whose voting practices do not fall in line with what that pastor feels is right. Sen. Colbeck is a dar-

mouth.

ling of the Tea Party and a staunch supporter of the religious right. This is the group that goes posi-tively apoplectic at the imagined threat of Sharia Law being imposed if we don't limit the Muslim population in this country, and yet this bill is exactly the kind of religious overreach that the eligious right incorrect-

ly fears. How do we keep electing people like this?

John D. Webster

Harassment Mr. Jachman would have done your readers a journalistic service had he spent some time ex-plaining who organized the harassment of Mr. Trott and why. As we know, such events are not spontaneous.

Pierre Willermet Livonia

Trott deaf to

concerns I am a constituent of U.S. Rep. Dave Trott, of the 11th District in Michigan. This district is one of the most gerrymandered in the nation. I live in Livonia, my girlfriend in White Lake also has Dave Trott as her representative, as does my friend in Troy, and my other friend in Canton.

The reason for my letter is the remarks Dave Trott made about the attendees of his Town Hall Meeting on March 18. After skipping the congressional break to go to India on the nation's dime, and apparently after viewing the press on the Town Halls put on by his constituents, Mr. Trott decided he better have one.
I got an email on

Wednesday, March 15, at 12:06 p.m. about a Town Hall meeting where Mr. Trott would actually be present. The Town Hall Meeting was scheduled for Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m., less than 72

hours later, in Novi. I woke up early on Saturday morning, and drove in a snowstorm to Novi, in horrible road conditions. I got there before 8 a.m., when the doors opened. There were already 1,000 people or more there. Only half of us got in. I was not among them. Of the half

that did get in, most had their written questions simply thrown away by Mr. Trott, and never answered.

I stood with 500 other people in the snow and wind for over an hour waiting to see if Mr. Trott would come out, or at least thank us for coming. This is what we got in-stead: "We are un-Amer-ican." "We are paid ag-itators." "We are not from his district." 'We hate the military."

Well, I am an American, my son is joining the Air Force, and we sup-port all military person-nel. I live in Mr. Trott's district, and I am certain. ly not getting paid to call or show up to his Town Halls, the ones he has, and the ones he can't be bothered with. I am aware that Mr. Trott does not read our letters or postcards. As he succinctly put it, he doesn't

need to, he listens to cable news. No one can get into his Troy office, and his constituents are usu-ally turned away by his security guards. When I call his Washington office, I speak with a polite young man or woman, who I am sure, never relates my concerns or views to my "representa-tive." The responses I always get are simply form letters emailed to me which do not address any of my concerns.

In short, Rep. Trott has demonstrated that he has nothing but utter contempt for the people in his district. He doesn't want to hear from them, see them, or listen to their real and honest concerns. Is it any won-der people boo? Look up what "representative" means Mr. Trott, and then maybe try to act it.

Mary Ann Arsenault



AHLGREN



KAREN JEWELL Age 73, passed away on March 27, 2017 at the Rouse Home in Youngsville, Pennsylvania. She was born in Warren, PA on October 31, 1943 the daughter of Arnold E. Jewell and Eleanor "Billie" (Pees) Johnson. She married David Norman Ahlgren on December 4, 1964, who preceded her in death on September 4, 2009. Karen was also a former resident of Pittsburgh, PA and Plymouth, Michigan. Karen was a homemaker who loved history, genealogy, golf, camping, gardening, and Penn State football. She was a nursing student at Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA, Karen was a member of the Worman's Club of Warren, the Conewango Valley Country Club, the Warren Shakespeare Club, Grace United Methodist Church, and the Red Hat Society. Karen was also an active volunteer and supporter of the Warren County Historical Society and Warren's Library Theatre. Surviving are her children-Timothy Ahlgren. active volunteer and supporter of the Warren County Historical Society and Warren's Library Theatre. Surviving are her children-Timothy Ahlgren, his wife Lisa and their five children and two grandchildren of Canton, MI; William Ahlgren, his wife Rebecca and their two children of Cranberry Twp., PA; Carrie Reynolds, her husband Dave and their four children of Grove City, PA; Susan Mugerdichian, her husband Marty and their flore children of Adrian, MI. Also surviving are four siblings- Kathleen Grettum, her husband Thornas of Fallon, NV; Judith Rapp, her husband David of Seattle, WA; Jerry, his wife Carrie of Russell, PA; In-laws Audrey Hart of Dunedin, FL, Betty Carlson of Warren, PA, June Ellington of Lakewood, NY, Sharon and Roger Pike of Erie, PA, Judith Turner of Randolph, NY; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Friends will be received at the Russell United Methodist Church, 17 United Methodist Church, 17
N. Main St, Russell, PA, on
Saturday, April 1, from 2 to 4
p.m., at which time, a funeral
service will be heid there
with Rev. Jerome Kennedy,
pastor, officiating. In lieu of
flowers, those wishing to
make a memorial contribution
should consider the Russell

should consider the Russell

should consider the Hussell United Methodist Church, or the Warren County Historical Society, 210 4th Ave, Warren, PA 16365. The Peterson-Blick Funeral Home, Inc. has been entrusted with arrangements. E-condolences may be sent by visiting

petersonblickfuneralhome.com

ROGER LEO 77, passed away peacefully on Monday night, March 20, 2017 surrounded

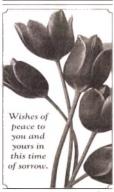
LAVOIE

by his loving family. Beloved husband of June. Loving father of Nanine (Steve) Cvengros, Kristen and Daniel (Emma) Lavoie. Proud grandfather of Madison Cvengros as well as Luca and Nina Lavoie. Also survived by cherished sister, Janet (David) Solomon and Janet (David) Solomon and several nicees and nephews. Visitation will be at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Hd. in Livonia, on Friday March 31, 3-8 p.m. Funeral Services will be held at St. Collette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Rd. in Livonia on Saturday, April 1, in state 9 a.m. followed by 10 a.m. Mass. Roger's full obituary can be viewed at

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

SEYUIN

JOSEPH I., Age 97, of Livonia, Navy veteran of World War II, passed away March 26, 2017. Joseph is World War II, passed away March 26, 2017. Joseph is survived by his children, Joann Schiicht and Joseph (Mary) Seyuin; 16 grandchildren; 21 great- grandchildren; 14 great-great- grandchildren (and another on the way); and sister, Anna Jodway, Sadly, Joseph was preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Catha (d. 2014), daughter, Ruth Kelley, and brother, Lawrence Seyuin. Funeral Services will be conducted Thursday, March 30, 11 a.m., at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (between 9-10 Mille Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200), Interment Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens, Livonia. Memorial tributes suggested to Angela Hospice. heeney-sundguist.com



Continued from Page A4

interests.

'We would just go to get out there to do nature and other things. The kids learned about bugs, Native American history
— we did a lot at Nankin
Mills," said Lisa Routen of Westland. Her son Corey for the

past five years has volunteered as the bunny for the Marshmallow Drop. When the parks system needed a volunteer, Corev came to mind because his parents took him and his siblings to the parks all the time. 'They did nature camp every year. It was so cool," Lisa Routen said.

The back yard is always a cool place to play But if you want to get closer to nature, learn some new stuff, stretch those muscles with an activity or just get some fresh air, Wayne County offers 5,600 acres of pure relaxation or fun.

How about horseback

riding, cross country skiing or fishing? You'll find those activities including trails for hiking, at Crosswinds Marsh in southeast Sumpter Township. If you're into trails, head over to William P. Holiday Forestry Wildlife Preserve, east of I-275 in northwest estland

Ball diamonds are available at a number of parks, including Venoy-Dorsey in Wayne, Bell Creek in Redford, as well as parks in Trenton and Inkster. If you want to play disc golf, which is growing in popularity, head to Lola Valley Park in Redford or Cass Benton in Northville Township. Two water slides, wave pool and spray fountains are available at the Wayne County Aquatic Center in Detroit: For the kids, there' are great playscapes at Kinloch Park in Redford and Cass

Township. How about model cars? There's dirt track for just that kind of fun at Gunsolly Mills in Ply-

Benton in Northville

Newburgh Pointe in Livonia offers a fishing dock and canoe rentals, while Oak Grove, also in Livonia, offers fishing. Nankin Mills in Westland provides volleyball courts, a playscape and ball diamonds. More ball diamonds are available at Perrin Field or Sherwood in Westland, Basketball courts are available at Perrin Field.

Practice your swing for two golf courses: an 18-hole course at Inkster Valley Golf Course and 36 holes at Warren Valley Golf Course.

Let's not forget the dogs. Wayne County residents can take their pooches to the Hawthorne Ridge Park in Westland (Hines Drive, west of Merriman Road) June to April. But you need to be registered at the Wayne County Parks office in the Nankin Mills building in Westland.

If you want to head to the parks to learn, Wayne County offers two in-terpretative centers. Westland's Nankin

Mills, a historic grist mill, showcases interpretive displays highlighting Native American history, water-powered settlements and Underground Railroad history. For nature enthusiasts with an interest in wetlands and wildlife, Crosswinds Marsh and its Interpretive Center is a must-see You can explore diverse wetland habitats, where more than 240 species of birds and 40 species of mammals have been identified. Crosswinds Marsh is home to a nesting pair of bald eagles, beavers and other exciting native wildlife.
When you decide what

you want to do or what your kids want to do. don't make a move with-out checking out Wayne County parks. The easiest way is online at parks.waynecounty.com, where you will find maps, available activities and resources and a schedule of events

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Madonna hosts Interfaith conversation

The Center for Catholic Studies and Interfaith Dialogue at Madon-na University will host the Rev. Michael Calabria, OFM, Ph.D., to present "A Look into



Calabria

Interfaith Understanding through the Words of Pope Francis." The lec-

which is free and open to the public, takes place at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in Room S100 of the Franciscan Center at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Road,

Calabria is director of the Center for Arabic and Islamic Studies at St. Bonaventure University, which was established in 2015. Through the center, he works to promote understanding of Arab and Islamic cultures, an apprecia-tion of their historical and contemporary sig nificance in the global community and respectful relations between Muslim and Christian people. He also serves as general assistant for dialogue with Islam for the Order of Friars Mi

nor.
"He brings a wealth of experience and having Father Calabria speak to us during Lent is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our call to conversion and on our Franciscan values especially respect for the dignity of every person and justice and peace," said Jane Lina-han, chair of Madonna University's religious studies and philosophy department.

OBSERVER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To submit items for the Community Calendar email editor Joanne Maliszewski at jmaliszews@hometownlife.com

'Uncle Jessie White' film

"Uncle Jessie White – Portrait of a Delta Bluesman in Detroit" tells the story of the late Jessie White, an influential blues artist who had a profound effect on multiple generations of musicians. The film will be shown — as part of the Detroit Free Press Film Festival — 9:30-11 p.m. Friday, March 31. Guests are asked to arrive by 8:45 p.m. Jeff Grand and the Grandmasters will play at 9 p.m. at the Cinema Detroit, 4126 Third St., Detroit. The theater sits between Willis and Alexandrine streets.

An allegory of survival and redemption, this film traces
Jessie White's story from his
impoverished rural youth in
Mississippi to his migration to
Detroit where his charismatic
personality and musical integrity kept the spirit of the origi-nal Delta blues alive during some of Detroit's darkest days.

After the film Detroit Free Press pop music critic Brian McCollum leads a discussion that will include Canton resi-dent Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, the film's co-producer and co-director; co-director Doug Drummond and Jesse White's daughters, Lois and Janet

Office hour

State Rep. Jeff Noble of Plymouth will host an open office hour from 1-2 p.m. Monday, April 3, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady,

Hippity Hoppity

Join the fun at the Jack E. Kirksey Recreation Center Hippity Hoppity Open House, 15100 Hubbard, from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 9. Enjoy the pool, climbing wall and a variety of gym activities. The gyms will be set up for roller beskey. will be set up for roller hockey, pickleball, volleyball and bas-ketball. Guests can learn about organizations and business in their community. Participating organizations and businesses will hand out treats to children. Admission is free for the day for residents and \$3 per person for non-residents. For more information, call the Kirksey

Recreation Center at 734-466-

Spring career fair

Madonna University will host a Spring Career Fair from 3-5 p.m. April 4, at Madonna University Activity Center, Administration Building. Bring your resume and meet with employers who will be interviewing for part-time, fulltime, internship and career positions. For more information, email careerservices@madonna.edu or call 734-432-5623

Easter Egg Hunt

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will host an Easter Egg Hunt from 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Inside there will be crafts, cookies and a basket giveaway; then head out for the big Easter Egg Hunt. There is no charge for this event and all are welcome. Come rain or shine. For more information call the church at 734-422-6038

Curbside pickup

In Canton, curbside pickup of residential yard waste will begin April 3 and continue until Nov. 30. All yard waste should be placed with recyclables on the opposite side of your drive-way from your refuse. Yard waste and recyclables must always be placed separate from refuse to avoid confusion dur-

ing collection Acceptable vard waste items include grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden waste, prun-ing debris, wood debris and brush. Unacceptable yard waste items include food scraps, animal waste, batteries, chemicals and sod.

Twigs, branches, brush, oruning and wood debris must be tied with heavy twine into bundles no longer than 3 feet, not exceeding 1 ½ inches in diameter, and weighing no more than 50 pounds. Bundles are limited to six bundles a

Grass clippings, leaves and garden waste must be placed in 30-gallon paper yard waste bags or 32 gallon reusable con-tainers with sturdy handles marked "YARD WASTE." Stickers for reusable containers are available at the Canton Treasurer's Officer. Please

note, dirt and clay are unac ceptable yard waste items; if either are placed in the yard waste bag or receptacle, GFL Environmental Services will leave the yard waste behind.

Residents are advised that the oversized container rule also applies to yard-waste containers. Any container over 32 gallons and weighing more than 50 pounds will be left at the curb. For more information on yard waste collection, visit www.canton-mi.org or call GFL at 866-722-8900.

Bariatric seminars

The Michigan Bariatric Institute will offer free monthly educational seminars to the community from 6-7:30 p.m. The public is invited to hear a presentation about Laparoscop ic Bariatric Surgery by Dr. Tallal Zeni, director of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery at St. Mary Mercy Livonia and Dr. Jacob Roberts, a bariatric surgeon at St. Mary Mercy.

The upcoming seminars will be at 3622 Five Mile Road, Suite 202, in Livonia: Thursday, April 6; Thursday, May 5; Mon-day, May 15; Thursday, June 1; Monday, June 12

Seminars are free, but registration is required. To register or for more information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at 877-949-9344.

School open house

St. Michael Lutheran School, 3003 Hannan Road, in Wayne is hosting an all-school open house from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 1. Meet teachers and learn about programs. Also, the Leslie Science Center from Ann Arbor will present a wild animal exhibit from 11 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 734-728-3315.

Blessings in a Backpack

Blessings in a Backpack-Livonia is holding its second annual Summer Cereal Drive. The group is currently provide weekend meals to 210 children in the Livonia Public School system during the school year but when summer vacation starts, often hunger does too. The group wants to send lots of cereal home with students again this year to help them start their summer days out

People or businesses interested in holding a cereal drive, can email biablyionia@gmail.com, and receive a flier to post. Desired are healthier cereals in family size boxes (but not gigantic boxes) with as little sugar and dyes as possible. All cereal will be collected by May 15. For more information, visit biablivonia.org.

Artists-of-the-year

Tuesday Musicale of Detroit presents it 2017 Artists-of-the-Year concert featuring duo pianists Yuki and Tomoko Mack, at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., just north of Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills.. The concert will benefit a program supporting scholarships for outstand-

ing young musicians.
The Mack Sisters will perform works by Brahms, Mendelssohn, Liszt, Smetana, Rach-maninoff, Barber and Gersh-

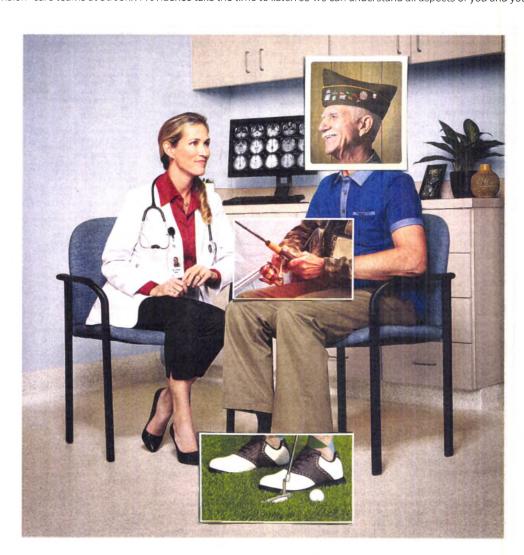
Admission is \$25 for adults \$25; \$10 students; free for students 18 (courtesy of Perlman Insurance Agency). Schol-arship Support: \$50, \$75, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000 (gifts above the cost of tickets are tax-deductible). Make credit card purchases at 313-885-7882. Mail checks payable to Tuesday Musicale of Detroit, P.O. Box 36535, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, or visit www.tuesdaymusicale ofdetroit.org for more informa-tion. Tuesday Musicale of Detroit is a 501(c)3 nonprofit or ganization.

Monte Nagler speaks

Three Cities Art Club will have renowned Farmington Hills photographer Monte Na-gler as its guest speaker. He will reveal some of his secrets for creating award-winning photos. The public is welcome to attend this free event from 7-9 p.m. Monday, April 3, at Canton Township Hall, lower level meeting room, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton. Light refreshments will be served. For more information about this event, contact Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939 or email marilynmeredith@wow-way.com. For more information about the art club, visit www.threecitiesartclub.org.

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SECTION B (WGRL)

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-926-2237

2017 WOMEN'S WORLDS ARE A GO

Back to 'Plan A' as U.S. women approve deal

End to long contract struggle between team and USA Hockey green-lights tournament in Plymouth

More than a year ago, USA Hockey officials joyfully an-

nounced that the 2017 International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship would be coming to the former Compuware Arena in Ply-

Excitement in the room that day was palpable. There were young players from Compu-ware's girls hockey team filling the front rows and they later had the chance to meet and greet U.S. players. Meanwhile, USA Hockey director of women's hockey Reagan Carey excitedly talked about how great a showcase for the sport the Women's Worlds would be

Fast forward to this month, when a highly controversial boycott by the U.S. women's national team — with potential replacement players also strongly on board with the stance — threatened to take plenty of air out of the tourna-ment balloon when games are slated to begin Friday with a noon contest between the Czech Republic and Switzer-

At long last the long fight is over. It was announced Tuesday evening by USA Hockey that a deal finally was struck that will allow the Women's Worlds defending champion Americans play 7:30 p.m. Fri-

Americans piay 7:30 p.m. Friday against Canada.
"Our sport is the big winner today," said Meghan Duggan, captain of the U.S. Women's National Team, in a press release. "We stood up for what we thought was right and USA Hockey's leadership listened.

See HOCKEY, Page B2



Team USA's Brianna Decker (14) celebrates after scoring a goal in the second period during a December exhibition against Canada.

SCHOOLCRAFT SOFTBALL PREVIEW



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft freshman pitcher Brittney Resinger throws the ball during a practice session last week

THEY'RE READY TO MASH

Tim Smith

It can be nerve-wracking and rewarding at the same time to launch a team

That was learned first hand by players and coaches on the Schoolcraft College softball team, which had an up-anddown debut season in 2016 (15-21). But the team closed experience handy as the sec-

ond season gets rolling.

For returning head coach Rey Linares and a nucleus of players back from last year led by Observerland alums Kassidy Lipinski, Kelsie Pow-ell, Rosie Garvin and Alaina DeFrain - the second goaround will show how much

Eleven talented players join nucleus as Lady Ocelots open second season



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER After Mikaela Smolar (left) puts the ball on the tee, teammate Kassidy

attention they paid to the col-

lege scene a season ago. "Our expectations and goals for this season are to compete for the conference title, then continue on through district and regional play and hopefully make a run at nationals," Linares emphasized in an email to the Observer. "This team has bonded very well and certainly has the personnel desire to do so."

Conference play was scheduled to get underway with Saturday's scheduled doubleheader at Henry Ford Community College.

But the Lady Ocelots al-ready have gotten in plenty of

See OCELOTS, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER



Ladywood soccer coach Zach Wilkes (middle) will rely on captains Amy Babon (left) and Brianne Rogers (right)

Ladywood, C'ville girls taking aim for season

Brad Emons

With their third coach in three years, Livonia Ladywood girls soccer is in the midst of another transition

The Blazers, coming off a 10-7 season in 2016 under Joe Carver, opened their 2017 campaign Monday at home against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard losing 3-2 in Zach Wilkes' debut as varsity

coach.
Ladywood (0-1, 0-1), getting goals from junior center-midfielder Amy Babon and senior forward Clare Kelley, held a 2-1 lead before the Fighting Irish (2-0, 1-0) stormed back with pair of goals to earn the Catholic League Division 1 victory.

Kaleigh Webber scored two of Gabriel Richard's three goals in the win.

"It's been interesting coming to a team that I can train every day and really work with and make progress quickly," said Wilkes, who played college soccer at Madonna University (2001-05). "They definitely have some strong players who can be the whole team brings a positive attitude, and in their training sessions, they gener ally go well. It's been running smoothly and everybody has

been working hard."

Ladywood captured an MHSAA Division 2 district title a year ago and reached

See SOCCER, Page B2

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PREVIEW

Hard work could pay off for Churchill

Chargers roll up sleeves, aim to make noise in KLAA

Tim Smith

For months, Livonia Churchill baseball players have been getting after it during winter workouts in preparation for the 2017 season.

And, if Chargers head coach Ron Targosz has anything to say about it, those players will be ready to hit the basepaths running in order compete in

the very competitive KLAA South Division.

Lipinski crushes it.

"There were four teams in our division alone that won at least 20 games last season," Targosz said. "We are hoping that by playing a tough sched-ule it will get us ready for dis-

tricts.
"The players have been extremely dedicated this winter and I am hoping that it will start paying dividends when the season begins."

The Chargers, who finished 15-18 overall in 2016, figure to improve on that record this

time around, what with 11 returning players on the roster.

"We have quite a bit of depth which will lead to very good competition at practice, as well as during the season," Targosz said. "We also know that we play in a very compet itive conference (Kensington), so in order to be successful, then we will have to play at a very high level in all phases of the game."

A definite positive for the Chargers is having 10 return-

See CHARGERS, Page B2



After a solid freshman season, Livonia Churchill pitcher Drew Alsobrooks is a fixture on the Chargers pitching staff.

Let's play ball!



Livonia Franklin's Jon Montie slides into home Tuesday, while Redford Thurston's Blake Meyers (3) and catcher Dimitri Snell wait for the umpire's safe signal. It was one of many runs scored by the Patriots in a 15-0

OCELOTS

Continued from Page B1

innings, beginning with a jam-packed fall schedule (against teams like Madonna University and Lawrence Tech University).
Power bats

In February, the team played a doubleheader inside the new sports dome on cam-pus with 9-8 and 5-2 wins over Lakeland College (Ohio) but had a week of spring trip games postponed due to bad weather

Then on March 19, Schoolcraft split a twinbill at Lakeland. Slamming their first collegiate home runs were freshman Victoria Porter (Canton) and Emma West

(Divine Child). Perhaps another sign of things to come, sophomore captain Lipinski (Livonia Stevenson) ripped a two-run homer that traveled more than 240 feet.
Porter comes in at catcher,

but Linares still has sopho-more Caitlin Fitzpatrick (Melvindale) behind the plate

Lipinski is a hard-hitting, hard-nosed second baseman who anchors the infield along with third baseman Powell (Garden City), first baseman Garvin (Livonia Churchill) and Fitzpatrick.
Probably a front-runner to

take the shortstop spot is freshman Autumn Dobrick of Melvindale, although several other freshmen infielders are ready to help the cause.

Those include Stevenson alum Cori Wilson, Livonia Ladywood product Madelyn Haas and Megan Poremba. Recruiting pays off

Livonia Franklin alum DeFrain is one of the top returners for the outfield

Linares has several talented rookies to also log outfield innings, with Garden City alum Mikaela Smolar, Bailey Wright and West when she's not catching.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Taking a cut in the batting cage is Schoolcraft College's Lauren Sandie.

Taking care of pitching duties will be sophomore Kerry Prowse (St. Catherine of Sienna) and freshmen Julie Littler (New Boston Huron)

and Brittney Resinger (How Rounding out the "out-standing" class of 11 fresh-

men is utility player Lauren Sandie (Divine Child) "Our coaching staff worked hard at recruiting these young ladies and have

high expectations that they will add significant contribu-

tions toward moving Schoolcraft into a top conference contender," Linares said. ". this freshman group includes several All League, Dream Team; All District; All Regional and All State awarded play-

ers.

"Additionally, each of these players are all long-time travel ball players, having played several years for an assortment of the top travel organizations in the area."

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PREVIEW

Spartans figure to hit, pitch among best

Tim Smith

Look out, pitchers in the KLAA Central Division. Livonia Stevenson figures to mash this baseball season.

The Spartans did plenty of thumping in 2016, going 21-18 and winning a district championship. Leading the attack were Chris Tanderys (second team all-state, .416), Mark Pettersson (.390), Danny Morris (.370) and Devin Dunn (.307).
That quartet returns, and

veteran head coach Rick Berry-man must be thrilled about that

But Stevenson's pitching staff also is something for Berryman to smile about.

Seniors Branden Posky and Dan Bos will look to reprise stellar 2016 season, where they registered respective ERAs of 1.71 and 1.83.

Posky and Bos won't need to shoulder the pitching load, however, with the presence of juniors Jacob Way (4-0, 1.23), Josh Marquedant (1.75) and George Ferguson (2.76). Ably framing pitches for the Stevenson staff will be senior

Tanderys.

Other standouts around the diamond will include senior first baseman Pettersson, ju-nior third baseman Morris and junior shortstop Dunn.
"It will be a veteran group,



STEVENSON ATHLETICS

A key for Livonia Stevenson's chances is the pitching of senior Dan Bos

with depth at pitching," Berry-

Good start

The Spartans opened the regular season with Monday's 4-3 win over Wayne Memorial.

At the plate, Bobby Cavin homered, Posky went 2-for-3 and Ferguson tallied one hit in three at bats and scored a run.

Pitchers Jacob Way and Cavin closed out the win with strong relief outings. Way went 2.2 innings and fanned seven while Cavin (save) retired the last eight batters.

For the Zebras, Ramsey Colin went 2-for-3 while Anthony Gray, Kyle Swindlehunt and Tyler Napier each went 1-3.

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SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

the regional final before falling 3-2 to Birmingham Marian. The biggest losses to graduation included Conner Huggins (Villanova University), along with Elisabeth Pollock and Catherine

Senior defender Brianne Rogers, headed to Ferris State, is a captain along with Babon.

Other key returnees include Kelley, who is committed to Albion College, junior goalie Abbey Reppen, senior midfield-er Shannon Wolfe, junior for-ward Catherine Charron, senior midfielder Kate Roney and junior defender Gabrielle Tul-

ley.
"The time to prepare for our season is very small," Wilkes said. "With the weather we've been having it's been very tough get on a field that we can really get everything together at once. It's been our biggest challenge so far to get out to a nice space where we can really

work as a whole unit."

Ladywood returns to Catholic League Division 1 play at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at home against Marian. The Blazers will also have stiff competition in the league from defending Division 2 state champion Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, Farmington Hills Mercy, Dearborn Divine Child and Marian to name a few.

"We're going to have some challenges for sure and looking forward how the girls respond to those challenges and how we can work off of that and go forward in our season," said Wilkes, who played at Dearborn High and coached club soccer for the Plymouth Reign. "So far it seems like they've been responsive, they're enjoying themselves and working. I've been happy with their attitude

Youthful Trojans

Seventh-year Livonia Clarenceville coach Amanda Truitt is hoping to build off last year's Division 3 district runner-up finish.

Lost to graduation off a team that finished 4-17 overall were Samantha Franco, Melayna Heller, Ashli Hearns and Kyla

Among the leading returnees for Clarenceville, a member of the Western Wayne Athletic Conference, include sophomore center-midfielder Michelle Marzolo, sophomore forward-midfielder Allie Snage, sophomore forward-goalie Myla Hoskins, junior defender-goalie Allison Lay, senior midfielder Nickendra Thomas and senior midfielder Paola Gonzalez. "With Marzolo and Thomas

eading the team on the field, and experience in district finals, I feel confident that our core players will be a strong force on the field," Truitt said. "If we work hard and work together ond one text houlthy." together, and can stay healthy, then I'm confident we will have a successful season." Truitt's promising newcom-

ers include sophomores Jocelyn Gutierrez (forward-midfielder) and Mikayla Martin (midfielder-defender), along with fresh-men Monica Gonzalez (midfielder), Breanna Ford (for-ward), Rena Ngo (midfielder-forward), Vicki Nolan (defender-midfielder) and Jordan Lay (defender).

"Coming into this season, I knew we were going to be a young team," Truitt said. "We have 15 underclassman and only 10 returning players. How-ever; despite being young, I have a lot of confidence in our newcomers, who have some experience, as well as the re turning players who stepped up last year. These girls give it their all in practice and are always willing to learn and grow" grow.

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

In the end, both sides came together. I'm proud of my teammates and can't thank everyone who supported us enough.
"It's time now to turn the

page. We can't wait to play in the World Championship later this week in front of our fans as we try and defend our gold medal."

Players, such as Duggan and Farmington's Megan Keller, approved the contract proposal Tuesday evening.

With the accord, fans and businesses — who have been looking forward to watching eight women's teams from around the globe — can exhale and plan on watching the U.S. team that had been announced in early March.

Also set to breathe again are USA Hockey officials who have felt increasing heat in the last week or so about the boycott.

"We look forward to the future with great anticipa-tion," USA Hockey executive director Dave Ogrean said. "This process has, in the end, made us better."

Details of the agreement

were not disclosed. The press release noted there will be formation of an advisory group comprised of former and current players from the U.S. Women's National Team "to meet regularly to assist USA Hockey in efforts to advance girls and women's hockey in all area, including programming, marketing, promotion and fundraising."

According to USA Hockey senior director Dave Fischer during an interview last week, the organization re mained optimistic something could be done to save the

week-long tournament. Fischer emphasized that USA Hockey intended to still have the "players that we have previously announced to be a part of that team" compete in the Women's Worlds. But he stressed then that USA Hockey could ice a replacement team from a "very deep player pool with a lot of talented players that can populate the ice to play on women's national team.

That plan went haywire Players from the so-called B list said "no thanks." Even college club and high school players were approached; in virtually all cases the invitations to suit up were deThanks to the agreement, it's back to Plan A.

Other games in the prelin inary round involving the U.S. are 3:30 p.m. Saturday against Russia and 7:30 p.m.

against Russia and 7:30 p.m. April 3 against Finland. The playoff round is from April 4-6 with the Relegation Series ending April 7 on the USA Hockey Arena's bigger Olympic-sized ice sheet.

Schedule PRELIMINARY ROUND: Friday: noon, Czech Republic

vs. Switzerland; 3:30 p.m., Sweden vs. Germany; 7:30 p.m., United States vs. Cana-da; Saturday: noon, Czech Republic vs. Germany; 3:30 p.m., Canada vs. Russia; 6 p.m., Sweden vs. Czech Republic; 7:30 p.m., U.S. vs. Finland.

PLAYOFF ROUND: Tuesday, April 4, 3:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., quarterfinals; Thursday, quartermas; Inursday, April 6, 3:30 p.m.,semifinal; 5 p.m., placement game; 7:30 p.m., semifinal; Friday, April 7: 3:30 p.m., Bronze-Medal Game; 7:30 p.m., Gold-Medal Game.

For more information. visit 2017Womens World-

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CHARGERS

Continued from Page B1

ing seniors set to lead the way. Those seniors include outfielders Matt Smith and Troy Halkey; first baseman Joe Targosz; third baseman-DH Noah Cross; catcher Dan Dawes; pitchers Tim Ohtake (also an infielder), Jake Osen (also an outfielder), Joe Woz-niak (also a first baseman and outfielder) and Brandon Campbell (also a third baseman and catcher); and infielder Brett

Also back is sophomore pitcher-outfielder Drew Alsobrooks.

Augmenting that group are several newcomers niors - with plenty of prom-

Those include Conor Burnette (pitcher-outfield), Preston Dixon (pitcher-3B), Luke Jaroszewicz (pitcher-IB-out-field), Michael Ohtake (pitch-er-2B), Chris Sergison (catcher) and Mitchell White (infield-



Making a play last season is Livonia Churchill first baseman Joe Wozniak.

USA HOCKEY

NTDP U17s stick to plan, even in defeat

Friday's loss to Bloomington is 11th in row for developmental squad, but attention turns to next year

Tim Smith

Save for a few road games, the U.S. National Team Devel-opment Program's Under-17 team is successfully through the hard part.

Oh yeah, the Danton Colecoached squad lost 3-1 in its home finale Friday night to Bloomington, making it 11 consecutive losses.

But that didn't bother Cole. because he saw a team battling and fighting against the United States Hockey League rival

before 1,173 fans at USA Hock-ey Arena in Plymouth. "It's a hard time, but if the guys can get through it and keep grinding and keep the



Even though his team lost again Friday, NTDP Under-17 head coach Danton Cole (shown in a 2015-16 photo) sees plenty of growth from his group as it moves up next year to the U18s.

positivity and keep working, it's a good thing," Cole said. "But it's been a tough road. I think 18 of our last 20 are on the road and a lot of long trips. We found ourselves against some of the best teams in the league as

well.
"So it's been a great experi ence for our guy. They learned how to fight through that. I think we proved you can do it and keep picking yourself up. That's one of the biggest lessons that we get here, especially in the first year." The U17s avoided a shutout

when Skyler Brind'Amour — playing just his third game for Team USA — chipped in the

rebound of K'Andre Miller's blue line blast with just under seven minutes remaining. Drawing the first assist was Trevor Janicke.

"He's come out and helped us quite a bit," Cole said about emergency fill-in Brind'Amour. "He'll be heading back Sunday; he's got school starting out east

"He helped out earlier with he liesped out earlief white the U-18 team. He's a good player and it's a great experi-ence for him. He'll play in the USHL next year." Team USA was outshot 30-24

for the game, but enjoyed a 12-8 edge in the final period, which began with Bloomington up 2-0 on first-period goals by Jake Durflinger and Jerry Harding. "We finished well. I thought

we finished well. I thought the first was decent, the second was pretty good and the third was our best," Cole said. "We put more pucks on net. You got to keep pushing. There's no shortcuts out on the ice and there's no elevators to success

You got to take the stairs."

And following road games this weekend against Fargo and April 7-8 against Youngstown, the players will exhale and begin training in preparation of 2017-18 — when they will comprise the U18s.

Next year, with Cole moving up with them, those players (including Plymouth's Will MacKinnon and Birmingham's Bode Wilde) will hit the stretch drive of their two-year pro gram.

"Crawl under the hurdle, go around the hurdle, jump over the hurdle, however you get past it that's the key," Cole said, discussing the challenge of closing out year one. "And the message tonight was keep do-

ing it and doing it together.
"It is a rite of passage and those are the important lessons our guys got to get. That's why we play in this league. We have to be darn near perfect, plus get some breaks to win games and that makes it hard. But that's how you learn things."

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The Livonia Knights 16U Tier 2 girls hockey team recently won the state championship. Knights players (listed alphabetically) include Claire Antilla, Hannah Bigelow, Anna Braschwitz, Alyssa Buzar, McKenna Ceci, Nichole Collins, Kaylee Keledjian, Kate Mann, Maddy McCandless, Gabi Mitchell, Lauren Pearce, Maddie Reeves-Carson, Jenna Rice, Kamille Scarbrough, Nicole Stefanik, Holly Wikman and Kara Zink. The head coach is Carrie Sirola, assisted by Matt Ceci, Tim Rice, Kelly Roulier and Brad Ceci. Team manager is Kristie Ceci.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Dominant Livonia Knights win title

Girls hockey team prevails 1-0 to capture MAHA Tier 2 championship

Tim Smith

Perseverance paid off with a state championship for the Livonia Knights 16-Under Tier 2 girls hockey team. The Knights outshot Lansing

Meijer 47-9 in the championship game on March 12 at the Dearborn Ice Skating Center. But only one of those shots — by McKenna Ceci - found the back of the Meijer net.
No worries. That's all the

team needed to prevail 1-0 for the championship win. Stopping all nine shots she faced for the shutout victory was goalie Mad-die Reeves-Carson. Ceci scored at 6:35 of the

first period, on assists from

Kaylee Keledjian and Kate

The win followed a 2-1 victory against the same team earlier in the Tier 2 playoffs. Anna Braschwitz and Jenna Rice scored the goals, Gabi

Mitchell setting up Braschwitz for the tally.

Stopping eight of nine shots for the win was netminder Hannah Bigelow.

The Knights, coached by Carrie Sirola, opened up tour ney play with a 5-0 win over the KV Ravens and a 3-1 victory over the Troy Sting.

Against the Ravens, Braschwitz scored two goals with sin-gle markers by Kara Zink, Mad-dy McCandless and Mann. Coming through with assists were Claire Antilla, Keledjian, Mann, Gabi Mitchell and Ceci while Bigelow collected the shutout.

Livonia's march to a title continued against the tough

Braschwitz, Jenna Rice and Mitchell lit the lamp for the Knights with Mitchell and Nicole Stefanick tallying two assists each.

Single helpers were picked up by Ceci and McCandless; the winning goalie was Reeves-

Knights players, listed al-phabetically, include: Claire Antilla, Hannah Bigelow, Anna Braschwitz, Alyssa Buzar, Mc-Kenna Ceci, Nichole Collins, Kaylee Keledjian, Kate Mann, Maddy McCandless, Gabi Mitchell, Lauren Pearce, Maddie Reeves-Carson, Jenna Rice, Kamille Scarbrough, Nicole Stefanik, Holly Wikman and Kara Zink. Sirola's coaching staff includes assistants Matt Ceci, Tim Rice, Kelly Roulier and Brad Ceci and the manager is Kristie Ceci.

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PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW

Senior-laden RU squad ready for big challenge

Brad Emons

Giving everybody playing time won't be an issue for this year's Redford Union baseball team under fifth-year coach Bob Miller.

The Panthers will be 12-strong entering the 2017 season led by nine seniors, in-cluding a trio who will be earning their fourth varsity letters paced by center fielder Brandon Pratt, pitcher-shortstop Jacob Gagnon and catcher Jackson Allison.

The three will serve as the

team captains along with senior infielder-pitcher Jakob

'Although our numbers are small, we are experienced with nine seniors," Miller said. "Many of the seniors have been league champions twice, played in over 100 varsity games with a few district

finals. If we stay healthy we should be able to compete." Gagnon and junior Tyler Collard will form a good onetwo punch on the mound backed up by senior Brendan Kerkhof, freshman Brian Bertagnolli, Bowles and AlliThe Panthers' infield will consist of Kerkhof, Collard, Gagnon, Bowles, Bertagnolli, as well as seniors Larry Elliott and Jacob Reams. Junior Trevor Hamilton is also in the

mix.

The same infield cast can
be transition to the also make the transition to the outfield joining senior Bobby Dixon and Pratt.

'Our strength is in our ability to have all players play at least three positions," Miller said.
The Panthers are coming

off a 10-14 season, which in-cluded a 5-1 first-round MHSAA Division 2 district semifinal playoff exit against

South Lyon East.
RU, which opens its season at 4 p.m. Friday, March 31 at home against Novi Detroit Catholic Central, will compete once again in the Blue Divi-sion of the Western Wayne Athletic Conference. That six-team division also includes Dearborn, Dearborn Edsel Ford, Dearborn Heights Annapolis, Garden City and

bemons@hometownlife.com Twitter: @BradEmons1



Redford Union's senior baseball trio of (from left) Jackson Allison, Jacob Gagnon and Brandon Pratt will be going after their fourth varsity letters.

PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW

John Glenn ready to get into the swing

Tim Smith

Don't count out Westland John Glenn when it comes to forecasting teams that might make a lot of noise this baseball

season.
The Rockets are coming off a 22-12 record last season, which ended with a loss to Can-

ton in the districts. And the team could be poised to take the next step, led by senior pitcher Trevor Smith and junior pitcher Brian Mar-

"He will be one of our returning pitchers and will be playing in the field when he isn't on the mound," John Glenn head coach Lawrence Scheffer said. "I'm looking forward to watching him lead and devel-

Smith already is getting it done from the pitching slab. In 2016, he went 5-2 and posted a

Also expected to make life opponents is Martin, coming off a 5-5 season in which he crafted an outstanding 1.88 ERA. Martin also packs a wal

lop at the plate. Last year, he hit .413 and slugged three homers. "He has been on varsity since his freshman year and has proven to be an asset to our team on the mound and as a

leader in our dugout," Scheffer

said. "He was an all-state in-fielder last year as a sopho-

This isn't a two-man team, of

Other seniors include middle infielder Jacob Tuttle, first baseman Josh Ouillete, pitcher-outfielder Jared Stevens, second baseman Austin Jackson and outfielder Kris Spader. Juniors Kyle Heim (catcher-

infield), Matt Nutt (outfieldpitcher) and Mark Richards

(infield) also are ready to help the cause

Rounding out the roster are sophomore shortstop-pitcher Korey Littlefield and freshman

catcher-infielder Josh Muse. According to Schefer, Heim, Littlefield, Richards and Muse all have the chance to be impact newcomers for the Rock-

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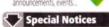
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Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	4	O	3.25	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	3.99	0	3.25	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.99	0	3.125	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.25	G	3.5	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4.125	0	3.375	0
Lenderful.com	1326443	lenderful.com	4.125	0	3.275	0
Ross Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.375	О	3.625	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.25	0.25	3.5	0

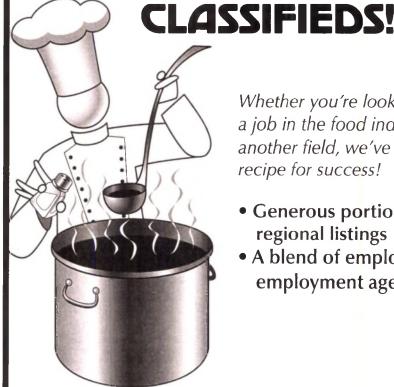
Above Information available as of 3/24/17 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a

\$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment

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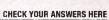
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OF RESIDENTS IN SMALL COMMUNITIES READ LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

Locals are reading the Observer & Eccentric

Source: Readership Study by The Reynolds Journalism Institute (RJI) for National Newspaper Association (NNA) 2013.

PARCEL#



PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

CITY OF LIVONIA LIVONIA HOUSING COMMISSION ADVERTISEMENT/REQUEST FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia-Housing Commission, Michigan as Owners, until the hour of 2:00 p.m. (Local Time) on **Wednesday, May 31, 2017**, at the offices of the Livonia City Clerk, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154, at which time said proposals will be opened and publicly read.

DISPOSAL OF TWO VACANT CITY OWNED PARCELS: 18071 FLORAL, LIVONIA 48152, MINIMUM BID AMOUNT IS \$28,000.00, AND 15505 AUBURNDALE, LIVONIA 48154, MINIMUM BID AMOUNT IS \$40,000

The proposal package, bid requirements, bid form and certified site survey will be available beginning **Thursday**. **March 30. 2017** at the offices of the Livonia City Clerk, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154. All proposals are to be submitted on the forms furnished by the Director of Housing. All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the name of the property bid upon, name of bidder, and shall be addressed to Susan Nash, City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154. Bids must be on the form provided in the proposal package accompanied by a non-collusion affidavit and bid bond. Interested parties that have questions regarding the city-owned property or bid requirements may contact James M. Inglis, Director of Housing at 248-477-7086 ext. 5.

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

JAMES M. INGLIS, Director of Housing DENNIS WRIGHT, Mayor CITY OF LIVONIA

Publish: March 30, 2017

03-17-0070 Motion by Sanders, seconded by Miller and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve a resolution regarding the 2016 Special Assessment Roll and call a Public Hearing for April 18, 2017, at 8:00 p.m. to discuss this matter.

CITY OF WAYNE RESOLUTION #03-17-0070 NOTICE OF HEARING ON ROLL

WHEREAS, the Assessing Department has prepared and submitted a special assessment roll covering all lots and parcels of land within the 2016 Delinquent Hazard & Nuisance, Snow/ Sidewalks, Vacant Property Inspections and Property Transfer Affidavit special assessment district heretofore designated by resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, said special assessment roll assesses to each lot or parcel of land such sums as may have been directed by resolution of the Council in connection with the 2016 Delinquent Hazard & Nuisance, Dangerous Buildings, Snow/Sidewalks, Vacant Property Inspections and Property Transfer Affidavit; and

WHEREAS, such special assessment roll has been certified by said Assessing Department, and that said special assessment roll, as near as may be, according to the best judgment of said Assessing Department, conforms in all respects to the directions contained in resolutions of Council, the City Charter, and Chapter 218.04 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wayne; and

WHEREAS, said Assessing Department has filed said special assessment roll with the City Clerk, who has presented the special assessment roll to Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that said special assessment roll shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk for purpose of public examination.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Wayne will meet on the 18th day of April, 2017 at the Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, Michigan 48184 at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing such special assessment roll.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption each assessment for Delinquent Hazard & Nuisance will be placed on the 2017 tax roll plus thirty percent (30%) penalty and Snow/Sidewalks will be placed on the 2017 tax roll with (10%) penalty and Vacant Property Inspections and Property Transfer Affidavit will be placed on the 2017 tax roll with no penalty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall give notice to the owner of each lot or parcel of land effected by said special assessment roll at his or her address or the address shown on the last tax roll of the City of Wayne, which notice shall be given by first class mail and which notice shall set forth and specify the time and place of said meeting and the purpose of having such a meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall give further notice by publication at least once in the newspaper of general circulation in the City, that paper being The Wayne-Westland Observer.

AMOUNT GRASS

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Matthew K. Miller City Clerk

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